

SOUND OUT LEEDS

2023/24

A JOURNEY INTO EXTRAORDINARY
CLASSICAL MUSIC

LEEDS

INTERNATIONAL
CONCERT SEASON

LEEDS ARTS
EVENTS & VENUES



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

Get ready for a remarkable series of classical music concerts that combine daring programming and unique venues with exceptional musicians from across the globe.

SOUND OUT LEEDS

A JOURNEY INTO EXTRAORDINARY CLASSICAL MUSIC



Scan this QR code to view all concerts on
your mobile or visit
leedsconcertseason.co.uk
for more information.

Manchester Collective, a group renowned for creating unforgettable musical experiences, kicks off the new series. Their three sonic landscape concerts at the Howard Assembly Room take you on a journey through time, blending ancient and contemporary melodies.

Join us for the world premiere of *Four Seasons of the Caribbean* at the Riley Theatre, Northern School of Contemporary Dance as composers Philip Herbert, Cassie Kinoshi, Renell Shaw, and Ayanna Witter-Johnson each present their musical responses to Antonio Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. Their new work fuses traditional and modern sound worlds and features a solo violinist, a steel pan player, and the outstanding Manchester Camerata orchestra.

In the spring, Manchester Camerata invites you to join them at Seven Arts, Chapel Allerton for an intimate, and reflective musical and cinematic experience.

And, that's just the beginning! There's an abundance of exciting events waiting for you to explore. Join us on this musical adventure, and let the harmonies and melodies transport you to extraordinary places.

See you at a concert soon,
Leeds International Concert Season

Sound Out Leeds is supported using public funding from the National Lottery through Arts Council England and by a grant from Leeds Inspired.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Thu 19 October 2023 7.45pm
Howard Assembly Room

MANCHESTER COLLECTIVE LAD

RAKHI SINGH
violin

ALAN KEARY
bass guitar and electronics

Rakhi Singh
New Work

Hildegard von Bingen
Piece to be confirmed

JS Bach
Violin Partita No 2 *Chaconne*

Steve Reich
Electric Counterpoint III. Fast

Alan Keary
New Work

Julia Wolfe (arr Rakhi Singh)
LAD

Evoking the haze and heady atmosphere of underground clubs, violinist Rakhi Singh and guitarist Alan Keary (aka Shunya) come together to venture into unknown sound worlds.

Julia Wolfe's *LAD*, originally written for nine bagpipes and reimagined here for one loud violin, meets JS Bach's iconic *Chaconne* and Steve Reich's mesmerising *Electric Counterpoint*.

Manchester Collective dissolves genre boundaries, delivering an explosive and intimate performance to captivate audiences with innovative sounds. Join this electrifying journey of artistic minds colliding, creating an unforgettable evening of traditional and contemporary music.

Presented in partnership with Opera North

Tickets: £20

LeedsCard Extra: £18.50

Under 18s/pension credit/income support: £10

Sat 25 November 7.30pm & Sun 26 November 2023 3pm
Riley Theatre, Northern School of Contemporary Dance

FOUR SEASONS OF THE CARIBBEAN



MANCHESTER CAMERATA
ELLINOR D'MELON
violin

LEON FOSTER THOMAS
steel pan

Antonio Vivaldi
The Four Seasons



**Philip Herbert, Cassie Kinoshi, Renell Shaw,
Ayanna Witter-Johnson**
Four Seasons of the Caribbean
world premiere

Four Seasons of the Caribbean has been commissioned by
Leeds International Concert Season in partnership with
Riley Theatre and Northern School of Contemporary Dance
for the Sound Out Leeds series.

Four Seasons of the Caribbean is supported by
the Francis Routh Trust.

Antonio Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* is a well-known piece of classical music that musically characterises all four meteorological seasons of the year. *Four Seasons of the Caribbean* is a 21st-century response to this classical masterpiece that blends the sounds and feelings of the Caribbean population in Britain.

