

ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

## 2019/20 SEASON

Spring Edition



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#### 2019/20 SEASON

#### WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

St John's Smith Square provides a home for the best in Baroque music, within the UK's only concert hall dating from the Baroque period, whilst equally championing creative exploration and new music. International artists sit comfortably alongside emerging talent whilst we also continue to provide a vital and unique home for the best in community music.

You can find a rich diversity of events within this programme, and opera, oratorio, symphony and concerto sit alongside chamber music and solo recitals to make a rich and diverse season. All this activity builds towards our Fourth Holy Week Festival, in conjunction with Tenebrae, and full details of that programme will be released soon. I hope you will find many concerts that entice you and to offer you a regular welcome to St John's Smith Square.

We are delighted to host many partners throughout the season and to feature the best chamber orchestras, choirs and ensembles at St John's Smith Square. You can also enjoy our regular Thursday Lunchtime Concerts featuring both established ensembles and emerging artists. Don't forget to allow time to dine in the atmospheric Footstool Restaurant.

St John's Smith Square is unique amongst London's concert halls – it is the oldest, yet most flexible, concert hall in London and we are very proud that we are able to offer a programme which is so diverse yet filled with events and festivals of deep integrity. St John's Smith Square is only able to provide this programme thanks to

the generosity of our wonderful Friends and Patrons. This support is crucial to our success (ticket sales alone can never meet the needs of our busy artistic and community programme, let alone the costs of maintaining our wonderful Grade I listed home). Please help us in our mission by joining the Friends of St John's Smith Square. Thank you for your support!

I hope you will find the programme and your future visits to St John's Smith Square stimulating and interesting and I would be very interested to hear any thoughts and comments about your experiences.

I look forward to welcoming you soon.

Richard Heason Director



#### 50th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN – A SOUND FUTURE

The success of St John's has always been thanks to the fabulous support of those who love the building and the music which comes to life within it. This is as true today as it was 50 years ago. St John's Smith Square is a registered charity and receives no core subsidy from any source. Our income is made up of revenue from ticket sales; fees we receive from renting out the hall; income from catering and merchandising; and gifts from generous supporters. Ticket sales alone only cover a small part of our costs and to maintain this wonderful Grade I listed building whilst offering a world class programme of concerts and events we need to find approximately £250,000 every year.

For our 50th anniversary year we have launched a campaign to ensure a Sound Future for St John's Smith Square. We are seeking funds to support the artistic programme; invest in the building; and develop our operating model. Any support we receive will go towards increasing our sustainability by enabling us to develop further earned income.

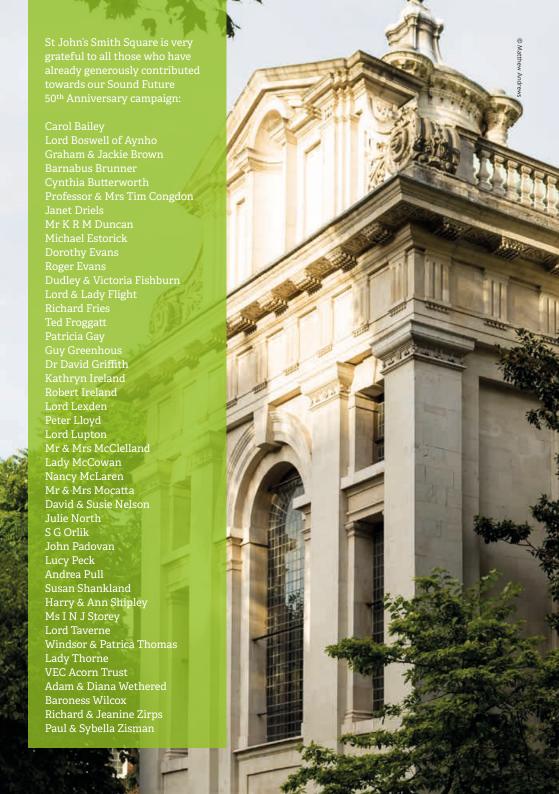
If you value our building and our work, would you consider making a regular gift to enable us to plan for the future?

If everyone who visited St John's Smith Square each year were to make a gift of £1 per month the sum raised would be almost £2 million.

