



# CONCERTS 2017-2018

71st season

World-class chamber music concerts  
in the Eastgate Theatre, Peebles



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eg..

EASTGATE  
THEATRE & ARTS CENTRE

# Welcome

Music in Peebles presented its first concert in 1947, so as we mark our 70th anniversary it is with particular pride that I introduce our 2017/18 season. We have eight top-quality concerts beginning with the gala closing event of Creative Peebles Festival, included for the first time as part of our season. We also continue our Sunday afternoon concerts in January and February that proved so popular in 2017.

As always, we welcome some well-known names and some of the finest young musicians. The range of repertoire covered has never been wider, from favourite masterworks to contemporary pieces, jazz and tango.

Prices remain the same as last season, and our concerts are open to everyone. With eight concerts rather than seven, membership is now even more attractive than ever, saving £42 over the season. For the first time, we are extending free admission to all students under 25 in full-time education. Details of membership and ticket deals can be found at the end of this brochure.

I hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful music we have planned for this season and I look forward to welcoming you to our concerts.

**John Fox, President, Music in Peebles**



Email us: [contact@musicinpeebles.org.uk](mailto:contact@musicinpeebles.org.uk)

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Music in Peebles is a registered Scottish charity (SC006906)

**Sunday, 3rd September 2017**

7.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



**CREATIVE  
PEEBLES  
FESTIVAL**

## **Michael Collins (clarinet) & The Heath Quartet**

*Oliver Heath & Sara Wolstenholme (violins)  
Gary Pomeroy (viola), Chris Murray (cello)*

|                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Weber</b>        | Clarinet Quintet in B flat, Op.34 |
| <b>Jörg Widmann</b> | String Quartet No.1               |
| <b>Mozart</b>       | Clarinet Quintet in A, K.581      |

The start of another season, the close of another Creative Peebles Festival AND Music in Peebles hits 70, so here's a truly special concert worthy of the occasion.

Michael Collins is one of the world's foremost clarinetists; he was the first ever winner of the BBC Young Musician woodwind prize and last appeared in Peebles in 2010. The outstanding Heath Quartet are also making a welcome return, having played here in 2007.

Now they join forces to perform two much-loved works; the sparkling clarinet quintet by Weber and that by Mozart - one of the most popular pieces in the entire chamber music repertoire. Positioned between them is the first of German composer Jörg Widmann's five string quartets, written in 1997 when he was 24.

***"Michael Collins plays with an irresistible exuberance that I've not heard equalled."*** Gramophone

***"The Heaths perform with fierce intelligence and feeling, passion and virtuosity..."*** The Telegraph

**Tuesday, 3rd October 2017**

7.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



## **Doric String Quartet**

*Alex Redington & Jonathan Stone (violins)  
Hélène Clément (viola), John Myerscough (cello)*

|                    |                                        |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Britten</b>     | String Quartet No.1 in D, Op.25        |
| <b>Haydn</b>       | String Quartet Op.20, No.4 ('The Sun') |
| <b>Mendelssohn</b> | String Quartet No.6 in F minor, Op.80  |

The superb Doric Quartet last appeared in Peebles in 2010 and is now firmly established as the leading UK string quartet of its generation.

Their fascinating programme opens with the 28 year old Benjamin Britten's first quartet which, it was noted at the time, marked a new phase in his development. There follows one of Haydn's fine Opus 20 quartets, of which the Dorics have made an acclaimed recording (Critics' Choice in Gramophone magazine).

The concert ends with Mendelssohn's last completed work, his final string quartet, written as a heartfelt homage to his beloved sister Fanny following her sudden death. Gone is the emotional restraint so often associated with this composer; here is Mendelssohn's grief laid bare, a grief so profound it led to the composer himself suffering a stroke and dying just two months later.

***"... the players are superb, but, beyond that, they blend together as though of one mind – the touchstone of any such group."*** classicalsource

**Tuesday, 7th November 2017**

7.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



## **Philip Fowke (piano)**

|                  |                                                           |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Schumann</b>  | Sonata No.3 in F minor, Op.14 (3rd mov't)                 |
| <b>Liszt</b>     | Années de pèlerinage:<br>Deuxième Année ('Italie'), S.161 |
| <b>Stevenson</b> | Peter Grimes Fantasy                                      |
| <b>Busoni</b>    | Kammer-Fantasie über Bizets Carmen                        |

### **Part 2: 'The Art of the Encore'**

Philip Fowke is one of Britain's most outstanding pianists and distinguished musicians. His appearances with leading orchestras and in solo recitals and chamber music, together with his many broadcasts and recordings, have earned him international respect, admiration and the affection of audiences.

The first part of the programme reflects some of Philip's particular interests, including the music of Ronald Stevenson (a good friend of his) and Busoni (on whose music Ronald Stevenson was a great authority).

