

Summer recital series at
Saint Anne's church, Kew
5 May to 15 September 2019

Every Sunday afternoon from May to September, this beautiful and historic church offers a platform for emerging artists and seasoned professionals to present exciting and eclectic programmes to the local community and the wider visiting audience. For over a decade, the Saint Anne's Sunday Afternoon Recital Series has consistently attracted musicians of international repute to perform in this atmospheric setting.

This year's series includes programmes from four international piano recitalists, a unique vocal recital celebrating the centenary of Polish-Jewish composer Mieczyslaw Weinberg, a new reading for harp and voice of *Les nuits d'été* in the sesquicentennial anniversary of the death of Hector Berlioz, a chamber music cycle featuring Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du temps*, Shostakovich's *Quartet no. 8 in C minor (opus 110)* and Arnold Cooke's rarely performed *Piano Trio*, two specialist period instrument ensembles, contemporary music collective Ensemble x.y and the return of former music director Chad Kelly to perform three concerts of the Bach Cantatas, with musical friends old and new.

Before and after every recital, home-made cakes and cream teas can be enjoyed in the church's Parish Rooms and surrounding picturesque grounds. A retiring collection goes towards sustaining and developing the rich musical life of the community.

Sunday 5 May at 3.30 p.m.

The Bach Solo Cantata Series I

Chad Kelly returns from the Bayerische Staatsoper to open the 2019 concert season with the first of three concerts in his Bach Solo Cantata Series featuring musicians of the elite period instrument ensemble Eloquenza.

Sunday 12 May at 3.30 p.m.

Florian Mitrea - Piano Focus I

Franz Liszt - Life, Music, and Franciscan Faith

Most popular ideas about Franz Liszt's character are wrong: far from being a vain 'celebrity', he was inspired from childhood by a profound Christian faith, and his life-long connection with the Franciscans led him in mid-life to join their Third Order; later he received minor orders in the Catholic Church. Much of his work was liturgical or overtly Christian, but all his work reveals his intense and life-affirming spirituality. This event blends live performances of works by Liszt for solo piano (including the B minor sonata in full) with an introduction to Franciscan spirituality and the life and faith of one of the nineteenth century's most important composers. Words, music and pictures combine to open up a fresh perspective on this fascinating man and his work.

Sunday 19 May at 3.30 p.m.

European Baroque I

A recital of music celebrating the French Baroque, including works of Couperin, the Forqueray family, Marais and Rameau, performed by the Naomi Burrell Ensemble, specialists in historically informed performance practice.

Sunday 26 May at 3.30 p.m.

The Duke Quartet - Shostakovich and Beethoven

Renowned for its passionate performances the Duke Quartet's versatility has led them into an unequalled range of projects including pop, education, dance and performance of their own compositions all of which have been highly acclaimed.

They have premiered works by Deirdre Gribben, Rolf Hind, Joby Talbot and Philip Venables. This, together with their love of traditional string quartet repertoire, has helped them to become one of the most sought-after string quartets. They have been giving recitals for over seventeen years with a schedule taking them to countries as far apart as Columbia, Yemen, South Africa and Japan.

Their debut recording, featuring works by Barber, Dvorak and Glass, was selected at the Cannes Classical Music Awards as one of the world's top debut CDs of the year and their disc featuring Berg's *Lytic Suite* and Schoenberg's *Verklarte Nacht* received glowing reviews for its "intense musicality and technical excellence". Their recording of music by Kevin Volans received a Gramophone Award nomination for best contemporary recording.

Education and outreach work is also an important part of their output and during their career they have given over 400 concerts in schools, colleges, hospitals and prisons.

Sunday 2 June at 3.30 p.m.

James Kirby - Piano Focus II

Musician and educator **James Kirby** returns to Saint Anne's, Kew, with a programme of Liszt and Beethoven including the *Sonata in E Opus 109*

Sunday 9 June at 3.30 p.m.

Alice Earll - The Baroque Violin

An exploration of the origins and development of virtuoso violin playing from the 1620's through to J.S.Bach's *Partita No. 2 in D minor* from the *Six Solos* published in 1720, with violinist Alice Earll.

www.aliceearllviolin.com

Sunday 16 June at 3.30 p.m.

