

Southwell Music Festival

Wednesday 22nd – Monday 27th August 2018



Photos credit: Nick Rutter

2018 Southwell Music Festival - Highlights

The magnificent Medieval cathedral of Southwell Minster, Nottinghamshire, will once again provide the spectacular backdrop for Southwell Music Festival over the week of the August Bank Holiday.

- The annual classical music festival is now in its fifth year and has proved to be so popular that the 2018 Festival will run for an extra day from **Wednesday 22nd to Monday 27th August**
- On **Saturday 25th August**, Nottingham's classical music sensation, cellist **Sheku Kanneh-Mason**, will return for his third Festival. On this occasion he will perform **Elgar's iconic Cello Concerto** as part of the evening concert in the Minster. Since his first visit to the Festival as a school student being mentored in Southwell Festival's Young Musician Masterclass, Sheku has won BBC Young Musician of the Year, and become the youngest-ever cellist to reach to number one in the classical charts and top 20 of the official music charts.
- The Kanneh-Mason family will also be represented by another of the talented siblings; 17-year-old **pianist Konya Kanneh-Mason** will be the third member of the family to appear at the Festival. Konya recently won the biennial **Nottingham Young Musician of the Year** competition. At just 11 years old Konya achieved Grade 8 Distinction on the piano and the following year was awarded Grade 8 Distinction on the violin
- Themes of hope and reconciliation are woven through the Festival in this the Centenary year of the Armistice. The second half of the **Saturday evening concert** will be a performance of **Sir Michael Tippett's oratorio A Child of our Time**, 80 years since the shocking events of Kristallnacht which so affected Tippett and inspired him to compose the work. **Festival Director Marcus Farnworth** will conduct the **Festival Voices** and **Festival Sinfonia** with soloists soprano **Susanna Hurrell**, mezzo soprano **Madeleine Shaw**, tenor **Andrew Tortise** and baritone **Roland Wood**
- These themes are also reflected in the **Concert for the Fallen: An Armistice Commemoration** on **Sunday 26th** which will include **Stuart MacCrae's** setting of **Wilfred Owen's** famous reworking of the Bible story of Abraham and Isaac as well as a narrated performance of **Stravinsky's The Soldier's Tale** accompanied by a septet of instruments which was first performed in 1918

- **Voices of Remembrance** in the Quire on **23rd August** promises a powerfully emotional evening concert by the Festival Voices echoing the theme of commemoration. Actor **Clive Mantle** will give the reading and the concert will include **Tavener's *Song for Athene*** and **James Macmillan's *A Child's Prayer*** composed in response to the Dunblane massacre
- Another of the Festival concerts will be a performance on **24th August** of **Olivier Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time***, one of his most important works which he wrote whilst in a German prison camp in 1940.
- On the opening evening of the Festival, **Festival Founder Marcus Farnsworth** will sing in a chamber performance of **Bach's *Mass in B Minor*** with the Festival Voices and the Festival Sinfonia on period instruments
- **Chamber Classics** on **23rd and 24th August** will take up a Czech theme featuring the **String Sextet** and ***Gypsy Songs*** by **Dvořák** and **Janáček's *The Diary of One who Disappeared*** with soprano **Alison Rose**, mezzo-soprano **Madeleine Shaw** and tenor **Andrew Tortise**
- Acclaimed pianist and rising star **Clare Hammond**, who won the 2016 Royal Philharmonic Society - Young Artist Award, will perform a recital programme including Haydn and Debussy on **25th August**
- Jazz will appear in the main programme for the first time this year on the **22nd August**. Manchester-based trumpeter Graham South will premiere his new compositions based on the five spirituals which Tippett used in *A Child of Our Time*. He will be joined by regular collaborators from the thriving Manchester jazz scene in a group drawn together specifically for the Festival
- Southwell Music Festival has responded to a need for young artists to be given performance opportunities by creating two **Music Apprenticeship** schemes – one for **four string players** and the other for **four singers in partnership with Genesis 16** which is run by **Festival Patron Harry Christophers**. Apprentices will be given the chance to perform with the Festival ensembles in recitals throughout the week as well as benefitting from coaching and mentoring from visiting professionals
- The **Family Concert** this year will be based on **Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons***, an interactive and informal event aimed at families with primary age children providing an introduction to classical music
- The ever-popular **Come and Sing** event will perform **John Rutter's *Feel the Spirit*** and will give the audience the chance to become singers with a morning learning the piece with Marcus Farnsworth and the afternoon concert in the Nave

The full programme for the 2018 Festival was announced at the concert in the Minster on **Friday 13th April 2018**. 2018 Festival Tickets will go on sale to **Festival Friends** from **Monday 14th May** and booking opens to the general public on **Monday 4th June**.

