

THE EARLY MUSIC FORUM OF SCOTLAND



# The EMFS Newsletter

#### February 2020 Issue 10

## Hallo!

Here's a surprise late welcome to the new year an extra edition of the EMFS newsletter, with an updated "What's On" section, and a couple of short articles for you to read.

The extra events include some concerts from the York Early Music Centre in March 2020, and the Beverley Early Music Festival in late May 2020. In Scotland, there are Sacred Music workshops in Inverness for instrumentalists and singers in February and March. Also in March, there is a gorgeous concert from Cordes en Ciel performing in Penicuik. We have news of performances by the Gargoyles of Gargunnock in May, and dates for the Edinburgh Renaissance Band Edinburgh Fringe performances in August. The Lammermuir Festival will take place 1-21 September 2020 at various East Lothian venues. The programme will be available in May according to their website. We've also included details of the Scottish Plainsong choir's upcoming events and rehearsals in March, May, June July and September.

Finally, the EMFS choir sessions which take place in Edinburgh each month are increasingly popular and successful. Details of February and March sessions can be found in the listing.

I'm sure there are more early music events going on in Scotland. Please let me know what you have planned, and I will include them in the next listing.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and musical 2020!

Sue

(sue@emfscotland.org.uk)

Page 2	Pages 4-9	Pages 10-24	Pages 25-26
Message from EMFS Chair	Events, workshops, diary dates: Scotland	Events, workshops, diary dates: Outside Scotland	ERB and Linton Singers in Germany
Page 27	Page 28	Page 29	Page 31 et seq
Gargoyles will entertain Walkers of Stirling Marches	Congratulations Murray Campbell!	EMFS choir dates, Spring 2020	Appendix: posters and flyers



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# Message from our EMFS Chair

Dear EMFS members,

I hope that you are enjoying a musical start to 2020, whether that be singing, playing or listening. The choir is back in session (thanks to Philip, Sue and helpers), plans are afoot for a viol weekend, and we hope to run an introductory workshop on renaissance music for modern string players before the summer. We are also firming up plans for our AGM and spring music-making day. Further details of all of these events will be sent out by email as usual, so keep an eye on your in-box!

The committee recently took the difficult decision that EMFS cannot continue to support the bi-annual Dollar recorder weekends with Tom Beets and Joris van Goethem, which Lynne Hope worked hard to set up and which ran very successfully for many years. For a number of reasons, participant numbers have dropped substantially over the past few years, which has led to costs being considerably more than income for the past two sessions. As one of the two days each weekend focuses on contemporary rather than early music, we felt that we could not justify committing further EMFS money to the current set-up. I am, however, speaking to the Scottish branches of the Society of Recorder Players about how we might take this forward in future. If any recorder player has not yet received the detailed email I sent to all Scottish SRP branches, please let me know and I will send you a copy - your views will be welcome. I'd like to thank Lynne Hope for all the excellent work she has put into the Dollar weekends, and for initiating the connection with Tom, Joris and the Flanders Recorder Quartet - it's been a great experience, and I hope we can find a way to continue it in some form, even if not under the EMFS umbrella.

A reminder that part of the role of EMFS is to allow individual members to make contact with each other for small group music-making. Members can access the EMFS member list to find kindred musical spirits via the Membermojo website at <u>https://membermojo.co.uk/emfs/</u>, or you can ask us to send out an email to the mailing list with a specific request. If you are, or would like to be, a viol player, please also remember that EMFS has a number of viols (kept in Edinburgh) which can be hired out on a three monthly basis at a very reasonable fee, thanks to an arrangement with the Viola da Gamba Society. Please contact Vickie Hobson for more details (vickie@emfscotland.org.uk).

In the last Newsletter, I appealed for more people to come forward to help to organise events. Big thanks go to Mike Kinch, who has suggested the renaissance day for modern strings and is willing to take that project forward. Unfortunately, no-one else has offered help, which leaves me and the rest of the committee in a difficult position. As things stand, we don't have a secretary. Susan White, our freelance administrator, has agreed to commit to a regular 3 hours a week on EMFS work and to take on a more active role. I am absolutely clear that I will only continue as EMFS Chair for another year if I am not directly involved in organising events. This means that EMFS will not be able to expand our participatory activities beyond the current basics - monthly choir meetings; no more than one choral day and one instrumental day each year with "imported" professional tutors; one or two viol coaching weekends; and the all-comers AGM music-making day. All of which will usually be in Edinburgh, as most of our currently active members are in the Edinburgh area. We will also continue to send out emails advertising concerts and other early music events, thanks to Sue Owen, who also puts together the excellent Newsletters.

BUT it's important for all EMFS members to realise that I, and the rest of the long-serving EMFS committee, cannot continue indefinitely. If we cannot attract new people to take an active part in running EMFS, it may not be able to continue in its current form for much longer. EMFS belongs to its members, so it is very much up to you to decide what happens next. Please do get in touch if you have ideas about how EMFS can survive and thrive - especially if you have time and energy to take ideas forward. I'd be delighted to have some member-generated proposals to put to the AGM.

Alíson

## FEBRUARY 2020

Sat 8 Feb 1 - 3pm	<ul> <li>St Andrews West Parish Church, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow City Centre G2 4JP</li> <li>Spire Saturday Lunchtime Series: Cordes en Ciel</li> <li>Héloïse Bernard, soprano and Kristiina Watt - theorbo, baroque guitar, soprano perform music from the 16th - 18th centuries.</li> <li>The duo met in Glasgow while studying at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, drawn together by a shared interest in the intimate and text-driven performance medium of the lute song and baroque monody.</li> <li>Alongside vocal works the duo's programmes feature solos on the renaissance lute, theorbo and baroque guitar. Inspired by the historical practice of self-accompanied singing, Kristiina and Heloise also perform vocal duos, including those sung by the</li> </ul>
	fashionable all-female groups which first appeared in late 16th century Italy. £8 Call 01419420023
Sat 15 Feb 10am - 4:30pm	St Michael and All Saints Church, Brougham Street, Tollcross, Edinburgh, EH3 9JH <b>Early Music Forum of Scotland (EMFS) Choirs</b> Singers can attend morning, afternoon or both sessions ( <i>See details for Saturday 18 January</i> ) <i>sue@emfscotland.org.uk</i>
Sat 15 Feb 3 - 5pm	Inverness Cathedral, Ardross St, Inverness IV3 5NN <b>Sacred Music Workshop</b> Directed by D James Ross: for amateur singers and instrumentalists. £30 for 3 session January/February/March <i>suelightman@gmail.com</i>
Tue 18 Feb 7:30pm	33 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7JF <b>Concert of Mediaeval and Renaissance Italian music</b> The Edinburgh Branch of the Scottish Italian Society will be hosting a concert by the Edinburgh Renaissance Band on Tuesday 18th February to which members of the public are invited. Doors open from 19.00. If you would like to attend the concert please let us know by e-mail so that we can have an idea of numbers likely to attend (contact details below). Entry is free but you are invited to make a donation - (£10 is suggested). Contact ERB secretary Peter Jones <i>pjones@blueyonder.co.uk</i> <i>http://www.edinburghrenaissanceband.com/erwtc.html#concerts</i>
Sat 22 Feb	St. Columba's by the Castle, 14 Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2PW <b>Playing Day with Michael Graham</b> Society of Recorder Players, Edinburgh Branch Eileen Finlayson <i>edinburgb@srp.org.uk</i>

### FEBRUARY 2020

Sat 29 Feb 7.30pm	St Andrew's and St George's West, 13 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PA Il musicista itinerante (A Georgian Concert Society concert)
	The Counterpoints
	Thomas Triesschijn – <i>recorder</i> ; Matthea de Muynck – <i>violin</i> ; Petr Hamouz – <i>cello</i> ;
	Aljosja Mietus – <i>harpsichord</i> .
	In the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, musicians travelled between
	Italy and Great Britain and influences crossed between them. This ensemble from
	the Netherlands explores the connections, with music from Matteis, Corelli,
	Vivaldi and Geminiani to Purcell, Handel, MacGibbon and Oswald.
	£20 - £5
	https://www.thequeenshall.net/whats-on/counterpoints
Sat 29 Feb	Central Glasgow venue tba
1:30 - 4:30pm	Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC) rehearsal for Stirling Castle perfomance
-	Rehearsal for the SPC performance on Sat 7 March (see below). Attendance at the
	rehearsal is obligatory for performing at Stirling Castle.
	£20 - to include the performance on Sat 7 March.
	Contact c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk

Sat 7 Mar	Chapel Royal, Stirling Castle. Castle Esplanade, Stirling, FK8 1EJ
2 - 4pm	Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC)
	Alan Tavener directs the SPC for an informal promenade performance of Gregorian
	chant and Medieval pilgrim songs. Convene at the chapel at 1:30pm for warm-ups
	and rehearsal. Attendance at the rehearsal on Sat 29 February (see above) is
	obligatory.
	Fee: included in the rehearsal fee.
	Contact c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk
Tue 10 Mar	Brunton Theatre, Ladywell Way, Musselburgh, EH21 6AA
ıpm	Lunchtime Classical Concert: Tom Foster on Harpsichord
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## MARCH 2020

