



Year in Review
2024





We have hosted 13 concerts, including 22 pieces by living composers, WHO IUHH HYHQWV 4YH H[KLELWLRQV WKUHH W Composers' Residency for four composers and one Virtual Festival, ZKLFK LQFOXGHG SLHFHV RI PXVLF DQG 4YH H Romney Marsh community we have also delivered weekly singing OHVVRQV ZLWK WZR SULPDU\ VFKRROV DQG WKH 6 V FKRLU DQG IRXU DUW ZRUNVKRSV OHG E\ SDL that our latest 'Calls' for both music and arts have been released and our season-launching concert, *Music of Our Time*, will soon be with us in 0DUFK -\$0 UHDOO\ LV D \HDU URXQG FKDULW\

This year marked the second year of Nicholas Cleobury's time as JAM on the Marsh Festival Curator; a role that a person can only hold for WZR \HDUV \$W WKH HQG RI WKLV \HDU V IHVWLYDO WR 1LFN DQG WKDQNHG KLP IRU WZR ZRQGHUIXO I KDV EHHQ LQYROYHG ZLWK -\$0 IRU WZHQRW\ \HDUV FRQFHUW IRU XV LQ 6LQFH WKHQ KH KDV EHH that we stand for and remains an integral part of JAM's Music Panel and FRPPLVVLRQLQJ WHDP (YHU\RQH DW -\$0 +4 ORRNV 1LFN EDFN DV D FRQGXFWRU EHIRUH ORQJ

In July, I stepped down as Artistic Director of JAM and was replaced by -RKQ)UHGHULFN +XGVRQ +DYLQJ ZRUNHG ZLWK -\$0

Music of Our Time

JAM's season opening concert since 2001

As ever, JAM's year started at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street; venue

RI -\$0 V 4UVW FRQFHUW EDFN LQ 7KLV FRQFHUW ODXQFKHG RXU
programme and gave us the opportunity to return to our founding roots:
HQDEOLQJ DQG VXSSRUWLQJ QHZ PXVLF 7KH FRQFHUW LQFOXGHG WH
by living composers; two JAM commissions by Isabelle Ryder (*world
premiere*) and Tarik O'Regan (*2010*) and eight successful submissions to
our annual *Call for Music* from:

Our wonderful performers were on sparkling form, including The

Chapel Choir of Selwyn College, Cambridge H[SHUWO\ SUHSDUHG E\
Sarah MacDonald), Onyx Brass and organist Simon Hogan, conducted
by Michael Bawtree W LV IDLU WR VD\ WKDW WKH HYHQLQJ ZHQW
EDQJ QHDUO\ OLIVLQJ WKH URRI R :UHQ V PDVWHUSLHFH

It was a magical evening of sublime music.
The new music was breathtakingly beautiful.

- AUDIENCE MEMBER





- 01 St Bride's Church, Fleet Street
 02 Soloist from Selwyn Chapel Choir
 03 Audience member giving applause
 04 Selwyn Chapel Choir
 05 0HPEHUV R Bras \ [
 06 3DXO 0HDORU DQG (GZDUG \$U
 presenting the President's Award to
 Nick Cleobury



02





JAM on the Marsh

4-14 July 2024

- \$0 V DQQXDO IHVWLYDO RQ .HQW V 5RPQH\ 0DUVK
Led by Festival Curator **Nicholas Cleobury**, JAM delivered another
ZRQGHUIXO VHULHV RI HYHQWV LQ WRWDO RYH
WKLFN DQG IDVW 7KHDWUH SOD\HG DQ LPSRUWDO
two performances by **Changeling Theatre** LQ 7KH 2OG 6FKRRO *D
1HZ 5RPQH\ Present *Laughter*, Coward and *Henry V*, Shakespeare)
and an amazing one-man show, *Jarman*, by **Mark Farrelly** in the Marsh
\$FDGHP\ 7KHDWUH 0XVLFDO KLJKOLJKWV RI WKH
a barn-storming performance in St Nicholas Church, New Romney
by the **London Mozart Players**, tenor **Mark Padmore CBE** and horn
player **Ben Goldscheider**, conducted by **Nicholas Cleobury**, including
ZRUNV E\ 'HOLXV +ROVW DQG (OJDU DQG WZR ZR
commissions, by **John Frederick Hudson** and **Jago Thornton** 7KH
following night, **Stephen Layton** made his festival debut in St Leonard's

