

Chamber music with passion

Monday 11 December 2023, 7.30pm Holy Trinity Church, Ripon

Programme

www.riponconcerts.co.uk



Patron: Julius Drake

The healing power of music

As I write this, the Middle East is on the brink of catastrophe and we all feel helpless as we watch a tragedy of unspeakable magnitude continue to unfold. Could music be the inspiration for a healing solution?

In 1999 pianist and conductor Daniel Barenboim and Palestinian scholar Edward Said formed the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, so that young musicians from Israel and across the Middle East could gather, talk and perform together. Today almost all of these musicians are directly or indirectly affected by the conflict but they still perform together. They are united by the incredible depth and force of music, which has the capacity to cross the deepest of ideological divides. A common humanity can be identified in music to help understand the supposed other more clearly and find common ground.

The importance of Arab and Israeli musicians sharing a common platform is immeasurable.

Barenboim recently wrote: "We start and end all discussions, no matter how controversial, with the fundamental understanding that we are all equal human beings who deserve peace, freedom and happiness. We must continue to believe in our shared humanity. Music is one way to bring us closer together." (The Guardian 15.10.23)

Barenboim went on to found the Barenboim-Said Akademie in Berlin, in memory of his friend. The Academy, located just behind the state opera house, is entirely funded by the German Government – surely the outstretched hand of peace.

Barenboim's son, Michael, now leads these projects. His father's dream of political harmony inspired by music is yet to happen, but Michael says: "we are musicians and not politicians. We cannot change the course of events, but we can shine a light on another way of thinking." (The Times 28.10.23)

Roger Higson, Chairman

Monday 11 December 2023 | Holy Trinity Church, Ripon

Tango Calor

MIREK SALMON - bandoneon, DARYL KELLIE - guitar, **INDIRA ROMÁN - vocals**

Programme

Piazzolla	Libertango
Cobián/Cadicamo	Nostalgias
Donato/Lenzi	A media luz
Mores/Contursi	En esta tarde gris
Arolas	Comme il faut
Troilo	La trampera
Gardel/Le Pera	Por una cabeza
Gardel/Le Pera	Volver
Cabral/Dizeo	Que nadie sepa mi sufrir

- interval (refreshments in the undercroft) -

Piazzolla	Oblivion
Rivas/Flores	El campesino
Velázquez	Besame mucho
Demare/Manzi	Malena
Piana/Manzi	Milonga sentimental
Harrison	While my guitar gently weeps
Farrés	Quizas, quizas, quizas
Salmon/Román	Caminos
Cáceres	Tango Negro

we get on with



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About the music

"Tango can be debated, and we have debates over it, but it still encloses, as does all that which is truthful, a secret." Jorge Luis Borges, Argentine writer and poet, 1899-1986

The word 'tango' originates from...

Latin In this theory, the word tango would originate from the word 'tangir' and would mean 'I play instruments'.

African In parts of America, and in one of the many Canary Islands, 'tango' seems to have meant 'gathering of blacks dancing to drum music'. 'Tango' was also the name some originating from Africa gave to the

drum itself. For slaves brought to Argentina from the Congo, the Gulf of Guinea and Southern Sudan, 'tango' meant 'closed space' or 'a private space where permission is needed to enter'. It was also the word slave traders used to describe the place where black slaves were kept in Africa, as well as in America.

Regardless of its exact origin, in the early days of the dance, the word 'tango' most likely communicated 'a closed space where people gather to dance'.

Tango is a fusion of... Africa, Spain, Italy, Britain, France, Poland and Russia; the world (more or less). During the later part



Henry Herbert La Thangue RA (1859-1929) *"In a Ligurian Garden"*

Sold for £180,000 (plus buyer's premium) of the 1800s and early 1900s, Argentina saw massive waves of immigrants. Most of them were single men hoping for a better life: they thought they could make enough money and then be reunited with their families. In most cases, this ended up being unachievable. Tango was born out of their need to find comfort and empathy and to express the longing for what they had left behind.

This **mixing of immigrants** with nativeborn Argentines resulted in a cultural melting pot where polkas, waltzes, mazurkas, the habanera from Cuba and candombe rhythms from Africa started to blend. Most likely, tango was born in African-Argentine dance venues and was later introduced to other venues where dancing also took place: bars, dance halls and brothels.

