

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER SERIES 2026/27

IN THE SHADOWS OF GIANTS

The Venue
at Leeds Conservatoire



LEEDS

INTERNATIONAL
CONCERT SEASON

LEEDS ARTS
EVENTS & VENUES



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IN THE SHADOWS OF GIANTS

What a privilege and a joy it is to have been asked to curate this wonderful series of concerts! My own life as a pianist has been shaped by the thrill of uncovering lesser-known repertoire – music unjustly neglected through gender discrimination, exile, or other forms of oppression. Bringing these voices to a wider audience feels not just like a pleasure, but a responsibility.

Across these six programmes sit works that have too often lived in the shadows of the 'Greats' of the musical canon, despite their extraordinary quality. Amy Beach, one of America's most gifted late Romantic composers, wrote Piano Quintets and Trios of remarkable emotional breadth and intensity – music of generosity and deep expressive power. Germaine Tailleferre, the lone woman of Les Six, offers refinement, wit and a distinctive elegance that deserves far wider recognition. Ina Boyle's visionary Irish voice, Elfrida Andrée's barrier breaking Scandinavian clarity, and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's magnificent Nonet – which brings our season to a glorious close – all sit proudly alongside much-loved masterpieces by Antonín Dvořák, Johannes Brahms, Felix Mendelssohn, and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Old favourites heard, perhaps, in a new light.

I'm especially grateful to the exceptional musicians joining us this season, not only for their artistry, but for the imagination, curiosity and passion they've brought to shaping these programmes. I hope these evenings will surprise, move and delight you – and perhaps leave you wondering, as I so often have, why did we have to wait so long?

Simon Callaghan
Artistic Director

All concerts start at 7.30pm

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concerts on your mobile.



Photos © Venetia Jollands

TUE 6 OCTOBER 2026

PIATTI QUARTET & SIMON CALLAGHAN

MICHAEL TRAINOR violin
EMILY HOLLAND violin
MIGUEL SOBRINHO viola
JESSIE ANN RICHARDSON cello
SIMON CALLAGHAN piano

INA BOYLE String Quartet

AMY BEACH Piano Quintet

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK String Quartet
No 12 (*American*)



The series opens with a colourful selection of chamber works from two continents. Ina Boyle's String Quartet introduces a distinctive voice of quiet intensity, while Amy Beach, one of America's most gifted late Romantic composers, presents sweeping emotion and generosity in her Piano Quintet.

Antonín Dvořák's much-loved *American* Quartet closes the concert, blending echoes of American folk music and spirituals with his distinctive Bohemian musical voice.

4 Velvet-gloved pianism of ravishing sensitivity.7

THE STRAD

Simon Callaghan
Photo © Kaupo Kikkas



Photo © Richard Lewisohn

TUE 10 NOVEMBER 2026

BARTHOLOMEW LAFOLLETTE

cello

SIMON CALLAGHAN

piano

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

12 Variations on *Ein Mädchen oder Weibchen* from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* (The Magic Flute)

HENRIËTTE BOSMANS 3 Impressions

AVET TERTERIAN Cello Sonata

BOHUSLAV MARTINŮ 7 Arabesques

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Cello Sonata No 3

This recital places Ludwig van Beethoven in illuminating company. Framing two much-loved works – the playful *Magic Flute* Variations and the expansive third cello sonata – are three composers whose vivid voices deserve far wider hearing.

Henriëtte Bosmans' 3 Impressions are full of atmosphere, Avet Terterian offers intensity and raw expression, and Bohuslav Martinů's *Arabesques* sparkle with rhythmic life and wit. Cellist Bartholomew LaFollette, whose playing combines expressive depth with fearless commitment, joins Simon Callaghan for an evening of contrast and discovery.

‘LaFollette gets the gong for his melting tone and superb lyricism...’

LIMELIGHT

TUE 1 DECEMBER 2026

AQUINAS PIANO TRIO & RACHEL ROBERTS

RUTH ROGERS violin

KATHERINE JENKINSON cello

MARTIN COUSIN piano

RACHEL ROBERTS viola

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS Piano Quartet No 1

LILI BOULANGER *D'un matin de printemps* (for violin, cello and piano)

AMY BEACH Piano Trio

JOHANNES BRAHMS Piano Quartet No 1

A richly expressive programme combining two trailblazing women composers with two towering figures of the Romantic repertoire. Camille Saint-Saëns' first piano quartet opens the evening with elegance and drive, before Lili Boulanger's *D'un matin de printemps* offers a fleeting moment of freshness and introspection.

Amy Beach's Piano Trio unfolds with warmth and emotional breadth, leading to Johannes Brahms' passionate first piano quartet. Joined by viola player Rachel Roberts, the Aquinas Piano Trio brings energy to a programme of rediscovery.

‘It is simply wonderful that three musicians as fine as Rogers, Jenkinson and Cousin, have come together to perform and record this superb music.’

SEEN AND HEARD INTERNATIONAL



Photo © Benjamin Ealovega

Photo © Ekaterina Kantur



Photo © Sophia Hegewald

TUE 26 JANUARY 2027

SITKOVETSKY TRIO

ALEXANDER SITKOVETSKY violin

ISANG ENDERS cello

WU QIAN piano

ELFRIDA ANDRÉE Piano Trio No 2

LENA SIEROVA *Bucha*

FELIX MENDELSSOHN Piano Trio No 2

This programme moves from musical inventiveness to a powerful response to war and violence. Elfrida Andrée's second piano trio reveals a powerful Scandinavian voice, full of strength and lyricism, and Ukrainian composer Lena Sierova's *Bucha*, written especially for the Sitkovetsky Trio, offers a searing tribute to the victims of the massacre in Bucha, Ukraine in March 2022.

