New Paths Music presents

EVERLEY Chamber Music Festival

25th – 28th Sept 2019

Discover Russian musical treasures & Elgar's 'woodland magic' this autumn

www.newpathsmusic.com

Artistic Directors: Martin Roscoe & Libby Burgess
Welcome to Beverley Chamber Music Festival

Beverley is the place to be this autumn!
The line-up of artists we are presenting this year is as strong as ever: we are featuring not one but two former winners of BBC Young Musician of the Year, as well as two exceptional ensembles. The Brodsky Quartet will be in residence for three days, collaborating with each of us – in two great piano quintets – as well as with cellist Laura van der Heijden in Schubert’s magnificent quintet.

Much is being made this year of the 100th birthday of Elgar’s greatly-loved cello concerto. We are tracing a journey instead through his three chamber works written during the same period of recuperation and inspiration in Sussex: his violin sonata, his piano quintet and his string quartet were all written at Brinkwells, the cottage in Fittleworth secured by his wife Alice in the hope that he would find peace and creativity there. This he clearly did: all three works are imbued with a strong sense of the woodland surroundings, or as Alice had it, ‘woodland magic’.

Last year we celebrated Czech music, and this year we take a step further east, to Russia – home of some of the most wonderful music ever written. We explore the rich romance of Borodin and Rachmaninov, and profile Shostakovich in particular, whose powerful music and dangerous political story make him a richly colourful figure.

Much of Shostakovich’s music was inspired by the past, and so we look to earlier times with the music of Bach, as well as Schnittke’s charming pseudo-baroque Suite in the Old Style.

2019 is the 200th anniversary of Clara Schumann’s birth. One of the most distinguished musicians of the nineteenth century, she had a 61-year career, had eight children, and was the main breadwinner for the family. We feature some of her songs as well as her beautiful Three Romances for violin and piano.

With expert talks, a pizza meal, a concert for local schoolchildren, and a collaboration with the East Riding Youth Orchestra, it’s going to be a packed few days!

We can’t wait to see you there.
Opening Concert: Notturno
Brodsky Quartet
Martin Roscoe (piano)

Shostakovich: String Quartet No 7 in F sharp minor Op 108
Borodin: String Quartet No 2 in D major
Elgar: Piano Quintet in A minor Op 84

The Brodsky Quartet are widely considered to be one of the outstanding quartets of our time. Our exploration of Russian music begins with two pillars of that country’s musical history: Borodin, one of the 19th-century group known as ‘The Mighty Handful’, dedicated to producing a uniquely Russian kind of Romantic music, and Shostakovich, one of the most musically and politically fascinating figures of the 20th century. Both works tonight were inspired by wives: the shortest of Shostakovich’s quartets – ascerbic and impactful – was written in memory of his first wife, while Borodin’s tuneful second quartet – whose Notturno is one of the most beautiful slow movement melodies in the repertoire – was an anniversary present.

Marking their recent release together of the work on Chandos, the Brodsky Quartet joins Martin Roscoe in Elgar’s Piano Quintet. By turns ghostly and passionate, tumultuous and devastatingly beautiful, the work is the first of his three chamber pieces we explore across the festival; all were written in the summer of 1918, whilst staying at Brinkwells, the cottage secured in Sussex by Elgar’s wife, in the hope of providing him with inspiration and recuperation. All three works are indubitably inspired by the woodland surroundings there at Fittleworth, and the quintet in particular captures the complex twist of emotions faced not only by Elgar but by the British people at large at this pivotal moment in history: it is full of grandiosity and pride in places, jovial and carefree in others, uncertain and indeed bereft, and quite heartrendingly nostalgic.

Friends’ reception

Wednesday 25th September • 7:30pm • Beverley Minster
Open only to children and staff from invited schools

Become a Friend of BCMF: help sustain and nurture one of the cultural treasures of the region.

This community provides vital support, enabling the festival to flourish. An annual subscription of £20 (individual) or £30 (double: partners or other pairs) entitles Friends of BCMF to:
• Priority booking
• Regular mailings
• A free festival programme
• Acknowledgement in the programme
• An invitation to the reception to meet some of the artists

Patrons of BCMF, who pay an annual subscription of £150, are entitled to all of the benefits above, and additionally a free season ticket to all concerts in the festival.

