



MALVERN
CONCERT CLUB
FOUNDED 1903 BY SIR EDWARD ELGAR OM

119th Season

2021-22

Aronowitz Trio

Albion Quartet

Takács Quartet

*Martin Roscoe
and Jennifer Pike*

Llŷr Williams

Carducci String Quartet

Iain Simcock

**New London Chamber
Ensemble**

malvern-concert-club.co.uk

MALVERN CONCERT CLUB 119TH SEASON AT A GLANCE

2021	
30 September	Aronowitz Trio
21 October	Albion Quartet
11 November	Takács Quartet
2022	
20 January	Martin Roscoe and Jennifer Pike
13 February	<i>Llŷr Williams</i>
24 March	Carducci String Quartet
22 April	<i>Ian Simcock</i>
28 April	New London Chamber Ensemble

Concerts in *italics* are daytime recitals

ALL CONCERTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ever since its first concert on 31 October 1903, **Malvern Concert Club** has been a cornerstone of musical life in Worcestershire. It was founded by Sir Edward Elgar, and the Club's first Secretary (for over 38 years) was his close friend the local architect Arthur Troyte Griffith, whom Elgar had immortalised in Variation No. VII, *Troyte*, in his *Enigma* Variations. The Club continued to run through two World Wars without a break.

Now, for its 119th Season, Malvern Concert Club is proud to continue that tradition of bringing the best chamber music to this part of the country, with a roster of British and international musicians, both established performers and promising newcomers.

In normal times, the Club invites anyone to become a member by subscription. This includes a ticket for each of the six main concerts (at a cost much lower than the price payable by non-members), and the right to participate in the affairs of the Club, including at the AGM. However, with continued uncertainty about restrictions on audience size because of Covid-19, we cannot do this in 2021-22, as it is not possible to guarantee everybody a seat.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 119TH SEASON

We plan to put on all of the concerts listed opposite, but each will be marketed in turn, so we can take maximum advantage of whatever audience capacity is allowed.

We urge everyone to join the Concert Club. We will make you very welcome. It costs just £10 per person for the whole season (so a dual membership would be £20). This will ensure you will be the first to receive the latest news about each concert direct from us. This will include reminders about each concert, details of timing (one "standard" concert or two shorter ones, for example), the ticket price, and instructions on how to book.

Most importantly, all members will be entitled to a priority booking period before each concert, enabling you to apply for ONE seat per concert from Malvern Theatres, before they open sales to the general public.

This arrangement will apply to all of our regular Thursday concerts, plus the Sunday recital, until further notice. If circumstances change we might later be able to offer you a more "normal" discounted season ticket package. If we do this, then if you have already paid £10/£20 then this will of course be deducted from your single/dual subscription fee.

TO APPLY FOR CLUB MEMBERSHIP go to **page 14**.

Members of the public can buy tickets for each concert from Malvern Theatres, but only after the expiry of the priority booking period for that concert - provided there is still capacity.

BOOKING DETAILS:

- ▶ **ONLINE** – www.malvern-theatres.co.uk. Then click on "What's On"
- ▶ **Box Office Telephone:** 01684 892277
- ▶ **In person:** Malvern Theatres, Grange Road, Malvern WR14 3HB

For the latest information on the status of each concert visit www.malvern-concert-club.co.uk

**ALL TICKETS ENQUIRIES AND ALL SALES WILL BE
DIRECT WITH MALVERN THEATRES ONLY**



Thursday 30 September 2021 7.30pm

The Aronowitz Piano Trio

Magnus Johnston violin
Guy Johnston cello
Tom Poster piano

Schubert Notturmo in E flat D.897
Schumann Piano Trio no.2 in F, Op.80
Schubert Piano Trio no.1 in B flat, D.898

Guy & Magnus Johnston and Tom Poster have worked together for almost twenty years and were founder members of the award-winning Aronowitz Ensemble, an ensemble of six strings and piano with which they continue to perform. The Aronowitz Ensemble's flexible approach to programming chamber music meant that the trio repertoire was often included in the ensemble's concerts. Indeed, piano trio concerts were much sought after, and as a result the Aronowitz Piano Trio was born, with the purpose of exploring in depth the outstanding music composed for this genre.

