



CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER  
WEEKEND CONCERT

# *The Viennese* **MASTERS**

## **AN INSTRUMENTAL & CHORAL EVENING**

Mozart: Requiem in D minor  
Beethoven: String Trio in C minor, Op. 9 no. 3



*The Parish of Esher Choir with the Barisons Chamber Choir and  
Brighton College Choral Society with members of the Vienna Piano Quartet*  
Katharina Engelbrecht violin - Magdalena Eber violin - Jan Ryska cello  
Pianist Amanda Hurton Conducted by Stuart Whatton

Saturday 3 June 2023 at 7pm

*Admission by programme £15  
Refreshments served, donations welcome.*

# Programme



## Music on the Green

*Quality music in the heart of Esher*

Music on the Green (MOTG) is the Parish of Esher's musical outreach programme based at Christ Church, overlooking Esher Green. At MOTG we believe that music should be accessible to all. Whilst having our firmest foot planted at the classical end of the spectrum, we seek to offer a rich and varied programme, presenting live music in interesting and rewarding ways so that it can be widely appreciated and enjoyed.

### **String Trio in C minor, Op. 9 no. 3**

- i *Allegro con spirito*
- ii *Adagio con espressione*
- iii *Scherzo: Allegro molto e vivace*
- iv *Finale: Presto*

**Ludwig van Beethoven**  
(1770-1827)

### **Requiem in D minor, K. 626**

- i Introitus  
*Requiem aeternam*  
(Soprano solo & Chorus)
- ii Kyrie (Chorus)
- iii Sequentia
  - a. *Dies irae* (Chorus)
  - b. *Tuba mirum* (SATB soli)
  - c. *Rex tremendae* (Chorus)
  - d. *Recordare* (SATB soli)
  - e. *Confutatis* (Chorus)
  - f. *Lacrymosa* (Chorus)
- iv Offertorium
  - a. *Domine Jesu* (SATB soli & Chorus)
  - b. *Hostias* (Chorus)
- v Sanctus
  - a. *Sanctus* (Chorus)
  - b. *Hosanna* (Chorus)
- vi Benedictus
  - a. *Benedictus* (SATB soli)
  - b. *Hosanna* (Chorus)
- vii *Agnus Dei* (Chorus)
- viii Communio
  - a. *Lux aeterna* (Soprano solo & Chorus)
  - b. *Cum sanctis tuis* (Chorus)

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**  
(1756-1791)

# Welcome

## **Our Director of Music writes...**

On behalf of the Parish of Esher, may I warmly welcome you to this summer concert at which we shall be enjoying works by two Viennese composers who need no introduction. A Beethoven string trio will provide an instrumental foil to Mozart's late choral masterpiece, his Requiem, which tonight will be sung with chamber accompaniment.

Following last autumn's 'Armed Man' concert, we are delighted to be continuing our collaboration with the Barisons Chamber Choir and, on this occasion, we also welcome guest singers from Brighton College Choral Society, who gave their own performance of Mozart's Requiem last November.

We are honoured to have with us some distinguished string players visiting from Austria, who together form three-quarters of the Vienna Piano Quartet and are individually members of the Vienna Philharmonic and Vienna State Opera Orchestras; and we are most grateful to local pianist and parishioner Amanda Hurton for completing tonight's instrumental team.

Stuart Whatton  
*Parish Director of Music*

## **Performers**

**Esher Parish Choir, Barisons Chamber Choir & Brighton College Choral Society**

Stuart Whatton *conductor*  
Brian Hill *Barisons musical director*  
Peter Dutton *BCCS director*

## **Vienna Piano Quartet (with guest pianist)**

Katharina Engelbrecht *violin*  
Magdalena Eber *viola*  
Jan Ryska *cello*  
Amanda Hurton *piano*

## **Vocal soloists**

Sophia Yan Jin *soprano*  
Hera Protopapas *alto*  
John Vallance *tenor*  
Matthew Secombe *bass*

# Choirs & Performers

## **The Parish of Esher Choir**

Our parish choir is based here at Christ Church and provides the main choral input to regular Sunday worship and major weekday services throughout the year. We are currently an adult voluntary choir of around a dozen singers, and rehearse weekly on Monday evenings.