For further information about the Friends & Patrons scheme, please contact Gertrud Aub-Buscher:aubus@aubus.karoo.co.uk / 01482 849 443

“The performances as a whole achieve a rare degree of intensity”
BBC Music Magazine; Brodsky Quartet, Shostakovich quartets, Chandos
The Cello’s Voice
Laura van der Heijden (cello)
Libby Burgess (piano)

Schnittke: Suite in the Old Style Op 80
Poulenc: Sonata for cello & piano FP 143
Rachmaninov: Sonata in G minor for cello and piano Op 19

Winner of the 2012 BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition, Laura van der Heijden has continued to impress critics and audiences, most recently with her debut disc of Russian repertoire, ‘1948’, which won an Edison Classical Award as well as Newcomer of the Year at the BBC Music Magazine Awards.

Rachmaninov’s passionate sonata takes centre stage in this programme, showing the composer’s glorious gift for melody perhaps more tirelessly than any other of his works, as well as his exhilarating virtuosity. Written in 1901, shortly after his second piano concerto, the sonata is inextricably linked to his recent struggle back to health following a nervous breakdown: turbulence, heartbreak, and the ultimate release of triumph and beauty are all in evidence.

Poulenc, too, was a melodist through and through, and the cavatine from the sonata for cello and piano is luminous and heartfelt. By contrast the outer movements display an exuberance and humour; the two sides of the composer’s personality were described by a contemporary critic as ‘the monk and the rascal’.

Whilst much of Schnittke’s music is considered relatively experimental and complex, he was also fascinated by music of the past, and this charming suite – collating movements he’d written for film scores – is written beautifully in the style of the baroque.

Thursday 26th September

Talk: Testament – The life and world of Dmitri Shostakovich
Marina Frolova-Walker (speaker)

Enigmatic, and a musical chameleon, Shostakovich had an intensely personal musical soul, yet spent most of his life trying to keep on the right side of the Soviet government and its censorship – a psychological challenge that took its toll. Marina Frolova-Walker contextualises this remarkable character, and explores particularly the major works we hear this week – the piano quintet, the viola sonata, and the seventh string quartet.

Born and educated in Moscow, Marina Frolova-Walker is Professor of Music History and Director of Studies in Music at Clare College, Cambridge; she specialises in Russian and Soviet music, on which subject she has authored several books and is regularly interviewed for radio and television.

Prelude & Fugue
Brodsky Quartet
Libby Burgess (piano)

Bach: Prelude & Fugue in F sharp major BWV 858
Bach: Prelude & Fugue in Eb minor BWV 853
Shostakovich arr. Cassidy: Prelude in Db & Ab Op 87
Shostakovich: Piano Quintet in G minor Op 57

Shostakovich’s Piano Quintet came hard on the heels of his opera Lady Macbeth of the Mtensk District, criticised by Communist Party hardliners for its excessive modernism; in order to fulfil the Party’s demands of clarity, directness and rigour, this work instead actively turns to older music, taking its inspiration from the counterpoint of Bach. The result is one of the great chamber works in the repertoire, open-hearted and relatable; however, the biting harmonic language and emotional power of this piece set it apart from mere pastiche, the mixture of lyrical intensity and comic satire showing that it is all Shostakovich.

Setting up the quintet we hear preludes and fugues from Bach’s own Well-Tempered Clavier – one of the supreme artefacts of Western culture, its philosophical beauty an eternal inspiration – as well as two Shostakovich preludes, written in answer to that monumental work, and here arranged for strings.

Thursday 26th Sept • 10:30am
Toll Gavel United Church • Free – just turn up

Thursday 26th Sept • 1pm
St Mary’s Church • £10 / £8
Beverley Chamber Music Festival...the story so far

The town of Beverley, nestled in the East Riding of Yorkshire, is a place that many have never heard of, yet those who have the good fortune to know it find that it gets under their skin: an out-of-the-way gem of architectural beauty and warmth of character, once seen it is never forgotten.

Twenty years apart, two different Beverley boys – both former string players in the East Riding Youth Orchestra – felt an urge to ‘give back’ to this town which had captured their hearts growing up there and had provided them with a life-changing musical education.

