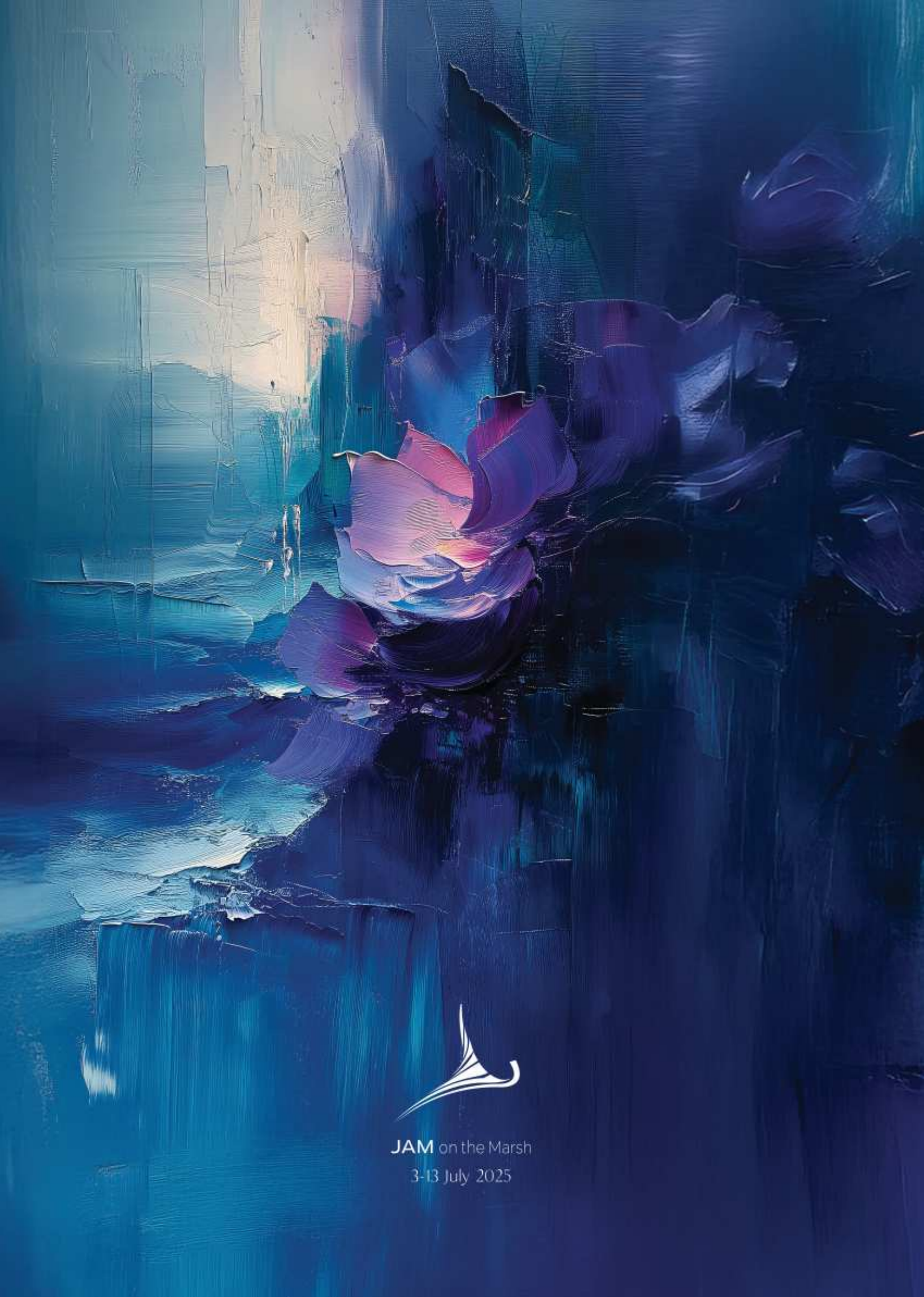




JAM on the Marsh
3-13 July 2025





JAM on the Marsh

multi-arts festival · world class · up close

3-13 July 2025

The 12th Festival Season

www.jamconcert.org



WELCOME

John Frederick Hudson

Artistic Director

Now in its 12th year, JAM on the Marsh returns bringing world-class performances to one of the UK's most unique landscapes: Kent's Romney Marsh.

JAM (John Armitage Memorial Trust) was founded in 2000 with a clear mission to champion living composers and support the development of new music across the UK. That mission remains at the heart of everything we do. Over the last 25 years, JAM has commissioned over 45 major works, supported hundreds of composers and premiered new music on national stages and international airwaves, including regular broadcasts on BBC Radio 3.

Our summer festival on Romney Marsh is an extension of that mission: an immersive, multi-arts celebration that places music at its core while embracing theatre, film, visual art, education and our wider community. Across 11 days this July, audiences will encounter concerts in medieval churches, art in steam railway carriages, and Shakespeare in open gardens, all set against this evocative coastal backdrop.

This year's festival reflects JAM's bold vision: to commission and perform new music that resonates with today's world. From emerging composers to internationally celebrated voices, the 2025 programme brings together innovation, heritage and artistic excellence in every corner of the Marsh. New music runs through every thread of the programme with eight world premieres given in the festival.

JAM is more than a festival; it is a platform, a community and a catalyst. Through our education work, composer development and adventurous programming, we remain committed to building a future where new music and the arts can thrive. To those who support us, we offer our deepest thanks. Your generosity enables us to continue commissioning, performing and sharing music that might otherwise go unheard. With your help, we can continue to spark creativity, nurture talent and bring unforgettable experiences to audiences across the UK.

We are thrilled to welcome you to JAM on the Marsh 2025.

Let the festival begin.

FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

Edward Armitage BEM Festival Curator

Welcome to JAM on the Marsh 2025, my first as Festival Curator. It is a real joy to hold this position, following in the footsteps of so many esteemed colleagues. Whilst riddled with imposter syndrome, I have created a series of events – music, visual arts, film and theatre – that I hope you will love as much as I do. I'm not a great believer in themes, but there are strings that run through my programming, driven by long held, deep-rooted JAM principles, my admiration of certain composers, artists, performers and a marvellous period of French composition.

MUSIC

The first is celebrating Paul Mealor's 50th birthday, across four concerts. Firstly, the BBC Singers and their Chief Conductor, Sofi Jeanin, perform *The Light of Paradise*, a choral opera with saxophone quartet, broadcast on BBC Radio 3. Next the Britten Sinfonia takes on his *Symphony No.2*, inspired by Canada's Rocky Mountains. The King's Singers return with a programme including Paul's *Coronation Kyrie*, premiered at King Charles' Coronation. Lastly, the Chapel Choir of Selwyn College, Cambridge and Onyx Brass, with singers from across our community, perform *The Farthest Shore*, one of Paul's most moving pieces.

New music remains a core value of JAM. Music by living composers is scattered through the festival. As well as Paul Mealor, we have music by Jonathan Dove (performed by the composer), John Adams, Caroline Shaw and Sarah MacDonald, with world premieres from Dani Howard, Steve Richer, Marisse Cato and James Aburn. The mesmerising percussionist Beibei Wang and pianist Thomas Kelly, lead our latest Composers' Residency, which culminates in world premieres by three emerging composers, written during the festival.

La Belle Époque, 1871 to 1914, one of the finest explosions of French creativity, is characterised by artistic innovation, scientific progress, and a vibrant social life: a golden age of French culture. This era has wheedled its way into many performances, most obviously in two recitals by pianist, Thomas Kelly and organist and previous JAM on the Marsh Curator, Daniel Cook. Some of my favourite composers of this remarkable period make appearances: Debussy, Franck, Poulenc, Ravel, Satie, Saint-Saëns, Vierne and Widor. I can almost smell the garlic and calvados!

As you peruse this programme, I hope you will enjoy how wide ranging the music is, from established classical and choral music to Latin tangos; from mind-bending world music to the murky, smoky world of cabaret.

VISUAL ARTS

I am delighted that the festival has exhibitions by three outstanding visual artists: Wendy Carrig, Marc Christmas and Daniel Lehan. These magical shows will be exhibited across the Marsh and Hythe, in four churches, the Marsh Academy Leisure Centre and the carriages of the Romney Hythe & Dymchurch Railway. All are free to view, and all the artists will be selling their work. Each of them will hold a 'Meet the Artist' event, where you can learn about their techniques and inspiration behind their work. Plus, Daniel will lead a three-church tour of his exhibition. I am excited that all three exhibitors are connected to Romney Marsh.

THEATRE

Over the last few years, Changeling Theatre has established itself as a festival favourite. This year they bring Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* which will be given an irreverent 'Changeling twist'. Whilst the Old School Garden provides a perfect location for outdoor theatre, the magnificent copper beech can provide some audio challenges when the wind blows. For this reason, the production will be amplified to help resolve this issue.

Following the success of the screening of *The Railway Children* at Cinemarsh last year, there will be two National Theatre Live showings of *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Gillian Anderson (*Sex Education*), Vanessa Kirby (*The Crown*) and Ben Foster (*Lone Survivor*) lead the cast in Tennessee Williams' timeless masterpiece.

Once again, welcome to the 'Marsh's festival'. I hope you enjoy it, and I look forward to catching up with you over eleven wonderful days of world-class, intimate events in our unique corner of the world.



2025 FESTIVAL GUIDE

3 JULY · THURSDAY



FESTIVAL LAUNCH

5:30pm · Assembly Rooms · New Romney



LONDON TANGO QUINTET

7pm · St Nicholas · New Romney

4 JULY · FRIDAY



MEET the ARTIST

Marc Christmas
6pm · St Leonard · Hythe



MEALOR @50:

The Light of Paradise
BBC Singers
7pm · St Leonard · Hythe

5 JULY · SATURDAY



PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

Jillian Bain Christie
10am & 2pm · Assembly Rooms · New Romney



LA BELLE ÉPOQUE I

Thomas Kelly · piano
11:30am · St Nicholas · New Romney



STORYTELLING through COLLAGE

Wendy Carrig
2pm · Assembly Rooms · New Romney



MEET the ARTIST

Wendy Carrig
4pm · Marsh Academy Leisure Centre



MEALOR @50:

Symphony No. 2
Britten Sinfonia
7pm · St Nicholas · New Romney



LATE NIGHT MUSIC: Six Meditations

Jonathan Dove
9:30pm · St Nicholas · New Romney

6 JULY · SUNDAY



MEET the ARTIST

Daniel Lehan
2pm · All Saints · Lydd



THE KING'S SINGERS

3pm · All Saints · Lydd

7 JULY · MONDAY



NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

2pm · Cinemarsh · New Romney

8 JULY · TUESDAY



ART TOUR

Daniel Lehan

10am · St George
· Ivychurch



LA BELLE ÉPOQUE II

Daniel Cook · organ

7pm · St Leonard
· Hythe

9 JULY · WEDNESDAY



FESTIVAL WINE TASTING

Matthew Jukes

5pm · Assembly
Rooms · New Romney



TWELFTH NIGHT

Changeling Theatre

7pm · Old School
Garden · New Romney

10 JULY · THURSDAY



NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

2pm · Cinemash
· New Romney



CABARET

Britten, Berlin
and Broadway

7pm · St Nicholas
· New Romney

11 JULY · FRIDAY



MEALOR @50:

The Farthest Shore

7pm · St Leonard
· Hythe

12 JULY · SATURDAY



MUSIC for PIANO and PERCUSSION

11:30am · St Nicholas
· New Romney



SHAKER LOOPS

JAM Sinfonia

7pm · St Nicholas
· New Romney

13 JULY · SUNDAY



KOSMOS ENSEMBLE

3pm · St Nicholas
· New Romney



FESTIVAL FAREWELL

4pm · Old School
Garden · New Romney

EXHIBITIONS · 3-13 July



The Woman Who Fell to Earth

Wendy Carrig

Marsh Academy Leisure
Centre · New Romney



Dusk Chorus

Marc Christmas

St Leonard · Hythe



Drawn · Torn · Glued

Daniel Lehan

St Clement · Old Romney
St George · Ivychurch
All Saints · Lydd



Paul Mealor

FESTIVAL LAUNCH

3 July · Thursday · 5:30pm

The Assembly Rooms · New Romney

· TN28 8BT

60 min

Tickets:

Free (booking required)

Join Festival Curator **Edward Armitage** and JAM President **Paul Mealor** for an informal conversation delving into the thoughts and ideas shaping this year's festival.

The main strings that weave through the festival are (Paul) Mealor @50, La Belle Époque, New Music, Visual Arts and Theatre. Find out how these have been fleshed out into a full and exciting programme. Join us to raise a glass to a new festival, and learn about the highlights, new commissions and the creative spark driving the 2025 programme.

A photograph of two men in a room with red walls. The man on the left is standing, wearing a dark suit and holding a violin. The man on the right is sitting on a piano bench, wearing a dark jacket and glasses, with his hand on a Steinway piano. The piano has 'STEINWAY' written on its side.