We are in the process of launching a new choral scholarship scheme with four scholarships (one on each voice part) aimed at young musicians of sixth form or university age, who will primarily work alongside the existing voluntary singers.

The choir performs a wide range of music, from Renaissance polyphony through the standard canon of 18th to 20th century repertoire to more contemporary composers including Bob Chilcott, Ola Gjeilo and Philip Stopford. There is usually at least one substantial performance each year of a relatively major work; repertoire in recent years has included the Fauré Requiem, Stainer's Crucifixion, Schütz's *Seven Last Words from the Cross*, Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*, Beethoven's oratorio *Christ on the Mount of Olives* and Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*.

Over the past decade the choir has performed at Coventry, Guildford and Southwark Cathedrals, as well as singing Choral Evensong at Wadham College Oxford. Future plans include possible tours to Cambridge, France and Ireland.

## **Barisons Chamber Choir**

Over the past decade the Barisons Chamber Choir has built up a reputation for excellence, versatility and sensitivity in both live performances and recordings. The choir has tackled repertoire ranging from Handel's *Zadok the Priest* to Karl Jenkins' cantata *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*.

Barisons have performed in many major European venues including St Nicholas Church in Prague and St Mark's Venice, and has sung in a number of commercial concerts including the premiere of James Brett's *Book of Dreams*. It had the honour of performing for the late Queen's arrival at Bushy Park during her Majesty's Golden Jubilee, where the choir also deputised for the Opera Babes.

The choir has regularly teamed up with the Prague Conservatoire String Quartet, and has performed and recorded with the London Metropolitan Orchestra.

## **Brighton College Choral Society**

Brighton College Choral Society (BCCS) are a 100-strong choir incorporating parents and staff of the college and members of the local South Coast community, rehearsing on Thursdays during termtime and performing two major concerts with orchestra each year, joining with current students of the college choir. Tonight's collaboration originated from a serendipitous

encounter with a Music on the Green audience member at our Karl Jenkins concert here last November, and follows on from an extremely successful Mozart Requiem choral workshop weekend in Normandy last month, organised by Barisons and attended by a number of members of BCCS.

## **Stuart Whatton**

Stuart's musical education began at Canterbury Cathedral Choir School and later took him to University College Oxford, where he was organ scholar from 1981 to 1984. After 14 years in the Civil Service, including two years as Private Secretary to the Attorney General (his original degree having been law), he decided to follow his heart into music full-time, and this led to a B.Mus with 1st class honours from King's College London, where he also won the Purcell Prize. Following PGCE studies at Cambridge, Stuart pursued a school-teaching career for eight years, running a variety of school music departments in Dorset, Essex and Scotland.

In past chapters of his life, Stuart has been Assistant Organist to the Parish of Waterloo, Organist of the Ealing-based Questors Choir, and Director of Music at St Matthew's Church, Southwark. His varied performing career has included appearing in a



jazz piano sketch on Channel 4's *Banzai!*, accompanying an international youth choir at a plenary session of the United Nations in Geneva, and a role in the Opening Ceremony of the 2012 London Olympics, as part of Danny Boyle's 'cast of thousands'.

A Fellow of both the Royal College of Organists and the Royal Society of Arts, Stuart has been Director of Music for Esher Parish since 2011 and he also conducted the Weybridge-based Oatland Singers from 2019 to 2022.

## **Katharina Engelbrecht**

Katharina was born in Vienna in 1987 and studied at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna with Marina Sorokowa and at the University of Music in Cologne with Zakhar Bron, before completing her postgraduate studies at the Music University of Vienna with Anton Sorokow and in chamber music with Johannes Meissl. She has won multiple prizes at national and international competitions such as Gradus ad Parnassum, the Fritz Kreisler Competition Vienna and the Johannes Brahms Competition Pörschach.



At the age of 18 she made her debut with Mendelssohn's violin concerto in the Grand Hall of the Wiener Musikverein. As a soloist she has played with the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra, Carinthian SO, the Kaunas

Chamber Orchestra, Vratza Philharmonic and the Alpe-Adria Orchestra, among others.

