

# Crossing the Bar

Presented by the Australian Boys Choral Institute

## The Gesualdo Six (UK)

Guy James, countertenor | Alasdair Austin, countertenor  
Joseph Wicks, tenor | Josh Cooter, tenor  
Simon Grant, baritone | Owain Park, bass & director

## Australian Boys Choir | The Vocal Consort

The Kelly Gang | Training Choirs of the ABCI

Timothy Mallis, assistant artistic director & piano  
Nicholas Dinopoulos, artistic director & conductor

To ensure the enjoyment of other patrons, kindly switch off all mobile devices.

Photography or video recording of this performance is not permitted. Thank you.

Concert duration is approximately 90 minutes (including one 15-minute interval).

Tuesday 23rd June 2026  
St Andrew's Church, Brighton

[www.australianboyschoir.com.au](http://www.australianboyschoir.com.au)

*We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we live, work, learn and perform today.*

# The Gesualdo Six

*"Ingeniously programmed and impeccably delivered,  
with that undefinable excitement that comes  
from a group of musicians working absolutely as one."*  
- Gramophone

The Gesualdo Six is an award-winning British vocal ensemble comprising some of the UK's finest consort singers, directed by Owain Park. Praised for their imaginative programming and impeccable blend, the group formed in 2014 for a performance of Gesualdo's Tenebrae Responsories in Cambridge and has gone on to perform at numerous major festivals around the world.

Notable highlights include a concert in the distinguished Deutschlandradio Debut Series, performances at renowned venues including Wigmore Hall (London), Miller Theatre (New York), the Sydney Opera House, and their debut at the BBC Proms in 2023. Last season, The Gesualdo Six made their South American debut in Colombia, and appeared in Japan, China and Singapore for the first time. The ensemble have collaborated with Fretwork and the Brodsky Quartet, and tour a work of concert-theatre titled Secret Byrd with Director, Bill Barclay.

The Gesualdo Six is committed to music education, regularly hosting workshops for young musicians and composers. The ensemble have curated two Composition Competitions, with the most recent edition drawing entries from over three hundred composers worldwide. The group recently commissioned new works from Shruthi Rajasekar and Joanna Marsh, alongside coronasolfège for 6 by Héloïse Werner.

The ensemble have harnessed the power of social media to make classical music accessible to millions worldwide, creating captivating videos from beautiful locations while on tour. The group released their debut recording English Motets on Hyperion in 2018 to critical acclaim. This has been followed by eight further albums (Christmas, Fading, Josquin's legacy, Gesualdo's Tenebrae Responsories for Maundy Thursday, Lux Aeterna, William Byrd's Mass for five voices, Morning Star, Queen of Hearts). Their tenth album, Radiant Dawn, featuring a special collaboration with trumpeter Matilda Lloyd, was released in August 2025.

## Owain Park, director

Owain Park was born in Bristol in 1993. As well as directing The Gesualdo Six, he is Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Singers and works with ensembles including Southbank Sinfonia, Chamber Choir Ireland, Ensemble la Sportelle and Capella Cracoviensis. In 2024, he conducted the BBC Singers in a selection of Bruckner motets at the BBC Proms, which served as a prelude to the Berlin Philharmonic's performance of Bruckner's Symphony No. 5. He also conducted the BBC Symphony Orchestra in works by Anne Dudley and Iain Farrington as part of the BBC Singers at 100 celebrations at the Barbican.

Owain's compositions, published by Novello, have been performed internationally by renowned ensembles including the Tallis Scholars and Aurora Orchestra. He studied orchestration with John Rutter at Cambridge University before undertaking a Master's degree in composition.

Currently Composer-in-Residence with the London Choral Sinfonia, Owain was named one of BBC Radio 3's 31 under 31 Young Stars. The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge recorded an album of his compositions, which was nominated for the BBC Music Magazine Awards. In 2023, his piece Battle Cry, featured on a collaborative album by mezzo Helen Charlston and theorbist Toby Carr, won the Gramophone Award for Best Concept Album.

Owain is President of Cathedral Commissions at Wells Cathedral, supporting new works by contemporary composers. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and was awarded the Dixon Prize for improvisation, having been Senior Organ Scholar at Wells Cathedral and Trinity College, Cambridge. Owain is also a keen gardener, and when he's not on stage he can be found raking leaves, pruning shrubs, or picking cherry tomatoes.

## Program...

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Out There</i>                   | Dan Walker<br>(Australia, b.1978)          |
| <i>Sailing Time</i>                | Dulcie Holland<br>(Australia, 1913-2000)   |
| <i>Thou knowest, Lord</i>          | Henry Purcell<br>(England, c.1659-1695)    |
| <i>Funeral Ikos</i>                | John Tavener<br>(England, 1944-2013)       |
| <i>Plange Quasi Virgo</i>          | Carlo Gesualdo<br>(Italy, 1566-1613)       |
| <i>And there was war in heaven</i> | Howard Skempton<br>(England, b.1947)       |
| <i>I Take Thee</i>                 | Joanna Marsh<br>(England, b.1970)          |
| <i>Keep Your Lamps</i>             | Timothy Tackach<br>(United States, b.1978) |
| <i>Frobisher Bay</i>               | Diane Loomer<br>(Canada, 1940-2012)        |

*INTERVAL – 15 minutes*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>Past Life Melodies</i>                | Sarah Hopkins<br>(Australia, b.1958)           |
| <i>This sweet and merry month of May</i> | William Byrd<br>(England, 1540-1623)           |
| <i>Bushes and Briars</i>                 | Ralph Vaughan Williams<br>(England, 1872-1958) |
| <i>Louisa</i>                            | Owain Park<br>(England, b.1993)                |
| <i>El Grillo</i>                         | Josquin des Prez<br>(France, c.1450-1521)      |
| <i>The Oak and the Ash</i>               | Gordon Langford<br>(England, 1930-2017)        |
| <i>Crossing the Bar</i>                  | Calvin Bowman<br>(Australia, b.1972)           |

# The Australian Boys Choral Institute

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## Join the Conductor's Circle...

Like most major arts organisations, the Australian Boys Choral Institute is a not-for-profit organisation that cannot rely on income earned through tuition and performance fees to meet all its financial obligations.

All donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible and will assist in promoting and improving the Australian Boys Choir's commitment to excellence. Donate \$50 or more to join the Conductor's Circle.

If you would like to find out how you can assist, please visit  
[www.givenow.com.au/australianboyschoir](http://www.givenow.com.au/australianboyschoir) or phone the Choir on (03) 9818 4818.

Support of this kind plays a vital role in maintaining and furthering our work. Thank you.

## Upcoming performances...

*'Antiphons & Anthems'*

with Fiore Chamber

26 July 2026 - 3.00pm

St John's Camberwell

*'Songs & Stories'*

with pianist Timothy Mallis

3 October 2026 - 3.00pm

St John's Camberwell

Tickets available via [www.australianboyschoir.com.au/concerts](http://www.australianboyschoir.com.au/concerts)