Uruguay claims to have fathered tango. We can understand why, although it seems that Uruguayan tango is simply a variation of Argentine tango (or... is it the opposite as some would argue?). However, *La cumparsita*, one of the most famous tango songs, was really written by Gerardo Matos Rodriguez in Montevideo in 1919.

Although high society initially looked down upon tango, the younger generation in Buenos Aires eventually adopted it. By the beginning of the 20th century, tango



established itself in Buenos Aires and started to spread nationally and further afield to Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay.

By the early 1900s, the same generation of Argentine wealth took tango to Paris. By 1913, tango became a phenomenon there as well as in London, Berlin, New York and Finland. The elite were forced into accepting it with national pride.

Tango continued to spread worldwide throughout the 1920s and 1930s: the dance appeared in movies, and tango singers travelled the world. The 1930s was referred as 'the Golden Age' in Argentina. The country became one of the richest nations in South America, the arts flourished and tango became a fundamental expression of Argentine culture.

In the 1950s, during the political repression, tango was seen as rebellious as its lyrics began to reflect political views, resulting in the banning of large dance gatherings and forcing both the dance and the music underground. A bit like prohibition in the US back in the thirties...Tango being underground, combined with the popularity of rock & roll, sent the dance into a sleepy state in Argentina.

During this period, tango was kept alive thanks to sponsorship of tours and artists by nations like Japan. It was fully brought back from its slumber in Paris in the mid 1980s, largely through the birth of the show 'Tango Argentina' that went on to tour the world. In 2009, tango was declared part of the world's 'intangible cultural heritage' by UNESCO, quite fitting really because tango belongs to everyone. Carlos Gavito, a famous Argentine tango dancer once said: "I think those who say that you can't tango if you are not Argentine are mistaken. Tango was an immigrant music... so it does not have a nationality. Its only passport is feeling."

In today's concert you will be hearing the bandoneon, the fiendishly complicated member of the concertina family, that is the true sound of tango. Tango Calor will take you on a journey from the earliest tango melodies of Gardel to music by living exponents like Hugo Rivas. Also, you will hear works by Astor Piazzolla, one of the great names of modern music, not just of tango. We hope you enjoy this marriage of wonderful music with lyrics that represent some of the finest poetry to come out of South America.

With grateful thanks to the following members for their generous support:

The Armitage Trust Frances Carroll Jim Dalton G Fieldhouse Elizabeth Gibbs Roger Higson Scilla and Brian Kealy Janet Mellor Carla McCowan Charles and Charlotte Monck Michael Porter Elizabeth Price Ros and Bill Swaney Kate Whelan Loretta Williams

and others who wish to remain anonymous or have donated since this programme went to press.

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About the performers

Tango Calor

"one of the best tango trios you will hear in the UK without a doubt" Eduardo Bozzo, Tango Alchemy

Tango Calor was set up in 2016 by bandoneon player Mirek Salmon. It is a collective of musicians who share a love for tango music and have appeared in milongas and theatres around the country gaining new fans wherever they play. They are very popular on the festival circuit with shows at Glastonbury festival, WOMAD and Cheltenham International Tango festival in addition to European stages such as La Ghironda in Puglia. They are often called up to accompany visiting artists from Argentina and have formed the core of larger ensembles to perform the works of Astor Piazzolla.

Mirek Salmon - Bandoneon

Mirek Salmon is an experienced accordionist, pianist and bandoneonist. His busy freelance career has seen him perform with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Welsh National Opera and the Royal Shakespeare Company. He has toured extensively around the UK for opera and theatre tours as well as on rural touring schemes with jazz and world music groups. Mirek has appeared on many of the country's big festival stages including WOMAD, and London, Edinburgh and Cheltenham jazz festivals. Live broadcast appearances include BBC Cardiff Singer of the World (BBC 2) as well as performances on BBC Radio 4 and Radio 3. He was a featured accordionist for a Renault advertising campaign and his playing appears regularly on lifestyle programmes as a result of his busy recording session work.

Daryl Kellie - Guitar

Daryl Kellie's vibrant, multilayered guitar technique is sure to enthral lovers of jazz, blues, pop and rock alike. His performances have racked up hundreds of thousands of views on the internet, and he has been described by *Guitar World* magazine as '*Epic*'.

As well as contributing to books by the likes of Tommy Emmanuel and Mike Stern, his own books, including 'Advanced Acoustic Fingerstyle Guitar', have been released to wide critical acclaim. Daryl's solo playing has appeared on many television and film soundtracks including Edgar Wright's 'Last Night in Soho'.

