

A large, stylized number '2025' is positioned on the left side of the image. The digits are thick and blocky, with a slight 3D effect. The colors are: '2' is yellow, '0' is orange, '2' is red, '5' is pink, '0' is purple, '2' is blue, '5' is teal, and '5' is green. The numbers are stacked vertically, with the '2' at the top and the '5' at the bottom.

PEASMARSH
CHAMBER
MUSIC
FESTIVAL

27-30 JUNE 2024

Anthony Marwood MBE violin
Richard Lester cello
CO-DIRECTORS

'Peasmarsh, in late June, is a magical festival'
Sir David Hare **THE OBSERVER**

'Olympian-calibre.... Marwood's violin dug deep through double stops and soared high with angelic resonance'
BOSTON GLOBE on Anthony Marwood

'The playing and interpretation are perfection; every note, every phrase, every balance is beyond criticism'
FANFARE MAGAZINE on Richard Lester

WELCOME TO THE 2024 PEASMARSH CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL!

It is always a joy to share the planned Festival programme with our audience each year. As ever, we have a superlative group of artists joining us; this year our guests are pianists Alasdair Beatson and Chaeyoung Park, violist Eivind Ringstad, violinist Pablo Hernán Benedí and the award-winning Barbican Quartet. Those of you who were with us last year will recall the fantastic performance with Britten Sinfonia, and we are thrilled therefore to welcome the orchestra back to the Festival this summer.

Our programme this year includes works by familiar composers such as Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Dvořák and Brahms, with some wonderful but less well known works by Mieczysław Weinberg, Florence Price and Ligeti.

As always we are delighted to be working with five local primary schools, bringing inspiring compositional workshops to 150 children.

We look forward to welcoming you to this very special season of concerts in June and to sharing our Festival with audiences old and new. We hope there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

1 FESTIVAL OPENING

Thursday 27 June, 8pm

Anthony Marwood, Richard Lester, Alasdair Beatson, Pablo Hernán Benedí, Chaeyoung Park, Eivind Ringstad, Barbican Quartet

Mozart Quintet in Eb major, K.452 (arranged for piano quartet)
Berg String Quartet, Op. 3
Beethoven Violin Sonata in A major, Op. 47 'Kreutzer'

The 2024 Festival opens with some well-loved classics of the chamber repertoire, including Beethoven's emotional and volatile Kreutzer Sonata (originally dedicated to the violinist George Bridgetower and premiered in infamous circumstances), and Mozart's Quintet K452, best known as his quintet for piano and winds but first published (10 years after its premiere) in an arrangement for the more conventional line up of piano with string trio. Completing the programme is Berg's early masterpiece for string quartet - one of his only forays into the chamber music genre.

VENUE Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh

2 BARBICAN QUARTET / YOUNG COMPOSERS

Friday 28 June, 12:30 pm

Led by Sam Glazer

We are thrilled that students from Peasmarsh, Beckley, Winchelsea, Icklesham and Rye primary schools will again join us for this stellar showcase of their compositions, performed alongside the talented Barbican Quartet. The Quartet will also perform selected movements from the string quartet canon, introducing our youngest audience members to this fantastic music.

VENUE St Mary's Church, Rye



3 ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

Friday 28 June, 8pm

Anthony Marwood, Richard Lester, Peter Facer and Sarah Burnett (soloists)
Britten Sinfonia

Haydn Sinfonia Concertante in Bb major
Fauré Élégie for cello and orchestra, Op. 24
Dvořák Romance for violin and orchestra in F minor, Op. 11
Beethoven Symphony No. 1 in C major, Op. 21

We are delighted to welcome back Britten Sinfonia for a concert which traces the journey of orchestral music from Haydn's salon to the heights of the late nineteenth century. Haydn's Sinfonia Concertante was composed and premiered in London in 1792 where it was hailed as "*profound, airy, affecting, and original*". Fauré's *Élégie*, originally written for solo cello and piano, and Dvořák's *Romance* for violin and orchestra are both eloquent and gorgeous arias for these instruments. Coming full circle, the concert finishes with Beethoven's first symphony, which strongly shows the influence of his teacher Haydn on the young composer.

