

Welcome to International Classical  
Concerts at Vinehall

The Vinehall Concert Series, celebrating its 35th season, continues to bring the best of both British and international musicians to East Sussex. Performances take place in a purpose-built 250 seat theatre with superb piano and intimate acoustic which is ideal for chamber music.

ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Saturday 30th September 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

Sponsored by Mr & Mrs D Lloyd-Jones



*‘One of the world’s greatest ‘living’ orchestras.’  
Classical Public radio, USA*

Programme	
Mozart	Eine Kleine Nachtmusik
Haydn	Horn Concerto No. 1 in D major Solo: Annemarie Federle
Grieg	Holberg Suite
Haydn	Symphony No. 44 in E minor ‘Trauer’

**Patron:** HM King Charles III      **Director:** Stephanie Gonley

The **English Chamber Orchestra** is the most recorded chamber orchestra in the world, its discography containing 860 recordings of over 1,500 works by more than 400 composers. The ECO has also performed in more countries than any other orchestra and played with many of the world’s greatest musicians. The American radio network CPRN has selected ECO as one of the world’s greatest ‘living’ orchestras. The illustrious history of the orchestra features many major musical figures. Benjamin Britten was the orchestra’s first Patron and a significant musical influence.

The ECO’s long relationship with Daniel Barenboim led to an acclaimed complete cycle of Mozart piano concertos as live performances and recordings, followed later by two further recordings of the complete cycle, with Murray Perahia and Mitsuko Uchida. Recent tours have included the USA, Bermuda, China, Finland, France, Greece, Slovenia and Austria (culminating in a concert at Vienna’s Musikverein) as well as concerts across the UK and at London’s Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Kings Place and Cadogan Hall. The Orchestra has been chosen to record many successful film soundtracks including Dario Marianelli’s prizewinning scores for Atonement and Pride and Prejudice, and several James Bond soundtracks, and has taken part in a variety of other film and television projects. The ECO is proud of its outreach programme, Close Encounters, which is run by the musicians in the orchestra and takes music into many settings within communities and schools around the UK and abroad.

CALIDORE STRING QUARTET

Sunday 5th November 2023 at 3.00 p.m.

Sponsored by Mary Kane and Tony Loader



*“Deep reserves of virtuosity and irrepressible dramatic instinct”  
New York Times*

Programme	
Beethoven	Quartet Op. 18 no 4 in C minor
Korngold	Quartet No 3 in D major Op. 34
Schubert	Quartet No. 15 in G major

The Los Angeles Times described the **Calidore Quartet** as “astonishing,” their playing “shockingly deep,” approaching “the kind of sublimity other quartets spend a lifetime searching.” The Washington Post noted that “four more individual musicians are unimaginable, yet these speak, breathe, think and feel as one”. For more than a decade, the Calidore has enjoyed performances and residencies in world’s major venues and festivals, released multiple critically acclaimed recordings and won numerous awards.

The New York City based Calidore String Quartet have appeared in venues throughout North America, Europe, and Asia and also at the BBC Proms. The 22-23 season includes debuts in the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Prague, Madrid and Vancouver. They return to Wigmore Hall, Kennedy Center, Copenhagen, Florence, Montreal, Houston and Los Angeles.

In their most ambitious recording project to date, the Calidore will release the complete Beethoven’s String Quartets for Signum Records. Volume I, containing the late quartets, was released in February 2023 to great critical acclaim. BBC Music Magazine says the Calidore’s performances “penetrate right to the heart of the music” and “can stand comparison with the best.”

The Calidore String Quartet first made international headlines as winner of the 2016 M-Prize International Chamber Music Competition and the quartet was the first and only North American ensemble to win the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship; was a BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist and is currently in residence with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York.

The Calidore String Quartet was founded at the Colburn School in Los Angeles in 2010. Within two years, the quartet won top prizes in virtually all the major US chamber music competitions. An amalgamation of “California” and “doré” (French for “golden”), the ensemble’s name represents its reverence to the diversity of culture and the strong support it received from its original home: Los Angeles, California, the “golden state.”

KATYA APEKISHEVA

FINGHIN COLLINS CHARLES OWEN

Sunday 3rd December 2023 at 3.00 p.m.



