

Cheltenham CHAMBER MUSIC

2023-24 PROGRAMME



Leonkoro Quartet – 17 October
Michael Gurevich & Ashok Gupta – 8 November
Jeneba Kanneh-Mason – 6 December
Belcea Quartet – 25 January 2024
Perpetuo – 20 February
Mithras Trio – 26 March
Verona Quartet – 24 April

All concerts in Pittville Pump Room

Cheltenham Music Society
www.cheltnmusicoc.co.uk

CHELTENHAM MUSIC SOCIETY

Cheltenham Music Society was founded in 1948 and has been promoting high-quality concerts for string quartets and other ensembles ever since. Many of our artists have established international reputations, and we also give opportunities to high-flying young artists embarking on their career. Our concerts are given in the Pittville Pump Room, one of the architectural jewels of Cheltenham with wonderful acoustics. They are open to everyone. Single tickets provide excellent value for money, and subscribers to the complete series get a discount of over one-third. Do join us!

Our latest season presents three prize-winning string quartets, a prize-winning piano trio, an oboe quartet, a violin and piano duo and a solo piano recital. Their programmes include many familiar pieces and a fascinating selection of less well-known or neglected works. As always, an immensely varied repertoire offers much to explore, discover and, we hope, enjoy!

PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM

Facilities

- Step-free access and disabled facilities and parking.
- Ample, free parking in the evening after 6pm.
- All seats are reserved for these concerts.
- A bar service plus tea and coffee is available.

Directions

Pittville Pump Room lies between Evesham Road and Albert Road at the North end of Pittville Park. The postcode is GL52 3JE. Access by car is via East Approach Drive (off Albert Rd).

Bus D (Stagecoach) stops on Evesham Road by West Approach Drive (please check timetable for available service).

Leonkoro Quartet

Tuesday 17 October 2023
at 7.30pm

Schubert

String Quartet in G minor
D173 (22')

Janáček

String Quartet no.1
"Kreutzer Sonata" (20')

Beethoven

String Quartet in F major
op.59 no.1 "Razumovsky" (53')

at Pittville Pump Room

'The Leonkoro Quartet ... has an enormous stage presence, glows for the music, takes full risks and amazes with its empathy for the respective sound of the pieces.' *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*



Nikolai Lund

Anyone who caught the Leonkoro's Music Festival concert in July will know we are in for a treat. Now on the roster of BBC New Generation Artists, in April 2022 this young Berlin-based quartet swept the board at the prestigious triennial Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition. Their concert for us is part of their UK tour in the wake of that success.

Tickets £26 & £21, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office* or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

**Michael Gurevich
(violin) and
Ashok Gupta (piano)**

**Wednesday 8 November 2023
at 7.30pm
at Pittville Pump Room**

Dvořák

Violin Sonata in F major
op.57 (24')

Pauline Viardot

Six morceaux (19')

Clara Schumann

Three Romances for violin and
piano op.22 (10')

Brahms

Violin Sonata no.1 in G major
op.78 (27')



A programme of sublime lyricism, with sonatas by Dvořák and Brahms book-ending Pauline Viardot's immediately appealing Six Pieces and Clara Schumann's heart-felt Romances. Both performers are dedicated chamber musicians. Award-winning, Cheltenham-born pianist Ashok Gupta collaborates in a variety of roles with a dizzying array of ensembles, while violinist Michael Gurevich, a long-standing member of the London Haydn Quartet, is regularly invited to perform with leading chamber ensembles both in the UK and in Europe.

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Wednesday 6 December 2023
at 7.30pm
at Pittville Pump Room

'...a charismatic performer,
wholly at one with the
music...' *The i*



John Davis

Jeneba Kanneh-Mason (piano)

Shostakovich

Prelude and Fugue in D major
op.87 no.5 (4')

Prokofiev

10 Pieces from 'Romeo and Juliet'
op.75 (30')

Beethoven

Piano Sonata no.7 in D major
op.10 no.3 (25')

Debussy

Estampes (15')

The third of the remarkable Kanneh-Mason family to embark on a solo career, Jeneba is quickly establishing her place as a rising star both in the UK and abroad. With a much-praised BBC Proms debut as a soloist in 2021, and concerto performances with several leading orchestras, she is also an avid and sought-after recitalist. We are delighted to welcome her to the Pump Room.

Tickets £26 & £21, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office*
or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

Belcea Quartet

Beethoven

String Quartet in C minor
op.18 no.4 (24')

Bartók

String Quartet no.1 op.7 Sz.40
(29')

Beethoven

String Quartet in E flat major
op.127 (36')

Thursday 25 January 2024
at 7.30pm

at Pittville Pump Room

Prize-winners in 1997 in what was then the London International String Quartet Competition, the Belcea have gone on to establish themselves as one of the world's leading chamber ensembles. Their complete recordings of both composers featured in this programme attracted enormous critical acclaim and we are very fortunate they have made time in their touring schedule for this overdue return to Cheltenham.



'...the purity of tone and pitch that distinguished the ensemble from the outset remains a hallmark of its work.' *The Times*

'The pulse-rate is up – the Belcea's brilliant Bartók beats the rest.'
Gramophone

Tickets £26 & £21, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office*
or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

Tuesday 20 February 2024
at 7.30pm

at Pittville Pump Room

In December 2020 we enjoyed enormously the concert given by a string trio from the dynamic and versatile collective, Perpetuo. We now welcome a quartet of musicians from the ensemble, again led by violinist Fenella Humphreys, and are promised a delightful blend of duos, trios and quartets spanning nearly 250 years of repertoire. Their wide-ranging programme has something for everyone and is filled with hidden treasures.