As a member of the Vienna Piano Quartet, founded as the Stratos Quartet in spring 2013, Katharina has won several prizes in international competitions such as the Int. Città di Pinerolo e Turino Competition (Italy), the M-Prize Competition (Michigan/ USA) and the Beethoven Competition in Luslawicze (Poland). Concert appearances have taken her as a soloist and chamber musician to the Wiener Musikverein and Konzerthaus, London's Wigmore Hall, the Gulbenkian Lisbon, Casa do Musica Porto and the Konzerthaus Berlin.

Katharina was a violinist in the stage orchestra of the Vienna State Opera from 2013-2018. Since March 2018 she has been a member of the 1st violins in the Vienna State Opera Orchestra and in April 2021 she was accepted as a member of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.

## Magdalena Eber

Born in Vienna, Magdalena completed her viola and chamber music studies *cum laude* at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna and at the European Chamber Music Academy under Prof. H.P. Ochsenhofer and Prof. Johannes Meissl.



After being an academist of the Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna, since 2013 she has been a member of the Wiener Volksoper Orchestra, serving as a viola leader there since 2018.

She has also taken musical inspiration from great artists such as Alfred Brendel, Hatto Bayerle, Peter Cropper, Miguel da Silva, Jerome Pernoo, Ralf Gothoni and Claus-Christian Schuster. Magdalena is a winner of several viola and chamber music competitions and has given concerts in venues such as the Wiener Musikverein, London's Wigmore Hall, the Gulbenkian Centre in Lisbon and many others.

## Jan Ryska

Cellist Jan started his musical studies at the age of five. He graduated in cello performance major *cum laude* from the Prague Conservatory, the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague and at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna, as well as from the prestigious European Chamber Music Academy.



Since his childhood, Jan has become a laureate of many international cello and chamber music competitions – among recent achievements with the Vienna Piano Quartet, one could name first prize in the Brahms International Chamber Music Competition in Austria, the first and special prizes in the

Pinerollo Chamber Music Competition in Italy and the first and Grand Prize of the Beethoven Competition. His other activities include solo and chamber music concerts in different European countries as well as in Japan (Bunka Kaikan Tokio) and the USA (Carnegie Hall) and recordings for the Czech, Austrian, Slovenian and Portuguese Radio Stations.

Since January 2012 Jan has been engaged by the Vienna State Opera and performs intensively with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in all major world venues and festivals with the most distinguished conductors. In 2016 and 2017 he served as a solo cellist of the Tonkünstler Orchestra. He has also been selected for the prestigious 'New Austrian Sound of Music' programme by the Austrian Ministry of International Affairs.

Jan Ryska plays on a Francesco Barbieri cello made in Mantova, Italy, in 1740.

## **Amanda Hurton**

Amanda enjoys a varied career as a pianist, accompanist, chamber music coach, teacher, examiner and adjudicator. She

studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School and Royal College of Music, where she graduated with First Class Honours and won ten major prizes including the Concerto Prize twice and prize for Best



Diploma Recital. She has performed extensively in the UK and abroad in Europe, the USA and Australia, and has also broadcast on BBC Radios 2, 3 & 4 and on French Radio.

Amanda has been an ABRSM examiner since 1995 and has examined and given seminars abroad, also acting as mentor on the CT ABRSM Professional Development course.

As a recording producer in the past, she made recordings of orchestral, choral, chamber and instrumental works for record companies including BMG, ASV, Claves, Auvidis, Hyperion and Naxos. From 2003 Amanda produced six series of complete Piano Syllabus recordings for ABRSM, working with an array of international concert pianists and college professors.

She is an occasional deputy piano teacher at the Yehudi Menuhin School and has taken YMS pupils to concerto appearances in the UK and abroad. In May 2016 she was on the Jury of the Wales International Piano Festival Competition.

Amanda lives in Esher and has had her own private piano teaching practice for over 30 years, and she also teaches at Hampton School. Amanda's pupils enjoy successes performing in festivals and competitions, and many have gone on to study music at College and University and to have careers in music including in performing, teaching, conducting and composing.

## Sophia Yan Jin

Sophia has performed in a number of prestigious venues, including the Wigmore Hall, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Westminster Abbey, Birmingham's



Symphony Hall, Rachmaninov Hall in Moscow and Carnegie Hall in New York. She has performed in London's Royal Academy of Music Bach series multiple times, working with conductors such as Peter Whelan, Eamonn Dougan, Masaaki Suzuki and Jane Glover.

