

LEEDS LUNCHTIME CHAMBER MUSIC 2026/27

Wednesdays at 1.05pm
The Venue
at Leeds Conservatoire

FREE
ADMISSION

LEEDS

INTERNATIONAL
CONCERT SEASON

LEEDS **ARTS**
EVENTS & VENUES



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

LEEDS LUNCHTIME CHAMBER MUSIC 2026/27

Take a break from your usual midweek routine and enjoy 50 minutes of exceptional free live music to inspire, delight and uplift.

Each Wednesday, outstanding emerging artists from leading conservatoires and the international stage present rich and varied programmes, performing everything from much-loved classics to contemporary works. This season also features two new compositions, including a partnership commission between Leeds International Concert Season and South Asian Arts-uk. With something to suit every musical taste, it's the perfect opportunity to discover something new!

See you at a concert soon,
Leeds International Concert Season

All concerts take place on Wednesdays at 1.05pm at Leeds Conservatoire. No booking required, simply turn up, take a seat and relax!



Scan this QR code to view all concerts on your mobile.

RELAXED PERFORMANCES RP

This season's relaxed performance takes place on 28 October.

Relaxed performances are for everyone. They're designed to especially welcome all who might benefit from a more relaxed environment, including people who are neurodivergent, have sensory and communication impairments, dementia, or any disabilities.

During relaxed concerts lights stay up, the door remains open, and contrasts of volume are lessened. Audience members may leave and enter the auditorium as needed, move freely, and respond to music as they feel.

COVER: STERLING ELLIOTT
PHOTO: TITILAYO AYANGADE

WED 7 OCTOBER 2026

MADELEINE BROWN

piano

Maurice Ravel Miroirs
Sergei Rachmaninov Piano Sonata No 2

Having graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge, Madeleine now studies with Kathryn Stott at the Royal Northern College of Music, where she recently won the prestigious Gold Medal. She has performed to international acclaim, winning first prize at the Bromsgrove International Musicians' Competition in May 2025. Earlier this year, Madeleine made debut appearances at Wigmore Hall and on BBC Radio 3's In Tune. Later in 2026 she will debut at Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham.

WED 14 OCT 2026

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

CLAIRE MARSDEN French horn
SAM O'NEAL piano

Richard Strauss Horn Concerto No 1
Eugène Bozza Sur les Cimes
Paul Dukas Villanelle
Johannes Brahms Intermezzo Op 117, No 2 (solo piano)
Ludwig van Beethoven Horn Sonata: *i Allegro moderato*
Sigurd Berge Horn-Lokk

After studying at Chetham's School of Music, Claire now attends the Royal Academy of Music in London. In 2024, she reached the brass final of BBC Young Musician of the Year. Sam studied music at the University of Cambridge and now studies ensemble piano at the Royal Academy of Music. Their programme includes Sigurd Berge's *Horn-Lokk* which blends traditional horn calls with Norwegian folk-inspired melodies, creating a haunting piece with a furious climax.



WED 21 OCTOBER 2026

SAMRAT MAJUMDER

guitar

John Dowland Three Fancies: A Fancy; Forlorn Hope Fancy; Fantasia No 7

Johann Sebastian Bach Lute Suite No 1, BWV 996

Arthur Keegan (YCAT Composer Fellow) New work

Various/Anon Scottish Lute Manuscripts

John Dowland Three Songs: The Earl of Essex, His Gaillard; Lachrimae Pavan; The Frog Gaillard

Samrat Majumder is a Scottish-Indian classical guitarist currently studying for his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore with Professor Manuel Barrueco. In May 2025 he became the inaugural Young Concert Artists Trust 40th Anniversary Artist at Wigmore Hall, a joint YCAT Concert Artists Guild Artist, and was named a Classic FM Rising Star in February 2026.



