

www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk

newburyspringfestival

10 – 24 may 2008

30th anniversary

nsf





First, the Beetles.



Now the classics.

Ridgeway Volkswagen is proud
to sponsor the Newbury Spring Festival.

Ridgeway Newbury

The Triangle, Newbury RG14 7HT Tel. 01635 40678
www.ridgewaynewbury.volkswagen.co.uk



Welcome

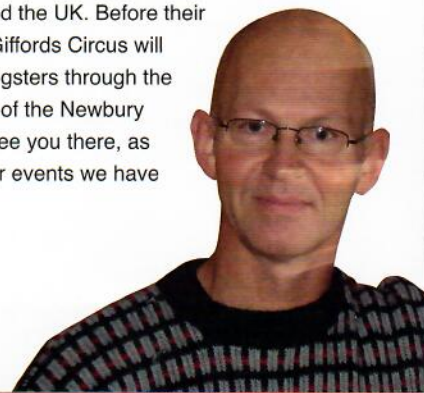
2008 marks the 30th anniversary of Newbury Spring Festival and after last year's English theme, this year we re-emphasise our international credentials with a line up of artists from around the globe joining some of the UK's finest for two weeks of world-class music making and entertainment.

A new series of International Celebrity Recitals presents some of the world's finest musicians: from Australia John Williams, from the USA Emanuel Ax, from New Zealand Dame Gillian Weir and from China Li-Wei. We also welcome four of the world's great orchestras: the Russian State Symphony Orchestra, the European Union Chamber Orchestra (featuring the exceptional British cellist Natalie Clein), the English Chamber Orchestra and the Royal Philharmonic. In our beautiful neighbouring churches and private homes, chamber groups from the Czech Republic, Austria and France complement some of the UK's finest ensembles.

We will also hear some of Britain's finest voices: Sir John Tomlinson and Joan Rodgers are established opera stars, while Andrew Kennedy and Sally Matthews represent the cream of the young generation and Clare Teal and Claire Martin are among the best jazz voices of today. The male voices of Morriston Orpheus Choir will contrast with Tenebrae and Ex Cathedra, in programmes of Russian Orthodox and Latin American sacred music.

Our 2008 poet in residence is Keston Sutherland who has been commissioned to write a new piece for Sandham Memorial Chapel to mark the 90th anniversary of the ending of the First World War. To celebrate our 30th anniversary, the Festival will also host its own resident company, Giffords Circus, with their unique brand of English tradition and international innovation, featuring performers from Russia, Eastern Europe, France and the UK. Before their final festival performance Giffords Circus will lead a parade of local youngsters through the town to celebrate 30 years of the Newbury Spring Festival. I hope to see you there, as well as at many of the other events we have in store this year.

Mark Eynon
Festival Director



Keston Sutherland

Artist in Residence

The Festival is delighted to welcome the poet Keston Sutherland to Newbury as its 2008 Artist in Residence. Keston was born in 1976 and educated at Turnpike School followed by St. Bartholomew's School in Newbury before going on to read English at Cambridge University. He continued his studies at Harvard University before taking a PhD in English back at Cambridge. Keston currently teaches English literature and critical theory at Sussex University and is the editor of the poetic and critical theory journal QUID and co-editor of Barque Press.

Keston has a passion for bringing poetry to life and enthusing young people both as readers, listeners and as writers. During the Festival, Keston will help people to take part in reading, writing and performing poetry and stimulate an interest in literature in general which is extremely important this year with 2008 being the National Year of Reading.

Keston's poetry has been translated into numerous languages and appeared in anthologies, journals and newspapers across the high art marginalesé diaspora. He has given readings all over the world and represented Great Britain in November 2005 at the French Biennale des Poètes at Val de Marne. In 2007, 'Hot White Andy' a poem by Keston was published in a special issue of Chicago Review devoted to British poetry. In January of this year, Guardian journalist Giles Foden wrote an article ('The Noughties So Far: The Book' 2/1/08), in which he singles Keston out as one of two poets of the decade to watch.

Keston will be heavily involved in the Festival's education programme, and he will visit local schools and community centres in advance of and during the Festival for a series of workshops. As a key part of his residency, the Newbury Spring Festival has commissioned Keston to write a new poem to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the armistice. Four performances of this new commissioned work will take place in the unique setting of Sandham Memorial Chapel, famous for its Stanley Spencer war murals.

Keston will be performing his poems with musical accompaniment as part of the Young Artists Lunchtime Series of concerts in the Corn Exchange. Together with two musicians from the renowned avant-garde jazz duo the Pleasure-Drenching Improvers (PDI), Keston will combine improvised music with his poetry to create fascinating results. The performance will be recorded and uploaded on to the internet as part of the online archive of Festival events.

On the final Saturday of the Festival, Keston will be giving a poetry reading at Newbury public library and will also talk about his life as a poet. This is an opportunity for the public to meet Keston and ask any questions.

Keston plans to run an active blog linking to the Festival website on which everyone can follow a diary of the Festival, read new work as he writes it, participate in online workshops and share their own work and ideas about poetry with other people in the community.

To see snippets of Keston's poetry, please log onto www.archiveofthenow.com

Tuesday 13 May 11am & 3pm Sandham Memorial Chapel (p.14)
Poetry reading, including Keston's commissioned poem

Wednesday 14 May 12.30pm Corn Exchange (p.17)
Keston Sutherland and PDI - Young Artists Lunchtime Series

Tuesday 20 May 11am & 3pm Sandham Memorial Chapel (p.14)
Poetry reading, including Keston's commissioned poem

Saturday 24 May 4.30pm Newbury Library (p.54)
Keston Sutherland - Meet the Poet

Supported by
Greenham Common Trust
and Arts Council England,
South East



Sheherazade

Family Concert with Newbury Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 10 May

Christopher Dawe conductor

Rimsky-Korsakov Sheherazade

An hour-long concert telling musical tales of the sea and princesses, with music by Rimsky-Korsakov based on the Tales of 1001 Arabian Nights.

Newbury's long-established community orchestra with conductor Christopher Dawe will introduce the magical sounds of the full orchestra. Suitable for age 5 upwards.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

3pm (finishes approx 4pm)

£4 children £6 adults

Supported by the Englefield Charitable Trust



Mendelssohn's Elijah

English Chamber Orchestra and Newbury Spring Festival Chorus

Saturday 10 May

Joan Rodgers

soprano

Anne-Marie Owens

contralto

Paul Nilon

tenor

Sir John Tomlinson

bass

Janet Lincé

chorus master

David Parry

conductor

The English Chamber Orchestra is one of the world's leading chamber orchestras, having performed in more countries than any other orchestra, recorded over 1,200 works and played with the world's greatest soloists in its 47 years of history.

Together with the Newbury Spring Festival Chorus and a line up of top British soloists including one of Britain's most eminent singers Sir John Tomlinson, the ECO will perform Mendelssohn's magnificent Elijah, under the direction of David Parry, one of England's finest operatic and choral conductors.

Mendelssohn enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship with England, including friendship with Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. His dramatic oratorio Elijah is one of his greatest achievements, and was written for the Birmingham Festival of 1946. Tonight's performance will be sung in English as it was at that first performance.

St Nicolas Church, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.50pm)

£29.50 £22.50 £15

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.englishchamberorchestra.co.uk

**Financial assistance from
the John Lewis Partnership
and Woolton Construction**



"One of the best vocal talents to emerge from the UK in a long, long while" Michael Parkinson

Clare Teal

Saturday 10 May

Clare Teal	vocals
Colin Ball	backing vocals, trumpet and accordion
AD Chivers	backing vocals and percussion
Jim Watson	piano
Simon Little	double bass
Chris Dagley	drums

Winner of the BBC Jazz Vocalist 2006 and blessed with an extraordinary voice, the ability to write songs that promise to be classics and a wonderful warm humour, Clare Teal is a rare commodity and in every way the major star.

This performance features a fresh line-up, some great new material from her new album *Paradisi Carouse!* and some inspired cover versions, as well as a liberal sprinkling of Clare's crowd favourites.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.45pm)

£17

Licensed bar

www.clareteal.co.uk



Morriston Orpheus Choir



Sunday 11 May

Joy Amman Davies	musical director
Andrew Rees	soloist

The Morriston Orpheus Choir was formed in 1935 by Ivor E Sims and today enjoys an international reputation as a leading exponent of male choral singing. Within the United Kingdom the choir is in constant demand, performing at over 25 venues every year.

The choir will be joined in Newbury by highly acclaimed Welsh tenor Andrew Rees. Having studied at the Royal Northern College and in Wales, Andrew went on to finish his opera training in 2001 at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Andrew sang in the choir of Glyndebourne Touring Opera before becoming a freelance soloist.

Over the years, successive musical directors have developed and broadened the choir's repertoire and variety is now the hallmark of the choir's performances. Under the musical direction of Joy Amman Davies, the choir will be bringing to Newbury a varied programme ranging from traditional Welsh hymns such as *Cwm Rhondda* to lighter more modern items such as *You Raise Me Up*.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

3pm (finishes approx 5.30pm)

£15

Licensed bar

www.morristonorpheus.com

Supported by Greenham Common Trust

Sophie Yates *harpsichord* with Irmgard Schaller *violin*

Sunday 11 May

Mozart	Sonata in E minor K.304
Mozart	Fantasie in D minor K.397
Mozart	Sonata in D major K.306
Dussek	Sufferings of the Queen of France (harpsichord)
Beethoven	Sonata in A-major Op.12 No.2

Award-winning harpsichordist Sophie Yates is probably best known for her affinity with English and French music. She has performed on most of the playable instruments surviving in Britain and has made a series of award-winning recordings for Chandos.

