



newbury spring festival

12-26 may 2018



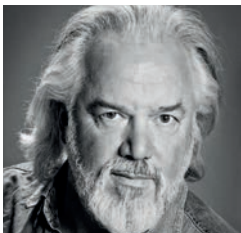
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maxx-design.co.uk

We are proud to have sponsored
Newbury Spring Festival since 1999



two weeks of world-class music
www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk



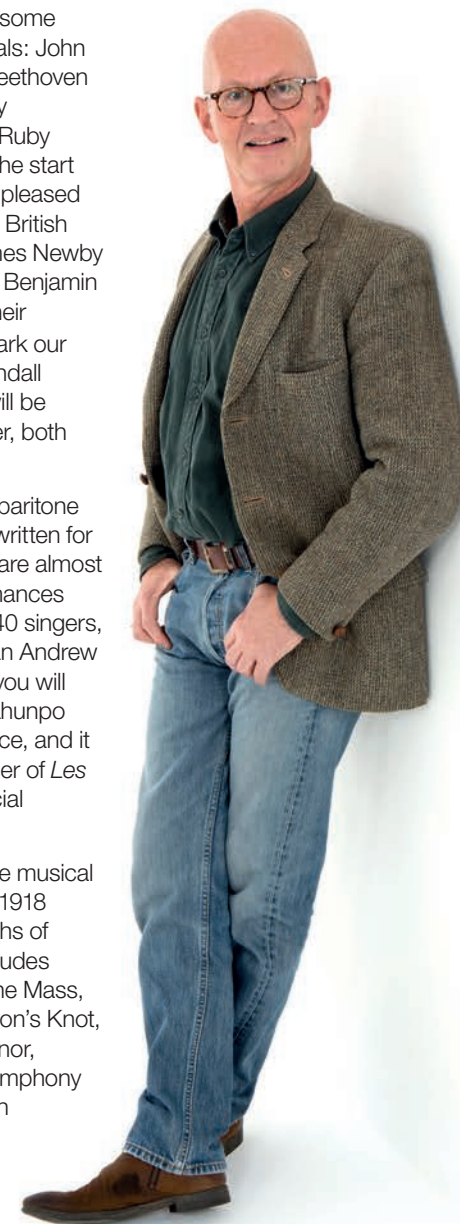
Welcome

For our 40th Festival I am delighted to welcome back some much-loved musicians who appeared in earlier Festivals: John Lill played in the very first and he returns to perform Beethoven with Flanders Symphony Orchestra; Llyr Williams, Guy Johnston, Tom Poster, Elizabeth Watts, Natalie Clein, Ruby Hughes and Yolanda Brown all came to Newbury at the start of what are now major international careers, and I am pleased to introduce alongside them some outstanding young British musicians. Cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason, singers James Newby and James Way, and our new Festival Chorus Master Benjamin Cunningham with his chamber choir Sansara make their Festival debuts as John Lewis Young Stars 🌟. To mark our 40th anniversary young British composer Hannah Kendall has been commissioned to write a new work which will be performed by the Philharmonia under Edward Gardner, both returning for our opening night.

It is also an honour to welcome back legendary bass baritone Sir John Tomlinson in a new work, *Kokoschka's Doll*, written for him and Counterpoise. The Schubert Ensemble who are almost as old as the Festival will give one of their final performances before they retire in June; Ex Cathedra, enhanced to 40 singers, revisits Douai Abbey; and broadcaster and art historian Andrew Graham-Dixon returns by popular demand. Many of you will remember the extraordinary Tibetan Monks of Tashi Lhunpo Monastery who I am delighted will again be in residence, and it is so exciting that Claude-Michel Schönberg, composer of *Les Misérables* and *Miss Saigon*, will be with us for a special interview at Sydmonton.

The twin themes of 'spring' and '40' are woven into the musical programme as well as a few notable centenaries: the 1918 Armistice, the birth of Leonard Bernstein and the deaths of Hubert Parry and Claude Debussy. The Festival concludes with performances of two of the greatest settings of the Mass, Bach's in B Minor, performed from memory by Solomon's Knot, and on the last night Mozart's uplifting version in C Minor, conducted by Stephen Barlow, with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Newbury Spring Festival Chorus, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year.

Mark Eynon
Festival Director



Philharmonia Orchestra

The Festival is delighted to celebrate the opening night of its 40th anniversary with a specially commissioned work by young composer Hannah Kendall.

For the opening of the 40th Spring Festival, what better work to include than Schumann's uplifting Spring Symphony. This is preceded by Elgar's *Sospiri*, written at the outbreak of the First World War, and his monumental Cello Concerto composed after the Armistice, the centenary of which we commemorate this year.

Sheku Kanneh-Mason, winner of the 2016 BBC Young Musician of the Year, joins Festival favourites the Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by world-renowned Edward Gardner, who makes a welcome return to the Festival.



Ed Gardner © Benjamin Ealovega / Sheku Kanneh-Mason © Glen Thomas

“Gardner is certainly proving to be a very fine Elgarian.”

Bachtrack

“[Sheku] held the capacity audience spellbound.”

The Guardian

Edward Gardner
conductor

Sheku Kanneh-Mason 🌟
cello

Hannah Kendall
Baptistry

Elgar
Cello Concerto
Elgar
Sospiri

Schumann
Symphony No. 1,
Op.38 *Spring*

St Nicolas Church
Newbury
RG14 5HG

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.15pm)

£41
£31
£21

Sponsored by
Greenham Trust

Opening work
commission
supported by
RVW Trust,
Philharmonia
Orchestra and
Three Choirs
Festival

Michael Law's Piccadilly Dance Orchestra

with The Gatsby Girls



From the Charleston of the 1920s through the beautiful classic songs of the 1930s to swing and jazz mayhem, Michael Law's Piccadilly Dance Orchestra and the four Gatsby Girls present a night of razzle dazzle. The evening features some of the greatest music of the golden jazz age, including such timeless classics as *It Don't Mean a Thing*, *The Very Thought of You* and *Yes, Sir, That's My Baby*.

Celebrating its 30th year, this leading jazz orchestra presents its Anniversary Gala Gatsby Concert, transporting the audience back to a world of sophistication, glitz and glamour, delighting the senses with flapper fun and frolics.

“A wonderfully entertaining evening ... there wasn't anything that was less than exceptional.” BBC4

Michael Law
conductor, piano, vocals
Piccadilly Dance Orchestra
with **Louise Cookman**
vocals
and **The Gatsby Girls**

Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.35pm)

£22

Supported by
Friends of
Newbury Spring
Festival

Sound Beginnings

Romeo and Juliet

The whole family is welcome to this all-inclusive performance of *Romeo and Juliet*, Prokofiev's great ballet based on Shakespeare's most well-known love story. Lasting just under an hour, with selections of the ballet specially arranged for two pianos, the story is narrated in animated style making the audience feel part of the cast. With beanbags for youngsters to sit on, and with all ages welcome, no one will mind if your little ones make a noise!

After the performance delicious organic food using produce raised and grown at Sheepdrove Organic Farm is served.

Mikhail Kazakevich
piano
Elena Zozina
piano
Richard Morris
narrator

Sheepdrove Eco Centre
Lambourn
RG17 7UU

10.00am (ends approx 11.00am)
and 12.00 noon (ends approx 1.00pm)

£20 adults
£9.50 children 5 years and over
£50 family ticket
Under 5s free

Prices include food served
after the performance

Sponsored by
The Sheepdrove
Trust

Llŷr Williams



© B.G. Ealovega

The Festival is delighted to welcome back one of its former Young Artists, now established as one of the UK's leading pianists.

Welshman Llŷr Williams is widely admired for his profound musical intelligence, and for the expressive and communicative nature of his interpretations. With several Beethoven cycles under his belt, he recently completed a sonata cycle at the Wigmore Hall to great acclaim, and a Beethoven concerto cycle with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

“The sound Williams creates has an irresistible singing quality like no one else’s.”

Washington Post

Schumann
4 Nachtstücke, Op.23

Debussy
Suite bergamasque

Debussy
L'isle joyeuse

Rachmaninov
Preludes: Op.32 Nos.
3, 9, 10, 11, 12 and
Op.23 Nos. 6, 8, 10

Scriabin
Sonata No. 5

Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD

3.00pm (ends
approx 4.45pm)

£22

Sponsored by
Sir Hugh and
Lady Stevenson,
and Sir David
and Lady Sieff

Bernstein Revealed

Edward Seckerson conducted one of the last major interviews with Leonard Bernstein less than a year before his death in 1990 and it is that memorable encounter that is at the heart of this intimate musical evening.