WED 28 OCTOBER 2026

Relaxed performance RP

CARDINAL QUINTET

KAORUKO TAKEHARA flute
ANNA TURNER oboe
CARA SMITH clarinet
ESMÉ MACBRIDE-STEWART horn
CONNOR HUSS bassoon

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov Flight of the Bumblebee

Sergei Prokofiev Peter and the Wolf

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Selection from *The Nutcracker*

Ravel Mother Goose

Valerie Coleman Red Clay and Mississippi Delta

Robin Stevens Sweet Soufflé

The Cardinal Quintet is a Manchester-based wind quintet, comprising recent graduates of the Royal Northern College of Music. The five players have enjoyed performing in a variety of concerts and venues across the North West, including the RNCM Concert Hall, Manchester Cathedral, and St Ann's Church. Their programme includes Valerie Coleman's *Red Clay and Mississippi Delta* which vividly depicts the bluesy dialect of the Mississippi Delta region, home to her mother's family.

WED 4 NOVEMBER 2026

ROSSALL INTERNATIONAL PIANO ACADEMY

SAM WHITHAM piano

Sergei Rachmaninov Etudes-Tableaux, Op 33, Nos 1, 2, 5 & 8

KEVIN HUDYANA piano

Claude Debussy Images Book 1: *Reflets dans l'eau*

Franz Liszt Venezia e Napoli: *Tarantella napolitaines*

OLIVIA TAM piano

Enrique Granados Goyescas: *Quejas, o La Maja y el ruiseñor*
Frédéric Chopin Scherzo No 3

Rossall International Piano Academy is a unique and innovative programme for outstanding young pianists aged 11–18. Teaching and coaching are delivered through lessons and workshops with world-class performers such as Martin Roscoe and Kathryn Stott.

WED 11 NOVEMBER 2026

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC & DRAMA

ISOBEL NEARY-ADAMS viola

ELISABETH TSAI piano

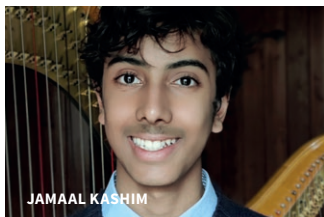
Rebecca Clarke Morpheus

Sally Beamish Ariel

George Enescu Concertstück

Johannes Brahms Viola Sonata, Op 120, No 1

Isobel and Elisabeth present a programme contrasting atmospheric character pieces with Romantic depth. Isobel is a scholarship holder with a particular interest in chamber music, while Elisabeth is currently completing her Artist Diploma and has won prizes at both the 2026 Cambridge International Piano Competition and the BPSE Beethoven Intercollegiate Competition.



JAMAAL KASHIM

WED 18 NOVEMBER 2026

LEEDS SONG YOUNG ARTIST ALUMNI

ZHENG JIANG countertenor
YIHAN ZHAO piano

Zheng and Yihan perform songs by Henry Purcell, Joseph Marx, Franz Liszt, Robert Schumann, and Reynaldo Hahn.

MARIANA RODRIGUES soprano
ANDREW COWIE piano

Mariana and Andrew perform songs by Eric Fogg, Harold Greenhill, José Vianna da Motta, Fanny Hensel, Barbara, John Betjeman and Hilaire Belloc.

Please visit
leedsconcertseason.co.uk
for full programme details.



WED 25 NOVEMBER 2026

ESTHER WILLIAMS

oboe
ALEXANDRA STANDING piano

Reena Esmail Pranayam
Marina Dranishnikova Poem
Robert Schumann Mondnacht
Edmund Rubbra Oboe Sonata

Oboist Esther Williams and pianist Alexandra Standing's programme shows the evolution of expressive chamber music writing from the Romantic period to the present day.



WILL DUERDEN
PHOTO: KAUPU KIKKAS



SVITLANA KOSENKO

WED 2 DECEMBER 2026

WILL DUERDEN

double bass
SVITLANA KOSENKO piano

Robert Schumann Adagio and Allegro, Op 70

Maurice Ravel Deux mélodies hébraïques

Vilmos Montag Double Bass Sonata

Gabriel Fauré Berceuse

Giovanni Bottesini Fantasia Lucia di Lammermoor

Manuel M Ponce Estrellita

Will Duerden is much in demand as a soloist and orchestral leader. He was a 2018 BBC Young Musician finalist, 2024 Classic FM Rising Star, and Borletti-Buitoni Fellow. Born in Ukraine, Svitlana Kosenko trained in Kharkiv and Saarbrücken and is an accompanist at the Royal College of Music.