In Our Community

Since 2014, over 2,000 people living on rural Romney Marsh, Kent take part each year in JAM's free community projects: community singing, playing instruments and taking part in art workshops, as well as making XS WKH IHVWLYDO V DXGLHQFH 2XU IUHH WR DWWHQG FRPPXQLW\ SURMH embrace people of all ages and backgrounds, driving skills, ambition, ZHOO EHLQJ DQG FRPPXQLW\ FRKHVLRQ 7KHVH SURMHFWV ZHUH FHOHEUDWH two performances in this year's festival:

Following two terms of weekly singing lessons led by JAM and Rebecca Lodge Birkebaek, our midweek festival concerts started with children from St Nicholas and Brenzett Primary Schools joining forces with an over-50s singing group, The Sunflower Singers, based at the Romney ODUVK & RPPXQLW\ +XE IRU D YLEUDQW Spelling WSLHGLWLRQ RI %RE & KLOFRWW V Chance, conducted by Rebecca Lodge Birkebaek and accompanied by Onyx Brass

02



05





01

- 01 Ruth Rogers leading the Festival Orchestra
- 02 Local Primary School Children
- 03 Patrick Armitage in the Festival Orchestra
- 04 Thunderous applause from the audience
- 05 Local Primary School Children
- 06 Ryan Linham demonstrating the trumpet

03



04



06



7KH 4QDO ZHHNHQG EHJDQ ZLWK WKH 4UVW S
Festival Orchestra ODGH XS RI PHPEHUV RI WKH /RQC
3OD\HUV SOD\LQJ VLGH E\ VLGH ZLWK DPDWHXU
orchestra performed Beethoven's *Symphony No.1*, Vaughan Williams'
The Lark Ascending and Warlock's *Capriol Suite*, conducted by Michael
%DZWUHH WR D SDFNHG 6W 1LFKRODV &KXU FK

Both projects were unique opportunities for amateur players and
VLQJHUV LQ RXU FRPPXQLW\ 7KH SHUIRUPHUV H
they will never forget, and the audience enjoyed performances that
WKH\ ZLOO DOVR QHYHU IRUJHW



01



03

- 01 5RVHDQQD 'XQQ DQG *UDKDPH 'DYLHV ZRUNL
- 02 3DXO 0HDORU *UDKDPH 'DYLHV (GZDUG \$UP
- Toby Anderson
- 03 Composers working on the Romney Marsh
- 04 Jnathan Dove with the Residency composers at
- Derek Jarman's Prospect Cottage
- 05 Performance of *Wittgenstein* by Jago Thornton with singers
- from the Royal College of Music and conductor Jhn
-) UHGHULFN + XGVRQ



For two weeks, JAM hosted four composers during JAM on the Marsh, in its second **Composers' Residency** *Writing for Opera* was the theme, and as JAM was remembering **Derek Jarman**, 30 years after his death, the composers had libretti written for them by **Grahame Davies**, based D U R X Q G - D U P D Q V O L I H D Q G Z R U N V D O O F R P P L V composers, **Toby Anderson**, **Sam Buttler**, **Roseanna Dunn** and **Jago Thornton** E H Q H 4 W H G I U R P W X W R U L Q J I U J O P A T O H D G L Q J **Dove** and **Shirley Thompson**, with the course led by **Paul Mealor** and **John Frederick Hudson** Travis Bloom D Q H [F H S W L R Q D O Y R F D O I collaborative pianist based in New York City, led the musical side of the course with four singers from the **Royal College of Music**