To mark Bernstein's centenary, broadcaster Edward Seckerson, musical director Jason Carr and West End star Sophie-Louise Dann celebrate the musical superman who bestrode the Broadway stage as whole-heartedly and adeptly as he did the world's great concert halls. Through a cocktail of stories and songs – including from *West Side Story*, *Candide* and *On The Town* – the show explores the life and music of this extraordinary composer, conductor, pianist, teacher, father and activist.



“The fast-paced evening never had a dull moment ... [the] patter and anecdotes were always enlightening.”

Musical Theatre Review

Edward Seckerson
compère
Sophie-Louise Dann
soprano
Jason Carr
piano

Combe Manor Barn
Combe
RG17 9EJ

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.40pm)

£30
to include a glass
of Coates & Seely
sparkling wine
on arrival

Sponsored by
BHP Project
Management

Misha Mullov-Abbado Group

Misha Mullov-Abbado is a BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist. The Misha Mullov-Abbado Group is made up of some of the finest, multi-award-winning musicians in London, and under Misha's direction the group performs his original compositions and arrangements with a broad variety of influences.

The band has performed at many venues and festivals all around the UK such as King's Place, the Barbican Centre, the Elgar Room as part of the BBC Proms Lates series, and has toured internationally around Europe and in Mexico. Having been signed to Edition Records the group released its debut album *New Ansonia*, included in 'Best Jazz Albums 2015' of both *The Telegraph* and BBC Radio 3.

“Both his composing talents and his propulsive bass-playing are currently such hot UK jazz news.”
The Guardian



Misha Mullov-Abbado
double bass

James Davison
flugelhorn

Matthew Herd
alto saxophone

Sam Rapley
tenor saxophone

Liam Dunachie
piano

Scott Chapman
drums

Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD

12.30pm (ends
approx 1.30pm)

£10
(series ticket
for all 6 lunchtime
recitals £48)

Sponsored by
The Headley Trust

The Highclere Concert

A welcome return by Guy Johnston and Tom Poster, two of the Festival's previous Young Artists whose creative partnership is now one of Britain's most established and renowned.

Dame Ethel Smyth's composing career, most notably in opera, was occasionally interrupted by her actions as a suffragette; here is a rare opportunity to hear her chamber music. When studying in Leipzig, she met Grieg, whose cello sonata was premiered there; it is described as 'imbued with the soaring ecstasy of yearning wistfulness'. The Rachmaninov sonata is perhaps his most famous chamber piece and a perfect example of the composer's gift for sweeping, romantic melody.



Guy Johnston © Kaupo Kikkas / Tom Poster © Sussie Ahlburg

“Stirringly impassioned.”

The Times, on Guy Johnston

“Warmly beguiling.”

Gramophone, on Tom Poster

Guy Johnston
cello
Tom Poster
piano

Ethel Smyth
Cello Sonata, Op.5

Grieg
Cello Sonata in
A minor, Op.36

Rachmaninov
Sonata for Piano
and Cello in G minor,
Op.19

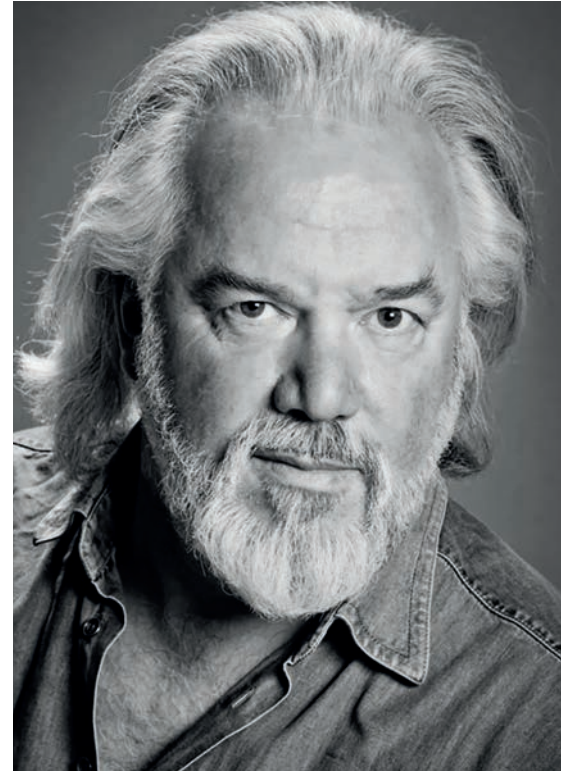
Highclere Castle
Newbury
RG20 9RN

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.20pm)

£50
to include interval
champagne

Sponsored by
Viking Cruises
and The Earl
and Countess
of Carnarvon

Sir John Tomlinson talks to Barry Millington



© Robert Workman

Acclaimed as one of the world's leading bass baritones, Sir John Tomlinson has dominated the international opera scene for several decades, appearing at the Bayreuth Festival every year from 1988 to 2006.

In this special event, Sir John talks to renowned music critic Barry Millington about his extraordinary career, the roles he has sung, the world of opera and the new work, *Kokoschka's Doll*, written for him by John Casken, which is being performed on Wednesday 16 May in the Corn Exchange, Newbury.

Shaw House
Newbury
RG14 2DR

3.00pm (ends
approx 4.30pm)

£15
talk only
£20
talk followed
by tea and cake

Sponsored by
The Englefield
Charitable Trust

Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers

Experience the power of thundering rhythms on huge taiko drums, mysterious masked choreography, synchronisation timed to perfection and post-apocalyptic martial imagery in this spellbinding display of sheer energy.

Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers make a welcome return to the Festival. As the UK's longest-established taiko ensemble and Europe's most successful professional touring company of this thrilling and energetic Japanese performance art, Mugenkyo create a contemporary look and sound, fusing the traditional spirit of taiko with a captivating modern stage performance.

“Just when you think it could not get any more powerful, it doubles in intensity.”

Edinburgh Evening News



**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends approx 9.30pm)

£20

Sponsored by
Arigato,
part of the
**BDZ
Investments
Group**

Alina Ibragimova and Cédric Tiberghien



© Sussie Ahlburg

Classical music partners and international superstars, violinist Alina Ibragimova and pianist Cédric Tiberghien enjoy astonishing careers both as a duo and as soloists, appearing with many of the world's leading orchestras and at leading venues, festivals and concerts, including the BBC Proms.

The artists first met as members of the BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artists scheme in 2005. A unique partnership developed between Russian-born Alina and French-born Cédric which has led them to perform throughout Europe and in North America.

“It would be hard to imagine more persuasive performances than ... from the ever-rewarding Tiberghien-Ibragimova duo.”

Gramophone magazine

Alina Ibragimova
violin
Cédric Tiberghien
piano

Mozart
Violin Sonata in C major, K303
Brahms
Violin Sonata No. 1, Op.78
Beethoven
Violin Sonata, No. 5, Op.24, *Spring*
Brahms
Violin Sonata No. 3, Op.108

**Long Gallery
Englefield House
Theale
RG7 5EN**

7.30pm (ends approx 9.20pm)

£25
£20

Sponsored by
Irwin Mitchell

Flauti d'echo

Awake, Thou Wintry Earth

In this programme, Flauti d'echo celebrates the arrival of spring with music from Germany, England, France and Italy. Cheeky cuckoos, blossoming flowers, dancing shepherds and buffeting winds frame a beautiful pastoral aria, 'Awake, Thou Wintry Earth' by J.S. Bach.

Encompassing music from the 14th century to freshly-penned compositions, Flauti d'echo creates repertoire for the recorder through their own arrangements and new commissions. The duo engage a variety of different instrumentalists on a project-to-project basis that allows them to communicate their repertoire to audiences in a wide range of performance settings. The ensemble won the Nancy Nuttal Early Music Prize for Chamber Music in 2016 and is a participant of the BREMF Live! Scheme 2017-18.



“Well-staged and presented and with some outstandingly musical playing.”