To contribute towards the campaign please send a cheque, made out to 'St John's Smith Square', to 'St John's Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HA' or look online at www.sjss.org.uk/donations to find other ways to give.







#### DECEMBER JANUARY



#### **A STRAUSS GALA**

Orchestra of St John's Louise Wayman SOPRANO Christopher Turner TENOR John Lubbock CONDUCTOR

Wonderful waltzes and polkas mostly by Johann Strauss Junior. Plus well-known songs from Strauss and Lehár.

osj.org.uk

Tue 31 December 2.00pm £26, £20, £15, £10

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

#### CALLUM ALGER

Organ Series

From Darkness to Light

Callum Alger ORGAN

Bach Fantasia and Fugue in G minor BWV542 • Canonic Variations on 'Von Himmel hoch' BWV769a

Reger Invokation, from Sonata II Op. 60 'Von Himmel hoch' Reinecke Organ Sonata in G minor Op. 284 'Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern'

callumalger.co.uk

Thu 9 January 1.05pm £10. YF

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

#### **TOBY HUGHES** & DANIEL **KING-SMITH**

**Toby Hughes** DOUBLE BASS Daniel King-Smith PIANO

Brahms Rhapsody No. 2 Op. 79 in G minor • Cello Sonata No. 1 Op. 38 in E minor Descenclos Aria and Rondo

tobyhughesdoublebass.com danielkingsmith.co.uk

Thu 16 January 1.05pm £10. YF

#### CIVIL SERVICE CHOIR

Stephen Hall CONDUCTOR

Bach Christmas Oratorio (parts 1 & 6)

To mark the closing of Christmastide, a glorious celebration of Christmas and Epiphany with excerpts from Bach's Baroque masterpiece. Christmas Oratorio.

civilservicechoir.org.uk

#### Thu 23 January 1.05pm

Admission FREE, but tickets must be reserved in advance through the Box Office at St John's Smith Square

#### YOUNG **MUSICIANS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**Russian Carnival** 

Alexander Karpeyev PIANO James Blair CONDUCTOR

Glazunov Carnival Overture Op. 45 Medtner Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor Op. 50 Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in E minor Op. 64

ymso.org.uk

Tue 28 January 7.30pm £20 (£16), £15 (£12), £10 (£8)



THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Alex Woolf PIANO Beethoven Horn Sonata in F Op. 17

Alex Woolf Aria Messiaen Appel interstellaire Strauss Andante Vinter Hunter's Moon

Thu 30 January 1.05pm £10, YF

#### **ROYAL HOLLOWAY CHAMBER** ORCHESTRA, **CHAPEL CHOIR** & UNIVERSITY **CHORUS**

**London Mozart Players** Sarah Fox SOPRANO Rupert Gough CONDUCTOR Rebecca Miller CONDUCTOR

Andrea Tarrodi New Commission Cecilia McDowall Ave Maris Stella Beethoven Symphony No. 9 in D minor Op. 125

royalholloway.ac.uk

Wed 29 January 7.30pm £20 (£15), £10, YF

#### LONDON **MOZART PLAYERS**

Raphael Wallfisch CELLO Simon Blendis DIRECTOR

Haydn Symphony No. 96 in D 'Miracle' Schumann Cello Concerto in A minor Op. 29 Tchaikovsky Variations on a Rococo Theme Op. 33 Mozart Symphony No. 38 in D K504 'Prague'

londonmozartplayers.com

Thu 30 January 7.30pm £55\*, £32, £20, £15, £12 \*including post-concert reception Vadym Kholodenko © Van Cliburn



#### **VADYM KHOLODENKO**

Bechstein Piano Series

Vadym Kholodenko PIANO

Mozart Piano Sonata in C minor K457 Schubert Sonata in A major Op. 120 D664 Kaija Saariaho Ballade Scriabin Selection of Preludes Rachmaninoff Piano Sonata No. 2 in Bb minor

Fri 31 January 7.00pm

£15 (£10)

Box Office 020 7222 1061 Box Office 020 7222 1061

#### **FEBRUARY**

LONDON

Piano Explored

in E minor Op. 11

£16 (Students £5)

