



CONWAY
HALL *Sunday Concerts*

Spring Season
Jan - May 2021



The London
Community
Foundation

COCKAYNE



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

 **CAVATINA**
Chamber Music Trust
www.cavatina.net

from our audience: “an amazing acoustic and very welcoming... a distinctive character with a long and proud history as a venue for classical music concerts”

Support us

In order to continue to fulfil our ethos of “affordable classical music for all”, philanthropic support will be ever more significant to the bright future of our concert series. By supporting our concerts, you will be playing a vital role in enabling us to deliver inspiring concerts for many years to come, and memorable experiences for new and long-lasting audiences.

We are extremely grateful for the support of our current distinguished patrons who are renowned musicians, actors and broadcasters. Supporting our series means that you will join a family of dedicated, generous people who share a common passion and enthusiasm for music. Whatever your interests or backgrounds, we can build a close and rewarding relationship with you.

Not only do we provide a performance platform for established chamber groups, but we also give a springboard for the next generation of young artists to make their mark on the classical music stage. In a highly competitive world where young professionals are often expected to perform without any fee, we at Conway Hall are committed to supporting today’s musicians and insist on paying fees to our artists.

You can help us to continue our work by donating today. The generosity that you may provide will not just benefit Conway Hall as a cultural organisation, but also help the roster of professional musicians we work with continue to realise their lifelong ambitions.

How to Donate: In return for your generosity, we can offer exclusive benefits that get you closer to our concerts, including:

- Patrons’ receptions after key concerts
- The opportunity to attend rehearsals
- Meet the Artists after the concert
- Acknowledgment in our concert programmes and on our website

You can make a one-off donation online here: sundayconcerts.ticketsolve.com/products/donation

You can also donate by cheque, payable to “Conway Hall Ethical Society”, sent to: Conway Hall Sunday Concerts, 25 Red Lion Square, London, WC1R 4RL

If you would like to find out more, please contact our Director of Music, Simon Callaghan: simon@conwayhall.org.uk



The Sunday Concerts trace their history back to 1878 when the *People’s Concert Society* was formed for the purpose of “increasing the popularity of good music by means of affordable concerts”. The *South Place Ethical Society* acquired the concert series and, in 1929, had **Conway Hall** purpose built for them and, with the exception of the war years, the concerts seasons have continued ever since.

Scan this QR code to see a video introduction to our concert series.

Welcome

to our Spring 2021 series of concerts at Conway Hall

I would like to begin by expressing my sincerest gratitude to all our wonderful supporters for helping us to navigate the storm brought about by the coronavirus for a large part of 2020. Our livestreamed events were watched by many around the world, and were high quality performances broadcast via our state-of-the-art equipment. We have decided to continue this method of presentation for the Spring season but will also now be able to admit limited in-person audiences, subject to Government restrictions.

I am so pleased that we are able to offer this programme of concerts in 2021. We have a particular focus this season on young ensembles, born out of our desire to nurture the future of classical music: something which is more important now than ever before. We have a good helping of the core repertoire alongside several contemporary works, a premiere by Thomas Hewitt Jones, and some colourful arrangements by Solem Quartet violinist, William Newell. Later in the season, we are proud to announce the re-launch of the Clements Prize, which will appeal to young composers to write a new work for chamber ensemble and which will coincide with a special exhibition of scores from the Conway Hall Archive.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our generous supporters, without whom our series would simply be unable to continue: the CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust, Cockayne - Grants for the Arts, The London Community Foundation, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England and many private donors.