VENUE St Mary's Church, Rye

4 AMERICANA

Saturday 29 June, 11.30am

Anthony Marwood, Richard Lester, Alasdair Beatson,
Pablo Hernán Benedí, Kate Maloney, Chaeyoung Park,
Yoanna Prodanova, Eivind Ringstad, Christoph Slenczka

Dvořák String Quartet No. 12 in F major, Op. 96 'American'
Elliott Carter Sonata for Cello and Piano
Florence Price Quintet for Piano and Strings No.2 in A minor

American music is the focus for this morning concert, with Dvořák's famous American Quartet paired with less well-known works by US composers Elliott Carter and Florence Price. The consummate 20th century musician, Elliott Carter was born in New York in 1908 and died in the same city in 2012. He wrote of his cello sonata that "*the cellist should play Schönberg and the pianist Stravinsky at the same time*". We round off the programme with a beguiling piano quintet by the brilliant African-American composer Florence Price, whose work is regaining deserved prominence after several decades out of the spotlight.

VENUE Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh

5 EARLY EVENING CONCERT

Saturday 29 June, 6pm

Anthony Marwood, Richard Lester, Alasdair Beatson,
Pablo Hernán Benedí, Chaeyoung Park, Eivind Ringstad,
Barbican Quartet

Schubert Fantasia in F minor for piano four hands, D.940
Schumann String Quartet in A major, Op. 41 No. 3
Weinberg Piano Quintet, Op. 18

For this concert we perform fantastical works by Schubert and Schumann, with the intense and remarkable quintet by Weinberg. Schubert wrote his Fantasia for piano four hands (two players at one piano) in the last year of his life and dedicated it to his pupil Caroline Esterházy. Schumann's string quartet Op. 41 No. 3 (one of only three that Schumann wrote, in

quick succession) was also given a dedication - this time to Mendelssohn whom the younger composer had met in 1835. Polish Jewish composer Mieczysław Weinberg escaped from his homeland to the Soviet Union in 1939, where he studied at the Minsk Conservatory and later moved to Moscow and became friends with Shostakovich. His Piano Quintet, composed in 1944, is the work of a composer whose independent creative voice is revered by violinist Gidon Kremer as one of the most valuable of the 20th century.

VENUE Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh

6 AN UNBROKEN CHAIN

Saturday 29 June, 9.30pm

Anthony Marwood, Richard Lester, Alasdair Beatson,
Chaeyoung Park, Barbican Quartet

Programme includes:

Silvestrov Hommage à JSB for violin and piano
Webern Variations for piano, Op. 27'
Music by Byrd and Tallis for string quartet
Gabrielli Ricercar for solo cello

A meditative presentation of magical miniature gems, from 16th century music by English composers William Byrd and Thomas Tallis through to Valentin Silvestrov's Hommage à JSB (Johann Sebastian Bach) which was written in 2009. Anton Webern's 6 minute piece Variations is his only published work for solo piano, and is known for its atmospheric effect. The works will be performed without a break.

VENUE Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh

7 COFFEE CONCERT

Sunday 30 June, 11.30am

Alasdair Beatson, Eivind Ringstad, Barbican Quartet

Fauré Theme and Variations for solo piano, Op. 73
Hindemith Fantasy Sonata for solo viola, Op. 25 No. 1
Ravel String Quartet in F major

For Sunday morning we have a trio of works from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, starting with Fauré's Theme and Variations for solo piano which was premiered in London in 1896. Fauré's pupil Ravel wrote only one string quartet, in 1903, and it has become a much-loved staple of the repertoire. These pieces are juxtaposed by Paul Hindemith's 1922 Sonata for solo viola which demonstrates the rich texture and sonority of the viola as a solo instrument.