Southwell Music Festival

In numbers:

- A perfect location for classical music, Southwell, in rural Nottinghamshire, welcomed record visitor figures in 2017, (up by almost 30% on the previous year)
- The 2018 programme includes 33 events over 6 days
- Nearly half of the Festival events are FREE
- The Festival features an ensemble of over 80 highly talented leading professional singers and players from the UK and overseas – many of whom are soloists in their own right, curated by Artistic Director Marcus Farnsworth
- Visitors to Southwell in August have increased by approximately 50% since the Festival started in 2014

Venues:

Southwell Music Festival is fortunate to have access to a wonderful collection of venues; from the majesty of Southwell Minster with the versatility of the Quire, Nave and Crossing, to the intimacy of the Old Theatre Deli, the grandeur of the State Chamber, the Minster School Hall and the historic surroundings of the Walled Garden of the mediaeval Archbishop's Palace.

Southwell Music Festival – Sponsorship and Support

Southwell Music Festival is very grateful for the generous support from sponsors, Festival Friends and many other donors. As well as the extensive involvement of members of the community in offering a variety of gifts in kind from hosting visiting musicians to volunteer stewarding all of which allow the Festival to happen. The Festival takes place by kind permission of Southwell Cathedral.

Box Office:

22nd – 27th August

Public Booking opens: 4th June 2018

Tel: 0115 989 5555

www.southwellmusicfestival.com/onlinebooking

Tickets from £2.50 - £35 concessions available (Nearly half of the Festival events are FREE)

Southwell Music Festival 2018 – programme

22nd August, 4pm, The Quire Southwell Minster

Bach Organ Recital, with organist Paul Provost

Programme:

Prelude and Fugue in D major BWV 532

Trio super 'Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr' BWV 662

Concerto in A minor after Vivaldi BWV 593

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele BWV 654

Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor BWV 582

22nd August, 7pm The Nave, Southwell Minster

Bach Mass in B Minor with baritone Marcus Farnsworth, Southwell Festival Voices and Southwell Festival Sinfonia

Programme:

Bach Mass in B Minor

22nd August, 10pm The State Chamber

Late Night Jazz with Graham South (trumpet), Richard Jones (piano), Seth Bennett (bass), Johnny Hunter (drums)

Programme:

New work by Graham South drawing inspiration from the spirituals used by Tippett in *A Child of our Time*

23rd August, 1pm The State Chamber

Young Musician's Recital with Konya Kanneh-Mason

Programme:

Johann Sebastian Bach Prelude & Fugue in C# minor

Ludwig van Beethoven Sonata, Op. 10 no. 2

Franz Schubert Impromptu, Op. 142 no. 1 in F minor

Maurice Ravel Jeux d'eau

Johannes Brahms Rhapsody in B minor

Frédéric Chopin Etude, Op. 10 no. 12 "Revolutionary"

Classical with a Twist Festival Chamber Soloists with Charlotte Ashton (flute) Matthew Gee (trombone) and Festival Voices Unleashed

23rd and 24th August, 7.00pm The Stage at the Old Theatre Deli

Programme includes:

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Flute Quartet in D Major K.285

Luciano Berio Sequenza V for Trombone

A selection of close harmony arrangements

Chamber Classics: The Czech Connection with Alison Rose (soprano), Madeleine Shaw (mezzo-soprano) Andrew Tortise (tenor)

23rd and 24th August, 7pm The State Chamber

Programme:

Antonín Dvořák String Sextet in A major, Op. 48

Antonín Dvořák Gypsy Songs, Op. 55

Leoš Janáček *The Diary of One Who Disappeared*

23rd and 24th August, 8pm, the Quire Southwell Minster

Strings in the Quire with Strings Jessica Gillingwater (mezzo-soprano), Jamie Campbell director, Festival Chamber Soloists, Festival Sinfonia

Programme:

Edward Elgar Serenade for Strings in E minor, Op. 20

Henry Purcell Dido's Lament from Dido and Aeneas

Michael Tippett A Lament from Variations on an Elizabethan Theme

Michael Tippett Sonata for Four Horns

Béla Bartók Divertimento for String Orchestra Sz.113 BB.118

Voices of Remembrance with Festival Voices conducted by Marcus Farnsworth

23rd August 10pm

Programme:

Herbert Howells Requiem

Knut Nystedt Immortal Bach

James MacMillan A Child's Prayer

John Tavener Song for Athene

The Lunchtime Recital

24th August, 12.15pm The Nave Southwell Minster

Programme includes:

Felix Mendessohn Octet in E flat, Op. 20

Quartet for the End of Time

24th August 10pm The Crossing, Southwell Minster

Programme:

Olivier Messiaen *Quartet for the End of Time*

Young Musicians Masterclass

25th August, 10am The State Chamber

Family Concert with Festival Chamber Soloists and presenter Ruth Rosales

25th August, 11am The Minster School

Programme:

Vivaldi *The Four Seasons*

Piano Recital: Clare Hammond

25th August, 1pm The Nave, Southwell Minster

Programme:

Haydn Sonata No. 58 in C major, Hob XVI: 48

Mendelssohn *The Bee's Wedding* Op. 67, No. 4

Rimsky-Korsakov (arr. Rachmaninov) *Flight of the Bumblebee*

Campbell *Flight of the Killer Bee*

Debussy Selection from *Préludes* – *Voiles, Feuilles mortes, Feux d'artifice, La cathédrale engloutie, Les Collines d'Anacapri*

Stravinsky *Petroushka* Suite

Saturday Evening Concert

25th August, 7.30pm Southwell Minster

Sheku Kanneh-Mason performs Elgar's Cello Concerto

Tippett A Child of Our Time with Susanna Hurrell (soprano) Madeleine Shaw (mezzo-soprano) Andrew Tortise (tenor) and Roland Wood (baritone); Festival Voices, Festival Sinfonia conducted by Marcus Farnsworth

For the Fallen: An Armistice Commemoration with Marcus Farnsworth and Southwell Festival Chamber Soloists

26th August, 7.30pm The Nave, Southwell Minster

Programme:

Claude Debussy *Berceuse héroïque*

George Butterworth: Six Songs from *A Shropshire Lad* *

Stuart MacRae: *Parable* *

Josef Suk: *Mediation on the old Czech Hymn "St Wenceslas"*

Igor Stravinsky *The Soldier's Tale*

Come and Sing, conducted by Marcus Farnsworth

27th August 9am performance at 2pm, The Nave, Southwell Minster

Programme:

John Rutter *Feel the Spirit*

A Centenary Tribute to Hubert Parry Organ Recital with Simon Hogan

27th August, 3.30pm The Nave Southwell Minster

Programme:

Charles Villiers Stanford Installation March Herbert Brewer Carillon

Walter Alcock Rather slowly

John Ireland Elegiac Romance

Charles Wood Andante

Henry Ley Improvisation

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry Toccata and Fugue "The Wanderer"

FREE Festival Fringe

Sheepish Grin 22nd August, 2.30pm Market Square, King Street

Folk Music from the well-known local Fiddle and Melodeon duo

Opera Gala 23rd August, 3pm Southwell Methodist Church

Performed by Festival soloists including soprano Alison Rose, mezzo-soprano Jessica Gillingwater and baritone Stephen Kennedy, accompanied by Libby Burgess

All Our Own Work 24th August, 4pm, Southwell Methodist Church

Singer/songwriters (and familiar Festival faces) Hannah Turner and Guy Turner perform their own songs

Summer Serenade 25th August, 2.30pm Walled Garden, Archbishop's Palace

The Palace Chamber Choir Madrigals perform madrigals, folksongs and close harmony

Youth Strings 26th August, 11am Southwell Methodist Church

Talented local young string players perform chamber music under the direction of Derek Williams

-Ends -

Notes to Editors:

For press information, photographs, review tickets or to arrange interviews, please contact Emma Menniss

Emma Menniss PR for [Southwell Music Festival](#)

T: 07766 655998 or E: emma.menniss@hotmail.co.uk

About [Southwell Music Festival](#)



The Southwell Music Festival is an inspirational classical music event attracting first-class professional musicians to the historic town of Southwell in rural Nottinghamshire. The Festival began 2014, the brainchild of award-winning international baritone Marcus Farnsworth, (a former Head Chorister of Southwell Minster), and includes recitals, chamber music and large choral works. The Festival runs for six days over the August bank holiday weekend, in and around spectacular Southwell Minster and the Archbishop's Palace, perfect venues for classical music along with the Minster School and Southwell's bijou Georgian theatre.

Southwell Music Festival encourages the community to share in the enjoyment of classical music of the highest order; inspiring local musicians, and especially young people, as well as raising the profile of the town of Southwell, and that of its magnificent medieval Minster, seat of the Bishops of Southwell and Nottingham, with its own long-established tradition of high quality music-making.

One of the things that makes Southwell Music Festival special is the ensemble of singers and players who form the Festival Voices, Festival Sinfonia and Festival Chamber Soloists. These are hand-picked professional musicians at the top of their game: when not in Southwell they can be found performing with leading orchestras, chamber ensembles, choirs and consorts across the UK and further afield.

The Festival format of recitals and masterclasses create a generous atmosphere for fostering talent and community involvement. Each year there is a full-scale family event involving the local community. The Festival culminates in a concert in the Minster, combining the talents of leading soloists, the Southwell Festival Voices and the Southwell Festival Sinfonia all coming together in a show-stopping choral and orchestral performance.

Marcus Farnsworth is the Artistic Director and violinist Jamie Campbell, is the Associate Artistic Director. **Patrons:** Dame Felicity Lott DBE, FRAM, FRCM. Harry Christophers CBE. The Festival takes place by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter.

www.southwellmusicfestival.com

Email: info@southwellmusicfestival.com

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and Instagram

Registered Charity: 1153135

Southwell Music Festival Limited, Minster Centre, Church Street, Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0HD