**MOZART PLAYERS** 

Howard Shelley PIANO/DIRECTOR

Chopin Piano Concerto No. 1

londonmozartplayers.com

Wed 5 February 1.05pm



The Choir of St George's Chruch, Beckenham © David Yiu





Frederick Stocken © Lynn Herrick Photography

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

#### FREDERICK STOCKEN

Organ Series

Frederick Stocken ORGAN

Buck Sonata No. 2 Frederick Stocken Mysterium Fidei Vaughan Williams Rhosymedre, from 'Three Preludes founded on Welsh hymn tunes' Wesley arr. Emery and Stocken Choral Song and Fuque

frederickstocken.com

**Thu 6 February 1.05pm** £10, YF

#### VIENNESE TRIUMPHS

The Choir of St George's Church,
Beckenham
The Chameleon Arts Orchestra
Arina Lazgiian PIANO
Susannah Groome SOPRANO
Ian Maxwell COUNTERTENOR
Niki Zohdi TENOR
Paul Bonter BASS
Marcus Wibberley CONDUCTOR

Mozart Overture to 'The Marriage of Figaro' K492 Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor Op. 37 Haydn Nelson Mass Hob. 22 No. 11

stgeorgesbeckenham.co.uk/music chameleon-arts-orchestra.co.uk

**Sat 8 February 7.30pm** £25. £20. £15

#### ROYAL ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

Tim Hugh CELLO
James Henshaw CONDUCTOR

**Dvořák** Cello Concerto **Bartók** Concerto for Orchestra

 $royal or chest ral society. or {\tt g.uk}$ 

**Sun 9 February 7.00pm** £18, £12, £8

#### SALOMON ORCHESTRA

James Murray CONDUCTOR

Smetana Overture The Bartered Bride \* 3 Dances from The Bartered Bride Suk Scherzo Fantastique Martinů Symphony No. 5

salomonorchestra.org

**Tue 11 February 7.30pm** £18 (£15), £15

Young Artists' Series

#### Seen through the ears

**IMPROVISO** 

Inspired by G.P. Telemann's fascination with the 'optical harpsichord', Improviso presents some of the composer's finest chamber works alongside the first screening of a specially-commissioned film by Egyptian film-maker Fatéma Niazy that explores synaesthesia and the inter-relationship of the senses.

improviso.net

**Wed 12 February 7.30pm** £12, YF

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

## EXUBERANT FRENCH

Timothée Botbol CELLO Dinara Klinton PIANO

Debussy Cello Sonata in D minor Bloch Nigun Poulenc Cello Sonata in C

Thu 13 February 1.05pm £10, YF

#### LONDON PHOENIX ORCHESTRA

Lev Parikian CONDUCTOR

Brahms Academic Festival Overture Op. 80 Strauss Suite Op. 4 Britten Simple Symphony Op. 4 Elgar Variations on an Original Theme Op. 36 'Eniqma'

phoenixorchestra.org

**Wed 19 February 7.30pm** £18. £16. £14

6 Box Office **020 7222 1061** Box Office **020 7222 1061** 7

#### **FEBRUARY**

### MARCH



THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

STRING QUARTET

Young Artists' Series

Haydn String Quartet

Sz. 102

£10. YF

in F# minor Op. 50 No. 4

Bartók String Quartet No. 5

Thu 20 February 1.05pm

**BARBICAN** 



**QUIET MUSIC** 

Branka Parlić PIANO

Satie Gnossiennes No. 1 & No. 4 Gavin Bryars After Handel's 'Vesper'

Philip Glass Piano Etudes No. 16 & No. 20 • Metamorphosis Two

brankaparlic.com

Thu 27 February 1.05pm £10. YF

#### **BORIS GILTBURG**

Bechstein Piano Series

Boris Giltburg PIANO

Beethoven Piano Sonata in F minor Op. 2 No. 1 • Piano Sonata in C major Op. 2 No. 3 • Piano Sonata in C minor Op. 10 No. 1 • Piano Sonata in Eb major Op. 7 • Piano Sonata in C minor Op. 13 'Pathétique'

borisgiltburg.com

Thu 27 February 7.00pm £15 (£10)



Polina Sosnin

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

#### **POLINA SOSNINA**

Polina Sosnina ORGAN

Bach Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV547 Franck Prélude, Fugue and Variation Vierne Symphony No. 3 in F# minor Op. 28