This programme spans lyrical romance and virtuosic brilliance, from Robert Schumann and Gabriel Fauré to Giovanni Bottesini, interwoven with Maurice Ravel and Manuel M Ponce's expressive miniatures.



Please note, there is no recital on Wed 9 December

WED 16 DECEMBER 2026

ROYAL BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE

TRIPTYCH

DIEGO VILLARREAL NARVAEZ percussion

JAMES PAXTON guitar

ZINNIA SMART violin

Triptych is a lively, joyful, highly versatile folk trio that blends Celtic traditional music from Ireland, Scotland, and Wales with original tunes and arrangements to create an energetic, animated sound. The trio's aim is simple: to create music that makes people feel good and spread the tradition and joy of folk music. Their programme will have a Christmas theme to celebrate the festive season.

WED 6 JANUARY 2027

JAMAAL KASHIM

harp
Domenico Scarlatti Sonata in A major, K 208

Domenico Scarlatti Sonata in A major, K 209

Louis Spohr Fantasia

Gabriel Fauré Une châteline en sa tour

Paul Hindemith Harp Sonata

Henriette Renié Pièce Symphonique

Jamaal Kashim is currently studying Music at St John's College, University of Cambridge having previously studied at the Royal College of Music Junior Department where he was a four-time winner of the Gordon Turner Harp Competition and won the Peter Morrison Concerto Competition in 2024.

WED 13 JANUARY 2027

ROYAL CONSERVATOIRE OF SCOTLAND

ALEXANDER TRAYKOV piano

Pancho Vladigerov Choumene Miniatures

Georgy Catoire 5 Pieces

Sergei Rachmaninov

Piano Sonata No 1

Alexander Traykov is a Bulgarian pianist currently studying with Petras Geniušas at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. He was named reserve finalist for BBC Radio Scotland Classical Musician of the Year 2025. Alexander's programme includes music by Pancho Vladigerov – arguably the most influential Bulgarian composer, and the first to combine Bulgarian folk music with Western classical music.

WED 20 JANUARY 2027

CHETHAM'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC

VOIE marimba, vibraphone
SIMON PASSMORE piano

Emmanuel Séjourné Attraction

Eric Sammut Sugaria Concerto for Marimba: 2nd movement

Claudio Santangelo Furioso Tango

AUSTIN cello

SIMON PASSMORE piano

Johann Sebastian Bach

Cello Suite No 6: Prelude

Frank Bridge Cello Sonata:

i Allegro ben moderato

BOWEN piano

Lili Boulanger 3 Morceaux

Franz Liszt Mephisto Waltz No 1



ALEXANDER TRAYKOV

WED 27 JANUARY 2027

THE GAZE OF THE GORGON & THE SONGS THAT SUCCOUR

A new commission marking Holocaust Memorial Day, this work by Saudha reflects on trauma through poetry and music, offering solace through meditative ragas including Madhuvanti and Gaud Sarang.

Chandra Chakraborty leads with Indian classical vocals, setting poetry by Tony Harrison, Paul Celan, Wisława Szymborska and Rabindranath Tagore. Spoken word from T M Ahmed Kaysher and Shree Ganguly is interwoven with harmonium (Amith Dey) and tabla (Aniruddha Mukherjee) music.

New commission from partners
Leeds International Concert Season and
South Asian Arts-uk.



WED 3 FEBRUARY 2027

THE PURCELL SCHOOL SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE

Programme to include:

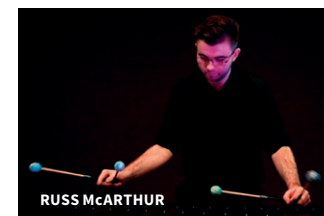
James Barnes

Symphonic Overture

The Purcell School Symphonic Wind Orchestra comprises about 30 young musicians from the school's Woodwind, Brass and Percussion Department, and is led by Mike Cavanagh. The department is supported by specialist tutors who are themselves distinguished performing artists.