Together with Irmgard Schaller, Sophie Yates has chosen a programme of violin sonatas which today are more usually heard with piano but at this concert will be performed with the composers' original intention of harpsichord accompaniment. When violin and harpsichord come together both instruments' full range of expressiveness make these familiar works sound dramatically new and fresh.

The Kindersley Centre, Sheepdrove, Lambourn

3pm (finishes approx 5pm)

£15 unreserved. Includes afternoon tea

www.sophieyates.co.uk

Supported by the Sheepdrove Trust



Pražák Quartet

Sunday 11 May

Vaclav Remes	violin
Vlastimil Holec	violin
Josef Kluson	viola
Michal Kanka	cello

Schubert	String Quartet Op.29 A minor
Janacek	String Quartet No.2, Intimate Letters
Brahms	String Quartet No.3 Op.67 B flat major

The Pražák Quartet, one of today's leading international chamber music ensembles, was founded in 1972 at the Prague Conservatory. Since then, the quartet has gained attention for both its place in the unique Czech quartet tradition, and its musical virtuosity.

The quartet perform masterworks by Schubert and Janáček, plus the *Third Quartet* of Brahms, whose music continued the great traditions of the Viennese classical style more strongly than that of any other composer.

St Mary's Church, Shaw

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£17

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.prazakquartet.com

Sponsored by Fairhurst Estates



"Sophie Yates confirms her credentials as one of Britain's most talented harpsichordists"

The Daily Telegraph

© Image by R Smith



Sacconi Quartet

Young Artists Lunchtime Recital 1

Monday 12 May

Ben Hancox	violin
Hannah Dawson	violin
Robin Ashwell	viola
Cara Berridge	cello

Haydn	String Quartet in G, Op.54 No.1
Ravel	String Quartet in F (1902)

Formed in 2001 at the Royal College of Music, the Sacconi Quartet is rapidly gaining an enviable reputation as one of the outstanding quartets of their generation. In 2006 the quartet was selected for representation by Young Concert Artists Trust (YCAT) and it is also a member of the Royal College of Music's New Generation Scheme.

Haydn's *Opus 54 Quartet* is one of the finest of the whole classical era, full of wit and reward for the listener. Ravel adapts this classical model to his own style, adding that degree of expressive tenderness that is so special in his music.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

12.30pm (finishes approx 1.30pm)

£7 (series ticket £28)

www.sacconi.com

Supported by the Headley Trust

"The excellent Sacconi Quartet" Evening Standard

© image by Sussie Ahlburg

Sally Matthews

Monday 12 May

Sally Matthews	soprano
Tom Watmough	clarinet
Simon Lepper	piano

After her sensational Festival debut in Mozart's *C Minor Mass* in 2006 we are delighted to welcome back Sally Matthews, one of the finest sopranos of her generation, to the magnificent surroundings of Highclere Castle.

Nothing in music communicates so directly as a song recital. Sally Matthews has created a wonderfully imaginative programme featuring love songs by Dvorak, Barber, Poulenc and Strauss. The combination of clarinet and voice can be enjoyed in Schubert's mellifluous and melodious masterpiece *Shepherd on the Rock*, where clarinet and vocal line intertwine to glorious effect.

Highclere Castle, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£24 to include a complimentary glass of interval wine

Principal sponsor AWE plc

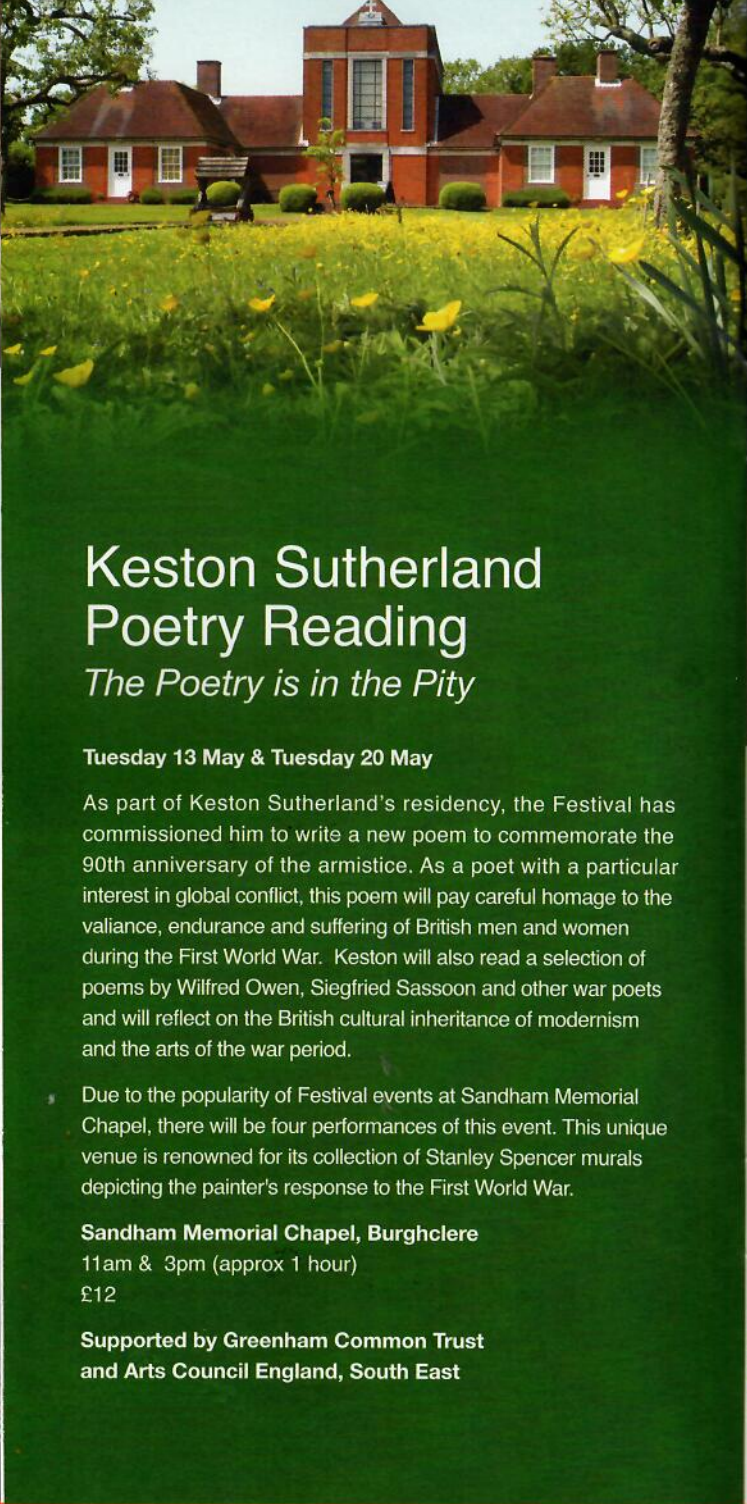
Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggar LLP

Supported by Hampshire County Council

By kind permission of the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon

© image by David Crookes





Keston Sutherland Poetry Reading

The Poetry is in the Pity

Tuesday 13 May & Tuesday 20 May

As part of Keston Sutherland's residency, the Festival has commissioned him to write a new poem to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the armistice. As a poet with a particular interest in global conflict, this poem will pay careful homage to the valiance, endurance and suffering of British men and women during the First World War. Keston will also read a selection of poems by Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon and other war poets and will reflect on the British cultural inheritance of modernism and the arts of the war period.

Due to the popularity of Festival events at Sandham Memorial Chapel, there will be four performances of this event. This unique venue is renowned for its collection of Stanley Spencer murals depicting the painter's response to the First World War.

Sandham Memorial Chapel, Burghclere
11am & 3pm (approx 1 hour)
£12

**Supported by Greenham Common Trust
and Arts Council England, South East**

"The singing of Tenebrae was extraordinarily beautiful and moving. I recommend anyone who has the chance, should listen to them" Ralph Fiennes

Tenebrae

In Heaven or in Earth?
Music of the Orthodox Church

Tuesday 13 May

Nigel Short conductor

Performed by candlelight, Tenebrae chamber choir creates an atmosphere of spiritual and musical reflection, where medieval chant and renaissance works are interspersed with contemporary compositions to create an ethereal mood of contemplation.

A choir of 18 will sing excerpts from the Rachmaninov Vespers interspersed with other sacred orthodox music by Stravinsky, Tavener and Chesnokov. The choir uses the acoustics and atmosphere of the building to enable the audience to experience the power and intimacy of the human voice. Douai Abbey is undoubtedly the perfect venue for such a performance and this concert is simply not to be missed.

Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton

7.45pm (finishes approx 10pm)

£17 £19

Licensed cash bar

www.tenebrae-choir.com

Sponsored by Dinks Ltd and Horsey Lightly



"...a brilliant fusion of classical, tango, jazz and roots"

The Guardian

Tango Siempre

Tuesday 13 May

Ros Stephen

Pete Rosser

Jonathan Taylor

Adney Tween

Myriam Ojeda Patino

Giraldo Escobar

Kicca Tomassi, Gabriel Marino

violin

accordion

double Bass

drums/electronics

dancers

Tango Siempre, producers of the acclaimed, sell-out tango show *Subitango*, are proud to present their current music and dance production *Tango:Nuevo*.

Tango:Nuevo transports tango away from its Come Dancing respectability back to where it belongs: as close to the fire and passion of its origins as to the latest innovations in music and dance. From stunning, virtuoso displays of traditional tango to powerful, groundbreaking contemporary tango music and dance, *Tango:Nuevo* is an exquisite and breathtaking journey into the heart of Tango Argentino and beyond.