Thu 5 March 1.05pm

£10. YF

#### **CELEBRATING THE KODÁLY LEGACY**

**Combined School Choirs** László Norbert Nemes. Douglas Coombes MBE & Esther Vitö Hargittai CONDUCTOR

Kodály Pange lingua, Wainamoinen makes music and Esti dal Bárdos Zsello zug Zsófia Tallér New commission Douglas Coombes New commission

Fri 6 March 7.00pm

£20, £15, £10



London Mozart Players © Kevin Day

#### **HOWARD** SHELLEY'S 70th BIRTHDAY -**CELEBRATING** WITH BEETHOVEN

**London Mozart Players** Howard Shelley PIANO/DIRECTOR

Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 2 in Bb Op. 19 • Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Op. 15

londonmozartplayers.com

Sun 8 March 3.00pm

£45 (3 concerts), £32 (2 concerts), £20 (1 concert)

#### **HOWARD** SHELLEY'S 70th BIRTHDAY -**CELEBRATING** WITH BEETHOVEN

**London Mozart Players** Howard Shelley PIANO/DIRECTOR

Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor Op. 37 • Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Op. 58

londonmozartplayers.com

#### Sun 8 March 5.00pm

£45 (3 concerts), £32 (2 concerts). £20 (1 concert)

#### **HOWARD** SHELLEY'S 70th BIRTHDAY -**CELEBRATING** WITH BEETHOVEN

**London Mozart Players** Howard Shelley PIANO/DIRECTOR

Beethoven Piano concerto No. 5 in Eb Op. 73 'Emperor'

londonmozartplayers.com

#### Sun 8 March 7.30pm

£45 (3 concerts), £32 (2 concerts). £20 (1 concert)



#### SHAKESPEARE -**A DANCE** IN THE PLAY OF **JULIUS CAESAR**

Dramma per Musica Rory Carver TENOR Jonatan Bougt THEORBO Harry Buckoke VIOLA DA GAMBA

Music by Purcell, Johnson, Lawes, Hume, Morley, Ravenscroft, Butler, Wilson and Boleyn.

Thu 12 March 1.05pm £10. YF

Box Office 020 7222 1061 Box Office 020 7222 1061 8

### **MARCH**





Stephen Bryant VIOLIN Michael Seal CONDUCTOR

Bernstein Candide Overture Korngold Violin Concerto Shostakovich Symphony No. 11

kso.org.uk

Sat 14 March 7.30pm £18.50 (£14), £14

#### **RUSH HOUR RECITAL**

Bechstein Piano Series

Luka Okros PIANO

Beethoven Piano Sonata in C# minor Op. 27 No. 2 'Moonlight' Brahms Intermezzo No. 3 Op. 117 Schumann Fantasie Op. 17

lukaokros.com

Mon 16 March 7.00pm £15 (£10)

Catherine Wyn-Rogers

#### **BEETHOVEN** TRANSFORMED II

**Boxwood & Brass** 

Beethoven Sextet Op. 71 Beethoven arr. Anon Sonata Pathétique [a 9]

boxwoodandbrass.co.uk

Thu 19 March 1.05pm £10. YF

#### YOUNG **MUSICIANS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Catherine Wyn-Rogers MEZZO SOPRANO

James Blair CONDUCTOR

Wagner The Flying Dutchman Overture WWV63 Elgar Sea Pictures Op. 37 Strauss An Alpine Symphony Op. 64

ymso.org.uk

Wed 18 March 7.30pm

£20 (£16), £15 (£12), £10 (£8)

#### **ENGLISH YOUNG ARTISTS' SINFONIA**

Paloma So VIOLIN Robert Pepper CONDUCTOR

Mozart Overture to 'The Marriage of Figaro' K492 Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto in D Op. 35 Elgar Variations on an Original Theme Op. 36 'Enigma'

englishschoolsorchestra.org/EYAS

Fri 20 March 7.30pm £15 (£10)



#### **ANTON** BRUCKNER CHOIR

**London Mozart Players** Catriona Hewitson SOPRANO Rebecca Barry MEZZO SOPRANO James Hall COUNTERTENOR Nick Pritchard TENOR Philip Tebb BASS Christopher Dawe CONDUCTOR

Bach Magnificat in D BWV243 Mozart Requiem in D minor K626

antonbrucknerchoir.org londonmozartplayers.com

Sat 21 March 7.30pm £32 (£30), £28 (£26), £24 (£22), £18 (£16)