CHANDRA CHAKRABORTY



RUSS McARTHUR

WED 10 FEBRUARY 2027

LEEDS CONSERVATOIRE

RUSS McARTHUR percussion

Gene Koshinski SyNc

Joey Eng Square One

Chad Floyd A Light at the End

Florence Price arr Russ McArthur
Dances in the Canebrakes

Leonard Bernstein arr Russ McArthur
West Side Story

Gene Koshinski Swerve

Harold Arlen arr Robert Oetomo
Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Russ McArthur is a percussionist and drummer from South East London and is a recent graduate of Leeds Conservatoire. Now based in Yorkshire, Russ has played with a wide variety of local ensembles, including brass bands, jazz bands and wind orchestras. The repertoire for this recital explores the unique timbres that can be created with percussion instruments, and showcases precise rhythms and elegant melodies.



WED 17 FEBRUARY 2027

AIDA PIANO TRIO

ESTHER ZAGLIA violin
CLÉLIA LE BRET cello
SOFÍA MEDINA piano

Ludwig van Beethoven
Piano Trio Op 70, No 2
Johannes Brahms
Piano Trio, Op 8, No 1

Formed at the Royal College of Music in London, the Aida Piano Trio is recognised for the clarity of its interpretations, stylistic sensitivity, and strong ensemble cohesion.

In 2025, the ensemble was awarded First Prize at the International Chamber Music Competition 'Arnuro' in Santander, Spain. Also that year, it was invited to the prestigious IMS Prussia Cove masterclasses, where it worked closely with composer and pianist Thomas Adès. From 2025, the trio also joined the chamber music class of Bruno Giuranna at the Stauffer Academy in Cremona.



WED 24 FEBRUARY 2027

STERLING ELLIOTT

cello

JOSEPH HAVLAT

piano

Maurice Ravel Sonata posthume
Tomeka Reid New work
(BBC Radio 3/Barber Institute
Birmingham co-commission)
Richard Strauss Cello Sonata

Sterling Elliott, noted for his natural rapport with audiences, is an Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, Sphinx Competition winner, BBC New Generation Artist (2024–26) and member of CMS Lincoln Center's Bowers Program. Joseph Havlat is a London-based pianist and composer, performing widely across new and early music, and teaching at the Royal Academy of Music.

Their programme spans French elegance, contemporary voices and Romantic intensity, from Maurice Ravel and Richard Strauss to a new work by Tomeka Reid.



WED 3 MARCH 2027

VICTOR LIM

piano

Ludwig van Beethoven
6 Bagatelles, Op 126
Cheryl Frances-Hoad
Blurry Bagatelle

Johannes Brahms
4 Klavierstücke, Op 119
Franz Liszt Bagatelle
sans tonalité
Nikolai Kapustin Variations

After pursuing the Artist Diploma programme at the Norwegian Academy of Music, South Korean-British pianist Victor Lim completed his studies with Kathryn Stott at the RNCM, gaining its prestigious International Artist Diploma. Victor was selected as one of RNCM's 50 Faces in 2023 and was made an Associate of the RNCM in 2025.

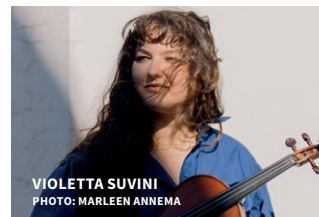
Victor's programme includes Cheryl Frances-Hoad's *Blurry Bagatelle* which is a homage to Ludwig van Beethoven's Op 126, No 5, composed from her memory of the motives and gestures of Beethoven's Bagatelle.

WED 10 MARCH 2027

JUNIOR ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Join us for an exciting selection of solo performances by rising talent from the Royal Northern College of Music's Junior Department.

Programme to be confirmed, please check leedsconcertseason.co.uk for updates.



