# Buckingham Summer Festival

# 29th June -6th July 2024



buckinghamsummerfestival.org

# WELCOME TO

# Buckingham Summer Festival 2024

The Buckingham Summer Festival is now in its thirty-sixth year and is fortunate to have strong local support. Buckingham Town Council has not only provided financial assistance with a four-year grant but has this year conferred its Art and Sport Award on the Festival in recognition of its role in bringing people together for a week of live music.

The University of Buckingham is also a long-term supporter of the Festival. It permits us to use the Radcliffe Centre with its grand piano for recitals and chamber music, as well as providing rehearsal and car parking facilities over the entire week. Without this assistance, it would be very difficult to provide the facilities and focus for the Festival events.



The Festival could not continue without the financial and non-financial help provided by our wonderful volunteers, Patrons, Friends and Sponsors. Their generosity and commitment to the Festival is greatly appreciated. Our volunteers give their time, effort and skill to ensure that all the various elements of the Festival come together. Our Artistic Director, Robert Secret, ensures every year that an attractive and varied programme is assembled, culminating in a wonderful orchestral Gala concert. Our patrons Peter and Léonie Thorogood have arranged for a further year to provide the use of a marquee in their lovely garden so that light refreshments can be made available before the lunchtime concerts.

Please consider joining the 'Friends' and/or becoming a Personal Sponsor.

Our website at **buckinghamsummerfestival.org** provides details on how to contact the Festival.

Martin Ricketts April 2024

# buckinghamsummerfestival.org

# AT A GLANCE

#### Mon 1st July

- Haruko Seki
- Peter Malinson
- Art Sung Edith Sitwell, Behind her Façade

#### **Tues 2nd July**

- Ingrid Jacoby
- Grace Oliver & Lucas Cunha
- Summer Festival Ensemble

#### Wed 3rd July

- Neil Crossland
- The Romantic Cor Anglais
- Members of The Orchestra of Stowe Opera with Yuko Sano

#### Thurs 4th July

- Jill Crossland
- Instruments of Time and Truth
- Julian Metzger, Lynn Arnold & Robert Secret

### Fri 5th July

- Craig Greene
- Alun Thomas, Julian Metzger & Craig Greene
- Tad Newton & his Jazz Friends

#### Sat 6th July

• Gala Concert – Orchestra of Stowe Opera with Alun Thomas

#### Monday to Friday recitals (inclusive) will be held at the Radcliffe Centre and The Gala Concert on Saturday 6th at the Parish Church of St. Peter & St. Paul.

Please see details of how to purchase you tickets on the following page.

## TICKET PRICES

#### Performance/ Times

- Morning
- Lunchtime
- Evening
- Gala concert
- Season Ticket

#### Cost per ticket

£7.50 £7.50 £7.50 £15.00 (Under 18's £5.00) £20.00 (Under 18's £10.00) £95.00 This does not include The Buckingham Choral Society

concert on the 29th of June  $% \left( {{{\rm{T}}_{{\rm{T}}}}_{{\rm{T}}}} \right)$ 

# INFORMATION

E-mail: enquiries@buckinghamsummerfestival.org REGISTERED CHARITY No 1083099

#### Ticket Information

We recommend that tickets be purchased in advance. They are available on the Festival website at:

buckinghamsummerfestival.org or in person at the Tourist Information Centre, Buckingham.

Tickets may be available for purchase at the door, but this **cannot** be guaranteed. Under 18's, when accompanied by an adult are admitted free to morning and lunchtime concerts, and at a reduced rate of £5 for the evening events, and £10 for the Gala.

The classical programme is not suitable for very young children and we ask that those with younger children are considerate to other members of the audience.

Season tickets for all concerts from 1st to 6th July cost £95

#### Refreshments

Between noon and 1.00 pm, Monday to Friday during the Festival week, hot and cold drinks, and a selection of sandwiches will be available for purchase in the beautiful gardens at Hill House. These are supplied daily by Meadow Row Tea Rooms.

