



World-class concerts in Sheffield
JANUARY – MAY 2026



including Sheffield Chamber Music Festival

SPINE-TINGLING MUSIC PERFORMED UP CLOSE

Join us for uplifting performances from some of the world's finest musicians, including Sheffield's brilliant Ensemble 360 and stellar guest artists.

You'll be sitting just a few metres away from the musicians, often in the incomparable setting of the **Crucible Playhouse**, where audiences surround the performers on all sides. Concerts this season also take place around the city, including the stunning **Upper Chapel**, a tranquil space in the city centre with beautiful acoustics, just a stone's throw from the Crucible.

ENSEMBLE 360

Ensemble 360 is a world-class chamber group based in Sheffield. It is at the heart of our spring and autumn concert series and annual Sheffield Chamber Music Festival.

The group comprises 11 of the country's finest classical musicians, including international soloists and players in top European orchestras. Their inspiring performances, with engaging, informal introductions, are among the best you'll experience anywhere.



“Ensemble 360... renowned for its virtuoso performances, bold programming and engaging interpretations.”

The Guardian

Music in the Round is the leading national producer of chamber music, with a year-round programme of hundreds of events for people of all ages across the country. Since 1984 we have been bringing people and music closer together through our friendly and informative style of 'in the round' performances.

We present concerts and the **Sheffield Chamber Music Festival** each year at our home, the Crucible Playhouse, as well as events around the country. **Ensemble 360** is our resident group at the heart of our activity, and we also welcome amazing guests such as **Jess Gillam, Steven Isserlis & Nigel Kennedy**.

BECOME A FRIEND OF MUSIC IN THE ROUND

Giving to Music in the Round is a powerful statement of your support for excellent chamber music in Sheffield and beyond.

BE A FRIEND

Individual £7 a month or £85 a year
Joint £9 a month or £100 a year

BE A 360 FRIEND

Individual £10 a month or £120 a year
Joint £12 a month or £150 a year

Visit musicintheround.co.uk/support-us for more information and to join, or email jo@musicintheround.co.uk

Last night of Sheffield Chamber Music Festival in the Crucible Playhouse

©Andy Brown



“The ideal way to experience the most intimate of art forms, from quintets to string trios.”

BBC Music Magazine

**RELAXED CONCERT:
MOZART QUINTETS**

ENSEMBLE 360

Thursday 15 January

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

For this 'Relaxed' concert featuring two of Mozart's best loved quintets, doors will be left open, lights raised, a break-out space provided, and there will be less emphasis on the audience being quiet during the performance. People with an Autism Spectrum, sensory or communication disorder or learning disability, those with age-related impairments and parents/carers with babies are all especially welcome.

Tickets: £5 / carers free

MOZART QUINTETS

ENSEMBLE 360

Thursday 15 January

7.00pm – 8.50pm

Crucible Playhouse

MOZART

Horn Quintet (16')

Clarinet Quintet (31')

String Quintet in G minor (35')

Three Mozart favourites are brought together in this celebration of one of the best-loved composers of all time, including the haunting yet hopeful String Quintet in G minor, the crowning achievement in his writing for strings.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

SAVE 20%*
WHEN YOU BOOK FOR 10
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and save 10%*

*Terms & conditions apply,
see back pages for details.

**Naomi Atherton
of Ensemble 360**

© Kaupo Kikkas





Li-Wei Qin
© Li-Wei Qin

GUITAR CLASSICS

CRAIG OGDEN classical guitar

Saturday 17 January

2.00pm – 3.45pm

Crucible Playhouse

Back by popular demand, Classic FM chart-topper Craig Ogden returns to Sheffield. One of the greatest classical guitarists of our time, Craig's incredible career over three decades has included a stream of best-selling albums and international appearances.

He'll be performing guitar classics from South America (Piazzolla, Villa-Lobos), paired with fresh, inventive arrangements of favourites from the jazz talent of Django Reinhardt and more. Prepare to be wowed by his brilliance and charmed by his warmth.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Early booking recommended

BEETHOVEN, BRAHMS & BRITTEN

LI-WEI QIN cello

JEREMY YOUNG piano

Saturday 17 January

7.00pm – 8.45pm

Crucible Playhouse

BRAHMS Sonata in E minor Op.38 (25')

BRITTEN Sonata for Cello and Piano
Op.65 (20')

FANG Lin Chong (8')

BEETHOVEN Sonata in D Op.102
No.2 (20')

A rare chance to hear the Chinese-Australian star cellist up close, performing some of the greatest chamber works ever written for the cello. "A superbly stylish, raptly intuitive performer" (*Gramophone*), Li-Wei Qin has twice been a soloist at the BBC Proms.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Catrin Finch

© Jennie Caldwell

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concerts in Sheffield

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see back pages for details.

FANTASIES FOR FLUTE & HARP

CATRIN FINCH harp
JULIETTE BAUSOR flute,
of **ENSEMBLE 360**
Saturday 31 January
2.00pm – 3.50pm
Upper Chapel

Programme includes:

JS BACH Flute Sonata in G minor
BWV1020 (12')

FAURÉ Fantasie Op.79 (5')

ALWYN Naiades Fantasy Sonata (13')

ROTA Sonata for Flute and Harp (13')

PIAZZOLLA Bordel 1900 from 'Histoire
de Tango' (4')

BORNE 'Carmen' Fantasie (13')

The multi-award-winning “queen of harps”, Catrin Finch, joins Ensemble 360’s flautist Juliette Bausor for a glorious afternoon of duos, in this rare collaboration between two long-time friends.

“Catrin Finch proves her worth as a notable composer-performer as her fingers dance over the notes”

Classic FM

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Post-concert Q&A

with Catrin Finch & Juliette Bausor
Free, no need to book;
just stay after the concert.



FRETWORK: TAKE FIVE

FRETWORK VIOL CONSORT

Tuesday 3 February

7.00pm – 8.45pm

Crucible Playhouse

Programme includes music by:

BACH, PURCELL, PÄRT, DEBUSSY & BYRD

Fretwork has been celebrated as “the finest viol consort on the planet” (*London Evening Standard*) for nearly 40 years. Returning to the Crucible Playhouse for the first time in over a decade, these acclaimed musicians share a playful and imaginative evening of music.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

ROMANTIC STRING QUARTETS

CONSONE QUARTET

Tuesday 10 February

7.00pm – 8.35pm

Crucible Playhouse

C SCHUMANN Three Romances (10')

MOZART String Quartet in C

‘Dissonance’ (22')

SCHUBERT String Quartet No.13

‘Rosamunde’ (30')

The “top-notch” (*Allmusic*) Consone Quartet has won numerous illustrious prizes, including selection as BBC New Generation Artists, and is rapidly building a following in Sheffield as Music in the Round’s Visiting Quartet.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

PERCUSSION, PATTERN & PRIMES

Friday 13 and Saturday 14 February

From the intricate and expansive inventions of JS Bach to the playful patterns of Bartók and beyond, the mysteries of mathematics are never far from the surface of music.