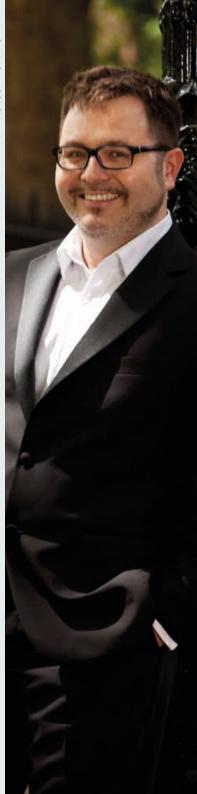
#### **EARLY OPERA** COMPANY

#### London Handel Festival

**Anna Stephany SERSE** Mary Bevan ATALANTA Anna Devin ROMILDA Edward Grint ELVIRO Hilary Summers AMASTRE Patrick Terry ARSAMENE Callum Thorpe ARIODATE Christian Curnyn DIRECTOR

Handel Serse earlyopera.com

Wed 25 March 7.00pm £59, £49, £39, £25, £19



### **MARCH**



English Baroque Choir



Alexander Soares © Mark Gimson

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

## ALEXANDER SOARES

Alexander Soares PIANO

Sir Harrison Birtwistle Harrison's Clocks Beethoven Piano Sonata

in Ab Op. 110

alexander-soares.com

Thu 26 March 1.05pm £10. YF

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#### CHANDOS CHAMBER CHOIR

Monteverdi Vespers

His Majestys Sagbutts & Cornetts
James Davey CONDUCTOR

Monteverdi Vespers

chandoschamberchoir.org.uk

**Thu 26 March 7.30pm** £25, £20, £15, £10

#### GREAT MASTERS – HAYDN, BACH & MOZART

English Baroque Choir Musica Poetica Jeremy Jackman CONDUCTOR

Mozart Venite Populi K260 Bach Cantata 'Nach dir, Herr, verlanget mich' BWV150 Haydn Stabat Mater Hob. XXa:1

ebc.org.uk musicapoetica.co.uk

**Sat 28 March 7.30pm** £29, £24, £18, £11

## **APRIL**



Catherine Ennis

#### THURSDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

#### **CATHERINE ENNIS**

#### Organ Series

Catherine Ennis ORGAN

David Matthews Solothurn- Band of angels Scheidemann Angelus ad

virginem
Bach Canonic Variations on
'Von Himmel hoch' BWV679

'Von Himmel hoch' BWV679
Elgar arr. Brewer 'Angels'
farewell', from 'The Dream of
Gerontius'

Messiaen 'Les anges', from 'La nativité du seigneur' Judith Bingham St. Bride, assisted by angels

Charpentier L'ange à la trompette

Thu 2 April 1.05pm £10, YF

#### **POLYPHONY**

#### Holy Week Festival

Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment Robert Murray EVANGELIST Neal Davies CHRIST Mary Bevan SOPRANO Iestyn Davies ALTO Ruairi Bowen TENOR Ashley Riches BASS Stephen Layton DIRECTOR

Bach St John Passion

stephenlayton.com/polyphony

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Fri 10 April 2.30pm £60. £50. £40. £25

#### LONDON MOZART PLAYERS

#### Piano Explored

Howard Shelley PIANO/DIRECTOR

**Mozart** Piano Concerto No. 2 in Eb Op. 25

london mozart players.com

Wed 1 April 1.05pm £16 (Students £5)

Box Office **020 7222 1061**Box Office **020 7222 1061** 

#### **HOLY WEEK**

For the full festival programme please check online at www.sjss.org.uk from Fri 1 November 2019

Sun 5 - Sat 11 April 2020

I'm delighted to welcome you to Tenebrae's fourth annual Holy Week Festival, curated in partnership with St John's Smith Square. Since the festival began in 2017 we have been lucky to work with some truly inspiring artists, including ensembles of worldwide renown as well as wonderful emerging talent, and this year is no exception. In particular, it has been a long-held dream of mine to invite the King's Singers, with whom I spent a happy six years performing all over the world. I'm thrilled that they will be performing here at St John's Smith Square on Sunday 5 April, and I hope that you will enjoy their programme of music for Palm Sunday. Other festival highlights include welcome returns from both The Tallis Scholars and Polyphony, and Bach's iconic B Minor Mass, performed by Armonico Consort in their festival debut on Easter Sunday.

