

LEEDS LUNCHTIME CHAMBER MUSIC 2025/26



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

Welcome to Leeds Lunchtime Chamber Music 2025/26.

Swap your usual midweek lunch break for something more inspiring – 50 minutes of live music to lift, soothe or surprise you. Every Wednesday between October and April at The Venue, Leeds Conservatoire, bold new talent from the UK's leading conservatoires meets beautiful music, from the ambient serenity of vocal and piano ensemble Pro Corda to the unique sounds of Flutes & Frets Duo.

Concerts are free to enjoy, no booking required! Simply turn up, take a seat and relax.

See you at a concert soon,
Leeds International Concert Season

All concerts are on Wednesdays, 1.05pm at Leeds Conservatoire. No booking required, simply turn up and enjoy the music!



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

RELAXED PERFORMANCES RP

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.

Relaxed performances this season take place on 29 October and 4 March.

Cover: Flutes & Frets
Photo: Johan Stone

WED 1 OCTOBER 2025

AMIRI HAREWOOD

piano

Lera Auerbach

Preludes Op 41, Nos 1 & 23

Dmitri Shostakovich

Prelude and Fugue Op 87, No 1

Johannes Brahms

Piano Sonata No 3

Amiri uses his versatile music experiences to inspire his playing; until the age of fourteen he sang as a treble with the renowned Trinity Boys Choir. He now continues his piano studies as a postgraduate at the Royal College of Music. He is also a Tabor Piano Ambassador for the Leeds International Piano Competition, working with the Competition to deliver education and outreach initiatives.



WED 8 OCTOBER 2025

TOBY COOK

viola

TBC

piano

Francis Poulenc

Oboe Sonata (arr for viola)

Albert Huybrechts

Pastourelle

Friedrich Cerha

Viola Sonata

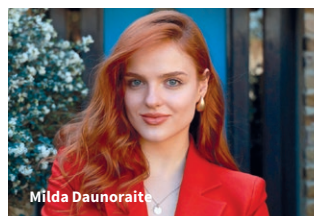
Reynaldo Hahn

Soliloque et Forlane

Toby Cook performs internationally as a chamber musician and soloist. He is winner of the Małopolska competition, the Barbirolli Prize at the Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition and the Len Lickorish Memorial Prize at the Royal Overseas League International Strings Competition. Toby is a founding member of Ensemble Textura, a Berlin-based experimental string ensemble which brings a fresh perspective to well-known chamber music works, and explores unknown repertoire and folk music.



Amiri Harewood
Photo: Kaupo Kikkas



Milda Daunoraitė

WED 15 OCTOBER 2025

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

SOFIA

PATTERSON-GUTIÉRREZ flute

MILDA DAUNORAITE piano

Samantha Fernando

Kinesphere

Anna Bon

Flute Sonata Op 1, No 2

Cécile Chaminade

Sérénade aux étoiles

Sally Beamish

Ariel

Tania León

Alma

Claude Arrieu

Sonatine for Flute and Piano

Sophia and Milda present a programme by female composers; Louise-Marie Simon used the name Claude Arrieu as her 'pen' name.

Sophia was winner of the 2022 BBC Young Musician Woodwind Final, performing Jacques Ibert's Flute Concerto with the BBC Philharmonic. Milda has performed extensively across Europe, including appearances at Wigmore Hall.



Sofia Patterson-Gutiérrez

WED 22 OCTOBER 2025

VENTIS VOCAL ENSEMBLE

EVE CODMAN,

CLEMENTINE THOMPSON

& NIAMH O'CONNOR

soprano

EIBHLIN EDDY, NIA EDWARDS

& MIDIA KALOU

mezzo soprano

Ventis Vocal Ensemble is inspired by the winds that connect the world and carry music across geographical borders, sharing traditional folk music and the works of modern-day folk artists and composers from their own cultural backgrounds and the rest of the world.

Join the sextet to venture across the globe in exploration of enduring folk songs woven into the rich tapestry of the world's cultures.