James Brown, then a violist in the London Philharmonic Orchestra, founded the now major international artist management agency Hazard Chase in 1990. One of his earliest members of staff was Richard Purkiss, another ERYO and Beverley Grammar School alumnus, and one of the first artists on their books was pianist Martin Roscoe. During a fateful car journey together, ERYO and Beverley Grammar School alumnus, and one of the first artists on their books was pianist Martin Roscoe. During a fateful car journey together, Purkiss and Brown decided to establish a music festival in Beverley.

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Roland Deller went on from life as a Minster chorister and a lay clerk in cathedral choirs around the country to pursue a career in international finance – and brought his partner, pianist Libby Burgess, to Beverley in 2014. Walking through the town, exploring its magnificent churches, and drinking in the atmosphere (amongst other things) in Nellie’s, they too decided to begin a festival here.

Paying particular homage to the late Alan Spedding, who was for 42 years Director of Music at Beverley Minster, New Paths was born in 2016. Its spring festival quickly developing a reputation for creativity and energy. When the committee of BCMF approached New Paths, asking them to take on the running of that older festival from 2018, a new chapter was born. Libby is Artistic Director of New Paths; she and Martin are Co-Artistic Directors of BCMF. Roland is Chairman of New Paths, while James and the former committee provide much-valued support from afar.

And so the tales of these two musical organisations have become entwined, the remarkable parallels making sense of a hugely satisfying new collaboration. Both festivals exist, their identities distinct, but their ethos shared. Both were born of a spirit of collaboration, a passion for music of the highest quality, and a love of Beverley itself. Here’s to the future!

Friday 27th September

Godiva
Kitty Whately (mezzo-soprano)
Sarah-Jane Bradley (viola)
Libby Burgess (piano)

Brahms: Two songs for voice, viola & piano Op 91
C Schumann: Sie liebten sich beide; Ihr Bildnis, Lorelei
Bridge: Three songs for voice, viola & piano
Bridge: Adoration
Clarke: The Seal Man; Lethe
Weir: Song of a girl ravished away by the fairies in South Uist
Hall: Godiva – monodrama for mezzo-soprano & piano on a libretto by Caitlin Vincent (*world premiere*)

Chamber music meets storytelling in this journey woven through tales of folklore and love, featuring former BBC New Generation Artist Kitty Whately and Libby Burgess.

Rebecca Clarke's haunting music has in recent years begun to achieve the recognition it deserves: her spine-chilling Seal Man and eerie Lethe amply demonstrate why. Judith Weir, Master of the Queen's Music, displays her Scottish heritage in the folk-infused setting of the Gaelic Song of a girl ravished away by the fairies in South Uist. American composer Juliana Hall is a prolific composer of vocal music, whose songs have been described as “brilliant” (Washington Post) and “beguiling” (Times); we are honoured to be presenting the premiere of her monodrama for mezzo-soprano and piano, Godiva. Outstanding violist Sarah-Jane Bradley joins for impassioned and richly rewarding songs by Bridge and Brahms, while Clara Schumann's Lieder gems are represented in this her 200th anniversary year.

Talk: ‘Written on the skies’ – Elgar’s late chamber works
Katy Hamilton (speaker)

Katy Hamilton – who was a hit with New Paths audiences in 2016 and 2017 – is fast becoming one of the UK’s most sought-after speakers on music, providing talks for the BBC Proms, and appearing as a frequent contributor on BBC Radio 3’s Record Review. Katy explores Elgar’s Violin Sonata, String Quartet and Piano Quintet, three of his best-loved chamber works. Discover more about these rich, sometimes unsettling pieces through the words of the violinst WH Reed – who was involved in the premiers of all three – and the critic and playwright George Bernard Shaw.

Friday 27th Sept • 5pm
St Mary’s Church Hall • Free – just turn up
Buon appetito!

Beverley’s branch of Pizza Express is surely one of the most friendly in the land – and with its pictures of the Minster’s musical minstrels, where more appropriate to enjoy a sociable meal with other festivalgoers between the pre-concert talk and the evening concert?

Pizza Express caters for special dietary requirements: check their menu at www.pizzaeexpress.com. Join our group on the ground floor by reserving a place through our box office (not the restaurant). Simply pay menu prices directly to the restaurant on the night.