The festival's raison d'être is to provide 'A moment of stillness in the heart of the City'. In the first instance this was a response to my own experience as a working musician during Holy Week, rushing from one side of London to the other and missing out completely on that vital spirit of reflection. In 2020 we are expanding on this central ethos to introduce a new focus on mental health and wellbeing. This year's festival will include two pre-concert discussions, the first focusing on music as an expression of grief and the second concerning Christopher Smart, who wrote the astonishing text of Britten's Rejoice in the Lamb while confined in St Luke's Hospital for Lunatics during the 18th Century. We are also pleased that the wonderful chamber choir Siglo de Oro will be performing a reflective concert preceded by a guided meditation, which I hope will help you to experience this beautiful music in a new and fulfilling way.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the course of the festival, and I hope you will all find something to inspire you over the course of Holy Week.

**Nigel Short** Director, Tenebrae



### **SCHOOL CONCERTS**



James Allen's Girls' School Orchestra © Andy Newbold

#### WYCOMBE ABBEY SCHOOL

Symphony Orchestra
Chamber Orchestra
Sinfonia
Isabel Winter FLUTE
Nicole Tung PIANO
Chloe Shieh PIANO
Stefan Reid & Sarah McClure CONDUCTOR

Debussy Petite Suite Mozart Piano Concerto in A K488 (1st movement) Chopin Piano Concert No. 2 (2nd movement) Gianella Flute Concerto in D minor (1st movement) Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings

wycombeabbey.com

Thu 13 February 7.00pm

£20, £15, £10

#### ST PAUL'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

Symphony Orchestra Chamber Orchestra Paulina Voices

Holst Lord who has made us for thine own Kevin A. Memley There will come soft rains Ola Gjeilo The Rose Alan Bullard Song to the Moon Gardner A Shakespeare Sequence David Bednall Let all the world in every corner sing

spgs.org

Sun 15 March 6.00pm

£10 (£8)

#### LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL

Latymer Upper School Orchestra & Choir Isaac Harari MARIMBA Lilly Vadaneaux PIANO Tony Henwood CONDUCTOR

Sergei Golovko The Russian Marimba Concerto (Ist movement) Finzi Eclogue Op. 10 Bach Concerto for two pianos and strings BWV1060 Ronald Corp An Essex Posy

latymer-upper.org

Thu 19 March 7.30pm

£15 (£10)

## JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

JAGS - Choral and Orchestral Concert

Programme to include: Reinecke Flute Concerto Op. 283 Vaughan Williams Toward the Unknown Region

jags.org.uk

£16, £13

Sun 22 March 6.00pm

**SUPPORT US** 

## **OUR HISTORY**

#### FRIENDS AND PATRONS EXPERIENCE MORE

Be at the heart of the audience at St John's Smith Square, and enjoy a range of benefits in recognition of your support.

As a Friend or Patron of St John's Smith Square, you are directly helping us to:

- Support world-class national and international artists
- Nurture emerging musical talent
- Encourage music-making within the local community
- Maintain and care for the heritage of a Grade I listed building

#### **ALL OUR SUPPORTERS RECEIVE:**

- ◆ 10% off standard tickets via our Box Office (two per event)
- Season brochure
- Supporters newsletters, including advance information about concerts and events
- An exclusive invitation to the Annual Friends and Patrons' Reception
- Priority booking
- Other offers and promotions

#### **PATRON**

£150, or £140 annual direct debit, or only £12.50 monthly direct debit:

Enjoy a host of benefits including priority booking (7 days ahead of general booking), free entry to our Thursday Lunchtime Concerts for you and a guest, invitations to special events and much more.

#### **FRIEND**

£45, or £40 annual direct debit, or only £3.75 monthly direct debit:

Be a Friend and get priority booking (3 days ahead of general booking), receive 10 ticket vouchers to our Thursday Lunchtime Concerts, reduced booking fee and much more.

To join, phone the Box Office on **020 7222 1061** or sign up online at **sjss.org.uk/support-us** 

#### LEGACY GIFTS AND GIFTS IN MEMORY

Whether you wish to honour a loved one or consider pledging a gift in your own will, you can help St John's Smith Square (Registered Charity No. 1045390) continue to build on 300 years of history.