Over one immersive weekend, we explore the fascinating relationships between music, numbers and pattern-making including a practical workshop, a playful concert of musical games across the centuries, and a daring collaboration with stellar percussionist Colin Currie.

AN INTRODUCTION TO LIVE CODING & MUSIC

with **ALEX McLEAN**

Friday 13 February

11.00am – 1.00pm

The Hollis Room, Upper Chapel

Join us for a workshop on making musical patterns with live coding led by Alex McLean. Alex will introduce Strudel, the open-source platform that he co-instigated. It enables complex musical rhythms and patterns to be created and explored with simple code. The workshop is suitable for beginners with no experience in coding or music-making. For more information, please visit our website.

Tickets: £10

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see back pages for details.

BACH FOR ORGAN

DAVID GOODE organ

Friday 13 February

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Upper Chapel

Programme includes:

BACH

- Prelude in E flat BWV552 (i)
- Chorale Preludes from Clavier-Übung III (selection)
- Die Kunst der Fuge BWV1080 (selection)
- Orgelbüchlein (selection)

Praised for his “spectacular playing” (*BBC Music Magazine*), David Goode performs some of Bach’s best-loved works for organ, showcasing the composer’s genius for pattern, number and symbolism, including ‘The Art of Fugue’.

“Goode’s performances are all one could hope for.”

Gramophone

Tickets: £17 / £10 / £5

SYMMETRIES IN SOUND

ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 13 February

7.00pm – 8.35pm

Upper Chapel

DE MACHAUT Ma fin est mon commencement (6')

MOZART Der Spiegel (2')

PÄRT Spiegel im Spiegel (10')

DEBUSSY Reflets dans l'eau (5')

BARTÓK String Quartet No.4 (25')

A celebration of musical games and mirrors from 'Der Spiegel' – a piece for two violinists played looking at the same sheet of music, one right-way-up, the other upside-down – to Pärt's masterpiece for cello and piano, 'Spiegel im Spiegel' (Mirror in mirror).

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

FRACTALS & FUGUES: MATHEMATICS IN MUSIC

PROF. SARAH HART

Saturday 14 February

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Channing Hall

What role do magic squares, fractals and probability theory play in music composition? How does pattern underpin a Bach fugue?

Professor Sarah Hart, Professor Emerita of Mathematics at Birkbeck, University of London, and author of 'Once Upon a Prime', answers these questions and more in this talk exploring the connections between music and mathematics.

Tickets: £5 / free for ticket-holders for any of the weekend concerts, though booking is required.

MUSIC IN THE ROUND

PLAYING PATTERNS: PERCUSSION & STRINGS

COLIN CURRIE percussion
ENSEMBLE 360

Saturday 14 February
7.00pm – 8.35pm
Upper Chapel

“A five-star percussive performance... Almost as much drama and tension came from seeing what was happening on stage as from the sounds.”

The Times

Virtuoso percussionist Colin Currie, described by Steve Reich as “one of the greatest musicians in the world today”, performs life-affirming music for percussion and string quartet. Following a solo set in the first half, he is joined by members of Ensemble 360 for the grand finale in our weekend of events exploring maths and music.

Highlights include ‘Tromp Miniature’, a hypnotic, meditative marimba solo by GRAMMY-winning composer (and guitarist with rock band, The National) Bryce Dessner, and Andy Akiho’s ‘Aluminous’, in which minimalist percussion loops are underscored by ravishingly expressive strings.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5



Colin Currie
© James Glossop

SYMPHONIC DANCES FOR TWO PIANOS

IVANA GAVRIĆ piano

TIM HORTON piano

Thursday 26 February

7.00pm – 8.30pm

Crucible Playhouse

DEBUSSY En blanc et noir (16')

RAVEL La valse (12')

RACHMANINOV Symphonic Dances (30')

With their 2025 two-piano concert described as “piano playing at its most... visceral” (*Bachtrack*), Tim Horton and Ivana Gavrić return to the Crucible Playhouse for another evening of spell-binding music for two pianos.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

SHEFFIELD JAZZ

DENYS BAPTISTE QUARTET

Friday 27 February

7.30pm – 10.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

DENYS BAPTISTE saxophone

SULTAN STEVENSON piano

LARRY BARTLEY bass

JOEL BARFORD drums

Acclaimed saxophonist Denys Baptiste presents his new quartet, featuring rising star pianist Sultan Stevenson, exploring an exciting mix of new compositions, standards and revisiting a selection of memorable pieces from his award-winning albums.

Tickets*: £20 / £18 over 60, Disabled, Unemployed / £10 18-30 year olds & students with NUS card / £5 15-17 year olds / Under 15s free



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JASAD: MUSIC FOR MIDDLE EASTERN FLUTE

FARIS ISHAQ nay

Saturday 28 February

7.00pm – 8.30pm

Crucible Playhouse

Nay master, percussionist and composer, Faris Ishaq charts unexplored territories with one of the oldest flutes still in use today. Rooted in his Palestinian heritage, Faris blends intricate melodies with dynamic beats to evoke the feel of looped textures while being fully acoustic.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

DVOŘÁK PIANO QUINTET

ENSEMBLE 360

Saturday 14 March

7.00pm – 8.45pm

Upper Chapel

SUK Piano Trio Op.2 (15')

L BOULANGER D'un matin de printemps (4')

GORDON Piano Quintet 'Kintsugi' (18')

Co-commission with Presteigne Festival

DVOŘÁK Piano Quintet No.2 Op.81 (40')

Lyrical expressive Czech-folk-inspired music brings this concert of works for piano and strings to a joyful conclusion with Dvořák's much-loved Piano Quintet No.2.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Pre-concert Q&A, 5.30pm – 6.15pm

Tickets: £5 / free to all ticket holders, though booking is required.

