New Paths Music

Summer Festival
1st - 3rd July 2021

Beverley, East Riding of Yorkshire

www.newpaths music.com

Artistic Director: Libby Burgess • Founder: Roland Deller

Registered charity number 1176545
Welcome to the 2021 festival

What to look out for....

**Crossings**
In celebration of the Humber Bridge’s 40th birthday, we traverse musical bridges in our programme: bridges through time, bridges between places, and literal bridges too.

**Americana**
Did you know Beverley has many historic American connections? The festival also finishes on the eve of Independence Day, and so we profile music from across the pond.

**Mystery plays**
Beverley has a rich history of mystery plays being enacted throughout the town, which we celebrate with Benjamin Britten’s settings of mystery play texts in his Canticles.

**Late night Bach**
Our much-loved string players play unaccompanied music by Bach in the town’s atmospheric churches to round off the first two days of the festival.

**Living music**
We continue our commitment to music by living composers, including a world premiere of Stephen McNeff’s new work for piano, written especially for Libby Burgess.

**Young musicians**
Local young musicians are given the opportunity to take part in the festival, opening festival concerts with their own performances.

**Art exhibition**
An exhibition of exquisite linocuts by Andrew Anderson, inspired by love poetry in the Canticles, and by East Anglian country churches, displayed in Beverley Minster.

Ticket information on page 12
Artists

Maria Włoszczowska violin
Libby Burgess piano
Tim Crawford violin
Marina Frolova-Walker speaker
Joshua Ellicott tenor
Gareth Brynmor John baritone
Anna Cavaliero soprano
Claire Wickes flute
Richard Avery actor
Sam Llewellyn actor
Anna Cavaliero soprano

Thursday 1st July

America the beautiful

Thursday 1st July / 11am – 12:10pm
£15 / Toll Gavel United Church

Whitacre: Sing Gently
Previn: Vocalise
Beach: Piano Quintet
Songs by Knaggs, Price, Moore & Hammerstein

Amy Beach’s music is deservedly enjoying a surge in popularity, and her sumptuous Piano Quintet is full of the bravura, passion and tenderness for which she is known.

André Previn’s haunting, wordless Vocalise for soprano and cello is set alongside wistful songs by Daniel Knaggs, Florence Price and Undine Smith Moore, introducing the New Paths audience to the exceptional new talent, soprano Anna Cavaliero.

In a moment of reflection, the festival opens with Eric Whitacre’s response to the pandemic, the thoughtful Sing Gently for strings and piano.

Performers:
AC, TC, FH, RV, CB, LB

Talk: A Bridge to Italy

Thursday 1st July / 2pm – 3pm
Free / Toll Gavel United Church

Taking Tchaikovsky’s Souvenir de Florence as our starting point, we will talk about Russian musicians’ relationship with Italy. Italian composers and singers had been imported into Russia, and shaped public taste, so when Russian composers wanted to create a national music, they needed to resist all things Italian. And yet the beauty and charm of Italian melodies was so alluring…

Eminent lecturer Marina Frolova-Walker joins us to present two talks during the festival, following her popular visit to Beverley in 2019.

Speaker:
MFW

Ticket information on page 12
Miracle city
Thursday 1st July / 4pm – 4:40pm
£12 / Memorial Hall

Tchaikovsky: Souvenir de Florence

Tchaikovsky’s magnificent sextet Souvenir de Florence is a virtuoso showcase for our handpicked string team.
The work was written as a response to the city of Florence, where Tchaikovsky spent time composing The Queen of Spades, and in it a delightful Italian lyricism meets the composer’s own rich Russian sound-world to dazzling effect.
Performers: TC, MW, DP, RV, CB, TL

Foreign affairs
Thursday 1st July / 8pm – 9:15pm
£15 / Toll Gavel United Church

Beamish: Penillion
Poulenc: Deux poèmes de Louis Aragon
Barber: Cello Sonata
Britten: Folksongs
Music by Vaughan Williams, Hahn and Tann

Composers have long been inspired by places other than their own. Britten’s lifelong habit of arranging folksongs began with his time in America; conversely Barber’s brooding, powerful Cello Sonata stems from the American composer’s time in Europe.

Cellist Tim Lowe makes a welcome return to the festival and joins Libby Burgess for this major work. Sally Beamish’s Penillion for solo viola makes an evocative journey to Wales, and is performed by Rosalind Ventris, one of the leading lights of the viola world.