WED 29 OCTOBER 2025

Relaxed performance



PRO CORDA

CLASSICAL CHILLOUT

AURA vocals

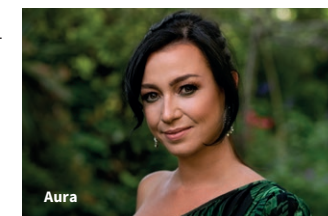
ANDREW QUARTERMAIN

piano

A debut performance of original ambient music; classical musicians Aura (Laura Westcott) and Andrew Quartermain present their specially written music designed to give listeners a sense of escape in serenity. A peaceful sound world of vocal and piano lines creates a sense of relaxation, calmness, and reflection.



Ventis Vocal Ensemble



Aura



Andrew Quartermain

WED 5 NOVEMBER 2025

CHETHAM'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC

LEWIS TANG cello

NICK OLIVER piano

Claude Debussy Cello Sonata

JULIE ZHANG piano

Ludwig van Beethoven

Piano Sonata, Op 53

(Waldstein): *i Allegro con brio*

Frédéric Chopin Barcarolle

Stephen Hough Fanfare Toccata

SHIA clarinet

NICK OLIVER piano

Béla Kovács

After you, Mr Gershwin!

Francis Poulenc Clarinet Sonata:

ii Romanza, iii Allegro con fuoco

Faustin & Maurice Jeanjean

Guisganderie



WED 12 NOVEMBER 2025

SIMON CALLAGHAN

piano

Francis Poulenc

Les Soirées de Nazelles

Edvard Grieg

Holberg Suite

Simon Callaghan performs internationally as a soloist and chamber musician. In 2020, Simon recorded *L'histoire du Babar* with actor Miriam Margolyes. His repertoire increasingly focusses on that which is little known. Francis Poulenc's variations *Les Soirées de Nazelles* was written during long summer evenings when the composer would sit at the piano and improvise musical portraits of his friends.



WED 19 NOVEMBER 2025

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC & DRAMA

AFTER THE BIRDS: SAXOPHONE & PIANO

LYDIA KENNY saxophone

JONATHAN MUSGRAVE piano

Pablo Casals arr Lydia Kenny

Song of the Birds

Olivier Messiaen

arr Lydia Kenny

Le Merle Noir

Rodney Rogers

Lessons of the Sky

Ivor Gurney

arr Jonathan Musgrave

A selection of songs

Lydia Kenny

After the Birds

Takashi Yoshimatsu

Cyber Bird Concerto:

Bird in Grief; Bird in the Wind

Lydia Kenny, saxophonist and composer, is a regular soloist and chamber musician performing across the UK and Europe. She is a founding member of Quartet Pneumatik and the Bauhaus Band, led by John Harle. Her recital with Jonathan Musgrave is inspired by and explores the world of birds, including her own composition *After the Birds*.

WED 26 NOVEMBER 2025

LEEDS SONG: ACADEMY SONG CIRCLE FROM THIS DAY FORWARD

AKSEL RYKKVIN baritone

ALFRED FARDELL piano

Hugo Wolf

Selection from Mörike-Lieder

MADELEINE PERRING soprano

BENJAMIN MARKOVIC piano

Henri Duparc

Selection from Mélodies

WOOGYEOM KIM tenor

QUAN GU piano

Richard Strauss

8 Gedichte aus 'Letzte Blätter':

Allerseelen

Richard Strauss

4 Lieder, Op 27

Themes of marriage and new love culminate in the 'happily ever after' of Richard Strauss' *Tomorrow (Morgen)*.



WED 3 DECEMBER 2025

ROYAL BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE

BRIDGE ST BRASS

KATHERINE HARRISON

trumpet

ERIN DAVIES trumpet

ANNA GUELLNER French horn

RACHEL COCKS trombone

ALEXANDRA HAMILTON tuba

Bridge St Brass, a brass quintet formed in 2023 by students at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, champions female brass players and composers, often performing a diverse range of repertoire. The ensemble's festive programme includes *Fairytale of New York*, music from *The Polar Express*, and modern works for brass by Violet Archer and Catherine McMichael.

