

Arts@StLaurence Concerts, 2026

Alison Howell (Organ)

Saturday 5th September 2026 at 1pm

Free entry, donations welcome.

Programme

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)	<i>Prelude and Fugue in C minor</i> BWV 546
Brenda Portman (b. 1980)	<i>Diptych (Prayer, Paeon)</i>
Mary Beth Bennett (b. 1954)	<i>"When the Morning Stars Sang Together"</i>
César Franck (1822-1890)	<i>Choral No.3 in A minor</i>
Dobrinka Tabakova (b.1980)	<i>Sanctus from "Orbis Factor"</i>
Emma Lou Diemer (1927-2024)	<i>"Fiesta"</i>

Alison Howell is based in Bristol and works as a freelance musician. She is organist at the church of St John the Baptist, Keynsham, and is the accompanist for Cheltenham Choral Society and Somerset Voices. Alison also frequently deputises for numerous other choirs in the area and, as an organ recitalist, she has given solo concerts in many cathedrals and churches. Alison is a committee member of the Society of Women Organists for whom she coordinates "Woman Composer Sunday": an annual, international, event - held on the nearest Sunday to International Women's Day - to promote organ and liturgical music by women composers.

Alison studied organ, piano and harpsichord at the Royal Academy of Music and gained the London University BMus degree. She was subsequently awarded scholarships by The Countess of Munster Musical Trust, The Tillett Trust and The Worshipful Company of Musicians to continue her studies in Amsterdam and London. At this time, she gained the Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists, winning the prestigious Coventry Cathedral Recital Award for outstanding performance of the pieces, and a distinction in the LGSM piano diploma. Her MA research at Reading University was in psychomotor variables and related outcomes in sight reading fluency amongst piano students.



Alison Howell

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