Songs by Poulenc and Hahn, and chamber music by Welsh composer Hilary Tann, take us to Venice, Florence, and war-torn France, whilst Vaughan Williams’ rarely performed The Last Invocation explores our own, final, journeys.
Performers: AC, GBJ, CW, TC, RV, TL, LB

Late Bach I
Thursday 1st July / 10pm – 10:30pm
£10 / Beverley Minster

Bach: Partita for solo violin in D minor

The first of our two late-night Bach concerts features celebrated violinist Maria Włoszczowska performing Bach’s profound D minor Partita, in the stunning setting of the Minster.
The peak of the partita, the epic Chaconne, features 64 variations on short ground bass, and is widely held to be one of the greatest pieces of music ever written.
Performer: MW

Song of Songs
On show in Beverley Minster during the festival is an exhibition of linocuts by Andrew Anderson.
The exquisite works displayed are drawn from two areas of Anderson’s output as a linocutter – works inspired by Norfolk country churches, and works based on love poems in the Old Testament known variously as ‘The Canticles’, ‘The Song of Solomon’ and ‘The Song of Songs’. These second century BC love poems have inspired artists and musicians through the ages.

Anderson sees both the verses and his depiction of rural churches from the viewpoint of an architect. For 35 years Anderson was architect to a large number of churches including two Norman Cathedrals. Whilst the imagery in the pieces is at its root architectural, there is something mysterious about them: architectural forms are combined with surprising perspectives, and layers of meaning in text and image overlap. Now retired and living in Beverley, this retrospective on Anderson’s life as a linocutter is a unique opportunity to see this selection of work gathered together for the first time.

Ticket information on page 12
Friday 2nd July

Immortal Mozart
Friday 2nd July / 11am – 12:10pm
£15 / Memorial Hall
Mozart: Flute Quartet in D
Frances-Hoad: Invocatio
Mozart: String Quintet in G minor

Cheryl Frances-Hoad’s ground-bass Invocatio has a folk-like feel: written in memory of Pamela Majaro, who founded the Cavatina Trust, its deliberately childlike quality reflects the trust’s work taking music to young people.

Sandwiching it are two magnificent chamber works by Mozart – music often described as ‘too easy for children, too difficult for adults.’ Beguiling flautist Claire Wickes joins the New Paths team for Mozart’s sunny D major quartet, while the tempestuous G minor quintet features the addition of a second viola, giving the music extra gravitas and endless possibilities for contrapuntal play.

Performers: CW, TC, MW, DP, RV, CB

A draught of sunshine
Friday 2nd July / 3pm – 4:10pm
£12 / Toll Gavel United Church
Dvořák: Piano Quintet in A Songs by Schubert, Howells, Debussy & Walton

Dvořák’s ever-popular Piano Quintet is one of the sunniest in the repertoire: this is open-hearted music, infused with the nostalgic folksong and spirited dance patterns of his homeland.

Anna Cavaliero’s last appearance in the festival comprises songs with a summery outlook – a whirlwind tour from Auden to Sitwell – to mark our own jump this year to July!

Performers: AC, TC, MW, DP, TL, LB

Late Bach II
Friday 2nd July / 10pm – 10:30pm
£10 / St John of Beverley Roman Catholic Church
Bach: Suite for solo cello in C minor

Our second late-night Bach concert takes place in the serene Roman Catholic Church of St John of Beverley. Cellist Cara Berridge has been a much-loved feature of New Paths since the beginning, and here she performs Bach’s solemn, reflective solo suite in C minor.

The scordatura effect of retuning one string a tone lower adds to the dark colour of this music – and yet, as always with Bach, the music never fails to dance.

Performer: CB

The arc of time
Friday 2nd July / 8pm – 9:15pm
£15 / Toll Gavel United Church
Kreisler: Praeludium & Allegro
Weir: Atlantic Drift
McNeff: Three Pieces for Piano (*world premiere*)
Schubert: An Schwager Kronos; Wandrers Nachtlied
Britten: Winter Words

‘Standing upon the shoulders of giants,’ all composers respond in some way to what has come before them. Kreisler’s popular Praeludium and Allegro, showcasing violinist Tim Crawford, was one of many works Kreisler misleadingly attributed to lesser-known Italian baroque composers, in this case Pugnani: in it, baroque energy and drive meet romantic fervour.

We’re proud to host our eighth world premiere to date, in Stephen McNeff’s new pieces for piano, inspired by the late piano music of Brahms, and written especially for Libby Burgess.