All members of the trio have a long history of distinguished chamber music partnerships and offer a wealth of mutual experience to bring to their concerts. As individuals and as members of ensembles, they have performed all over the world, in major concert series and international venues and at many festivals. The Aronowitz Piano Trio has performed throughout the UK and in Prague and the Netherlands. Highlights have included concerts at the Lammermuir Festival, with reviews describing the trio as "exquisitely refined" and "full of heroic energy", and their playing as "a thing of wonder".

The trio has recorded Beethoven's 'Ghost' Trio for the King's College Cambridge label.



Thursday 21 October 2021 7.30pm

Albion Quartet

Tamsin Waley-Cohen violin **Emma Parker** violin
Ann Beilby viola **Nathaniel Boyd** cello

Mozart String Quartet no.18 in A, K.464
Judith Weir String Quartet
Brahms String Quartet in B flat, Op.67

The Albion Quartet were booked at short notice to play for us in November 2020, after the Calidore String Quartet were stranded in the USA by Covid - only for their concert too to be wiped out by lockdown rules. So it is a particular pleasure that we have been able to re-schedule them to appear for the Club this season.

Formed in 2016, the Albion Quartet unites four outstanding young string players, brought together by a shared belief in the visceral power of the string quartet. They have played at the Wigmore Hall, Aldeburgh Festival and abroad, including at The Louvre, Paris, and the Concertgebouw, as well as at many music festivals. Committed to new music, they collaborated with Kate Whitley on a powerful and evocative song cycle, and premiered a new work by Freya Waley-Cohen.

Passionate about musical education, the quartet holds a residency with the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff, where they regularly give masterclasses and perform. As a Cavatina Chamber Music Trust ensemble, they also give frequent workshops at primary school level, where they are thrilled to share the magic of music with children from diverse backgrounds. They have formed "Friends of the Albion Quartet" aimed at developing mini-residencies with schools in the state sector and in the special needs category to help these children to connect more deeply to classical music and find inspiration through experiencing music in an interactive and accepting environment.

The Albion Quartet record for Signum Classics. Their 2020 disc of Dvorak string quartets won much praise, with Gramophone magazine stating: "This, surely is how Dvorak's chamber music is supposed to sound: luminous, playful,.....and simultaneously generous and touchingly intimate."



Thursday 11 November 2021 7.30pm

Takács Quartet

Edward Dusinberre violin Harumi Rhodes violin
Richard O'Neill viola András Fejér cello

Mozart String Quartet no.15 in D minor, K.421
Dutilleux String Quartet *Ainsi La Nuit*
Smetana String Quartet No.1 in E minor *From My Life*

The Takács Quartet has long been renowned for the vitality of its interpretations. Formed in 1975 at the Franz Liszt Academy in Hungary, they are now based at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where they are Christoffersen Faculty Fellows. They perform eighty concerts a year worldwide.

Multiple award winners, the Quartet featured in the BBC television series *“Being Beethoven”* last year, and also released a CD for Hyperion of piano quartets by Amy Beach and Elgar to add to their lengthy discography, which includes the Smetana quartet listed here. They are making two recordings for Hyperion, one featuring the last quartets of Haydn, the other pairing two masterpieces from the first decade of the 20th century: Bartók’s Quartet no.1 and Berg’s Opus 3.

In 2012 Gramophone announced that the Takács was the only string quartet to be inducted into its first Hall of Fame, along with such legendary artists as Jascha Heifetz, Leonard Bernstein and Dame Janet Baker. The ensemble also won the 2011 Award for Chamber Music from the Royal Philharmonic Society in London. In 2014 the Takács became the first string quartet to be awarded the Wigmore Hall Medal, an award which recognises major international artists who have a long association with the Hall.