Early Music Review

Flauti d'echo
Olwen Foulkes
and **Tabea Debus**
recorders
with
Kate Conway
viola da gamba
Johan Löfving
theorbo

Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD

12.30pm (ends
approx 1.30pm)

£10
(series ticket
for all 6 lunchtime
recitals £48)

Sponsored by
The Headley Trust

John Tomlinson with Counterpoise

The Art of Love and Kokoschka's Doll



“Tomlinson [gives a] titanic, heart-rending performance.”

The Telegraph

© Tony Nandi

A fascinating evening of two halves, focussing on the dramatic affair between artist Oskar Kokoschka and composer Alma Mahler, starring operatic legend Sir John Tomlinson.

In the first half, mezzo-soprano Rozanna Madyus adopts the role of Alma in *The Art of Love: Alma Mahler's Life and Music* (text by Barry Millington), a sequence of music by Alma and Gustav Mahler, Zemlinsky, Webern and Wagner (arranged by David Matthews).

In the second half Sir John and Counterpoise perform *Kokoschka's Doll*, created specially for them by composer John Casken and writer Barry Millington, which tells the dramatic tale of the curious relationship between Oscar Kokoschka and his muse.

John Tomlinson
bass baritone
Rozanna Madyus
mezzo soprano

Counterpoise
Fenella Humphreys
violin
Deborah Calland
trumpet
Kyle Horch
saxophone
Iain Farrington
piano

Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.30pm)

£20

Sponsored by
Mrs Katalin
Landon

Kabantu

Kabantu, meaning ‘of the people’, is a quintet from Manchester who unravel new marriages of music from around the globe, to celebrate the space where different cultures meet. Vocal harmonies from South Africa coalesce with everything from Celtic reels to Brazilian sambas and beyond.

Kabantu has performed all over the UK, including at the BBC Proms and on BBC Radio 3’s *In Tune*. As well as winning the Royal Over-Seas League Ensemble Award, subsequently performing to royalty at the Cadogan Hall, the quintet was delighted to be Selected Making Music 2016–17 and BBC Introducing Artists.



“Utterly brilliant.”
BBC Radio 3, BBC Proms

© Alex Moldovan

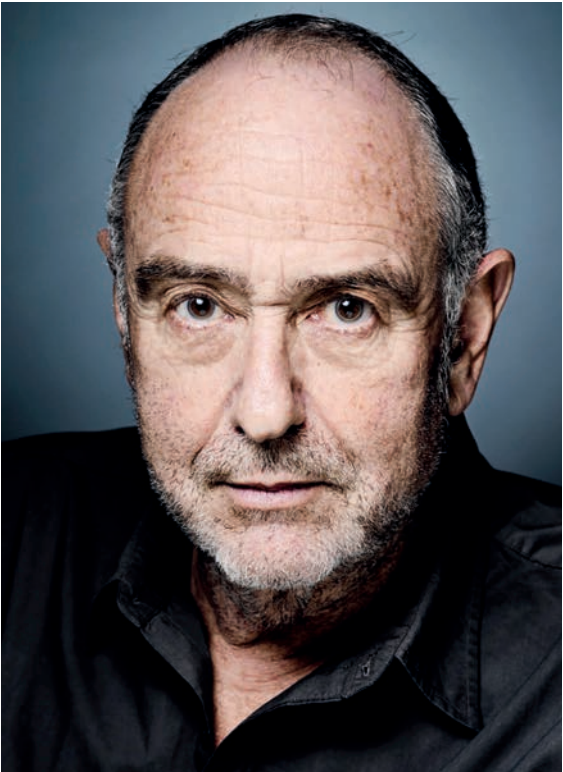
Katie Foster
violin
Abel Selaocoe
cello
Ali McMath
double bass, banjo,
didgeridoo
Ben Sayah
guitar
Delia Stevens
percussion

**Donnington Priory
Newbury
RG14 2JE**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.30pm)
£20

Sponsored by
Dreweatts

Claude-Michel Schönberg talks to Edward Seckerson



© Seamus Ryan

Composer, librettist and record producer Claude-Michel Schönberg is one half of the hit song-writing team responsible for two of the greatest musical theatre successes of all time: *Les Misérables* and *Miss Saigon*.

For this special afternoon event at the private home of Andrew Lloyd Webber, writer, broadcaster and interviewer Edward Seckerson, famed for interviewing the most prominent artists in operatic and musical theatre, is in conversation with Claude-Michel Schönberg about his life and career.

**The Chapel
Sydmonton Court
Ecchinswell
RG20 9NJ**

3.00pm (ends
approx 4.00pm)
£20

By kind permission of
**Lord and Lady
Lloyd Webber**

Sponsored by
**Mrs Katherine
Astor**

The Sheepdrove Recital

For his annual recital distinguished Russian pianist Mikhail Kazakevich has chosen to reflect the theme of this year's Sheepdrove Piano Competition by including a selection of Impromptus by Schubert. Mikhail will also be one of the judges at the Sheepdrove Piano Competition held at the same venue on Sunday 20 May (see page 28).

The performance is preceded by a delicious supper made with organic, natural ingredients using produce raised and grown at Sheepdrove Organic Farm. You are guaranteed a lovely evening with a wonderful performance and super supper!



“Kazakevich's performance is simple, eloquent and cheerily beautiful.”
Fanfare

Mikhail Kazakevich
piano

Beethoven
Sonata in E minor,
Op.90

Schubert
A selection of
Impromptus: Op.90
No. 2 in E flat major,
Op.90 No. 3 in G flat
major, Op.142 No. 4
in F minor

Schubert-Liszt
Sei mir gegrusst
Gretchen am
Spinnrade

Schumann-Liszt
Liebeslied
Frühlingsnacht

Chopin-Liszt
Frühling

Chopin
Impromptu in A flat
major No. 1

**Sheepdrove
Eco Centre
Lambourn
RG17 7UU**

6.30pm (ends
approx 9.40pm)
8.00pm recital only

£40
to include two-
course seasonal
organic supper
£16 recital only

Sponsored by
**The Sheepdrove
Trust**

Merrily We Roll Along

Stephen Sondheim & George Furth

For the second year running the Festival welcomes the University of Chichester's celebrated Musical Theatre Festival Company, who this year bring to the stage this rarely performed Sondheim classic, considered one his most startling and affecting achievements which dazzles as a piece of theatre craftsmanship.

Merrily We Roll Along makes a virtue of spilt milk, sour grapes and friendships down the drain. Telling the story backwards may not be the usual formula for a Broadway hit, but Sondheim's score was a sensation, with audiences finding the life of Hollywood producer Franklin Shepherd compelling as it rolls back 20 years.



**University of Chichester Musical
Theatre Festival Company** 🌟

Sarah Redmond
director and choreographer

Stuart Hutchinson
musical director

Emma Shouksmith
assistant choreographer

Ryan Laight
designer

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 10.00pm)

£20

Tre Voci

Voice of the Soul

Three of the country's leading musicians join forces as Tre Voci for a fascinating programme of exciting and approachable music by Kodály, Bach, Tavener, Brahms, Berlioz, Janáček and Schubert.

Leading lyrical soprano Ruby Hughes was a cellist herself and loves to sing with the 'warm, expressive, very human voice' of the cello, here played by Natalie Clein, alongside distinguished pianist Julius Drake. This consummate and curious trio have come together to curate an intriguing exploration of these three sonorities, from Tavener's starkly expressive *Akhmatova Songs* to Schubert's exhilarating *Auf dem Strom*, to Janáček's enchanting *Pohádka*.



© Barry Hale



© Neda-Navaee



© Marco Borggreve

Ruby Hughes
soprano
Natalie Clein
cello
Julius Drake
piano

**St Mary's Church
Shaw
RG14 2DS**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.30pm)

£20

Sponsored by
Fairhurst Estates

Barbican Quartet

The Barbican Quartet is made up of violinists Amarins Wierdsma and Timothy Crawford, violist Christoph Slenczka and cellist Yoanna Prodanova from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where they all currently study.

The group has already appeared in many international concert halls and enjoys a busy concert diary. Their mentors include Alasdair Tait, David Waterman, David Takeno, Levon Chilingirian, Natalia Prishchenko, Rita Wagner and Ferenc Rados.

They will be performing quartets by Mozart and Brahms during this hour-long lunchtime recital.