BEETHOVEN, BARTÓK & SCHUMANN

FIBONACCI QUARTET

Saturday 28 March

7.00pm – 8.50pm

Upper Chapel

BEETHOVEN String Quartet Op.18 No.1 (28')

BARTÓK String Quartet No.5 (30')

SCHUMANN String Quartet No.3 in A (26')

Three masterpieces of the string quartet repertoire are brought together in this Sheffield debut for one of Europe's leading young string quartets. Beethoven's First Quartet is an expansive work – by turns lyrical, dramatic and wryly comic – while Bartók's Quartet No.5 dazzles with the composer's signature folk-inflected energy and rhythm.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Fibonacci Quartet

© Julia Bohle



SOUNDS OF NOW

**ANNEA LOCKWOOD –
PREPARED PIANO**

XENIA PESTOVA BENNETT piano

Friday 24 April

8.00pm – 9.40pm

Firth Hall, The University of Sheffield

A rare opportunity to hear Xenia Pestova Bennett “a powerhouse of contemporary keyboard repertoire” (*TEMPO*) play the intricate and spellbinding piano works of Annea Lockwood.

Long-time collaborators, Xenia brings a profound sensitivity to Lockwood's music. The evening includes a selection of her works for prepared piano and a playful performance piece in which a music box is floated through the concert hall using helium balloons.

Tickets: £17 / £10 / £5

Pre-concert Q&A, 6.45pm – 7.15pm

Join us for a pre-concert discussion with Annea Lockwood (joining online from her home in the US) and pianist Xenia Pestova Bennett.

Tickets: £5 / free to all ticket holders, though booking is required.

**ANNEA LOCKWOOD –
PIANO GARDEN**

XENIA PESTOVA BENNETT piano

Saturday 25 April

Xenia Pestova Bennett will bury a piano in this remarkable performance of the 1969-70 work from Lockwood's iconic series, 'Piano Transplants'. The piano burial will happen within walking distance of Firth Hall and will include a short performance from Xenia.

Please check our website for full details including location ahead of the free event.



Xenia Pestova Bennett

© Dimitri Djuric

In partnership with University of Sheffield Concerts

Claire Booth

© Gerard Collett



Sheffield CHAMBER MUSIC Festival

“For Claire Booth, every day as a musician is an opportunity for new adventure.” *RPS Awards 2025*

As a singer, I am always thinking about the ways stories and storytelling provide a route into music. From the theatrical and operatic thrills of Poulenc and Beckett to the pure nostalgic joy of Prokofiev’s ‘Peter & the Wolf’; from Brontë poetry through Nordic sagas to Kafka’s diaries: this Festival celebrates the power and humanity of the written word.

As such, I am very excited to share my plans for Sheffield Chamber Music Festival 2026.

I hope you might be tempted to discover something new, along with the many opportunities to enjoy some much-loved staples of chamber music repertoire.

I look forward to sharing it all with you in Sheffield next May.

Claire Booth
Guest Festival Curator 2026

Guest curated by

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

RPS Singer of the Year 2025

Fri 15 – Sat 23 May 2026

Crucible Playhouse and other venues



**“one of the most vibrant
chamber music festivals
anywhere”**

The Arts Desk

Sponsored by





Claire Booth
© Sven Arnstein

FESTIVAL LAUNCH

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 15 May

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

WEIR King Harald's Saga (15')

BIRTWISTLE Cortege for 14
musicians (15')

BRAHMS Serenade Op.11 (46')

Claire Booth kicks off the 2026 Sheffield Chamber Music Festival in style!

Our Guest Curator, and Royal Philharmonic Society Singer of the Year 2025, opens with a one-woman opera retelling the story of 'the last real Viking' Harald Hardrada, by Judith Weir. The forces of Ensemble 360 follow, with Birtwistle's theatrical procession of musicians and a favourite work of theirs, Brahms's brilliant and beloved Serenade, a swaggering, celebratory launch to nine days of chamber music, song and high theatre.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Post-concert drinks

To celebrate the start of the Festival, ticket-holders are invited to join us for a free glass of wine or soft drink in the Crucible bar after the concert.

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FAMILY CONCERT: IZZY GIZMO

with music and narration by

ENSEMBLE 360 & LUCY DREVER

Saturday 16 May

11.00am – 12.00pm

Crucible Theatre

RISSMANN Izzy Gizmo (60')

By popular request, 'Izzy Gizmo' is back! Perfect for 3-7 year-olds, this delightful family concert is based on the best-selling children's book 'Izzy Gizmo' by Pip Jones, illustrated by Sara Ogilvie.

The book tells the enchanting story of an intrepid young inventor who puts her talents to work to rescue a crow

that can't fly. This concert brings Izzy's mechanical marvels and infectious creative spirit to life.

Original music by Paul Rissmann features instruments including strings, woodwind, horn and piano, and you might even spot the musicians playing pots, pans, whistles and household items!

Together with story-telling and visuals from the book, this concert is a great introduction to live music for children. It's full of wit, invention, songs and actions, and plenty of opportunities to join in.

Tickets: £13 / £7 / £5 Under 16s

MUSIC IN THE ROUND

CROSSCURRENTS: GWILYM SIMCOCK & FRIENDS

GWILYM SIMCOCK piano & **BAND**
CLAIRE BOOTH soprano
ENSEMBLE 360

Saturday 16 May
7.15pm – 9.15pm
Crucible Theatre

**“a jaw-droppingly exciting
pianist”**

The Guardian



Superstar pianist Gwilym Simcock is celebrated for his ability to move effortlessly between jazz and classical music.

For one night only, Gwilym and his band of incredible jazz musicians are joined by world-class classical artists for what promises to be a hugely entertaining evening.

His phenomenal talent breathes new jazz-inspired life into award-winning makeovers of classical music. This thrilling evening gives a fresh take on Debussy's 'Children's Corner' and other classics.

Gwilym has toured extensively with the cream of international jazz artists including Kenny Wheeler, Dave Holland and Pat Metheny. His high-profile collaborations with the classical world include a rapturously-received late-night BBC Prom with Nigel Kennedy.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

In partnership with Sheffield Jazz



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BIRDSONG AT SUNRISE

ENSEMBLE 360

Sunday 17 May

5.00am – 6.00am (Birdsong at Dawn)

7.30am – 8.30am (Birdsong at Breakfast)

Samuel Worth Chapel

Programme includes music by:

**MESSIAEN, SAINT-SAËNS, TELEMANN
& VIVALDI**

Among the sheltering trees of Sheffield General Cemetery, the dawn chorus continues an ancient wordless cycle of song. Inspired by and played in the midst of this natural wonder, discover music for flute and piano spanning three centuries – from Baroque evocations of nightingales to Messiaen's dazzling transcriptions of wild birds.