Britten’s cycle of Hardy settings, Winter Words, introduces a host of vividly painted characters – from the wagtail to the violinist lad – and scenes – from the railway station to the poignant choirmaster’s funeral. But it is the passing of time itself that is Hardy’s preoccupation, and that prompts the most powerful longing in the closing song.

Acclaimed tenor Joshua Ellicott visits New Paths for the first time.

Performers: JE, TC, FH, LB
Saturday 3rd July

By the dawn’s early light
Saturday 3rd July / 11am – 12:10pm
£15 / Toll Gavel United Church

Fauré: Dolly Suite
Copland: Duo for flute and piano
Higdon: Pale Yellow
Saint-Saëns: The Swan
Songs by Saint-Saëns and Copland

Libby Burgess and renowned pianist James Baillieu join forces for the first of their two duet appearances today, Fauré’s beloved, sunny Dolly Suite. The young Aaron Copland was a great admirer of the elderly Fauré’s music, and we hear songs from Simple Gifts to Ching-a-Ring Chaw from the American composer, as well as his expansive, brilliant Duo for flute and piano.

Flautist Claire Wickes joins baritone Gareth Brynmor John for Saint-Saëns’ beguiling Une flûte invisible; Saint-Saëns was Fauré’s teacher and mentor, and this is his centenary year. Representing a more recent generation of American composers is Jennifer Higdon, whose short, evocative Pale Yellow piano trio offers a moment of repose.

Performers: GBJ, CW, FH, TL, JB, LB

Talk: Stravinsky’s ‘Crime Against Grace’
Saturday 3rd July / 2pm – 3pm
Free / Memorial Hall

When the Parisian public encountered The Rite of Spring they found nothing to charm them in the music or the dancing. It was a violent assault on the senses.

In this lecture we will talk about the roots and repercussions of this new aesthetic, and about the three incarnations of The Rite of Spring: as a ballet, as an orchestral work, and as a piece for piano duet.

Speaker: MFW

The Rite
Saturday 3rd July / 4pm – 4:40pm
£12 / Toll Gavel United Church

Stravinsky: The Rite of Spring

James Baillieu and Libby Burgess give a much anticipated performance of Stravinsky’s The Rite of Spring, postponed from 2020. This electrifying music provoked riots and disbelief when it was premiered in 1913: the pounding dance rhythms and brutal harmonic language were a far cry from the traditional ballet scores in whose footsteps it followed.

The composer’s own piano duet arrangement is virtuosic and gripping: in this, Stravinsky’s anniversary year, we celebrate his most notorious and captivating work.

Performers: JB, LB

Revels ended
Saturday 3rd July / 8pm – 9:15pm
£15 / Toll Gavel United Church

Britten: Canticle IV – Journey of the Magi
Saint-Saëns: Violons dans le soir
Piazzolla: Oblivion
Schubert: Notturno
Britten: Canticle II – Abraham and Isaac
Songs by Purcell and Saint-Saëns

In medieval Beverley, the annual procession of mystery plays captured the imaginations of the whole town. Britten sets two mystery play texts amongst his canticles – colourfully exploring the behind-the-scenes reality of the wise men’s journey from the east, and heart-stoppingly depicting the story of Abraham, called by God to sacrifice his own son.

The night-time theme of the magi journey is picked up in Purcell’s radiant Evening Hymn and Schubert’s sublime piano trio Notturno. A more sultry nocturnal mood is captured in Piazzolla’s tango, marking the Argentinian composer’s centenary, and for this we’re delighted to welcome back to New Paths violinist Fenella Humphreys.

Former RSC and West End actor Richard Avery interleaves the music with short spoken word declamations - a true reflection of the town’s mystery play heritage.

Performers: WT, JE, GBJ, FH, CB, LB, RA

Ticket information on page 12
Golden Ticket Scheme:
free tickets for young people

Under-18s and full-time students can come to any festival event completely free of charge (subject to availability). One free ticket is also available per adult accompanying under-16s.

These ‘Golden Tickets’ can be booked by emailing us at admin@newpathsmusic.com.

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www.newpathsmusic.com
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Online booking closes two hours before each concert starts.

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Call the box office at Beverley Tourist Information Centre.
£1 administration charge per transaction.

In person:
Beverley Tourist Information Centre,
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Champany Road, Beverley, HU17 8HE
Open 9:30am-5pm (weekdays) / 9am-4pm (Saturdays).
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Financial hardship
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).
### Event Schedule

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### Passes

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Join the circle of supporters whose donations enable us to realise these aims, making a substantial contribution to the cultural life of the East Riding.

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