"Truly stunning" D'Addario Strings

"Check out Daryl Kellie's solo acoustic guitar arrangement of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody! Wow!"Taylor Guitars

Indira Román - Voice

Indira Román is one of the best female Latin singers in the UK, performing in prestigious music venues such as the Royal Albert Hall, London's Jazz Café and Ronnie Scott's, as well as multiple appearances on the world music stage at Glastonbury festival.

Originally from Cuba, Indira was performing extensively around the Caribbean islands when she was invited to join a tour for Salsa UK. Now she has laid down roots in Bristol and regularly performs with such luminaries as Roberto Pla and continues to represent the music of Cuba and Colombia with her own projects. In 2019 Indira was nominated for the MTM Awards and Best International Act for the Festival Ciudad Rock 2020 in Colombia.



North Yorkshire Music & Arts Events Diary

Visit www.st-cecilia.org.uk for full details of Music & Arts events in the Ripon area.

Chapter House Choir, York Christmas Concert York Minster 16 Dec 2023, 7.30pm

Vocalis Chamber Choir Christmas is Coming St Wilfrid's Church, Harrogate 17 Dec 2023, 3pm

York Symphony Orchestra Winter Concert: Coleridge-Taylor, Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall, University of York

17 Dec 2023, 7.30pm

Ripon Concerts Students from the RNCM Holy Trinity Church, Ripon 8 Jan 2024, 7.30pm

St Cecilia Orchestra The Magic of Music Ripon Cathedral 20 Jan 2024, 6.30pm

Ripon Concerts Wind Players from Ensemble 360 Holy Trinity Church, Ripon 12 Feb 2024, 7.30pm

Richmondshire Concerts Marmen Quartet Richmond School 17 Feb 2024, 7.30pm

Harrogate Philharmonic Orchestra Winter Concert: Handel, Campling St Mark's Church, Harrogate 24 Feb 2024, 7.30pm

Jervaulx Singers The Dream St John's Church, Sharow 2 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Chapter House Choir, York Spring Concert York Minster

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9 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Ripon Concerts Alice Coote - mezzo-soprano Julius Drake - piano The Rebellious Recital Holy Trinity Church, Ripon 11 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Ripon Choral Society Handel: Solomon Ripon Cathedral 16 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Fisher Singers Handel: Messiah St Wilfrid's Church, Harrogate 23 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Richmondshire Concerts Maxwell Quartet: Haydn, Beethoven Richmond School 23 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Harrogate Symphony Orchestra Rossini, Grieg Royal Hall, Harrogate 23 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Richmondshire Orchestra Spring Concert Tennant's Garden Rooms, Leyburn 24 Mar 2024, 3pm

Vocalis Chamber Choir Bach: Mass in B minor St Peter's Church, Harrogate 27 Mar 2024, 7.15pm

York Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall, University of York 30 Mar 2024, 7.30pm

Richmondshire Concerts From Bach to Beatles, with pieces by the King of gypsy jazz, Django Reinhard Richmond School 6 Apr 2024, 7.30pm

St Cecilia Orchestra Debussy, Ravel Ripon Cathedral 20 Apr 2024, 7.30pm



Handel Solomon

John Dunford - conductor Jane Burnell & Julianne Coates - sopranos William Towers - countertenor Nick Watts - tenor Adam Green - bass Orchestra D'Amici

Saturday 16 March 2024, 7.30pm

Tickets: £25 reserved; £22 unreserved (student concessions £10)

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• on the door at each concert • in person at Ripon Cathedral Shop

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Mozart Requiem

Ratter Feel the Spirit

John Dunford - conductor Jane Burnell - soprano Rachel Gilmore - mezzo James Micklethwaite - tenor Phil Wilcox - bass Orchestra D'Amici

Saturday 15 June 2024, 7.30pm





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Alice Coote - Mezzo-soprano & Julius Drake - Piano

11 March 2024

The Rebellious Recital - favourite songs and arias through the centuries to the present day, from Bach to Bowie, Mahler to Joni Mitchell, Handel to John Lennon.

"Chamber music - a convers<mark>ation</mark> between friends"



Students from the RNCM







Wind Players from Ensemble 360 © Chris Saunders/ Music in the Round

US.

Julius Drake © Marco Borggreve

Tickets: Jan: £20 Feb/Mar: £25 Students: £5



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