The Residency started with a day in *Prospect Cottage*, Jarman's Dungeness K R P H O H G E \ - R Q D W K D Q ' R Y H 2 Y H U W Z R Z H H N V V composers, singers, pianist and tutors worked on the four new operas I U R P G D Z Q W R G X V N 2 Q W K H V H F R Q G 6 D W X U G D \ operas were performed by the Royal College of Music singers **Angelina Dorin-Barlow**, **Ceferina Penny**, **Benedict Munden** and **James Emerson**,

Commissions and New Music

(QDEOLQJ QHZ PXVLF LV DW WKH YHU\ KHDUW RI -\$0 'XULQJ -\$0 RQ WKH 0DUV
JAM gave world premieres totalling over two hours RI PXVLF

Opera:

Toby Anderson: *The Canonisation of Derek Jarman*

Sam Buttler: *Caravaggio*

Roseanna Dunn: *War Requiem*

Jago Thornton: *Wittgenstein*

Orchestral:

-RKQ)UHGULFND EOXLBIZQ

Jago Thornton: *Murmurations*

Poetry:

*UDKDPH 'DYLHV /LEUHWWR IRU WKH DERYH IRXU RSHUDV

(VPH /OR\G /LEUHWWR RIZQ

Music by Cameron Biles-Lidell, Marisse Cato and Steve Richer received

VHFRQG SHUIRUPDQFHV DORQJVLGH D KRVW RI PXVLF E\ OLYLQJ FRPSRVHUV

JAM on the Marsh is a multi-arts festival and as well as the above new

PXVLF LW SUHVHQWHG D SOD\ E\ D OLYLQJ ZULWHU 0DUN)DUUHOO\ DQG

H[KLELWLRQV E\ OLYLQJ DUWLWV -RKQ %DOODUG 3DXOR *QHFFR 0LFKHOOH

-DPHV 1RUWRQ DQG \$O 5H HO

\$W D WLPH ZKHQ IXQGLQJ WKH DUWV LV HYHU PRUH GLJFXOW -\$0 UHDOO\ LV

LWV ELW IRU FRQWHPSRUDU\ DUWV LQ WKH 8.

01 %HQ *ROGVFKHLGHU 0DUN 3DGP

02

03





JAM VIRTUAL

Reaching a world-wide audience

6LQFH - \$0 9 578\$/ KDV EURXJKW - \$0 RQ WKH
wider audience than can make our two weeks on Romney Marsh each
\H DU 7KL V \H DU 9 578\$/ ZDV SURGXFHG E\ -RKQ)UH
E\ *DUHWK .D\ DQG UHFRUGHG E\ (GZDUG \$UPLWDJH
SLHFHV RI PXVLF DQG 4YH H[KLELWLRQV 3HRSOH
watched it, commenting on how much they value being able to take
SDUW LQ - \$0 IURP DIDU

03



Brilliant production, sound and visuals.
I watched lots of arts online during
lockdown but not much since. I watch JAM
VIRTUAL, because it's so good.

- ONLINE VIEWER

JAM @25 in 2025

/RRNLQJ IRUZDUG WR QH[W \H DU LVth HFDOLLYH UDUU DW PDUNV -\$0 V

Launching the year will be a very special *Music of Our Time* concert,

UH YLV LWLQJ RXU 4th WWXWV RY FLMVLY HQSON, a new

work by Joseph Phibbs and one of our most successful commissions,

Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal E\ 3DXO 0HDORU \$OVR LQFOXGHG LQ WKLV FRQFHUW