Tango:Nuevo is performed by four Latin American-born tango dancers and the Tango Siempre Quintet.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 10.30pm)

£15

Licensed bar

www.tangomusic.co.uk

Sponsored by Mary and David Male



Keston Sutherland

with

the Pleasure-Drenching Improvers
Young Artists Lunchtime Recital 2

Wednesday 14 May

As part of his residency, Keston Sutherland will be performing his poetry with improvised music and sound by the renowned avant-garde jazz duo the Pleasure-Drenching Improvers (PDI).

Established in 2000, PDI make fully improvised music of complex but immediately compelling structures, using very unorthodox instruments: bricks, copper piping, spatulas, dictaphones, microphones and feedback loops.

The music is made without any score, pre-conceived scheme, or even prior discussion. Keston has worked together with PDI a number of times in the past, always with fascinating results.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

12.30pm (finishes approx 1.30pm)

£7 (series ticket £28)

Supported by the Headley Trust

Keston Sutherland's residency is supported by Greenham Common Trust and Arts Council England, South East

Emanuel Ax

International Celebrity Recital

Wednesday 14 May

Beethoven	Sonata Op.2 No.2 in A major
Schumann	Fantasie Op.17
Schumann	Papillons Op.2
Beethoven	Appassionata Sonata No.23 in F minor Op.57

Pianist Emanuel Ax is one of today's most highly regarded musicians and the Festival is extremely privileged to be able to bring this esteemed performer to Newbury for a solo recital. Emanuel Ax is renowned for not only his poetic temperament and unsurpassed virtuosity, but also for the exceptional breadth of his performing activity.

His Festival programme includes the celebrated *Appassionata Sonata*, a wonderful example of Beethoven's powerful and turbulent style. Likewise Schumann's *Papillons* is an appealing early composition, while his *Fantasie* finds him at the height of his expressive powers.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)

£17

Licensed bar

www.emanuelax.com



© image by J Henry Fair



*"The David Rees-Williams Trio
have just got better and better."*
The Guardian

David Rees-Williams Trio

Wednesday 14 May

David Rees-Williams	piano
Neil Francis	base guitar
Phil Laslett	drums

Formed in 1988, the David Rees-Williams Trio is renowned for its sophisticated jazz explorations of classical music from the last four centuries. The trio has performed in an interesting variety of concerts and festivals over the years both in England and Spain, and now specialises in a programme that unites the best of classical and jazz.

Swinging effortlessly from classical to jazz, this performance in the intimate surroundings of Donnington Priory will feature innovative arrangements of works by Bach, Debussy, Grieg, Franck, Mozart, Scarlatti and Vivaldi – exceptional playing but also an extraordinary contemporary take on classic compositions.

Donnington Priory, Oxford Road, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.45pm)

£16.50

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.davidrees-williams.com

Sponsored by Dreweatt Neate Fine Art

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggar LLP

Hollywood Ladies

Thursday 15 May

Rebecca Caine soprano
Gerald Martin Moore piano

Following the huge success of last year's *Leading Ladies*, the Festival is proud to present *Hollywood Ladies*. Gerald Martin Moore and Rebecca Caine join forces once more and pay tribute in songs, duets and sketches to the Hollywood soprano leading ladies, including Deanna Durbin, Grace Moore, Jeanette MacDonald, Kathryn Grayson, Jane Powell, Marni Nixon and Julie Andrews. Together they will perform songs and duets from the great screen musicals including *Showboat*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *West Side Story*, *My Fair Lady*, *Mary Poppins* and *The Sound of Music*.

This concert is a marvellous opportunity to see the atmospheric surroundings of Lord Lloyd Webber's private theatre and this year, due to the high demand for our events at Sydmonton, we will be putting on two performances.

The Chapel, Sydmonton Court, Ecchinswell

11am & 3pm – Performance will be one hour with no interval
£15

www.rebeccacaine.com

Supported by Mrs John Fowles

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggar LLP

By kind permission of Lord and Lady Lloyd Webber



Vienna Piano Trio

Thursday 15 May

Matthias Gredle cello
Stefan Mendl piano
Wolfgang Redik violin

Beethoven Variations for Piano Trio Op.44
Shostakovich Piano Trio No.2
Brahms Piano Trio In B Major Op.8
(The final version)

The combination of piano, violin and cello has inspired some of the best chamber music of the past 230 years. Beethoven's *Variations* and Brahms's *Trio* reflect the composer's use of the medium to marvellous effect, while the *Trio* of Shostakovich is one of his most powerful compositions.

For almost 20 years, the Vienna Piano Trio has been performing regularly in virtually every major music centre in Europe, the Americas, Australia and the Far East. As part of its 30th anniversary celebrations, the Festival is proud to welcome this highly acclaimed trio back to Newbury.

St Michael's and All Angels Church, Lambourn

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£16.50

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.viennapianotrio.com

Sponsored by the White Horse Sponsors

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggar LLP



Giffords Circus

Caravan

Thursday 15 May – Sunday 18 May

Nell Gifford director

Giffords Circus is a charming, fairytale recreation of a 1930's circus, complete with jugglers, strong men, aerialists and equestrian artists. Their new show *Caravan* receives its premiere in Newbury where the whole circus company will stay in beautiful old gypsy caravans in their own circus village in Victoria Park.

Nell Gifford, circus director, is Europe's only female circus owner. *Caravan* is set in 1900 at a gypsy horse fair, and is a magical story of love and marriage. Performed in a traditional big top tent, you will see circus acts from Russia, Eastern Europe and the UK, a brass band from Paris, clowns, horses, Harris hawks and much more...

Giffords Circus is a return to childhood innocence and a genuine family affair – roll up, roll up everybody, the circus is coming to town! The show is suitable for all ages.

Before their final performance in Newbury, Giffords Circus will lead a spectacular parade of local children through the town to celebrate 30 years of the Newbury Spring Festival.

"Giffords Circus fulfills every childhood fantasy of what a travelling circus should be" Sunday Telegraph

"Charming, emotional, and an absolutely essential British summer experience" Elle

Victoria Park, Newbury

Thursday 15 May	5pm & 7.30pm
Friday 16 May	5pm & 7.30pm
Saturday 17 May	11am, 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Sunday 18 May	11am & 2.30pm
Sunday 18 May	1pm Festival Parade

Adult £14.50 Child £9.50

Family Ticket £45 (includes 2 adults, 2 children)

Under 3's go free (provided they sit on a lap)

Group concession – for every 12 one goes free!

www.giffordscircus.com

Sponsored by Greenham Common Trust

**Additional financial support for the Parade from
West Berkshire Council**

"Possibly the best show on earth" Vogue

Counterpoise

The Spectral Horseman

Thursday 15 May

Helen Reid piano
Alexandra Wood violin
Deborah Calland trumpet
Kyle Horch saxophone
Eleanor Bron narrator

Liszt The Sad Monk
Liszt Gretchen
Ysaÿe Obsession
Shelley The Spectral Horseman (poem)
Ysaÿe Furies
Strauss The Castle by the Sea
Schubert Farewell to the Earth
Rushton On the Edge

A unique programme of verse and music illustrating how the sensibilities of Romantic poetry were reflected in associated musical compositions. In the unjustly neglected genre of melodrama, those sensibilities were heightened by juxtaposing poetry and music within the same piece. This programme offers rarely heard melodramas by Liszt, Strauss and Schubert.

The programme includes Strauss's beautiful *Castle by the Sea*, which is presented in a new chamber arrangement by David Matthews. Schubert's *Farewell to the Earth* is a poignant song of valediction in the composer's serene late style. *On the Edge*, a new work by the brilliant young English composer Edward Rushton, is set in the Swiss Jungfrau mountain range, site of Romantic inspiration.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)

£12

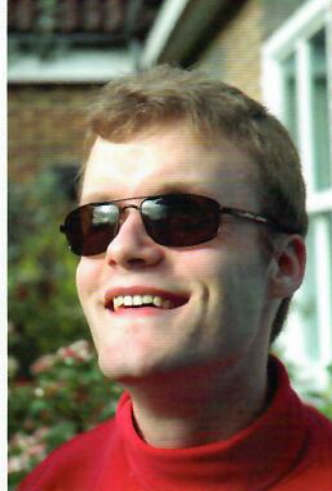
Licensed bar

www.helenreid.net

www.alexandrawood.com

www.deborahcalland.co.uk

Commission of *On the Edge* supported by
Arts Council England



Derek Paravicini

Young Artists Lunchtime Recital 3

Friday 16 May

Derek Paravicini is an extraordinarily talented pianist, despite being blind and having severe learning difficulties. He plays entirely by ear, and has a repertoire of many thousands of pieces that he has memorised – jazz, pop and light classical – and he is a great improviser. Derek has thrilled audiences with his virtuosity in venues across the UK, including Ronnie Scott's and the Barbican Hall in London. Derek was brought up in the Newbury area and now lives in nearby Lambourn.

Derek will open his concert by playing ragtime, blues and traditional jazz: music composed and performed by Scott Joplin, Spencer Williams, Fats Waller, Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald and George Shearing. To conclude, he will take requests: Derek will invite members of the audience to choose the piece, the style and the key!