“Blazing
and unusually
forthright
performance.”
The Telegraph



© Gabriel Mara Isserlis

Amarins Wierdsma
violin

Tim Crawford
violin

Christoph Slenczka
viola

Yoanna Prodanova
cello

Mozart
String Quartet
in E flat, K428

Brahms
String Quartet No. 3
in B flat major, Op.67

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

12.30pm (ends
approx 1.30pm)

£10
(series ticket
for all 6 lunchtime
recitals £48)

Sponsored by
The Headley Trust

Flanders Symphony Orchestra

British pianist John Lill, who performed at the very first Newbury Spring Festival, returns with Beethoven's ground-breaking first Piano Concerto. The rest of the programme is on a Scandinavian theme, opening with Delius' homage to spring, and continues in the second half with some of the most popular works by Sibelius and Grieg.

Flanders Symphony Orchestra boasts over half a century of experience, its musicians creating a musical bridge between past and present, with stylish interpretations of the familiar symphonic repertoire tempered with their exploration of innovative contemporary paths. It is a delight to welcome them under the baton of British conductor Jan Latham Koenig, who makes his Newbury Spring Festival debut.



© Simon van Boxtel



Jan Latham Koenig
conductor
John Lill
piano

Delius
On Hearing the First
Cuckoo in Spring
Beethoven
Piano Concerto No. 1
Sibelius
Swan of Tuonela
Grieg
Peer Gynt
Suites 1 and 2

**St Nicolas Church
Newbury
RG14 5HG**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.20pm)

**£41
£31
£21**

Sponsored by
**Mrs Rosamond
Brown, The
Kilfinan Trust and
Horsey Lightly**

YolanDa Brown

10 Years In Music Tour

“This is an artist who could breathe soul into a Bank of England spreadsheet.”
Josh Layton

YolanDa Brown is the premier female saxophonist in the UK, and the Festival is delighted to welcome her back.

Known for her unique fusion of reggae, jazz and soul, this evening features music from her critically acclaimed albums, plus many crowd favourites. YolanDa has toured with Diana Krall, The Temptations and Billy Ocean, and collaborated with artists such as Snarky Puppy's Bill Laurance, reggae legend Bob Marley's son Julian, and the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra.

A real renaissance woman set to reach new heights, join YolanDa Brown for a fantastic evening of sunshine music as she celebrates 10 Years in Music.



© Agenda

YolanDa Brown
saxophonist
with her 4-piece band

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.30pm)

£22

Saturday 19th May

Jazz Workshop

Following her performance on Friday 18 May, double MOBO award winner Yolanda Brown hosts a Jazz Workshop to inspire young jazz musicians to play and improvise in her unique blues and afro-beat musical style. The Festival is delighted to work with Berkshire Maestros and invites you to join the audience for this special educational event.



**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

10.00am (ends
approx 12 noon)

Free
no ticket required

Saturday 19th May

Festival Evensong

St Nicolas Church is a central part of Newbury Spring Festival. To celebrate the Festival's association with the church, join the Newbury Spring Festival Chorus for this special traditional Evensong service as part of celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Festival. Music will include Dyson's Magnificat and Nunc Dimitis, and Parry's remarkable anthem *I Was Glad*.



**St Nicolas Church
Newbury
RG14 5HG**

3.30pm (ends
approx 4.30pm)

Free
no ticket required

Saturday 19th May

Joe Stilgoe and his Quartet

A Celebration of Gene Kelly



© Jordan McLachlan

Joe Stilgoe
piano

Ben Reynolds
drums

Tom Farmer
double bass

Giacomo Smith
clarinet

Katie Beard
director

Following his sell-out show at The Vineyard in 2016, Joe Stilgoe returns and lights up Newbury Spring Festival once more with this very special celebration of Hollywood legend Gene Kelly.

The show celebrates the incredible output of the man who revolutionised not only dance on screen, but screen musicals, while pioneering many choreographic and filming techniques taken for granted in modern cinema.

With a string of ground-breaking and joyous films including *Singin' In The Rain*, *An American In Paris* and *On The Town*, Gene Kelly's influence in the worlds of dance, film and music is still as vital as ever and this show is the ultimate 'tip of the hat'.

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.30pm)

£22

Ex Cathedra

In 40 Parts

Leading UK chamber choir Ex Cathedra and their conductor Jeffrey Skidmore return to Douai Abbey to perform a stunning programme that includes no fewer than four 40-part pieces from both Elizabethan ages in celebration of Newbury Spring Festival's 40th anniversary.

Two of the works have been written especially for Ex Cathedra, including Alec Roth's breathtaking *Earthrise*, inspired by the famous image taken by the Apollo 8 astronauts, which pays homage to Tallis' iconic model *Spem in alium* – soaring, uplifting, remarkable and truly monumental.



© Roger Cable

Jeffrey Skidmore
choral director

Douai Abbey
Upper Woolhampton
RG7 5TQ

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.15pm)

£30
£25

Sponsored by
The Sackler Trust
and **The Greenwood Trust**

Supported by
Friends of
Newbury Spring
Festival

Come and Sing HMS Pinafore

Fun for all the family! Set sail on board Gilbert & Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* and join principal singers from the D'Oyly Carte and Carl Rosa Opera Companies as you, the audience, take on the roles of sailors, sisters, cousins and aunts.

From the comfort of your seat, rehearse the well-known songs under expert G&S conductor Ian McMillan before being joined after the interval by costumed soloists for a performance where anything can, and will, happen! Dress up in character (optional) for a chance to win a prize. Songsheet plus a flag to wave in the patriotic finale provided!



Ian McMillan
director/accompanist

Principals from the
D'Oyly Carte and
Carl Rosa Opera
Companies:

Louise Crane
Little Buttercup
Graham Stone
Dick Dadyeye

Nick Sales
Ralph Rackstraw
Ian Belsey
Captain Corcoran
Ellie-Jane Moran
Josephine
Simon Butteriss
Sir Joseph Porter, KCB

Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD

3.00pm (ends
approx 5.00pm)
£25
to include songsheet
and flag

Sponsored by
Greenham Trust

The 10th Sheepdrove Piano Competition Final

A wonderful opportunity to hear the best international piano students drawn from all the major UK conservatoires – and to cast your vote for the audience prize!

Now in its 10th year, this notable competition, established by The Sheepdrove Trust, is open to candidates aged 26 and under from the eight major UK music colleges, and attracts young pianists of the highest standard from around the world. Today's competition, which this year has an emphasis on Schubert, features four shortlisted finalists and takes place in the tranquil setting of Sheepdrove Eco Conference Centre on the Lambourn Downs.

The overall winner will perform a solo recital in the Corn Exchange on Monday 21 May as part of the Festival's popular Young Artists Lunchtime Recital Series (see page 30).



- Jury**
- David Whelton** former Managing Director, Philharmonia Orchestra
- John Thwaites** British pianist and Head of Keyboard, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire
- Lucy Parham** British pianist and Professor of Piano, Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London
- Mikhail Kazakevich** Russian pianist and Professor of Piano, Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance
- Mark Eynon** Director, Newbury Spring Festival
- 1st Prize:** The Kindersley Prize of £2,000
- 2nd Prize:** £1,000 donated by Greenham Trust
- 3rd Prize:** £500 donated by the Friends of NSF
- 4th Prize:** £250 donated by an anonymous donor
- Audience Prize:** £250 donated by an anonymous donor

Sheepdrove Eco Centre Lambourn RG17 7UU

3.00pm (ends approx 5.45pm)

£20 unreserved seating; includes afternoon tea

Sponsored by **The Sheepdrove Trust**

Trio Con Brio Copenhagen

Exuberant joy, electric dialogue, spacious eloquent playing, perfect unanimity – Trio con Brio Copenhagen is one of the leading piano trios of the new generation. The first part of their performance this evening celebrates compositions of Lili Boulanger, who died 100 years ago this year, before moving on to masterpieces by Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky.

This Danish-based trio was founded at the Vienna University of Music in 1999 and quickly gained attention, winning top prizes in some of chamber music's most important international competitions for young ensembles, and today is in great international demand.