LONDON TANGO QUINTET

3 July · Thursday · 7pm
St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU
60 min

Tickets:

£25 · Standard
£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus
U18s Free

Performers:

David Juritz · violin
Craig Ogden · guitar
Miloš Milivojević · accordion
David Gordon · piano
Richard Pryce · double bass



The **London Tango Quintet** returns to JAM on the Marsh having closed the 2022 festival with a Latin bang.

The Quintet is a 'super group' of internationally acclaimed musicians performing tango music at the highest level, who get together when their busy world-wide schedule allows. It includes guitar virtuoso Craig Ogden (Classic FM recording artist) and accordionist Miloš Milivojević (as heard on Strictly Come Dancing!), and delivers even more than the sum of its parts. The London Tango Quintet will perform the most popular works of the king of Argentinian tango, Astor Piazzolla, including the intoxicating rhythms and jaw-dropping virtuosity of tango, alongside solos and duos ranging from Spanish fire to cool Parisian jazz.

The London Tango Quintet will announce the programme during the concert.

A group of approximately ten people, including men and women of various ages, are posed in front of a dense, vertical garden wall. Several spherical outdoor lights are visible, casting a warm glow. The people are dressed in semi-formal attire, with many wearing shades of blue or green. The background shows a building with a glass and metal structure, possibly a conservatory or greenhouse.

MEALOR @50: THE LIGHT OF PARADISE

Join Photographer Marc Christmas at 6pm
for his *Meet the Artist* talk (30 min · free)

4 July · Friday · 7pm
St Leonard · Hythe · CT21 5DL
60 min

Tickets:

£25 · Standard
£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus
U18s Free

Performers:

BBC Singers
Sofi Jeanin · conductor
Ferio Saxophone Quartet



Mealor @50 is one of the main strings running through this year's festival, covering four concerts and different performers. The series includes some of Paul's most significant and exciting choral and orchestral works.

"The mediaeval mystic, Margery Kempe (ca. 1373-1448) is a fascinating figure. She freed herself from the restraint of marriage and embarked on pilgrimages to sacred sites in Europe and the Middle East, dressed usually in white. Kempe considered her travels as a series of divine trials and whilst nowadays she can be seen as suffering the symptoms of various mental illnesses, she distilled them into *The Booke*, a spiritual autobiography that she began in 1430, despite being illiterate. The manuscript was copied, probably shortly before 1450, by someone who signed himself Salthows; this scribe has been shown to be the Norwich monk Richard Salhouse. However after the 16th century Kempe's book was essentially lost; the only surviving manuscript was found again in 1934 in the private library of the Butler-Bowdon family, and this is now in the British Library.

The Light of Paradise by Paul Mealor was commissioned by the Zurich Chamber Singers. An hour long work for choir and saxophone quartet, Mealor describes it as a choral opera. Its fourteen movements, 'devotions' Mealor calls them, are loosely based on the fourteen stations of the Way of the Cross, using words by Kempe to create a narrative arc, presenting the story of her pilgrimage as well as unfolding her religious universe. The result is neither opera nor oratorio, and mixes choral writing with solos and music for the saxophone quartet. Mealor creates a distinctive sound world all of his own. Whilst Mealor's musical style is a long way from that of Arvo Pärt, listening to *The Light of Paradise* you cannot help but think about the way Pärt reinvented the Lutheran passion in his own image.

British composers have rather shied away from the more ecstatic, mystical side to Catholicism. You have to remember that Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* was regarded as rather too Catholic for the Three Choirs Festival (even as late as the 1930s, the Dean of Peterborough banned the work from the cathedral). So it is intriguing, and heartening, to find Mealor treating religious mysticism so directly and in a work that makes it approachable." — Robert Hugill.



LA BELLE ÉPOQUE I

5 July · Saturday · 11:30am

St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU
60 min

Tickets:

£15 · Standard

£20 · Standard + Shuttle Bus

U18s Free

Performer:

Thomas Kelly · piano

Debussy: *L'Isle joyeuse*, L. 106 (6')

Franck: *Prelude Choral and Fugue* (17')

Poulenc: *15 Improvisations* (25')

Satie: *Gymnopedie No2* (3')

Ravel: *Le Valse* (12')

La Belle Époque is one of the main strings running through this year's festival, covering two recitals and two concerts. Today's recital includes some of the greatest composers to come out of France during this wonderful era.

Thomas Kelly makes his debut at JAM on the Marsh, fresh from his critically received debut recital at Wigmore Hall. He is an *Artist in Residence* throughout the festival; co-leading our Composers' Residency with the percussionist Beibei Wang.

Kelly's programme is a ravishing mixture of the slightly mad world of the Belle Époque, visiting the more conventional sounds of the likes of Franck and Ravel and the more abstract of Debussy, Poulenc and Satie. We start our time travel around the era with Debussy's magical *L'Isle joyeuse*, then slip back in time to Franck's epic *Prelude, Chorale and Fugue*, which feels like it comes from a totally different time zone. The largest piece follows: Poulenc's *15 Improvisations*, a wonderful series of miniatures, created by possibly the least known of these wonderful composers. Satie's *Gymnopedie No2* acts as both a sorbet before the final piece and a taster of tonight's world premiere by James Aburn; a new arrangement of all three *Gymnopedies* for strings and harp. *La Valse*, possibly the best-known work closes the recital, which offers such an amazing overview of this thrilling era of French music.



PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

5 July · Saturday · 10-12pm & 2-4pm
The Assembly Rooms · New Romney ·
TN28 8BT
120 min

Tickets:
Free (booking required)

Artist:
Jillian Bain Christie

Visual artist and musician **Jillian Bain Christie** leads two creative printmaking workshops inspired by Paul Meallor's dramatic *Symphony No.2*. Bring an image that captures your response to the music and create your own watercolour monotype. No experience needed — just listen, imagine and explore your artistic response through print.



STORYTELLING THROUGH COLLAGE

5 July · Saturday · 1:30pm

Marsh Academy Leisure Centre · New
Romney · TN28 8BB
120 min

Tickets:

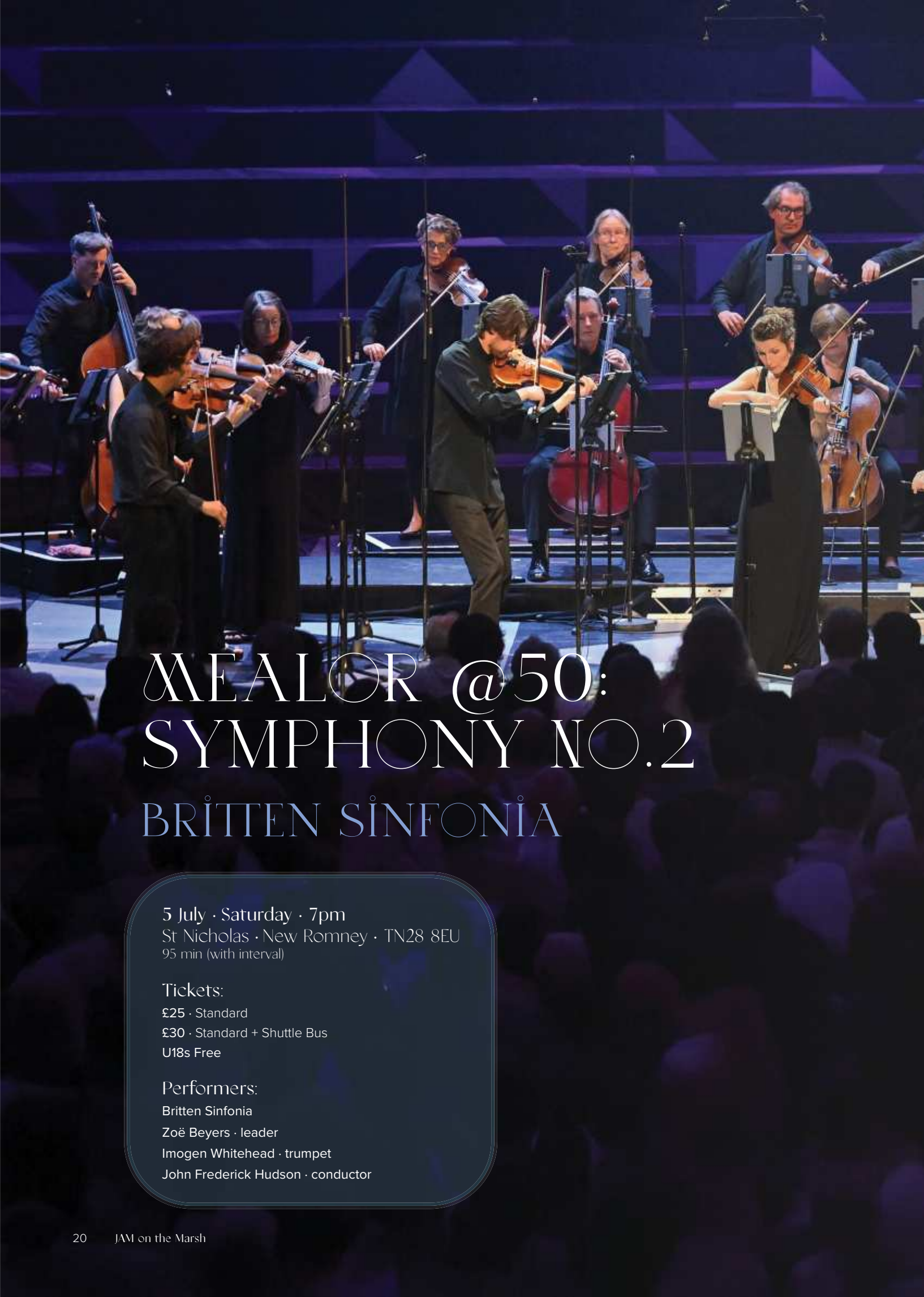
Free (booking required)

Artist:

Wendy Carrig

Photographic artist **Wendy Carrig** will guide you through the simple art of cut'n'paste to inspire and encourage personal storytelling through the medium of collage. No experience needed and all materials are provided. Free to attend, but places are limited. Children aged 7 and over must be accompanied by an adult.

Join Photographer Wendy Carrig at 4pm for her *Meet the Artist* talk (free)



MEALOR @50: SYMPHONY NO.2 BRITTEN SINFONIA

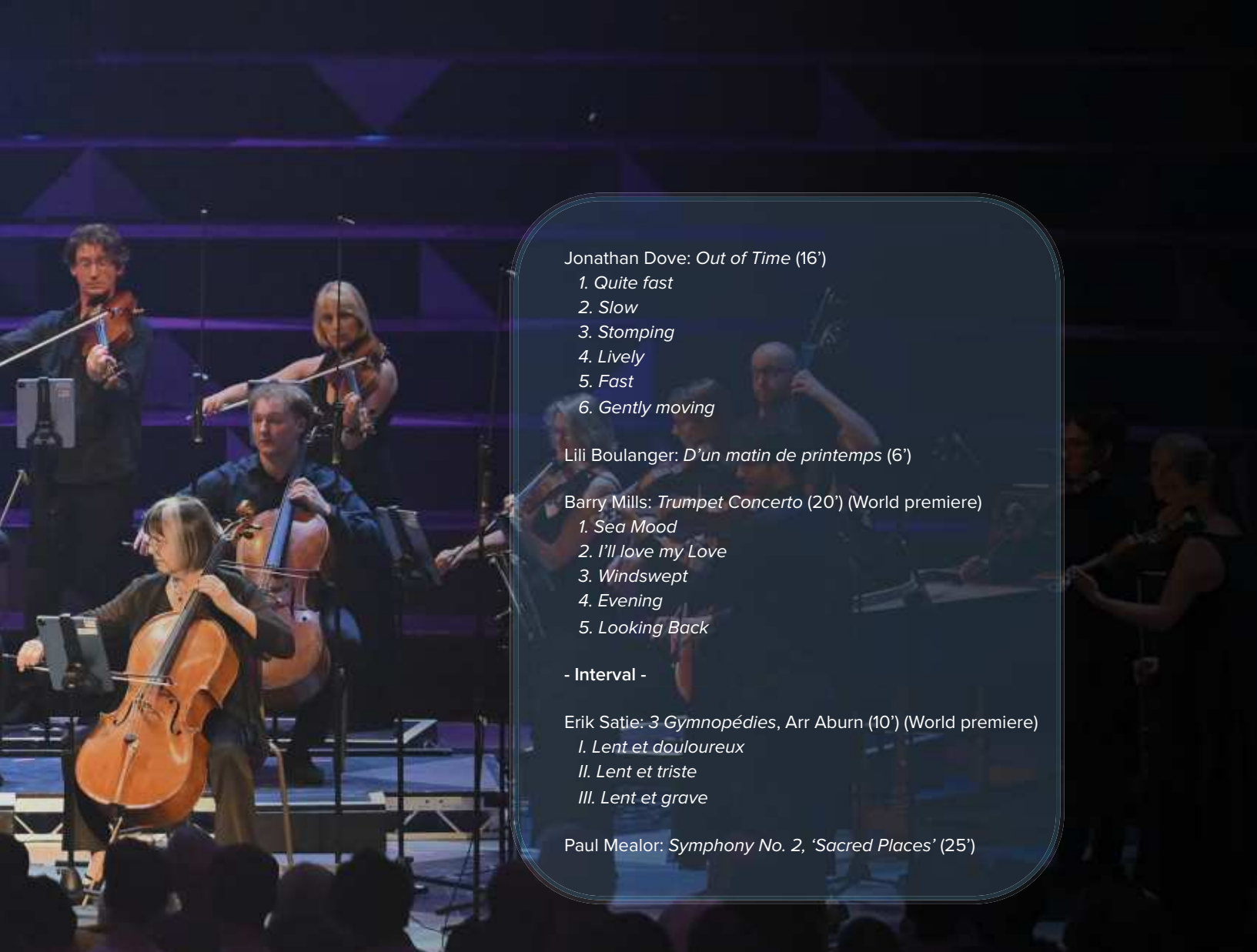
5 July · Saturday · 7pm
St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU
95 min (with interval)