Dr Simon Callaghan
Director of Music

PHOTO CREDITS: Pip Bacon @ Purple Raspberry (*Galliard Ensemble*, front cover)
Rebecca Need-Menear (*Phacelia Ensemble*) • Kaupo Kikkas (*Simon Callaghan, Trio Isimsiz*)
William Marsey (*Hill Quartet*) • Frank Rossbach (*Minguet Quartet*) • Benjamin Ealovega (*Tim Horton*)
Bertie Watson (*Greenwich Trio, Solem Quartet*) • John Greene (*Callia Quartet*) • Carl Proctor (*Rachel Roberts*)
Viktor Erik Emanuel (*Piatti Quartet*) • Tonmy Lam (*Conway Hall stage*) • Matt Johnson (*Oculi Ensemble*)

PATRONS: Stephen Hough • Prunella Scales CBE • Hiro Takenouchi
Petroc Trelawny • Timothy West CBE



16th May • 6.30pm

The Clements Prize

Featuring members of the *Piatti Quartet*

Alfred J. Clements (1858-1938) was the organiser and secretary of the South Place Sunday Concerts (predecessor of Conway Hall Sunday Concerts) from their inception in 1887 until his death. In the first half of the twentieth century the competition bearing his name encouraged the composition of new chamber works, establishing a tradition which set Conway Hall right at the centre of British contemporary music.

After the disaster wrought on the music industry by the coronavirus in 2020, Conway Hall Sunday Concerts is keen to support young musicians and new music in whatever way possible. 2021 sees the re-launch of The Clements Prize, which will call for new compositions for string trio.

Alongside the competition, scores submitted for previous editions from the Conway Hall Archive will be available for the first time via the Conway Hall website and a selection exhibited before the final round of the competition. We are grateful to Cockayne - Grants for the Arts and to The London Community Foundation for making this exciting event possible.

Further information will be made available on our website in due course.



10th January • 6.30pm

Phacelia Ensemble

Elisabeth Streichert • piano

Antonia Kesel • violin

Edward Bale • violin

Mark Gibbs • viola

Cecilia Bignall • cello

Mark Lipski • double bass

Stravinsky Three Pieces for Quartet

Mozart Concerto No. 20 in D minor K466

Brahms Piano Quintet in F minor Op. 34

The Phacelia Ensemble comprises five strings and piano formed to give voice to the idea of 'Concertos in Miniature'. The ensemble performs piano concertos in chamber versions, presenting the audience with an intimate, transparent sound experience.

24th January • 6.30pm

Rachel Roberts & Tim Horton

Rachel Roberts • viola

Tim Horton • piano

Schumann Märchenbilder Op.113

Brahms Sonata in F minor Op.120/1

Vieuxtemps Hommage à Paganini Op.55

Clarke Viola Sonata

Rachel Roberts, whose playing was described by The Strad as 'beautifully expressive....powerful and projecting', has performed globally on the most prestigious stages. She is joined for her Conway Hall recital by pianist Tim Horton, who is also no stranger to London's music scene. Soloist and chamber musician, he is a founder member of the Leonore Piano Trio and Ensemble 360 as well as a regular guest pianist with the Nash Ensemble.

January



7th February • 6.30pm

Hill Quartet

Bridget O'Donnell • violin
David López Ibáñez • violin
Julia Doukakis • viola
Ben Michaels • cello

Beethoven Quartet in D Op. 18/3
Misha Mullov-Abbado Winter Blues
Schubert Quartet in D minor 'Death and
the Maiden' D810

The Hill Quartet is one of the UK's most exciting emerging ensembles. They currently hold the prestigious RAM Chamber Music Fellowship and have a particular interest in working with living composers. They recently commissioned Misha Mullov-Abbado to write a new piece for quartet, which they place at the centre of their programme. We wish to thank the CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust for supporting their Conway Hall début.

 CAVATINA
Chamber Music Trust
www.cavatina.net

21st February • 6.30pm

Solem Quartet & Anthony Friend

Anthony Friend • clarinet
Amy Tress • violin
William Newell • violin
Stephen Upshaw • viola
Stephanie Tress • cello

Vasks Quartet No. 2 'Summer Tunes'
Schumann A Child Falling Asleep
Bartók An Evening in the Village
Price Summer Moon
Brahms Clarinet Quintet in B minor Op. 115

Winners of the 2014 Royal Over-Seas League Ensemble Competition, the Solem Quartet are joined by star clarinettist Anthony Friend, whose playing has been described as 'delicious' (The Times) and 'energised and raunchy, but not too much' (The Telegraph). Their Conway Hall programme sets Brahms' much-loved quintet against a colourful and varied first half, featuring arrangements by the quartet's own violinist, William Newell.

