

CHAMBER MUSIC

Cheltenham 2020-21



Busch Trio - 15th Oct
The Hermes Experiment - 25th Oct
Jerusalem Quartet - 12th Nov
Carducci Quartet - 9th Dec
Clare Hammond - 17th Jan
Perpetuo String Trio - 10th Feb
Amy Roberts & Gamal Khamis - 28th Feb
Sean Shibe - 25th Mar
Piatti Quartet - 15th Apr

Cheltenham Music Society
www.cheltnmusicoc.co.uk

at Pittville Pump Room and
Bethesda Methodist Church



CHELTENHAM MUSIC SOCIETY

Welcome to the 73rd season of concerts promoted by Cheltenham Music Society. The Society was founded in 1948 and has been promoting high-quality chamber music concerts ever since. We arrange a main series of seven concerts each autumn and spring (see pages 3-10), and a separate mini-series of two concerts featuring a range of contemporary music (see pages 11-13). The core of our programmes is the string quartet, and we also have a wide range of small ensembles featuring other instruments and soloists.

We pride ourselves on the quality of our musical programming. Many of our artists have established international reputations, and others have recently won major prizes. We also promote young artists especially those who are supported on schemes such as the Countess of Munster Trust.

Our concerts are open to everyone, and single tickets provide excellent value for money. Even better, subscribers to the complete series become members of the Society and get a discount of 35% on the single ticket prices, as well as being able to buy tickets for guests at a 50% reduction. Do join us!

For more information visit our website www.cheltmusicoc.co.uk, or contact the membership secretary, Mike O'Connell, on 01242 234791 or email memsec@cheltmusicoc.co.uk.

David Pepper
Chairman

NOT A MEMBER BUT WANT TO STAY IN TOUCH ?

Get on our mailing list and we will alert you about forthcoming concerts and other news. Just email memsec@cheltmusicoc.co.uk and ask to be added to the list.

MAIN CONCERT SERIES AT PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM

For over 40 years our main concerts have been given in Cheltenham's Pittville Pump Room. As well as being a beautiful building the Pump Room has a wonderful acoustic for chamber music. Musicians love playing there, and the hall brings out the best in their music.



This season we welcome back the ever popular Carducci Quartet, the much acclaimed Jerusalem Quartet, and the Busch Trio, who were so popular when last here. We are also delighted to have the award winning guitarist Sean Shibe for the first time. Clare Hammond makes a welcome return, and we have the Perpetuo String Trio and the Piatti Quartet for the first time.

Built in 1830, the Pump Room is one of the architectural jewels of Cheltenham. Restored to its former glory after the Second World War, its ambience and acoustics make it the perfect space for chamber music.

Facilities

- Step free access and disabled facilities
- Ample parking including disabled parking
- 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 Post Code is GL52 3JE.

Access by car from Evesham Road is by West Approach Drive.

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

Busch Trio

Haydn

Trio in E flat minor Hob.XV:31

Schoenberg

Verklärte Nacht (arr. Steuermann)

Tchaikovsky

Trio in A minor op.50

Thursday 15 October 2020
at 7.30pm

At Pittville Pump Room

‘...the youthful Busch Trio can boast one of the most notable features of their namesake, a pooled decision to put the music, and only the music, first.’

Gramophone



Photo Kaupo Kikhas

We are delighted to welcome once again this award-winning trio of best friends who continue to attract international acclaim, receiving enthusiastic responses from audiences and critics alike for their ‘incredible verve’.

Tickets for this concert £25 & £20, under 26 £5, from Townhall Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 35% discount - see back of brochure)

Thursday 12 November 2020
at 7.30pm

At Pittville Pump Room

A quartet now firmly established as one of the truly great international string ensembles on the current stage, offering a stunning depth of expression and carrying on the string quartet tradition in a unique manner.

Jerusalem Quartet

Mozart

String Quartet no.21 in D major
K575 'Prussian'

Shostakovich

String Quartet no. 8 in C minor
op.110

Schubert

String Quartet no.14 in D minor,
D810 'Death and the Maiden'



Photo Felix Broede

'An absolute triumph. Their playing has everything you could possibly wish for.'

BBC Music
Magazine

Tickets for this concert £29 & £24, under 26 £5, from Townhall Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 35% discount - see back of brochure)

Carducci Quartet

Beethoven

String quartet op.18 no.4
in C minor

String quartet op.95
in F minor

String quartet op.135 in F major

Wednesday 9 December 2020

at 7.30 pm

At Pittville Pump Room

'...high-octane playing,
balanced control and devil-
may-care spontaneity...'
The Guardian



Photo Tom Barnes

One of today's most acclaimed string quartets and firm favourites with Cheltenham audiences, the Carduccis offer us the chance to pay homage to Beethoven at the close of his anniversary year with quartets from his early, middle and late periods.