Perpetuo

A Mozartian Phantasy - Music for oboe, violin, viola and cello

Britten

Phantasy Quartet op.2 (15')

Hilary Tann

Still in the Water and Singingbirds – English premiere (10')

Rebecca Clarke

Lullaby and Grotesque (5')

Mozart

Adagio for Cor Anglais and String Trio K580a (6')

Schumann arr. Colin Matthews

Mondnacht (4'30)

Adrian Sutton

Trio Dances (13'30)

Mozart

Oboe Quartet K370/368b (15')



John Davis

Tickets £26 & £21, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham* Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

Mithras Trio

Tailleferre

Piano Trio (14')

Saint-Saëns

Piano Trio no.1 in F major
op.18 (28')

Beethoven

Piano Trio in B flat major op.97
"Archduke" (43')

Tuesday 26 March 2024
at 7.30pm

at Pittville Pump Room

Formed in 2017, already multiple international prize-winners and BBC New Generation Artists in 2021-23, the Mithras Trio has quickly established itself as one of the next generation's most exciting and accomplished ensembles. Praised for 'exquisite phrasing', 'full-blooded commitment' and 'bold, passionate colours', their intriguing programme for us reflects their constant search for unjustly neglected repertoire. You will be able to catch them during the 2023 Cheltenham Music Festival.



Matthew Johnson

'...full of character and a vivid sense of engagement...' *Planet Hugill*

Tickets £26 & £21, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office* or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

Wednesday 24 April 2024
at 7.30pm

at Pittville Pump Room

Prize-winners at the 2015 Wigmore Hall String Quartet Competition, the American Verona Quartet are making their first return to the UK since their competition success. Combining youthful Mendelssohn, Bartók exploring new directions in his quartet writing and Beethoven towards the end of his 'middle period' composing what has been called 'as gracious and friendly a quartet as he had ever written', this is a programme that strikes the perfect mood for the final concert of our season.

Verona Quartet

Mendelssohn

String Quartet no.1 in E flat major op.12 (23')

Bartók

String Quartet no.4 Sz.91 (21')

Beethoven

String Quartet in E flat major op.74 "Harp" (32')



'Outstanding ensemble of young musicians. Cohesive yet full of temperament ...vibrant, intelligent.'
New York Times

Tickets £26 & £21, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office* or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP AND SEASON TICKETS

By buying a season ticket for the seven concerts you become a member of the Society. For each seat purchased you will receive a 2023-24 membership card showing name and seat number. A season ticket costs £120 for the A seats or £97 for the B seats, a discount of 34% on the price of single tickets. By joining the Society you get a better choice of seat and the ability to renew your subscription by phone or email.

Members can purchase half-price tickets to bring up to two guests to any concert. Please use box office code CMS232450.

Membership applications must be received by 9 September unless otherwise arranged with the Membership Secretary. You can pay for season tickets and donations by cheque, credit card or bank transfer. If you wish to pay by credit card or bank transfer, we will email payment details to you.

INDIVIDUAL CONCERT TICKETS

Tickets for individual concerts are available at the door and can be purchased in advance at the *Leisure at Cheltenham* box office or by phone 01242 528764. They can also be bought on the Town Hall website www.cheltenhamtownhall.org.uk. A discount of 10% is offered for those purchasing tickets for four concerts together at the box office; to do this please use box office code CMS232410.

NOT A MEMBER BUT WANT TO STAY IN TOUCH ?

Join our mailing list and we will alert you about forthcoming concerts and other news. Just email membsec@cheltmusic soc.co.uk and ask to be added to the list.

DONATIONS

Ticket sales do not cover the full cost of our concerts and we rely on donations to maintain the quality of our programmes. Please consider making a donation of at least £10 per person and allowing us to increase its value by Gift Aid.

Cheltenham Music Society is a registered charity no. 279209.

DATA PROTECTION

We will use personal information only to mail and email about concerts, events and programme changes, and we will not share it with any other organisation. Details of our Data Protection Policy are on our website. By giving us your details you consent to us holding your data.



Tickets required

..... Price band A series seats at £120	£.....
..... Price band B series seats at £97	£.....
..... Under-26 series seats (any band) at £15	£.....
Donation	£.....
Total payable to Cheltenham Music Society	£.....

Please indicate Pump Room seat preference by circling area of choice or contact the Membership Secretary if you have more specific requirements.

Tick here if you wish to pay by:
credit card bank transfer

Stage		
£120	£120	£120
£120	£120	£120
£97	£97	£97

Please return to the Membership Secretary: Mike O'Connell, 49 Painswick Rd, Cheltenham, GL50 2EP (Tel 01242 234791) by **9 September 2023** and either enclose a cheque or tick the appropriate box if you wish to pay by credit card or bank transfer.

SEASON TICKETS

Season tickets for all seven Pump Room concerts may be purchased by sending the form below to the Membership Secretary, Mike O'Connell. Subscribers will receive membership cards showing seat numbers for the season.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Holders of a membership card for 2022-23 do not need to use the form below. They will receive details showing how to renew their membership in a letter accompanying this brochure.



Form for New Membership Applications

Fill in personal details below and ticket requirements overleaf

Name(s)

Address

Phone

Postcode

Email

I wish all my donations to the Cheltenham Music Society from this date onwards to be treated as Gift Aid donations. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference (Delete this paragraph if you do not wish us to claim gift aid).

Signed.....

Date.....