## Parking

With limited parking near the Radcliffe Centre and Parish Church, free parking is available at The University of Buckingham's Island car park on **Hunter Street. Cornwall's Meadow** Car Park, off the High Street, is a little further and chargable



Artistic Director Robert Secret ARAM FISM A week of beautiful MUSIC

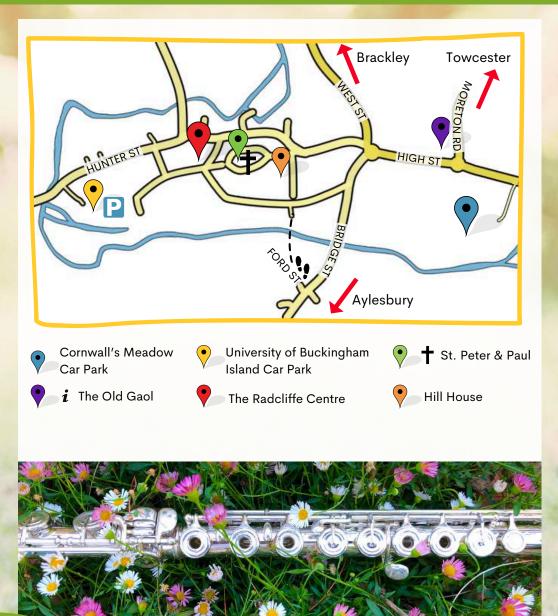


Festival Patrons The Rt Hon Lord Luce KG, GCVD Howard and Jane Mordue



Peter and Léonie Thorogood Robert and Carolyn Cumming

# INFORMATION



# PHOTOGRAPHY ART

We are delighted to welcome this year our Artist in Residence Gino Ballantyne.

Award-winning Gino Ballantyne is a Scottish artist, now based in Buckinghamshire. He is exhibited widely and his work is held in both private and public collections nationally and internationally, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, Glasgow School of Art and Siena Art Institute to name but a few.

Gino's work has broadened over time to include multi-installation work, large performance drawings, projection, print, photography, sound composition and art provocations. Buckingham Summer Festival are proud to show a few of his pieces from our recitals.

We thank him very much for the use of two of his drawings.

We are very grateful to have permission to use professional photographs of artists within the brochure and would like to acknowledge them with our thanks.

P7. petemasseyphotography (Arnold) P8. Sarah Creswell (Redgate) John Credland Photography MCK Photography.

Artwork:

P5 & 16. Gino Ballantyne

P6. Drawing of the Major General from the programme of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company's children's production of The Pirates of Penzance, 1884

## THE BUCKINGHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

#### Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul 7:30 pm

Price £16 (Under 18's £5.00)\*

#### **Conductor: Julian Mann**

#### Gilbert and Sullivan: The Pirates of Penzance

Bursting with some of the most fun arias, including 'I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major General', the ENO summarises the Gilbert and Sullivans' comic opera as being "packed full of sentimental pirates, blundering policemen, absurd adventures and improbable paradoxes."



\*Please note that tickets for **this performance only** are available at Buckingham Tourist Information Centre or online at **www.wegottickets.com** and are not included in the Season Ticket pricing.



MONDAY 1ST JULY

7

### HARUKO SEKI

11:00 am Price £7.50

Field: Nocturne No. 10 in E minor Chopin: Nocturne in C minor Op. 48 No. 1 Chopin: Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Brillante Op. 22 Liszt: Liebesträume No. 3

Liszt: Un Sospiro Trois Études de Concert No. 3 Liszt: Mephisto Waltz No. 1



Haruko Seki, described by Musical Opinion as "*a pianist with an innate ability to communicate with her audience*" has performed at many major UK venues including St John's Smith Square, The South Bank, Wigmore and Fairfield Halls. The Times said, "*vivid colouristic strokes...bathed in tonal beauty... took one* 

off into a world of serene enchantment." She is a director of the British Music Series in her hometown Sapporo.

Sponsored by: The Technical Department







## SHIRLEY TURNER - VIOLIN PETER MALLINSON - VIOLA LYNN ARNOLD - PIANO

1:15 pm Price £7.50

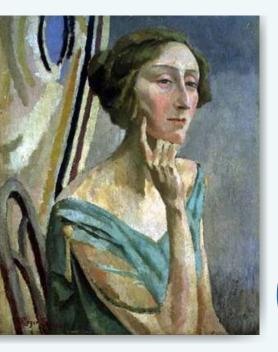
Arlen: Somewhere over the Rainbow Spain-Dunk: The Lonely Moor & Jig Klughardt: Schilflieder Bowen: 3 Duos Monti: Czardas Letanka: Agree to Disagree

Sponsored by: Peter and Cherry Baker and John and Pat Walton

Shirley, a member of the BBC Symphony Orchestra and multiaward winner performs regularly with Peter, also a member of the BBC Symphony Orchestra and a sought-after chamber musician. He performs with world-class ensembles like the Aylwin Quartet and inspires new solo works. Lynn is celebrated for her collaborative musicianship and advocacy for British music, known for her colourful interpretations as a chamber musician, soloist, and accompanist in the UK and internationally.

