

Welcome to Ensemble Gombert's 18th annual subscription series, 2012

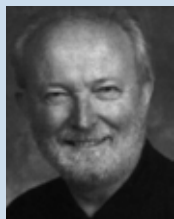
Noted for its pure intonation and historical approach to choral sound and style, **Ensemble Gombert** is Melbourne's outstanding chamber choir. Named after the composer **Nicolas Gombert** (c.1495–1560), who has been largely ignored during recent centuries, despite an exemplary reputation amongst his contemporaries, the Ensemble specialises in *a cappella* performance of Franco-Flemish music of the High Renaissance. **Ensemble Gombert** broadcasts and records regularly, appears at festivals across Australia, and has toured to North America (2009) and twice to Europe (2004 and 2006).

We continue our habit of observing **anniversaries** in three of this year's programs, but this time we go beyond the anniversaries of composers. **Concert 1** indeed commemorates two composers, **Gabrieli and Haßler**, who died in 1612. They will be heard in full Venetian splendour, with voices, cornett, sackbutts, strings and organ. But in **Concert 3** we celebrate Michelangelo's **Sistine Chapel** ceiling as it chalks up half a millennium; and **Concert 4** remembers **Prince Henry**, whose death in 1612 resulted in the composition of several dozen musical works. **Concert 2** observes *Passiontide* in 17th-century Germany, while **Concert 5**, our annual *Christmas to Candlemas*, is this year set in **Iberia**.

We look forward to seeing you in the wonderful Xavier Chapel for another year of superb choral music.
John O'Donnell, DIRECTOR

John O'Donnell

— Monash University Organist — enjoys an international reputation as keyboard artist, choral conductor and musicologist. As organist and harpsichordist he tours Europe annually, and is the first person ever to perform Bach's complete keyboard works in public. His recordings of the complete keyboard works of Johann Caspar Kerll (which he edited for the Viennese publisher Doblinger) and organ works of Bach have met with international acclaim, one album of the latter named 'Best Recording of the Year' (2000) in the *International Record Review*. He is keyboard player for Capella Corelli, and musical director of the choir of the Canterbury Fellowship.



"Melbourne's finest choir"

CONCERT ONE

Commemorating Gabrieli and Haßler (d. 1612)

Saturday 18 February at 8.00 pm

Giovanni Gabrieli *In ecclesiis
Jubilate Deo
Deus, qui beati Marcum
O Domine Jesu Christe
Deus, Deus meus
O magnum mysterium
Hodie completi sunt
Magnificat a 8*

Hans Leo Haßler *Dixit Maria
Miserere mei, Deus
Missa Octava a 8*

This program commemorates two outstanding Late **Renaissance** composers whose lives encroached on the early years of the Baroque. The two were friends and, for a period of some eighteen months, fellow students of Giovanni's uncle Andrea **Gabrieli**. The two collaborated in the composition of at least one piece, while they currently share the attribution of another. Organ works by both composers will supplement the choral program listed here, and an ensemble of Renaissance brass, strings and organ joins us for this commemoration.

The Age

CONCERT TWO

Michael Praetorius *Christus, der uns selig macht*
Christoph Demantius *Passion nach dem Evangelisten Johannes*
Heinrich Schütz *Historia des Leidens und Sterbens unser
Herrn und Heilandes Jesu Christi nach
dem Evangelisten St. Johannes*

St John's account of the **Passion of Christ** is recited throughout most of the Western Church on Good Friday. Musical settings abound, from Gregorian chant to Arvo Pärt's *Passio* of 1982. This program presents two of the finest German Baroque settings before Bach's great *Johannes-Passion*. **Demantius** (1631) sets the Gospel as a large six-voice motet in three sections. Apart from introductory and concluding sentences, the text is entirely that presented in St John's Gospel. **Schütz** (1666) also frames his biblical narrative with introduction and conclusion — the latter a setting of a stanza of the chorale *Christus, der uns selig macht*, with which we open the program in a double-choir setting by **Praetorius** — but employs solo recitative for the Evangelist and individual characters, and four-voice choir for the interjections of the crowds.