Les nuits d'été - Ana Beard Fernandez (soprano)

Ana Beard Fernandez is joined by harpists **Oliver Wass** and **Lisa Vandersmissen** for the première performance of their new reading of the Berlioz cycle *Les nuits d'été* and the world première performance of *Wild Geese* the words of Mary Oliver set to music by award-winning composer **Jonathan Brigg**

www.anabeardfernandez.co.uk

www.jonathanbrigg.co.uk

Sunday 23 June at 3.30 p.m.

Pleyel Ensemble - Arnold Cooke Piano Trio

Written between 1941 and 1944, the piano trio of Arnold Cooke came into being while the composer was serving in the Royal Navy. He wrote some of it whilst aboard the *DS Thames*, a large, ocean-going Dutch tug where life was relatively quiet, as much time was spent riding at anchor waiting for jobs to come in. This is a work premièred in 1947 during a live BBC broadcast but which disappeared from the concert platform from about 1960 until the present day when today's performers rediscovered the work

www.pleyelensemble.com

Sunday 30 June at 3.30 p.m.

Messiaen's Quatuor pour la fin du temps

Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du temps* offers a dramatic exploration of the relationship between calmness and complexity, and is a compelling expression of the composer's deeply held Catholic faith, written while he was a prisoner in a German concentration camp. **The Oriole Quartet** feature as Artists in Residence at the 2019 Clifton Festival and make their first appearance here at Saint Anne's, Kew

Sunday 7 July at 3.30 p.m.

Jonathan Storer plays Bach, Bartok and Prokofiev

Violinist **Jonathan Storer** plays Bach's *Sonata BWV 1004* and is joined by pianist **Julian Kelly** to perform Prokofiev's *Cinq Mélodies* and Bartok's *Six Romanian Folk Dances*

Sunday 14 July at 3.30 p.m.

Conrad Noel sesquicentenary

The life of the Christian socialist priest and his association with composer Gustav Holst are celebrated in a concert by **Heidi Pegler** and **Alexis White** with the **Paulina Voices**

Sunday 21 July at 3.30 p.m.

Suite Française - Music for flute, clarinet and piano

Flautist **Jenna Thackray** curates a programme exploring of French composers' writing for flute and clarinet, and reflects on the development and our perception of those instruments.

Sunday 28 July at 3.30 p.m.

Bach Solo Cantata Series II

Continuing his exploration of Bach's Solo Cantatas, **Chad Kelly** conducts members of Eloquenza and international soloists.

Sunday 4 August at 3.30 p.m.

Beethoven's Hammerklavier - Piano Focus III

Ukrainian concert pianist and recording artiste **Ivan Hovorun** performs Beethoven's *Hammerklavier Sonata*

www.ivanhovorun.com

Sunday 11 August at 3.30 p.m.

A Rainforest Journey

Celebrated local performer **Sue Shorter** returns with her ever-popular immersive programme of World Music.

Sunday 18 August at 3.30 p.m.

European Baroque II

Josef Laming (harpsichord), **Marguerite Wasserman** (violin) and **Camilla Morse-Glover** (viola da gamba) play music from across seventeenth century Europe

Sunday 25 August at 3.30 p.m.

Avant-garde

Ensemble x.y is a contemporary ensemble that commissions and performs new music in a flexible and ever-changing line-up. The ensemble's flexibility in form and personnel allows members actively to experiment with new sounds, aesthetics, and performance options to create compelling new works.

Sunday 1 September at 3.30 p.m.

Citizen of Nowhere: Mieczysław Weinberg, A Sung Life

Mark Glanville (baritone) **and Marc Verter** (piano) present their new work *Citizen of Nowhere: Mieczysław Weinberg, A Sung Life*

Mieczysław Weinberg, best known as composer of the remarkable Holocaust-themed opera *The Passenger*, also wrote over 200 songs. Many remain unpublished, yet they represent a major contribution to 20th century vocal repertoire. Mark Glanville's selection tells the story of the composer's life through his music, starting with an early, lyrical setting in Weinberg's native language of the great Polish-Jewish poet Julian Tuwim.