# ART SUNG - EDITH SITWELL

8:00 pm Price £15



#### FEATURING:

Lucy Stevens Guy Elliott Elizabeth Mucha Nigel Foster Roxani Eleni-Garefalaki James Symonds

Concert sponsored by: Belinda Morley-Fletcher

2024 marks the 60th anniversary of the death of the legendary Grande Dame of 20th-century English poetry, Dame Edith Sitwell: a perfect opportunity to revive and celebrate her fantastic brand of artistry.

Acclaimed actress/contralto Lucy Stevens takes on the role of Edith Sitwell, both narrating and singing. She is joined on stage by tenor Guy Elliott, a prizewinner at the Wigmore Hall International Song Competition.

A feature of this programme is the arrangement of several movements from Façade for piano duet performed by Art Sung founder, Elizabeth Mucha, with her piano duo partner, Nigel Foster.

Art Sung's director, Roxani Eleni-Garefalaki, also appears on stage to dance a short, choreographed excerpt from Erik Satie's ballet, "Parade" which was a major inspiration for Façade.

Backstage, video artist James Symonds visually interprets Edith's poetry by weaving in experimental and abstract video work by photographer Etienne Gilfillan creates a series of animated sketches to illustrate Edith's reminiscences.

## INGRID JACOBY

#### 11:00 am Price £7.50

Bach-Busoni: Chaconne in D minor (transcription from Violin Partita: No. 2, BWV 1004)
Beethoven: Sonata No. 30 in E major, Op. 109
Fauré: Impromptu in E-flat major Op. 25
Ravel: Pavane pour une infante défunte
Debussy: Les collines d'Anacapri, from Preludes, Book I

Ingrid Jacoby is renowned as one of the most poetic and admired pianists of her generation and has won numerous prestigious competitions.



Concert sponsored by: Belinda Morley-Fletcher

She has performed to critical acclaim worldwide and worked with many of the world's leading conductors. Ingrid is a Steinway Artist, and member of the Steinway Hall of Fame honoured with a Career Award from the National Society of Arts and Letters in the United States.

# GRACE OLIVER & LUCAS CUNHA

1:15 pm Price £7.50



Lehmann: 'The Daisy Chain' (Selection) Lehmann: Evensong Hoddinott: 6 Welsh Folksongs (Selection) Dove: All You Who Sleep Tonight Strauss: Madchenblumen, Op. 22 Strauss: Morgen, Op. 27 No.4 Debussy: Ariettes Oubliées (Selection) Chaminade: Song Selection

> Concert sponsored by: Bruce Kershaw Trust Fund



Soprano Grace Oliver is studying at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. In 2023 she performed with the London Philharmonic Choir and London Philharmonic Orchestra in Mahler's 2nd Symphony at the Royal Festival Hall.

Lucas Cunha studied at the Royal College of Music Junior Department for three years and was regarded as one of the "department's best pianists". He is currently studying piano at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, where he is a recipient of multiple awards.

TUESDAY 2ND JULY

# SUMMER FESTIVAL ENSEMBLE

Fauré: Piano Quartet No.1 in C minor, Op.15 Elgar: Piano Quintet in A minor, Op.84

> Charles Sewart - Violin Gillian Secret - Violin Robert Secret - Viola Julian Metzger - Cello Deborah Shah - Piano

8:00 pm Price £15.00

Concert sponsored by: Howard and Jane Mordue

Elgar worked on the Quintet and two other major chamber pieces in the summer of 1918 while staying at Brinkwells near Fittleworth in Sussex. W H Reed considered that all three were *"influenced by the quiet and peaceful surroundings during that wonderful summer".* 

"Lady Elgar hinted at a programmatic basis for the work, noting in her diary that the first movement represented a group of trees in Flexham Park near Brinkwells. According to legend, these trees comprised the remains of Spanish monks who had engaged in sacrilegious ceremonies in the park and were struck by lightning."



# NEIL CROSSLAND

11:00 am Price £7.50

Clementi: Sonata in D major Op. 26 No.3 Beethoven: Sonata No 4 in E flat major Op. 7 Crossland: Piano Suite No 2 Op 65 (2nd Performance)

Chopin: Nocturnes No 13 in C minor Op. 48 No.1 No 15 in F minor Op 55 No 1



Yorkshire pianist and composer Neil Crossland, studied at the Royal College of Music, where he won major prizes in piano and composition. He has Concert sponsored by: Robert & Carolyn Cumming

performed widely both in the UK and internationally at various prestigious venues including Albert Hall, the Barbican and St. James's Piccadilly where he performed all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in a concert series. Neil has played his own works, including unfinished Schubert sonatas, in concert series worldwide.