Sat 14 Mar 10am - 4:30pm	St Michael and All Saints Church, Brougham Street, Tollcross, Edinburgh, EH3 9JH <b>Early Music Forum of Scotland (EMFS) Choirs</b> Singers can attend morning, afternoon or both sessions (See details for Saturday 18 January) sue@emfscotland.org.uk
Sun 15 Mar 2 - 3pm	Penicuik Community Arts Association, 4 West Street, Penicuik, EH26 9DL <b>Cordes en Ciel</b> Estonian lutenist and soprano Kristiina Watt and French/American soprano Héloïse Bernard present a delightful programme of early music. Please see the programme in the Appendix. £12/(£10 PCAA members) <i>sue@emfscotland.org.uk</i>
Sat 21 Mar 2 - 4pm	Inverness Cathedral, Ardross St, Inverness IV3 5NN <b>Sacred Music Workshop</b> Directed by D James Ross: for amateur singers and instrumentalists. £30 for 3 sessions January/February/March <i>suelightman@gmail.com</i>
Sat 28 Mar 7.30pm	<ul> <li>St Andrew's and St George's West, 13 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PA</li> <li>Singing in Secret (A Georgian Concert Society concert)</li> <li>The Marian Consort</li> <li>Rory McCleery - director; Charlotte Ashley, Lucinda Cox - sopranos; Helen</li> <li>Charlston, Hannah Cooke - altos; Edward Ross, Benjamin Durrant - tenors; Michael</li> <li>Craddock, Edmund Saddington - basses</li> <li>A devout Catholic, William Byrd provided a comprehensive compendium of music</li> <li>for the Catholic mass, which in the early seventeenth century was still being</li> <li>conducted in clandestine services held in the private houses of the Catholic nobility</li> <li>here interspersed with music by Thomas Tallis, Robert Parsons and Philippe de</li> <li>Monte.</li> <li>£20 - £5</li> <li>https://www.thequeenshall.net/whats-on/marian-consort</li> </ul>

## APRIL 2020

Wed 8 Apr	The Queens Hall, Clerk St, Edinburgh EH8 9JG
2-5pm	<b>Open rehearsal for Matthew Passion</b>
-	Dunedin Consort
	(See details for the performances on 9 and 10 April)

## APRIL 2020 cont'd

Thu 9 Apr 7pm	Perth Concert Hall, Mill Street, Perth PH1 5HZ <b>Matthew Passion</b> Dunedin Consort
	Each year we perform Bach's Matthew Passion in the days leading up to Easter, and each year we discover its riches anew. This extraordinary retelling of the Passion story has the power to move and inspire us like no other, presenting a journey that is by turns heartrending and uplifting from the opening chorus to the last. This year, we welcome back Kristian Bezuidenhout, a central figure in the field of historically informed performance, to direct Dunedin Consort in our revelatory one-per-part interpretation. Tickets: $\pounds_{5}$ - $\pounds_{25}$
	https://www.dunedin-consort.org.uk/
Fri 10 Apr 7pm	The Queens Hall, Clerk St, Edinburgh EH8 9JG <b>Matthew Passion</b> Dunedin Consort
	(See details for the performance on 9 April)
MAY 2020	
Sat 16 May 1:30 - 4:30pm	Stirling venue tha Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC) rehearsal for Traquair House perfomance Rehearsal for the SPC performance on Sat 23 May (see below). Attendance at the rehearsal is obligatory for performing at Traquair House. £20 - to include the performance on Sat 23 May. Contact <i>c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk</i>
Sat 23 May mid-morning - mid afternoon	Traquair House, Traquair, Innerleithen EH44 6PW <b>Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC)</b> Alan Tavener directs the SPC for an informal promenade performance of Gregorian chant and Medieval pilgrim songs at the Traquair House Medieval Festival. Attendance at the rehearsal on Sat 16 May (see above) is obligatory. Fee: included in the rehearsal fee. Contact <i>c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk</i>
Sat 23 - Sun 24 May	Traquair House, Traquair, Innerleithen EH44 6PW <b>The Gargoyles of Gargunnock perform at theTraquair House Medieval</b> <b>Festival</b>
Sat 30 May	Cowanes Bowling Green, 48 John Street, Stirling, FK8 IED <b>The Gargoyles of Gargunnock perform at Stirling Walking of the Marches</b> You are invited to celebrate Stirling's heritage in the historic Walking the Marches. Be part of the 800-year-old tradition of inspecting the city boundaries by joining in walking part of the route complete with pipe band and re-enactment, or just join us in the centre of Stirling on the day and enjoy the celebration. All are welcome! To join in on the day, meet at 11am beside the Rotunda at the bottom of King Street. https://www.stirlingwalkingthemarches.org/the-day

## JUNE 2020

Thu 4 Jun 7.30pm	<ul> <li>St John's Episcopal Church, 6 Newall Terrace, Dumfries DG1 1JE</li> <li><b>Purcell: Songes &amp; Ayres</b></li> <li>Dunedin Consort</li> <li>John Butt (Director) Mhairi Lawson (Soprano)</li> <li>Soprano Mhairi Lawson joins us for an intimate programme of song, a genre that</li> <li>Purcell firmly made his own. With his flair for drama and extraordinary gift for</li> <li>bringing words to life, Purcell poured many of his most creative ideas into his songs</li> <li>– each of them miniature masterpieces, equally as captivating as anything he would</li> <li>compose for the stage. They are paired here with some of his most exquisite and</li> <li>intricately wrought instrumental works, shining examples of Baroque dialogue at its</li> <li>most eloquent.</li> <li>Tickets: £5-£22</li> </ul>
Fri 5 Jun 7.30pm	Universal Hall, The Park, Findhorn, Forres IV36 3TZ <b>Purcell: Songes &amp; Ayres</b> (See details as for the performance on 4 June)
Sat 6 Jun 7.30pm	St John's Cathedral, 129 George St, Oban PA34 5NT <b>Purcell: Songes &amp; Ayres</b> (See details as for the performance on 4 June)
Sun 7 Jun 4pm	St Cecilia's Hall, Niddry Street, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1NQ <b>Purcell: Songes &amp; Ayres</b> (See details as for the performance on 4 June)
Sat 20 Jun Afternoon	Edinburgh venue tba <b>Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC) rehearsal for St Conan's church</b> <b>perfomance</b> Rehearsal for the SPC performance on Sun 28 June (see below). Attendance at the rehearsal is obligatory for performing at St Conan's church. £20 - to include the performance on Sunday 28 June Contact <i>c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk</i>
Sun 28 Jun afternoon	St Conan's church, Lochawe, Dalmally, Argyll, PA33 1AQ <b>Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC)</b> Alan Tavener directs the SPC for Vespers-style evensong at St Conan's church. Attendance at the rehearsal on Sat 20 June (see above) is obligatory. Fee: included in the rehearsal fee. Contact <i>c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk</i>

## JULY 2020

Fri 24 Jul 4pm -St Magnus' Cathedral, Kirkwall, OrkneySun 26 Jul 7:30pmScottish Plainsong choir (SPC) Annual Workshop and performance<br/>weekend<br/>Alan Tavener directs the SPC for rehearsal workshops and Vespers style evensong at<br/>St Magnus' cathedral.<br/>£40<br/>Contact c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk

## AUGUST 2020

Mon 17 Aug 4:30-5:30pm	St Mark's Unitarian Church, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2DP <b>The Edinburgh Renaissance Band at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2020</b> Details tba
Tue 18 Aug 4:30-5:30pm	St Mark's Unitarian Church, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2DP <b>The Edinburgh Renaissance Band at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2020</b> Details tba
Wed 19 Aug 4:30-5:30pm	St Mark's Unitarian Church, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2DP <b>The Edinburgh Renaissance Band at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2020</b> Details tba
Sun 23 Aug 3-4:30pm	St Cecilia's Hall, Niddry Street, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1NQ <b>The Viol Rackett Show at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2020</b> Edinburgh Renaissance Band Details tba

### SEPTEMBER 2020

1-21 Sep	Various venues Lammermuir Festival
Sat 12 Sep Afternoon the	Stirling venue tba <b>Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC) rehearsal for Paisley Abbey perfomance</b> Rehearsal for the SPC performance on Sun 13 September (see below). Attendance at rehearsal is obligatory for performing at Paisley Abbey. £20 - to include the performance on Sunday 28 June Contact c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk
Sun 13 Sep afternoon	Paisley Abbey, Abbey Close, Paisley, Renfrewshire, PA1 1JG <b>Scottish Plainsong choir (SPC)</b> Alan Tavener directs the SPC for Vespers style evensong at Paisley Abbey. Attendance at the rehearsal on Sat 12 september (see above) is obligatory. Fee: included in the rehearsal fee. Contact <i>c.mackenzie@strath.ac.uk</i>

For details of events in the north of England which may be of interest and within reasonable reach:

North East Early Music Forum (http://www.neemf.org.uk/; and https://www.neemf.org.uk/other-events.html for a long list of Early Music events in north east England.