Tickets:

£25 · Standard
£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus
U18s Free

Performers:

Britten Sinfonia
Zoë Beyers · leader
Imogen Whitehead · trumpet
John Frederick Hudson · conductor



Jonathan Dove: *Out of Time* (16')

1. *Quite fast*
2. *Slow*
3. *Stomping*
4. *Lively*
5. *Fast*
6. *Gently moving*

Lili Boulanger: *D'un matin de printemps* (6')

Barry Mills: *Trumpet Concerto* (20') (World premiere)

1. *Sea Mood*
2. *I'll love my Love*
3. *Windswept*
4. *Evening*
5. *Looking Back*

- Interval -

Erik Satie: *3 Gymnopédies*, Arr Aburn (10') (World premiere)

- I. *Lent et douloureux*
- II. *Lent et triste*
- III. *Lent et grave*

Paul Mealor: *Symphony No. 2, 'Sacred Places'* (25')

Few concerts better signify JAM on the Marsh's 2025 programming than this one, featuring most of the strings that run through the festival: Mealor @50, La Belle Époque and New Music. Along with Paul Mealor, there are other things to celebrate in this concert: Jonathan Dove at 65 and a hundred years since the death of Erik Satie; this is, therefore, a concert of anniversaries.

We start with Jonathan Dove's *Out of Time*, originally written as a string quartet in 2001 and enlarged for string orchestra in 2018. It was commissioned by Elizabeth Allsebrook to commemorate her husband. *Out of Time* contains his irresistible, infectious energy. Lili Boulanger's *D'un matin de printemps* tilts us into the Belle Époque for the first time. Written in 1917, this version for orchestra was the last work composed by Boulanger before her death in 1918, at just 24. Next, we hear the world premiere of Barry Mills' *Trumpet Concerto*, written for and performed by Imogen Whitehead. It is in five movements, with the second featuring Imogen's favourite instrument, the flugelhorn.

After the interval, we return to the Belle Époque with a second world premiere, a new arrangement of Erik Satie's *Trois Gymnopédies* by James Aburn. Number 1 is instantly recognisable to most people, with numbers 2 and 3 becoming ever less so. These beautiful miniatures are some of Satie's most loved earlier works. To close the concert, we change from delicate beauty of Satie to the power of Paul Mealor's *Symphony No. 2*, inspired by the composer's trip to the Rocky Mountains. This shows the composer at his most flamboyant, utilising his forces – strings, piano and percussion – in a magnificent manner.

This event is kindly supported by Orchestras Live.

LATE NIGHT MUSIC

WITH JONATHAN DOVE

5 July · Saturday · 9:30pm

St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU
50 min

Tickets:

£15 · Standard

U18s Free

Performer:

Jonathan Dove · composer and piano

Jonathan Dove was a founding Music Panel Member of JAM and has been a close friend of the charity from 2000 to date. In 2003, JAM commissioned *The Far Theatricals of Day* from Jonathan, one of our most loved and performed commissions. Last year, Jonathan was one of the tutors on our Composers' Residency: Writing for Opera. It is a rare and great pleasure to welcome him to the festival as a performer.

"Towards the end of 2021, a friend asked me for music to accompany poems about silence. I remembered a trance-like movement called *Meditation* that I had written as part of a dance piece in 1993. This led me to a section of music that I had written a few years later for a film about the architect Carlo Scarpa, accompanying images of gardens and water. I made versions of both pieces for solo piano and found that I wanted to keep going.

The result is *Late Night Music: Six Meditations*, a little under an hour of quiet, contemplative piano music. The music involves simple repetition, and revels in reverberation, with nearly continuous use of the sustaining pedal. The effect is sometimes like ripples spreading from drops of water falling into a still pool. The six meditations follow a journey through the night, gradually taking the listener towards deeper calm. The greatest stillness is reached in the middle of the piece, the fourth meditation; the final two meditations progress towards wakefulness and daylight."

– Jonathan Dove





THE KING'S SINGERS

Join Artist Daniel Lehan at 2pm for his
Meet the Artist talk (30 min · free)

6 July · Sunday · 3pm
All Saints · Lydd · TN29 9AJ
70 min

Tickets:

£25 · Standard
£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus
U18s Free

Performers:

The King's Singers
Patrick Dunachie · first Countertenor
Edward Button · second Countertenor
Julian Gregory · Tenor
Christopher Bruerton · first Baritone
Nick Ashby · second Baritone
Piers Connor Kennedy · Bass



A world of close harmony

Fernando Alonso: *La Tricotea* (2')

Henry Purcell, arr. Nick Ashby: *Music for a while* (4')

Hans Leo Hassler: *Frisch auf! Lasst uns ein gut's Glas mit Wein* (2')

Trad. Irish, arr. Ashby: *The parting glass* (3')

Maurice Ravel: *Trois Chansons* (7')

Francis Poulenc: *Bois meurtri* (from *Un soir de neige*) (2')

Camille Saint-Saëns: *Les Marins de Kermor* (7')

John McCabe: *Scenes in America deserta* (15') (Written for The King's Singers)

One of the world's most famous vocal groups makes its first return to the festival since 2019. **The King's Singers** has represented the gold standard in a cappella singing on the world's greatest stages for over fifty years. They are renowned for their unrivalled technique, versatility and skill in performance, and for their consummate musicianship, drawing both on the group's rich heritage and its pioneering spirit to create an extraordinary wealth of original works and unique collaborations.

In typical King's Singers style, their programme moves from the 1600s (Henry Purcell and Hans Leo Hassler) to the modern day, including a new arrangement of Paul Mealor's *Coronation Kyrie* which was performed at the coronation of TM King Charles III and Queen Camilla. There is also a pitstop in La Belle Époque with works by Poulenc, Ravel and Saint-Saëns and a work written for the group by the late, great John McCabe – a dear friend of JAM's – who died ten years ago. The group closes the concert with *A world of close harmony*, a journey through a handful of their favourite close harmony songs from across their 57 year history.

National
Theatre
Live

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

direction BENEDICT ANDREWS

A Young Vic / Joshua Andrews co-production



Young Vic

7 July · Monday · 2pm

10 July · Thursday · 2pm

Cinemarsh · New Romney · TN29 8BB

203 min (with interval)

Tickets:

Ticketing online through Cinemarsh

15

Gillian Anderson (*Sex Education*), Vanessa Kirby (*The Crown*), and Ben Foster (*Lone Survivor*) lead the cast in Tennessee Williams' timeless masterpiece. As Blanche's fragile world crumbles, she turns to her sister Stella for solace – but her downward spiral brings her face to face with the brutal, unforgiving Stanley Kowalski. From visionary director Benedict Andrews, this acclaimed production was filmed live during a sold-out run at the Young Vic Theatre in 2014.

Reviews:

5 Stars

"Gillian Anderson is unmissable"

Evening Standard

5 Stars

"A first-rate performance from Vanessa Kirby as Stella"

Guardian

5 Stars

"An absolutely knock-out. Raw, emotional and deeply settling."

Telegraph



ART TOUR

A GUIDED TOUR THROUGH DRAWN · TORN · GLUED

8 July · Tuesday · 10am-2pm

St George · Ivychurch · TN29 0AL

St Clement · Old Romney · TN29 0HP

All Saints · Lydd · TN29 9AJ

4 hours

Tickets:

£15 · Standard

Artist:

Daniel Lehan

Join artist **Daniel Lehan** for an unmissable guided tour of his three-part exhibition **Drawn · Torn · Glued**, set across three historic churches on Romney Marsh. This intimate journey offers not only a close look at Lehan's evocative artworks but also the rare chance to explore his thought process, materials and playful embrace of experimentation. The exhibition is rooted in the landscape of Dungeness.

Day Schedule:

10:00am: tour begins at Ivychurch; meet outside St George's Church.

10:45am: depart Ivychurch on Shuttle Bus

11:00am: arrive at Old Romney

11:45am: depart Old Romney on Shuttle Bus

12:15pm: arrive at Lydd

1:00pm: depart Lydd on Shuttle Bus

1:30pm: arrive at Ivychurch

Lehan's artistic journey values accident and imperfection. As he says, "Drawings I thought were going nowhere were torn up, re-made, and glued, hopefully making something more interesting."

This guided tour begins at Ivychurch, travelling via shuttle to each church, with time to talk with Daniel and reflect on each phase of his work. The tour ends with a return to Ivychurch in the afternoon.

Limited places available – booking essential.

LA BELLE ÉPOQUE II

8 July · Tuesday · 7pm
St Leonard · Hythe · CT21 5DL
60 min

Tickets:

£15 · Standard

U18s Free

Performer:

Daniel Cook · organ

César Franck: *Choral No 3 en la mineur* (13')

Eugène Gigout: *Scherzo* (5')

Charles-Marie Widor: *Symphony VI, Op 42 No 2* (36')

I. Allegro

II. Adagio

III. Intermezzo (Allegro)

IV. Cantabile

V. Final (Vivace)

Joseph Bonnet: *Elfes (Douze Pièces Op 7)* (3')

Louis Vierne: *Final (Symphony I)* (6')

La Belle Époque is one of the main strings running through this year's festival, covering two recitals and two concerts. Tonight's recital includes some of the greatest composers to come out of France during this wonderful era.

Daniel Cook, Master of the Choristers and Organist of Durham Cathedral and previous Festival Curator of JAM on the Marsh (2017-18) returns bringing the second Belle Époque recital to the festival. His programme includes some of the best-known names of the era (Franck, Widor and Vierne) alongside gems from the lesser known (Gigout and Bonnet). Preceding the centre piece of the recital, Widor's immense *Symphony VI* is Franck's masterpiece, *Choral No 3*; one of the great organ works. This is followed by our first 'sorbet', Gigout's gorgeous *Scherzo*. Best known for his *Toccata* (from *Symphony V*), Widor wrote ten symphonies for the organ, with the sixth symphony being often considered his finest. Squeezed between Widor's symphony and the final piece of the evening is our second 'sorbet', *Elfes*, a magical, mysterious miniature by Bonnet. The *Final* from *Symphony No 1* is a stunning piece to end the concert; one of Vierne's most celebrated pieces, with its thundering pedal melody set beneath broken chord figurations in the hands.





FESTIVAL WINE TASTING

WITH MATTHEW JUKES

9 July · Wednesday · 5pm
The Assembly Rooms · New Romney
· TN28 8BT
90 min

Tickets:
£25 · Standard

Matthew Jukes has worked in the UK wine business for over thirty-five years. He has been writing about wine for over two decades and has published fourteen wine books. He now concentrates on five comprehensive annual reports including *100 Best Australian Wines*. From 1990 – 2016, Matthew was wine buyer for Bibendum Restaurant & Oyster Bar, winning awards for this wine list, and then into radio when journalism started to become his focus. After 3 years on a weekly radio slot for the BBC, Channel 4 approached Matthew to host the series, *Wine Hunt*. Matthew went on to write *The Wine Book*, serialised in the *Daily Mail*. Due to its popularity, Matthew was offered the chance to write the most widely read wine column in the UK in the *Daily Mail's Weekend Magazine*, with over 9 million readers each week. He wrote this column for over 22 years. He writes a weekly column for *MoneyWeek*, a monthly column for *Vineyard Magazine*, and a weekly piece on his website entitled *Wednesday Wines* which is free to view for all.