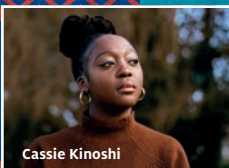
Composers Philip Herbert, Cassie Kinoshi, Renell Shaw, and Ayanna Witter-Johnson were each commissioned to write a 'season' to contribute to the growing catalogue of 'four seasons' pieces in the repertoire. The result is a unique blend of sounds, both traditional and modern, featuring a solo violinist, a steel pan player and the outstanding Manchester Camerata orchestra.

Join us for this world premiere to celebrate Black British composers' legacy and descendants of the Windrush generation. Mesmerising beats await!

Price: £18.50 + £1.50 booking fee
Under 30s/unwaged/full time students: £10
+ £1.50 booking fee
Tickets can be purchased from rileytheatre.com



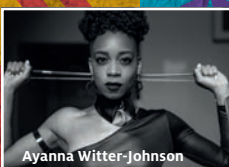
Philip Herbert



Cassie Kinoshi



Renell Shaw



Ayanna Witter-Johnson

Wed 6 December 2023 7.45pm
Howard Assembly Room

MANCHESTER COLLECTIVE THE END OF TIME



SERGIO CASTELLÓ LÓPEZ
clarinet

RAKHI SINGH
violin

NICK TRYGSTAD
cello

KATHRYN STOTT
piano

Nicola Matteis
Alla Fantasia

Caroline Shaw
Gustave le Gray

Frédéric Chopin
Mazurka in A minor Op 17, No 4

Olivier Messiaen
Theme and Variations

Olivier Messiaen
Quartet for the End of Time

Experience the 20th century's energy and turmoil through music with Olivier Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time*. For the first time, Manchester Collective welcomes renowned pianist Kathryn Stott to perform Caroline Shaw's *Gustave le Gray* and Chopin's Mazurka in A minor Op 17, No 4.

Messiaen's transcendent quartet for clarinet, violin, cello and piano was composed in a Nazi prisoner of war camp and premiered under extraordinary circumstances – to an audience of about 400 prisoners and guards, outside, in the rain.

Witness the power of chamber music at its finest, distilling the essence of its time.

Presented in partnership with Opera North

Tickets: £20
LeedsCard Extra: £18.50
Under 18s/pension credit/income support: £10



JESS GILLAM ENSEMBLE

Tue 12 December 2023 8pm
Old Woollen

JESS GILLAM ENSEMBLE

Programme to include:

Pyotr Illych Tchaikovsky Nutcracker Suite

Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Leonard Bernstein West Side Story Suite

James Blake Retrograde

For full programme details please visit
leedsconcertseason.co.uk

Join the dynamic Jess Gillam Ensemble for a warming, wintery concert featuring festive favourites and music that spans centuries.

This sparky and energetic ensemble featuring saxophone, strings, bass, percussion, and piano is rooted in classical music but takes inspiration from many different corners of the musical universe. The ensemble is led by saxophonist Jess Gillam, who has been forging her own adventurous path since she shot to fame becoming the first saxophonist to reach the finals of BBC Young Musician, the youngest ever soloist to perform at the *Last Night of the Proms* and the recipient of a Classic BRIT Award.

The Ensemble is passionate about creating an electrifying concert experience for you to enjoy!

'Throughout the evening they struck sparks off each other. The result was an exhilarating concert... giving us all an experience that will linger long in the memory.'