North West Early Music Forum (https://nwemf.org/

The National Early Music Centre in York presents a wonderful programme of concerts and events. *http://www.ncem.co.uk/* 

Benslow Music runs several Early Music courses in Hitchin, Hertfordshire: (*https://www.benslowmusic.org/*) Some of their courses are listed below.

The Rondo Viol academy runs courses throughout the year for players of different standards. For details of all courses please see (*http://www.rondoviolacademy.co.uk/*)

Venues are The Hayes in Swanwick, Derbyshire (https://www.cct.org.uk/the-hayes/the-hayes-conference-centre).

High Leigh in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire (*https://www.cct.org.uk/high-leigh/high-leigh-conference-centre*).

Hothorpe Hall in Theddingworth, Leicestershire (*bttps://www.bothorpe.co.uk/*).

The Beeches in Bournville, Birmingham (*https://chartridgevenues.com/the-beeches/*).

Sun 1 Mar 10 am to 4pm	Higham Hall College, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9SH <b>Try for a Day: Early Dance (New Course)</b> Have a go at some simple Court Dances (e.g. Slow, stately Pavan, lively Galliard) from Elizabethan England and Renaissance Italy and an C18th Minuet. Easy for beginners upwards. Aspects of music, dance, costume and etiquette will be discussed. Not just for dancers, but also anyone interested in getting closer to music, drama and history. Tutor: Elizabeth Dodd ( <i>www.highamhall.com/elizabeth-dodd</i> ) More information: <i>http://highamhall.com/course/try-for-a-day-early-dance/</i> £66 (incl. lunch and refreshments) Ends with Tea.
Thu 5 - Sun 8 Mar (3-night option) Fri 6 - Sun 8 Mar (2-night option)	<ul> <li>Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB LuteFest (2 &amp; 3 night option)</li> <li>Tutors: Nigel North, Michal Gondko, Lynda Sayce, Roy Marks, Jeni Melia</li> <li>Plenty of opportunities to play at all levels of ability, and to socialise with likeminded early music enthusiasts.</li> <li>Our annual Lutefest, organised in association with the Lute Society, gives lutenists of all standards the opportunity to explore the treasures of the lute and lute-in ensemble repertoire. We also welcome singers, renaissance flautists, recorder players and viols to enjoy non-stop lute songs (this year's ayre composer: Michael Cavendish, and of course Dowland), broken consorts and four-voice ayres with lutes. There will be ensemble and solo work, and individual teaching is offered. Needless to say we can also more or less guarantee some ad hoc late night madrigal singing in the bar. Included in the course fee is a ticket to Nigel North and Michal Gondko's recital on Friday 6 March and we are again offering the opportunity to extend the experience with an optional early arrival.</li> <li>Tutor websites: www.nighorth.com/www.nichalgondko.info</li> <li>Participants have lots of fun discovering new repertoire and playing unfamiliar lutes, and generally find the tuition and coaching extremely helpful.</li> <li>Individual lessons run in tandem with masterclasses, chamber playing, lute orchestra, and drop-in classes for lutes, viols and voices.</li> <li>Plentiful music will be available on the course; for individual tuition participants tend to bring a piece they have been practising, and may bring favourite chamber works; music for lutes, viols and voice can by purchased commercially before the course, though will be provided anyway.</li> <li>For elementary, lower/upper intermediate and advanced levels 3-night option: Resident: £430 Non-Resident: £230 Code: 20/318</li> <li>https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2507</li> <li>2-night option: Resident: £305 Non-Resident: £225 Code: 20/224</li> <!--</td--></ul>

Fri 13 - Sun 15 Mar	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB
	Consort Singing and Original Sources: William Byrd and Thomas Tallis
	Tutors: Rory McCleery, Edmund Saddington
	Rory McCleery and Edmund Saddington of The Marian Consort lead a course
	exploring the rich sacred vocal repertoire of late-sixteenth century England,
	introducing participants to reading and performing from mensural notation. Rory
	and fellow member of The Marian Consort Edmund Saddington will guide
	participants in a weekend of small ensemble singing, coaching participants in
	various aspects of unconducted consort performance, including ensemble,
	interpretation and vocal technique, working from modern scores. Our core
	repertoire will be the astonishing 1575 Cantiones Sacrae publication, containing
	seventeen pieces each by William Byrd and Thomas Tallis: there will also be scope
	to explore beyond this with music by both English and Continental composers
	found in contemporary English manuscript and printed sources. All voice-parts
	(particularly tenors and basses!) are most welcome.
	For upper intermediate and advanced singers
	Tutor website: www.marianconsort.co.uk
	Resident: £295 Non-Resident: £215 Code: 20/227
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2513
Mon 16 - Wed 18 Mar	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB
	Division Musick and More with Pellingmans' Saraband
	Tutors: Susanna Pell, Jacob Heringman
	This course explores repertoire available to this unique and flexible combination. It
	includes divisions/grounds (touching on improvisation), and adapting polyphony (as
	in the Paston lute books).
	The lute and viol duo Pellingmans' Saraband have spent several years exploring,
	recording, and performing music for the unique and flexible combination of viol (all
	sizes) and lute. In this course, we shall share the fruits of our explorations,
	examining the array of music that a single viol can play together with a single lute
	(or multiple lutes).
	The course will cover grounds/variations/divisions and polyphonic adaptations.
	We will work partly in a group, and partly in smaller units, and will include a session
	of sectional work for the separate instruments.
	Susanna and Jacob are both trained and qualified teachers of the Alexander
	Technique, and will include principles of the AT in their teaching.
	For advanced viol players and intermediate to advanced lute players
	Tutor website: www.pellingman.co.uk
	Resident: £295 Non-Resident: £215 Code: 20/228
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2516

Fri 20 Mar 6.30pm - Sun 22 Mar 1:30 pm	<ul> <li>Higham Hall College, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9SH</li> <li>Viol Consort Weekend</li> <li>Now in its fifth year at Higham, this friendly course (all levels except beginner) will focus on music by Orlando Gibbons and William Lawes with perhaps a look at some lesser known composers. For those who wish, there can be some interaction with the Recorder weekend running alongside.</li> <li>Tutor: Elizabeth Dodd (<i>www.higbamball.com/elizabeth-dodd</i>)</li> <li>More information: <i>http://bigbamball.com/course/viol-consort-weekend-3/</i></li> <li>Residential: £238 Non-residential: £169</li> <li>Higham Hall College, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9SH</li> <li>Recorder Consort Weekend</li> <li>Enjoy a weekend of mostly one-to-a-part Consort playing, in anything from three to eight parts and discover some possibly unfamiliar music. Mainly Renaissance, but may extend into some Baroque and the C20th. (Coincides with the Viol weekend, so some interaction may be possible.)</li> <li>Tutor: Philip Gruar (<i>www.higbamball.com/course/recorder-consort-weekend-3/</i></li> <li>Residential: £238 Non-residential: £169</li> </ul>	
Fri 20 Mar 6.30pm - Sun 22 Mar 1:30 pm		
Sat 21 Mar 3:30pm	<ul> <li>York Unitarian Chapel, 31 St Saviourgate, York YOI 8NQ</li> <li>Palisander &amp; Minster Minstrels: Double, Double Toil &amp; Trouble</li> <li>The intrinsic links between magic and music have been recognised for thousands of years. In this programme, Palisander explore this relationship through music inspired by humanity's fascination with the mystical; pieces reflecting the</li> <li>Renaissance concept of the Three Magics; songs used to share news of witch trials; music sent to composers by super-natural beings, through their dreams; and music composed for the group using magical calculations from the 17th Century. Featured composers include Hildegard von Bingen, J. S. Bach, Dowland and Tartini.</li> <li>Ambassadors of their instrument, Palisander will join forces with the next generation of early musicians: collaborating with the NCEM's instrumental youth group the Minster Minstrels on select pieces in this programme.</li> <li>£7.50 (concessions £5.50)</li> <li>https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/palisander%020-%020minstrels/events</li> </ul>	
Sat 21 Mar 6pm	National Centre For Early Music, St Margarets Church, Percy's Lane, York YOI 9TL <b>A Monk's Life: Music from the Cloisters, 1550-1620</b> The Brabant Ensemble: In the years following the Council of Trent (1545-63), Catholic monasteries in Southern Germany sought to exemplify the ideas of the Counter-Reformation through reforming their lifestyle, renewing the monastic liturgy, and introducing elaborate music. Works by famous composers such as Lassus played a key role, but many monks also expressed their new-found religious confidence through masses and motets. This programme explores their creativity by tracing the life of a monk from acceptance into the cloister through to assuming the role of abbot and finally entering the heavenly kingdom. £16.00 (£14.00 concessions; £6 under-35s) <i>https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/the%20brabant%20ensemble/events</i>	

## MARCH 2020

Sun 22 Mar

Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB Natural Horn Day for Beginners

Tutor: Anneke Scott

A one day taster course for horn players who are keen to try out the natural horn (the pre-valved horn, also known as the hand-horn) and beginners looking to improve their basic skills.