Pause, listen and be transported, as we revive a beloved Sheffield Chamber Music Festival tradition with these dawn and breakfast celebrations of the music of birds.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Early booking recommended.

Post-concert Bird Walks

BBC Radio 3's Tom McKinney – classical music's favourite chapel – leads a walk from Samuel Worth Chapel around the cemetery after each concert.

Strictly limited to Birdsong concert ticket-holders.

For access queries relating to the walk, please call our office on 0114 281 4660 or email info@musicintheround.co.uk

GWILYM SIMCOCK TRIO

GWILYM SIMCOCK piano

CONNOR CHAPLAIN bass

JAMES MADDREN drums

Sunday 17 May

4.00pm – 6.00pm

Firth Hall, The University of Sheffield

One of the most gifted pianists and imaginative composers on the European scene, this is a chance to experience the masterful jazz artist, Gwilym Simcock, up close.

“[Gwilym Simcock is] a stupendous improviser and a remarkable musician all round.”

The Observer

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

SUNSET

ENSEMBLE 360

Sunday 17 May

8.00pm – 9.40pm

Samuel Worth Chapel

WEBER Clarinet Quintet (29')

MOZART Oboe Quartet (14')

KORNGOLD Piano Quintet (32')

Join Ensemble 360 as darkness descends on a very special musical day. Among the highlights is Korngold's magical Piano Quintet with its haunting second movement, and a beautifully apt and expressive theme "Moon, you rise again".

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5





EXPLORING COCTEAU'S 'THE HUMAN VOICE'

with film excerpts featuring
**INGMAR BERGMAN, TILDA SWINTON
& SOPHIA LOREN**

Monday 18 May
2.00pm – 3.30pm

The Showroom Cinema

Ahead of our performance on Tuesday evening, a panel of music and film experts explores the Jean Cocteau masterpiece that gave rise to Poulenc's adaptation, 'La Voix Humaine'.

There are many cinematic versions of the work by some of the greatest directors, including Ingmar Bergman and Pedro Almodóvar, and featuring mesmerising stars of the screen such as Tilda Swinton and Sophia Loren. Claire Booth and guests discuss their impact and influence.

Tickets: £17 / £10 / £5

FELDMAN & BECKETT: WORDS & MUSIC

**CLAIRE BOOTH soprano
ENSEMBLE 360**

Monday 18 May
7.00pm – 9.15pm
Crucible Playhouse

Programme includes:

FELDMAN Why Patterns? (30')

BECKETT Rockabye (20')

FELDMAN Samuel Beckett, Words and Music (42')

Visionary titans in their respective artforms, the warm friendship of Morton Feldman and Samuel Beckett resulted in some of the most extraordinary collaborative artworks of the 20th century. This evening devoted to their work also includes Claire Booth's first public performance of Beckett's hypnotic high-speed monologue 'Not I'.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5



Ensemble 360
© Matthew Johnson

BEETHOVEN SEPTET

ENSEMBLE 360

Tuesday 19 May
2.00pm - 4.00pm
Crucible Playhouse

BEETHOVEN

Violin Sonata in F 'Spring' (26')
String Quartet in C minor Op.18
No.4 (24')
Septet (40')

The hopeful, energetic and lyrical 'Spring' Sonata is one of the most famous of all Beethoven's works for violin.

Perhaps Beethoven's most-performed work during his lifetime, the Septet features wind and strings in a marvel of instrumental writing. Captivating from the stately elegance of its opening to the rousing flourishes of its grand finale, this is music to lose yourself in.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

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LA VOIX HUMAINE

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

CHRISTOPHER GLYNN piano

Tuesday 19 May

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

POULENC

La Dame de Monte Carlo (7')

Toréador (2')

Corcardes (6')

DUREY Trois Chansons Basques (4')

AURIC Huit Poèmes de Jean

Cocteau (19')

POULENC La Voix Humaine (40')

[semi-staged]

A voice. A telephone.

A fractured love affair.

Claire Booth is joined by GRAMMY-winning pianist Christopher Glynn to present an immersive staging of Poulenc's searing operatic melodrama.

Take a seat at the heart of the action to absorb this most intimate operatic setting of Jean Cocteau's groundbreaking play, eavesdropping on a life in the balance.

Opening with a bravura tour through a variety of songs influenced by Cocteau's poetry, you are invited to a recital which becomes an opera like no other.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5



Claire Booth &
Christopher Glynn

© Gerard Collett



"Booth's expressiveness [is] so intense, the colours of the voice so beautiful... [she] makes it wholly unforgettable."

The Guardian

THE ART OF STORYTELLING

NICHOLAS JUBBER

author & storyteller

Wednesday 20 May

11.00am – 12.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

Launching a day of music inspired by stories, Nicholas Jubber (*The Fairy Tellers*, 2022 and *Monsterland*, 2025) explores enduring and enchanting folk tales, often laced with a monstrous darkness.

Tickets: £10 / £7 / £5

RELAXED CONCERT: PETER AND THE WOLF

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

with **NICHOLAS JUBBER narrator**

Wednesday 20 May

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

For this 'Relaxed' concert, doors will be left open, lights raised, a break-out space provided, and there will be less emphasis on the audience being quiet during the performance.

Tickets: £5 / carers free

PETER AND THE WOLF & OTHER STORIES

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

with **NICHOLAS JUBBER narrator**

Wednesday 20 May

5.00pm – 7.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

DEBUSSY Danse Sacrée et Profane (10')

RAVEL Shéhérazade (20')

DEBUSSY Trio for Flute, Viola
and Harp (16')

PROKOFIEV Peter and the Wolf (30')

An evening featuring timeless tales of far-off adventure and daring triumphs.

Prokofiev's beloved symphonic tale, 'Peter and the Wolf', delights audiences of all ages, while Ravel's 'Shéhérazade' evocatively conjures an ancient wonderland of fairytales and lovers through captivating melodies. Music for harp and strings by Debussy completes this charming programme.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

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BIRD TUNES:
MIRANDA RUTTER,
SAM SWEENEY &
ROB HARBRON

MIRANDA RUTTER fiddle & viola

SAM SWEENEY fiddle

ROB HARBRON concertina

Wednesday 20 May

8.00pm - 10.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

Three of the finest folk musicians working today perform a new suite of folk tunes crafted from fragments of birdsong recorded on woodland walks, by the brilliant fiddle player and composer Miranda Rutter.