WED 7 JANUARY 2026

GEORGINA BLOOMFIELD

violin

SIMON CALLAGHAN

piano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Violin Sonata No 18

Amy Beach

Romance

Johannes Brahms

Violin Sonata No 2

Georgina is currently studying at the RNCM for a postgraduate degree. During her studies, she has participated in masterclasses with Ning Feng and Augustin Hadelich, and earned a place on the Professional Experience Scheme with Manchester Camerata.

WED 14 JANUARY 2026

ROYAL CONSERVATOIRE OF SCOTLAND

MELIA SIMONOT accordion

Johann Sebastian Bach

Fantasia & Fugue in G minor, BWV 542

Vyacheslav Semyonov

Kalina Krasnaya

Felix Mendelssohn

Scherzo à Capriccio

Vladislav Zolotaryov

Accordion Sonata No 3: Finale

Domenico Scarlatti

Sonatas

As well as being crowned BBC Radio Scotland Young Classical Musician of the Year 2024, Melia Simonot is an international prize-winner. Melia plays a wide range of repertoire from Baroque to modern pieces written for the accordion including *Kalina Krasnaya* or *Golden Roses*, a fantasia based on a Ukrainian folk melody.



Nathan Amaral
Photo: Clara Evans



Kasparas Mikužis



Melia Simonot
Photo: Julia Grandperret

WED 21 JANUARY 2026

NATHAN AMARAL

violin

KASPARAS MIKUŽIS

piano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Violin Sonata No 26, K 378

César Franck

Violin Sonata

Heitor Villa-Lobos

Bachianas Brasileiras No 5:

i Ária - Cantilena

Brazilian violinist Nathan Amaral was First Prize winner of the 27th Sphinx Competition and was recognised as one of Classic FM's 2024 Rising Stars. He frequently performs across the globe as both a soloist and chamber musician, while also continuing to support and teach young musicians from difficult backgrounds in his native Brazil through his own festival, Week of Musical Integration.



Young Classical Artists' Trust



Deepta Shakti

WED 28 JANUARY 2026

SOUTH ASIAN ARTS UK SOUNDS OF MEDIEVAL INDIA

DEEPTA SHAKTI vocals

MEHAR-JOT SINGH

SAGOO Jori

IKHJHOT KAUR Taanpura

We invite everyone to join us for a very special lunchtime recital of Dhrupad music. Considered to be one of the oldest and most abundant styles of Hindustani classical music, Dhrupad is characterised by its meditative and spiritual nature, often described as solemn, uplifting and heroic.



WED 4 FEBRUARY 2026

PURCELL SCHOOL FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS PURCELL SCHOOL PIANISTS

Programme to include:

Sergei Rachmaninov

Symphonic Dances (for 2 pianos)

Two young pianists, two pianos, four hands. Sergei Rachmaninov's final composition sums up his career as a composer with several quotations from his own works, a final battle between themes representing death and resurrection. Which will triumph? Join us to find out!



James Morley
Photo: Kaupo Kikkas

WED 25 FEBRUARY 2026

JAMES MORLEY

cello

Giuseppe Colombi

Chiacona per basso solo

György Ligeti

Sonata for solo cello

David Fulmer

Star of the North:

Requiem for Zhanaozen

Liza Lim

Spirit Weapons I

Fergus Hall

(YCAT Composer Fellow 25/26)

New Commission No 2

Salvatore Sciarrino

Ai limiti della notte

Heinrich Biber

Passacaglia

Hailed as 'Australia's most exciting young cellist' by *Limelight* magazine, Switzerland-based Australian musician James Morley works largely as a soloist and chamber musician. He is a specialist in contemporary music performance and demonstrates that here, anchored by bastions of the Baroque era Giuseppe Colombi and Heinrich Biber.