## THE ROMANTIC COR ANGLAIS

1:15 pm Price £7.50

Beethoven: Sonata Op. 17 Pasculli: Amelia Pasculli: Melodia Yvon: Sonata

> Concert sponsored by: Bill and Sandra Truscott

Cor Anglais - Christopher Redgate Piano - Stephen Robbings



Christopher Redgate, studied at

Chethams' School of Music and the Royal Academy of Music. He has won international prizes and developed a successful career as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral performer. Christopher has performed in various countries and enjoys a successful career around the world as a soloist. Stephen Robbings, a highly awarded Royal Academy of Music scholar, has performed concertos at prestigious UK venues including Birmingham Symphony Hall and the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

# MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRA OF STOWE OPERA WITH YUKO SANO

8:00 pm Price £15.00

**Sibelius:** Elegy and Musette from King Christian II Suite Op. 27 **Mozart:** Piano Concerto no 23 in A major K488 **Mozart:** Divertimento No. 15 K 287 "Lodron"

Concert sponsored by: Peter and Leonie Thorogood Members of The Orchestra of Stowe Opera Leader - Charles Sewart Conductor - Robert Secret Yuko Sano – Piano

Japanese pianist Yuko Sano is known for her virtuosity and magical soundmaking with unlimited colours. Her international career as a concert pianist began at the age of 8 in Salzburg. She has performed in over 40 cities across China, Europe, the UK, the USA, and South America as well as in Japan.

Yuko Sano was the first Japanese pianist to become a Young Steinway Artist in 2014 and became a Steinway Artist in 2018







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## JILL CROSSLAND

**11:00 am** Price £7.50

Bach: Selection from the well-tempered Clavier
Beethoven: Piano Sonata No 17 in D minor Op. 31 No.2 "Tempest"
Chopin: Fantasie-Impromptu Op. posth. 66, WN46



Concert sponsored by: Robert & Carolyn Cumming

Jill Crossland has made appearances throughout Europe, including giving

many recitals in London, including at the South Bank, and The Wigmore Hall. Jill has been featured in the Classic FM Hall of Fame and her Bach's The Well Tempered Clavier has received high praise, described by the Penguin Guide as *"a remarkable achievement, ranking with the finest"*.

## INSTRUMENTS OF TIME AND TRUTH

**1:15 pm** Price £7.50

Pachelbel: Canon in D major Pachelbel: Trio sonata Buxtehude: Trio sonata Biber: Mystery Sonata Biber: Trio sonata



Bojan Čičić - Violin. Lizzie MacCarthy - Violin Susanne Heinrich - Viola da Gamba Martin Perkins - Harpsichord







Concert sponsored by: Lesley MacCarthy

Instruments of Time and Truth is a period ensemble presenting world-class performances of

baroque and classical music. The ensemble is a showcase for the exceptional talents of international period musicians. Croatian violinist Bojan Čičić is a prominent figure in early music as a soloist and music director. JULIAN METZGER - CELLO LYNN ARNOLD - PIANO ROBERT SECRET - VIOLA

8:00 pm Price £15.00

Joachim: Variations on an Original Theme Op. 10 Dietrich: Cello Sonata in C major Op. 15 Schumann: Fantasiestücke Op. 73 Brahms: Trio for Viola, Cello and Piano in A minor Op. 114

> Concert sponsored by: Mike Lindsay





"Frei aber einsam" ("free but lonely") was Joachim's personal motto. The F-A-E Sonata, a four-movement work for violin and piano, is a work by three composers: Schumann, Brahms and Dietrich composed in 1853. This concert does not include the F-A-E Sonata but works by all the composers involved. Joachim was a great friend of Brahms and the two of them influenced each other's compositions.



## CRAIG GREENE

#### 11:00 am Price £7.50

Scarlatti: Two Sonatas in C minor K. 99 & 56 Beethoven: Six Bagatelles Op. 126 Schumann: Three Romances Op. 28 Mendelssohn: Six Songs without Words Op. 19 Granados: El amor y la muerte (Love and death) from Goyescas Op. 11



Concert sponsored by: Peter & Leonie Thorogood

After graduating from Oxford University with a double first-class degree, Craig continued his studies at the Royal College of Music with Dmitri Alexeev, Maia Griffin, and Ashley Wass.

Granados was fascinated with the painter Goya and El amor y la muerte tells the story of an etching by Goya of the same name.