Performed with “concertina wizard” (*The Guardian*) Rob Harbron and “the fiddler with the golden ear” (BBC Radio 3) Sam Sweeney, as well as field recordings of this most elemental form of music, it is a love-song to avian beauty and a timely reminder of the struggles faced by migrating birds.

“Bird Tunes’ is, very simply, utterly beautiful. A glorious bringing together of field recordings, birdsong and three incredible musicians. Nature and music in perfect harmony.”

Tradfolk

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Miranda Rutter

© Miranda Rutter



SPEAK OF THE NORTH

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano
TAMSIN WALEY-COHEN violin
CHRISTOPHER GLYNN piano

Thursday 21 May
10.00am – 4.30pm

10.00am St Peter's Church, Edensor
GRIEG

Violin Sonata No.2 in G (20')
Haugtussa (26')

11.00am Guided walk (approx 3 miles)

1.00pm St Anne's Church, Beeley

Poetry, Song and Landscape talk

2.15pm Guided walk (approx 1.8 miles)

3.30pm St Peter's Church, Edensor

GRAINGER Folk Music (selection) (20')

HIGGINS Speak of the North (35')

There will be an opportunity to have lunch before the concert in Beeley. Please bring your own food and drink.

Chatsworth Estate provides the setting for music that sings of the Northern landscape in all its breathtaking glory. Claire Booth and Christopher Glynn are joined by violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen, praised for her “undeniably fabulous playing” (*Classical Source*), to perform Grieg, Grainger and 'Speak of the North', a Music in the Round co-commission.

This new work by Gavin Higgins features poems by northern writers, including the Brontë sisters, interwoven with folk violin in a collection of evocative musical pictures brought to life through song, including 'Sycamore Gap'.

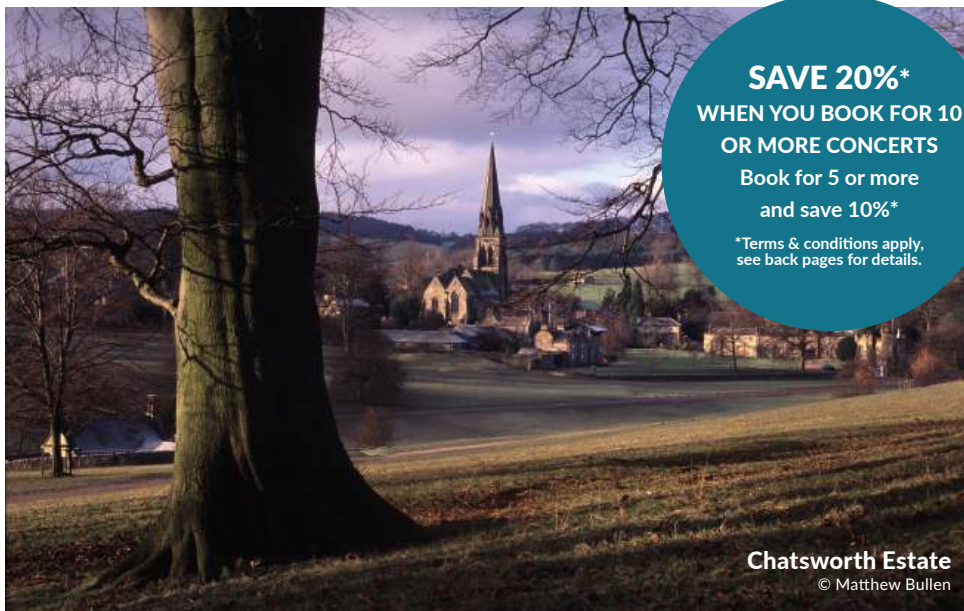
Tickets:

All concerts and talk plus guided walk

£40 / £20 / £10

3.30pm – 4.30pm Final concert at

St Peter's Church £17 / £10 / £5



SAVE 20%*
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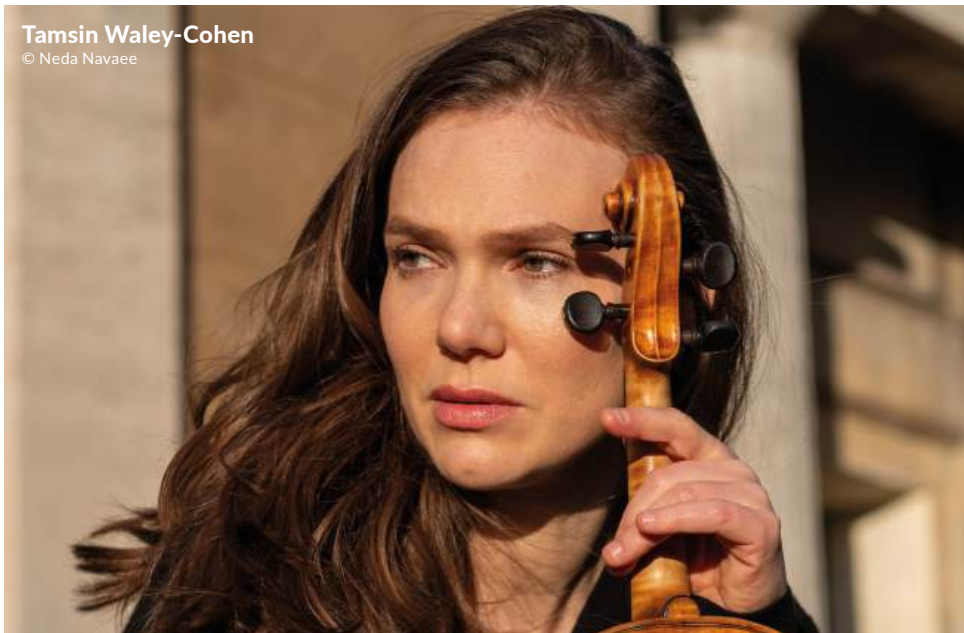
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see back pages for details.

Chatsworth Estate
© Matthew Bullen

Tamsin Waley-Cohen

© Neda Navaei



BEETHOVEN & FRIENDS

CONSONE QUARTET

Thursday 21 May

7.00pm – 8.15pm

Crucible Playhouse

Programme includes music by:

**BEETHOVEN, FANNY & FELIX
MENDELSSOHN, HAYDN & MAYER**

Our Visiting Quartet presents music by Beethoven set amongst composers who influenced or were in close contact with the musical genius. His creative world is vividly brought to life through these hidden gems, with historical insights and storytelling provided by Dr Katy Hamilton, one of the most sought-after speakers and writers on music.