Taken from Matthew Jukes 100 Best Australian Wines Report 2025

White

2024 Dandelion Vineyards, Wonderland of the Eden Valley Riesling, South Australia
2021 Yangarra, Estate Roussanne, McLaren Vale, South Australia
2023 Cherubino, Black Label Pemberton Chardonnay, Western Australia

Red

2023 Paringa Estate, Peninsula Pinot Noir, Mornington Peninsula, Victoria
2022 Torbreck, The Steading GSM, Barossa, Valley, South Australia
2022 Jasper Hill, Occam's Razor Shiraz, Heathcote, Victoria
2018 Robert Oatley Wines, The Pennant Cabernet Sauvignon, Frankland River, Western Australia
2021 Yalumba, The Signature Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz, Barossa, South Australia

JAM is exceedingly grateful to Matthew Jukes for supplying the wines today and Jukes Cordialities during the festival. For more information, please visit: www.jukescordialities.com

changing theatre

TWELFTH NIGHT

A classic tale of boy meets girl, sort of.



CHANGELING THEATRE

9 July · Wednesday · 7pm
Old School Garden · New Romney
· TN28 8ER
150 min (with interval)

Tickets:

£25 · Standard
U18s Free

Festival favourite **Changeling Theatre** returns with Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* – a fast-paced comedy of mistaken identity, secret love and outrageous confusion. With shipwrecks, disguises and gender-bending farce, it's one of the Bard's most beloved works.

Shipwrecked on an unknown shore, Viola is separated from her twin brother Sebastian. She thinks he's dead. He thinks she's dead. And everyone else has no idea which one's which. Viola embraces a secret new identity by disguising herself as a boy to work for the Duke Orsino. She falls in love with him, but he's already in love with Olivia. Olivia then falls for Viola thinking she's Sebastian...

Who's who? Who's in love with who? Confusion, misdemeanour and farce abound in this fast-paced comedy full of gender and sexual ambiguity, where none of the characters really know what's going on!

If music be the food of love, play on.

*This performance will be amplified.

Bring a chair, pack a picnic and enjoy outdoor theatre at its flamboyant best.

Company

Robert Forknall · Director
Dawn Archer · General Manager
Eva Mavrikou · Costume
Dan Bull · Graphic Design
Jill Hogan · Brand and content
Bryony Maguire · Music
Adam Haigh · Movement
James Keill · Production SM
Androniki Koshi · ASM
Emily Jones · Casting

Cast

Orsino · Jack Medlin
Viola · Meg Walls
Olivia · Ema Cavolli
Malvolio · Jonathon Nielsen-Keen
Sir Toby Belch · Charlie Maddison
Sir Andrew Aguecheek · Jay Dodd
Feste · Bryony Maguire
Maria · Morwenna Brown
Sebastian · Sesugter Michael Iorchir



CABARET

BRITTEN, BERLIN AND BROADWAY

10 July · Thursday · 7pm

St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU
60 min

Tickets:

£25 · Standard

£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus

U18s Free

Performers:

Rebecca Afonwy-Jones · mezzo

John Frederick Hudson · piano

JAM's Artistic Director, **John Frederick Hudson**, joins festival favourite, **Rebecca Afonwy-Jones**, for a journey through the murky, smoky, dimmed corridors of cabaret music – a genre that varies dramatically across countries and eras.

The evening, moving from the late 1930s to 1966, is split into four sections, consisting of works by Benjamin Britten (*Cabaret Songs*), Kurt Weill (125 years since his birth and 75 since his death), Cole Porter and Kander & Ebb (songs from *Cabaret*). This evening is a taster of a huge era-spanning oeuvre, a treasure trove of hidden gems and timeless classics on display in this richly evocative programme.

Chat is an important part of cabaret, so expect to be entertained and enlightened by the performers between the 'sets'.

Kurt Weill (1900-1950)

Le Roi D'Aquitaine (3')

Je ne t'aime pas (4')

Youkali (5')

Surabaya Johnny (4')

Die Moritat von Mackie Messer (3')

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Cabaret Songs:

Tell Me the Truth About Love (5')

Funeral Blues (3')

Johnny (5')

Calypso (2')

Cole Porter (1891-1964)

My heart belongs to Daddy (3')

So in Love (3.5')

I Get a Kick out of You (4')

Every Time We Say Goodbye (2.5')

Love for Sale (3')

John Kander (1927) & Fred Ebb (1928-2004) from *Cabaret* (1966):

Willkommen (3')

Don't Tell Mama (4.5')

Maybe This Time (3')

Cabaret (4.5')

MEALOR @50: THE FARTHEST SHORE

11 July · Friday · 7pm

St Leonard · Hythe · CT21 5DL

95 min (with interval)

Tickets:

£25 · Standard

£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus

U18s Free

Performers:

The Chapel Choir of Selwyn College, Cambridge

Sarah MacDonald · conductor

Onyx Brass

Robin Walker · organ

Claire Seaton · soprano

Philip Tebb · bass

Alex Wright · treble

Including Marsh Academy Choir · St Leonard's Youth
Choir · Sunflower Singers in *The Farthest Shore*

Mealor @50 is one of the main strings running through this year's festival, covering four concerts and different performers. The series includes some of Paul's most significant and exciting choral and orchestral works. For our final concert in this series, we bookend the concert with two of Paul's works, both commissioned by JAM: *Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal* and *The Farthest Shore*. The former an unaccompanied song cycle made up of four short movements, the latter a 40-minute oratorio written for choir, brass quintet, organ, soli and community voices. These two pieces show Paul's versatility and brilliance at writing for voices. In between we have two world premieres – one for brass quintet and the other for choir – and a set of four works composed (or arranged) by women. Most of the first half of this concert will form the backbone of the programming of the Selwyn Choir's upcoming tour.

*This event is kindly supported by the Vaughan Williams Foundation,
the Hinrichsen Foundation and the Big Give.*



Paul Mealor: *Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal* (12')
No. I: Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal
No. II: Lady, when I behold the roses sprouting
No. III: Upon a Bank with Roses
No. IV: A Spotless Rose

Ralph Vaughan Williams: *Valiant for Truth* (6')

Dani Howard: *World Premiere* (5')

Caroline Shaw: *and the swallow* (3')

Trad French, arr. Sarah MacDonald: *Now the green blade riseth* (3.5')

Elizabeth Poston: *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree* (3')

Steve Richer: *Aurora* (5') (JAM Commission 2025 & World Premiere)

- Interval -

Paul Mealor: *The Farthest Shore* (40')

MUSIC FOR PIANO AND PERCUSSION

12 July · Saturday · 11:30am
St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU
60 min

Tickets:

£15 · Standard

£20 · Standard + Shuttle Bus

U18s Free

Performers:

Beibei Wang · percussion

Thomas Kelly · piano

Composers:

Zsolt Balint

Nien Chin Chai

Sophia Hurst

At a time when support for composers seems ever sparser and residential courses for composer development seem fewer and fewer, JAM is proud to be running its third two-week course throughout JAM on the Marsh. Supporting composers and new music and continuing to commission remains at the very heart of JAM's work.

This year's course, *Writing for Piano and Percussion*, involves the internationally acclaimed percussionist **Beibei Wang** and rising star of the piano world, **Thomas Kelly**, as Artists in Residence. Course leaders are **Paul Mealor** and **John Frederick Hudson**.

Earlier in the year JAM selected three composers to be part of the course, from a free to enter 'call' to anyone living, studying or born in the UK. Composers Zsolt Balint, Nien Chin Chai and Sophia Hurst arrived on the Marsh on 30th June and immediately spent a day beachcombing with our Photographer in Residence (and expert in flotsam and jetsam), **Wendy Carrig**, finding 'instruments' to augment Beibei's percussion. From then on, they have been immersed in the festival, and our wonderful landscape and weather, working on new works to be performed today by Beibei and Thomas.

This event is kindly supported by the Vaughan Williams Foundation.





SHAKER LOOPS

12 July · Saturday · 7pm

St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU

85 min (with interval)

Tickets:

£25 · Standard

£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus

U18s Free

Performers:

Igor Yuzefovich · violin, leader & director

Joonas Pekonen · violin

Yuri Zhislin · viola & violin

Matthias Wiesner · viola

Tim Hugh · cello

Alba Merchant · cello

Harry Atkinson · double bass

Leader of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, **Igor Yuzefovich**, returns to lead the JAM Sinfonia for the second year, following last year's outstanding performance of Mahler's *Symphony No 4*. Recognised as one of the world's finest violinists, Igor leads a compelling programme featuring Richard Strauss' *Metamorphosen*, a world premiere by Marisse Cato and John Adams' mesmerising *Shaker Loops*.

Metamorphosen was written in 1944/5, in the final throws of World War 2, a time when Strauss wrote a huge amount of work. It was a final outpouring of work before he died in 1949, five years after he finished the piece. *Shaker Loops*, originally called *Wavemaker*, was written in 1978. It was originally written for string septet (tonight's version) before being augmented for string orchestra. Adams retitled the piece *Shaker Loops*, both because of the "shaking" of the strings as they oscillate between notes - the composer trying to emulate the rippling effect of water - and the idea Adams had of Shakers dancing to repetitive, energetic music.

Richard Strauss: *Metamorphosen* (28')

Marisse Cato: *-ligand-tendon-* (JAM Commission and World premiere) (5')

– Interval –

John Adams: *Shaker Loops* (30')

This event is kindly supported by Orchestras Live and the Hinrichsen Foundation.

KOSMOS ENSEMBLE

13 July · Sunday · 3pm

St Nicholas · New Romney · TN28 8EU
60 min

Tickets:

£25 · Standard

£30 · Standard + Shuttle Bus

U18s Free

Performers:

Kosmos Ensemble

Harriet Mackenzie · violin

Meg Hamilton · viola

Milos Milivojevic · accordion

The final concert of the 2025 festival is connected to the first by the wonderful accordion player, Miloš Milivojević, a member of both London Tango Quintet and Kosmos Ensemble.

Kosmos Ensemble re-defines the relationship between classical and world music. United by a shared passion for improvisation, music from around the globe as well as the rigours of classical training, each member of Kosmos is an international soloist in their own right and brings individual flavour to the group.

The members of Kosmos have travelled extensively, performing with musicians all over the world. They have collectively studied music from North Africa, the Middle East, Jewish, Balkan and Gypsy music, Argentine tango, flamenco, Celtic and jazz traditions as well as contemporary classical music. They combine all their knowledge with a respect for their own Western classical music training, performing freely with panache, innovation and creativity, incorporating improvisation into their own unique arrangements and compositions.

Kosmos Ensemble will introduce their programme during the concert.







FESTIVAL FAREWELL

13 July · Sunday · 4pm

Old School Garden · New Romney ·

TN28 8ER

60 min

Tickets:

Free (wine available for purchase)

Join us for a celebratory send-off to JAM on the Marsh 2025. Raise a glass with friends old and new, reflect on festival highlights, share your feedback, chat with the artists and enjoy a sneak preview of what's to come next year. A relaxed and convivial moment to toast another unforgettable summer of music, art and community.

THE WOMAN WHO FELL TO EARTH

WENDY CARRIG

Photography Exhibition

3-13 July

Marsh Academy Leisure Centre

· New Romney · TN28 8BB

Tickets:

Free

The vast and infinite horizons of Romney Marsh, where nature and nuclear live in symbiosis is Britain's only desert. In this strange and sparse landscape Rapunzel-like towers of mythological proportions, once powerful symbols of industry, appear redundant in a seemingly desolate wasteland. This often forgotten landscape has inspired a profusion of science fiction from H.G. Wells to Dr. Who. My title is borrowed from the cult sci-fi film *The Man Who Fell to Earth*, where an extra-terrestrial crash lands on Earth seeking water for his drought-ridden planet. (Some of my images were created at a water treatment plant.)

The Woman Who Fell to Earth was created in response to the Climate Emergency and Ocean Plastics crisis. Mixing beach finds, self-portraiture and vintage science fiction, it also encourages conversations on gender equality, visibility and loss. — Wendy Carrig



Meet the Artist

Photographer Wendy Carrig

Saturday 5 July 2025 · 4-6pm

Marsh Academy Leisure Centre ·

New Romney · TN28 8BB

120min (Free)





DUSK CHORUS

MARC CHRISTMAS

Photography Exhibition

3-13 July

St Leonard · Hythe · CT21 5DL

Tickets:

Free

Marc Christmas lives and works on the Romney Marsh, Kent. He is a Senior lecturer of Photography at Ashford College and has been a practising fine art photographer for over 35 years. His work is represented in numerous international private and public collections.

"I work primarily with historical and analogue photographic processes, salt prints, albumen, photogenic with uncertain outcomes. Employing large format cameras and experimental, techniques. For me the intrinsic beauty of photography is in the making (all prints have value) not the result, which is not so important. It is the process of remembering, the unravelling and overlap.

The themes in my work are concerned with places of my adolescence (home and heart). The local spaces of family history (how a location possess you in its absence). The visceral and the loneliness of places, traces and strolling (the ritual). I am a solitary walker, journeying to undertake pilgrimage to these spaces to find spiritual solace, reinterpreting, memory is my principal concern." — Marc Christmas



Meet the Artist

Marc Christmas

Friday 4 July 2025 · 6pm

St Leonard · Hythe · CT21 5DL

30min (Free)

DRAWN · TORN · GLUED

DANIEL LEHAN

3-13 July

St George · Iychurch · TN29 0AL

St Clement · Old Romney · TN29 0HP

All Saints · Lydd · TN29 9AJ

Tickets:

Free

Spanning three churches, **Drawn · Torn · Glued** by artist **Daniel Lehan**, explores the raw, shifting textures of the Dungeness landscape. From work made directly on site to pieces reworked in the studio using found materials, the exhibition embraces chance and transformation. It reflects an ongoing conversation between the land and the act of making.