Captured Sunshine

Brodsky Quartet
Laura van der Heijden (cello)

Boccherini: String Quintet in C Major Op 30 No 6 ‘La musica notturna delle strade di Madrid’
Elgar: String Quartet in E minor Op 83
Schubert: String Quintet in C major D956

For the final concert of their residency at the festival, the Brodskys are joined by cellist Laura van der Heijden for two quintets, both in the radiant key of C major. Boccherini – himself a virtuoso cellist – wrote optimistic music full of roccoco charm and lightness; this short quintet depicts a bustling night-time street scene in Madrid, with popular dances and street songs, church bells and soldier’s drums, and finally the curfew drawing the night to a close.

Meanwhile Schubert’s Quintet, written in the final year of his life, is epic and profound, its sublime, poignant slow movement in particular making full use of the rich sonority of the two cellos. A constant marbling of light and shade, devastating beauty and frightening drama, this work is widely considered one of the greatest pieces of chamber music ever written.

Elgar’s string quartet was dedicated to the original Brodsky Quartet; it was the first of the three chamber works that he tackled in 1918 in the peaceful surroundings of Brinkwells, the country cottage that Lady Elgar had found for them in the depth of the Sussex countryside, and the music is infused with the spirit of the woodlands. A brooding and beautiful piece, Lady Elgar likened the final movement to the ‘galloping of stallions’, and the slow movement to ‘captured sunshine’.

Captured Moonlight

Sarah-Jane Bradley (viola)
Martin Roscoe (piano)

Beethoven: Piano Sonata No 14 in C sharp minor Op 27 No 2 ‘Moonlight’
Shostakovitch: Sonata for Viola and Piano Op 147

The starry ceiling of St Mary’s provides an apt backdrop for a late-night moonlit programme.

Beethoven’s ‘Moonlight’ Sonata is one of the most famous of all pieces of classical music, with good reason: its somber hypnotic slow movement is powerfully evocative, offset by the virtuosic fireworks of the final movement. Martin Roscoe is in the process of recording the complete Beethoven piano sonatas for the Deux-Elles label, with the initial discs having been released to unanimous critical acclaim.

Shostakovich’s bleak viola sonata is his final work, written deep in the knowledge of his own mortality, only weeks before he died of cancer. In it he quotes Beethoven’s Moonlight Sonata, as well as all fifteen of his own symphonies, in sequence. This final summation of his life’s work completed, the clouds clear, and the piece ends in powerful, beautiful transcendental resolution. A profoundly spiritual and atmospheric work, what better setting can be found than the timeless architectural beauty of St Mary’s.

Sarah-Jane Bradley

“Exceptional … Bradley is an adventurous artist … every whisper of the bow was loaded with insight and intelligence… Is there a better British violist than Sarah-Jane Bradley?”

The Strad

Martin Roscoe

“An ideal combination of lyrical warmth and agitation… Roscoe’s Beethoven cycle promises to be a welcome addition”

BBC Music Magazine

St Mary’s Church

Friday 27th September • 6pm • Pizza Express

Friday 27th September • 7:30pm
St Mary’s Church • £20 / £16

“Heart-stoppingly beautiful”
The Independent; Brodsky Quartet

Friday 27th September • 10pm
St Mary’s Church • £8 / £5

Sarah-Jane Bradley

Oil painting by Thomas Bonfrey Burton (1866 - 1941)
Photo credit: Beverley Art Gallery
Saturday 28th September

**Firebox**

Onyx Brass

Rameau: ‘Entrée de Polymnie’ from Les Boréades
Couperin: Ordre 6ème de Clavecin (extracts)
Bach: Chromatic Fugue
Bach: Nun komm der Heiden Heiland
Tallis: Hymn Tune
Jackson: Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis
Jackson: Anything But
Brahms: Intermezzo Op 118
Rebello: Inevitable Outcome
Skinner: Firebox

Hailed by BBC Music Magazine as “easily the classiest brass ensemble in Britain”, Onyx Brass here present a wonderfully diverse programme spanning over 300 years, from the intricate counterpoint of Bach and the timeless quality of Tallis, to the luscious textures of Brahms and the jazz music of Jason Rebello.

Yorkshire is the home of brass music; escape from the hustle and bustle of Saturday Market and join us for a celebration of this most glorious sonority.

**Saturday 28th September • 1pm**
St Mary’s Church • £10 / £8

**Inspire!**

The East Riding Youth Orchestra’s string players are spending Saturday in workshops with New Paths tutors – a day of team-building and confidence in musical communication for the beginning of the new year. Come and hear their short chamber orchestra performance at the conclusion of the day.