Programme	
Sally Beamish	Sonnets (for six hands and two pianos)
Mozart	Sonata for Two Pianos in D major K.448
Rachmaninov	Suite No 2 for Two Pianos
Grainger	Fantasy on Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess

Born in Moscow, **Katya Apekisheva** made her stage debut at the age of 12. She continued her studies in Jerusalem and later at the RCM. A prizewinner at the Leeds International Piano Competition, she has gone on to enjoy a career performing with many of the world’s leading orchestras. Katya has received widespread critical acclaim for her interpretations from Gramophone Magazine’s Editor’s Choice award and International Piano Magazine’s Critics’ choice to Classic FM’s CD of the week as well as a Classical Brit award. Her intense artistry and delicacy make Katya a most sought-after collaborative pianist and she appears regularly at major chamber music festivals around the world.

**Finghin Collins** was born in Dublin in 1977 and studied piano at the Royal Irish Academy of Music and at the Geneva Conservatoire. He took first prize at the Clara Haskil Competition in Switzerland in 1999. Since then, he has enjoyed a busy international career in Europe, the USA, the Far East and Australia. He has performed with many of the world’s finest orchestras and conductors and as a soloist has given recitals in many of the world’s most prestigious halls as well as performing chamber music with many colleagues of international standing. He is Artistic Director of both the New Ross Piano Festival and Music for Galway. Finghin is Artistic Director of the Dublin International Piano Competition and will chair the jury of the Clara Haskil Competition.

**Charles Owen** enjoys an extensive international career, appearing at many major UK venues such as Wigmore Hall, Bridgewater Hall, The Sage and Kings Place. Internationally, he has performed at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York, Vienna’s Musikverein, Paris Musée d’Orsay, Amsterdam Concertgebouw and the Moscow Conservatoire. Along with his piano duo partner, Katya Apekisheva, he is Co-Artistic Director of the London Piano Festival at Kings Place. Charles’ recordings comprise discs of piano music by JS Bach, Brahms, Liszt, Janáček, Poulenc and Fauré, the cello sonatas of Rachmaninov and Chopin with Natalie Klein, Stravinsky Piano Ballets and Rachmaninoff Suites with Katya Apekisheva. Charles Owen is a Professor of Piano at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

MACIEJ KULAKOWSKI (Cello)

JEAN-SELIM ABDELMOULA (Piano)

Sunday 11th February 2024 at 3.00 p.m.



Programme	
Haydn	String Quartet in D major, Op. 20 No. 4
Dvořák	String Quartet in G major Op. 106
Schumann	Piano Quintet in E flat major Op. 44

*‘...of the intelligence and artistry on display there is no doubt’  
BBC Music Magazine \*\*\*\*\**

**Maciej Kulakowski** won 1st Prize at the Lutoslawski Competition, was a Laureate in the Finals of the Queen Elisabeth Competition, and a prize-winner at the 2019 YCAT International Auditions in London. He completed his studies at Kronberg Academy with Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt in 2022. Highlights this season include concerts at Wigmore Hall, Berlin Konzerthaus and the Kronberg Festival. He takes part in the Cello Biennale in Amsterdam and gives recitals at the Bath, Newbury Spring, and Machynnleth Festivals in the UK. Further afield Maciej joins Chamber Music at the World’s Edge (AWE) in New Zealand and returns as a Faculty Guest to Morningside Music Bridge in Boston, USA. In 2022 Delphian Records released Maciej’s debut album of French music ‘Beau soir’ to critical acclaim and he has recorded Penderecki’s complete solo cello music. As soloist he appeared with the Klassische Philharmonie Bonn at the Laieszhalle Hamburg, the London Mozart Players, and the Silesian Philharmonic Orchestra in Wroclaw. An avid chamber musician he collaborated with Stephen Waarts, Mischa, Sascha & Lily Maisky.

*“Not only is Jean-Sélim Abdelmoula a fine pianist with great sensitivity and imagination, he’s also a major talent in composition. When he plays Bach, Chopin and Schubert, he does it with a composer’s understanding.”  
Sir Andras Schiff*

**Jean-Sélim Abdelmoula** enjoys a busy and varied musical life both as a pianist and composer. During the 2021/22 season he gave concerts across Europe, highlights including the Essen Philharmonie, Wigmore Hall, Perth Concert Hall (broadcast by BBC Radio 3), Bozar Brussels, Lugano Musica; the Heidelberger Frühling, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Rheingau Festivals. He has performed at the Barbican, Royal Festival Hall, Wigmore Hall, Koerner Hall (Toronto), Banff Music Centre, 92nd Street Y and Weill Recital Hall (New York), and at festivals including the Lucerne, Prussia Cove IMS and Düsseldorf Schumannfest. He recorded Janáček’s complete solo piano music for Delphian Records with previously unrecorded works, due for release in 2023. As a composer his new work for cello and piano was premiered at the 2022 WEMP Festival in Pully, and he wrote and recorded the soundtrack for the film “Colombine”. Born in Switzerland, Jean-Sélim studied in Lausanne, the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, the Royal Conservatory in Toronto, Kronberg Academy with Sir András Schiff and Ferenc Rados, and at the Barenboim-Said Akademie with Jörg Widmann.