will be new works from composers who have submitted to our annual

Call for Music

Our work in the Romney Marsh community starts in January, when

Rebecca Lodge Birkebaek begins weekly singing with three schools

DQG WKH 6XQ5RZHU 6LQJHUV -\$0 ZLOO H[SDQG LWV FROODERUDWLRQ ZLWK

Romney Marsh Community Hub by running four series of workshops

ZLWK GL HUHFW DUWL VWV OHDGLQJ WKHP HQDEOLQJ PHPEHUV RI RXU FRPPXO

WR OHDUQ QHZ VNLOOV)URP WKHVH SURMHFWV ZLOO FRPH IRXU H[KLELWL

EH KHOG LQ WKH &RPPXQLW\ +XE DQG DW 0DUVK \$FDGHP\ /HLVXUH &HQWUH

WKURXJKRXW WKH \H DU HQVXULQJ VLJQL4FDQW H[SRVXUH IRU WKH DUWL VWV

)URP \$SULO WR -XQH ZH ZLOO EULQJ WKUHH GL HUHFW VHWV RI SHUIRUPHU

EULQJ PXVLF WR 7KH +XE IRU WKRVH ZLWK VRFLDO FKDOOHQJHV

Q D 4UVW IRU -\$0 RQ WKH 0DUVK ZH ZLOO ZHOFRPH WKH LQWHUQDWLRQD

renowned photographer, **Wendy Carrig**

Paul Mealor
LVO CSt JFRSA

President of JAM

JAM Team

Edward Armitage BEM
Festival Curator

John Frederick Hudson PhD
\$UWLVWLF 'LUHFWRU +HDG R

Sarah Armitage
+HDG RI 0DUNHWLQJ)XQG

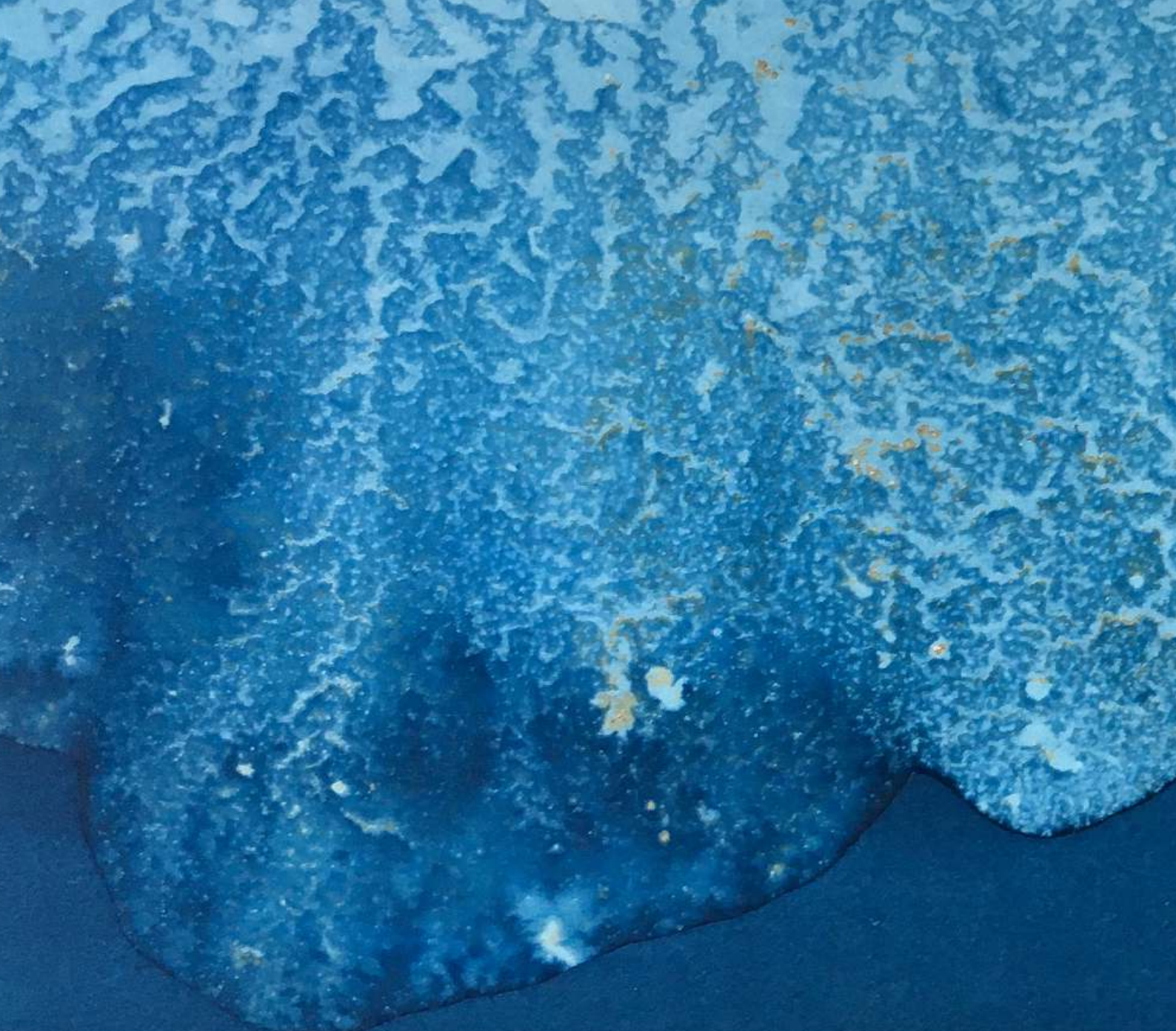
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Concerts Manager