The Mail on Sunday

Tickets: £25

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged: £12.50



SHE'KOYOKH
Photo: Savannah Photographics

Sun 21 January 2024 5pm
Old Woollen

SHE'KOYOKH

ÇİĞDEM ASLAN vocals

MATT BACON guitar and kaval

CHRISTINA BORGENTIERNA percussion

SUSI EVANS clarinet

MEG-ROSALEEN HAMILTON violin

PAUL MOYLAN double bass

ŽIVORAD NIKOLIĆ accordion and vocals

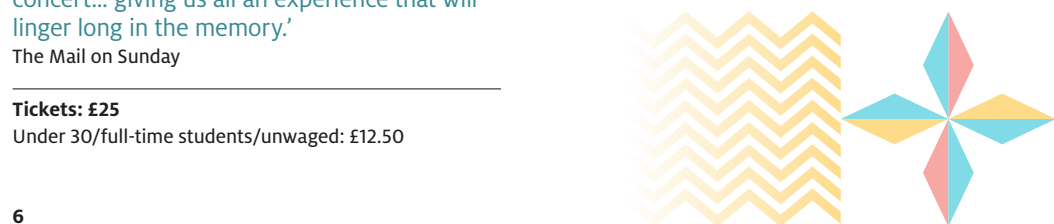
She'Koyokh has been hailed as 'one of the finest and most entertaining British-based exponents of global music' (*The Guardian*). The London-based band has dedicated over two decades to embracing the diverse folk music traditions of Jewish Eastern Europe, Turkey, and the Balkans.

The ensemble's live performances are a captivating mix of instruments including clarinet, violin, jazzy guitar licks, accordion, bass, and dance-invoking percussion, plus the sweet and passionate voice of Istanbul-born Çigdem Aslan.

'What makes She'Koyokh stand out? It's that most simple and obvious of things: they're just all very, very, good musicians.'
fROOTS

Tickets: £22

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged: £11



Thu 15 February 2024 8pm
Old Woollen

KANTOS CHOIR LOVE IS LOVE

ELLIE SLORACH director

PAUL WHITTAKER BSL interpreter

A programme celebrating love in all its forms with a particular focus on LGBTQ+ groups, to include:

Morten Lauridsen Six 'Firesongs' on Italian Renaissance Poems

Derri Joseph Lewis Something Exciting

Abbie Betinis Love is Love is Love is Love

Wainwright Johnston Love; an ever-fixed mark

Eleanor Daley Upon Your Heart

Plus spoken word and poetry

For full programme details please visit
leedsconcertseason.co.uk

Join Kantos Choir for a performance that charts the course of true love, which never did run smooth. Interspersing choral works and poetry by old romantics and young lovers, Kantos will melt your heart with love songs – no crooning though, promise!

The concert features works by contemporary composers Derri Joseph Lewis, Alex Groves, and Mari Esabel Valverde, who all share fresh perspectives on LGBTQ+ lives and lovers.

Come celebrate love, loving and being loved. After all, love is all you need.



This concert is BSL interpreted by leading British Sign Language interpreter of classical music, Paul Whittaker OBE

Tickets: £18

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged: £11

Mon 4 March 2024 7.30pm
The Wardrobe

AVENUE ENSEMBLE STRINGS AT NIGHT

TOM GREED director

With storytelling by **GEORGE WIGZELL**

Programme to include Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* and pieces by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Johannes Brahms, Max Richter and Edward Elgar.

For full programme details please visit
leedsconcertseason.co.uk

Avenue Ensemble returns to Leeds to explore music for strings inspired by the night.

Darkness, night-time, and changing light have inspired art and expression throughout human history, something which many composers have been fascinated with. Avenue Ensemble takes its signature relaxed and interactive performances to a new level in this programme, where the central work – Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* (*Transfigured Night*) – will be performed with storytelling derived from the original Richard Dehmel poem which inspired Schoenberg's masterpiece.

Join the six-piece ensemble and Leeds-born actor and writer George Wigzell to bring this beautiful musical story to life.

Tickets: £17

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged £11



AVENUE ENSEMBLE
Photo: Natalie Hitchman





Thu 7 March 2024 7.45pm
Howard Assembly Room

MANCHESTER COLLECTIVE THE UNFURROWED FIELD

FERGUS MCCREADIE
piano

DAVID BOWDEN
bass

STEPHEN HENDERSON
drums

RAKHI SINGH
violin

DONALD GRANT
violin

SIMONE VAN DER GIESSEN
viola

CHRISTIAN ELLIOTT
cello

Music by Fergus McCreadie, Christian Mason, and new arrangements by Donald Grant.

Experience a joyful fusion of jazz and Scottish folk music in this unique show.

Mercury Prize-nominated pianist Fergus McCreadie and his spellbinding jazz trio join Manchester Collective's string quartet for music that blends jazz, new classical, and folk. Scotsman Donald Grant arranges traditional folk tunes oozing with heart-warming and optimistic melodies for this unlikely band of players.