The course covers basics about how the instrument works (including assembly and maintenance), reacquainting ourselves with the harmonic series, getting away from horn in F, beginnings of hand-technique: how it works, developing a flexible hand and a critical ear and ensemble playing.

Participants ideally need to be experienced modern horn players. No experience of the natural horn is required. (Players of other brass instruments may be eligible but best to consult first)

For elementary and lower intermediate players 278 Code: 20/106

https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2520

Mon 4 - Thu 7 May	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB Gregorian Chant: The Joys of Singing		
	Tutor: John Rowlands-Pritchard		
	Gregorian Chant is the unaccompanied vocal music of the sacred texts of the		
	Western Christian Church. This is an immersive course for singers and for those with interests in the history of music, theology modified on and subural history.		
	with interests in the history of music, theology, meditation, and cultural history,		
	which works through reading, learning and singing the chant.		
	Working sessions are occupied reading, examining, learning and singing chosen pieces of expressive solo and choral chants for the Mass and the monastic Office. Each day's work is experienced in the context of the shorter monastic Hour		
	services with simple recitation in English alongside more complex music in Latin.		
	Within this framework the course dwells on examples of an Introit, a Gradual,		
	Alleluia, Tract, Offertory, and a Communion, as well as examples from the daily		
	Office of Antiphons, Hymns, Psalmody and Responds. Different notations and performance styles will be addressed.		
	Above all the course aims to sing and work with psalms and biblical texts, to discover how they are used with chant to inform the historical, theological and meditative aspects of Gregorian Chant, which is our earliest music.		
	Group work is principally through practical singing and recitation in Latin, and		
	partly in English. Examples of historical performance styles are given through playing of recordings. Varieties of historical notations are presented either on screen or on printed sheets.		
	Tutor website: www.johnrowlands-pritchard.co.uk		
	For lower/upper intermediate, and advanced singers		
	Resident: £420 Non-Resident: £320 Code: 20/328		
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2544		
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Fri 8 - Sun 10 May	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB <b>Fugues for Fun</b>		
	Tutor: Dr Penelope Cave		
	The topic for this year's harpsichord course, led by Dr Penelope Cave, will be Fugues for Fun: the varied art of counterpoint and the expression of character will		
	be explored by a range of composers, including Handel, Telemann and some more recent examples, with particular emphasis on Bach (from <i>Inventions</i> to multi-voiced		
	fugues). Specific methods of dealing with part-playing in addition to general harpsichord technique and articulation, will be shared in a friendly workshop		
	situation, with handouts for extra clarification. Participants are invited to prepare items from the set repertoire list (available on application).		
	For upper intermediate and advanced players		
	Resident: £295 Non-Resident: £215 Code: 20/245		
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2547		
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Mon 11 - Wed 13 May Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordsh	
	Advanced Harpsichord Accompaniment
	Tutor: Robin Bigwood
	This course is aimed at harpsichordists who have covered the fundamentals of
	figured bass realisation and are now looking to develop their skills further. In
	whole-class and small group sessions, you'll develop your expressive range, learn
	how to vary your approach according to style and period, and cope with everything
	from intimate solo sonatas to large orchestral works. Participants should be
	keyboard players fluent in reading treble and bass clefs, and comfortable realising
	typical baroque basses (e.g. Corelli or Handel) from the figures.
	Tutor website: www.robinbigwood.co.uk
	For upper intermediate and advanced players
	Resident: £295 Non-Resident: £215 Code: 20/247
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2549
	<i>wipsi, www.wisiow.mastelorgugell 2949</i>
Fri 15 - Sun 17 May	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB
	Voices and Viols
	Tutors: Alison Crum, Peter Syrus
	A weekend of 16th and 17th century vocal music 'apt for voyces and vyalls', playing
	mainly in small groups and exploring some lesser known repertoire in addition to
	some famous composers. The course will include madrigals and motets by various
	composers, as well as some larger scale works. Come and explore some of this rich
	music with two leading experts in the field, who will bring some rarely heard and
	unpublished works as well as some better known favourites. Singers should be good
	sight-readers, and experienced in singing one-to-a-part and have some experience of
	16th and 17th century music. Viol players who sing and singers who play viols are
	especially welcome. We'll be playing at A=415.
	Tutor website: www.alisoncrum.co.uk
	For upper intermediate and advanced singers and players
	Resident: £295 Non-Resident: £215 Code: 20/249
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2551
Mon 18 - Thu 21 May	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB
	Schütz's Psalms of David with music by Andrea and Giovanni Gabrieli
	Tutors: David Ireson, Jeremy West, Rogers Covey-Crump
	Which of the Psalmen Davids 26 psalms in "8 and more parts" we choose for the
	course will depend on the uptake but, with a strong group of singers and
	instrumentalists (cornetts, sackbuts, shawms, recorders and stringed instruments),
	we hope at least to consider some of those in 12 parts. We shall also look at smaller
	works by the same composer, e.g. Kleine Geistliche Konzerte for participants keen to
	perform something more soloistic, tie in something from Andrea and Giovanni
	Gabrieli for the sake of variety and, time permitting, try some facsimile reading of a
	Psalm or two.
	Tutor website: www.jeremywest.co.uk
	For upper intermediate and advanced singers and players
	Resident: £420 Non-Resident: £320 Code: 20/329
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2552

Fri 29 May 7:30pm	Beverley Minster, 38 Highgate, Beverley HU17 oDN <b>Beverley Early Music Festival: Stile Antico</b> 2020 marks 400 years since William Bradford and his fellow pilgrims set out on their fateful journey across the Atlantic in the Mayflower, seeking freedom from persecution. England in 1620 was a country rife with religious and political division, standing on the brink of civil war. But the age also spawned some of the finest music ever composed in the land, with Gibbons, Tomkins and the aged Byrd overseeing the late flowering of the English musical Renaissance. Tonight's performance marks the start of Stile Antico's Mayflower400 UK tour commemorating the many regional pilgrims who sailed to a new life on this famous ship. £23-£35 (under 35s £6) https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/stile%200antico/events
Sat 30 May 10am	Beverley Minster, 38 Highgate, Beverley HU17 oDN <b>Beverley Early Music Festival: Choral Workshop with members Stile</b> <b>Antico</b> A singing day focussing on little-known treasures from England's 'Golden Age' of music. Centred on pieces from Stile Antico's programme 'The Journey of the Mayflower', the day will explore gems by Byrd, Weelkes, Gibbons, Tomkins and more. The workshop is open to all voice ranges. Participants aged under 18 should be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Reasonable sight-reading skills are required as there may only be a few singers on each part. Music will be available in advance at <u>www.ncem.co.uk/bevworkshop20</u> £16 (under 35s £6) <i>https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/a%20choral%220workshop/events</i>
Sat 30 May 12:30pm	St Mary's Church, North Bar Within, Beverley HU17 8DL <b>Beverley Early Music Festival: Alva</b> Vivien Ellis voice; Giles Lewin fiddles, bagpipes; Leah Stuttard medieval harps "Angels in the Architecture" - With songs and melodies spanning 1,000 years, Alva spins stories hidden in the stones of St Mary's: tales of alewives and good wives, pilgrim rabbits and wrestling priests, sneaky foxes and mischievous goblins. Hear rare fragments of medieval chant from Yorkshire's monastic tradition, lively street ballads, folk songs and newly composed music as Alva creates a unique performance which brings the heritage of St Mary's vividly to life. £18 (under 35s £6) <i>https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/alva/events</i>

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Sat 30 May 2:30pm	Saint John of Beverley Catholic Church, North Bar Without, Beverley HU17 7AG Beverley Early Music Festival: East Yorkshire's 'Pilgrim Fathers' The opening concert commemorates the Pilgrim Fathers who sailed on the Mayflower in 1620. Eighteen years later another group of Puritans led by the Revd Ezekiel Rogers, rector of Rowley near Beverley, left East Yorkshire for America. They settled in Massachusetts and founded the town of Rowley, thirty miles north- east of Boston. This illustrated talk by David Neave will explore who our local 'pilgrims' were, where they came from, why they chose to leave their homes, families and friends, and how they coped with the hardships they faced in their new life. £12 https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/east%020yorkshire's%020'pilgrim%020fathers'/events
Sat 30 May 4pm	Meet outside South Door Beverley Minster, 8 Highgate, Beverley HU17 oDN <b>Beverley Early Music Festival: In and around Beverley Minster</b> From St John, worker of miracles and founder of Beverley, to Mary Wollstonecraft, foremother of feminism, we invite you to explore the fascinating history of people who lived and worked in and around the Minster through songs and stories. $\pounds 6$
	https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/in%20and%20around%20beverley%20minster/events
Sat 30 May 7:30pm	Toll Gavel United Church, Toll Gavel, Beverley, HU17 9AA <b>Beverley Early Music Festival: La Serenissima</b> with Katy Bircher flute, Adrian Chandler director & violin soloist A European Community: The ability of musicians to travel in the 18th century can come as a surprise to us today but they were often on the move, and manuscripts were readily shared - not only with eager audiences - but with fellow musicians who copied, played and shared widely across Europe. This programme wraps a series of engaging and flamboyant concertos by two of the greatest composers of the day, Vivaldi and Telemann, together with works by the Italian composers Nicola Matteis the Younger, and Brescianello. La Serenissima is the UK's most dynamic voice of Italian baroque instrumental music. Born out of director Adrian Chandler's passion for Vivaldi, they bring well- known and neglected music to life through painstaking research, virtuosic performances and down-to-earth dialogue with audiences. £30.00 (concessions £28.00; under 35 £6.00) <i>https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/la%o2oserenissima/events</i>
Sun 31 May 10am	Meet outside Beverley Arms Hotel, 25 North Bar Within, Beverley HU17 8DD <b>Beverley Early Music Festival: It all happened in Beverley!</b> A walk through 800 years of history. Hear the songs and stories of the people of Beverley who worshipped and worked in and around St Mary's Church. Meet melodious minstrels, poor ploughmen, good wives, and notorious criminals, and discover how they, and the turbulent events they lived through, shaped the town. £6 https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/it%20all%20happened%20in%20beverley!/events