To discuss the difference you wish to make, contact Richard Heason, Director, on 020 7222 2168, or richard@sjss.org.uk

More information sjss.org.uk/legacies

#### **BE A CORPORATE MEMBER**

A host of opportunities exist for your company to get involved with St John's Smith Square. From entertaining guests in its exceptional setting to sponsoring a festival or a community programme – these are just some

of the ways your business can help to build on 300 years of history, support the arts, and most importantly, the local community.

More information sjss.org.uk/corporate

#### **EXPLORE OVER 300 YEARS OF HISTORY**

The magnificent church of St John the Evangelist was designed by architect Thomas Archer as part of the 'Commission for Building Fifty New Churches' of 1710. St John's was the most elaborate of all, with construction lasting 14 years, from 1714 to 1728, and costing the princely sum of £40,875 (approximately £5.2m today).

For over 200 years, St John's served as a parish church, though not without incident. In 1742 a major fire led to extensive restoration and modification to Archer's design. In 1815 the church was struck by lightning, causing subsidence to the towers, and in the early twentieth century it was the target of a Suffragette bomb plot. Ironically, in 1928, the church hosted Emmeline Pankhurst's funeral.

Perhaps heralding the future musical life of St John's, in September 1901 Edith Hockey and Robert Britten were married here. Twelve years later, they had a son, Benjamin, who as an adult would record here with the Wandsworth School Boys' Choir.

Perhaps the most dramatic night in St John's history was 10 May 1941, the final night of the Blitz, when a direct hit from an incendiary bomb gutted the church. After the war it lay as a ruin and there was talk of turning the site into a car park. This galvanised the local people, under the leadership of Lady Parker of Waddington, to raise the funds to buy the site and commission Marshall Sisson to lead the restoration to Archer's original designs.

When the work was completed in 1969, St John's Smith Square was re-born as one of the finest concert halls in London.

Our grand opening concert was given by Joan Sutherland and Richard Bonynge (who returned in 1989 for our 20th birthday gala). There have been many other highlights over the years – the UK premiere of Karlheinz Stockhausen's Stimmung (with Stockhausen himself on sound projection): world premieres of works by Boulez, Birtwistle, Copland and Tippett by the London Sinfonietta; William Walton conducting his own 70th birthday concert; Pierre Boulez and Daniel Barenboim conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra; an 84-year-old Sir Adrian Boult conducting the English National Orchestra; and Morton Feldman performing alongside Harrison Birtwistle and John Tilbury for BBC Radio.

We've also hosted the Menuhin School Concert, featuring students Nigel Kennedy and Melvin Tan; a 21-year-old Simon Rattle with the Salomon Orchestra; Plácido Domingo, Teresa Berganza and Ileana Cotrubaş recording Bizet's *Carmen* with Claudio Abbado and the London Symphony Orchestra; Philip Glass giving a chamber organ recital, and Lutosławski conducting the Philharmonia in the London premiere of his second Symphony.

Now in our 305<sup>th</sup> year, St John's Smith Square continues to grow and thrive as a busy concert hall – a majestic building resounding to beautiful music in a serene city setting.

#### **DONATE TO ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE**

Each year, we need to raise £250,000 to deliver our artistic and community programme and maintain our heritage as a Grade I listed building.

To make a one-off gift, or to discuss how you would like to support a specific concert, festival or artistic programme, contact us on **020 7222 2168**, or email **fundraising@sjss.org.uk**. More information at **sjss.org.uk/donations** 

#### **BOOKING INFORMATION**

#### **BUYING TICKETS**

#### **PHONE**

**020 7222 1061 Monday to Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm**£2.75 booking fee applies

#### **ONLINE**

**sjss.org.uk** £1.75 booking fee applies

#### **IN PERSON**

Monday to Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm (until 6.00pm on public concert days). The Box Office opens one hour before the start of Weekend and Bank Holiday concerts.

#### **POST**

#### Box Office, St John's Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Cheques should be made payable to St John's Smith Square.