Prepare for a delightful mix of Fergus' new compositions paired with classic folk tunes, promising an unforgettable and enjoyable musical celebration.

Join us for this fun-filled gig and let the party begin!

Presented in partnership with Opera North

Tickets: £20

LeedsCard Extra: £18.50

Under 18s/pension credit/income support: £10

Thu 21 March 2024 7.30pm
Seven Arts

MANCHESTER CAMERATA STRING QUARTET

followed by a screening of

[B R E A T H E]



Philip Glass
String Quartet No 3: *vi Mishima*

Ben Nobuto
Skip

Arvo Pärt
Da Pacem Domine

Ayanna Witter-Johnson
Mento Mood

Shiva Feshareki
VENUS/ZOHREH

[B R E A T H E]
Film screening
(BBFC classification: U)

Award-winning orchestra Manchester Camerata takes you on a beautiful, intimate, and reflective musical and cinematic experience.

Absorb the remarkable sounds of 21st-century string quartet music by Philip Glass, Ben Nobuto, Arvo Pärt, Ayanna Witter-Johnson and Shiva Feshareki.

Then, surrender yourself to the stunning short film [B R E A T H E], an original orchestral work made especially for the screen. Featuring newly commissioned music from critically acclaimed composer Daniel Kidane, poet Roma Havers, music creator Ben Nobuto and directed by River Rea Films, the film will transport you to the historic Victoria Baths in Manchester.

[B R E A T H E] invites you to immerse yourself in meditative sounds and spectacular visual landscapes, to pause and reflect, breaking from the fast-paced world we live in today, holding you in a space of wellbeing and mindfulness.

*[B R E A T H E] is produced by Orchestras Live
in association with Manchester Camerata and River Rea Films*

Tickets: £16.50

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged: £11

ORCHESTRAS *Live*

Thu 18 April 2024
Carriageworks Theatre

Performance for school bookings only – 1.30pm
Open to all – 8pm

THE QUEEN'S CARTOONISTS

The Queen's Cartoonists (TQC) perform music from over 100 years of all your favourite cartoons.

Based in Queens, New York, this six-piece ensemble will dazzle you with their perfect note for note synchronisation to the animated films projected on stage. TQC use their trademark comedy and multi-instrumental mayhem to breathe new light into two uniquely American forms of art – jazz and animation.

Inspired by jazz, classical music and cartoons, this show is a musical circus featuring jazz age composers Raymond Scott, Carl Stalling, and Duke Ellington plus famous classical music composers such as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Gioachino Rossini, and Johann Strauss!

Tickets: £22

Under 30/full-time students/unwaged: £11

Schools performance: £5 (One free adult ticket per ten children's ticket)



**THROUGH
THE
NOISE**

Fri 26 April 2024 8pm
Hyde Park Book Club

FORGOTTEN IN HISTORY

THROUGH THE NOISE & HER ENSEMBLE
ELLIE CONSTA director

A programme of female composers challenging the gender gap in classical music.

Her Ensemble, directed by Ellie Consta, joins forces with Through the Noise to bring their show 'Forgotten in History' to Hyde Park Book Club. Merging aspects from classical and pop scenes, the ensemble performs music written by women spanning the past 2000 years as a response to the discovery that in 2019, just 3.6% of the classical music pieces performed worldwide were written by women.

It's just not true that 'there haven't been that many women composers'. Come and hear for yourselves works from Hildegard von Bingen (c1098–1179, abbess, writer, composer, and philosopher) to the brand new folk-inspired *Clan* from Joanna Borrett.

Her Ensemble is a free-form group which seeks to address the gender gap and gender stereotypes in the music industry. It is passionate about creating meaningful change by shining a light on music written by women, most of which has been overlooked for centuries.

Though the Noise are creating a vision for the future of classical music: informal events featuring international soloists in cabaret bars, converted warehouses, and nightclubs.