Sun 31 May 3pm	<ul> <li>Saint John of Beverley Catholic Church, North Bar Without, Beverley HU17 7AG</li> <li>Beverley Early Music Festival: filoBarocco</li> <li>Maria Montano recorder; Francesco Facchini violin; Carlo Paulesu cello; Marco Baronchelli lute.</li> <li>Join us for an afternoon of musical excellence as we welcome this talented young Swiss-Italian ensemble to the festival for the first time. Recent recruits to the European talent development programme EEEMERGING+, the group takes its inspiration from two of the Baroque's finest composers, Telemann and Vivaldi, adding their own artistic twist to surprise and delight (www.facebook.com/filobarocco) £16.00 (concessions £14.00; under 35 £6)</li> <li>https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/filobarocco/events</li> </ul>
Sun 31 May 7pm	<ul> <li>Saint James Church, Warter, York YO<sub>42</sub> 1XW</li> <li>Beverley Early Music Festival: Julia Doyle soprano; Matthew Wadsworth <i>lute, theorbo</i></li> <li>From London to Venice: 17th century London and Venice were veritable melting pots for artistic talent, scandal and creative thinkers alike. What better to evoke the passions and torments of life in London than the wonderfully fused song, art and poetry of John Dowland and Henry Purcell, and in Venice by the exquisite masterpieces of three of the most daring composers of the time, Francesca Caccini, Claudio Monteverdi and Barbara Strozzi. A wonderful blend of poetry and music, which is as moving to the soul today as it was 400 years ago. £22.00 (concessions £20.00; under 35 £6)</li> <li>https://tickets.ncem.co.uk/en-GB/shows/julia%o2odoyle%o2o-%o2omatthew%o2owadsworth/events</li> </ul>

## JULY 2020

Fri 3 - Sat 11 Jul	The National Centre for Early Music, St Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York Yo1 9TL
	York Early Music Festival: Method & Madness The UK's largest festival of classical music written before 1750 intertwines the themes of Method & Madness. Guest artists include countertenor lestyn Davies
	and the Dunedin Consort directed by John Butt; the Society of Strange and Ancient Instruments; The Sixteen directed by Harry Christophers; Voces Suaves; Profeti della Quinta; Steven Devine; the Rose Consort of Viols and the Yorkshire Baroque Soloists presenting Handel's Orlando.Tickets will be on sale to the public from Monday 2 March ( <i>http://www.ncem.co.uk/</i> )
Mon 6 - Wed 8 Jul	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB
	Baroque Trio Sonatas with Da Camera
	Tutors: Emma Murphy, Susanna Pell, Mie Hayashi This trio sonatas course with Da Camera will look at baroque trio sonatas for
	combinations of baroque instruments: recorders, violins, oboes, flutes, viols, gamba, baroque cello, bassoon and harpsichord. Any type of genre can be looked at:
	French, German, Italian and English. Every session will be different with an exciting new piece, and new groups will be
	formed for a couple of the sessions during the course to provide variety and camaraderie. Instruments welcomed are: recorder, oboe, flute, violin, viols, cello,
	bassoon, harpsichord. Each group will be proactively coached by every tutor during
	the course on works students may bring themselves, as well as music provided by
	the tutors. Technical and musical aspects will be looked at in works by composers such as Telemann, Schickhardt, Loeillet, Scarlatti, Sammartini, Bach, Purcell and others. We will be playing at A=415.
	For upper intermediate and advanced pre-formed groups (Grade 6 and above)
	Resident: £295 Non-Resident: £215 Code: 20/275
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2592
Sun 12 - Fri 17 Jul	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB The International Viol Summer School
	Tutors: Alison Crum, Ibi Aziz, Roy Marks, Peter Wendland
	One of the most prestigious and well-established summer schools for viol players in the UK, our International Viol Summer School, directed by Alison Crum, offers an invaluable chance for viol players with a particular interest in English consort music to work with members of the world renowned Rose Consort of Viols for the best part of a week. There will also be optional sessions on several other aspects of viol music, such as bowing technique, madrigals and motets, early renaissance repertoire
	music, such as bowing technique, madrigals and motets, early renaissance repertoire and the art of continuo playing, as well as lectures and demonstrations. We are looking for experienced players with good sight reading skills capable of playing at least two sizes of viol. The course fee includes entry to the Rose Consort's concert on the Tuesday evening. Please note that this course finishes after lunch on the
	Friday.
	Tutor website: www.roseconsort.co.uk
	For advanced players Resident: £615 Non-Resident: £485 Code: 20/501
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2597

## JULY 2020

Sun 26 Jul – Sun 2 Aug St Catharine's College Trumpington St, Cambridge CB2 1RL **Cambridge Early Music Baroque Summer School** Baroque Dresden: The Musical Melting Pot - The Parley of Instruments With Peter Holman (course director & continuo), Judy Tarling (upper strings), Mark Caudle (lower strings), Gail Hennessy (woodwind) and Philip Thorby (voices) Details coming soon https://www.cambridgeearlymusic.org/baroque-week-baroque-dresden.html

## AUGUST 2020

Sat 1 to Sat 8 Aug	Barnard Castle School, Barnard Castle, County Durham, DL12 8UN NORVIS 50 – Golden Jubilee		
	NORVIS is an annual full week-long early music summer school in County		
	Durham which we're proud to describe as one of the UK's longest-		
	established and friendliest early music summer schools. We are celebrating		
	our Golden Jubilee in 2020, including a theme on the Meeting at the Field of		
	the Cloth of Gold in 1520 as we move to a super new venue at Barnard		
	Castle School, next door to the wonderful Bowes Museum.		
	If you love playing early music, a week at NORVIS will enable you make		
	progress. We teach and perform with recorders, viols, lutes, baroque strings, harpsichord and voices, and cover a wide range of repertoire from early		
	Renaissance to late Baroque.		
	We have an impressive line-up of specialist performers and teachers.		
	We have a particularly generous student-tutor ratio. We give a number of		
	bursaries to enable individuals to participate in NORVIS who would be		
	otherwise unable to do so.		
	More details available soon		
	https://norvis.org.uk/		
Sun 2 – Sun 9 Aug	St Catharine's College Trumpington St, Cambridge CB2 1RL		
	Cambridge Early Music Renaissance Summer School		
	The Triumphs of Maximilian: Music from the time of Emperor Maximilian I - Courtiers of Grace		
	With Gawain Glenton (course co-director & cornetto), Clare Wilkinson (course co-		
	director & voice), Uri Smilansky (viols & recorders), William Lyons (flutes,		
	recorders, reeds & pipes), and Jacob Heringman (lutes)		
	Details coming soon		
	https://www.cambridgeearlymusic.org/renaissance-week-the-triumphs-of-maximilian.html		
Mon 17 - Fri 21 Aug	Bishop Burton College, Beverley, HU17 8QG, East Yorkshire		
	HISS 2020 10th Anniversary		
	Booking now open!		
	http://www.hiss.org.uk/		

## AUGUST 2020

Mon 10 - Thu 13 Aug	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB		
	Madrigal and Partsong Summer School		
	Tutors: James Oldfield, Stephen Meakins		
	An exploration of the riches of secular vocal music from the Renaissance to the		
	20th century. Participants can also suggest and bring their favourite repertoire.		
	Very good sight-reading and the ability to hold a line, sustain a phrase, and stay in		
	tune are all essentials, and there will be the opportunity for singing one voice per		
	part in small groups as well as a chamber choir. This course is ideal for		
	instrumentalists who play at a high level and wish to transfer their chamber music		
	skills into a vocal context. An enjoyable, relaxed and inclusive atmosphere whilst		
	making music at a high level.		
	Tutor website: www.james-oldfield.com		
	For upper intermediate and advanced singers		
	Resident: £420 Non-Resident: £320 Code: 20/345		
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2747		
Fri 28 - Sun 30 Aug	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB		
	John Playford in the 21st Century		
	Tutors: Paul Hutchinson, Karen Wimhurst		
	John Playford's Dancing Master first published in 1651 is a wonderful example of crossover music genres. Featuring Purcell alongside English country dance tunes		
	and strains of European music this is a course where all players, from traditional,		
	classical or jazz backgrounds can come and enjoy themselves. The course will open up these dance tunes through new arrangements, improvisational and		
	compositional techniques with a view to playing them for dancing. All instruments		
	welcome. Included in the fee is an evening concert given by Paul and Karen.		
	For lower/upper intermediate and advanced players		
	Resident: £305 Non-Resident: £225 Code: 20/292		
	https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2760		
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#### SEPTEMBER 2020