# ALUN THOMAS - VIOLIN JULIAN METZGER - CELLO CRAIG GREENE - PIANO

Concert sponsored by: Brian Pankhurst Fauré: Piano Trio in D minor, Op. 120 Ravel: Piano Trio in A minor

1:15 pm Price £7.50

Fauré's Piano Trio, his penultimate work composed in 1922 was originally intended as a trio for clarinet, cello and piano. The first performance as a trio with violin was given by Jacques Thibaud, Pablo Casals, and Alfred Cortot. Fauré was a professor of composition at the Paris Conservatoire. Among his pupils were Maurice Ravel and Nadia Boulanger. Timothy Judd says of the Ravel Trio, composed in 1914 "Ravel's Piano Trio inhabits a sensuous dreamscape, far removed from politics and war. It provides a magical escape into a world of shimmering colours, exoticism, fleeting shadows, and an underlying sense of quiet lament. Ravel later noted that the first movement (Modéré) is "Basque in colouring."

# TAD NEWTON & HIS JAZZ FRIENDS

#### 8:00 pm Price £15.00

Tad Newton - Trombone/Vocals Gary Wood - Trumpet/Flugelhorn/Vocals Mike Wills - Clarinet/Tenor sax/Alto sax/Soprano sax Tomas Pedersen - Bass Alan Haughton - Piano Ronnie Fenn - Drums

Concert sponsored by: Oak Park Alarms



Established as one of the most respected and entertaining outfits on the British jazz scene, with their adventurous and eclectic repertoire, Tad and Friends gain plaudits wherever they perform, headlining venues such as Royal Festival Hall, The Barbican Centre, The Stables at Wavendon and Derngate Centre, Northampton. They also made highly successful appearances at The Spice of Life 2023 to mark the band's 40th anniversary! FRIDAY 5TH JULY

# GALA CONCERT

# THE ORCHESTRA OF STOWE OPERA

8:00 pm Price £20.00

**Beethoven:** Violin Concerto in D major Op. 61 **Bruckner:** Symphony no 4 in E-Flat major, "Romantic"



Alun Thomas - Violin Robert Secret - Conductor Ron Colyer- Leader

Alun Thomas had his first professional appointment (age 20) as Co-Principal 2nd violin in the Bournemouth Sinfonietta during his final year as a student at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. A lover of Bach's solo violin works, Alun has also given performances of the entire set of these six works in Cambridge and has plans to repeat the cycle in Windsor later this year.







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Robert Secret was a student at the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied conducting under Maurice Miles, and won the Principal's Prize and many other awards including all the major conducting prizes.



He studied conducting with Jean Fournet & Marius Constant in Holland and conducting opera with Sir Edward Downes. Robert Secret co-founded The Buckingham Summer Festival with Professor Alan Brook in 1989.

The only Symphony Bruckner gave a subtitle to, was his fourth symphony, a work that was a great success from the first performance in 1881 conducted by Hans Richter. Bruckner gave an impression of the work "Medieval city—Daybreak—Morning calls sound from the city towers—the gates open—On proud horses, the knights burst out into the open, the magic of nature envelops them—forest murmurs—bird song and so the Romantic picture develops further".



# WITH THANKS

# TO OUR MANY SUPPORTERS

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#### **Personal Sponsors:**

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#### BECOME A FRIEND of the Buckingham Summer Festival

Become a Friend of the Festival and help promote live, beautiful music on your doorstep. The Buckingham Summer Festival has been running for **36 years** and is a registered charity run by a small but enthusiastic team of trustees and volunteers. The Festival relies heavily on generous Friends and Sponsors to keep going year by year, bringing the best in musical entertainment to the town.

The cost of becoming a Friend is £35 for a single or £60 for a joint annual membership.

Please help us to maintain the Festival where it deserves to be – at the heart of Buckingham. Contact:

enquiries@buckinghamsummerfestival.org for more information.

#### The Festival also thanks:

The University of Buckingham, Buckingham Tourist Information Centre, Buckingham Town Council, and The Buckingham and Winslow Advertiser.

David and Mary Saunders Lord and Lady Scott Valerie Shaw Tom Stedman Jane Steel Stan and Margaret Surzyn Geoffrey Allan Taylor and Valerie Kirby-Ashmore Susie Thompson Paul and Deborah Trayhurn Bill and Sandra Truscott John Walton And others who wish to remain anonymous.

# LITERARY FESTIVAL

Taking to the stage this year are bestselling novelist Daisy Goodwin, historian Giles Milton, comedy star Rosie Holt, cheesemonger Ned Palmer and many, many more...



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University of the Year

THE SUNDAY TIMES GOOD UNIVERSITY GUIDE, 2024

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