The second part 'The Art of the Encore', features music associated with some of the great pianists of the past. In his own unique style, Philip will introduce the works and share his personal association both with them and with the pianists who played them.

***"... that co-existence of a high musical intellect with elegance, wit and unashamedly joyful showmanship, marks out Philip Fowke among his own generation of pianists."*** The Times

**Thursday, 7th December 2017**

7.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



## **Jess Gillam (saxophone) & Jonathan Fisher (piano)**

**Music by:** Chick Corea, Claude Debussy,  
Peter DeRose, Graham Fitkin, Dave Heath,  
Pedro Itturalde, Michael Nyman, Maurice Ravel,  
Rudy Wiedoeft, John Williams and Phil Woods

Jess Gillam made history in 2016 when, at the age of 17, she became the first saxophonist to win the BBC Young Musician Woodwind Prize. Since then, her exceptional musicianship and charismatic stage presence have endeared her to concert and festival audiences, adding them to her millions of television fans. She now balances a busy performance schedule with her studies at the Royal Northern College of Music.

Jess moves effortlessly between many different musical genres, from concerto performances with leading orchestras, to jazz groups, to chamber music settings. The programme she has chosen for us illustrates her eclectic taste, ranging from French 'impressionism' to film music and, of course, jazz.

***"A girl every viewer, with or without classical music knowledge, would take to their hearts...Down to earth, funny and cool...What was not to like?"*** Gramophone

***"A true inspiration, she frankly rocks."*** Huffington Post

**Sunday, 14th January 2018**

2.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



## **Santiago Quartet & Julian Rowlands (bandoneon)**

*Rowan Bell & Johanna McWeeney (violins)*

*Cressida Wislocki (viola), Jonathan Hennessey-Brown (cello)*

|                    |                                            |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>Piazzolla</b>   | Milonga del Angel                          |
| <b>Piazzolla</b>   | Lo Que Vendra                              |
| <b>Traditional</b> | Tangos: A Media Luz, Nostalgias, El Choclo |
| <b>Piazzolla</b>   | Anxiety                                    |
| <b>Piazzolla</b>   | Oblivion                                   |
| <b>Will Todd</b>   | Birthday Quartet                           |
| <b>Piazzolla</b>   | Four Seasons of Buenos Aires               |

Violinist Rowan Bell makes a welcome return to his native Peebles, this time as leader of the London-based Santiago Quartet. They are joined by Julian Rowlands, 'one of the UK's few genuinely accomplished players of the bandoneon [an Argentinian form of accordion]' (*Venue* magazine).

Of course, it is the spirit of the tango that pervades the concert, from three traditional tango tunes to the *nuevo tango* of Astor Piazzolla, exclusively arranged for string quartet and bandoneon, echoing the haunting sound of the composer's own quintet. The quartet alone plays the Birthday Quartet, commissioned from Will Todd and described as 'complex, approachable, moving and attractive'. The concert ends with Piazzolla's soulfully descriptive evocation of the changing seasons in the Argentine capital.

**Sunday, 11th February 2018**

2.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



## **The Hermes Experiment**

*Héloïse Werner (soprano), Anne Denholm (harp)  
Oliver Pashley (clarinet), Marianne Schofield (double bass)*

**Music by:** Richard Rodney Bennett, Leonard Bernstein,  
Peter Maxwell Davies, Claude Debussy,  
Soosan Lolavar, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov,  
Giles Swayne and Freya Waley-Cohen

Performing as a really exciting, innovative and unique quartet, The Hermes Experiment strives to give engaging and thought-provoking performances, incorporating new commissions, diverse arrangements of existing works from Bach to Joni Mitchell, and live improvisation. The members passionately believe that music is for all, and enjoy presenting their concerts in a way that explains and gives insights into their unusual repertoire.

In this concert, part of a Scottish tour as Tunnel Trust award winners, the ensemble performs a typically eclectic mix, exploiting to the full its ingenious combination of voice and instruments. There are imaginative arrangements of well-known music drawn from traditional, 'classical' and contemporary sources, as well as examples from the impressive array of new works the group has already commissioned.

Prepare to have your musical horizons expanded!

***“The performance was meticulously nuanced, witty and chic.”*** The Times

**Tuesday, 6th March 2018**

7.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



## **Philip Higham (cello) & Susan Tomes (piano)**

|                            |                                   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Beethoven</b>           | Cello Sonata No.4 in F, Op.102/1  |
| <b>Janáček</b>             | Pohádka                           |
| <b>Debussy</b>             | Selections from Preludes, Book II |
| <b>John Maxwell Geddes</b> | Callanish IV for Solo Cello       |
| <b>Simon Smith</b>         | Chorale Postlude                  |
| <b>Beethoven</b>           | Cello Sonata No.5 in D, Op.102/2  |

Two of Scotland's finest chamber musicians join forces for a concert of solo and duo performances. Philip Higham's solo all-Bach concert was a highlight of our 2016/17 season and Susan Tomes makes a welcome, and long overdue, return to Peebles, having last performed here in 1991 with the Domus Piano Quartet.