Mon 14 - Thu 17 Sep	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB <b>English Lute Songs Old and New</b> Tutors: Clare Wilkinson, Michael Solomon Williams, Jacob Heringman The course includes repertoire of Elizabethan and Jacobean lute songs, works by contemporary composers, including the twentieth-century composers Warlock, Pope, Wilkinson, and Moeran, and recent lute-songs by present-day composers/ performers, including Peter Croton and the Lute Society's own David Protheroe. Music will be made available in advance, but we also encourage participants strongly to bring along examples of the genre that they are interested in working on. All voice types and lutenists are welcome, especially tenors and basses! We will offer guidance on the practice of creating a lute song from a part song, motet, or other vocal piece, as players of the time did. In addition to coaching singers and lute players in an open lesson format on music brought along, there will be scheduled "special topic" classes, in which Clare, Michael and Jacob introduce participants to those areas which may be unfamiliar. The course fee also includes entry to a recital on the first evening given by our tutors. Tutor websites: www.clare-wilkinson.com, www.beringman.com, www.m-s-w.co.uk For upper intermediate and advanced singers and players Resident: £430 Non-Resident: £330 Code: 20/347 <i>https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2773</i>
Mon 21 - Thu 24 Sep	<ul> <li>Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB</li> <li>Magnificat: Sacred Music by Charpentier</li> <li>Tutors: Theresa Caudle, William Carslake</li> <li>We will explore large-scale pieces for choir and orchestra by Charpentier including the Magnificat a 4 voix avec instruments H79 and Beatus Vir H208. There will be some opportunities for solo singing and there may be possibilities for one-to-a-part and solo singing in smaller-scale items for voices and instruments. Some sessions will be spent with the choir and orchestra working separately and instrumental pieces likely to be studied are the Overture pour l'Eglise H524 and the Overtures pour le Sacré d'un Évêque H536 and H537.</li> <li>We are able to offer a few bursaries to student or budding professional singers interested in furthering their knowledge of baroque vocal music, who will have the opportunity to take some solo parts and further their experience by assisting with coaching.</li> <li>Tutor websites: <i>http://www.canzona.org.uk/theresa.html</i>, <i>http://www.farnboroughsymphony.org.uk/about-fso/artistic-director</i></li> <li>For advanced singers and players</li> <li>Resident: £420 Non-Resident: £320 Code: 20/350 <i>https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2778</i></li> </ul>

## NOVEMBER 2020

Fri 13 - Sun 15 Nov	Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB <b>The Women Troubadours</b> Tutor: Leah Stuttard We will explore the poetry of the women troubadours and discover approaches to making these songs live again. We will look at manuscripts, memorise troubadour melodies, improvise new ones, find contrafacta, and learn about accompanying. This course is open to all instrumentalists (both modern and period) and singers, and the course fee also includes entry to Leah's concert on the first night of the course. We will perform at A=440. Tutor website: <i>leahstuttard.com</i> For all standards of singers and players Resident: £305 Non-Resident: £225 Code: 20/20AA <i>https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2818</i>
Thu 19 - Sun 22 Nov (3 nights) Fri 20 - Sun 22 Nov (2 nights)	<ul> <li>Benslow Music, Ibberson Way, off Benslow Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 9RB Consorting Viols (2 or 3 night option)</li> <li>Tutors: Alison Crum, Roy Marks, Ibi Aziz, Peter Wendland</li> <li>Two or three days of viol consort playing in preformed groups of any level, studying in depth any music chosen by the group, coached by members of the Rose Consort of Viols. This year we are offering the option of an early arrival for an extra day of coaching. Each group will be coached by a tutor for half of every playing session, and each will work with every tutor during the course. Students will be coached on technical and musical aspects of what they play, and will learn about the music's structure and about how better to articulate it through applying historically appropriate techniques.</li> <li>Tutor website: <i>https://www.alisoncrum.co.uk/</i></li> <li>This course is for groups of any level, from beginners to advanced. However the group must be able to function without the help of a tutor, since half the time will be untutored. You will be expected to choose and bring your own music, and be tuned and ready for coaching at the appointed time.</li> <li>For all standards of players</li> <li>3-night option: Resident: £420 Non-Resident: £320 Code: 20/365</li> <li><i>https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2825</i></li> <li>2-night option: Resident: £295 Non-Resident: £215 Code: 20/20DD https://www.benslowmusic.org/?PageID=2824</li> </ul>

# Edinburgh Renaissance Band and the Linton Singers in Germany

#### Jean Ritchie

The Edinburgh Renaissance Band and the Linton Singers visited Würzburg in October this year and presented a concert jointly with the Ensemble Resonanzen and the Cappella St Stephan singers. Murray Campbell and Christian Heidecker were the two musical directors. We have presented joint concerts with Cappella St Stephan on previous occasions but this was the first time we had heard the Ensemble Resonanzen, which featured sackbut and recorders.

The concert started with gloriously huge works by Hans Leo Hassler ("Cantate Domino a 12"), Claudio Monteverdi ("Christe adoramus te"), Heinrich Schütz ("Herr, unser Herrscher") and Giovanni Gabrieli ("Kyrie Eleison"). I was lucky enough to be playing a lovely little chamber organ, and placed right in the middle of the action, at the front of the two choirs, in the middle of the instrumentalists. The combined voices must have been around 50 singers and the sound was spine tingling as they gave their all to these huge pieces, which were written to impress and inspire. The line up of sackbuts, viols, early violins, recorders, cornemuse and organ played with vigour and the result was uplifting.

Cappella St Stephan then gave us Gabrieli's "Jubilate Deo", and Palestrina's gorgeous "Tu es Petrus", both a cappella, and a wonderful contrast to the stirring opening.

The two instrumental groups next took turns to entertain, and I suspect both took away ideas for new repertoire and new interpretations. I think both groups had the experience of hearing an old favourite played differently, and then of hearing for the first time a piece that they would like to play for themselves. Ensemble Resonanzen gave us Tarquinio Merula's "Die Nachtigall", a virtuoso show stopper played on this occasion by four recorders in which the Nightingale's flourishes were dazzlingly displayed. The Edinburgh Renaissance Band finished their section with Anthony Holborne's "The Fairie-Round", with its succession of jazzy syncopations.



St James Abbey, Wurzburg, was founded by Scottish (Irish) monks in 1134; it fell into decline in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, but after the Protestant Reformation in Scotland many Scottish Benedictines left their country during the 16th century and took refuge in the Schottenklöster of Germany. In 1595, St James Abbey was occupied by Scottish monks until its suppression in 1803. A speciality of the Linton Singers is their repertoire of early Scottish vocal music, so their solo slot was three pieces by David Peebles (died 1579) – "Si quis diligit me", "Descendi in hortum meum", and "Quam multi Domine". It seemed appropriate for this music to be heard so near to the former Scottish abbey.

The concert finished with the singers joining forces for Thomas Tallis' "O sacrum convivium", "If ye love me", and finally "Glory to Thee my God this Night". The evening had featured so many wonderful composers, but Tallis' deceptively simple and strong lines provided a fitting ending.

We had an encore prepared, Murray Campbell's excellent four part arrangement of Robert Burns' "A Man's a Man for a' That". Cappella St Stephan had also learnt it and the massed voices sang with conviction, accompanied by the instruments, and made an unforgettable end to a unique and very uplifting concert.

We were grateful to Christian Heidecker and the Cappella St Stephan who made us so welcome, entertained us, fed us, showed us their city and promised to come to Scotland again in a couple of years time. We are looking forward to that.



## The Gargoyles of Gargunnock entertain at Stirling's "Walking the Marches"

#### Helen Rowell and Sue Owen

The City of Stirling invites us to celebrate Stirling's heritage in the historic "Walking the Marches" on Saturday 30th May 2020. Walking the Marches in Stirling can certainly trace its origins back to 1611 when the first documented evidence of the event appears, but it is known that the event's roots date back as far back as the 12<sup>th</sup> century, when the Walking the Marches was often referred to as a Perambulation.

Walking the Marches events take place across Scotland and during these events, officials walk or ride round their boundaries ("Marches") to inspect them and see that they are intact and have not been encroached upon. The main inspectors of the Marches in Stirling are known as "Birlawmen" and they are led by "The Captain of the Birlawmen". They used to use picks and shovels to turn over a sod of grass to mark certain points in the boundary. These were later replaced by "March stones".

In the early 1970's, Walking the Marches came to an end until 2014 when the Incorporation of Hammermen approached the Provost (Mike Robbins) with the idea of resurrecting the tradition. This idea was fully embraced and since 2014 the Marches have become a year-on-year growing event in Stirling.