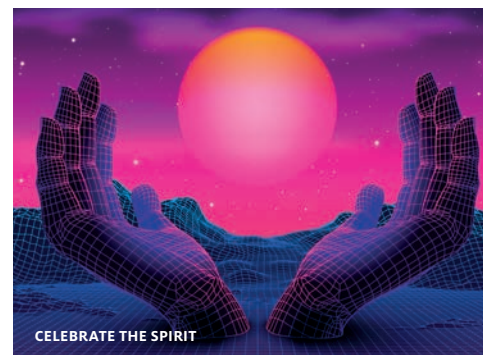
Please note this is a standing gig.

Tickets: £17.50

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged: £13.50



HER ENSEMBLE
Photo: Tom Lovatt



Sun 12 May 2024 3pm
Howard Assembly Room

SACRED MUSIC: CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT

At Leeds International Concert Season, it's not often we have the opportunity to be involved in the development of new music, so coming together with our long-time friends at South Asian Arts UK for Sacred Music is somewhat of a spiritual dream come true.

Our project *Sacred Music: Celebrate the Spirit* is an exploration of sacred musics that are synonymous with the Hindu, Mohammedan, Sikh, and Christian faiths. A summer call out for artists led us to meeting with four outstanding specialist musicians, whose music practice is steeped in sacred music.

Over a series of collaborative wintertime workshops Daniel Gethin, Eeshar Singh, Salim Sabri and Deepa Shakti delve into each musical world together, exploring both common threads and unique characteristics of their sacred music traditions.

This springtime concert is a result of that journey; a musical expression of what it means to create interfaith music – ultimately, a celebration of each religious tradition and their communities present here in Leeds.

Tickets: £16.50

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged: £11



Thu 23 May 2024 7.45pm
Howard Assembly Room

AFRICAN TALES

SAMANTHA EGE piano

CASTLE OF OUR SKINS string quartet

Undine Smith Moore Soweto

Bongani Ndodana Breen Safika: Three Tales of African Migration

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Piano Quintet

Castle of Our Skins is a Boston-based group that celebrates Black artistry through music. It explores Black heritage and culture, shining a light on both lesser-known and famous figures from the past and present.

For its anticipated Leeds debut, the quartet is joined by sought-after pianist and musicologist, Samantha Ege, to showcase piano trios and piano quintets by three Black composers from Africa and the diaspora.

Two powerful compositions by Undine Smith Moore and Bongani Ndodana Breen respond to the distressing history of apartheid, a system of institutionalised racial segregation that existed in South Africa and Namibia between 1940s – 1990s, followed by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Piano Quintet, first performed in London in 1893 with the eighteen year old composer at the piano.

Join these five musicians for an evening of boundary-defying spiritual storytelling that will leave you with a sense of fortitude and hope.

Tickets: £22

Under 30s/full-time students/unwaged: £11

VENUE & BOOKING INFORMATION

VENUES

Carriageworks Theatre

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

what3words: ///humans.behave.season

Howard Assembly Room

46 New Briggate, Leeds, LS1 6NU

what3words: ///tops.staple.active

Hyde Park Book Club

27-29 Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS6 1BL

what3words: ///belts.sparks.gender

Old Woollen

Sunny Bank Mills, 83-85 Town Street,
Farsley, LS28 5UJ

what3words: ///small.long.soils

Riley Theatre

Northern School of Contemporary Dance

98 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, LS7 4BH

what3words: ///total.home.bossy

Seven Arts

31A Harrogate Road, Chapel Allerton, Leeds, LS7 3PD

what3words: ///runner.claims.social

The Wardrobe

6 St Peter's Square, Leeds, LS9 8AH

what3words: ///shut.rests.asleep

Please visit **leedsconcertseason.co.uk** for more information about these concert venues.



BOOK BY TELEPHONE

0113 376 0318

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

BOOK ONLINE

leedsconcertseason.co.uk

BOOK IN PERSON OR BY POST

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*. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like your tickets sent to you.

TALK TO US!

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

Email: music@leeds.gov.uk

General enquiries: 0113 378 6600

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

LEEDS
YEAR OF CULTURE **2023**



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@LeedsInternationalConcertSeason

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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