



A West Gallery workshop for your choir?

West Gallery church music is the music of town and country churches between about 1700 and 1850. It is very different from the more familiar cathedral music, in having been composed specifically for amateur singers, who often used instrumental accompaniment from string and wind instruments. It is not technically challenging, and vocal ranges are limited. Most is in four parts, but three part music for SAB voices is available.

Much of it is lively, and influenced by the rhythm of folk dance. It is as suitable for modern worship as it ever was, particularly for any church that wishes to liven up without dumbing down. West Gallery music is happy without being clappy.

The West Gallery Music Association (www.wgma.org.uk) offers a list of workshop leaders who will introduce your choir to this exciting and unfamiliar repertoire. Many leaders will operate for expenses only, or for a minimal fee. For more information page the website and follow the links to >resources>workshop leaders, or telephone 020 8505 4381. Much West Gallery music is freely available for download and copying.