Corn Exchange, Newbury

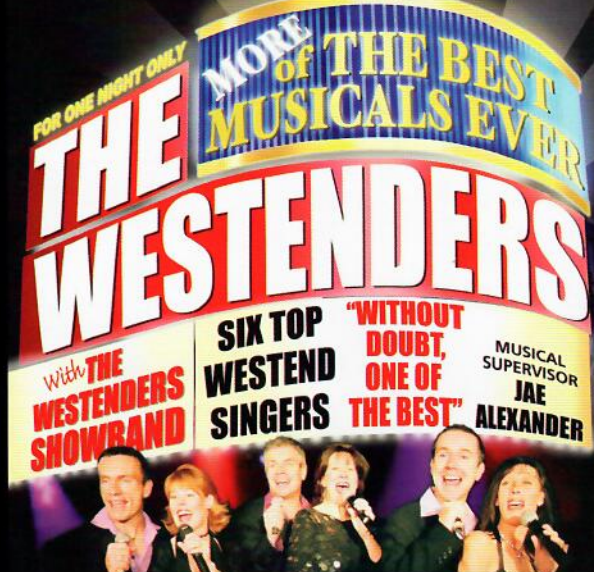
12.30pm (finishes approx 1.30pm)

£7 (series ticket £28)

www.derekparavicini.net

Supported by the Headley Trust

Image of Jungfrau courtesy of www.MySwitzerland.com



The WestEnders

More of the Best Musicals Ever

Friday 16 May

Jill Nalder, Frances Fry singers
Linda Jarvis, Charles Shirvell
Andrew Newey, Gareth Snook

More of the Best Musicals Ever is no ordinary tribute show. Featuring top West End singers and the highest quality musicians, they will take you on a unique musical journey with their own special 'WestEnders' brand of music. This includes great vocal arrangements and superb staging along with the WestEnders' gentle humour and tales of life on the boards.

The WestEnders warmly invite you into their musical world and take you through some of your favourite shows. Performed from the heart and from real experience of London's West End, The WestEnders will leave you wanting more...and more...and more...

Corn Exchange, Newbury
7.30pm (finishes approx 9.50pm)
£15
Licensed bar

www.thewestenders.com

Sponsored by Q Associates

Li-Wei

International Celebrity Recital

Friday 16 May

Bach	Cello Suite No.1
Crumb	Sonata
Bach	Cello Suite No.2
Dutilleux	3 Strophes

Born in Shanghai in 1976, Li-Wei is a leading cellist of our time and has established a formidable reputation on the international concert scene. He is well known for his brilliant virtuosity, refined musicality and sincerity of interpretation.

In this exciting programme, Li-Wei pairs these masterpieces by Bach with two compelling compositions by George Crumb and Henri Dutilleux, two of the most eminent and imaginative composers of recent times. Set in the beautiful drawing room at Woolley Park, this is an opportunity not to be missed.

Woolley Park, Wantage

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)

£19 unreserved

Includes interval wine

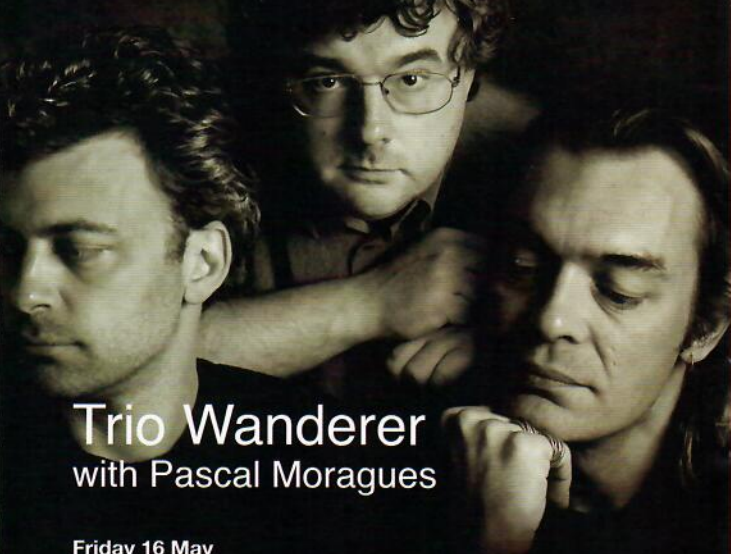
Sponsored by Berry Bros & Rudd Ltd

By kind permission of Sir Phillip and Lady Wroughton

© Image by Gang-Feng Wang

"Li-Wei is an enormously promising cellist... charismatic, generous and committed"
The Guardian





Trio Wanderer with Pascal Moragues

Friday 16 May

Vincent Coq	piano
Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabedian	violin
Raphael Pidoux	cello
Pascal Moragues	clarinet

Beethoven	Trio Op.70 No.1, 'Ghost'
Liszt	Tristia
Messiaen	Quartet for the End of Time

Acclaimed for its extraordinarily sensitive style, for the almost telepathic understanding the musicians have for one another and for technical mastery, Trio Wanderer is one of the world's foremost chamber ensembles.

In honour of Messiaen's centenary, the Festival is delighted that the world renowned clarinetist Pascal Moragues will be joining the trio in the second half. Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* is a particularly personal masterpiece, composed during his wartime imprisonment for this unusual combination of instruments.

St Mary's Church, Kingsclere
7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)
£16.50
Licensed cash bar at interval

www.triowanderer.com

Supported by Mrs John Fowles
In this performance Pascal Moragues is sponsored by Mrs Caroline Holbrook
Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggag LLP



Li-Wei Masterclass

Saturday 17 May

Li-Wei has established a formidable reputation on the international concert scene. He has won several prestigious awards including a silver medal at the 11th Tchaikovsky International Competition, the 2001 Naumburg Competition and was invited onto the BBC New Generation Artists Scheme during 2001-03.

Following his recital in Woolley Park on Friday 16 May, we are delighted that Li-Wei is returning to give a Masterclass with string students from Berkshire Maestros.

Maestros' mission is to teach West Berkshire's young people to make music. They are involved in dozens of different types of music, from classical to jazz to rock to world music.

Maestros are passionate about music and having been one of the UK's leading music services for many years, are determined to continue bringing the joy of music-making to as many of Berkshire's young people as possible.

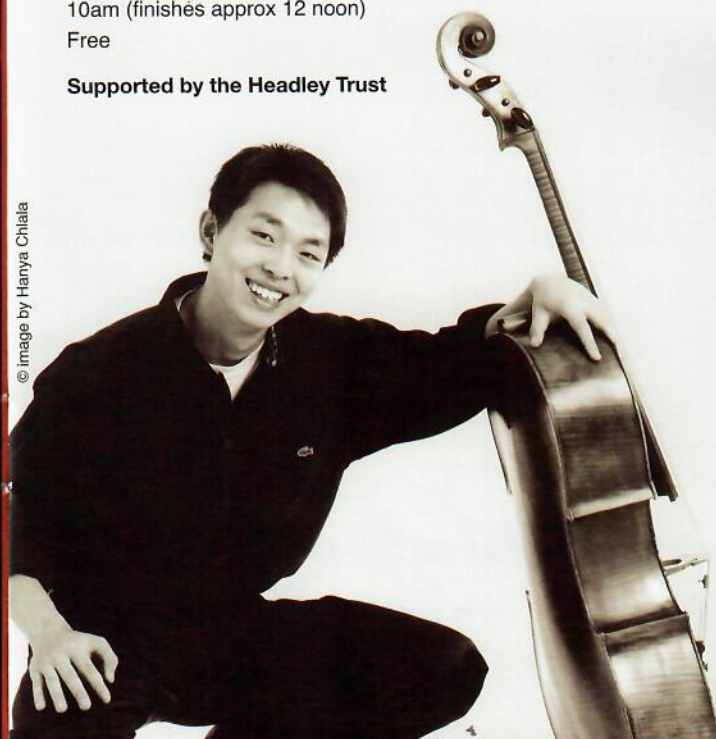
Corn Exchange, Newbury

10am (finishes approx 12 noon)

Free

Supported by the Headley Trust

© image by Hanya Chlala



Garden Symposium

Saturday 17 May

Speakers: Xa Tollemache, Richard Hewlings

We are delighted to be returning to beautiful Copse Farm for this year's Garden Symposium, which features two highly distinguished speakers:

Xa Tollemache started designing gardens in 1996 and won a gold medal for her Chelsea Garden exhibit in 1997. Since then she has worked intensively throughout the UK designing gardens which has formed the basis of her talk '*Gardening Across The British Isles; The Use Of Plants In Design*'. Xa has worked in the USA, Scandinavia, France and Italy and is on the Herbaceous Committee of the RHS.

Richard Hewlings is an architectural historian who has worked for English Heritage for 35 years. Richard is the author of over 100 articles on 18th century architecture and he edits the *English Heritage Historical Review*. The subject of his Garden Symposium talk will be '*The Classical Garden in Upper Wessex*'.

Copse Farm, East End, Hampshire

11am

£40 to include a two course lunch

www.xa-tollemache.co.uk

Wine courtesy of Mr and Mrs Rupert Hambro



Alexander Slutsky (left) Dmitri Alexeev (right)



Russian State Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 17 May

Alexander Slutsky conductor

Dmitri Alexeev piano

Mussorgsky Night on a Bare Mountain

Prokofiev Piano Concerto No.2

Tchaikovsky Symphony No.5

For 70 years the Russian State Symphony Orchestra has maintained the status of leading orchestra of the country and is a special pride of the Russian culture.

There is nothing quite like the sound of a Russian orchestra playing Russian music. *Tchaikovsky's 5th* is a typically emotional response to the forces of fate, while Mussorgsky colourfully depicts a witches' Sabbath. At the heart of the programme comes one of the most challenging of all the virtuoso piano concertos, Prokofiev's *Second Concerto* is a tour-de-force. Played by Russian pianist Dmitri Alexeev, one of the world's most highly regarded artists, it is a rare opportunity not to be missed.

St Nicolas Church, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.50pm)

£29.50 £22.50 £15

Licensed cash bar at interval

Sponsored by Vodafone

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggar LLP

"[Dimitri Alexeev] the most remarkable pianist of the day" Daily Telegraph



Grimethorpe Colliery Band

Saturday 17 May

Garry E Cutt musical director

England's oldest and best loved traditional brass band makes its long awaited return to the Festival in a popular programme of traditional classics and modern arrangements.