With the agreement of Barbara Thomas, the Committee are proud to dedicate this concert to the memory of her late husband, Peter, our former Secretary who did so much for the Club.



Thursday 20 January 2022 7.30pm

Martin Roscoe piano Jennifer Pike violin

Beethoven Sonatas for piano and violin
No.6 in A, Op.30, no.1
No.3 in E flat, Op.12, No.3
No.9 in A, Op.47, *Kreutzer*

BEETHOVEN
VIOLIN SONATA
SERIES 2018-2020



It was a double disappointment for Club members when, in January 2020 - Beethoven’s 250th anniversary year - Tasmin Little OBE was prevented by a hand injury from completing our cycle of his piano sonatas. Then Covid-19 forced her last, rearranged concert in Malvern to be cancelled. Tasmin has now, of course, retired from playing. However, we are delighted that Martin Roscoe has invited Jennifer Pike, the distinguished British violinist, to join him for this third and final concert of the series.

With an extraordinary career spanning over four decades, Martin Roscoe is unarguably one of the UK’s best loved pianists. Renowned for his versatility at the keyboard, Martin is equally at home in concerto, recital and chamber performances. In an ever more distinguished career, his enduring popularity and the respect in which he is universally held are built on a deeply thoughtful musicianship allied to an easy rapport with audiences and fellow musicians alike.

Renowned for her unique artistry and compelling insight into music of all eras, Jennifer Pike is one of today’s most exciting instrumentalists. She first gained international recognition in 2002, when, aged 12, she became the youngest-ever winner of the BBC Young Musician of the Year. She made her debuts at the BBC Proms and the Wigmore Hall aged 15, and was a BBC New Generation Artist from 2008 - 2010. She is a patron of the Lord Mayor’s City Music Foundation, and in 2020 was awarded an MBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list for services to classical music.

Both artists have extensive discographies. Together, they have recorded (for Chandos) French violin sonatas (“thoroughly idiomatic, glistening performances”), and works by Elgar and Vaughan Williams (“rare and well-known repertoire with a twist combine in an irresistible release”). The latter includes the original, piano, version of *The Lark Ascending*.



Sunday 13 February 2022 3.00pm

Llŷr Williams piano

Haydn Piano Sonata in C, Op.17, Hob.XVI:48

Schumann Fantasy in C, Op.17

Rachmaninov Variations on a Theme of Corelli, Op. 42

Liszt Légende no.1: St François d'Assise: la prédication aux oiseaux S.175

Liszt Mephisto Waltz no.1, S.514



A former BBC New Generation Artist and Borletti-Buitoni Trust award winner, Llŷr Williams was born in Pentrebychan, North Wales, and read music at The Queen's College, Oxford before taking up a postgraduate scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, and in 2017 was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Wales. He is also currently Artist-in-Association at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

2019 saw Williams returning to the Edinburgh Festival, as well as the Cowbridge Festival where he is Artist-in-Residence, and the Gower Festival where he is a Patron. In 2020 prior to lockdown he returned to the BBC National Orchestra of Wales for a recreation of Beethoven's 1808 Vienna Concert, and gave all-Beethoven recitals in Moscow and St Petersburg, as well as for the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society in the US. In October 2020, Williams returned to Wigmore Hall for two streamed recitals, while in the same month he completed his Cardiff series 'Pictures in Music' at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. 2021 sees the start there of an all-Chopin series spanning two seasons.

Williams' eclectic repertoire is reflected in his discography. November 2020 saw the release of an 8-disc box-set 'A Schubert Journey' on Signum Records. His previous release, the 12-disc 'Beethoven Unbound' also on Signum Records, was BBC Music Magazine's 'Recording of the Month' in August 2018. Other recordings by Williams include two solo albums for Signum, as well as William Mathias' second Piano Concerto with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales on Welsh label Tŷ Cerdd.