“The work, made during the past eighteen months, has been grouped to reflect three roughly chronological phases: early work made directly on Dungeness; the second, a period of experimentation, use of found materials, and the introduction of colour; a third, recent and current work, which is generally increasing in size.

The work is almost all collage based, whether small or larger in size, and can take months to complete. Initially, I made pencil / crayon rubbings of the numerous and various textures - stones, wood, metal, ropes etc on a range of papers and in sketchbooks. Soon it became apparent that rather than depicting, the boats and buildings of Dungeness, the textures, surfaces and how the light played on these were the features I was concerned with.

These works were followed by using pages and pages of rubbings I had made to make work in the studio, focusing on creating heavily textured work, this increased by including found materials. Using these was influenced by the French artist Jean Dubuffet, who in the late 1950s made landscape inspired work with plants, sand and debris - with his continual experimentation Dubuffet remains an influence.” — Daniel Lehan



Meet the Artist

Daniel Lehan

Sunday 6 July 2025 · 2pm

All Saints · Lydd · TN29 9AJ

30min (Free)



BIOGRAPHIES

JAMES ABURN

Composer

James Aburn graduated from the University of Aberdeen in June 2018 with a first-class degree in music and continued his studies in Aberdeen to receive a distinction in his Masters. During his postgraduate studies he specialised in choral composition under the supervision of the celebrated royal composer Professor Paul Mealor.

James has written an array of choral music. In 2018 he conducted the world premiere of his setting of *Ave Maria*, in Warsaw's Arch Cathedral whilst on tour in Poland. Since then James' music has received performances all over the world including the USA to Poland, Czech Republic, and the United Kingdom. He has received multiple commissions from choirs across the globe and in July 2019 the London Mozart Players premiered *Silent Shadows*, a work for string orchestra, at JAM on the Marsh festival.

Whilst in Aberdeen, James was the assistant conductor of the University of Aberdeen Chapel Choir between 2017-2019, where he acted as the rehearsal pianist and conductor for weekly services. As part of this role, James worked with world class musicians including composers Morten Lauridsen and Sir James MacMillan, and conductors Michael Zaugg, James Jordan and Mark Singleton. Performance highlights include singing at the BBC Proms under the baton of Marin Alsop and Sir Donald Runnicles.

James is now based in East Sussex where he continues to compose and work as musical director and accompanist for local choirs, including the South Down Singers and Stonegate Choir. James currently teaches music and composition at Bede's Senior School, a leading HMC institution, where he is the Assistant Director of Music. He is currently working towards his PhD in composition at the University of Aberdeen under the supervision of Professor Mealor and Professor Campbell.

www.jamesaburn.com

REBECCA AFONWY-JONES

Mezzo soprano

Born in Mid Wales, mezzo soprano Rebecca began her career as an Emerging Artist at Scottish Opera, in the title role of Carmen. She made her company debut with Welsh National Opera as Countess Geschwitz Lulu, later returning as an Associate Artist. Rebecca made her BBC Proms debut singing Vaughan Williams *Serenade to Music* with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and concert engagements have further included performances with Britten Sinfonia, Norwegian Wind Ensemble, London Mozart Players, The Philharmonia Orchestra, The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and The RTÉ Orchestra, Dublin. Contemporary credentials include Richard

Blackford's *Pietà & Songs of Nadia Anjuman*, Kerstin in Joseph Phibbs' *Juliana* at The Cheltenham Festival, Judith Weir's *The Consolations of Scholarship* and *Sleeping Mat Ballad*, Julian Philips' *Looking West* at the Ryedale Festival and Paul Patterson's *The Fifth Continent* & Rick Peat's *The Sky Engine*, both for JAM on the Marsh Festival. Recent highlights include Wellgunde Das Rheingold/Götterdämmerung and Waltraute/Die Walküre for Longborough Opera *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and Elgar's *The Kingdom* at Three Choirs Festival.

This season, Rebecca made her debut with The Royal Ballet and Opera as Susie A *Quiet Place*. She returned to The Royal Choral Society for Dvorak's *Stabat Mater* and Handel's *Messiah* for Good Friday at The Royal Albert Hall and recorded *Messiah* for transmission on the BBC at Easter with BBC National Orchestra and Chorus of Wales conducted by Gareth Malone.

Further concerts include Verdi *Requiem* with The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, *Messiah* at The Royal Festival Hall with The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Waltraute Die Walküre in a live podcast recording at the Royal Albert Hall for *The Rest is History*.

Rebecca is delighted to return to both JAM on the Marsh and Presteigne Festivals and looks forward to debuts at Spitalfields Festival in the world premiere of *Under Milk Wood* by Ninfea Cruttwell-Reade, Lammermuir Festival with the Hebrides Ensemble and with Irish National Opera.

www.rebeccaafonwyjones.com

ZSOLT BALINT

Composer

Zsolt Balint (b. 2004) is a Hungarian composer currently studying composition at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance with Laura Bowler. His compositional voice is shaped by a desire to blur boundaries between musical languages, often incorporating elements from the past and present. At the moment, he is particularly interested in finding common ground between the complexity of contemporary music and jazz, blending disciplines of highly detailed notation with a sense of organic spontaneity found in the world of improvised music. Zsolt was named finalist in the Daryl Runswick competition held this year at the Queen's House, Greenwich, where his work *tbd* will be performed by the Trinity Laban Contemporary Music Group.

BBC SINGERS

Celebrating its centenary this season, the BBC Singers is based at the BBC's Maida Vale Studios. It records music for broadcast on BBC Radio 3 alongside work for other network radio, television and commercial release. It presents an annual series of concerts at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama's Milton

Court Concert Hall, gives free concerts in London, appears at major festivals in the UK and abroad, regularly performs with many of the world's leading composers, conductors and soloists, and appears annually at the BBC Proms, including at the First and Last Nights. Last year it made eight appearances at the BBC Proms.

The choir promotes a 50:50 gender policy for composers whose music it performs, and champions composers from all backgrounds: recent concerts and recordings have included music by Eric Whitacre, Abel Selaocoe, Soumik Datta, Joanna Marsh, Reena Esmail, Sun Keting and Roderick Williams, and recent collaborations have featured Clive Myrie, Clare Teal, Anna Lapwood, Laura Mvula, and the South Asian dance company Akademi. The BBC Singers recently debuted on The Archers on BBC Radio 4, and before that, they joined voices from the popular CBeebies programme Hey Duggee to release a Christmas single, as well as appearing in the show's 'The Choir Badge' episode.

As part of the BBC's plan to open its new BBC Music Studios at East Bank in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London, the choir has begun working closely with the local community through a programme of music education, outreach events and live performances. In March 2024 the BBC Singers received the Royal Philharmonic Society's Ensemble Award.

Find out about upcoming concerts and where to hear the BBC Singers at www.bbc.co.uk/singers

ZOË BEYERS

Violin

South-African born Zoë Beyers has established a reputation as one of the finest and most versatile violinists based in the UK, and performs worldwide as soloist, chamber musician, director and orchestral leader. In 2020 she was appointed Leader of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. Zoë appears regularly as guest leader of the Hallé, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, BBC Symphony and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestras, the CBSO, the Philharmonia, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the Orquesta Nacional de España at the invitation of Maestro Juanjo Mena. Since 2017, Zoë has been the concertmaster of the English Symphony Orchestra, collaborating closely with them as director and soloist.

As a chamber musician Zoë appears with the Hebrides Ensemble, Nash Ensemble, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and the London Sinfonietta. She has recently joined the renowned Dante Quartet as their first violinist. Zoë has a passionate interest in education, teaching at the Birmingham Conservatoire and coaching violinists and ensembles at the start of their careers. She is proud to be involved in ARCO, a distance

learning collaboration between Birmingham Conservatoire and students in deprived areas of South Africa.

www.zoebeyersviolin.com

BRITTEN SINFONIA

For 30 years Britten Sinfonia has been pushing the boundaries of what a chamber orchestra can do. It is rooted in the East of England, where it is the only professional orchestra working throughout the region, while it also has a national and international reputation as one of the finest ensembles playing today.

Britten Sinfonia creates impactful and inspirational musical experiences, whether through its adventurous programming and innovative formats – such as its immersive Surround Sound Playlist – or its projects created especially for school pupils, hospital patients and local communities.

The orchestra is equally renowned for the remarkable breadth of its collaborations – from Steve Reich, Mahan Esfahani and Alison Balsom to Anoushka Shankar, Jacob Collier and Pagrav Dance Company – and for its nurturing of new compositional voices: over three decades, Britten Sinfonia has premiered more than 250 new works.

The orchestra has new music in its DNA. It has commissioned over 250 works to date from some of the world's most established figures, and from composers whose successful careers it has helped launch. Britten Sinfonia runs two talent development schemes for composers: Opus 1 for those aspiring to become professionals, and Magnum Opus for composers who have achieved some success and are looking for more support to take the next step in their careers.

Britten Sinfonia's main concert activity is in London, Saffron Walden, Cambridge and Norwich, and it also performs in Bury St Edmunds, Ely, Peterborough and Chelmsford. The orchestra often performs at London's Wigmore Hall and appears at UK festivals including Aldeburgh, Brighton, Norfolk & Norwich and the BBC Proms. The orchestra has performed a live broadcast to more than a million people worldwide from the Sistine Chapel, and toured to the US, Asia and much of Europe. Its prolific discography features many award-winning recordings on labels such as Harmonia Mundi, Chandos, Warner and Hyperion.

www.brittensinfonia.com

WENDY CARRIG Photographer

Wendy Carrig is a British Irish photographer, living and working in London. Her narrative-led images focus mainly on women's stories.

She works extensively with female aligned brands as well as charities and activists groups. Working across multi-genres she often fuses fashion and portraiture, still-life and documentary photography. Creating pictures with purpose she's always looking for the story, always encouraging emotional response.

Her work has been widely recognized including by the Taylor Wessing Photo Portrait Prize, the Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award, and with GOLD awards from the Association of Photographers. She has been the featured artist of PhotoLondon magazine; a participating artist in the 209women takeover of parliament; and a founding member of f22aop women photographers - created to challenge gender disparity within the photographic industry. This links back to her early career when, as a photography student, she documented Women Peace Protestors at Greenham Common. This work has now been recognized with publications and exhibitions at home and abroad.

Wendy Carrig is an Associate Lecturer in Photography at Oxford Brookes University, and Patron of MA Photography at Arts University Bournemouth.

www.wendycarrig.co.uk

MARISSE CATO Composer

Marisse Cato is a London-born composer, scholar and violinist. After studying violin at Junior Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, she went on to complete an undergraduate in Music at Selwyn College, University of Cambridge, focussing on composition and Afro-diasporic sound knowledges. Marisse is continuing her research and practice in a PhD with the Music Department at Harvard University.

Her compositions evoke unique and entrancing sound worlds through which the listener is invited to consider their own listening and somatic experience as they explore the body of textures and tone colours presented. She has received commissions for stand-alone compositions and performances from Holst Singers, Siglo de Oro, JAM, Devon Philharmonic Orchestra in partnership with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Cambridge New Music Group among others. Her works have been performed in prestigious locations including West Road Concert Hall and Trinity College Chapel Cambridge.

She works collaboratively with other musicians and disciplines including dance, film, visual art and fashion. She recently performed at Tate Britain supporting the realisation go Chisara Agor's Angelus - a exploration of music and art through the galleries exploring the history of Masquerade from Caribbean and African diasporas in response to Alvaro Barrington's commission "Grace".

Her commercial work includes recording on the debut album of London-based singer Mira May "Tales of a Miracle" and subsequently featuring alongside her at her headline show in Charing Cross at HERE at Outernet to over 2,000 people. Marisse is also an Emerging Artist with Constella Music's Connecting Star's project where she performs a range of classical and popular music to care home residents over zoom weekly.

www.marissecato.com

CHAI NIEN CHIN Composer

Chai Nien Chin is a Malaysian composer currently pursuing her postgraduate studies at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London with Stephen Montague, Deirdre Gribbin and Paul Newland, supported by the GREAT Scholarship and the Trinity College London Scholarship.

Her composition highlights include a duo for Sarah Nicolls and Carl Raven at the Dartington Summer Music Summer School and Festival, an installation curation, titled *The Confessional – An Introspective Journey to the Heart* involving music and dance for CoLab, the Trinity Laban Festival of Creativity and Innovation, and a Food x Music work involving music-art cross disciplinary collaboration for Rude Health New Music Festival.