February



7th March • 6.30pm

Zoffany Ensemble

Fundraising Concert

Karen Jones • flute
Alison Alty • oboe
Manon Derome • violin
Kate Musker • viola
Anthony Pleeth • cello

Boccherini Quintet in C G443
Beethoven Serenade in D Op. 25
Haydn Divertimento in B flat Hob.V:8
Mozart Oboe Quartet in F K370
J. C. Bach Quintet in D Op. 11/6

In a special fundraising concert for Conway Hall Sunday Concerts introduced by Classic FM's Catherine Bott, the Zoffany Ensemble present a delightful programme of galant and classical chamber music for flute, oboe and strings.

14th March • 6.30pm

Trio Isimsiz

Pablo Hernán Benedí • violin
Michael Petrov • cello
Erdem Misirlioglu • piano

Beethoven Trio in E \flat Op. 1/1
Takemitsu Between Tides
Brahms Trio in C Op. 87

In 2015 Trio Isimsiz won 1st Prize and the Audience Prize at the Trondheim Competition, and in 2017 2nd Prize at the Haydn International Competition in Vienna. They were selected for representation by Young Classical Artists Trust (YCAT) in 2013 and were awarded a fellowship from the Borletti-Buitoni Trust (BBT) in 2018. We are delighted to welcome them to Conway Hall, in a programme flanking Takemitsu's 1993 Messiaen-influenced trio with two masterpieces from the German canon.

March



28th March • 6.30pm

Greenwich Trio

Lana Trotovšek • violin
Heather Tuach • cello
Yoko Misumi • piano

Haydn Trio in E♭ Hob.XV:29
Smetana Trio in G minor Op. 15
Brahms Sextet in B♭ (arr. Kirchner) Op. 18

"Never have I heard piano and stringed instruments meld together so seamlessly!"
(BachTrack)

The Greenwich Trio was described by Bernard Greenhouse as the "New Beaux Arts Trio." They won a number of prizes in the UK, Belgium and Italy including the Solti Foundation and Tunnell Trust Awards, and the first prize of the Beethoven Society of Europe Chamber Music Competition.



18th April • 6.30pm

Callia Quartet

Claire Sterling • violin
Lucy Melvin • violin
Dorothea Vogel • viola
Graham Walker • cello

Haydn Quartet in D Op. 76/5
Thomas Hewitt Jones Duo **premiere**
Sibelius Quartet No. 1 in E♭
Mendelssohn Quartet in A minor Op. 13

The Callia Quartet work closely with composer Thomas Hewitt Jones, and their recent collaboration has led to the commissioning of 3 new works. Their Conway Hall programme puts his music into context, concluding with Mendelssohn's A minor Quartet, composed at the age of 18.

March *contd.*

April



2nd May • 6.30pm

Piatti Quartet

Michael Trainor • violin
Nathaniel Anderson-Frank • violin
Tetsuomi Nagata • viola
Jessie Ann Richardson • cello

Elgar Quartet in E minor Op. 83
Turnage Quartet No. 4 (Winter's Edge)
Borodin Quartet No. 2 in D

Conway Hall favourites, the Piatti Quartet are one of the most distinguished quartets of their generation. Prizewinners at the 2015 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition (formerly London), they have performed in all the major venues and festivals around the country as well as concerts throughout the world.

16th May • 6.30pm

The Clements Prize

See page 3 for more information.

30th May • 6.30pm

Oculi Ensemble

Charlotte Scott • violin
Emma Parker • violin
Jon Thorne • viola
Simon Tandree • viola
Pau Codina • cello

Mozart String Quintet in G minor K516
Webern Langsamer Satz
Brahms String Quintet in F Op.88

The Oculi Ensemble is a flexible ensemble derived from the award winning Badke Quartet. Having dedicated 13 years to the quartet repertoire the Badke Quartet are excited and thrilled to start their next venture, The Oculi Ensemble. The Strad described a recent performance as "an unswerving togetherness ... thrilling ... agile, articulate playing" and we are delighted that they are providing a wonderful season finale for us at Conway Hall!