Tickets for this concert £25 & £20, under 26 £5, from Townhall Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 35% discount - see back of brochure)

Sunday 17 January 2021
at 3pm (note it is an
afternoon concert)

At Pittville Pump Room

Acclaimed as a pianist of
'amazing power and panache'
(The Telegraph), Clare
Hammond is recognised for
the virtuosity and authority of
her performances and she
offers a typically imaginative
and attractive programme for
our first January afternoon
concert.



Photo Julie Kim

Clare Hammond (piano)

Mendelssohn

Songs Without Words op.67

Beethoven

Sonata No.4 in E flat major op.7

Adam Gorb

Selection from *Preludes* (2020)

Albéniz

'El Puerto', 'Evocación' and 'Triana'
from *Iberia*

Earl Wild

from the *Virtuoso Etudes* on
Gershwin Songs

no.7 Fascinatin' Rhythm

no.4 Embraceable You

no.6 I Got Rhythm

'...deliciously unfussy poise
and elegance...' The Times

Tickets for this concert £25 & £20, under 26 £5, from Townhall Box Office
or at door (or buy a series ticket at 35% discount - see back of brochure)

Perpetuo String Trio

Schubert

String Trio in B flat major D471

Adrian Sutton

Spring Masque for violin and viola

Sibelius

String Trio in G minor

Martinů

Duo no.1 for violin and cello

Mozart

Divertimento in E flat major
K564

Wednesday 10 February 2021
at 7.30 pm

At Pittville Pump Room

The freshness of Schubert, folk influences in the works by Adrian Sutton and Martinů, the extremes of emotions of Sibelius, and Mozart's sublime Divertimento combine in an intriguing and innovative programme presented by an established trio of string players from the dynamic and versatile collective *Perpetuo*.

Photos Perpetuo String Trio and Alejandro Tamagno

Violinist Fenella Humphreys, winner of the 2018 BBC Music Magazine Instrumental Award, joins with much-acclaimed violist Rosalind Ventriss and cellist Cara Berridge of the Sacconi Quartet.



Tickets for this concert £25 & £20, under 26 £5, from Townhall Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 35% discount - see back of brochure)

Thursday 25 March 2021
at 7.30 pm

At Pittville Pump Room

'..grace to spare...and a roar
that is fearsome...for Sean
Shibe anything is possible.' BBC
Music Magazine

Sean Shibe (guitar)

We are promised a typically
eclectic kaleidoscope of works
and styles spanning the
centuries from Renaissance
John Dowland to contemporary
Magnus Lindberg.



Photo Kaupo Kikhas

Still only in his twenties, Sean Shibe already has a collection of impressive 'firsts' under his belt: the first guitarist to be selected for the BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artists scheme, the first guitarist to be awarded a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship, the first guitarist to win a Royal Philharmonic Society Award in the Young Artists category; and in 2019, the first winner of the Gramophone's Concept Album Award.

'...genius, a term which should rarely be applied to a performing musician, but...he has it.' East Neuk Festival 2017

Tickets for this concert £25 & £20, under 26 £5, from Townhall Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 35% discount - see back of brochure)

Piatti Quartet

Mendelssohn

String Quartet no.6 in F minor
op.80

Mark-Anthony Turnage

Winter's Edge

Elgar

String Quartet in E minor op.83

Thursday 15 April 2021

at 7.30 pm

At Pittville Pump Room

'...acute sensitivity to
mood and texture...'

Gramophone



Photo Victor Erik Emanuel

Second Prize winners at the Wigmore Hall International String Quartet competition in 2015, the Piattis have quickly made a name for themselves for their diverse programming and for passionate interpretations across the spectrum of quartet writing. They bring our season to a close with Mendelssohn's last major work, Elgar's richly romantic string quartet and Mark-Anthony Turnage's fourth string quartet which they premiered in 2019.

Tickets for this concert £25 & £20, under 26 £5, from Townhall Box Office or at door (or buy a series ticket at 35% discount - see back of brochure)

CONTEMPORARY CONCERT SERIES

The contemporary concert series is an opportunity to explore variations on the traditional chamber music format and hear more recently composed chamber music. The concerts are subsidised by generous donation from the Runge Trust which enables us to price tickets at £10 .

This year we are changing the venue for the Contemporary Concerts to Bethesda Methodist church which is more centrally located in Cheltenham.



This year's Contemporary Concert season features the novel quartet The Hermes Experiment, and the oboist Amy Roberts with pianist Gamal Khamis.

Originally built in 1846 the church is in picturesque Early Gothic style. Inside it retains its original features including entrance lobby with three pointed-arched openings, a balcony to three sides on pilasters with solid balustrade with Gothic arcade. The recently-refurbished Bethesda Church is now an excellent venue for small concerts.

Directions

The church is located in Great Norwood Street, post code GL50 2AP.

Parking is in the adjacent Bath Road pay and display car park which is accessed by Bath Terrace, off Bath Road near the Exmouth Arms.

Bus F which stops in Bath Road near the Exmouth Arms, and route 10 stops in Park Place (please check timetable for available service).