Recently, she has collaborated with musicians and dancers from Trinity Laban, University of Southern California Gloria Kaufman School of Dance and University of Melbourne on a cross-disciplinary work titled *Unfamiliar Reflections*. She has also created a new work for the Composers and Poets Forum Showcase: 'A Leeds Songbook' as a part of the Leeds Song Festival 2025.

Her upcoming performances include a composer's recital at the Blackheath Hall, a new work premiere by the Rosalie Ensemble, a sinfonietta work premiere at the Queen's house as a shortlisted finalist of the Daryl Runswick Prize and a new duo for Bei Bei Wang and Thomas Kelly as a part of JAM on the Marsh in summer 2025.

CHANGELING THEATRE

Changeling Theatre was founded in 1997 to produce high quality, entertaining theatre in non-traditional locations for underserved community audiences across South East England.

We take theatre beyond the stage, creating site-specific performances in public locations such as Chatham Dockyard, Dover Castle, Maidstone Football Ground and Boughton Monchelsea Place, as well as community parks, private homes and gardens.

BIOGRAPHIES

We're also a talent lab, providing a critical springboard for emerging talent from all disciplines and backgrounds.

www.changeling-theatre.com

THE CHAPEL CHOIR of SELWYN COLLEGE

The Chapel Choir of Selwyn College, Cambridge has led worship in the chapel since its foundation in the last decade of the nineteenth century. Today, most of the choir members are students at Selwyn or Newnham Colleges, and they read a variety of subjects including Music, English, Natural Sciences, and Engineering. During term, the choir sings three services per week, as well as concerts and services throughout the UK, recently in venues including Westminster Abbey, St Paul's and Ely Cathedrals. Its repertoire ranges from the 10th to the 21st century. They broadcast regularly on BBC Radio, have sung live on television, and every year undertake an international tour (destinations have included Canada, New Zealand, the United States, and much of mainland Europe).

In their long-standing association with JAM, Selwyn Choir has premiered major new works by some of the UK's foremost composers, including Jonathan Dove, John McCabe, Gabriel Jackson, Paul Patterson, Judith Bingham, Steve Martland, and Adam Gorb. The choir has made over 30 commercial recordings under Sarah MacDonald's direction. They have made something of a niche for themselves recording an important series of single-living-composer discs with Regent Records, and have released discs of works by Paul Spicer, Paul Edwards, Gary Higginson, Alan Bullard, Phillip Cooke, John Hosking, Mark Gotham, Benjamin Ponniah, Iain Quinn, Paul Ayres, Richard Peat, Joanna Gill, Bryan Kelly, and Jonathan Bielby.

www.sel.cam.ac.uk/about/chapel-and-choir

JILLIAN BAIN CHRISTIE Artist

Jillian is an award-winning Scottish artist and soprano currently based in Norwich. She is a graduate of the Glasgow School of Art and Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, London. Jillian continues to study privately with Joan Rodgers CBE.

Recent projects include premiering the soprano solo in Paul Mealor's *Symphony No.1 'Passiontide'*, with James Jordan, the University of Aberdeen Chamber Choir and the Orchestra of Scottish Opera; the creation of the title roles in two operas by Joe Stollery, in association with Tête à Tête and SOUND; a solo album of songs by Robert Burns entitled *Ae spark o' Nature's fire* with pianist Catherine Herriott; and a solo exhibition at the Barbican Library, London.

www.jillianbainchristie.com

MARC CHRISTMAS Photographer

Marc Christmas lives and works on the Romney Marsh, Kent. He is a Senior lecturer of Photography at Ashford College and has been a practicing fine art photographer for over 35 years. His work is represented in numerous international private and public collections.

Christmas works primarily with historical and analogue photographic processes, salt prints, albumen, photogenic with uncertain outcomes, employing large format cameras and experimental techniques. For him the intrinsic beauty of photography is in the making not the result. It is the process of remembering, the unravelling and overlap.

The themes in his work are concerned with places of his adolescence (home and heart). The local spaces of family history (how a location possess you in its absence). The visceral and the loneliness of places, traces, and strolling (the ritual). He is a solitary walker, journeying to undertake pilgrimage to these spaces to find spiritual solace, reinterpreting, memory is his principal concern.

DANIEL COOK Organ

Daniel Cook is Master of the Choristers and Organist of Durham Cathedral and is recognised internationally as a liturgical and concert organist of the highest order. He maintains a busy schedule of recitals, concerts and recordings, both as performer and producer, as well as being in demand as a conductor, teacher and singer. In addition, he is Diocesan Organ Advisor for Newcastle, Assistant Diocesan Organ Advisor for Durham, and takes up the position of Music Director of Cleveland Philharmonic Choir in September 2025.

Previously Daniel spent four years as Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey where he was the principal organist to the Abbey Choir and Assistant Director of Music to James O'Donnell. He accompanied the Abbey Choir for all major services, performed with them in concerts and on tours in Europe and the USA, as well as appearing in their famous series of recordings for Hyperion Records. He also performed with the Abbey Choir in several concerts in London, notably in Buckingham Palace and at the Royal Albert Hall, and was the organist for all of the broadcast services and concerts between 2013 and 2017.

Daniel has twice been a finalist in the St Albans International Organ Competition. As a recitalist, he has played across the UK, Europe, the USA, and Australia with performances in most of the cathedrals in Britain, the Royal Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall, and in the Grand Organ Festival at Westminster Cathedral. Increasingly in demand as an ensemble performer, recent

engagements have included concerts with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in the City of London Festival, BBC National Orchestra of Wales in the St Davids Cathedral Festival, Onyx Brass in The Hythe Festival and The London Mozart Players in JAM on the Marsh.

In 2013 Daniel was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM), an award offered to past students of the Academy who have distinguished themselves in the music profession and made a significant contribution to it in their field. He was made an Associate of the Royal School of Church Music (ARSCM) in 2022.

www.danielcookorganist.com

JONATHAN DOVE Composer & Piano

Jonathan Dove's music has filled opera houses with delighted audiences of all ages on five continents. He is one of the most performed living opera composers and few, if any, contemporary composers have so successfully or consistently explored the potential of opera to communicate, to create wonder and to enrich people's lives.

Born in 1959 to architect parents, Dove's early musical experience came from playing the piano, organ and viola. Later he studied composition with Robin Holloway at Cambridge and, after graduation, worked as a freelance accompanist, répétiteur, animateur and arranger. His early professional experience gave him a deep understanding of singers and the complex mechanics of the opera house. Opera and the voice have been the central priorities in Dove's output throughout his subsequent career.

Dove's work for orchestra has included a Proms commission for the BBC Symphony Orchestra *Gaia Theory* (2014) which takes its inspiration from the ground-breaking writings of scientist and environmentalist James Lovelock. His work for children and family audiences *Gaspard's Foxtrot*, based on the book by Zeb Soanes with illustrations by James Mayhew, was co-commissioned by the Philharmonia Orchestra, Three Choirs Festival Association, Docklands Sinfonia, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and Royal Scottish National Orchestra and premiered in 2019. A film of the work, featuring the RSNO with Zeb Soanes alongside moving illustrations from the book, had already been seen by 104,000 children in 2022. A second Musical Tale, *Gaspard's Christmas*, commissioned by the RSNO, premieres in 2022.

Jonathan Dove won the 2008 Ivor Novello Award for classical music and was made a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the Queen's 2019 Birthday Honours for services to music.

www.jonathandove.com

FERIO SAXOPHONE QUARTET

Huw Wiggin · soprano
Ellie McMurray · alto
David Zucchi · tenor
Katie Samways · baritone

As one of Europe's leading saxophone quartets, the Ferio Saxophone Quartet consistently receives a highly enthusiastic reception from audiences and critics alike. Their four recordings for Chandos Records have all been met with great acclaim in the press and demonstrate the broad range and flexibility of their instruments, repertoire and collaborations. *Flux* (2017) traces the saxophone's history in a programme of original works for saxophone quartet, while *Revive* (2018) is a set of magnificent Baroque transcriptions. *Evoke* (2021), with pianist Timothy End, features premiere recordings of three brand new arrangements by Iain Farrington for saxophone quartet and piano, and *Revoiced* (2022) is a collaboration with vocal ensemble Corvus Consort, exploring the magical blend of saxophones and voices. 2025 will see Ferio return to the recording studio with Chandos records to record their fifth album as well as numerous appearances at festivals across the UK.

Accolades and awards have included The Philharmonia/Martin Musical Ensemble Award, the Royal Over-Seas League's Ensemble Competition prize and selection by both the Tunnell Trust and Park Lane Group. Concert engagements have taken the ensemble to the leading festivals and concert halls across the UK, as well as on tour to New Zealand, France and Bermuda, and they can frequently be heard on BBC Radio 3 and other national and international broadcasters.

Other important strands of Ferio's work include a range of educational activity in schools and conservatoires, and developing the saxophone quartet repertoire through commissions, which have included Laura Bowler, Simon Rowland-Jones and Guillermo Lago. The Quartet was formed at the Royal College of Music in 2012, and has since developed an extraordinary breadth of repertoire, allowing them to draw from an unusually wide range of musical styles and periods in their highly- engaging concert programmes.

www.feriosax.co.uk

JOHN FREDERICK HUDSON

Conductor & Piano

John Frederick Hudson is an American conductor, composer and pianist based in London. Celebrating the 30th anniversary of Classic FM, Hudson conducted the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) for a special concert in the presence of HM King Charles III on a live broadcast to 12 million listeners. Hudson has collaborated as the piano soloist premiering Paul Mealeor's *Piano Concerto* with the London Mozart Players

which was praised by the Financial Times saying: "...the premiere of Paul Mealeor's *Piano Concerto*, a glittering conclusion, played with flair by John Frederick Hudson." (Richard Fairman, Financial Times).

Hudson has both performed in the BBC Proms as well as assisted Simon Halsey in the preparation for Verdi's *Requiem* with Marin Alsop, and for Beethoven's *Symphony No.9* with Donald Runnicles. In addition, he is conductor and founding supporter of Opera Festival Scotland, which in collaboration with the RSNO (Royal Scottish National Orchestra), provides professional operatic performances and education to the northeast of Scotland.

Hudson has also performed at the Spoleto Festival, American's premiere international performing arts festival, as well as serving as répétiteur and chorus manager for the festivals' operas and major choral-orchestral works including the North American premiere of Phillip Glass' *Kepler*. Additionally, Hudson was awarded a full scholarship as a conducting fellow at multiple Oregon Bach Festivals, firstly with Helmuth Rilling and secondly with Matthew Halls, both of which focused on the masterworks of JS Bach. He has also performed under significant conductors such as Sir Simon Rattle, Gustavo Dudamel, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Andris Nelsons, Daniel Barenboim, Alan Gilbert and Esa-Pekka Salonen.

SOPHIA HURST

Composer

Sophia is a British-Polish composer, pianist, and educator based in Manchester. Upon graduating from the University of Manchester in 2024 with first-class honours, she was awarded the Procter-Gregg prize for highest marks in instrumental and vocal composition. She is studying a master's in composition at the Royal Northern College of Music, after being awarded an entrance scholarship for excellence at audition. Her music has been performed throughout the United Kingdom and Europe by ensembles including the Fitzhardinge Consort and Spółdzielnia Muzyczna contemporary ensemble.

Sophia often finds stimuli in extra-musical ideas like art, poetry, and dance, yielding imaginative responses to form and rhythm. Her passion for community music led her to work with the outreach branch of the Hallé, assisting their community choir, and volunteering at other events. She was also chair of the University of Manchester Choral Programme in her final year of undergraduate studies.

SOFI JEANNIN

Conductor

Renowned for her beautifully clear and succinct technique, and with a formidable knowledge of repertoire and understanding

across all genres, Swedish-born Sofi Jeannin has established herself as one of the finest and most respected choral specialists around today. Jeannin was Music Director of the Chœur de Radio France from 2015 to 2018. She is currently Chief Conductor of the BBC Singers and of Ars Nova Copenhagen, and Music Director of the Maîtrise de Radio France.

Alongside her regular commitments, Jeannin is in high demand as a guest conductor. Notably, in the 2024/25 season she conducts Mozart's *Requiem* with Aalborg Symphony Orchestra, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* with Norrköping Symphony Orchestra, Fauré's *Requiem* with Royal Northern Sinfonia, and Elgar's *Music Makers* paired with works by Judith Weir and Nico Muhly with City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. In the summer of 2025, she will lead one of the opening concerts of the Edinburgh International Festival.

Jeannin always champions contemporary composers. Last season, she gave numerous world premieres: Dani Howard's new *percussion concerto* with Dame Evelyn Glennie and BBC National Orchestra of Wales, as well as works by Anna Clyne, Ben Nabuto, Heloise Werner and Roderick Williams, all with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.

THOMAS KELLY

Piano

Thomas Kelly started playing the piano aged 3 and aged 9 performed Mozart's *24th Concerto* with orchestra. Thomas studied at the Purcell School for Young Musicians and is currently The Britten Fellow at the Royal College of Music, (the highest award for any pianist at the RCM) where he is guided by Professors Dmitri Alexeev and Vanessa Latache.