© John Green

- Soo-Jin Hong** violin
- Soo-Kyung Hong** cello
- Jens Elvekjaer** piano
- Lili Boulanger** *D'un matin de printemps*
- Lili Boulanger** *D'un soir triste*
- Mendelssohn** D-minor Trio, Op.49
- Tchaikovsky** Trio in A minor, Op.50

St Mary's Church Kintbury RG17 9TR

7.30pm (ends approx 10.00pm)

£20

Sponsored by **Miss W E Lawrence 1973 Charitable Settlement and Martelize**

Sheepdrove Piano Competition Winner



Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Newbury Spring Festival is delighted to welcome the winner of the 10th Sheepdrove Piano Competition to the Corn Exchange to perform a recital as part of the Festival's Young Artists Lunchtime Series.

The prestigious competition, open to students from all the major UK conservatoires, was founded in 2009 by The Sheepdrove Trust. The winning pianist's programme will feature works by Schubert.

Today's recital is an opportunity to hear more of the winning pianist following the competition held at Sheepdrove Eco Conference Centre, Lambourn on Sunday 20 May (see page 28).

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

12.30pm (ends
approx 1.30pm)

£10
(series ticket
for all 6 lunchtime
recitals £48)

Sponsored by
The Headley Trust

A Taste of France

Van Kuijk Quartet

On this French-themed evening at The Vineyard, taste fine French wines selected by the hotel's award-winning sommelier Romain Bourger accompanied by delicious French cheeses.

Following the wine-tasting, there will be a concert by former BBC New Generation Artists the Van Kuijk Quartet, from Paris, who will perform the two greatest string quartets in the French repertoire. This is particularly appropriate as 2018 marks the centenary of the death of Claude Debussy.



“Style, energy, and a sense of risk ... these four young Frenchmen made the music smile.”

The Guardian

© Nikolaj Lund

Nicolas Van Kuijk
violin

Sylvain Favre-Bulle
violin

Emmanuel François
viola

François Robin
cello

Debussy
String Quartet
in G minor, Op.10

Ravel
String Quartet
in F Major

**The Vineyard
Stockcross
RG20 8JU**

7.30pm
seated wine tasting

8.30pm recital (ends
approx 9.40pm)

£45
to include French
wines and cheeses

Sponsored by
**Mr and Mrs
Peter Davidson
and Mr and Mrs
David Dinkeldein**

Saturday 12th

Philharmonia Orchestra
St Nicolas Church
7.30pm Page 4

**Michael Law's Piccadilly
Dance Orchestra
with The Gatsby Girls**
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 5

Sunday 13th

**Sound Beginnings:
Romeo & Juliet**
Lambourn
10.00am / 12 noon Page 6

Llŷr Williams
Corn Exchange
3.00pm Page 7

Bernstein Revealed
Combe Manor
7.30pm Page 8

Monday 14th

**Misha Mullov-Abbado
Group**
Corn Exchange
12.30pm Page 9

The Highclere Concert
Highclere Castle
7.30pm Page 10

Tuesday 15th

**Sir John Tomlinson talks
to Barry Millington**
Shaw House
3.00pm Page 11

Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 12

**Alina Imbramigova
& Cédric Tiberghien**
Englefield House, Theale
7.30pm Page 13

Wednesday 16th

Flauti d'écho
Corn Exchange
12.30pm Page 14

**John Tomlinson with
Counterpoise**
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 15

Kabantu
Donnington Priory
7.30pm Page 16

Thursday 17th

**Claude-Michel Schönberg
talks to Edward Seckerson**
The Chapel, Sydmonton
3.00pm Page 17

The Sheepdrove Recital
Lambourn
6.30pm Page 18

Merrily We Roll Along
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 19

Tre Voci: Voice of the Soul
St Mary's Church, Shaw
7.30pm Page 20

Friday 18th

Barbican Quartet
Corn Exchange
12.30pm Page 21

**Flanders Symphony
Orchestra**
St Nicolas Church
7.30pm Page 22

YolanDa Brown
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 23

Saturday 19th

Jazz Workshop
Corn Exchange
10.00am Page 24

Festival Evensong
St Nicolas Church
3.30pm Page 24

**Joe Stilgoe & his Quartet:
A Celebration of Gene Kelly**
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 25

Ex Cathedra
Douai Abbey
7.30pm Page 26

Sunday 20th

**Come and Sing
HMS Pinafore**
Corn Exchange
3.00pm Page 27

**The 10th Sheepdrove Piano
Competition Final**
Lambourn
3.00pm Page 28

Trio Con Brio Copenhagen
St Mary's Church, Kintbury
7.30pm Page 29

Monday 21st

**Sheepdrove Piano
Competition Winner**
Corn Exchange
12.30pm Page 30

**A Taste of France:
Van Kuijk Quartet**
The Vineyard, Stockcross
7.30pm Page 31

Tuesday 22nd

**Lest We Forget:
Poetry & Remembrance
of the Great War**
Sandham Memorial Chapel,
Burghclere
11.00am / 2.30pm Page 34

**The Power of Compassion:
Tashi Lhunpo Monks**
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 35

Septura
St Lawrence Church, Hungerford
7.30pm Page 36

Wednesday 23rd

Timothy Ridout
Corn Exchange
12.30pm Page 37

Graffiti Classics
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 38

**The Schubert Ensemble with
James Way**
St George's Church, Wash
Common
7.30pm Page 39

Thursday 24th

Andrew Graham-Dixon
Englefield House, Theale
3.00pm Page 40

Ballet Central
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 41

Sansara
St Martin's Church, East Woodhay
7.30pm Page 42

Friday 25th

James Newby
Corn Exchange
12.30pm Page 43

Film: Les Misérables
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 44

**Bach's Mass in B Minor:
Solomon's Knot**
Holy Cross Church, Ramsbury
7.30pm Page 45

Saturday 26th

Travelling by Tuba II
Corn Exchange
11.00am Page 46

**Mandala Destruction
Ceremony**
West Berkshire Museum, Newbury
2.00pm Page 49

Clare Teal & her Trio
Corn Exchange
7.30pm Page 47

**Bournemouth Symphony
Orchestra**
St Nicolas Church
7.30pm Page 48

Lest We Forget

Poetry and Remembrance of the Great War

In this fascinating and thought-provoking event, presented to mark the centenary of the 1918 Armistice, the background of the poetry written in the First World War is explained, interweaved throughout with poems.

Jonathan Jones is a knowledgeable and passionate speaker about these sensitive and powerful responses produced during and after the Great War, and explores the origins of the ways in which we remember the conflict, including how the 'Unknown Warrior' came to be so named, the origins of the Poppy Appeal, and the Cenotaph. Readings will include the work of iconic poets, including Rudyard Kipling who lost his only son, John Kipling, at the Battle of Loos in September 1915.



Jonathan Jones
speaker

**Sandham
Memorial Chapel
Burghclere
RG20 9JT**

11.00am (ends
approx 12.00 noon)
2.30pm (ends
approx 3.30pm)

£20
all proceeds from
this event will go to
Help for Heroes

By kind permission of
National Trust

The Power of Compassion

Tibetan Monks from Tashi Lhunpo Monastery



© Tashi Lhunpo Monastery UK Trust

Tibet, the Land of Snows: home of Buddhist lamas whose ancient rituals have fascinated people for thousands of years. Forced into exile following the Chinese invasion of 1959, the monks from Tashi Lhunpo Monastery share their endangered culture with audiences in the West.

The performance includes the music of the Himalayas: the long horns, bone trumpets, skull drums and oboes; masked dancers in brocade robes; the sacred chant from the monastery and an energetic display of the traditional art of debate, an essential part of the monks' spiritual education. The event is accompanied by introductions explaining the background to the monastery and its arts.

From 23–26 May the monks are in residence at West Berkshire Museum, creating a traditional Tibetan sand mandala; further details on page 49.

*“A window of time onto
a magical universe of reincarnation
and release ...”*

The Independent

Introduced by
Jane Rasch

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.30pm)

£20

Sponsored by
**The Sheepdrove
Trust**

Septura

Kleptomania

The brass septet is a brand new invention, and therein lies the root of Septura's compulsion to steal: they have no canon of repertoire, so they're inventing one. Like musical Robin Hoods, in tonight's concert they combine thefts from the String Quartet and Piano Solo repertoire, *Stolen Strings* and *Pilfered Piano*.

Currently Ensemble in Residence at the Royal Academy of Music, this season Septura launched its debut concert series, Kleptomania, at St John's Smith Square, London and West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge, and is touring Switzerland, Germany and the USA.