WED 4 MARCH 2026

Relaxed performance

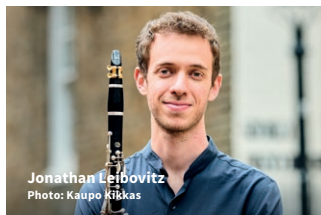
NICOLE BOARDMAN

mezzo soprano

IWAN OWEN

piano

Nicole and Iwan are delighted to return to Leeds to present a concert of vocal and solo piano music. The duo's programme includes arias and songs by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Franz Schubert as well as music by Ivor Novello, songs from the shows, traditional folk music, and solo piano music by Frédéric Chopin.



Jonathan Leibovitz
Photo: Kaupo Kikkas

WED 11 MARCH 2026

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 18 MARCH 2026

JONATHAN LEIBOVITZ

clarinet

JOSEPH HAVLAT

piano

Robert Schumann

Violin Sonata, Op 105

Johannes Brahms

Clarinet Sonata

Clara Schumann

Six Lieder, Op 13

In 2022 Jonathan was both a prize-winner at the Young Classical Artists Trust and Concert Artists Guild joint International Auditions held at Wigmore Hall, and also nominated as a 2022 Classic FM Rising Star. Clara Schumann's songs express contrasting themes of love and longing; intimacy and loss; lightness and darkness. The lyrical melodies translate beautifully to the expressive tones of the clarinet.



WED 25 MARCH 2026

VICTORIA STRING QUARTET

BENEDICT HOLLAND violin

DAVID GREED violin

KIMI MAKINO viola

ADRIAN BRADBURY cello

Dmitri Shostakovich

String Quartet No 1

Maurice Ravel

String Quartet

In demand since its formation in 2017, the Victoria String Quartet has performed for chamber music societies and festivals throughout the UK and has been hailed as an ensemble 'brim full with pedigree and wide experience'.

WED 1 APRIL 2026

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

FLUTES & FRETS DUO

BETH STONE flute

DANIEL MURPHY guitar

Nikolai Kapustin

Sonatina

Astor Piazzolla

Histoire du Tango

Chick Corea

Spain

François Borne

Fantaisie Brillante sur *Carmen*

Heitor Villa-Lobos

Distribuição de Flores

Heitor Villa-Lobos

Schottisch-Chôro

Roland Dyens

Travelling Sonata: *iii Ankara*

London-based duo, Flutes & Frets, presents an intimate and magnetic performance that exploits the fragility and versatility of its instruments. Known for their onstage chemistry and interaction, Beth and Daniel cultivate a special sound-world, taking audiences on a journey through pieces inspired by jazz, dance, Spain and South America.



Victoria String Quartet
Photo: R Pucci



Flutes & Frets
Photo: Johan Stone

WED 8 APRIL 2026

ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC

J2DUO

JOSH HUGHES guitar

JOEL REDFERN guitar

Vojislav Ivanovic

Balkan Express

Egberto Gismonti

Água e Vinho

Ludwig van Beethoven

Grande Sonata Pathétique

Traditional Congolese Folk Song

Banaha

Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco

Prelude and Fugue in C# minor

Claude Debussy

Arabesque No 1

Carlos Gardel

Por Una Cabeza

Astor Piazzolla

Libertango

J2Duo is a young guitar duo from northern England, formed at the Royal Northern College of Music in early 2023. Graduates Josh and Joel studied under internationally renowned classical guitarist Craig Ogden. They often perform music not originally written for guitar, with Joel focusing on arranging and transcribing pieces to expand the duo's repertoire.



J2Duo



Eboracum Baroque

WED 15 APRIL 2026

EBORACUM BAROQUE

MIRIAM MONAGHAN recorder

CHRIS PARSONS trumpet

MIRIAM NOHL cello

LAURENCE

LYNDON-JONES harpsichord

Antonio Vivaldi

The Four Seasons

Eboracum Baroque performs Antonio Vivaldi's iconic *The Four Seasons* in an arrangement for recorder, harpsichord, and cello. It is truly virtuosic and at times features two recorders being played at once! The concert also features music for the Baroque trumpet by Carlo Francesco Pollarollo and Giuseppe Torelli.



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.jeeps.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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