Thomas was a prizewinner at the 2021 Leeds International Piano Competition, enjoying critical recognition and in 2022 won 2nd Prize and the semi-final concerto prize at Hastings International Piano Concerto Competition. He has won numerous international competitions including 1st prizes at the Pianale International Piano Competition (2017), Kharkiv Assemblies (2018), Lucca Virtuoso e Bel Canto Festival (2018), Theodor Leschetizky Competition (2020), and Intercollegiate Sheepdrove Piano Competition (2022).

He regularly collaborates with fellow musicians, including stepping in for Nikolai Demidenko alongside Dmitri Alexeev in his transcription of Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite for 2 pianos* in 2021. Past performances include Wigmore Hall, Cadogan Hall, St John's Smith Square, Steinway Hall, Leighton House, St James' Piccadilly, Stoller Hall (Manchester), Leeds Town Hall, Paris Conservatoire, the Lunel-Viel festival near Montpellier, Streingreaber-Haus in Bayreuth, Teatro Del Sale and the British Institute in Florence. Recently, Thomas was invited at short notice to fill in for Angela Hewitt at the Leeds

BIOGRAPHIES

Celebrity Recital Series and made his debut at Kammermusiksaal at the Berlin Philharmonie.

Last season engagements included The Royal Festival Hall with conductor Jac Van Steen, Battle Festival, Etchingham Festival and the Colditz Castle Recital Series in Leipzig. During the 2025/26 season Thomas will appear in a wide-range of festivals and concert halls including Music in the Castle at Powderham Castle, Exeter Cathedral, Winchester, Darlington, North Fylde and he was recently announced as the 2025 Artist in Residence at Jam on the Marsh Festival. Thomas is a C. Bechstein Scholar supported by the Kendall-Taylor award and he is also being generously supported by the Keyboard Charitable Trust, and Talent Unlimited. Most recently Thomas was appointed as Artistic Director of the Milton Combe Piano Festival, Devon and was invited to perform on a new BBC TV master-class series Arts in Motion with pianist Yuja Wang, working with emerging talent. In January 2025 Thomas was delighted to reach the final 8 of the Liszt Utrecht Competition and will return to compete in the finals of this prestigious award in 2026.

THE KING'S SINGERS

The King's Singers were officially formed in 1968 when six recent choral scholars from King's College, Cambridge gave a concert at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall. By chance, the group was made up of two countertenors, a tenor, two baritones and a bass, and the group has stuck to this formation ever since.

In the last few years, the group has recorded and released a series of diverse, collaborative albums that showcase the huge breadth of their repertoire. One honours two great English Renaissance composers: Thomas Weelkes and William Byrd; another is centred around Romantic music; a third honours 100 years of Disney, with 28 brand-new arrangements of iconic Disney songs; a fourth is a double-album focussed on the group's library of signature 'close harmony' arrangements; and another celebrates the group's extraordinary body of commissioned new music.

Growing the global canon of choral music has always been one of the group's key aims, and The King's Singers have now commissioned more than 300 works by many of the most prominent composers of the 20th and 21st centuries. These composers include John Tavener, Joe Hisaishi, Judith Bingham, Eric Whitacre, György Ligeti, Luciano Berio, Penderecki and Toru Takemitsu. All this new music joins their body of bespoke a cappella arrangements, including many by King's Singers past and present.

Alongside their demanding performing and recording schedule – with over 100 concerts worldwide every season – the group leads educational workshops and residential courses across the globe, working with

ensembles on their approaches to group singing. To mark their 50th anniversary in 2018, they founded The King's Singers Global Foundation (based in the USA), to provide a platform to support the creation of new music across multiple disciplines, to coach a new generation of performers, and to provide musical opportunities to people of all backgrounds.

www.kingssingers.com

KOSMOS ENSEMBLE

Described by Richard Morrison (*The Times*) as having “telepathic rapport, dazzling virtuosity, serious scholarship, intellectual curiosity and impeccable musicianship, I defy you not to be mesmerised”, Kosmos Ensemble is re-defining the relationship between classical and world music. The group has won ‘Selected Artists’ by the Making Music organisation a record three times and has gathered accolades from all over the world. United by a shared passion for improvisation, music from around the globe as well as the rigours of classical training, each member of Kosmos is an international soloist in their own right and brings individual flavour to the group.

Kosmos has performed internationally to great acclaim including tours of Poland, Italy, Spain, Greece, Sweden, Channel islands; live performances on BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM. In 2018, Master of the King's Music, composer Errollyn Wallen wrote a *Triple concerto* for Kosmos which was premiered at the Jersey International Liberation Festival's Royal Opera House with the Jersey Chamber Orchestra and Eamonn Dougan conducting. Other performances of this successful new work have included the headlining concert of the Festival of Chichester in Chichester Cathedral with Worthing Symphony Orchestra and John Gibbons conducting and Northampton Symphony Orchestra also with John Gibbons conducting. Kosmos recently released their third album on the Nimbus Label to critical acclaim.

www.kosmosensemble.com

DANIEL LEHAN Artist

Daniel Lehan is a former paperboy, choirboy, shop assistant, ice cream seller, chip shop manager, petrol pump attendant, pub caterer, post office worker, theatre usher, cleaner, adult education tutor, leaflet distributor, front of house manager, t-shirt designer, screen printer, children's book author and illustrator, gardener and teacher.

Lehan studied Fine Art at Winchester School of Art, Parsons School of Design in New York, and Art Therapy at Goldsmiths College. He has exhibited in the UK and abroad and held residencies in Finland and Quebec. He has curated exhibitions, and The Kitchen Window

Gallery, a gallery in his kitchen window in his flat in South London - a year-long project. He spent many years facilitating creative projects for people with dementia, autism, additional learning needs, with young and adult carers, youth and adult offenders, and for charities, galleries and museums. This work proved a good balance to the solitary work in the studio.

The work included in JAM indicates a return to the daily practice of drawing and painting, after a break from this, of around twenty years. Daniel studied painting at art college yet never quite accepted, was not convinced, that he was a painter. In his final year at Winchester School of Art, he became more interested in performance and contemporary dance – influenced by a student exchange to New York but nevertheless completed the painting course.

Several years after leaving art school he did in fact study Noh, Kabuki, and Butoh forms of Japanese Theatre, and pursued his interest in writing - which led to writing and illustrating three children's books published in the UK and in America.

Creativity is a kind of magic. Daniel never wants his work to become a predictable, repetitive process.

www.daniel-lehan-books.co.uk

LONDON TANGO QUINTET

The London Tango Quintet is a unique group of five internationally acclaimed musicians performing tango music at the highest level. The group was formed in 2007 when violinist, David Juritz, brought together the Grammy-nominated guitarist, Craig Ogden, and Serbian accordion virtuoso, Miloš Milivojević. Soon after, they were joined by one of London's top session bassists, Richard Pryce, and jazz pianist/harpsichordist/composer, David Gordon.

David Juritz, whose solo appearances include all the UK's major concert halls, has performed on hundreds of film soundtracks, played tangos for BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing* and hit the headlines when he busked around the world for charity. Craig Ogden appears as a soloist with leading orchestras around the world, is the most sought-after guitarist for chamber music in the UK and has regularly topped the UK's classical charts. Described by *The Times* as ‘a hurricane of musical invention’, Miloš Milivojević is in demand as a soloist, chamber musician and with leading opera companies including Opera North and Opera Holland Park. Pianist/composer David Gordon tours world-wide as a jazz musician, harpsichordist and director of internationally renowned ensembles and is regularly commissioned as a composer while double bassist, Richard Pryce, works with all the major orchestras and artists from Jamie Cullum to Paloma Faith.

The London Tango Quintet has performed at numerous festivals and venues throughout the UK drawing superlatives from audiences and promoters. It was a full 16 years before they ventured into the recording studio as they wanted to produce something distinctive in a very competitive field. Their long-awaited debut recording *Dancing with Piazzolla* features the legendary Argentinian tango composer Astor Piazzolla, together with music by Horacio Salgan, other tango classics and two tracks composed by David Gordon. It was released in February 2024 on Untuned Sky via AWAL and produced by Andrew Walton of K&A Productions.

www.londontangoquintet.com

SARAH MACDONALD

Conductor

Sarah MacDonald is a Canadian-born, UK-resident conductor, organist, pianist, and composer. She is Director of Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge, and Director of Ely Cathedral's Girl Choristers. Sarah has been at Selwyn since 1999, and was the first woman to hold such a post in an Oxbridge Chapel. She is also Organist to the University of Cambridge, the first woman to hold that historic office. She studied at the University of Cambridge and the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, and her teachers include Marek Jablonski, Leon Fleisher, John Tuttle, and David Sanger.

Sarah has made over commercial 35 recordings; her first solo disc, a recording of the Goldberg Variations on the Steinway-D at Ely Cathedral, was released in 2024. Sarah performs internationally every year and is in demand as a conductor, organist, and examiner. She has over 60 published works for choir and/or organ, and has written a popular book about the British choral tradition, a compilation of her column for the American Organist magazine *UK Report*, which she has contributed monthly since 2009. Sarah is currently serving as President of the Royal College of Organists. In her spare time, she is a keen amateur photographer.

www.sarahmacdonald.live

PAUL MEALOR

Composer

Prof. Paul Meallor LVO CStJ FRSE is one of the world's most 'performed' living composers and has composed music for some of the most important UK state, national and Royal occasions of the last 14 years, including the wedding of The Prince and Princess of Wales (2011), King Charles's 65th, 70th and 75th birthdays, two works for the late Queen Elizabeth II's national Services of Thanksgiving (2022), two works for the Coronation (2023) – including the first ever setting of the Welsh Language at a Coronation, and three works for The Honours of Scotland Service (2023).

He has also written music for film and television including the score to the BAFTA-Award winning *Wonders of the Celtic Deep*, three operas, four symphonies, concerti, chamber music, much choral music and songs, including the 2011 Christmas No 1, *Wherever You Are* for Gareth Malone and the Military Wives Choir.

He has received many awards and honours for his work including honorary degrees, fellowships and in January 2024 was appointed to The Royal Victorian Order (LVO) by HM King Charles III for his outstanding contribution to Royal Music. He is the first composer to receive this accolade since Sir Arthur Bliss in 1969 and before him, Sir Arnold Bax and Sir Edward Elgar. He is the President of JAM.

www.paulmeallor.com

ONYX BRASS

Alan Thomas · trumpet
Andrew Sutton · horn
David Gordon-Shute · tuba
Amos Miller · trombone
Niall Keatley · trumpet

Celebrating its 30th anniversary season in 2023, Onyx Brass continues to be the leading light in establishing the brass quintet as a medium for serious chamber music, combining "staggering virtuosity" (Sarah Walker, BBC Radio 3) with the entertaining and articulate style that has become the group's trademark.

The group's extensive discography has received huge critical acclaim, Gramophone hail "some of the most thrilling chamber brass-playing of its kind" and Record Review (R3) describing the group as a "wonderful, virtuosic brass quintet".

Education has always been central of the remit of Onyx Brass: workshops and masterclasses have from primary school to the Juilliard School, and the group has held several residencies, including 15 years at Imperial College, London. Work with singers also forms a central part of Onyx's work, often under the auspices of the John Armitage Memorial Trust, with whom Onyx Brass has been affiliated since its inception.

www.onyxbrass.co.uk

STEVE RICHER

Composer

Steve Richer was born in Guernsey in 1972, attending Elizabeth College, where he was accepted by an encouraging Music Department onto the GCSE Music course despite not yet being able to play an instrument. During his studies he developed a love of composing.

Singing choral evensong in English cathedrals on a school choir tour sowed the seeds of Steve's passion for choral music, and this eventually inspired him - after a hiatus of many years - to return to his original love of composing. He tested the competition waters by entering the Guernsey Eisteddfod in 2019, winning the composition class, and has subsequently won several more times. He has also had an organ piece, *Meditation on Hymn Tune 'Michael'*, published.

With a day job in the NHS and no music qualifications beyond GCSE, Steve considers himself very much a keen hobbyist but with aspirations of continually refining his craft to produce works which emotionally resonate with listeners.

CLAIRE SEATON

Soprano

Claire Seaton is known as one of the country's most adaptable sopranos and has extremely broad oratorio experience. She is particularly renowned for her performances of the *Requiems* of Verdi and Brahms, and Mozart's *C Minor Mass*. Her repertoire includes less commonly performed works such as Symanowski's *Stabat Mater* and Elgar's *The Light of Life*.

Claire's operatic career began with Kent Opera, and she made her debut with Glyndebourne Festival Opera singing the role of Vitellia (*La Clemenza di Tito*). Her discography includes Allegri's *Miserere* and Brahms' *Deutsche Requiem* with Jeremy Backhouse and the Vasari Singers.