Barock Passionmusik

Saturday 24 March at 8.00 pm

with Daniel Thomson (Evangelist)
and Jerzy Kozłowski (Jesus)

The Age "An inspiring display
of choral accomplishment"

CONCERT THREE

The Sistine Chapel Ceiling COMMEMORATING 500 YEARS

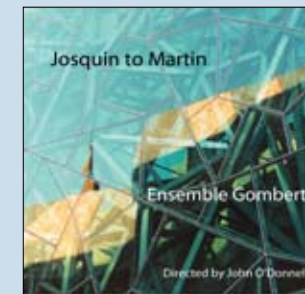
Saturday 19 May at 5.30 pm

Michelangelo, reluctant painter of the **Sistine Chapel** ceiling, completed the four-year task in 1512. The Chapel was first opened to the public on 1 November (All Saints' Day) the same year. What music was performed on that occasion is not known for certain; but Josquin's *Missa Gaudeamus* is based on the Introit for All Saints' Day, and the Mass was copied into the Sistine Chapel choirbooks shortly before that time, making it a prime suspect. The motets that make up the remainder of this program were also copied into the choirbooks shortly before or during 1512, so at the very least these works were in the choir's repertoire at this time, allowing our imaginations to synchronise sight and sound.

Antoine Brumel *Laudate Dominum in caelis*
Jacob Obrecht *Laudemus nunc*
Johannes Prioris *In principio erat Verbum*
Loyset Compère *Ad honorem tuum Christe*
Josquin Desprez *Liber generationes Jesu
Salve Regina*



Recordings



Ensemble Gombert's premiere recording, and released on Melbourne's very own Move Records label, this disc features works by Josquin, Gombert, de Monte, Byrd and Brahms, and a complete recording of Frank Martin's *Mass for Double Choir*.

Released on the prestigious **Tall Poppies** label, this latest recording from Ensemble Gombert features favourite works from our *Christmas to Candlemas* programs by Mouton, Josquin, de Silva, Gombert, Clemens non Papa, Tallis, Victoria, Lassus, Sheppard and Palestrina.



"An experience not to be missed"
Herald Sun

2012 SUBSCRIPTION BOOKING FORM

Subscription tickets are incredibly flexible: use any of your five tickets at any concerts in the series. Bring four friends to one concert, or, if you miss a concert, bring a friend next time. To subscribe or purchase single tickets, go to www.ensemblegombert.com.au, or return this form with payment to Ensemble Gombert, PO Box 4279, Melbourne University, PARKVILLE VIC 3052.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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SUBSCRIPTION (5 tickets: save \$25) No. Price Subtotal

Full (five for any concerts): @ \$175 =

Conc.* (five for any concerts): @ \$125 =

Single tickets (please indicate how many for each concert):

Full: 1: 2: 3: 4: 5: = @ \$ 40 =

Conc.* 1: 2: 3: 4: 5: = @ \$ 30 =

* Concessions are available to full-time students, Health Care Card holders and pensioners. Please include as proof a photocopy of an appropriate ID card.

Mail booking fee (\$3 per order) \$

Christmas to Candlemas CD @ \$ 25 =

Josquin to Martin CD @ \$ 25 =

I would like to make a **tax-deductible donation** to the Ensemble Gombert Fund in the amount of \$

(Tick here if you wish this donation to remain anonymous)

PAYMENT

Send to: PO Box 4279, Melbourne University, PARKVILLE VIC 3052

Cheque made payable to "Ensemble Gombert"

Credit card: Mastercard Visa

Cardholder's Name: _____

Card Number:

Expiry Date: / Total Payment: \$

Signature: _____

CONCERT FOUR

Remembering Henry, Prince of Wales (d. 1612)