The timing and route can be had from their website (*www.stirlingwalkingthemarches.org*) with the event starting at 11.00 am and lasting for about one and a half hours. To join in on the day, meet at 11am beside the Rotunda at the bottom of King Street.

The "Gargoyles" will more than likely be entertaining the Walkers at Cowanes Bowling Green with their songs from early eras.



#### Route for the Stirling "Walking the Marches" on Saturday 30th May 2020

### Congratulations to Murray Campbell who has been awarded the Silver Medal in Musical Acoustics by the Acoustical Society of America

Murray Campbell is very well known in early music circles in Edinburgh and beyond. He has contributed enormously to the performance and production of early music in Scotland for many years. We've just discovered that he has recently distinguished himself in his "day job". The following article is copied from the University of Edinburgh's School of Physics and Astronomy website.

The Acoustical Society of America was set up in 1929 to generate, disseminate, and promote the knowledge and practical applications of acoustics. The Society, which is a founding member of the American Institute of Physics, recognizes outstanding achievement in acoustics with several awards.

The Silver Medal is presented to individuals for contributions to the advancement of science, engineering, or human welfare through the application of acoustic principles, or through research accomplishments in acoustics.

Professor Campbell works with colleagues in the Audio And Acoustics Research Group on the physics and acoustics of musical instruments. This award recognizes the international reputation which the University of Edinburgh has acquired as a centre of research into the physics of brass wind musical instruments, and is a tribute to the contributions made by many PhD students who have worked in this field over the last three decades.

Professor Campbell was presented with the Silver Medal in Musical Acoustics at the meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in San Diego in December 2019. The citation reviewed his professional accomplishments, and concluded:

"Murray Campbell is a world-renowned acoustician, one of the most productive researchers in the field of musical acoustics, and has been a mentor to countless young scientists. His work is of the highest caliber, and his kindness and generosity are legendary in the community. Awarding Murray Campbell the Silver Medal is a deserved recognition of his many contributions to the advancement of our understanding of music and musical instruments, as well as his dedication to the development and education of the next generation of acousticians."

(https://www.ph.ed.ac.uk/news/2020/congratulations-to-murray-campbell-who-has-been-awarded-the-silver-medal-in-musicalacoustics-by-the-20-01-13?fbclid=IwAR3jeISHy-O5iayovjcCWF\_Feuzi9KwWBcu9tfBYzKmJ5ReRvWC8HCRT5C4)

Congratulations from EMFS, Murray!

# EMFS Choirs Programme Spring 2020

Philip Redfern

#### **Advanced Choir:**

#### **Requiem in F minor - Heinrich Biber**

Best-known nowadays as a composer for the violin, in his day Heinrich Biber was equally celebrated as a church composer. His Requiem is a large scale work, dark-hued and at times dramatic, which deserves to be much better known.

#### **EMFS** Choir:

#### A French Requiem Charpentier's Messe des morts à 4 voix

Mark Antoine Charpentier occupied a prominent position at the court of Louis XIV composing for the theatre and for the Royal Chapel. His Requiem for four-part choir is a sombre work replete with all the sumptuous harmonies we expect from the finest of French Baroque music.

Dates: 18th January/15th February/14th March 2020

Venue: St Michael and All Saints Church, Brougham Street, Tollcross, Edinburgh, EH3 9JH

Further info from:

sue@emfscotland.org.uk



Image: https://www.flickr.com/photos/babangalam/3092978510

## 'bye for now!

Well, there you are - an updated listing of events and some bonus articles. Plus a few posters etc in the Appendix which follows.

I hope to hear from you with your news, photographs, reviews and accounts of your early music revelling! Please send material at any time.

Until next time...

Sue Owen sue@emfscotland.org.uk

# Appendix

**Posters for events and music** 

# Penicuik Community Arts Association Sunday 15th March 2-3pm



# Cordes en Ciel

Estonian lutenist and soprano Kristiina Watt and French/American soprano Héloïse Bernard

West Street Art Centre, 4 West St, Penicuik, EH26 9DL £12 (£10 for PCAA members) Tickets from the West Street cafe or online: https://penicuikarts.org/event/cordes-en-ciel/

With thanks to Chamber Music Scotland for supporting this concert

Chamber Alusic Scotland





#### Héloïse Bernard - soprano Kristiina Watt - theorbo, baroque guitar, soprano

#### Programme

'lo son pur vezzosetta' SV 121	Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)
'Folle è ben che si crede'	Tarquinio Merula (c.1594-1665)
'Ohimé ch'io cado' SV 316	Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)
'I burn, I burn, I burn' from 'The comical history of Don Quixote'	John Eccles (1668-1735)
<pre>'Ah! How sweet it is to love' from 'Tyrannick love'</pre>	Henry Purcell (1659 - 1695)
'Ferita d'amore'	Bellerofonte Castaldi (1580-1649)
'Pleurez mes yeux'	Sébastien le Camus (1610 - 1677)
'Se que me muero me muero de amor' 'Chaconne des Harlequins' arr. Robert de Visée from 'Le bourgeoise gentilhomme'	Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632-1687)
'Que ma bergere est belle'	Sébastien le Camus (1610 - 1677)
<b>'Pulchra es'</b> From 'Vespro della beata virgine' SV 206	Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)
'Toccata seconda arpeggiata'	Johann Kapsberger (ca. 1580 - 1651)
'Partite variate sopra la aria romanesca'	Alessandro Piccinini (1566 - ca.1638)
<pre>'Dolcissimo sospiro' 'Odi Euterpe' from 'Le Nuove Musiche'</pre>	Giulio Caccini (1551 - 1618)

# Sacred Music Workshop for amateur singers & instrumentalists with ~ D James Ross ~



# Workshop 10

Saturday 25th January 2-4pm in Inverness Cathedral

## **Music for Epiphany**

Brightest and Best : Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)
 Ab Oriente venerunt Magi : Jacob Handl (1550-1591)
 Stella quam viderant : Constanzo Porta (1529-1601)
 Vidimus stellam : William Byrd (1540-1623)
 Sleep, Little Jesus, Sleep : Mark Liversidge (b.1974)

Please note - In response to feedback from the workshops, we plan to run the first three sessions in 2020 as a block, payable in advance. This will allow us to work on music over several sessions, as well as anticipating attendance. Details from Sue at suelightman@gmail.com Les Danses Antiques Historical Dance Historical Dance Group Classes for Everyone





September 1745 Prince Charles In Edward Stuart with his army seized Edinburgh and set up his court at the Holyroodhouse. Palace of The Edinburgh Assembly (created in 1723) held several balls while the Prince was in the city. Learn more about this first social dance circle and what was danced at their events in 1740s.

#### Romance of Dance Monday, 17<sup>rd</sup> of February 19:30 - 21:00

Dancing has always been associated with courtship and romance. Explore this connection through the centuries with this historical dance workshop. We will dances from different eras to try what experience considered was romantic and passionate through time.

#### **Dirty Dancing Through Time** Monday, 16<sup>rd</sup> of March 19:30 - 21:00

To celebrate the International Women's Day and to beat the Monday blues join us for a workshop to explore a concept of scandalous dance through time. Learn about La Volta, the favorite dance of Elizabeth I, make some Waltz turns from Byron's time and then kick your legs up with CanCan Quadrille that gave rise to the famous Parisian Moulin Rouge dance.

Classes are held in Dance Studio @ Cameron House Community Centre 34 Prestonfield Ave, Edinburgh EH16 5EU







# Tudor Polyphony and Beyond...

with Eamonn Dougan and Francis Steele A choral course for 16-18 experienced singers

## 29 August – 5 September 2020

At La Maison Verte, Roujan, Languedoc, France

This is a week-long opportunity for singers to immerse themselves in the music of the Tudor era – a most exciting and diverse period of creative expression under 5 English monarchs.

We are seeking 16-18 singers, experienced at singing chorally and one on a part, who are excellent sight-readers. We work daily in whole group, half group and small group format. Eamonn and Fran have an opportunity to get to know individual voices well, allowing them to help people discover different ways of singing, performing and interpreting the repertoire.

They aim to encourage exploration of your own vocal technique as a choral and consort singer and offer their expertise to help improve blending, tuning, understanding and interpretation of this rich and fruitful music.

#### WHERE

La Maison Verte provides a wonderful backdrop for this week of musical, culinary and social immersion. It is an old wine mansion in the heart of the Languedoc countryside, yet situated centrally enough for us to enjoy village life. La Maison Verte has a swimming pool, rehearsal spaces, three apartments and a large, beautiful garden.

We are close to the mountains of the Causse, and to the sunny and unpretentious beaches of the Herault. Moliere's home town, Pezenas, is a short hop away and the village is surrounded by rolling vineyards, and quiet country lanes.

If you have been to La Maison Verte before, please read the additional note on what the differences are now that the house has new owners.

