

2025 marks the 450th anniversary of Thomas Tallis's and William Byrd's iconic Cantiones, quae ab argumento sacrae vocantur of 1575.

One of the first sets of sacred music printed in England, it was dedicated to Queen Elizabeth I to mark the seventeenth year of her reign.

We have selected six of the most sumptuous and ambitious motets and present them interspersed between anthems by prolific but short-lived composer Orlando Gibbons, whose 400th anniversary is celebrated this year.

To finish the festivities with a flourish we will end the programme with some of Gibbons and Byrd's finest madrigals.

Gibbons O Clap Your Hands Gibbons Hosanna to the Son of David Byrd Siderum Rector Gibbons Glorious and Powerful God Tallis Te Lucis Ante Terminum Gibbons This is the Record of John Byrd Diliges Dominum Tallis Suscipe quaeso Domine Gibbons Out of the Deep Byrd Emendemus in melius Gibbons Great Lord of Lords Tallis Candidi Facti Sunt Gibbons Lift Up Your Heads Byrd This Sweet and Merry Month of May Gibbons The Silver Swan Gibbons I Feign Not Friendship Gibbons Fair is the Rose Byrd Though Amaryllis Dance in Green