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(GZDUG \$UPLWQdH % (0

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JAM is internationally recognised as a creative, dynamic,
forward-thinking arts organisation, with new music at its

FRUH W HPEUDFHV DUWLVWLF ULVN WDNLQJ WKURXJK FRQWHPSR
LQQRYDWLRQ H[SORUDWLRQ FRODERUDWLRQ DQG FUHDWLRQ
intentionally integrates high-quality performances and
HGXFdwLRQ

JAM Commissions

2024

- R K Q) U H G H U L F W I L D F O R T G V R Q 7 R P + D U R O G D Q G 6 W X S D U W % H D F K
Blazing
(libretto by Esme Lloyd)
Jago Thornton: *Murmurations*
Isabelle Ryder: *Illumination*

2023

Mark-Anthony Turnage: *ONYX 23*
Richard Peat: *The Sky Engine*
(libretto by Timothy Knapman)
Tara Creme: *The Song I Came to Sing*
Christopher Churcher: *Evening Star*

2022

Judith Bingham: *Concerto for Clarinet*
Janet Wheeler: *Up in the Morning Early*

2021

Jack Oades: *Between the Stormclouds and the Sea*
(text by Grahame Davies)

2020

Paul Mealor: *Piano Concerto*

2019

Daniel Saleeb: *Soliloquy*
James Aburn: *Silent Shadows*

2018

Rory Boyle: *Songs from the Marshes*

2017

W I L D F O R T G V R Q 7 R P + D U R O G D Q G 6 W X S D U W % H D F K
of Vimy
(text by Grahame Davies)

2016

Paul Mealor: *The Shadows of War*
(text by Grahame Davies)
Thomas LaVoy: *O Great Beyond*

2015

Thea Musgrave: *The Voices of Our Ancestors*

2014

* L O H V 6 Z Y N G Y B O N G H Y - B O
Yongy-Bonghy-Bo

2013

Paul Mealor: *The Farthest Shore*

2012

Julian Phillips: *Body of Water*

2011

Philip Cashian: *All Things Wear Silence*

2010

Paul Mealor: *Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal*
Tarik O'Regan: *The Night's Untruth*
e 7 D R O Q 7 R P + D U R O G D Q G 6 W X S D U W % H D F K

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Sue Canney
William Carey

Become Part of JAM

&HQWUDO WR RXU IXQGLQJ DUH RXU SULYDWH GRQRUV HQDEOL
*LIW \$LG \$W D WLPH RI DUWV IXQGLQJ FXWEDFNV SOHDVH FR
7KHUH DUH YDULRXV HQWU\ SRLQWV VWDUWLQJ DW e (YHU\
-\$0 V RQJRLQJ VXSSRUW RI WKH DUWV SOHDVH JR V
:H ZRXOG EH GHOLJKWHG WR ZHOFRPH \RX'L

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