WED 17 MARCH 2027

VIOLETTA SUVINI

violin

SALOME JORDANIA

piano

Maurice Ravel Sonate posthume
Ludwig van Beethoven
Violin Sonata No 4
Dora Pejačević Violin Sonata
(Spring)

Both Guildhall School of Music and Drama graduates, Violetta Suvini combined a background in languages at Oxford with performance studies, while Salome Jordania is an internationally active pianist, listed in the prestigious Forbes 30 Under 30 Georgia (2025). Dora Pejačević's expressive Violin Sonata was shaped by the upheaval of the First World War.

WED 24 MARCH 2027

MERAKI DUO

MEERA MAHARAJ flute
JAMES GIRLING guitar

William Grant Still
arr James Girling Three Songs
Dominique Le Gendre
arr James Girling Songs and
Dances of the Islands

Olivier Messiaen
arr James Girling 5 Leçons de
solfège: selection
Miroslav Tadić Four Macedonian
Pieces for alto flute and guitar

Meera Maharaj and James Girling met at the Royal Northern College of Music, where they were united by a shared passion for chamber music, jazz, Latin American and contemporary repertoire.

WED 31 MARCH 2027

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

TRIO MUSAE

KENZA STAMSELBERG violin
LOUIS HIRST cello
REBEKAH YINUO TAN piano

Gabriel Fauré Piano Trio
Arno Babajanian Piano Trio

Trio Musae was formed in September 2024 by three young passionate musicians studying at the Royal College of Music in London. Now in their second undergraduate year, Kenza, Louis and Rebekah have given a variety of performances and participated in masterclasses with acclaimed artists such as Darragh Morgan, John Myerscough, Alasdair Beatson and Simon Callaghan.

WED 7 APRIL 2027

ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC

AVI KWOK
percussion
LOIS LEZDKAN
percussion

Nebojša Živković Trio Per Uno
arranged for two players:
i Meccanico

Emil Kuyumcuyan Azure
Casey Cangelosi Plato's Cave
Keiko Abe Wind Sketches II
Joseph Schwantner Velocities
Astor Piazzolla Histoire du
Tango: *ii Café 1930*

Avi Kwok is a versatile percussionist performing across orchestral, band and theatre settings, appearing with ensembles including Nottingham Philharmonic and Birmingham Symphonic Winds. Lois Lezdkan studies with Simone Rebello as an entrance scholar, supported by the Gough Kelly Award. Their high-energy programme for percussion duo spans driving rhythms and atmospheric textures.



WED 14 APRIL 2027

LEVANTO ENSEMBLE

CAMILLA MARCHANT flute
JERNEJ ALBRECHT clarinet
EMILY NEWMAN bassoon

Programme to include:

Eugène Bozza
Sérénade en Trio
Črt Sojar Voglar
Trio

Camilla, Jernej, and Emily founded the Levanto Ensemble with a shared desire to discover colourful and eclectic woodwind repertoire. Twice finalists in the Royal Overseas League Chamber Prize, the Levanto Ensemble has developed a reputation for fresh and toe-tapping performances.

Inspired by theatre and dance, the Levanto Ensemble loves to use movement to enhance the audience's experience. Expect to leave with a smile!



ENJOY MORE FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERTS IN LEEDS

LEEDS LUNCHTIME ORGAN MUSIC

**Mondays, 1.15pm
at Leeds Cathedral**

Leeds City Organist Darius Battiwalla curates the popular series of lunchtime concerts featuring organists from the UK and beyond. No ticket required, drop in and let the music brighten your day.

For more information please contact us or visit leedsconcertseason.co.uk.

VENUE ADDRESS

Leeds Conservatoire

St Peter's Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7PD
(next to BBC Yorkshire)

what3words: ///likely.jeebs.senses

For more information on how to find Leeds Conservatoire please contact us or visit leedsconcertseason.co.uk.

TALK TO US!

You can talk to the Leeds International Concert Season team by:

Email: music@leeds.gov.uk

Phone: 0113 378 6600

Post: Carriageworks Theatre, The Electric Press, 3 Millennium Square, Leeds, LS2 3AD

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Whilst every effort is made to avoid changes, Leeds International Concert Season reserves the right to change artists and programmes without notice if unavoidable.

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