**VINEHALL INTERNATIONAL CONCERTS BOOKING FORM**

Please complete as required. Bookings can be made on-line using the link at TRYBOOKING.COM <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CMJQ> or by returning this form in the post.

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Email: [geoffreywhitehead@vinehallschool.com](mailto:geoffreywhitehead@vinehallschool.com)**



**The distinguished violinist and leader of the English Chamber Orchestra, Stephanie Gonley sends the following message:**

“I am delighted to be returning with the English Chamber Orchestra to open the 35th season of Vinehall’s concerts. The audiences at Vinehall are always so warm and welcoming and it is a perfect venue for chamber music. As ever there are many outstanding artists to be seen and heard throughout the wide-ranging concert season; from the brilliant pianists Katya Apekisheva, Charles Owen and Finghin Collins, the wonderfully talented Calidore Quartet and London Conchord. Young talent is encouraged with the gifted cellist Maciej Kulakowski with pianist Jean-Selim Abdelmoula, the North Chords Ensemble and the vocal perfection of Schubert & Co to end the season. I wish the Vinehall International Concert Series every success in its 35th year of music-making and very much look forward to meeting you in September.”



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LONDON CONCHORD			
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Total amount: £..... For those not booking online, please return this form with your cheque payable to  
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NORTHERN CHORDS ENSEMBLE

Sunday 10th March 2024 at 3.00 p.m.



*"Intensely evocative... delivered with idiomatic clarity" The Arts Desk,  
Mendelssohn / Elgar (2021)*

**Programme**  
Mozart Piano Quartet No. 2 in E flat major  
Mahler Piano Quartet in A minor  
Brahms Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor Op. 25

This compelling ensemble of international musicians was formed through collaboration at the acclaimed Northern Chords Festival, founded in 2009 by Artistic Director Jonathan Bloxham.

Violinist **Benjamin Baker** won 1st Prize at the 2016 Young Concert Artists International Auditions in New York. He has established a strong international presence and was described by the New York Times as bringing ‘virtuosity, refinement and youthful exuberance’ to his debut performance. He is much sought after as soloist and chamber musician with regular appearances at Wigmore Hall and on BBC Radio 3. Born in New Zealand, Benjamin studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School and the Royal College of Music. He has made solo recordings with the BBC Concert and Royal Philharmonic Orchestras and a critically acclaimed CD with pianist Daniel Lebhardt.

Cellist and conductor **Jonathan Bloxham** was a founder member of the Busch Trio, performing regularly at the Wigmore Hall, across Europe and on BBC Radio 3. At the RCM he won several prestigious awards including the RCM Cello Prize; he made his concerto debut at the Berlin Philharmonie in 2012. He studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School, RCM and the Guildhall School before taking further conducting studies. Jonathan made his Glyndebourne Festival debut in 2021 with the London Philharmonic. In 2022 Jonathan was appointed Resident Conductor and Artistic Advisor of the London Mozart Players.

In 2014 **Daniel Lebhardt** won 1st Prize at the Young Concert Artists International auditions in Paris and New York. A year later he was invited to record for Decca and in 2016 was a prize-winner at the Sydney International Competition. In 2020 Daniel made his debut with The Hallé followed by performances at the Barbican and Symphony Hall, Birmingham. He has made recital debuts in Dublin, Kiev, Lucerne, Tallinn, Paris, Miami and Wigmore Hall. Recent highlights include performances in Paris, the Royal Festival Hall and tours in China, South America and the USA. Daniel studied at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest then at the Royal Academy of Music and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.