Septura's members are the leading players of the new generation of British brass musicians, holding principal positions in the UK's major orchestras.

“Virtuoso playing: glossy, brilliantly articulated, audaciously coloured, technically flawless.”

BBC Music magazine



© Bethany Clarke

Simon Cox
artistic director
Matthew Knight
artistic director

Elgar
Serenade
Walton
Sonata
Mussorgsky
Pictures at an Exhibition

St Lawrence Church
Hungerford
RG17 0JB

7.30pm (ends approx 9.30pm)
£20

Sponsored by
Mr and Mrs Adrian Scrope,
Doves Farm Foods
and CH-R Family Solicitors

Timothy Ridout

In a review of his recent CD, *Gramophone* magazine referred to Timothy Ridout's 'gorgeous tone, thoughtful approach to phrasing and infectious sense of impetuosity'. One of the most outstanding viola players to have emerged in recent years, he became the first-ever British winner of the Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition in 2016. Timothy studied at the Royal Academy of Music, graduating with the Queen's Commendation for Excellence, and is now represented by Young Concert Artists Trust.

He is joined here by Jâms Coleman, 2015 winner of the Brenda Webb Award for Accompanists at the Royal Academy of Music.

“Ridout displays a consistently imaginative ear for tonal colours and an exciting variety of vibrato ... [he] is clearly a talent to follow.”

The Strad



© Kaupo Kikkas

Timothy Ridout
viola
Jâms Coleman
piano

Prokofiev
Two pieces from 'Romeo and Juliet'
Schumann
Drei Fantasiestücke, Op.73
Brahms
Sonata in F minor, Op.120 No.1
Pagannini
Sonata per La Grand Viola, Op.35

Corn Exchange Newbury
RG14 5BD

12.30pm (ends approx 1.30pm)
£10
(series ticket for all 6 lunchtime recitals £48)

Sponsored by
The Headley Trust

Graffiti Classics

Presenting 16 strings, eight dancing feet and four voices with one aim: to make classical music wickedly funny and fantastically exhilarating!

Graffiti Classics bursts the elitist boundaries of the traditional string quartet with this hilarious all-singing, all-dancing show. This is a classical concert, gypsy-folk romp, opera, stand-up routine and dance show all in one.

From Beethoven to bluegrass, baroque to pop, Mozart and Offenbach to Elvis, Strauss and *Saturday Night Fever*, there is something for everyone and the group never fails to get audiences laughing, clapping and singing along. Children and adults alike love the uplifting variety of musical styles with cheeky audience interaction.



“A cabaret that will leave you wanting more.”

Daily Mail

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.30pm)

£20

Sponsored by
Dreweatts

The Schubert Ensemble with James Way

The Schubert Ensemble, one of the world's leading exponents of music for piano and strings, has decided to bring its 35-year career to a close in June 2018, so the Festival is delighted to welcome them back as part of their final, celebratory season.

“James Way's
delivery ...
was ravishing.”

The Independent

British tenor James Way was winner of the Second Prize in the 62nd Kathleen Ferrier Awards at the Wigmore Hall, awarded the 2016 Simon Sandbach Award from Garsington Opera, the 'Most Promising Singer' award at the Dean and Chadlington Singing Competition, holds an Independent Opera Voice Fellowship and is a former Britten-Pears Young Artist.



Schubert Ensemble
William Howard
piano

Simon Blendis
Jan Schmolck
violins

Jane Salmon
cello

Douglas Paterson
viola

Peter Buckoke
double bass

James Way ★
tenor

Mahler
Piano Quartet
Movement in A minor

Vaughan Williams
On Wenlock Edge

Elgar
Piano Quintet
in A minor

**St George's
Church
Wash Common
RG14 6NU**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.25pm)

£20

Sponsored by
**Vaughan Williams
Charitable Trust
and Dr Stephen
Golding**

Andrew Graham-Dixon

Caravaggio: A Life Sacred and Profane

Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio lived the darkest and most dangerous life of any of the great painters. The worlds of Milan, Rome and Naples through which Caravaggio moved are described brilliantly in Andrew Graham-Dixon's prize-winning book, *Caravaggio: A Life Sacred and Profane*, which he draws on for this illuminating lecture.

Andrew Graham-Dixon is one of the leading art critics and presenters of arts television in the English-speaking world. He has presented numerous landmark series on art for the BBC, including the acclaimed *A History of British Art*, *Renaissance* and *Art of Eternity*, as well as numerous individual documentaries on art and artists.



**Long Gallery
Englefield House
Theale
RG7 5EN**

3.00pm (ends
approx 4.30pm)

£16 talk only
£21 talk and
afternoon tea

Sponsored by
**Mr and Mrs
Robin Aird**

Ballet Central

Under the artistic direction of Christopher Marney, Ballet Central returns with a new programme showcasing the best in dance theatre. These young dancers on the cusp of their professional careers perform works by world-renowned choreographers.

See Jenna Lee's brand new creation *Black Swan*, a dark twist on the iconic classic, and a gothic reworking of the Fairies Prologue from Matthew Bourne's *Sleeping Beauty*. An excerpt from *FAR* by the multi-award-winning choreographer and director Wayne McGregor will also feature, and to celebrate the work of Kenneth MacMillan the repertoire includes an excerpt from his rarely seen *Valley of Shadows*. And finally, enjoy Christopher Gable's *Cinderella*, a timeless version of a much-loved fairy tale.



© Jam Deluxe

Christopher Marney
artistic director
Philip Feeney
music director

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.40pm)

£22

Sponsored by
**Mr and Mrs
David Bruce**

Sansara

One of the most dynamic new choral groups in the UK, Sansara has rapidly gained a reputation for captivating performances of a broad range of repertoire, juxtaposing choral music old and new in imaginative narrative programmes. In September 2015, Sansara won First Prize and Audience Prize in the London International A Cappella Choir Competition, hosted by St John's Smith Square.

Featuring a full performance of Hubert Parry's *Songs of Farewell* in the 100th anniversary of his death, this very special all-English programme explores individual and collective expressions of loss and grief, reflecting on the centenary of the end of the First World War, before turning towards spring and the sense of hope and regeneration which it symbolises.



© Theo Williams

Tom Herring artistic director Benjamin Cunningham artistic director	Howells Take him, earth, for cherishing Bednall Three Songs of Remembrance Finzi Clear and gentle stream Nightingales Vaughan Williams The springtime of the year	St Martin's Church East Woodhay RG20 0AL 7.30pm (ends approx 9.00pm) £20	Sponsored by Mr and Mrs Patrick Hungerford and Mr and Mrs Toby Ward
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James Newby



© Ben Mckee

24-year-old British baritone James Newby is the winner of the 2016 Kathleen Ferrier Award. Other recent awards include: the Wigmore Hall/Independent Opera Voice Fellowship, and the Richard Tauber Prize and Third Prize at the Wigmore Hall/Kohn International Song Competition. In 2017 he was awarded the Trinity Gold Medal by the board of Trinity Laban Conservatoire and the John Christie Award by Glyndebourne.

For today's recital of spring-inspired songs by Schubert, Wolf, Beethoven and Britten, James is joined by pianist Joseph Middleton who specialises in the art of song accompaniment and chamber music. He was the first accompanist to receive the Young Artist Award at the 2017 Royal Philharmonic Society Awards.

“Newby’s free vocal line was beautifully lyrical and expertly phrased.”
Opera Today

James Newby baritone Joseph Middleton piano	Corn Exchange Newbury RG14 5BD 12.30pm (ends approx 1.30pm) £10 (series ticket for all 6 lunchtime recitals £48)	Sponsored by The Headley Trust
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Film: Les Misérables

This epic, multi-award-winning 2012 film is based on Victor Hugo's classic novel and on one of the greatest stage musicals of all time. The hit songs for both stage and screen were co-written by Claude-Michel Schönberg, a special guest of the Festival on 17 May (see page 17).

Set in 19th-century France, *Les Misérables* is a gritty, heart-breaking tale of justice, duty, love and revolution. Paroled convict Jean Valjean, fleeing the obsessive Inspector Javert, agrees to help ailing prostitute Fantine by assuming responsibility for her child, Cosette. In later years, the pair are swept up in the Paris uprising of 1832.

