



PEASMARSH CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

27-30 June 2019

Artistic Directors

Anthony Marwood *violin*

Richard Lester *cello*

"this festival in rural Sussex has become an important fixture, with world-class instrumentalists delivering repertoire with a left-field slant"

The Independent June 2018

Imaginative programming and a sense of genuine camaraderie among the world-class musicians taking up residency at this annual four-day event, are important aspects of the Festival's enduring appeal. Now in its 22nd year under the directorship of highly acclaimed musicians **Anthony Marwood** and **Richard Lester**, the Festival welcomes a roster of distinguished, hand-picked artists making their Peasmarsh debuts: two South African musicians at the top of their game, keyboard virtuoso **Kristian Bezuidenhout** and uniquely talented guitarist **Derek Gripper**, Swiss-born pianist **Gilles Vonsattel**, American cellist **Bartholomew LaFollette**, and the prizewinning young **Trio Gaspard**. Finnish violist **Lilli Maijala** and **Aurora Orchestra** make welcome return visits.

Repertoire ranges from classical Mozart and Beethoven on period instruments and Cherubini's rarely played String Quintet, to masterpieces from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, including Schubert's late, great 'Cello' Quintet, Piano Trios from Haydn, Saint-Saëns and Ravel, Fauré's Piano Quartet and Elliott Carter's String Trio, as well as Schoenberg's infamous Chamber Symphony No 1 (arr. Webern).

The majority of concerts take place in Peasmarsh's secluded Norman Church of St Peter and St Paul, with the exception of one orchestral concert at the historic St Mary's Church in nearby Rye: celebrated **Aurora Orchestra** under the baton of young British conductor **Geoffrey Paterson** in a programme featuring three masterpieces of the 20th Century, including Elgar's Cello Concerto and Vaughan Williams' *The Lark Ascending*.

Programmes of ingenuity and rarity are standard at the Saturday late night concerts and this year's look at the 'the birth of the blues' is no exception. Guitarist **Derek Gripper** specialises in the musical history of Mali and has transcribed a considerable number of pieces for guitar as well as other modern instruments. With Marwood, Lester and other festival artists he leads an exploration of the Manding Empire's classic composition *Poyi*, reputed to be the origin of the blues style and generative of much of West Africa's later repertoire. Gripper makes appearances in other concerts too – in his own inimitable style.

Peasmarsh Festival is also committed to working with local primary schools and young people who are given the opportunity to compose as well as perform, under the directorship of inspired amateur, composer and cellist **Sam Glazer**. The results of their workshops are showcased at a free afternoon concert with Aurora Orchestra and free pop-up concerts (venue and details tba).

Further information or review tickets contact:

Anna Rowe Festival Manager

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Event: Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival
Dates: Thursday 27th – Sunday 30th June 2019
Venues: Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh, East Sussex, TN31 6XS
St Mary's Church, Church Square, Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7HF

Box Office: T. +44 (0) 1797 253 178 E. peasmarshboxoffice@gmail.com
Tickets: £16 - £30
Website: www.peasmarshfestival.co.uk

Anthony Marwood <http://www.anthonymarwood.com>
Richard Lester <https://www.facebook.com/rich.rdlester/>
Kristian Bezuidenhout <http://kristianbezuidenhout.com>
Derek Gripper <https://www.derekgripper.com>
Bartholomew LaFollette <http://www.bartholomew-lafollette.com>
Lilli Maijala <https://peasmarshfestival.co.uk/festival/2019-festival-guest-artists/>
Trio Gaspard <https://www.triogaspard.com/en>
Gilles Vonsattel <https://www.gillesvonsattel.com>
Aurora Orchestra <https://www.auroraorchestra.com>
Geoffrey Paterson <https://geoffreypaterson.co.uk>
Sam Glazer <https://peasmarshfestival.co.uk/festival/2019-festival-guest-artists/>

Artist biographies are also available on the Festival website www.peasmarshfestival.co.uk

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