Music will include *Festival Music* by Eric Ball, *Henry the Fifth* by William Walton and *Music for Battle Creek* by Philip Sparke – the Sparke piece is the 2007 English National Brass Band Championships Test Piece performed by the Band when they won the title at the Royal Albert Hall.

The Grimethorpe Colliery Band is probably best known for providing the soundtrack to the film *Brassed Off*, which then went on to be nominated for a BAFTA award.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£17

Licensed bar

www.grimethorpeband.com

Supported by the Friends of Newbury Spring Festival

New London Chamber Ensemble

Sunday 18 May

Lisa Nelsen	flute
Melanie Ragge	oboe
Neyire Ashworth	clarinet
Adam Mackenzie	bassoon
Stephen Stirling	horn

Byrd	Pavan and Galliard
Mozart/Vester	Andante für eine Orgelwalze K.616
Ravel	Mother Goose
Alison Beckett	Queue
Berio	Opus Number Zoo (Nos 1, 2 & 4)
Nielsen	Quintet Op.43

The New London Chamber Ensemble came together as a result of a passionate love of performance and a mutual desire to explore new ways of communicating musical energy to their audience.

Thanks to the combination of imaginative programmes and virtuoso performances, the NLCE has established an international reputation. Their Festival concert includes arrangements of baroque and classical music by Byrd and Mozart, together with Ravel's tender and beautiful *Mother Goose* and Carl Nielsen's *Quintet*, surely the greatest wind quintet ever written.

St Martin's Church, East Woodhay

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£16.50

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.newlondonchamberensemble.co.uk

Sponsored by Mr and Mrs Patrick Hungerford and Mr and Mrs Toby Ward



Michael Law Cabaret

Noel Coward – *Lost and Found*

Sunday 18 May

Singer and pianist Michael Law celebrates some of Noel Coward's best known favourites, some less well known songs and a few gems by friends and contemporaries. A feast of comic and sentimental classics from the golden age of popular song, the 1920's to 50's.

The Vineyard at Stockcross offers Michelin-starred dining and an award winning wine list. This cabaret evening brings together the best in world class entertainment in sumptuous surroundings.

The Vineyard at Stockcross

7.30pm (finishes approx 10.30pm) banqueting seating
£59 to include welcome drink, two course dinner and coffee

**Supported by Weatherby Holdings
and the Vineyard at Stockcross**



Katherine Jenkinson and Alison Farr

Young Artists Lunchtime Series 4

Monday 19 May

Katherine Jenkinson	cello
Alison Farr	piano
Fauré	Élégie
Hyde	Winter Music
Brahms	Sonata in E minor
Cassado	Requiebros

Katherine and Alison first met when they were both students at the Royal Academy of Music. Since then they have frequently performed in cello and piano duo concerts. Katherine gave her Wigmore Hall debut Recital in 2004, a concert that was awarded as a prize by the Maisie Lewis Young Artists Scheme. In 2000 Alison was the Prize Winner at the Messiaen International Competition in Paris and in 2004 she was selected by the Tillet Trust for their Young Artists Platform.

For their Young Artists Recital they have chosen a varied programme of music by Faure, Brahms, Hyde and Cassavo from different periods and countries, to show some of the remarkable range of the cello and piano repertoire.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

12.30pm (finishes approx 1.30pm)
£7 (series ticket £28)

www.katherinejenkinson.com / www.alisonfarr.co.uk

Supported by the Headley Trust

Diary of Events May 2008

Week one

Sat 10	Newbury Symphony Orchestra Family Concert ●	3pm	p6
	English Chamber Orchestra & Newbury Spring Festival Chorus <i>Elijah</i> ▲	7.30pm	p7
	Clare Teal ●	7.30pm	p8
Sun 11	Morrison Orpheus Choir ●	3pm	p9
	Sophie Yates ■	3pm	p10
	Prazak Quartet ■	7.30pm	p11
Mon 12	Sacconi Quartet ●	12.30pm	p12
	Sally Matthews ■	7.30pm	p13
Tues 13	Keston Sutherland Poetry Reading ■	11am/3pm	p14
	Tenebrae ■	7.45pm	p15
	Tango Siempre ●	7.30pm	p16
Wed 14	Keston Sutherland & PDI ●	12.30pm	p17
	Emanuel Ax ●	7.30pm	p18
	David Rees-Williams Trio ■	7.30pm	p19
Thurs 15	Hollywood Ladies ■	11am/3pm	p20
	Vienna Piano Trio ■	7.30pm	p21
	Giffords Circus ■	5pm/7.30pm	p22
	The Spectral Horseman ●	7.30pm	p24
Fri 16	Derek Paravicini ●	12.30pm	p25
	Giffords Circus ■	5pm/7.30pm	p22
	The Westenders ●	7.30pm	p26
	Li-Wei ■	7.30pm	p27
	Trio Wanderer ■	7.30pm	p28

key

- ▲ St Nicolas Church
- Corn Exchange
- Outreach



Giffords Circus

Week two

Sat 17	Masterclass – Li-Wei ●	10am	p29
	Garden Symposium ■	11am	p30
	Giffords Circus ■	11am/2.30pm/7.30pm	p22
	Russian State Symphony Orchestra ▲	7.30pm	p31
	Grimethorpe Colliery Band ●	7.30pm	p32
Sun 18	Giffords Circus ■	11am/2.30pm	p22
	Festival Parade ■	1pm	p22
	New London Chamber Ensemble ■	7.30pm	p33
	Michael Law ■	7.30pm	p34
Mon 19	Jenkinson Farr Duo ●	12.30pm	p35
	Impropera ●	7.30pm	p38
	Wihan Quartet ■	7.30pm	p39
Tues 20	Keston Sutherland Poetry Reading ■	11am/3pm	p14
	John Williams ●	7.30pm	p40
	Andrew Kennedy & London Conchord Ensemble ■	7.30pm	p41
Wed 21	Bella Tromba ●	12.30pm	p42
	John Julius Norwich ■	3pm	p43
	European Union Chamber Orchestra & Natalie Clein ▲	7.30pm	p44
	Claire Martin & Richard Rodney Bennett ●	7.30pm	p45
Thurs 22	Sound Beginnings ■	10am/11.30am/2.30pm	p46
	Fine Arts Brass ■	7.30pm	p47
	Carnival Band ●	7.30pm	p48
	Mikhail Kazakevich ■	7.30pm	p49
Fri 23	James Barralet & Sankar Chowdhury ●	12.30pm	p50
	Rebecca Carrington ●	7.30pm	p51
	Ex-Cathedra ■	7.45pm	p52
Sat 24	Dame Gillian Weir ▲	12noon	p53
	Keston Sutherland: Meet the Poet ■	4.30pm	p54
	Royal Philharmonic Orchestra ▲	7.30pm	p55
	The Dominic Miller All-Star Quartet ●	7.30pm	p56

"Beware, you can become addicted to Impropera"

BBC Radio 3

Impropera

Monday 19 May

Anthony Ingle	musical director and piano
David Pearl	tenor
Niall Ashdown	baritone
Morag McLaren	soprano
Susan Bisatt	soprano
Peter Furniss	clarinet

Imagine the passion of opera with the adrenalin of improvisation. Impropera is opera improvised on the spot from the audience's suggestions; without score, script or safety net. In a world of dumbing down, here is a show for an audience that revels in the skill and sparkle of such programmes as *QI*, *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue* and *The News Quiz*.

Led by David Pearl, who made his ROH debut aged 9 with Plácido Domingo in 1970, Impropera creates opera with an anarchic irreverent edge. With an entirely new show every time, fresh from six brilliantly inventive minds and voices, Impropera can make a musical production about absolutely anything.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)

£14.50

Licensed bar

www.impropera.co.uk

Sponsored by MAXX Design Ltd



Wihan Quartet and Martin Kasik *piano*

Monday 19 May

Leos Cepicky	violin
Jan Schulmeister	violin
Jiri Zigmund	viola
Ales Kasprik	cello



Beethoven	String Quartet in D Op.18 No.3
Schumann	Kreisleriana Op.16 (solo piano)
Brahms	Quintet for Piano and Strings in F minor, Op.34

With its unique and spellbinding sound, the Wihan Quartet has made an impact in concert venues across the globe. The Quartet was formed in 1985, and is still made up of the original four members. They have an outstanding reputation for both the interpretation of their native Czech repertoire and many masterpieces of the string quartet repertoire.

Martin Kasik, an outstanding young Czech pianist, makes his Festival debut performing the powerful Brahms's *Piano Quintet* and Schumann's *Kreisleriana*, a beautifully-moulded solo masterwork of romantic pianism. Beethoven's *Opus 18*, written for string quartet was his response to the classical quartets he encountered in Vienna.

St Lawrence's Church, Parsonage Lane, Hungerford

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£16.50

Licensed cash bar

www.wihanquartet.com

Sponsored by Doves Farm Foods and Knight Frank

Supported by the Arbib Foundation

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggart LLP

© image by Wolf Marloh

John Williams

International Celebrity Recital

Tuesday 20 May

Born in Melbourne, Australia in 1941 and taught the guitar by his father, John Williams can be regarded as a foremost ambassador of the guitar. By the early 1960s he had performed in London, Paris, Madrid, Japan, Russia and the US: he has since toured the world playing both solo and with orchestra and regularly on radio and TV. In 2007 he was presented with an Edison lifetime achievement award.