Thursday 24 March 2022 7.30pm

Carducci String Quartet with Peter Lale

Matt Denton violin

Michelle Fleming violin

Eoin Schmidt-Martin viola

Emma Denton cello

with **Peter Lale** viola

Fanny Mendelssohn String Quartet in E flat

Shostakovich String Quartet No.9 in E flat, Op.117

Mozart String Quintet No.4 in G, K.516

An internationally renowned Anglo-Irish string quartet based in the UK, the versatile and award-winning Carducci String Quartet has performed everything from brand new quartets, classic works by Haydn, complete Shostakovich cycles, and even partnered folk-rock icon Ian Anderson of Jethro Tull. Founded in 1997, the ensemble has won numerous international competitions, including Concert Artists Guild International Competition USA 2007 and First Prize at Finland's Kuhmo International Chamber Music Competition 2004. In 2016, they took home a Royal Philharmonic Society Award for their performances of cycles of the complete Shostakovich Quartets. They were acclaimed by Gramophone Magazine for their "...athletic, upfront performances, clear in texture, forthright in tone and bold in articulation." The quartet has released a bevy of acclaimed recordings on their own label, Carducci Classics, as well as Signum Classics, and Naxos.

Peter Lale's love of chamber music came from the many musical evenings he spent as a child playing with his six brothers and sisters, as well as informal performances and concerts in England and Europe. At sixteen he was awarded scholarships to study at the Royal Academy of Music. While still at the college he was invited to play with, and subsequently became a member of, the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. In 1985 Lale was a founder member of the Britten Quartet, who in their ten years together achieved much critical acclaim, including the Times saying "Few Quartets since the Amadeus's heyday can have achieved the same sense of utter comfort with the medium."



Friday 22 April 2022 10.30 for 11.15am
At Elmslie House *COFFEE AND CAKE CONCERT*

Iain Simcock harpsichord

Bach and the Dance

French Suite No.5 in G, BWV 816
Partita No.6 in E minor, BWV 830
French Overture BWV 831

'It's a fascinating journey through Bach's evermore complex approach to dance-forms.'

Iain Simcock was Organ Scholar at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle and Christ Church, Oxford, before being appointed Sub-Organist at Westminster Abbey and, for seven years, Assistant Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral. He was the first British prize-winner in the Chartres International Organ Competition, as well as prize-winner in competitions in St. Omer and Odense in Denmark. He studied with David Sanger in London and Jean Langlais in Paris.

In 1994, Iain was appointed Professor of Choral Singing at the Conservatoire National in Angers, France and Organist at the Abbey of Saint Pierre in Solesmes, whilst continuing his solo freelance career. He performed the complete organ works of Bach in Angers in 1996, recording a solo CD of highlights from the performances. He also performed all Bach's major harpsichord works including the Goldberg Variations on the famous Taskin harpsichord in the Russell Collection at the Edinburgh Festival.

From 2001-2014 he was the Musical Director of the Académie Vocale de Paris, performing weekly concerts with the choir as well as concerts in many major festivals. He was instigator of two major radio France programmes featuring the monks of Solesmes and the Académie Vocale, focusing on the great Solesmes tradition of the restoration of Gregorian chant. He also worked with the opera houses in Nantes, Lyon and Bordeaux, preparing young singers for roles in Britten *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Turn of the Screw*, Debussy *Pelléas et Mélisande*, Berlioz *Damnation of Faust*, Mozart *Magic Flute* and as assistant to Jane Glover and harpsichordist for Handel *Jephtha*.



Thursday 28 April 2022 7.30pm

New London Chamber Ensemble: Wind Quintet

Robert Manasse flute
Neyire Ashworth clarinet
Fraser Gordon bassoon
Melanie Ragge oboe
Stephen Stirling horn
with **Michael Dussek** piano

Beethoven Quintet in E flat, Op. 16
Nielsen Wind Quintet, Op. 43
Poulenc Flute Sonata, FP164
Mozart Quintet in E flat, K.452

For almost two decades, the New London Chamber Ensemble has challenged traditional ideas of chamber music with its innovative programmes, combining classic repertoire with semi-staged works incorporating drama, speech and action.