Facilities

- Step free access and disabled facilities
- Free soft drinks and programme notes are provided
- Nearby public car park

The Hermes Experiment

Josephine Stephenson

Between the war and you

Ravel (arr. Schofield)

'Rigaudon' from

Le tombeau de Couperin

Alex Mills

Samsara

Tom Coult

new work

Emily Hall

I am happy living simply and The end
of the ending

Bernstein (arr. Millwood)

I Hate Music!

Kate Whitley

My Hands

Robin Haigh

Kalimotxo

Anna Meredith (arr. Schofield)

Fin like a Flower

Misha Mullov-Abbado

The Linden Tree

Meredith Monk (arr. Denholm)

Double Fiesta

'...four immensely talented
young musicians with bags of
enthusiasm and energy...'
composer Giles Swayne

Contemporary Concert

Sunday 25 October 2020

at 3.30 pm

At Bethesda Methodist Church

Winners of the Royal Over-Seas
League Mixed Ensemble
Competition 2019, Making Music
Selected Artists 2019/20, Tunnell
Trust Awards 2017 and shortlisted
in the 2019 Royal Philharmonic
Society Awards, The Hermes
Experiment is a contemporary
quartet made up of harp, clarinet,
voice and double bass.

Capitalising on their deliberately
idiosyncratic combination of
instruments, the ensemble
regularly commissions new works
as well as creating their own
innovative arrangements.



Photo Raphaël Neal

Tickets for this concert £10, under 26 free, at door
(25% discount for series tickets - see back of brochure)

Contemporary Concert
Sunday 28 February 2021
at 3.30 pm

At Bethesda Methodist Church

Greek and Roman myths inspire an eclectic programme of works linked by dreams and night time.

Amy Roberts, graduate of the RNCM/Manchester University and the Royal Academy, is quickly carving out a career as soloist, guest orchestral principal and chamber musician. After graduating with a degree in Mathematics at Imperial College London, award-winning pianist and accompanist Gamal Khamis completed his formal musical education at the Royal College of Music.

Photos Tim Ellis



Amy Roberts (oboe)
Gamal Khamis (piano)

Messiaen

Vocalise-Étude

Richard Rodney Bennett

After Syrinx I

Britten

Night Piece (Notturmo)

Helen Grime

Arachne

Britten

Six Metamorphoses after Ovid
op.49

Thomas Adès

Traced Overhead

John Woolrich

The Kingdom of Dreams



Tickets for this concert £10, under 26 free, at door
(25% discount for series tickets - see back of brochure)

INDIVIDUAL CONCERT TICKET PURCHASE

Tickets for individual Pump Room concerts are available at the door and can be purchased in advance at the Town Hall box office or by phone 08445 762210. They can also be bought on the Town Hall website www.cheltenhamtownhall.org.uk. Our concerts can be located on this site either by selecting WHAT'S ON and filtering by type:Music and Venue:Pittville Pump Room or by searching on the principal name of the performer or group using the Search box.

A discount of 10% is offered for those purchasing tickets for four concerts together at the box office.

Tickets for individual Contemporary Concerts are available at the door.

Prices for individual concerts are shown on the concert pages of this brochure, and there are greatly reduced prices for those under 26.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP AND SEASON TICKETS

By buying a season ticket for the seven Pump Room concerts you become a member of the Society. For each seat purchased you will receive a 2020-21 membership card showing name and seat number. A season ticket costs £115 for the A seats or £93 for the B seats, a discount of over 35% on the price of single tickets. Members also receive the following benefits:

- a better choice of seat
- reduced rate tickets to the Contemporary Series concerts
- half price tickets to bring one guest to any concert
- season ticket renewals by phone or email

Membership applications must be received by 31 August unless otherwise arranged with the Membership Secretary. You can pay for season tickets and donations by cheque or credit card. If you wish to pay by credit card, we will email payment details to you.

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

.....Pump Room series A seats at £115	£.....
.....Pump Room series B seats at £93	£.....
.....Pump Room series under 26 seats	£.....
.....Contemporary series seats	£.....
Donation	£.....
Total payable to Cheltenham Music Society	£.....

Bookings delayed due to COVID-19

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

Tick here if you wish to pay by credit card

Stage		
£115	£115	£115
£115	£115	£115
£93	£93	£93

Please return to the Membership Secretary: Mike O’Connell, 49 Painswick Rd, Cheltenham, GL50 2EP (Tel 01242 234791) by 31 August 2020 and either enclose a cheque or tick the box if you are paying by credit card.

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 main season. Subscribers to the main series can also buy discounted tickets for the two Contemporary Concerts using this form.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

2019-20 membership card holders do not need to use the form below. Instead they will receive a personal invitation to renew their membership by phone or email.

Form for New Membership Applications

Fill in personal details below and ticket requirements overleaf

Name(s)

Address

Phone

Postcode

Email

Bookings delayed due to COVID-19

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.....