


Cheltenham
CHAMBER MUSIC

2024-25 PROGRAMME



Carducci Quartet – 16 October
Alban Gerhardt & Steven Osborne – 13 November
Gould Piano Trio – 4 December
Pavel Haas Quartet – 22 January 2025
Rossetti Ensemble – 13 February
Piatti Quartet – 6 March
Paul Lewis – 24 April

All concerts in Pittville Pump Room

Cheltenham Music Society
www.cheltmusicsoc.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 careers. 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 penultimate season offers a truly stellar line-up of musicians and ensembles. It follows our established pattern of three string quartet concerts and four concerts involving a variety of ensembles, and this season we also give far greater profile to the piano: a solo recital, a duo with cello, a piano trio and, in one concert, both piano quartet and quintet. Staying true to our values, we have a younger generation string quartet and, as always, our artists bring a wide range of interesting repertoire. We hope you are tempted!

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 Road).

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

Carducci Quartet

Wednesday 16 October 2024
at 7.30pm

Mozart

String Quartet in B flat major
K458 'The Hunt' (25')

Ravel

String Quartet in F major (30')

Shostakovich

String Quartet No. 2 in A major
op. 68 (34')

'...a distinctive tone, rich and darkly burnished with real complexity and depth...they bring a keen interpretive sensibility to every phrase.' *The Arts Desk*



Andy Holdsworth

The acclaimed Cheltenham-based Carducci Quartet open our season with a programme of three completely different sound worlds. We are delighted they are starting the concert with Mozart. Mozart quartets have featured rarely in our programmes and we do not appear to have had 'The Hunt' for many years. They follow with the emotional roller-coaster of the youthful quartet by Ravel. The Carducci are renowned for their interpretation of the Shostakovich quartets, and the evening ends with his infrequently played second quartet, the weighty beginning of his mature quartet sequence.

Tickets £27 & £22, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham* Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

**Alban Gerhardt
(cello) and
Steven Osborne
(piano)**

Schumann

Adagio and Allegro op.70 (16')

Schubert

Arpeggione Sonata in A minor
D821 (25')

Debussy

Children's Corner (18')

Falla

Suite populaire espagnole (13')

Ravel

Vocalise-étude en forme de
habanera (3')

Alborada del gracioso (8')

Wednesday 13 November
2024
at 7.30pm



Ben Ealovega & Sim Canetty Clarke

'...individually, musicians of the highest calibre. As a duo, they combine to achieve often breathtaking artistry.' *The Guardian*

After Schumann at his most romantic and the cascading emotions of Schubert's lyrical Arpeggione sonata, music inspired by the rhythms and cultures of Spain is prefaced by Debussy's set of six pieces dedicated with great tenderness to his small daughter. When pianist Steven Osborne suggested a concert with his regular duo partner, cellist Alban Gerhardt, we knew this was an opportunity not to be missed.

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Gould Piano Trio

Mozart

Piano Trio no.5 in C major
K548 (26')

Marschner

Piano Trio no.5 in D minor
op.138 (39')

Helen Grime

Three Whistler Miniatures (11')

Schumann

Piano Trio no.1 in D minor op.63
(32')

Wednesday 4 December 2024
at 7.30pm

The Gould's long-established reputation as one of our leading piano trios has been built not only on the quality of its music-making but also on the eclectic nature of its repertoire. This is well illustrated by tonight's programme, which includes a work from 2012 by the respected Scottish composer Helen Grime and a delightful trio by the now completely overlooked 19th century German composer Heinrich August Marschner.



'[Helen Grime's] palette is all her own... She writes as though her music needs to be told.' *(Kate Molleson, The Guardian)*

Tickets £27 & £22, under 26 £5, from *Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office* or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

Pavel Haas Quartet

Mozart

String Quartet in B flat major
K589 (22')

Martinů

String Quartet no.5 (27')

Janáček

String Quartet no.2 'Intimate
Letters' (25')

Wednesday 22 January 2025
at 7.30pm

Based in Prague, the Pavel Haas is revered as one of the finest string quartets on the current global stage. The dense sonority of the second of Mozart's three 'Prussian' quartets is followed by two Czech works that are steeped in emotion. Martinů's fifth quartet written in Paris in the spring of 1938 is his emotionally charged response both to the mounting political tensions in Europe and to a developing love affair with a pupil in Prague. Janáček's second quartet is an intense and passionate love letter to his muse, Kamila Stösslová.