Claire's involvement with JAM stretches back to the genesis of the project, including the world premiere recording of Jonathan Dove's *The Far Theatricals of Day* with the choir of St Bride's. The role of 'Matriarch' (*The Farthest Shore* by Paul Meallor) was created for Claire. It was premiered with the BBC singers, broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 from St David's Cathedral.

PHILIP TEBB

Bass

Philip Tebb studied Music at Durham University, where he was a Choral Scholar at the Cathedral, and at the Royal College of Music on the Benjamin Britten International Opera School with Russell Smythe. His studies at RCM were generously supported by the Anne Clayton Award, Stanley Picker Trust Award, the Audrey Sacher Award and the Josephine Baker Trust.

Philip is in great demand as an oratorio soloist. Recent highlights include: Bach *Johannes Passion* in St John's Smith Square, Bach *Magnificat* in Cadogan Hall, Brahms *Requiem* in St Martin-in-the-Fields and St Ive's, Dvořák *Stabat Mater* in Cranbrook, Handel *Messiah* in Freemason's Hall, Haydn *Creation* in

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Tewkesbury Abbey, Mozart *Requiem* in St John's Smith Square, Mendelssohn *Elijah* in Dorking Halls and Rossini *Petit Messe Solenne* in Epsom.

BEIBEI WANG

Percussion

With her background in both Classical and traditional Chinese percussion, Beibei Wang brings her characteristic "high energy virtuosity" (*Wall Street Journal*) to performances of diverse repertoire.

As a contemporary classical soloist, Beibei has performed around the world with leading orchestras on some of the world's most prestigious stages. Beibei's unique background also brings her to a range of multi-disciplinary projects ranging from performances of contemporary classics and new commissions with RPS-award winning ensemble Manchester Collective, to the internationally touring dance production *Samsara* from Aakash Odedra Company. In 2022, Beibei sat on the BBC Young Musician of the Year percussion panel. In her recent collaboration with award-winning composer Hannah Peel, Beibei blends her percussion with synths and electronics. Following their King's Place debut and headline performances at festivals such as Wonderfruit, Thailand and Celtic Connections, they are currently working on their debut album recorded at Peter Gabriel's Real World Studios.

Over the course of her long-term collaboration with composer and conductor Tan Dun, she has been soloist for performances of Tan's *Organic Music Trilogy* percussion concerti worldwide. Beibei premiered *Earth Concerto* at Grafenegg Festival and performed *Tears of Nature* concerto with the BBC Concert Orchestra on their China tour with conductor Barry Wordsworth.

ROBIN WALKER

Organ

Robin Walker grew up in Yorkshire and showed an early love and talent for music. He began piano lessons at the age of six and won a scholarship to sing as a treble at Ripon Cathedral. At Ripon he started learning the cello and organ, and then won a music scholarship to Bradfield College, Berkshire. A gap year post as organ scholar at Blackburn Cathedral led to a place at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Robin trained as an organist, with singing and choral conducting amongst his supporting studies. He graduated in 1998 with a BMus performance degree. Continuing his studies, he completed his postgraduate diploma with distinction in 2000 and was awarded the Diploma of the Royal Academy of Music for an outstanding final recital. Whilst at the Royal Academy his principal teachers were David Titterton and Patrick Russill. He studied improvisation with Naji Hakim, and performed

in masterclasses with Dame Gillian Weir, Monserat Torrent, Marie-Claire Alain, Jos van der Kooy, Lionel Rogg, Daniel Roth and many more of the world's finest organists.

Over the past twenty years Robin has built a career combining solo organ performance with accompaniment, conducting, teaching and much more.

Robin loves the outdoors, walking and cycling exploring the countryside. He lives with his wife Alison and their standard poodle.

IMOGEN WHITEHEAD

Trumpet

Imogen Whitehead is a trumpeter in demand across the UK and abroad. Alongside her position as Principal Trumpet with Britten Sinfonia, Imogen regularly performs as guest Principal Trumpet with the London Symphony Orchestra, Aurora Orchestra and English National Opera.

As a soloist, Imogen has premiered numerous works (by composers such as Sally Beamish and Stephen Dodgson), many of which are featured on her recently released, debut solo album, *Connection*. Imogen is a particular champion of the flugelhorn - an instrument often overlooked in the classical sphere - and is committed to raising its solo profile through new commissions and arrangements. Her latest commission is *Ennui* by Noah Max, written for flugelhorn & piano and supported by the Vaughan Williams Foundation, which will receive its premiere in June.

Imogen's future solo performances include a concert alongside St Martin's Voices with whom Imogen is currently Artist-in-Residence, the World Premiere of Barry Mills' *Trumpet Concerto* with Britten Sinfonia at JAM on the Marsh Festival, and recitals with pianist Patrick Milne for the 'Proms at St Jude's' and Wimbledon International Music Festival. Imogen has worked as a deputy in London's West-End and played on major film soundtracks including *Maestro* and *Saltburn*. She is also an Associate Performer & mentor for GALSI ('Gender and the Large and Shiny Instruments' - an initiative promoting gender equality in brass and percussion) and a member of the International Trumpet Guild's 'New Works' committee. In 2025 Imogen was conferred with Associateship of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM).

Aside from trumpet playing, Imogen enjoys Zumba, card-making and learning Spanish. She lives in Southwest London with her husband Rupert (a trombonist in the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra) and is a befriender through the Wimbledon Guild.

www.imogenwhiteheadtrumpet.com

IGOR YUZEFOVICH

Violin

Violinist Igor Yuzefovich has most recently been appointed as Concertmaster of the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He previously served in the same role with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, The Hong Kong Philharmonic, and prior to that, as Assistant Concertmaster with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to a busy orchestral performing calendar, Igor Yuzefovich continues to be an active chamber musician, often reuniting with the Monument Piano Trio which he co-founded in 2004. The trio made its concert debut in the US to critical acclaim and has since captivated audiences across the United States and in China. Its debut recording, featuring works by Brahms, Shostakovich and Schoenfeld received high praise from critics and audiences alike.

While Mr Yuzefovich's concerts and recitals have taken him from Carnegie Hall to the Cairo Opera House, across Europe and throughout Asia, he has been equally committed to educating the next generation of musicians as an Artist Faculty at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory in Singapore and is sought after for solo and chamber music masterclasses around the world.

Born into a musical family in Moscow, Russia, Mr Yuzefovich began his violin studies at the age of 5, and soon after enrolled at the Gnessin Music School, studying with Irina Svetlova. In 1991, Mr Yuzefovich moved to the United States where he continued his violin studies and later earned advanced degrees from The Peabody Conservatory under the tutelage of world-renowned pedagogue Victor Danchenko.

When he is not leading the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Mr Yuzefovich can be seen and heard in his frequent appearances as guest concertmaster with many of world's well-respected orchestras.



How to Book

Online: jamconcert.org

By Phone: 0800 988 7984



Standard Ticket

£15 · £25 includes:

Unreserved Seating

Standard Ticket + Shuttle Bus

£20 · £30 includes:

Unreserved Seating

Festival Programme

Return Festival Shuttle Bus from Ashford

International station to Festival Venue

U18s free (please book a free ticket)

Unreserved Seating

Ticketing

No paper tickets will be issued. Please show your email confirmation or give your name on arrival.

Accessibility

We aim to make the arts accessible to all. Our Front of House team will be available to assist and direct you during your visit. For any questions before your visit, please email:

sarah@jamconcert.org.

When do doors open?

Doors open 30 minutes before each event.

Toilets

St Nicholas: Public toilets opposite the church in the car park.

Old School Garden: Public toilets adjacent to the Old School Garden

Hythe: Two toilets available in the church

Ivychurch: Toilets available at The Bell Inn in front of the church and one toilet in the church

Lydd: Toilets available

Cinemarsh: Toilets available

The Marsh Academy Leisure Centre: Toilets available

Assembly Rooms: Toilets available

Festival Shuttle Bus

JAM on the Marsh is just one hour from London's St Pancras, including a Festival Shuttle Bus from Ashford International station. The festival takes place within easy reach of London and encourages its audience to choose a convenient, sustainable way to the venues.





HISTORY OF JAM

JAM (John Armitage Memorial) was founded in 2000 in memory of John Armitage, the father of Edward Armitage, Chair of JAM. JAM began as a memorial project to John Armitage. It has grown beyond the wildest dreams of its 'founding fathers' over its first 25 years.

In 2004, JAM commissioned *The Fifth Continent* from Paul Patterson, with words by Ben Kaye. The text describes the wonderful, unique place that is Kent's Romney Marsh (also known as 'the fifth continent'). In 2008 we decided to bring *The Fifth Continent* to 'the fifth continent', and we were amazed when we filled the vast All Saints, Lydd for the performance. This concert began the idea of a JAM festival on Romney Marsh. In 2013, we ran a long weekend of concerts and in July 2014 we launched JAM on the Marsh, a multi-arts festival that spans the Marsh for two weeks every July. Over ten years this festival has grown in so many ways, embracing more art forms and welcoming audiences from around the UK, Europe and beyond. The local community was initially wary of our idea; over time this has changed and last year 66% of our tickets were bought by local people, with many more visiting our free events. For some, they were trying new art forms for the first time. Previous Festival Curators include: Judith Bingham, Paul Meador, Daniel Cook, Michael Bawtree, Anna Tilbrook and Nicholas Cleobury.

MEDIAEVAL CHURCHES

Romney Marsh, once known as a smuggler's paradise between 1600-1800 and currently as an important use of sheep pastures, is also renowned for its rural historic churches. There are fourteen churches scattered across the Marsh, with St Thomas à Becket at Fairfield the most iconic. Marooned amid the landscape without a graveyard or fence to keep the sheep from grazing up to its door, it is all that is left of a mediaeval village.

The mediaeval churches of Romney Marsh were built by the lords of the manor on the Marsh to serve the communities. Although the population of the area was never high, the churches were often on a large scale to reflect the importance of the parish or the importance of the patron. Nearly all of the churches were in existence by 1100, likely as wooden buildings being built later in stone. Snargate and Snaves churches were built in the early 13th century. In the 15th century, many of the churches had great towers added, at Ivychurch, Lydd, Newchurch and Snargate.

One does not have to be religious, or interested in history to enjoy these stunning churches. They are beautiful, historic buildings in picturesque settings.

JAM COMMISSIONS

Chronological by date →

2002

No Answer

Timothy Jackson
20' · choir · brass · organ

2003

The Far Theatricals of Day

Jonathan Dove
20' · choir · brass · organ

2004

Songs of the Garden

John McCabe
25' · choir · brass · organ

2005

The Fifth Continent

Paul Patterson
25' · choir · brass · organ

2006

My Heart Strangely Warm'd

Judith Bingham
17' · choir · brass · organ

2007

Thoughts Scribbled on a Blank Wall

Adam Gorb
25' · choir · brass · organ

2008

The Spacious Firmament

Gabriel Jackson
20' · choir · brass · organ

2009

Darwin

Steve Martland
17' · choir · brass · organ

2010

Fundamental

Hannah Kendall
10' · choir · brass

2010

The Night's Untruth

Tarik O'Regan
15' · choir · brass · organ

2010

Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal

Paul Mealor
12' · choir

2010

Fiery the Angels

Richard Peat
10' · bass · brass

2011

Tallis's Light

Rory Boyle
12' · brass · organ

2011

All Things Wear Silence

Philip Cashian
20' · choir · brass · organ

2012

The Hythe

Judith Bingham
11' · strings

2012

Body of Water

Julian Phillips
17' · choir · brass · organ

2012

The Hazel Wood

Phillip Cooke
12' · choir · brass · organ

2013

The Farthest Shore

Paul Mealor
35' · choir · brass · organ

2014

Yonghy-Bonghy-Bo

Giles Swayne
20' · choir · brass · organ ·
percussion

2014

Oboe Concerto: The Angel of Mons

Judith Bingham
11' · strings · oboe

2015

Voices of Our Ancestors

Thea Musgrave
25' · choir · brass · organ

2015

To Seek Where Shadows Are

Paul Mealor
10' · choir

2016

O Great Beyond

Thomas LaVoy
10' · choir · soprano

2016

The Shadows of War

Paul Mealor
20' · choir · strings ·
percussion

2017

Voices of Vimy

Tom Harrold &
Stuart Beach
35' · choir · cello

2018

Songs of the Marshes

Rory Boyle
20' · choir · brass · organ

2019

Soliloquy

Daniel Saleeb
20' · choir · brass · organ

2019

Silent Shadows

James Aburn
8' · string orchestra

2002-2025



[25]
Years of JAM

[46]
JAM Commissions

[15+]
Hours of Music

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JAM is exceedingly grateful to the following individuals and organisations whose generosity enables our work.

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Penny Graham

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PAUL MEALOR

IVO CSTJ FRSE

President of JAM

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FOLLOW the FESTIVAL

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John Frederick Hudson

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Left to right:
John Frederick Hudson
Sarah Armitage
Edward Armitage

