The London Festival of Contemporary Church Music

Friday 17 May 2024, 5.30pm St Pancras Parish Church

"Cymbals and Dances"

London Contemporary Dance School (The Place) Martyn Noble *organ* Dance interpretations of contemporary organ works submitted to the Festival's "Call for Scores" incubation project

I

Derri Joseph Lewis Lifelight

Davide Mutti Prelude on the "Easter Hymn"

Nigel Poole Meditation on "Monk's Gate"

II

Brian Inglis Toccata

Brian Inglis Ite Missa Est

Peter Smith Partita on "O Worship the King"

III

Phillip Cooke Three Meditations

I. Jesu, dulcis memoria

II. Christus vincit III. Salve Regina

Peter Smith Fantasia on "Come Ye Faithful"

Jenni Pinnock Moto Repetitivo

IV

Lucinda Bell Canadian Geese Toccata

Jenni Pinnock Study in Five

Irina G Popov Introit on "St. Denio"

 \mathbf{V}

Nigel Poole Toccata

This innovative event takes a journey into the world of music and movement, adding a fascinating new dimension to the traditional organ recital. Today's performance is the culmination of an exciting collaboration between dancers from London Contemporary Dance School at The Place, located immediately across from St Pancras Parish Church on Duke's Road, and organist Martyn Noble, acting Director of Music at His Majesty's Chapel Royal, St James's Palace.

Each year the Festival holds its "Call for Scores" incubation project, an open submission process for choral and organ music to be performed at forthcoming Festivals. Earlier this year, Martyn recorded a selection of contemporary organ pieces, including several submitted to the most recent "Call for Scores". These recordings were passed on to five student-led groups of dancers who selected specific pieces they wanted to interpret and then spent several weeks designing, choreographing, and rehearsing new dance works to match the music.

Additional solo organ pieces are placed between the dance items. *Lifelight* by Derri Joseph Lewis, *Ite Missa Est* by Brian Inglis, *Moto Repetitivo* and *Study in Five* by Jenni Pinnock receive their premiere performances at this recital, while *Three Meditations* by Phillip Cooke receives its London premiere.

Notes on Dance Interpretations

I. Lifelight

Performers Elfin Bonome Evie Longstaff
Choreographers Company Sixth (Rebecca Dodd, Elina Wates)

Our work, set to *Lifelight* by Derri Joseph Lewis, is danced by Elfin Bonome and Evie Longstaff. A Company Sixth project, by Rebecca Dodd and Elina Wates.

Crack the egg – The bag – Normal speed – Slow speed – Crabby – Open gate – Close gate – Rowboat – Slow dance

II. Toccata

Choreographers and performers Leila Nardone Cala Molinos

Inspired by the *Toccata* by Brian Inglis, this piece explores the beauty, the rawness, the ugliness, and the power of female connection.

III. Three Meditations

Choreographer and performer Alma Kremnitzer

Inspired by the ethereal and dream-like quality of Phillip Cooke's *Three Meditations*, my piece explores the feeling of waking up and discovering the sensation in your body all over again, as if for the first time.

IV. Dear America

Performers Anna Heinemann Neus Martí Gimeno Kamilla Kalman
Choreographer Lilia Rowe

Set to *Canadian Geese Toccata* by Lucinda Bell, *Dear America* reframes the concept of peace and love, reiterating the need for its unconditional presence in our world – now, and forever.

V. Melding, breaking

Choreographers and performers Bella Gaynor Elina Saryazdi

This duet is a melding of styles and backgrounds, playfully choreographed to *Toccata* by Nigel Poole. When hearing this music for the first time, it instantly inspired joy and a desire to move, and we wanted to embody this feeling within the choreography. Creating this piece was so much fun and we aim to share this light-heartedness with the audience, while complementing the music.

Biographies

Martyn Noble

Martyn is currently Acting Director of Music at HM Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace after spending nine years as the chapel's Sub-Organist. He is also Teacher of Organ at the Royal College of Music Junior Department, which currently boasts a department of 11 promising young organists, and Musician-in-Residence at Highgate School.

As part of his role at HM Chapel Royal, this year Martyn has conducted for the National Service of Remembrance, the annual Royal Maundy service in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen and collaboratively with St Thomas's Church, Fifth Avenue, New York City. He has given recitals in Buckingham, Hampton Court and St. James's Palaces, Westminster Abbey, Canterbury and St Paul's Cathedrals and, in February 2020, he had his debut with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra where he performed Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* at the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir.

In 2023, Martyn gave the opening recital at Himmerod Abbey's Orgelsommer in Germany; in 2018, he was fortunate enough to play for the UK tour of *Miss Saigon* in Bradford, Plymouth, and Norwich. This summer will be his fourth appearance as a répétiteur and Vocal Coach for Sherborne's Summer School of Music and he will be continuing his annual playing of Evensong in the Hooglandsekerk in Leiden, The Netherlands.

Martyn graduated with a first class Bachelor of Music degree from London's Royal College of Music in 2015 and has completed his Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists (FRCO) and Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music (LRSM) diplomas in Organ Performance in 2023 and 2011 respectively. Martyn has appeared live on BBC Radios 3 and 4 and has recorded for Novello, Boosey & Hawkes, and for choral CDs with Priory and Signum records. He also plays annually for

Classic FM's broadcast of Carols from Buckingham Palace, which airs immediately after HM The King's speech on Christmas Day; 2023 was his first time organising and directing the choir for it.

As a composer, Martyn has composed several choral works which are published by Chichester Music Press. His pieces have been premiered at Exeter University, the Royal College of Music, Hooglandse Kerk in Leiden, and as part of The London Festival of Contemporary Church Music.

Company Sixth

Founded in June 2023, Company Sixth is a movement collective run by Rebecca Dodd and Elina Wates. We are currently students at London Contemporary Dance School who love seeing where our minds meet and how they collaborate to create explorative and unique pieces. Find us on Instagram @companysixth or email us at company6th@gmail.com.

Lilia Rowe

Lilia Rowe is a London based, multi-disciplinary artist centering her work around choreography, literature, and performance amongst other mediums. Aiming to encourage curiosity and change within modern society, Lilia's work often reflects current affairs and ongoing global issues, with the particular choreographic work featured in this performance focusing on the need for peace and love in today's turbulent landscape.

The London Festival of Contemporary Church Music

The London Festival of Contemporary Church Music was founded by Christopher Batchelor in 2002 with the aim of showcasing contemporary liturgical music in both service and concert. Now more than 20 years old, the LFCCM has grown to include nearly 60 events, dozens of composers, hundreds of performers, and thousands of audience members, both live and online.

Make the LFCCM part of your Legacy

Artistic groups across the United Kingdom have seen funding cuts and financial pressures since the global coronavirus pandemic. In the face of challenges like these, the secure future of classical music in this country can no longer be taken for granted.

The LFCCM's endowment fund ensures the Festival's ongoing financial security and independence for generations to come. Your lasting legacy will be reflected in new commissions, live performances, educational programmes, and supporting the development of church music in perpetuity.

Find out more at lfccm.com/support/legacy, or write to legacy@lfccm.com.

More events this week at The London Festival of Contemporary Church Music

Saturday 18 May

"The Hunt of the Unicorn":

7.30pm

Concert at St George's Bloomsbury, WC1A 2SA This event is ticketed. Book online at lfccm.com/tickets

A selection of the medieval "unicorn" tapestries, portraying key moments in the life of Christ, are accompanied by contemporary sacred music from the Festival's "Call for Scores" project in this depiction of the journey from Christmas to Easter.

The Stephen Dodgson Charitable Trust