Concert appearances have taken NLCE all over the world. Highlights include: King's Place, London; premieres at the Cheltenham Festival, 2011 and 2014; Courthouse Music, Sweden; Banff Festival, Canada; collaborating with pianist Angela Hewitt at the Trasimeno Festival, Perugia and Wigmore Hall, London; Two Moors Festival, performing Walton's *Façade* with Prunella Scales and Timothy West; collaborating with the Dante String Quartet at the Swaledale Festival and Wigmore Hall; The Forge, London with pianist Michael Dussek; Leeds International Concert Season; and Hull City of Culture with Simon Callow.

NLCE is passionately dedicated to new music, and regularly commissions new works: composers include Edward Longstaff, John Woolrich, Philip Cashian, Martin Butler, Julian Philips and Sally Beamish. Their critically acclaimed recording of the chamber music of John Woolrich includes a new commission to celebrate the composer's 50th birthday.

NLCE is committed to outreach and education. They are Ensemble in Residence to the National Youth Chamber Orchestra, and give masterclasses and coaching for music colleges, schools and youth music groups. In 2012 they commissioned a new sextet *Settala's Machine* by Philip Cashian, as a side-by-side project to be performed with young musicians.

"Winning charm and a strong sense of coherence" – BBC Music Magazine

Where our concerts are held

The Forum Theatre, Malvern Theatres, Grange Road, Malvern WR14 3HB

All Thursday evening Series, and the Sunday concert



The Theatres

From their origin in 1885, Malvern Theatres have undergone many changes, and are now a modern, attractive and dynamic centre for the performing arts. The Forum Theatre is the main auditorium for musical performance, and its flexible space and largely tiered seating offer excellent acoustics, visibility and comfort. As configured in normal circumstances, the Forum accommodates about 600.

For opening hours, and availability of refreshments etc, please refer to Malvern Theatres because arrangements are liable to be changeable this season. **See page 3** for contact details.

Access

Malvern Theatres welcome people with disabilities and are committed to ensuring that your visit is easy, enjoyable and straightforward. Please advise the box office if you need any special assistance. Wheelchair spaces are available in the Forum Theatre. Other areas are accessible to wheelchairs and there are WC facilities on all levels.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Car Parking Short-stay car parks in Grange Road (2) (almost next to the Theatres), the Council House (Avenue Road) and Edith Walk (2); long-stay car parks in Priory Road (2) (pedestrian access to the Theatres through Priory Park) and Victoria Road. Normal charges apply before 4pm, including Sundays. A special charge applies in ALL car parks from 4pm to 8am. There is also free on-street parking in some nearby roads.

Buses Bus 44 between Worcester Bus Station and Great Malvern, three an hour weekday daytimes, approximately hourly Sundays.

Trains Great Malvern Station for West Midlands Railway and Great Western Railway trains. Trains can return you to Hereford, Worcester, Birmingham (always in daytimes, usually in evenings), Oxford and London Paddington after the concert.

Information correct as at April 2021. Please check before travelling.

Elmslie House, 8 Avenue Road, Malvern WR14 3AG

Friday 22 April 2022 at 10.30 for 11.15am



Elmslie House was built as 'Falston' in 1862 by the architect E W Elmslie for his own family use. In later life the building was a school, and had associations with Elgar and Troyte Griffith. It now hosts classes, art exhibitions and concerts, including what will be the fourth of the Club's successful Coffee and Cake Concerts, this time a performance by Iain Simcock (harpisichord).

Seating (all unreserved) is limited to 80. The ticket price includes refreshments before the concert, kindly provided by Anna Taylor, the owner of Elmslie House. Please bear in mind that this is a family home and therefore not open at all times.