One of her particular interests has been observing the cultural implications of various schools of teaching across the world, one of these being with Natalia Pustovaya of the Bolshoi Theatre when she attended the International Summer School at Moscow's Tchaikovsky Conservatory.

In her studies outside of singing, Sophia also is a violinist and pianist. She enjoys performing in chamber groups and orchestras, which she has led and played in across the UK and Europe. Her quartet has been booked for several concerts and events, and has given numerous public performances. Sophia also plays in orchestras at Cadogan Hall and St John's Smith Square.

## Hera Protopapas

Hera is a Swedish-Greek mezzo soprano with a passion for storytelling. She is particularly interested in Baroque, Classical



and contemporary music and fascinated by narratives that transcend time periods and styles. Having graduated from the Royal Academy of Music with first-class honours in 2022, Hera is currently pursuing a postgraduate degree at the Academy supported by a scholarship, and learning with Giles Underwood and James Cheung. She is a regular contributor to the 'Bach in Leipzig' concert series, through which she has worked with conductors such as Philippe Herreweghe, Masaaki Suzuki and John Butt, and she also regularly performs as a soloist in concerts around London. Hera is the 2022/2023 Alto Choral Scholar of the Thames Philharmonic Choir and of Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square.

## John Vallance

John is currently a regular soloist and section leader at the American Church in London. Recent choral performances include BBC One's Christmas Eve Mass



Live, the Last Night of the Proms, the Tracy Ullman Show, Georgian TV in Tbilisi and the Prime Minister's Christmas concert. Previous roles include Abdallo in *Nabucco* at Cadogan Hall, Nankipoo in *The Mikado* at the Epsom Playhouse and Billy Bigelow in *Carousel* at the Minack Theatre. John was the chorus master for Ormond Opera and Geoids musical theatre company and founding Music Director of the Peregrina Enchantica chamber choir and the London Contemporary Voices.

## Matthew Secombe

Matthew's opera engagements have included Eisenstein in RNCM's *Die Fledermaus*, Masetto in Surrey Opera's *Don Giovanni* at the



Minack Theatre, and the Crocodile God in Darren Berry's *The Crocodile of Old Kang Pow* for Tête-à-Tête. Matthew was nominated for the Offies (Off West End Theatre Awards) 2023 for his performance in HGO's *Venus and Adonis* (Huntsman, bass chorus) and *Dido and Aeneas* (Sailor, bass chorus).

His oratorio solos have included Handel's *Messiah* in Truro Cathedral, Haydn's *Paukenmesse* in Holy Trinity Church Sloane Square, and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in Barts Great Hall. Other performances have included voice-viol-a-piano trio recitals

at the RCM, and Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs* with the Esterhazy Singers. He sang in the choir in the recent Netflix film *The Strays*, and is a member of Kantos Chamber Choir.

Next week he will sing as one of nine Apostles in a semichorus for Elgar's *The Apostles* with the Hallé, conducted by Sir Mark Elder.

# Instrumentalists background note

## **Vienna Piano Quartet**

The Vienna Piano Quartet (Wiener Klavierquartett) was founded in the Austrian capital in 2013, that autumn receiving first prize for chamber music at the 20th International Johannes Brahms Competition in Pörschach, also winning a concert engagement at the Hofburg in Vienna. Soon afterwards, they were honoured to be invited to join the ECMA (the European Chamber Music Academy), affording the fledgling ensemble opportunities for future collaborations with renowned chamber musicians including Johannes Meissl and Alfred Brendel.

Since then, the Quartet has given concerts at venues including the Vienna Musikverein, London's Wigmore Hall and Lisbon's Gulbenkian Centre, in addition to appearances at the Dvorák Festival in the Czech Republic and the Turku Festival in Finland in as well as in Japan, Italy, France and the USA. Some of their concerts have been recorded for broadcast via radio (Ö1) and/or television (RTP).

The Quartet's achievements include First Prize and the Grand Prix at the Beethoven International Chamber Music Competition in Poland, first prize at the Città di Pinerolo e Torino International Chamber Music Competition and selection for the "New Austrian Sound of Music" programme

of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration & Foreign Affairs.