The film's stellar cast includes Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway, Eddie Redmayne and Helena Bonham Carter.



**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 10.10pm)

£8
Suitable for
ages 12 and over

Bach's Mass in B Minor

Solomon's Knot

J.S. Bach's *Mass in B minor* is a monumental choral masterpiece, a 'greatest hits' compilation from one of the most creative geniuses who ever lived. At the end of his life, Bach looked back and chose his best vocal music from the past 30 years to form his 'great Catholic mass', a piece for everyone to celebrate. This is a piece that makes us marvel at the potential of the human mind and soul, and listening to it is an affirmation of the joy and beauty of life.

The Festival is delighted to welcome to this intimate setting the 10 singers and 20 instrumentalists comprising the magnificent Solomon's Knot, who perform without conductor and sing from memory. Receiving 5-star reviews all over the world, a recent performance was described by *The Observer* as 'Organic music-making at its most sophisticated'.



“Without doubt, the most interesting group on the oratorio scene.”
Neumarkter
Nachrichten

James Halliday
artistic director
Jonathan Sells
artistic director

**Holy Cross Church
Ramsbury
SN8 2QH**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.40pm)

**£25
£20**

Sponsored by
**Mr and Mrs
Campbell Gordon,
Ramsbury Estates
and an anonymous
supporter**

Travelling by Tuba II The Sequel

80,000 miles a year and still not out of puff, Travelling by Tuba returns to the Festival by popular demand.

A fascinating voyage through the weird and wonderful world of the tuba. Discover instruments ancient and modern: alpine horns, Roman cornu, Chinese dragon-headed trumpet, Caribbean conch shell, American sousaphone plus many more ... all will be revealed. Music from classical to jazz, a can-can dancing tubist ... and watch out for the exploding tuba!

Packed with audience participation, this is an unforgettable performance for all the family.

“Travelling by Tuba are experts who really get their enjoyment of music across.”

The Times



Chris Cranham
tuba and assorted
wind/brass
instruments

Stewart Death
piano and assorted
wind/brass
instruments

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

11.00am (ends
approx 12 noon)

£5
all seats

Sponsored by
**The Sheepdrove
Trust**

Clare Teal and her Trio

Swing's The Thing



This fabulous brand-new show sees award-winning jazz vocalist Clare Teal and her excellent Trio traverse a rich landscape of timeless and sparkling material. Expect standards from the grand masters of the Great American Song Book, Cole Porter and Rodgers and Hart, witty and urbane song stylists of the 50's and 60's Cy Coleman, Carolyn Leigh and Dave Brubeck, and a nod to more contemporary writers and originals too.

Clare's concerts are renowned for their fabulous arrangements interspersed with warm and witty storytelling, guaranteeing a night to remember. Her show at Newbury Spring Festival 2016 was a sell out – so book early!

“A sensation in the world of jazz.”

Mail on Sunday

Clare Teal
vocals
Jason Rebello
piano

Simon Little
bass

Ben Reynolds
drums

**Corn Exchange
Newbury
RG14 5BD**

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.20pm)

£22

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

This all-Mozart programme opens with thrilling extracts from *Don Giovanni* and, in the Spring Festival's 40th year, is followed by his 40th Symphony. The Mass in C minor, one of the greatest expressions of Christian faith in music, is a fitting conclusion to this year's Festival. It will be preceded by a blessing prayer from the Tibetan Monks of Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, Resident Festival Artists.

Stephen Barlow makes a welcome return to conduct Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and, in its 20th anniversary year, the Festival's own Chorus. Elizabeth Watts, one of Britain's finest lyric sopranos, returns to the Festival where she first appeared as a promising young artist. She is joined by a trio of young singers who are also on the threshold of major international careers, and who all appear elsewhere in this year's programme.



© Marco Borrigreve

Stephen Barlow
conductor

Elizabeth Watts
soprano

Rozanna Madylus
mezzo soprano

James Way
tenor

James Newby
baritone

Newbury Spring Festival Chorus

Mozart
Overture
Don Giovanni

Donna Elvira's Aria
'In quali cessi ...
Mi trade
from *Don Giovanni*
Symphony No. 40
in G Minor

Mozart
Mass in C Minor

St Nicolas Church
Newbury
RG14 5HG

7.30pm (ends
approx 9.45pm)

£41
£31
£21

Sponsored by
The Adrian Swire
Charitable Trust
and **Mr and Mrs**
Mark Edwards

Festival Residency Tibetan Monks from Tashi Lhunpo Monastery

**The Medicine (Mela)
Sand Mandala**



A company of Tibetan monks from the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery is in residence for the second week of the Festival. They will be working at the West Berkshire Museum creating a Medicine (Mela) Sand Mandala over the course of the week. Its construction involves millions of grains of sand painstakingly laid in place over a period of days by this team of monks.

There will be opportunities for local schools to meet the monks and engage with their work on the mandala, while learning more about Tibetan culture, history and tradition.

Festival audiences are encouraged to drop in and visit the monks over the course of the week to see how the mandala is created and how it evolves.

The culmination of the residency will be the destruction of the mandala. This is a wonderful spiritual ceremony, rich in history, and is a remarkable event to witness. The Destruction Ceremony will be on Saturday 26 May at 2.00pm.



© Tashi Lhunpo Monastery UK Trust

West Berkshire Museum
Newbury RG14 5AS

12 noon – 4.00pm each day

Free no booking required

Free Learning and Community Participation

The Festival is committed to music education for children and the community. In 2018 school children are invited to attend a number of performances and join in with a variety of workshops completely free of charge, with some events open to people of all ages:



**20 April
Travelling
by Tuba**
for primary school children. Chris Cranham and Stewart Death will visit three local primary schools, demonstrating the fun to be had with a range of musical instruments.



**12 May
Hannah Kendall,
composer**
Hannah is the composer of the Newbury Spring Festival Commission, celebrating the 40th anniversary, to be performed by the Philharmonia. She will lead a workshop with senior music GCSE students, giving tips, inspiration and generating discussion about music composition and harmony. They will also be invited to the orchestral rehearsal of Hannah's work.



**15 May
Mugenkyo Taiko
Drummers**
All local schools are invited to the Corn Exchange for an hour-long demonstration by the drummers of this thrilling Japanese performance art, plus a chance to learn about their amazing instruments.



**16 May
Kabantu**
for secondary school students. This quintet celebrates music from around the globe and will perform a workshop in a local secondary school in Newbury prior to their evening performance at Donnington Priory.



**19 May
YolanDa Brown
Jazz Workshop**
Everyone is invited to join the UK's premier female saxophonist Yolanda Brown at the Corn Exchange as she and saxophone students from Berkshire Maestros and Hogan Academy experiment with jazz. Yolanda performs her show at the Corn Exchange the night before.



**19 May
Festival
Evensong,
St Nicolas Church**
All are welcome to this special service, starting at 3.30pm, as part of celebrations of the Festival's 40th anniversary.



**22 May
Tashi Lhunpo
Monks**
Local schools are invited to the Corn Exchange to meet the monks in their costumes and discover how prayer, spirituality and dance inspire their daily lives. The children will sing songs and join in with the celebration dances.



**24 May
Ballet Central**
Schools, dance classes and ballet companies are welcome to this free Open Dress Rehearsal 3.00–5.00pm at the Corn Exchange, plus an opportunity to talk to the students and ask them questions prior to their evening show.

Free Tickets for Under 25s

This scheme means those aged 15–25 can come to Festival events free of charge. Tickets are limited to one per person and are subject to availability. Proof of age is required when tickets are collected. Writing a review of the experience offers the chance of winning a cash prize. Visit www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk for full details and application terms.

None of the above could happen without the support of our generous sponsors and funders, to whom we are hugely grateful.

Open Studios 2018

The 30th Year

“If you want a golden rule that will fit everything, this is it: Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful.”

William Morris

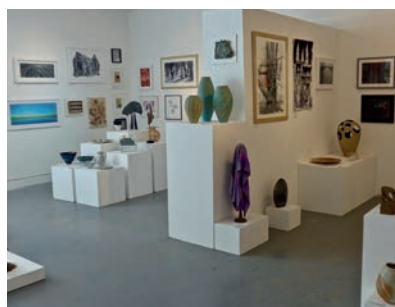
Open Studios West Berkshire and North Hampshire is celebrating its 30th year and invites you to take a look at some very useful paintings, pictures, sculptures and ceramics.