For some years the Club has organised coach visits from Malvern to selected concerts by the CBSO and other orchestras at Symphony Hall, Birmingham. Participation is open to all, whether Club members or not. If you were on the mailing list in 2019-20 you will automatically receive details. Others can add their names to the mailing list by contacting Simon Payton at treasurer@malvern-concert-club.co.uk. The resumption of these trips will depend on a return to normal.

How to apply for Membership

ONLINE

Existing and new members can apply and pay for membership online at www.malvern-concert-club.co.uk

BY APPLICATION FORM

EXISTING MEMBERS

You will automatically receive information by email or post. There is no need to complete the form in this brochure

NEW MEMBERS

You can apply online or by post.

- ▶ **ONLINE** apply and pay at www.malvern-concert-club.co.uk
- ▶ **BY POST** complete the application form opposite, detach and send to: Membership Secretary, Malvern Concert Club, Granary House, Upton Road, Callow End, Worcester WR2 4TE

According to the payment method you ticked:

- ▶ **Direct Bank Transfer:** Bryan Ratcliff, the Membership Secretary will email you with payment instructions.
- ▶ **Cheque:** Enclose with the form your cheque payable to **Malvern Concert Club.**

Membership Enquiries: Bryan Ratcliff, 07970 569293 or membership@malvern-concert-club.co.uk

Membership subscriptions are only available direct from the Club, not from Malvern Theatres Box Office.

DATA PROTECTON (GDPR)

By submitting an application for Membership of Malvern Concert Club ('the Club'), you consent to the information which you provide in the application form and any other information obtained or provided as part of the application process and during the course of your membership of the Club being used solely for the purpose of processing your application (including payment processing) and dealing with you as a member of the Club. This includes communicating with you about Club activities and events and the fulfilment of any purchases. The data you provide will not be shared with any third party for marketing or commercial purposes, apart from Malvern Theatres to allow them to recognise you as a priority booker and to ensure track and trace arrangements. To comply with the requirements of the Charity Commission the information you provide may be retained for a period of time as part of the Club's financial records, even if your membership of the Club has ceased. Your consent extends to meet this requirement.

NEW MEMBERS' APPLICATION FORM

Please read p.14 How to Apply for Membership and GDPR.

Name/s . (1)

(2)

Address

..... Postcode

Phone (home or mobile)

Email

	No.	TOTAL COST
FULL SEASON MEMBERSHIP AT £10 PER PERSON		£
OPTIONAL: I wish to make a DONATION of		Thank you
TOTAL		£

PAYMENT METHOD

(Tick box below) See page 14 for how to apply for Membership

Direct

Cheque

As a registered charity, Malvern Concert Club can reclaim tax on donations from current UK tax payers, thereby increasing the value of your donation by 25p for every £1 you donate. To allow us to do this please tick and sign this Declaration.

I want to Gift Aid my donation shown above and any donations made in the future by me to Malvern Concert Club. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in a tax year when I make a donation it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature.....

Date / /

Please notify the Membership Secretary if in future you wish to cancel this declaration.





Malvern Concert Club wishes to thank:

the management, staff and volunteers of Malvern Theatres for their invaluable support;

advertisers in our concert programmes;

the students of Malvern St James Girls' School for their assistance in selling programmes at concerts;

the Club Members who assist with various tasks at concerts and behind the scenes.

Malvern Concert Club as at April 2021

President Roderick Williams OBE

Vice Presidents Joseph Brand, Linda Jennings,

Martin Knott, Michael Messenger OBE

Chairman John Gregory

Secretary Janet Lawton

Treasurer Simon Payton

Membership Secretary Bryan Ratcliff

Publicity & Marketing Officer Vacancy

Committee Members Patrick Aydon, Janet Hay, Linda McKinley,
Jean Upton, Hilary Winter

Steinway Model D concert grand piano (Hamburg, 2003) supplied by Hereford Cider Museum Trust, administered by Holy Trinity Church, Hereford.

Piano tuning by Philip Kennedy Professional Piano Services, Hereford.

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Artists and programmes are subject to change at short notice for reasons beyond the control of the Club.

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