Violist **Rosalind Ventris** performs internationally as both a soloist and chamber musician. As a recitalist, she has performed at the Royal Festival Hall, Wigmore Hall, Dublin Chamber Music Festival, Aldeburgh Festival and the Concertgebouw. As a concerto soloist, she has worked with the European Union Chamber Orchestra, Sinfonia Cymru, London Mozart Players, and the Belgian National Orchestra. Rosalind’s debut album was released in 2023. She has performed at many prestigious festivals including the West Cork, Marlboro and Salzburg. Rosalind is Director of Musical Performance at the University of Oxford and a Professor of Viola at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

LONDON CONCHORD

Saturday 4th May 2024 at 7.30 p.m.



*"The ensemble clicks perfectly, the playing seemingly effortless and a regard for precision never stifling the musicians... natural feeling for life and breath." BBC Music Magazine*

**Programme**  
Louise Farrenc Nonet in E flat major Op. 38 (1849)  
Brahms Serenade No 1 in D flat Op. 11 arr: for Nonet

**London Conchord Ensemble** is one of Europe’s leading chamber ensembles. Their imaginative programming and charismatic performance style have won them many accolades over the years, and they celebrated their 10th anniversary with a BBC Chamber Music Prom at Cadogan Hall. The group has made frequent broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 and American National Public Radio. Highlights of recent seasons include performances at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Wigmore Hall, Dusseldorf Tonhalle, Brussels Palais des Beaux Arts, Library of Congress in Washington D.C., and tours of Germany, France, America and New Zealand.

Conchord performed a ten-centre nationwide tour as part of Chamber Music New Zealand’s International ‘Kaleidoscopes’ Concert Season that included Radio New Zealand broadcasts. With a variety of programmes designed to showcase their flair and flexibility, the group also reached out to a younger audience where they introduced great chamber music works to children.

London Conchord Ensemble enjoys regular collaborations with guest artists and their concerts in the Schleswig Holstein, Windsor, Newbury, Winchester and Chelsea festivals have included Dame Felicity Lott, Robin Tritschler, Toby Spence, Susan Bickley, Andrew Kennedy, James Gilchrist and Katherine Broderick. They have presented their own weekend festivals of world-class performances with new commissions and innovative collaborations with guests including Simon Callow, Roderick Williams and Duncan Ward.

One of Conchord’s strong interests is setting chamber music within a larger artistic context and its project ‘The Rhythm of Silence’ combines the writing of Virginia Woolf with Britten’s Phantasy Op. 2 in a striking performance piece. The work which received 5-Star reviews is a co-commission of Rathfinny Vineyard and the Charleston Literary Festival and was premiered at Charleston with Juliet Stevenson in the role of Virginia Woolf. Since its foundation the London Conchord Ensemble has been ensemble-in-residence at Champs Hill, Sussex, where the group has recorded much of its discography. Their double disc sets of Bach and the complete chamber works of Francis Poulenc have been released to great critical acclaim. They have also recorded on the Sanctuary Classics/ASV, Black Box and Quartz labels.

SCHUBERT & CO

Director and Piano: SHOLTO KYNOCH

Sunday 9th June 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

*Sponsored anonymously*



*Schubert and "Rossini-fever"*

**Schubert & Co.** is an exciting vocal ensemble, founded in 2018 by the pianist Sholto Kynoch and a company of renowned singers. A Schubert & Co. concert recreates the spirit of the original ‘Schubertiade’, with an intimate and informal atmosphere of music making that was so close to the heart of Schubert and many other composers. Programmes include partsongs for male and female voices and other combinations of voices that are rarely programmed, despite being some of the composer’s finest and most personal works.

Although Schubert is at the heart of their repertoire, tonight they focus on Schubert’s connections to Italian music, opera and specifically - and perhaps surprisingly! - Rossini. Schubert studied with Salieri and the bel canto roots of his music are often overlooked. When ‘Rossini-fever’ took over Vienna in the 1820s, Schubert wrote of Rossini that ‘you cannot deny his genius’. With a range of songs and arias by both composers, some remarkable connections are brought to life, with a lot of fun along the way. This is also a rare chance to hear some of the many songs Rossini wrote for performance in his own private salon at his home at Passy.

With Sholto Kynoch at the piano, and a core of leading singers, all of whom work internationally at leading opera houses and concert halls, the musicians of Schubert & Co. share a love of the song repertoire and of singing together and are passionate about bringing great music to audiences in a refreshing and illuminating way. They make a welcome return to Vinehall after their memorable 2020 recital, described afterwards by audience members as ‘a joy to experience’ and ‘nothing short of sublime...one of the most enjoyable concerts I have ever had the good luck to attend!’



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35th Season  
2023-24



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