As part of the Festival's International Celebrity Recital series, John Williams comes to the Corn Exchange to present a programme of popular classical and contemporary repertoire. John Williams will perform works by Albeniz, Domenico Scarlatti, Carlo Domeniconi, Peter Sculthorpe as well as some of his own pieces plus some Venezuelan music.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)

£17

Licensed bar

www.johnwilliamsguitar.com

"John Williams is a star – a virtuoso completely at ease with whatever style of music he turns to"

The Scotsman



© image by Kathy Panama



Andrew Kennedy *tenor* with the London Conchord Ensemble

Tuesday 20 May

Emily Pailthorpe oboe

Nicholas Korth horn

Maya Koch violin

Julian Milford piano

Schumann Romances

Schumann Dichterliebe

Brahms Hungarian Dances

Korth War's Embers

Brahms Horn Trio

The leading tenor of his generation, Andrew Kennedy, seen at the 2007 Last Night of the BBC Proms, joins the London Conchord Ensemble for a delightful concert in the intimate surroundings of the Long Gallery at Englefield House.

Their programme contains an beautiful selection of music by Schumann and Brahms, both instrumental and vocal. Schumann's *Dichterliebe* is a cycle of 20 songs on poems by Heinrich Heine, while Brahms's *Horn Trio* features the unusual and distinctive combination of horn with violin and piano.

Long Gallery, Englefield House, Theale, Reading

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£18

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.conchord.co.uk

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggar LLP



Bella Tromba

Young Artists Lunchtime Recital 5

Wednesday 21 May

Victoria Curran	trumpet
Josephine Harris	trumpet
Clare Helsdon	trumpet
Nicole Lyons	trumpet

Bella Tromba is a unique and innovative trumpet ensemble, whose founder member, Claire Helsdon, has strong Newbury connections. In 2006 Bella Tromba earned the prestigious title of Park Lane Young Artists, culminating in their debut recital at the Southbank's Purcell Room. They have also appeared before royalty at Windsor Castle and at the Cheltenham Festival.

Their Young Artists Recital contains a typically broad range of music from the Renaissance to the present day including items by Bach, Telemann, Mendelssohn, Elgar and their own arrangements of popular songs.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

12.30pm (finishes approx 1.30pm)

£7 (series ticket £28)

www.bellatromba.co.uk

Supported by the Headley Trust

"Bella Tromba, a glamorous all-trumpet girl band, dedicated to exploring and expanding the instrument's potential... they play with ritzy sophistication" The Guardian

John Julius Norwich

The Middle Sea

A History of the Mediterranean

Wednesday 21 May

English historian, travel writer and television personality John Julius Norwich will be speaking about his book, *The Middle Sea*, which tells the story of the Mediterranean. "The Mediterranean is a miracle. It links three of the world's six continents, has nurtured three of the most dazzling civilisations of antiquity and has witnessed the birth or blossoming of three of our greatest religions," says Lord Norwich.

He will begin with ancient Egypt and continue through Greece and Rome, the coming of Islam and all the other principal events of which the Mediterranean has been the theatre. His talk will also touch on the close of the First World War, and thus include an account of the disaster of Gallipoli and the victory in Palestine with Allenby and Lawrence of Arabia.

The Long Gallery at Englefield House is the perfect setting for this most interesting talk.

The Long Gallery, Englefield House, Theale

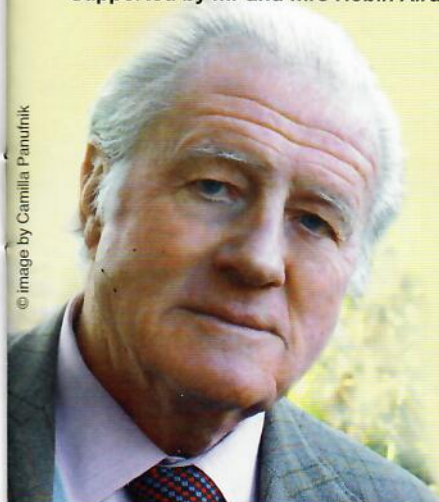
3pm talk

4pm book signing and tea

(finishes approx 5pm)

£16.50 to include afternoon tea

Supported by Mr and Mrs Robin Aird



© image by Camilla Panufnik



© image by Ray Burmiston

European Union Chamber Orchestra with Natalie Clein *cello*

Wednesday 21 May

Mark Gothoni director

Mozart	Divertimento K.136
Haydn	Cello Concerto No.1 in C Major
MacMillan	Kiss on Wood arr. Ingvar Karkov
Grieg	Holberg Suite
Bartók	Romanian Dances

The European Union Chamber Orchestra has established a reputation for musical excellence, and is an acknowledged Cultural Ambassador for the European Union.

Making its Newbury debut, the orchestra will perform Mozart's *Divertimento* as well as Haydn's *Cello Concerto*, with former BBC Young Musician of the Year Natalie Clein. Natalie Clein is rapidly gaining an international reputation as an artist of exceptional musicality and her performance of Haydn's delightful concerto is an occasion to relish. The remainder of the programme is full of vitality, including distinctively nationalist music by Bartók and Grieg.

St Nicolas Church, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£23.50 £15 £10

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.etd.gb.com / www.natalieclein.com

Supported by the Sheepdrove Trust

"Cleins resists showiness but plays with a passion and maturity beyond her years." The Observer

When Lights are Low An Evening with Claire Martin and Richard Rodney Bennett

Wednesday 21 May

Claire Martin	vocals
Richard Rodney Bennett	piano

The first lady of British jazz Claire Martin returns to the Festival with her regular musical partner, the ever versatile and distinguished pianist and composer Sir Richard Rodney Bennett, with whom she has just released her most recent album *When Lights are Low*. Claire is five times winner of Best Vocalist at the British Jazz Awards and together they perform stylish reworkings of much-loved jazz standards and contemporary classics from icons such as Joni Mitchell and Elvis Costello.

Sir Richard's polished piano accompaniment and suave understated delivery provide the perfect foil to the smoky honey of Claire Martin's voice. Expect a sparkling evening's entertainment from two great performers who clearly are passionate about jazz.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 10pm)

£15

Licensed bar

www.clairemartinjazz.com

**Sponsored by Charles Lucas
& Marshall solicitors**

"A stylish lady and her gentle knight. A simply grand way to spend an evening...one of London's must finely-attuned cabaret partnerships"

Evening Standard

"World Class" The Times





© Image by Norma Martin

Sound Beginnings

Concert for babies and young children

Thursday 22 May

A fabulous opportunity to enjoy a concert performed by pianist Mikhail Kazakevich whose understanding of the "Mozart effect" on babies and young children is well known. You and your child will enjoy an interactive sensory experience involving classical music, story telling and creative lighting.

Bring your imagination plus a cushion or blanket with you and listen and explore the music with your child. The concert will captivate and inspire parents and their children in the beautiful setting of the Kindersley Centre on the Berkshire Downs. Home-baked organic nursery food will be served after each concert. Ticket holders are also welcome to picnic in the adjoining herb garden.

The Kindersley Centre, Sheepdrove, Lambourn

10am 11.30am 2.30pm

£5 children over 2 years £9 adults unreserved

Prices include coffee and nursery tea

Supported by the Sheepdrove Trust

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggar LLP

Fine Arts Brass

Thursday 22 May

Simon Lenton	trumpet
Angela Whelan	trumpet
Chris Parkes	horn
Katy Jones	trombone
Sam Elliott	tuba

Fine Arts Brass is the longest-lived, the most innovative, the most widely travelled and the most highly-acclaimed British brass ensemble. They have been delighting audiences around the world since their inception in 1980, covering 60 countries and over 2,500 concerts.

Their repertoire encapsulates all musical genres from the Renaissance and Baroque to the sound worlds of the avant garde. Fine Arts Brass has very successfully commissioned new works (over 50 to date) and have enjoyed working closely with the composers who have written for them: Malcolm Arnold, Robin Holloway, Michael Nyman, John Woolrich and Michael Torke to name but a few.

Their programme chosen for Newbury Spring Festival will comprise works by Dowland, Arnold and Glinka and will also include an arrangement of Gershwin's sparkling *Porgy & Bess Suite*.

St Mary's Church, Kintbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)

£16.50

Licensed cash bar at interval

www.fineartsbrass.co.uk

Supported by the Miss W E Lawrence

1973 Charitable Settlement



Carnival Band

Around the World in 80 Tunes

Thursday 22 May

Andy Watts	shawm, C clarinet, Turkish G clarinet, recorder, melodica, vocals
Giles Lewin	violin, recorder, shawm, vocals
Steve Banks	drums, percussion, djembe, violin, vocals
Jub Davis	double bass, melodica, vocals
Steno Vitale	guitars, mandolin, vocals

Spontaneous and exuberant, the Carnival Band turns musical convention on its head from Renaissance to Rock 'n Roll. Two leading talents in the UK early music scene, an ex London Symphony Orchestra violinist turned drummer, a rock guitarist and a dynamic bassist take a sideways look at music from all over the world and from a host of styles and periods. Their performances feature over 20 instruments and full vocal harmony.

The Carnival Band's *Around the World in 80 Tunes* is a tapestry of harmony singing, diverse instruments and musical styles, woven together with artistry, verve and infectious humour. Let the Carnival Band take you on an unforgettable audio odyssey; a cornucopia of beautiful, uplifting and intriguing music from Texas to Mesopotamia. Witty and unpredictable, they'll bring out the reveller in you!

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£14.50

Licensed bar

www.carnivalband.com



Mikhail Kazakevich

Music and Light

Thursday 22 May

Debussy	Images (Book II)
Debussy	L'Isle Joyeuse
Ravel	Ondine (from Gaspard de la Nuit)
Ravel	Sonatina
Roussel	Sonatina Op.16
Scriabin	Sonata N4
Scriabin	2 Poems Op.32
Dukas	Sorcerer's Apprentice

Inspired by Russian composer Alexander Scriabin's mystical interest in synesthesia, pianist Mikhail Kazakevich has chosen a programme of music which he will perform to the accompaniment of coloured lights and selected fragrances.