Tickets: £17 / £10 / £5

KAFKA FRAGMENTS

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

TAM SIN WALEY-COHN violin

Thursday 21 May

9.00pm – 10.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

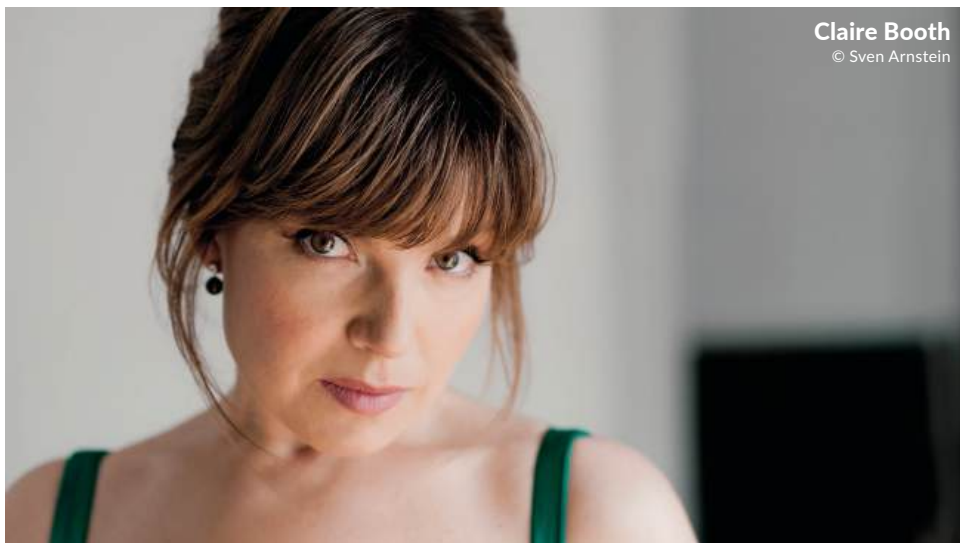
KURTÁG Kafka Fragments (60')

Comprising 40 short excerpts from Kafka's writings, diaries and letters – often heartfelt and confessional – Kurtág's 'Kafka Fragments' is a work of sparse, lyrical beauty.

"[Booth's] voice blazes with energy and subsides in exhausted despair. It's a real tour de force. She has done nothing finer."

The Guardian on 'Kafka Fragments'

Tickets: £17 / £10 / £5



Claire Booth
© Sven Arnstein

THIS SCEPTERED ISLE: BRITISH SONG

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano
ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 22 May
2.00pm – 3.45pm
Crucible Playhouse

Programme of music by British composers including:

BRITTEN, WALTON, KNUSSEN & MATTHEWS

A celebration of British song from one of its finest exponents. Praised for her “radiant, rapturous, wonderfully nuanced performances” (*The Scotsman*), Claire Booth performs a selection of her best-loved music, including Britten’s stirring reimagining of Purcell songs.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

SONGS WITHOUT WORDS: MENDELSSOHN, BRAHMS & RACHMANINOV

ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 22 May
7.00pm – 9.10pm
Crucible Playhouse

Programme includes:

MENDELSSOHN Songs Without Words (selection)

BRAHMS Horn Trio Op.40 (30’)

RACHMANINOV Vocalise (5’)

DOHNÁNYI Sextet (30’)

Mendelssohn’s exquisite ‘Songs Without Words’ – richly lyrical and deeply heartfelt miniatures – are performed alongside glittering masterpieces of the Romantic era that showcase the vocal influence on instrumental music.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

HENNY PENNY: A CHILDREN'S OPERA

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

CHILDREN OF SHEFFIELD

Saturday 23 May

11.00am – 12.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

PHILLIPS Henny Penny (25')

world premiere

ASSORTED Song Cycle (20')

A world-first live staging of new opera and song made for – and by – curious young minds.

'Henny Penny' is a charming operatic adaptation of the folk tale about a young chicken who believes the sky is falling when an acorn lands on its head.

This children's opera by the acclaimed composer Julian Phillips (Glyndebourne Opera's first ever Composer-in-Residence) will be performed live for the very first time, featuring a cast including a choir of Sheffield primary children.

Original songs created as part of a new Music in the Round composition project with children in Sheffield schools will also be given their public premieres.

Tickets: £13 / £7 / £5 Under 16s

"It was incredible to see professionals and children perform together... To experience opera in such an accessible way [was] really amazing, innovative and inspiring. I found it incredibly moving."

Audience feedback from our recent opera 'The Monster in the Maze'.



FOUR LAST SONGS

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

Saturday 23 May

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Crucible Playhouse

R STRAUSS Sextet from 'Capriccio' (12')

SARGEN New work (5')

SIBELIUS En Saga (20')

WAGNER Siegfried Idyll (20')

R STRAUSS Four Last Songs (25')

**“Strauss’s ‘Four Last Songs’ are
a swansong of sublime beauty”**

Classic FM

Strauss’s ‘Four Last Songs’ are among the most touchingly beautiful, profound and richly expressive pieces in the classical repertoire.

These exquisite works are performed alongside Sibelius’s charmingly evocative tone poem fairytale presented in its original septet version. This closing concert promises warm melodies and lyrical beauty.

Tickets: £23 / £14 / £5

Post-concert drinks

Friends of Music in the Round are invited to join us for drinks after this concert. Find out more about how you can become a Friend and join the post-Festival party at:

www.musicintheround.co.uk/friends

SAVE 20%*

**WHEN YOU BOOK FOR 10
OR MORE CONCERTS**

**Book for 5 or more
and save 10%***

*Terms & conditions apply,
see back pages for details.

Ensemble 360

© Matthew Johnson



BOOK YOUR TICKETS

www.musicintheround.co.uk
0114 249 6000

or in person at

Crucible Theatre box office

10.00am - 6.00pm

(or later on days with performances)

Priority booking for our 2026 spring and Festival seasons open for

Friends of Music in the Round on:

Tuesday 16 September at 10.00am

Membership starts from as little as £7 a month. Find out more about how you can become a Friend at:

www.musicintheround.co.uk/friends

General booking opens on

Tuesday 23 September at 10.00am

Ticket prices are listed as follows:

Standard: £17 or £23

Concessionary rate (for people in receipt of DLA, Universal Credit or PIP): **£14 or £10**

Under 35s & Students: £5

Sheffield Jazz and family concerts are priced differently; see concert listing for details.