The partnership between Open Studios and the Festival continues – Open Studios artists have worked on location at Newbury Spring Festival rehearsals and concerts, and the musical moments they captured can be enjoyed at a special exhibition at the Corn Exchange throughout this year's Festival.

Their main exhibition is INSIGHT at Arlington Arts Centre where work from each of the 123 accredited artists is on display. Exquisite porcelain, fine landscapes and still-life paintings rub shoulders with aluminium prints, funky collages, knitwear, confectionery, jewellery, absorbing abstracts and electrifying sculptures – beautiful and sometimes provocative reflections on the world.

Satellite Open Studios exhibitions throughout May, at Festival concert venues and other locations around West Berkshire and North Hampshire, hint at the wonderful treasures to be discovered.

Pick up a copy of the Open Studios directory at Festival events or the Corn Exchange to use as a guide to visit studios in May, and even join in the creativity yourself by enrolling on one of the free hands-on workshops it lists.



INSIGHT at Arlington Arts Centre Snelmore Common RG14 3BQ

Monday–Sunday 11.00am–5.00pm

Thursdays 11.00am–8.00pm

This is a free exhibition

Thursday 24th May – 11.00am and 2.00pm

An opportunity to view INSIGHT through the eyes of the curators with an hour-long guided talk.

Free event, no ticket required

40th Anniversary Garden Party

‘Cakes and Concertos’ in aid of Newbury Spring Festival

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Newbury Spring Festival we are delighted to announce a special event at Highclere Castle.

Join us for ‘Cakes and Concertos’ and enjoy exploring the beautiful gardens of Highclere Castle. There will be musical performances in different areas of the park grounds, including Vivaldi's Four Seasons in the Four Seasons Garden. Other musical performances will continue to reflect the style and atmosphere of the huge variety of park grounds around the castle.



Highclere Castle Newbury RG20 9RN

11.00am–4.00pm

Tickets will include a tour of the castle with refreshments, and must be booked via the Highclere Castle website: www.highclerecastle.co.uk

Sponsors & Business Partners

Newbury Spring Festival could not be presented without support from the following, whose generosity is most gratefully acknowledged.

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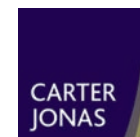
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enquiries@newburyspringfestival.org.uk

www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 284622

Venues Map



- 1 Combe Manor Barn, Combe RG17 9EJ
- 2 Corn Exchange, Newbury RG14 5BD
- 3 Donnington Priory, Newbury RG14 2JE
- 4 Douai Abbey, Woolhampton RG7 5TQ
- 5 Englefield House, Theale RG7 5EN
- 6 Highclere Castle, Newbury RG20 9RN
- 7 Holy Cross Church, Ramsbury SN8 2QH
- 8 Sandham Memorial Chapel, Burghclere RG20 9JT
- 9 Shaw House, Newbury RG14 2DR

- 10 Sheepdrove Eco Centre, Lambourn RG17 7UU
- 11 St George's Church, Wash Common RG14 6NU
- 12 St Lawrence Church, Hungerford RG17 0JB
- 13 St Martin's Church, East Woodhay RG20 0AL
- 14 St Mary's Church, Kintbury RG17 9TR
- 15 St Nicolas Church, Newbury RG14 5HG
- 16 Sydmonton Court, Ecchinswell RG20 9NJ
- 17 The Vineyard, Stockcross RG20 8JU
- 18 West Berkshire Museum, Newbury RG14 5AS

This map is a rough guide to venue location.

Please refer to the website for accurate directions: www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk

Information

Box Office

Opening hours	Monday 10.00am – 5.00pm Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am – 6.00pm Sunday 11.00am – 5.00pm
In person or by post	Festival Box Office, Corn Exchange, Market Place, Newbury RG14 5BD
By telephone	0845 5218 218* <small>*Calls cost 2p per minute plus your telephone company's Access Charge</small>
Online	www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk

Booking Dates

Platinum Friends Priority booking
10.00am Monday 12 February to Tuesday 13 February 2018

Friends booking
10.00am Wednesday 14 February to Monday 5 March 2018

Public booking
10.00am Tuesday 6 March 2018 onwards

Access

Full information about each venue is available on the website: www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk

Souvenir Programme

The 160-page full-colour Souvenir Programme gives detailed information on each Festival event. It is on sale for £5 at the Box Office and at all venues from the start of the Festival. It can also be ordered in advance with your tickets; a voucher will be printed with your tickets, to be redeemed at your first event.

Souvenir Programme for Friends

Friends of the Festival who book six or more concerts, or tickets to the value of over £200, are entitled to one FREE Souvenir Programme. Please request this at the time of booking.

General information

The Festival reserves the right to change artists or programmes as necessary. The Festival reserves the right to refuse latecomers admission to any performance until a suitable break, or at the first interval. Finishing times of events are approximate and given as a guide only.

Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a paying adult. Pushchairs and prams will not be permitted inside the Corn Exchange auditorium.

Booking Policies

Corn Exchange Booking Charges

All tickets are subject to a £1 booking fee, which is capped at £6 for telephone and postal bookings. No fee is made for tickets booked in person at the Box Office. There is a postage charge of £1.20 on telephone, postal and online bookings.

Refunds

All tickets are non-refundable. In the case of a sold out event tickets can be returned to the Box Office for resale; if successfully resold an administration fee of £1 per ticket will be chargeable.

Tickets Advertised as Reserved

Seating plans are available to view online. For events with reserved seating you will be able to select the seat of your choice, when available.

Tickets Advertised as Unreserved

Seats are obtained on a 'first-come first-served' basis at the event.

Unpaid Tickets Reserved by Telephone

Corn Exchange tickets will only be held for 3 days or up to 1 hour before the event commences, whichever is the sooner. Other venue tickets will be held for 3 days before being released for resale.

Concessions

Students and unwaged (Jobseeker's Allowance) £2 off full ticket price. Accompanied children under 16 half full adult price (except family events where children's ticket prices are shown). Wheelchair users and the visually impaired receive a free companion ticket.

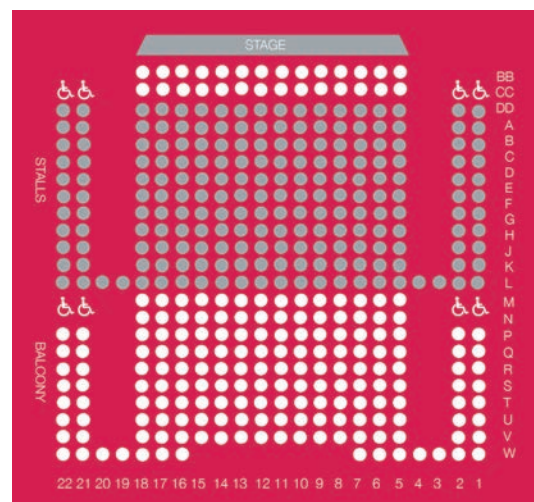
Group Discount

10% discount will be given to groups of 10 or more. Group bookings should be made 24 hours or more in advance.

Your Details

Your details will be available to Newbury Spring Festival and the Corn Exchange Newbury only, and will not be shared with third parties.

St Nicolas Church



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Postal booking

Please send booking form with remittance to:

**Festival Box Office, Corn Exchange
Market Place, Newbury RG14 5BD**

Please complete clearly in black ink.

[illegible]

Postage charge £1.20	
Festival Souvenir Programme @ £5 each	
Booking fee @ £1 per ticket, capped at £6	
Total	

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

email

Total from overleaf

£

If you are a Friend of the Festival booking for 6 or more concerts please tick box to receive FREE Souvenir Programme voucher. ☐

Please tick this box if you wish to book by credit card and complete a telephone number that the Box Office can contact you on to take a card payment over the telephone. ☐

Contact telephone number

Please note this will not delay the processing of your booking, and all bookings will still be processed/reserved in the strict order in which they have been received.

Please make cheques payable to Corn Exchange, Newbury.

Tickets for the Newbury Spring Festival Society Ltd will be handled by the Box Office of The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust.

Credit card details are never stored.

We do not pass your details to third parties.

Please tick if you do not wish to be added to the mailing list. ☐



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