Four French masters, Debussy, Ravel, Roussel and Dukas, are combined with Scriabin, their remarkable Russian contemporary, in a sequence which culminates in a virtuoso transcription of an orchestral showpiece: the *Sorcerer's Apprentice* made famous by Walt Disney in *Fantasia*.

The Kindersley Centre, Sheepdrove, Lambourn

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)

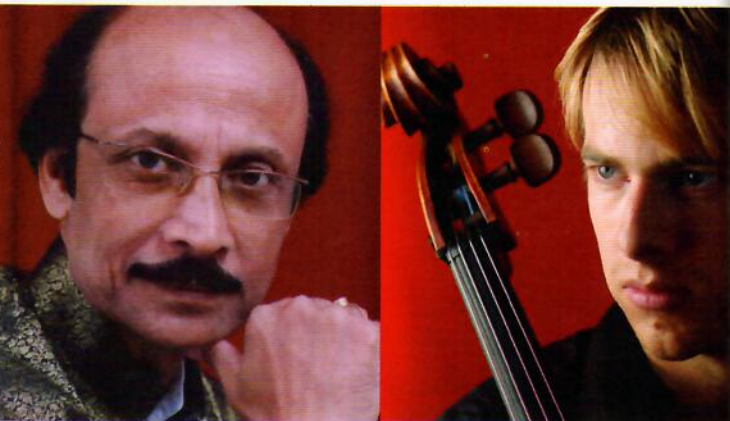
£15 unreserved

www.kazakevich.net

Supported by the Sheepdrove Trust

Piano hire sponsored by Thomas Eggart LLP

"...one of Russia's best-kept secrets is how they like to promote him ...Mikhail Kazakevich is one of the most worthy of listening time" The Times



James Barralet with Sankar Chowdhury Young Artists Lunchtime Recital 6

Friday 23 May

James Barralet cello
Sankar Chowdhury tabla

As joint winner of the 2007 Landor Records competition, cellist James Barralet is currently recording his debut solo CD. He has performed at many major venues and twice as soloist with the Basel Symphony Orchestra.

James' interest in Indian music stems from a six month teaching visit to the Mathieson Music School in Calcutta in 1998 where he studied north Indian classical music. The cello's tone is well suited to Indian music and James will be joined by Sankar Chowdhury on the tabla. Together they will perform *Bhajans* by Bhimsen Joshi and folk tunes by Rabindranath Tagore, interspersed with pieces by western composers influenced by Indian music in this visually and musically stimulating concert.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

12.30pm (finishes approx 1.30pm)
£7 (series ticket £28)

www.jamesbarralet.com

Supported by the Headley Trust

"Consistently brilliant...elegant rising star"

The Evening Standard

Rebecca Carrington *Me and My Cello*

Friday 23 May

Award winning, multi-lingual music comedian Rebecca Carrington and Joe her 18th Century cello, must be one of the world's most unusual double-acts. Rebecca, a classically trained cellist and Joe are a winning combination, performing spoofs of everything from Madonna to Pavarotti and Jazz to Bollywood. She has been described as a Victor Borge of the 21st Century!

In 2007 Rebecca created the double act, Carrington-Brown with special guest Colin Griffiths-Brown, which will be part of this Festival performance. As an actor and singer he has previously performed in plays and musicals in London's West End and on tour. Together they have won a number of comedy/cabaret prizes.

Corn Exchange, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)


£15

Licensed bar

www.rebeccacarrington.co.uk

**Sponsored by Penny and
David Gyle-Thompson**





Ex Cathedra

Moon, Sun and All Things

Friday 23 May

Jeffrey Skidmore conductor

From its home in Birmingham, Ex Cathedra has established an international reputation as a leading UK choir and Early Music ensemble. Under founder and artistic director Jeffrey Skidmore, Ex Cathedra is known for its vibrant performances and a passion for seeking out not only the best but the unfamiliar and the unexpected in the choral repertoire.

Moon Sun and All Things, its fabulous programme of Baroque music, reveals hidden treasures from 17th century Latin America, with works by Capillas, Fernandes, Franco, Araujo, Zipoli, Sumaya and Hernández sung in Spanish, Latin and the languages of the Aztecs and the Incas.

With 32 singers, 9 players from the Ex Cathedra Baroque Ensemble and in the marvellous setting of Douai Abbey, this is certainly a concert not to be missed.

Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton

7.45pm (finishes approx 10pm)

£17 £19

Licensed cash bar

www.ex-cathedra.org

Supported by the Friends of Newbury Spring Festival

"Some of the most alive, infectious and uplifting Baroque polyphony I've ever heard"

Classic FM Magazine

Dame Gillian Weir

International Celebrity Recital

Saturday 24 May

The Festival is delighted to welcome the internationally acclaimed concert organist Dame Gillian Weir to Newbury in this special year. 2008 marks the centenary of the birth of organist and composer Olivier Messiaen, whose works have been a vital part of Dame Gillian's repertoire for over 40 years. Over the years, Dame Gillian has transformed the image of organist from esoteric musician to beloved celebrity. As performer, scholar and teacher, she has opened the eyes of the world to the music of the organ.

This event will begin with an interview between Dame Gillian and Peter Avis about her life as one of the foremost musicians in the world today, her travels around the globe and the kinds of instruments she has encountered during the course of her career. He will also be asking her about her long association with Messiaen.

Dame Gillian's recital will include a selection of Messiaen's works for the organ interspersed with some great works by other French organ composers including Vierne, Couperin and Langlais.

St Nicolas Church, Newbury

11am Interview / 11.30am Coffee Break

11.50 Recital (finishes 1pm)

£15 to include coffee in the break

www.gillianweir.com

Supported by Mr Julian Chadwick

© Image by Jill McCullery





Keston Sutherland

Meet the Poet

Saturday 24 May

An opportunity to meet Keston Sutherland, the Festival's resident poet, and hear him read some of his own poetry. Keston will talk about his life as a poet, discuss how his childhood in Newbury continues to influence his thinking about the art, and offer some thoughts on the condition of poetry in Britain today.

A long poem by Keston Sutherland called 'Hot White Andy' was published last year in Chicago Review in a special issue devoted to British poetry. In January of this year, Guardian journalist Giles Foden wrote an article ('The Noughties So Far: The Book' 2/1/08), in which he singles Keston out as one of two poets of the decade to watch.

Keston will be taking any questions members of the audience might have at the end of the session.

Newbury Library, The Wharf, Newbury

4.30pm (finishes approx 5.30pm)

Free but advanced booking advised

**Supported by Greenham Common Trust
and Arts Council England, South East**

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Saturday 24th May

Daniele Gatti	music director
Julian Rachlin	violin
Brahms	Tragic Overture
Brahms	Violin Concerto
Beethoven	Symphony No.4



Julian Rachlin
© Image by Pavel Antonov

The Festival is delighted to welcome the RPO back to Newbury under the baton of music director Daniele Gatti, who is making a rare appearance to the provinces. Considered the foremost conductor of his generation, Maestro Gatti has galvanized the music world with his dramatic and instinctive style.

The RPO perform three masterworks that lie at the very heart of the orchestral repertoire. Brahms' dark and powerful *Tragic Overture* precedes his magnificent Violin Concerto played by Julian Rachlin, one of the most charismatic and exciting violinists of his generation. And what better way to end a concert than with the vitality of this great symphony, which continues the Festival's ongoing Beethoven cycle.

St Nicolas Church, Newbury

7.30pm (finishes approx 9.40pm)

£29.50 £22.50 £15

Licensed bar at interval

www.rpo.co.uk / www.julianrachlin.com

Supported by Greenham Common Trust



"The Royal Philharmonic plays like a dream"

The Times



The Dominic Miller All-Star Quartet

Saturday 24 May

Dominic Miller	acoustic guitar
Rhani Krija	percussion
Mike Lindup	piano/keyboards
Nicolas Fiszman	bass guitar

Dominic Miller is the UK's leading session guitarist, but since 1990 is best known for being Sting's guitarist after stints with both The Pretenders and Level 42. Dominic now has a stellar solo career as well as collaborating with artists as diverse as Sarah-Jane Morris and the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra.

From the early influences of The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Bossa Novas, Tangos, church music and the blues, Dominic is now recognised as one of the world's finest guitarists. He has created a group with three other outstanding players, who together perform original, exciting and unique music appealing to audiences worldwide. The quartet's performance will include original works by Dominic Miller including Lullaby to an *Anxious Child* co-written by Dominic and Sting.

Corn Exchange, Newbury
7.30pm (finishes approx 9.30pm)
£17
Licensed bar

www.dominicmiller.com

Sponsored by Banks & Co.

"He's my left and my right hand" Sting



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MAXX – proud to be supporters of the Newbury Spring Festival since 1999.

Education & Community Events Programme

The Festival is committed to delivering workshops and events linked to the Festival's main programme. Each year some 1,000 children, from pre-school to GCSE level benefit from a wide range of free Festival workshops and children's concerts, which for 2008 will include:

Schools Touring Programme

Carnival Band

Carnival Band is a musical group consisting of medieval period instruments who will perform rustic tunes and old songs interspersed with historical illustrations, to some of the smaller primary and junior schools in the area that would not normally have access to quality live music.

Tango Siempre

Studying the Argentine Tango's beautiful rhythms, the workshops will encourage pupils to engage in the the musical passion and drama of the fiery spirit of the Argentine tango. Trinity School will host a full day of workshops with Tango Siempre musicians and dancers. Three other schools will be invited to bring groups of pre-GCSE students to participate in what promises to be a lively, informative, entertaining and energetic day.

Workshops at the Corn Exchange

Both Tango Siempre and Carnival Band will perform a special free schools performance during the Festival in the Corn Exchange.