When the Nazis invaded, Weinberg fled Poland for Minsk and then Tashkent. His father, mother and sister were murdered in the Trawniki concentration camp. Jewish musical motifs inform the dark Yiddish nursery rhymes of I.L. Peretz, while Weinberg's settings of Shmuel Halkin's harrowing verse are among the most powerful musical evocations of the Holocaust ever penned.

His genius was recognised by Shostakovich, who brought him to live in Moscow after hearing his First Symphony. Many of his songs reflect the sound world of his adoptive country, though his musical language remains uniquely his. His association by marriage to the great Jewish actor Solomon Mikhoels, who was murdered on Stalin's orders, led to his imprisonment. Despite Shostakovich's intercession with Beria, Weinberg was released only on the dictator's death in 1953. Weinberg's life symbolises the plight of the mid-twentieth century, middle-European Jew. His songs, sometimes humorous, often dramatic, frequently poignant, together form as powerful a musical evocation as any of the tumultuous times in which he lived.

Sunday 8 September at 3.30 p.m.

European Piano Music - Piano Focus IV

International concert artiste **Ida Pelliccioli** performs music by **Rameau, Debussy and Albeniz**

Sunday 15 September at 3.30 p.m.

The Bach Solo Cantata Series III

This year's series concludes with the third concert in the Bach Solo Cantata Series, led by **Chad Kelly** and musicians of Eloquenza

Programmes and personnel are correct at 2 March 2019. Substitutions may be necessary and will be announced as appropriate

Music and Musicians at Saint Anne's, Kew

Music is essential to the spiritual, artistic and social life of the parish. Our choir sings at Sunday services and other festivals, and community arts organisations, schools, choral societies and orchestras enjoy access to our church and share their gifts, strengthening our relationship with communities within and beyond the parish of Kew.

Every year, from May to September, we produce a series of twenty Sunday afternoon recitals offering an eclectic musical programme to entertain, educate and delight our audience of regular concert-goers, visitors, families, tourists, school-children and other adventurers.

We promote young musicians and seasoned professionals, and attract artistes of international repute: In 2017, Siobhann Stagg performed in Mahler's *Fourth Symphony* in the week of her opening in *Die Zauberflöte* at the Royal Opera House; last year, international concert pianist, Florian Mitrea performed a programme of Mozart and Prokofiev following his Carnegie Hall debut and, this year, we host a world première performance of the Berlioz cycle *Les nuits d'été* orchestrated for two harps with soprano Ana Beard Fernandez, and the newly commissioned song cycle *Wild Geese* with the words of Mary Oliver set by award-winning composer Jonathan Brigg.

As an expression of our commitment to music and musicians, we propose to establish a foundation to produce and finance our concert series. As we seek to reignite the musical mission of the church and parish, correspondingly we would like to stimulate a renaissance in artistic philanthropy. We invite sponsorship of the concert series from artistic benefactors who would receive appropriate acknowledgement and naming rights, privileged access to visiting concert artistes, consideration in musical planning and the profound satisfaction of securing the future of the concert series as a Cornerstone Contributor.

We would welcome enquiries from music-loving philanthropists.

Please contact parish priest Father Nigel Worn or director of music Julian Kelly at: saintannekew@gmail.com

Choral Music at Saint Anne's Kew

The choir at Saint Anne's, Kew, is a community of many talents. Architects, art historians, doctors, solicitors, students, musical enthusiasts all, share their gifts and express their commitment by meeting to rehearse on Friday evening each week in preparation for singing at the 10.00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. In addition to leading the congregational worship, the choir performs a wide range of repertoire from plainsong and renaissance polyphony to new music composed specially for the ensemble.

We welcome new members and would be happy to hear from anyone with musical ambition and a good sense of humour.

Please contact Julian Kelly, director of music, at saintannekew@gmail.com or by visiting in person after 10.00 a.m. Mass on Sunday.