#### **ON-SALE DATES**

#### Spring

Patrons booking: Mon 28 October 2019 Friends booking: Fri 1 November 2019 General booking: Mon 4 November 2019

#### YOUNG FRIENDS SCHEME (UNDER 30S)

- £5 tickets to concerts marked 'YF' such as Thursday Lunchtime Concerts
- Exclusive targeted discounts

Sign up for FREE: sjss.org.uk/young-friends



St John's Smith Square is a member of the British Association of Concert Halls and the British Arts Festivals Association; an Affiliate Member of the Association of British Orchestras, and a member of Réseau Européen de Musique Ancienne (European Early Music Network).

#### **CONCESSIONS AND REDUCTIONS**

Concession prices are indicated in parentheses. These tickets are available for many of our concerts to senior citizens, full-time students, registered unemployed, school children (under 16) and people who are registered disabled.

Westminster CitySave card holders are entitled to a 10% discount on a pair of tickets for any public concert.

Parties of ten or more qualify for a 10% discount.

#### **ACCESSIBILITY**

If you have access requirements, please inform our Box Office staff when booking your tickets to help us provide you with the best possible service and choice of seats. We allocate an additional seat free of charge to disabled patrons who require a carer to accompany them.

#### PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH WITH US ONLINE

Join the conversation!

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#### Please Note

We may need to substitute artists and to vary our concert programmes from the published information without warning. Latecomers are admitted only at a suitable pause in the concert, as advised by the concert promoter. Please note that tickets may not be refunded but may be exchanged up to 48 hours before the performance, which will incur a £2 administration fee per ticket.

#### **HOW TO FIND US**

#### **YOUR VISIT**

St John's Smith Square is just off Millbank between Westminster and Lambeth Bridges, close to the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey, and a short walk from Westminster tube station.

#### **O** TUBE

Westminster, St James's Park & Victoria

#### **O** BUS

3 and 87 to Horseferry Road C10 and 507 (limited hours) to Millbank 88 to Horseferry Road 11, 211, 148 and 24 to Westminster Abbey

#### **№ SANTANDER CYCLES**

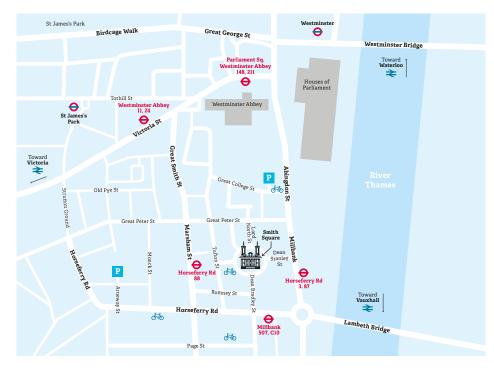
A docking station is located in Smith Square and there are also stations on Horseferry Road, Page Street and Great College Street.

#### CAR PARKING

St John's Smith Square is within the congestion charging zone. Parking meters are in operation during the day Monday – Friday until 6.30pm. In the evenings and at weekends there are usually ample spaces locally. There is Westminster City Council car parking on Great College Street and Arneway Street.

#### **₹ RAIL**

Victoria, Waterloo, Vauxhall & Charing Cross



18 Box Office **020 7222 1061** Box Office **020 7222 1061** 19

#### FOOTSTOOL RESTAURANT

#### **EXPERIENCE FINE DINING**

Nestled beneath the Hall under the vaulted ceiling of the crypt, the Footstool Restaurant is an elegant and cosy place to enjoy everything from a delicious snack or light meal, to a sumptuous lunch or dinner.

All our food is freshly prepared by our talented chefs using locally-sourced, seasonal ingredients.

Indulge in fine loose leaf tea and homemade cake; choose from our enticing daily buffet menu; dine à la carte before a concert; or enjoy a glass of wine and a grazing board during the interval. Our friendly staff will be on hand, whatever you choose.

Legend has it the church of St John's was dubbed 'Queen Anne's Footstool' after architect Thomas Archer asked Queen Anne for her view on how it should look. Kicking over her footstool she replied "like that!" The four towers are said to mimic the upturned footstool. The restaurant keeps this charming nickname alive.

The Footstool Restaurant takes à la carte reservations for lunchtime and evening service, buffet bookings for groups of ten or more, and caters for private events.

To book, or to find out more, call us on 020 7222 2779 or email stjohns@leafi.co.uk







#### THANK YOU

#### St John's Smith Square is very grateful to its supporters who so generously contribute towards our work.

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