The founding fathers of the festival had deep connections with ERYO, through whose ranks thousands of young musicians have passed over the decades. We are proud to be showcasing this cherished local ensemble in the magnificent ambience of the Minster.

**Saturday 28th September • 4pm**
Beverley Minster • Free – just turn up

**Closing Concert:**

The Lark Ascending
Jennifer Pike (violin)
Martin Roscoe (piano)

Mozart: Sonata in G K301
Elgar: Violin Sonata in E minor Op 82
C Schumann: Three Romances Op 22
Vaughan Williams: The Lark Ascending
Rózsa: Variations on a Hungarian Peasant Song Op 4

Since shooting to fame as the youngest ever winner of BBC Young Musician of the Year in 2002, Jennifer Pike has taken the musical world by storm and is in demand as a soloist and recitalist all over the world. She joins Martin Roscoe in a glorious musical tour of Europe: from the sunny elegance of early Mozart and the warm lyricism of Clara Schumann (in her 200th anniversary year), to the foot-stamping virtuosity of Rózsa’s peasant variations.

We return to English soil with works written at either end of the First World War: Elgar’s passionate violin sonata, the final stop in our survey of his chamber works, and Vaughan Williams’ ever-popular The Lark Ascending – the epitome of pastoral nostalgic beauty, heard here in its original version for violin and piano.

**Saturday 28th September • 7:30pm**
St Mary’s Church • £20 / £16
Booking dates

How to book
Tickets are available to buy online, by telephone, by post or in person.

Online
Please visit our website www.newpathsmusic.com and use the secure online booking service. Please print your tickets at home and bring them along to the concerts. Online booking will close two hours before each concert starts. There is a £1 administration charge per transaction for tickets bought online.

By telephone
Please contact the box office, Beverley Tourist Information Centre, on 01482 391672. There is a £1 administration charge per transaction for tickets bought over the phone.

By post
Please send your completed booking form (see overleaf), along with a cheque payable to ‘East Riding of Yorkshire Council’, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Beverley Tourist Information Centre, East Riding Treasure House, Champney Road, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 8HE.

In person
Beverley Tourist Information Centre is open 9:30am-5pm (weekdays) / 9am-4pm (Saturdays). Payment may be made by cash, card or cheque. The TIC is at the East Riding Treasure House, Champney Road, Beverley, HU17 8HE.

On the day of the concert
Tickets will be available to purchase on the day of the concert from 30 minutes prior to the performance, subject to availability.

Season tickets
Buy a Festival Supersaver ticket to all concerts in the festival and save over 15%. Buy a Daytime Saver or an Evening Saver ticket for all daytime or evening concerts in the festival and save over 10%. Season tickets are only available through the box office at Beverley Tourist Information Centre.

Seating
Seats in the centre blocks are numbered, and the staff at the Beverley Tourist Information Centre will help you choose the best seats. Seats in the side aisles are unreserved, and some have a restricted view of the stage – you can choose the best available for yourself.

Refunds
We regret that refunds can only be given if the concert is sold out and we are able to sell on the ticket. Please note that there will be a 10% administration charge.

Accessible facilities
The festival welcomes everyone; all venues are accessible to those using wheelchairs and have wheelchair-accessible toilet facilities.

Financial means: access for all
A limited number of tickets are available to anyone who would like to attend a concert but cannot afford a ticket. Please email admin@newpathsmusic.com if you would like to attend a concert but you are demonstrably unable to afford a ticket (for example due to unemployment).

Concerts

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Festival Supersaver - all eight concerts       | @ £100         |         | @ £80          |             |             |

Evening Saver - all four 7:30pm concerts       | @ £72          |         | @ £58          |             |             |

Daytime Saver - all three 1pm concerts         | @ £27          |         | @ £21          |             |             |

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☐ I would like to join the email mailing list.  ☐ I would like to join the postal mailing list.

www.newpathsmusic.com
Dates for your 2020 diary....

New Paths Spring Festival
2nd - 5th April
Beverley Chamber Music Festival
23rd - 26th September

Stay in touch

The festival is administered by New Paths Music Limited
(registered charity no. 1176545)
2 Wheatsheaf Lane, Beverley HU17 8BA

info@newpathsmusic.com
www.newpathsmusic.com