Sound Beginnings – The Kindersley Centre

Concerts for babies and toddlers (tickets to be bought for this event). Come on a magical journey, an interactive experience with music, colour, light and movement for children under five years. Mikhail Kazakevich will provide music on the piano which will be woven into the story, written and narrated by Maxine Parsons.

Festival Parade – Newbury Town Centre

Over 100 local children will be involved in workshops making masks, sculptures and costumes to be part of the Circus Parade. Starting at St Nicolas Church, the parade will finish in Victoria Park, where the last performance of Giffords Circus will take place.



Keston Sutherland – Artist in Residence

Free poetry workshops at Sandham Memorial Chapel

Taking the subject of the 90th anniversary of the 1918 armistice, Keston will introduce the groups of GCSE and 'A' level students to the First World War poets, drawing on the visual arts and history in conjunction with the poetry.

Cello Masterclass; Li-Wei – Corn Exchange

We are delighted that the cellist, Li-Wei will be giving a Masterclass this year. Li-Wei will coach and give demonstrations to young string students from Berkshire Maestros.

Young Artists Lunchtime Series

The Festival offers a free tickets scheme for schools for this series of lunchtime concerts, which supports outstanding young musicians on the threshold of their international careers.

The 2008 Education and Community Programme is generously funded by The Headley Trust, the Englefield Trust, the Gordon Palmer Trust, the Lionel Wigram Memorial Trust, Rivar Ltd and the Friends of Newbury Spring Festival.



The Visual Arts in Focus

Open Studios 2008 May 3rd – June 1st
20th Anniversary Year 1988 – 2008

Open Studios celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. From the beginning, the aim has been to enhance understanding and enjoyment of the visual arts complementing the musical excellence that the Festival brings to the town.

Over 90 artists in 50 studios will be pleased to welcome visitors during May. The scheme provides an opportunity to meet and talk to artists about their sources of inspiration, find out about materials and processes and perhaps acquire a work of art, knowing its provenance. A wide number of visual arts disciplines is offered through the studios. They include jewellery, textile and dress design, photography, ceramics and digital media, drawing, painting and sculpture.

There is a flowering of visual arts practice in England and every one wants to know why. The chance to find out comes through Open Studios and its central publication; *'A Directory of Artists 2008'*. Glossy, colourful and jam packed with information about artists and their studios, it is offered free from the Corn Exchange and local tourist outlets. Publication date is March 31st.

Some artists offer hands-on workshops for those who might want to create their own work of art. Choose from a range which includes glass making and ceramics to a drawing day based on Stanley Spencer's First World War murals at Sandham Memorial Chapel including a visit to Cookham, his birthplace.

The work of all the artists can be seen in a flagship exhibition called *INSIGHT 2008* at New Greenham Arts. There are also satellite exhibitions at Arlington Arts, the Corn Exchange, the West Berkshire Community Hospital, the Central Library and the Three Swans Hotel, Hungerford.

The main education focus, a combined arts project for the Town Sculpture Steering Group, will bring together three art forms, dance, drama and sculpture. The theme *'Communication'*, will be explored through family learning in three schools. The inspiration is a public art work *'Couple in Conversation'*, on the Robin Hood roundabout by sculptor Johannes von Stumm.

For further information go to www.open-studios.org.uk
 email pat.eastop@open-studios.org.uk
 or telephone 01635 817478

Sponsors

The Newbury Spring Festival could not be presented without considerable financial assistance from the following, whose generosity is most gratefully acknowledged.

Mrs Robin Aird	Horsey Lightly
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The Committee of Management wish to thank, most sincerely, the many volunteer stewards and helpers without whose support the Festival would not happen.

Administration Office

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info@newburyspringfestival.org.uk
www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 284622

Committee of Management

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Festival Secretary

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Technical Direction

Mary Hamilton & John Harris
(The Company Presents)



Saturday June 28th
Newbury Racecourse

Enjoy a picnic with Puccini

"Madam Butterfly"

Passion - Obsession - Betrayal

Gates open at 5.30pm
Tickets only £6 (£3 discounts)
from Newbury Corn Exchange
- 01635 522733

Opera
FOR ALL

Information

Venues

We use many beautiful and historic buildings for our events which have their own idiosyncrasies. Churches may have a restricted view of the platform in some seats due to the pillars. Pews can be hard and you are welcome to bring a cushion. Venue maps available on request from the Festival Box Office.

Walk to Car Service

If you would like to be accompanied to your car after the concert please see any Festival Steward on arrival.

Standby Tickets

A limited number of unsold tickets for The Corn Exchange and St Nicolas Church events will be available on the day for £3. These will only be available on the door on a first come first served basis. Please note it is not possible to reserve standby tickets in advance.

Concessions

Students and Unwaged (UB40) £2 off full ticket price. Accompanied children under 16 half full adult price (except family concert). Wheelchair users and the visually impaired receive a free companion ticket.

Group Discount

10% discount will be given on groups of 10 or more, booking 24 hours or more before the concert.

Refunds

The Festival regrets that tickets cannot be exchanged or returned after purchase. The right is reserved to substitute artists and to vary programmes if necessary. It is regretted that in the event of alteration no refund can be made.

FREE for Friends

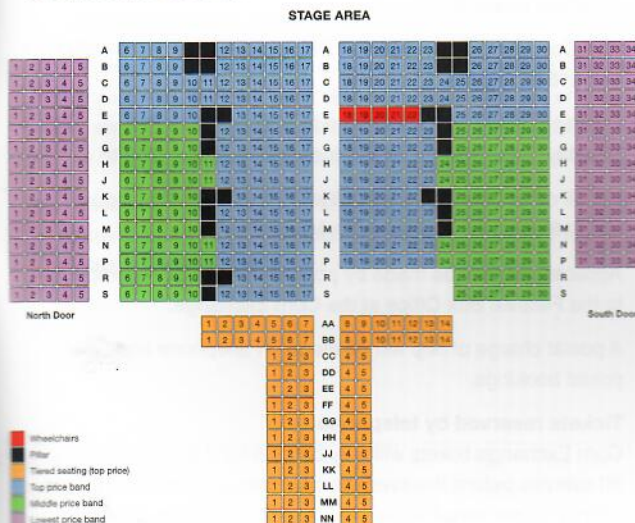
Friends of the Newbury Spring Festival booking 6 or more concerts, or tickets to the value of over £150 are entitled to a FREE programme book. A voucher will be sent which can be exchanged, in person, at any Festival event, the Festival Office or Box Office (restricted to one per Friend).

Festival Breaks

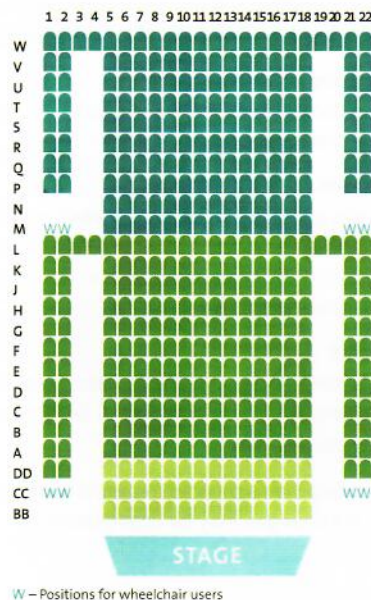
Please contact the Tourist Information Office tel. 01635 30267 for up to date details of accommodation and restaurants in the area.

Seating plans

St Nicolas Church



Corn Exchange



Booking

Festival Box Office

Open Monday – Saturday

10.00am to 6.00pm

The Corn Exchange, Market Place, Newbury RG14 5BD

Tel: 01635 522733

Priority booking period for Friends of the Festival
Monday 18th February to Wednesday 5th March 2008.

For all other bookings the Festival Box Office will be open
from 10.00am on Thursday 6th March 2008.

Applications may be made by post, telephone or in person
to the Festival Box Office at the Corn Exchange.

A postal charge of 50p will be made on telephone and
postal bookings.

Tickets reserved by telephone

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

Online booking

Events may be booked online from our website

www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk from Thursday 6th
March, a £1 charge per ticket is payable for this facility.

Tickets advertised as unreserved

Tickets may be booked in advance but seats are obtained
on a 'first come first served basis'.

Programme book

An indispensable guide to the Festival, containing full details
of all events. On sale from mid April at the Festival Box Office
and at all events for £5 or can be ordered in advance with your
tickets and a voucher will be sent.

Disabled access

Some of the venues we use only have limited wheelchair
access and facilities so please contact the Box Office before
applying for tickets.

Please note: details in this programme were correct at time of
going to print, but changes may be unavoidable.

Instructions for postal booking

1. Please ensure you have read the information opposite.
2. If tickets are sold out in the price of your choice, the Box Office Manager will issue tickets in an alternative price range unless otherwise requested.
3. In order to avoid refunds or requests for additional payment, cheques should be left blank with a maximum amount entered between the crossed lines i.e. 'a sum not exceeding £x.xp'. The Box Office Manager will enter the correct amount.
4. Please return booking form with remittance to:-

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

Date May	Event	No. of tickets	Price per ticket	Total £	For Box Office use only

Admin/postage costs £0.50

Festival Programme Book £5

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 programme book voucher.

I enclose a cheque made payable to 'The Corn Exchange'

Please charge my Access/Visa/Maestro/Delta

Credit card expiry date

Maestro issue number

Signature

Amount

Tickets for the Newbury Spring Festival Society Ltd will be handled by the Box Office of The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust. With your consent your booking details may be used to keep you informed about forthcoming events and other developments of the Newbury Spring Festival and the Corn Exchange.

Tick here if you consent to your details being added to the marketing list of both the Newbury Spring Festival and the Corn Exchange, Newbury.

We occasionally pass our marketing list to like minded organisations. Please tick if you DO wish us to share your details.

Four rings five stars.

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