Felix Mendelssohn's virtuosic second piano trio draws the evening to a thrilling close, combining brilliance and drama with soaring lyricism.

‘An intensely moving performance. Fabulous.’

EDINBURGH MUSIC REVIEW



Photo © Jason Harris

TUE 9 FEBRUARY 2027

DANNY DRIVER

piano

SIMON CALLAGHAN

piano

Programme to include music by César Franck, Claude Debussy, Darius Milhaud, Germaine Tailleferre, Madeleine Dring and Camille Saint-Saëns. For full programme details please visit leedsconcertseason.co.uk.

Two-piano recitals are a rare and electrifying treat, and this glittering programme makes the most of the instrument's power and playful brilliance. Jazz-tinged wit, impressionistic shimmer and hints of Brazilian flair run throughout this programme, with music by Claude Debussy, Darius Milhaud and Camille Saint-Saëns offering a joyful contrast.

At the heart of the evening is a long-overdue spotlight on Germaine Tailleferre and Madeleine Dring – two composers whose music is ripe for rediscovery.

‘... Simon Callaghan, an intrepid explorer... gives shape and muscularity to this wistful music.’

THE GUARDIAN

TUE 16 MARCH 2027

NICHOLAS DANIEL

oboe

MATTHEW HUNT

clarinet

AMY HARMAN

bassoon

OLIVIA GANDEE

horn

SINI SIMONEN

violin

TOM POSTER

piano

Joined by postgraduate students from the Royal Northern College of Music

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Quintet for piano and winds

MADELEINE DRING Trio for oboe, bassoon and piano

AMY BEACH Invocation (for violin, bassoon and piano)

SAMUEL COLERIDGE-TAYLOR Nonet



The season ends with a flourish – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's joyful Quintet for piano and winds opens the evening, paired with Madeleine Dring's sparkling Trio and Amy Beach's expressive *Invocation*.

Culminating with Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Nonet, a thoughtfully crafted work that brings a sense of celebration to the final concert, this is chamber music on a grand scale that may leave you wondering why you haven't heard it before!

‘A marvel, [who] can play anything in any style.’

THE HERALD ON TOM POSTER

ACCESS & LOCATION



The Venue at Leeds Conservatoire

St Peter's Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7PD

what3words: ///likely.jeeps.senses

The Venue at Leeds Conservatoire is located on St Peter's Square, across the road from Leeds Bus Station. Access is through the door to the left after you have passed the BBC building, opposite The Wardrobe. This door is opened one hour before the performance starts.

For more information on how to find The Venue at Leeds Conservatoire, please visit our website, or contact Leeds Ticket Hub using the details on the back page of this brochure.



Leeds Conservatoire is easily accessed by public transport, located across the road from Leeds Bus Station and 15 minutes' walk from Leeds Train Station.



There is cycle parking directly outside Leeds Conservatoire.



Whilst we encourage our audiences to use public transport, we realise this isn't always possible. The nearest car parks are NCP – Leeds Markets and Victoria Gate. If attending with friends, please consider car sharing to help us to reduce our carbon footprint.

The nearest blue badge parking can be found on St Peter's Square.



Leeds Conservatoire has lift access to all floors, with accessible toilets at The Venue, and in the Café Bar.

Essential Companion Scheme

We offer two tickets for the price of one to customers who require an essential companion to attend. Please contact Leeds Ticket Hub to find out more.

Support dogs are welcome.

When booking, please let us know if you have any access requirements.



The Venue is equipped with an infra-red system for the hard of hearing.



To order a copy of this brochure in an alternative format, please contact us by:
Phone: **0113 378 6600** or
Email: **music@leeds.gov.uk**

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TICKET PRICES & BOOKING INFORMATION

TICKET PRICES	A	B
Standard	£29.50	£27.50
Over 60s	£27.50	£25.50
Full-time students, unwaged, LeedsCard Extra	£15	£14
Under 30s	£10	£10

Under 30s tickets are available from Wed 22 July.
The multibuy offer is not available for this ticket type.

MULTIBUY OFFER

Book all six Leeds International Chamber Series concerts in the same transaction to receive multibuy offer benefits:

- **Save 20% on ticket prices**
- **Be the first to hear about future events**
- **Choose the best seats available for all concerts**

You can also mix and match across the Leeds International Chamber Series and Leeds International Piano Series – book any six concerts in total across both series to save 20%. Please contact Leeds Ticket Hub for more information.

BOOKING DATES

Wed 24 June: Booking opens for previous Leeds International Chamber Series 2025/26 (Route/Root) multibuy offer customers renewing their seats

Wed 8 July: Booking opens for new multibuy offer customers

Wed 22 July: General booking opens



BOOK ONLINE

leedsconcertseason.co.uk

BOOK BY TELEPHONE

0113 376 0318

The booking line is open from 10am – 4pm,
Monday to Saturday.

BOOK IN PERSON OR BY POST

Leeds Ticket Hub

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

Email: tickets@leeds.gov.uk

Leeds Ticket Hub is open for in-person bookings two hours before any show at the Carriageworks Theatre (carriageworkstheatre.co.uk).

Cheques should be made payable to *Leeds City Council*.

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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Safeguard your tickets against accidents, illness, rail strikes and more. Add refund protection to your booking for peace of mind. Please contact Leeds Ticket Hub for more information.

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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