Saturday 8 September at 5.30 pm

Thomas Tomkins	<i>When David heard that Absalom was slain Then David mourned Know you not ("Prince Henry, his Funerall Anthem")</i>
Thomas Weelkes	<i>When David heard that Absalom was slain O Jonathan, woe is me</i>
Richard Dering	<i>Contristatus est Rex David And the king was moved</i>
John Milton	<i>O woe is me for thee</i>
Thomas Campion	<i>All looks be pale</i>
John Ward	<i>No object dearer Weep forth your tears and do lament</i>
William Byrd	<i>Fair Britain isle</i>
Orlando Gibbons	<i>Nay, let me weep</i>
John Coprario	<i>Songs of Mourning: Bewailing the untimely death of Prince Henry</i>

Henry, Prince of Wales, was the elder son of James I and Anne of Denmark. His death at the age of eighteen from typhoid fever on 6 November 1612 was bewailed throughout England — and was, with the eventual succession to the throne of his inept brother Charles I, to change the course of English history. The general outpouring of **grief for Hally** (as Henry was affectionately known) was taken up in numerous songs, anthems and motets, many of which draw on the biblical texts of David's **laments for Absalom and Jonathan**. This program remembers Henry in spoken word, songs for solo voice with instrumental accompaniment, and choral items.

CONCERT FIVE

The **Portuguese** composer **Duarte Lobo** is a newcomer to Ensemble Gombert's repertoire. His Christmas responsories were published in his *Opuscula* of 1602. The remainder of this program is **Spanish**, featuring two of the three greatest Spanish composers of the 16th century — the third, Victoria, having received a lot of our attention both before and during 2011, the quattrocentenary of his death. We first performed **Morales'** *Missa Quaeramus cum pastoribus* in 2006. A remarkably felicitous work, it returns by popular request.

Cristóbal de Morales	<i>Pastores, dicite, quidnam vidistis? O magnum mysterium Cum natus esset Jesus</i>
Francisco Guerrero	<i>Pastores loquebantur Natalitiae Noctis Responsoria Hodie nobis caelorum rex Hodie nobis de caelo Quem vidistis pastores? O magnum mysterium Beata Dei genitrix Sancta et immaculata Beata viscera Verbum caro factus est</i>
Cristóbal de Morales	<i>Missa Quaeramus cum pastoribus</i>

Christmas to Candlemas: **IBERIA**

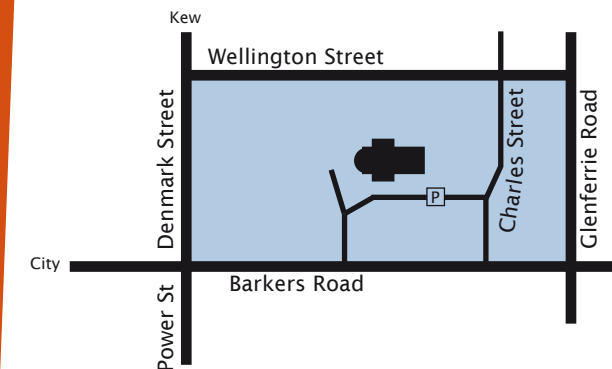
Saturday 8 December at 8.00 pm



TICKETS

Booked tickets to Ensemble Gombert concerts are available only through Ensemble Gombert's website www.ensemblegombert.com.au or by phone on (03) 9004 5412.

All subscription concerts take place in the Chapel at **Xavier College**, Barkers Rd, Kew. Tickets are available at the door one hour before each performance.



Hear Ensemble Gombert perform

Joseph Haydn's Harmoniemesse

Saturday 9 June at 8.30 pm & Sunday 10 June at 8.30 pm

St Ambrose's Church, Woodend
At the Woodend Winter Arts Festival
www.woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au

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Ensemble Gombert

Director: John O'Donnell

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS
Xavier College Chapel, Kew

2012