Framed between the last two of Beethoven's great cello sonatas are shorter works for cello and piano by Janáček and Simon Smith (a former pupil of St Mary's Music School). At the centre of the concert we hear these two superb artists individually as Susan Tomes plays Debussy Preludes and Philip Higham performs a work for solo cello written in 1978 by one of Scotland's most prolific composers, John Maxwell Geddes.

***“a major talent... Higham offered object lessons in lyrical sensitivity, musical architecture and expressive insight...”*** Washington Post

***“Susan Tomes is a treasure in our midst.”*** Scotsman

**Tuesday, 24th April 2018**

7.30pm, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre, Peebles



## **Clare Hammond (piano)**

|                      |                                           |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Haydn</b>         | Fantasia in C major, Hob XVII:4           |
| <b>Schubert</b>      | Four Impromptus, D.899                    |
| <b>Szymanowski</b>   | Metopes ('L'île des Sirènes' & 'Calypso') |
| <b>Malcolm Hayes</b> | Purgatorio (world premiere)               |
| <b>Chopin</b>        | Etudes, Op.25                             |

Clare Hammond has recently found fame for both musical and extra-musical reasons, having won the Royal Philharmonic Society's 2016 Young Artist Award and appeared in the Alan Bennett film 'The Lady in the Van'.

Her 'reputation for brilliantly imaginative concert programmes' (*BBC Music Magazine*) is illustrated here, as she brings together music from four centuries. Haydn's Fantasia provides a vivacious opening whilst Schubert's first set of Impromptus is among the best-loved works in the piano repertoire. As a noted champion of contemporary music, Clare will also play the world premiere of a work by Malcolm Hayes, inspired by Dante.

The remaining works reflect Clare's particular interest in Polish music. First come two pieces from Szymanowski's 1915 'Metopes', in which his style leans towards that of the French 'Impressionist' composers, and the season is brought to a dazzling close by Chopin's highly virtuosic Opus 25 set of Etudes.

***"a winning combination of technical subtlety and expressive spontaneity."*** Gramophone

# Prices for 2017-18

|                                          |             |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Membership</b>                        | <b>£70</b>  |
| <b>Student membership (under 25)</b>     | <b>Free</b> |
| <b>Single Tickets</b>                    | <b>£14</b>  |
| <b>Adult accompanying child under 12</b> | <b>£7</b>   |
| <b>School pupils/Students under 25</b>   | <b>Free</b> |

## Buying Tickets

- **In person** Box Office  
Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre  
Eastgate  
Peebles  
EH45 8AD
- **By phone** 01721 725777
- **Online** [www.eastgatearts.com](http://www.eastgatearts.com)

## Membership

Becoming a member entitles you to:

- entry to all concerts at a substantial saving over single ticket prices;
- advance information and priority booking for forthcoming seasons, allowing you to secure a favourite seat;
- regular newsletters and updates about Music in Peebles events and other local musical activities;
- influence over concert planning and the operation of Music in Peebles.

It also shows your commitment to high quality live chamber music in the Borders and helps Music in Peebles to plan future seasons with confidence.

To apply for membership, please complete the enclosed application form or go to the Membership page of the Music in Peebles website. For more details, please see the website or contact the Membership Secretary, Tony Bell (01721 722788).

# Music in Peebles 2017-18

Sunday, 3rd September 2017 at 7.30pm

**MICHAEL COLLINS &  
THE HEATH QUARTET**

*Weber, Widmann, Mozart*

Tuesday, 3rd October 2017 at 7.30pm

**DORIC STRING QUARTET**

*Britten, Haydn, Mendelssohn*

Tuesday, 7th November 2017 at 7.30pm

**PHILIP FOWKE**

*Schumann, Liszt, Ronald Stevenson, Busoni etc.*

Thursday, 7th December 2017 at 7.30pm

**JESS GILLAM & JONATHAN FISHER**

*Debussy, Ravel, Michael Nyman, Chick Corea, etc.*

Sunday, 14th January 2018 at 2.30pm

**SANTIAGO QUARTET &  
JULIAN ROWLANDS**

*Piazzolla, Will Todd*

Sunday, 11th February 2018 at 2.30pm

**THE HERMES EXPERIMENT**

*Bernstein, Giles Swayne, Debussy, Soosan Lolavar, etc.*

Tuesday, 6th March 2018 at 7.30pm

**PHILIP HIGHAM & SUSAN TOMES**

*Beethoven, Janáček, Debussy, etc.*

Tuesday, 24th April 2018 at 7.30pm

**CLARE HAMMOND**

*Haydn, Schubert, Szymanowski, Hayes, Chopin*