SAVE UP TO 20%

Save 10% when you buy tickets for 5 or more different concerts in one transaction.*

Save 20% when you buy tickets for 10 or more different concerts in one transaction.*

Booking for 5 or more concerts?

You are welcome to book by email, which you may find easier.

Please send your tickets request to supervisors@sheffieldtheatres.co.uk, and they will set up your order so that you can pay over the phone or in person at a later time.

*You cannot include more than one ticket for each concert; offer excludes Sheffield Jazz; all tickets must be purchased in one transaction, and you must state which concerts you wish to attend; no other ticket offers apply.

OUR VENUES

You can find more information online at

www.musicintheround.co.uk

and at the **Sheffield Theatres website**

Crucible Playhouse & Crucible Theatre

55 Norfolk Street, Sheffield S1 1DA

www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk

Edensor & Beeley Churches

Chatsworth Estate, Bakewell DE45 1PH

www.stpetersedensor.org

Firth Hall

Firth Court, University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TN

www.performancevenues.group.shef.ac.uk

Samuel Worth Chapel

Cemetery Avenue, Sheffield S11 8NT

www.gencem.org/thevenue

The Showroom Cinema

15 Paternoster Row, Sheffield S1 2BX

www.showroomcinema.org.uk

Upper Chapel & Channing Hall

Norfolk Street, Sheffield S1 2JD

www.upperchapelsheffield.org.uk

Parking

Sheffield Theatres offer discounted parking in Q-Park's Charles Street car park, on Arundel Gate. Simply visit Sheffield Theatres box office or speak to a member of the Front of House Team to claim a voucher for 1 hour of free parking.

Access

All our venues offer easy access for wheelchair users although spaces are limited. Please inform box office at time of booking if you require a wheelchair space. If you need one companion to assist with your visit, they are welcome to attend free of charge, but please ensure you request their ticket when booking. Sheffield Theatres offer an infra-red Sennheiser transmission system to relay sound to customers who are hard of hearing. Head and neck loops are available for free from Sheffield Theatres box office.

SPRING 2026 AT A GLANCE

All events in the Crucible Playhouse unless otherwise indicated.

**RELAXED CONCERT: MOZART QUINTETS
ENSEMBLE 360**

Thursday 15 January, 2.00pm – 3.00pm

MOZART

Horn Quintet (16')

String Quintet in G minor (35')

MOZART QUINTETS

ENSEMBLE 360

Thursday 15 January, 7.00pm – 8.50pm

MOZART

Horn Quintet (16')

Clarinet Quintet (31')

String Quintet in G minor (35')

GUITAR CLASSICS

CRAIG OGDEN classical guitar

Saturday 17 January, 2.00pm – 3.45pm

BEETHOVEN, BRAHMS & BRITTEN

LI-WEI QIN cello & **JEREMY YOUNG** piano

Saturday 17 January, 7.00pm – 8.45pm

BRAHMS Sonata in E minor Op.38 (25')

BRITTEN Sonata for Cello and Piano

Op.65 (20')

FANG Lin Chong (8')

BEETHOVEN Sonata in D Op.102 No.2 (20')

FANTASIES FOR FLUTE & HARP

CATRIN FINCH harp &

JULIETTE BAUSOR flute of **ENSEMBLE 360**

Saturday 31 January, 2.00pm – 3.50pm

Upper Chapel

Programme includes:

JS BACH Flute Sonata in G minor

BWV1020 (12')

FAURÉ Fantasie Op.79 (5')

PIAZZOLLA Bordel 1900 from 'Histoire

de Tango' (4')

BORNE 'Carmen' Fantasie (13')

FRETWORK: TAKE FIVE

FRETWORK VIOL CONSORT

Tuesday 3 February, 7.00pm – 8.45pm

Programme includes music by:

BACH, PURCELL, PÄRT, DEBUSSY & BYRD

ROMANTIC STRING QUARTETS

CONSONE QUARTET

Tuesday 10 February, 7.00pm – 8.35pm

C SCHUMANN Three Romances (10')

MOZART String Quartet in C K465

'Dissonance' (22')

SCHUBERT String Quartet No.13

'Rosamunde' (30')

**AN INTRODUCTION TO LIVE CODING
& MUSIC**

with **ALEX McLEAN**

Friday 13 February

11.00am – 1.00pm

The Hollis Room, Upper Chapel

BACH FOR ORGAN

DAVID GOODE organ

Friday 13 February, 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Upper Chapel

Programme includes:

BACH

Prelude in E flat BWV552 (i) (9')

Chorale Preludes from Clavierübung

III (selection)

Die Kunst der Fuge BWV1080

(selection)

Orgelbüchlein (selection)

SYMMETRIES IN SOUND

ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 13 February, 7.00pm – 8.35pm

Upper Chapel

Programme includes:

MOZART Der Spiegel (2')

PÄRT Spiegel im Spiegel (10')

DEBUSSY Reflets dans l'eau (5')

BARTÓK String Quartet No.4 (25')

**FRACTALS & FUGUES:
MATHEMATICS IN MUSIC**

PROF SARAH HART

Saturday 14 February, 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Channing Hall

**PLAYING PATTERNS:
PERCUSSION & STRINGS**

COLIN CURRIE percussion
ENSEMBLE 360

Saturday 14 February, 7.00pm – 8.35pm
Upper Chapel

SYMPHONIC DANCES FOR TWO PIANOS

IVANA GAVRIĆ piano &
TIM HORTON piano

Thursday 26 February, 7.00pm – 8.30pm
DEBUSSY En blanc et noir (16')
RAVEL La valse (12')
RACHMANINOV Symphonic Dances (30')

SHEFFIELD JAZZ

DENYS BAPTISTE QUARTET

Friday 27 February, 7.30pm – 10.00pm

JASAD:

MUSIC FOR MIDDLE EASTERN FLUTE
FARIS ISHAQ nay

Saturday 28 February, 7.00pm – 8.30pm

**DVOŘÁK PIANO QUINTET
ENSEMBLE 360**

Saturday 14 March, 7.00pm – 8.45pm
Upper Chapel

SUK Piano Trio Op.2 (15')

L BOULANGER D'un matin de
printemps (4')

GORDON Piano Quintet 'Kintsugi' (18')

Co-commission with Presteigne Festival

DVOŘÁK Piano Quintet No.2 Op.81 (40')

**BEETHOVEN, BARTÓK & SCHUMANN
FIBONACCI QUARTET**

Saturday 28 March, 7.00pm – 8.50pm
Upper Chapel

BEETHOVEN String Quartet Op.18 No.1 (28')

BARTÓK String Quartet No.5 (30')

SCHUMANN String Quartet No.3 in A (26')

SOUNDS OF NOW:

ANNEA LOCKWOOD - PREPARED PIANO

XENIA PESTOVA BENNETT piano

Friday 24 April

8.00pm – 9.40pm

Firth Hall, The University of Sheffield

ANNEA LOCKWOOD - PIANO GARDEN

XENIA PESTOVA BENNETT piano

Saturday 25 April

See website for more details.