#### WHEN

Saturday 29 August – Saturday 5 September 2020

#### PURPOSE

To explore Tudor Polyphony and other notable works in both choral and consort (one-to-a-part) forms, and to prepare for performance on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Tutors will help singers focus on improvements in:

Intonation



View from Green Room Apartment



Rehearsal Room Block



Swimming Pool



Gite Accommodation

Singing 'in time' Sight reading One on a part singing Breathing Understanding and Interpretation

#### REPERTOIRE

#### Francis says:

Can we imagine a vast oil canvas? The five Tudor monarchs – all depicted – have courteously requested the presence of all the musicians who served during their reigns. John Browne is chatting with the Mundys, Sheppard laughing with Cornysh and Tye; Byrd and Tallis are deep in conversation with Elizabeth, whilst Taverner has recruited the 4 Roberts – White, Wylkynson, Parsons and Fayrfax (apologies to Hollingworth) – to play In nomines upon the dais. Anon skulks in a recess. Your mobile phone rings, the vision fades, leaving only the intuition of a breath-taking array of talent there assembled.

During our week, Eamonn and I want to restore this canvas, not in oils, but in sound. Our aim is to select some of the greatest works of the Tudor period – antiphons, mass movements, motets – in order to discover the manifold beauties of this complex and challenging repertoire. We rely on you to be the artists; at this stage it is impossible to name specific pieces without knowing the executors, but the field is rich and deep. All the music will be provided on loan, free of charge. Taking this restoration a step further, we can sing one or two pieces which, though intriguing, are incomplete, so discussion of my reconstruction is another facet of our informed performance.

"and Beyond"... Well I have always loved Tippett's Plebs Angelica. Born of his interest in Tudor polyphony (he conducted Spem at Morley College in the 1940s) it is a strange and beautiful late flowering of the Tudor rose, which leaves us as the very gates of paradise.

#### SINGERS WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are looking for 16-18 singers—Sopranos, Altos, Tenors, Baritones and Basses. Experience of singing Renaissance polyphony is preferred, and successful applicants will be able to sight-read well.

Course repertoire will focus on several pieces for all voices, and a variety of pieces for smaller configurations. Opportunities will be given for consort singing where you will be assigned to a group with a tutor and his choice of music. In breaks and in the evenings, you are encouraged to form your own groups and select repertoire from our library of thousands of pieces of great music.



Roujan



Rehearsal Room

Mater Chri. Tauer 16.191110 1110 H & MININ.

A teaser...



The Courtyard

#### **GUESTS**

We have a number of guest spots available for those that would like to come on the trip and enjoy the same accommodation, food, and environment, but not participate in the singing/course activities.

#### FOOD

We use local chefs who enjoy preparing traditional Languedoc dishes as well as more exotic fare so that we can savour the best of Southern French cuisine. We'll be providing local wine, free of charge, with meals (and an honour bar at other times of the day/evening).

#### ACCOMMODATION

La Maison Verte has three Gites sleeping a total of 12 people. Others will be housed within a 1 minute walk of the grounds and rehearsal room. On site, preference will be given to those willing to share. At La Maison Verte, the apartments are airconditioned. Additional accommodation is in private houses just opposite the gates of the venue, and is spacious, comfortable and private.

#### PRICE

- The fee for the week is €795 (euros):
- Course, facilities and board
- Three meals a day
- Free wine with meals
- An overall student tutor ratio of around 8:1
- At least five hours tuition a day en masse and in small groups
  Additional group coaching in breaks and in the evening with
- informal singing - Lectures and seminars from the tutors on their specialist subjects
- Opportunities to share what you have learned.
- A performance on Friday 4 September in the local church

Accommodation is provided on site and in two neighbouring houses. The accommodation cost is likely to be between 200 and 400 euros for the week.

Singer Fees: €795 plus accommodation

Guest Fees: €595 plus accommodation

If selected, 50% is due upon acceptance (non-returnable) to confirm your spot, and the remainder by August  $1^{st}$ .



The Boulodrome



Garden



Gatehouse Living Room



Green Room Apartment

#### DAILY SCHEDULE (subject to change)

8-9am - Breakfast

8.30am – Warm up and Rehearsal whole Group

11.30 – Rehearsal half Group

1pm - Lunch

2.30 – Small Groups (for half the singers – the others are free to create their own music or rest)

4.30 pm – Small Groups (for the other half of the singers...)\*

6.15pm – Sharing of small group work

7.30pm - Supper

9pm – BAR and informal singing if requested!

\*to ensure that groups are always supported by a tutor; and to give people a sufficient break.

#### TUTORS

#### Eamonn Dougan

Eamonn Dougan is an inspirational communicator with a wideranging repertoire, and is a renowned vocal coach and baritone. He is Associate Conductor of The Sixteen, founding Director of Britten Sinfonia Voices, and Music Director of the Thomas Tallis Society. He is also Visiting Professor to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, where he teaches ensemble singing and directs the Guildhall Consort. Forthcoming conducting engagements include debuts with Bilbao Orkestra Sinfonikoa and Real Orquesta Sinfónica de Sevilla, and return visits to the Cumnock Tryst Festival, BBC Singers, Danish National Symphony Orchestra, VokalEnsemblet and KoncertKor, Orquesta y Coro de la Comunidad de Madrid (ORCAM) and Jersey Chamber Orchestra beckon. This alongside his continued work educating choral groups across the world.

#### **Francis Steele**

Educated at Christ's Hospital, Horsham and Magdalen College Oxford, Francis has a world-wide reputation as a bass and as a choral/consort tutor. At La Maison Verte, where he was coowner and director of Verte Musique until 2018, he gained notoriety for his own Courses (the Renaissance Consort Workshops, and Chamber Choir workshops) and for the work he did with visiting groups such as Sospiri, The Banchieri singers, Worcester College Oxford, Pro Musica from Hungary, Cappella Magdalena from France, Utopia from Finland, Trinity College Melbourne, and the Byrd Ensemble from Seattle. During his singing career, he performed with some of the best ensembles in the world, such as The Tallis Scholars (for whom he performed around 1500 concerts), The Sixteen, The Gabrieli Consort, BBC Singers and Philip Cave's Magnificat. Renowned as a Renaissance specialist (he was co-editor of OUP's excellent Musica Dei Donum editions), Francis continues to be passionate about Tudor Polyphony, and still strives to learn how best we can serve this wonderful music.



Green Room Apartment



In rehearsal



Eamonn Dougan



View from the courtyard



Francis Steele

#### Application Form

Please complete this form and send it back to us:

By post: 3 Rue de l'Eglise, 34320 Roujan, France Email attachment : <u>anneroberts23456@gmail.com</u>

We will contact you shortly to let you know if your application has been successful. Submission of an application form at this point does not constitute a binding commitment. Please do not send money, when you submit your application.

Name ...... M/F.....

Address.....

Telephone.....

Voice part (SATBarB) ...... Date of birth .....

Comfortable working vocal range (imagine the letters below are notes on a keyboard and circle the two comfortable extremes of your range):

c,d,e,f,g,a,b,c, d,e,f,g,a,b, middle c, d,,f,g,a,b,c, d,e,f,g,a,b,c

Please say something about the quality of your voice (eg, strong, soft, vocal stamina, etc? If you don't know what to say, perhaps ask a singing friend who could describe your voice).

.....

Please rate your sight-singing by ticking the statement which most clearly relates to your ability.

- I normally get 90% of the notes right on first read through
- By the second or third read through I am normally there Other... (please explain!)

Please give the contact details of someone who could give you a vocal reference.

.....

Once your application has been accepted and a place is confirmed, you will be asked for a **non-returnable** deposit of 50% of your course fee. The rest of the cost will be due on August 1st. The accommodation list will be sent out once your application has been accepted.

I would like to apply as a singer for the course 795 euros I would like to apply for a guest place 595 euros

I am a vegetarian (please note that because of the small number of people on the course we can't cater for any special diets except vegetarian).

And/or I would like to propose that you invite the following singers for this and future courses:

Name ...... Voice .....

Address ...... Phone ...... Email.....

Email..... Phone .....

If you have any queries, please contact Anne Roberts or Francis Steele on: Email (NEW): <u>anneroberts23456@gmail.com</u>; Phone: +44 (0)7 83 16 44 68

#### For those of you who have been to La Maison Verte before...

As you may know, we (Anne Roberts and Francis Steele) sold La Maison Verte in 2018 after caring for it, and enjoying it for 12 years. It is now owned by a delightful French couple who have spent an enormous amount of care (and money!) upgrading the whole estate. They are pleased that we want to do a course, and are thrilled that their venue will come alive again. However, it is now a private home. They will not be in residence when we are there, but these are the differences you will notice.

The pool and garden are available to us!

We cannot use the main house. Accommodation will be just in the apartments – though they are now really top notch, and at two local (very lovely and characterful) houses within a minute's walk.

Eating will be outside in the garden underneath the trees or, in case of late summer storms, in the rehearsal room or, possibly, winebarn.

We may not have access to the downstairs kitchen. We will set up a tea/coffee point in the rehearsal room.

If you are assigned a room at LMV, then your lounge area and bedroom are accessible to you all the time. You might want to invite those who are off site to rest in your apartment when they are not singing.

If you are staying at 3 or 11 Rue de l'Eglise (just across the road), we have arranged for you to use their kitchens and sitting rooms if you want a break from the fray during the day.

It's still beautiful...

Anne and Fran

10 January 2020