Petra Hajska

'...compelling powers of sonority, precision and technique...an unwavering integrity, a belief that everything it plays is a matter of life and death.' *The Times*

Tickets £27 & £22, under 26 £5, from Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

Thursday 13 February 2025
at 7.30pm

This piano quartet was formed in 2018 by four virtuoso musicians - long-standing friends and chamber music partners. Tonight they add a double bass and we are in for a treat. The first half offers two rarities: Bax's powerful piano quartet in one movement, and Vaughan Williams' early piano quintet with its Brahmsian first movement and palette of lyricism and emotional contrast. In the second half we are calmed by a return to the familiarity of Schubert's much loved 'Trout' quintet.



Juno Snowden

Rossetti Ensemble (piano quartet) with Leon Bosch (double bass)

Bax

Piano Quartet in one movement (12')

Vaughan Williams

Piano Quintet in C minor (30')

Schubert

Piano Quintet in A major D667
'Trout' (36')



Robert Pivko

'The Rossetti Ensemble is an absolute gem.' 'A simply stunning display of ensemble playing...' *Local concert reviews*
'...a collective and individual display of how to deliver chamber music at world class level.' *BBC Music Magazine*

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Piatti Quartet

Purcell arr. Britten

Chacony (6')

Mendelssohn

String Quartet no.2 in A minor
op.13 (35')

Joseph Phibbs

String Quartet no.4 (15')

Schubert

String Quartet no.13 in A minor
D804 'Rosamunde' (36')

Thursday 6 March 2025
at 7.30pm

Wigmore Hall Competition prize winners in 2015 and appointed Resident Quartet at Kings Place London in October 2023, the Piatti Quartet are one of the leading quartets of their generation. We greatly enjoyed Joseph Phibbs' cello sonata in our October 2022 concert and are delighted at the inclusion in tonight's programme of his String Quartet No.4. This has been commissioned by the Piattis for the 2024 Presteigne Festival.



Venetia Jollands

'...profound music making...' *The Strad*
'...lyrical warmth...' *BBC Music Magazine*

Tickets £27 & £22, under 26 £5, from Leisure at Cheltenham Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 34% discount - see back of brochure)

Thursday 24 April 2025
at 7.30pm

Paul Lewis (piano)

Beethoven

Piano Sonata no.5 in C minor
op.10 no.1 (19')

Mozart

Piano Sonata no.10 in C major
K330/300h (20')

Brahms

Three Intermezzi op.117 (15')

Beethoven

Piano Sonata no.32 in C minor
op.111 (30')



For the final concert of our penultimate season it is our pleasure to welcome one of the truly great pianists of our time. Making his first appearance at a Music Society concert since 2007, and with his recent two-year revisiting of Schubert's sonatas now complete, Paul Lewis returns to other classical repertoire where he is rightly regarded as being in magisterial command.

'...one of the greatest interpreters of
Beethoven's music active today...'
Tanglewood concert review

Tickets £27 & £22, 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 2024-25 membership card showing name and seat number. A season ticket costs £125 for the A seats or £100 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 are entitled to a 50% discount on purchase of individual concert tickets, up to 2 tickets per concert. Please use Box Office code CMS242550.

Membership applications must be received by **16 September** unless otherwise arranged with the Membership Secretary. You can pay for season tickets by bank transfer (our preferred method), cheque or debit/credit card. **If you wish to pay by 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 CMS242510.

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@cheltmusicsoc.co.uk and ask to be added to the list.

SEASON TICKETS

Season tickets may be purchased by sending the form overleaf to the Membership Secretary Mike O'Connell (Tel 01242 234791) by **16 September 2024**:

- By post to 49 Painswick Rd, Cheltenham, GL50 2EP
- By email to membsec@cheltmusicsoc.co.uk if you are not sending a cheque

You can pay by cheque, bank transfer or debit/credit card. For cheque payment, please enclose the cheque with your form. For bank transfer or debit/credit card, please tick the appropriate line on the booking form and the Membership Secretary will contact you with payment details. **Bank transfer is our preferred means of payment.**

Subscribers will receive membership cards showing seat numbers for the season.

Holders of a membership card for 2023-24 do not need to use the form overleaf. They will receive details showing how to renew their membership in a letter accompanying this brochure.

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. We share members' names and seat numbers with Box Office staff to assist in cases of inability to present a membership card. Details of our Data Protection Policy are on our website. By giving us your details you consent to us holding your data.

Form for New Membership Applications

Name(s)

Address

Phone

Postcode

Email

Tickets required

..... Price band A series seats at £125 £.....

..... Price band B series seats at £100 £.....

..... Under-26 series seats (any band) at £15 £.....

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.

Stage		
£125	£125	£125
£125	£125	£125
£100	£100	£100

Payment method (please tick one):

I enclose a cheque

I wish to pay by bank transfer.....

I wish to pay by debit/credit card

Please return to the Membership Secretary by **16 September 2024**