A Sheffield Theatres Production

THE LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB

BY STEFANO MASSINI
ADAPTED BY TIM FIRTH

SHEFFIELD THEATRES

CRUCIBLE

Sat 28 Feb
– Sat 28 Mar

Box Office 0114 249 600
sheffieldtheatres.co.uk

SHEFFIELD CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2026 AT A GLANCE

All events in the Crucible Playhouse unless otherwise indicated.

FESTIVAL LAUNCH

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 15 May, 7.00pm – 9.00pm

WEIR King Harald's Saga (15')

BIRTWISTLE Cortege for 14 musicians (15')

BRAHMS Serenade Op.11 (46')

FAMILY CONCERT: IZZY GIZMO

with music and narration by

ENSEMBLE 360 & LUCY DREVER

Saturday 16 May, 11.00am – 12.00pm

Crucible Theatre

RISSMANN Izzy Gizmo (60')

CROSSCURRENTS:

GWILYM SIMCOCK & FRIENDS

GWILYM SIMCOCK piano & **BAND**

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

Saturday 16 May, 7.15pm – 9.15pm

Crucible Theatre

BIRDSONG AT SUNRISE

ENSEMBLE 360

Sunday 17 May

5.00am – 6.00am (Birdsong at Dawn)

7.30am – 8.30am (Birdsong at Breakfast)

Samuel Worth Chapel

Programme includes music by:

MESSIAEN, SAINT-SAËNS, TELEMANN & VIVALDI

GWILYM SIMCOCK TRIO

Sunday 17 May

4.00pm – 6.00pm

Firth Hall, The University of Sheffield

SUNSET

ENSEMBLE 360

Sunday 17 May, 8.00pm – 9.40pm

Samuel Worth Chapel

WEBER Clarinet Quintet (29')

MOZART Oboe Quartet (14')

KORNGOLD Piano Quintet (32')

EXPLORING COCTEAU'S

'THE HUMAN VOICE'

with film excerpts featuring

INGMAR BERGMAN, TILDA SWINTON & SOPHIA LOREN

Monday 18 May, 2.00pm – 3.30pm

The Showroom Cinema

FELDMAN & BECKETT: WORDS & MUSIC

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

Monday 18 May, 7.00pm – 9.15pm

Programme includes:

FELDMAN Why Patterns? (30')

BECKETT Rockabye (20')

FELDMAN Samuel Beckett, Words and Music (42')

BEETHOVEN SEPTET

ENSEMBLE 360

Tuesday 19 May, 2.00pm – 4.00pm

BEETHOVEN

Violin Sonata in F 'Spring' (26')

String Quartet No.4 in C minor (24')

Septet (40')

LA VOIX HUMAINE

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

CHRISTOPHER GLYNN piano

Tuesday 19 May, 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Songs by **POULENC, DUREY & AURIC**

POULENC La Voix Humaine (40')

THE ART OF STORYTELLING

NICHOLAS JUBBER author & storyteller

Wednesday 20 May, 11.00am – 12.00pm

RELAXED CONCERT:

PETER AND THE WOLF

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

with **NICHOLAS JUBBER** narrator

Wednesday 20 May, 2.00pm – 3.00pm

PETER AND THE WOLF & OTHER STORIES

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

with **NICHOLAS JUBBER** narrator

Wednesday 20 May, 5.00pm – 7.00pm

DEBUSSY Danse Sacrée et Profane (10')

RAVEL Shéhérazade (20')

DEBUSSY Trio for Flute, Viola and Harp (16')

PROKOFIEV Peter and the Wolf (30')

BIRD TUNES: MIRANDA RUTTER, SAM SWEENEY & ROB HARBRON

Wednesday 20 May, 8.00pm – 10.00pm

SPEAK OF THE NORTH

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

TAMSIN WALEY-COHEN violin

CHRISTOPHER GLYNN piano

Thursday 21 May, 10.00am – 4.30pm

St Peter's Church, Edensor

GRIEG

Violin Sonata No.2 in G (20')

Haugtussa (26')

Guided walk (90')

St Anne's Church, Beeley

Poetry, Song and Landscape talk

Guided walk (45')

St Peter's Church, Edensor

GRAINGER Folk Music (selection) (20')

HIGGINS Speak of the North (35')

BEETHOVEN & FRIENDS

CONSONE QUARTET

Thursday 21 May

7.00pm – 8.15pm

Programme includes music by:

BEETHOVEN, FANNY & FELIX

MENDELSSOHN, HAYDN & RIES

KAFKA FRAGMENTS

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

TAMSIN WALEY-COHEN violin

Thursday 21 May, 9.00pm – 10.00pm

KURTÁG Kafka Fragments (60')

THIS SCEPTERED ISLE: BRITISH SONG

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 22 May, 2.00pm – 3.45pm

Music by British composers including:

BRITTEN, WALTON & MATTHEWS

SONGS WITHOUT WORDS

ENSEMBLE 360

Friday 22 May, 7.00pm – 9.10pm

Programme includes:

MENDELSSOHN Songs Without Words
(selection)

BRAHMS Horn Trio Op.40 (30')

RACHMANINOV Vocalise (5')

DOHNÁNYI Sextet (30')

HENNY PENNY: A CHILDREN'S OPERA

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

CHILDREN OF SHEFFIELD

Saturday 23 May, 11.00am – 12.00pm

FOUR LAST SONGS

CLAIRE BOOTH soprano

ENSEMBLE 360

Saturday 23 May, 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Programme includes music by:

SIBELIUS, WAGNER & R STRAUSS

Music in the Round is enormously grateful to all its funders, supporters and Friends, without whom these concerts would not be possible.



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