May

BOOKING

- All concerts in the Spring 2021 season will be livestreamed.
- Limited in-person audiences will be allowed, subject to Government restrictions at the time.
- Tickets are only available in advance. No tickets will be available on the door and non-ticketholders will not be admitted.

Livestream Tickets £10

In Person £10

NHS Staff Tickets £5

- may be purchased online via conwayhall.org.uk
- NHS tickets require use of a discount code (in advance, online) or with valid ID (on the night)

FREE for people aged 8-25

- courtesy of the *CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust*

FIND US

Tube: **Holborn** on the Piccadilly and Central lines

Bus: 1, 8, 19, 25, 38, 55, 59, 68, 91, 98, 168, 171, 188, 242, 243, 521

Parking: Free on Sundays in Red Lion Square and adjacent streets. (Some bays are for residents only and there may be other local restrictions.)

Accessibility: the Main Hall, Brockway Room and Café are wheelchair accessible. There is also an accessible toilet on the ground floor opposite the Brockway Room.

CONTACT US

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Artistic enquiries: simon@conwayhall.org.uk

ABOUT CONWAY HALL

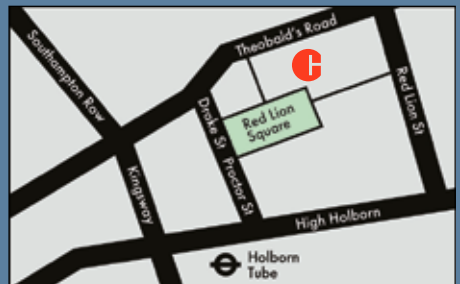
Built in 1929 and now Grade II listed, Conway Hall helps to create a world **Where Ethics Matter**.

Owned by *Conway Hall Ethical Society*, the building is named in honour of Moncure Daniel Conway (1832-1907), anti-slavery advocate, peace campaigner, early supporter of women's suffrage and biographer of Thomas Paine.

Conway Hall is an educational charity (no. 1156033) whose object is the **advancement of study, research and education in humanist ethical principles**. Conway Hall hosts a wide variety of talks, concerts, exhibitions, courses, performances, community and social events.

You can support Conway Hall and its work through donations or by joining the *Ethical Society*. For more information visit:

conwayhall.org.uk/donate



Artists and programmes were correct at the time of going to print. Conway Hall reserves the right to make changes to these at any point, and will endeavour to notify our patrons through our mailing list and social media.

January

- 10th 6.30PM **Phacelia Ensemble**
STRAVINSKY • MOZART • BRAHMS
- 24th 6.30PM **Rachel Roberts & Tim Horton**
SCHUMANN • BRAHMS • VIEUXTEMPS • CLARKE

February

- 7th 6.30PM **Hill Quartet**
BEETHOVEN • MULLOV-ABBADO • SCHUBERT
- 21st 6.30PM **Solem Quartet & Anthony Friend**
VASKS • SCHUMANN • BARTÓK • PRICE • BRAHMS

March

- 7th 6.30PM **Zoffany Ensemble Fundraising Concert**
BOCCHERINI • HAYDN • BEETHOVEN • MOZART
- 14th 6.30PM **Trio Isimsiz**
BEETHOVEN • TAKEMITSU • BRAHMS
- 28th 6.30PM **Greenwich Trio**
HAYDN • SMETANA • BRAHMS

April

- 18th 6.30PM **Callia Quartet**
HAYDN • HEWITT JONES • SIBELIUS • MENDELSSOHN

May

- 2nd 6.30PM **Piatti Quartet**
ELGAR • TURNAGE • BORODIN
- 16th 6.30PM **The Clements Prize**
- 30th 6.30PM **Oculi Ensemble**
MOZART • WEBERN • BRAHMS