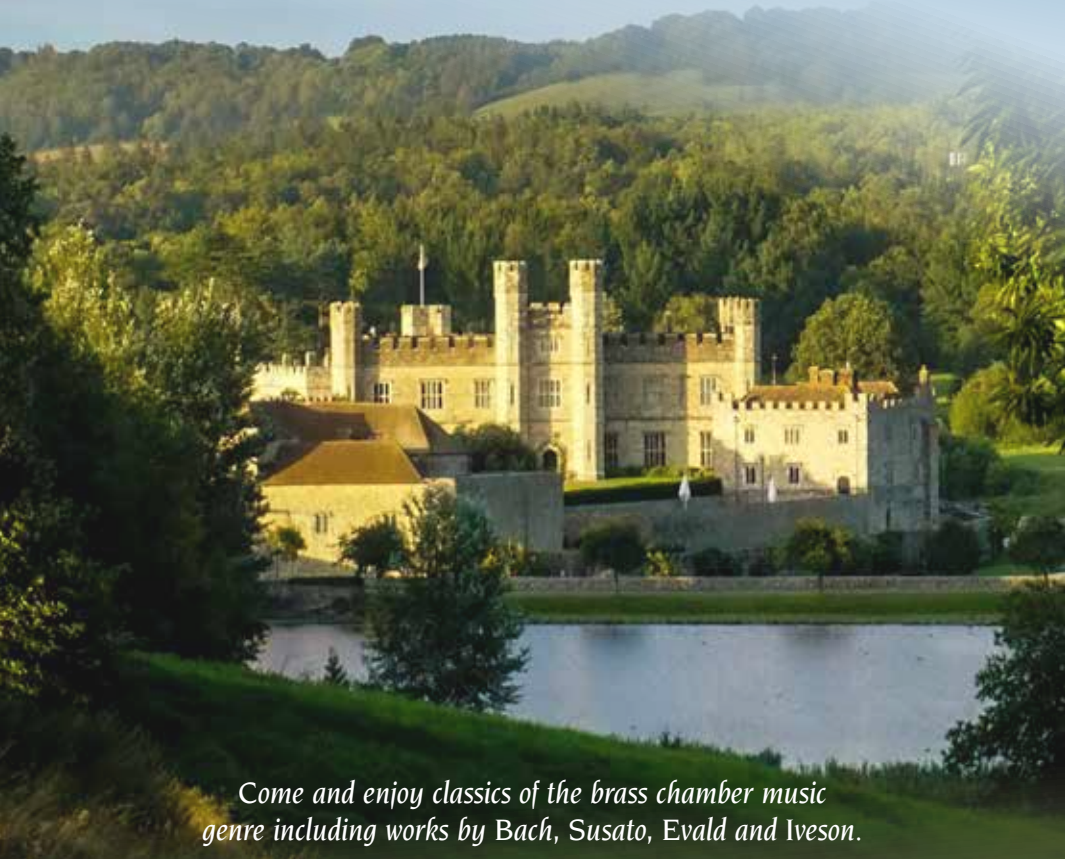
All four musicians have won multiple awards in national and international competitions and pursue extensive performing careers, both as solo performers and as chamber and orchestral musicians. They enjoy pooling their individual experiences and approaches in order to create a homogeneous sound, as well as promoting to their enthusiastic audiences the piano quartet as something distinct from the prevalent string quartet and piano trio genres.



CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER  
LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Wednesday 21 June 2023

# Bastion Brass



*Come and enjoy classics of the brass chamber music  
genre including works by Bach, Susato, Ewald and Iveson.*

**Free entry & light lunch from 12.30pm. Concert from 1.15pm.**  
*Join us in person or watch it on YouTube at 'Music on the Green Esher'*

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## LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

*Third Wednesday of the month*

*Doors open 12.30pm - Concert from 1.15pm*

### 2023 Programme

- Jun 21 Bastion Brass
- Jul 19 Sofia Demetriades, violin & Tatyana Andrianova, piano  
*(July concert to be held at Old St George's Church, Esher)*
- Sep 20 Belinda Jones & Gamal Khamis (two pianos)
- Oct 18 Alastair Penman, saxophone & Jonathan Pease, piano

*Please continue to check our website for up-to-date MOTG news.*