VENUE Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh

8 DECODING AN ENIGMA

Sunday 30 June, 4.30pm

Richard Lester, Pablo Hernán Benedí, Eivind Ringstad and
Amarins Wierdsma, with musicologist Richard Wigmore

Fauré String Quartet in E minor, Op. 121

This was Fauré's only string quartet, written shortly before his death in 1924, the composer having previously expressed trepidation about the "difficulty" of writing for these forces. We present this beautiful but elusive work in full, preceded by an illuminating introduction given by our distinguished guest speaker.

VENUE Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh

9 FINALE

Sunday 30 June, 7pm

Anthony Marwood, Richard Lester, Alasdair Beatson,
Pablo Hernán Benedí, Chaeyoung Park, Eivind Ringstad,
Barbican Quartet

Ligeti Five Pieces for piano four hands

Beethoven String Quartet in F major Op. 59 No. 1 'Razumovsky'

Schumann Piano Quintet in E flat major Op. 44

Bringing the 2024 festive to a rousing and energetic close are works by Ligeti, Beethoven and Robert Schumann. Ligeti's Five Pieces for piano four hands is suffused with Hungarian timbre and rhythm, whilst Beethoven's first 'Razumovsky' quartet famously closes with an allegro titled 'Thème Russe' in honour of the work's commissioner Prince Razumovsky. Schumann's towering piano quintet is dedicated to his wife Clara, who was supposed to perform in the premiere but fell ill and was replaced at the last minute by Mendelssohn who pronounced the piano part 'fiendish'.

VENUE Church of St Peter & St Paul, Peasmarsh



photo: Walter van Dyck



photo: Walter van Dyck

Anthony Marwood



photo: Jake Morley

Richard Lester



BOX OFFICE ENQUIRIES

telephone: 01797 253 178

email: peasmarshboxoffice@gmail.com

BOOKING PERIOD*

Monday 4 March - Friday 15 March 2024: Patrons' priority booking

Monday 18 March - Thursday 28 March 2024: Friends' priority booking

Tuesday 2 April 2024: Booking opens to the general public

***Please note tickets will be sent out in May**

BOX OFFICE

This year, for the first time, tickets can be purchased via our website www.peasmarshfestival.co.uk or by completing a paper form as in previous years. Bookings will be fulfilled in the order received. In addition, the box office is open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday and can be contacted regarding ticket availability or any enquiry about access for people with disabilities. The Festival is supported by a great team of volunteers, including our Box Office Manager so, if there is no answer, please leave a message on the answerphone and we will reply as soon as we can.

Parking near Peasmarsh church is along narrow country lanes; a small number of parking spaces will be available for those needing disabled access. Please indicate when booking if you require this.

NOTES (FOR COMPLETING A PAPER BOOKING FORM)

- When booking, please indicate the number of tickets you would like for each concert, including the total cost for each concert.
- A Festival Pass offers the top price ticket available for all concerts, giving an overall saving of £19 on the top prices shown. An adjustment will be made if top price tickets are sold out.
- If you would like to purchase a Festival Pass for the whole festival, please complete that row of the booking form only. If you are buying Festival Passes and individual tickets, please indicate the number of Festival Passes and individual tickets in the relevant boxes, as well as the total cost for each row.
- All seats are reserved.
- Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival regrets that in the event of alteration no refund can be made. The right is reserved to vary artists and programmes if necessary.
- If you find that you are unable to use your tickets, we would be grateful if you could inform the box office as we often have waiting lists for popular concerts. Refunds will only be made in the event that returned tickets are resold at full price. An administration charge of £2.00 will apply for any refund processed.
- In the event that concerts are unable to take place due to any Government mandated restrictions, a full refund will be offered.
- A limited allocation of reduced price tickets is available for recipients of Universal Credit, full-time students and ages 25 and under. Tickets are sold on a first-come-first-served basis. Please enquire at the box office for details.
- Tickets for the educational concert are free but should be reserved as capacity is limited.

ONLINE BOOKING

Online booking will open on Monday 4 March. Patrons and Friends will receive a code to access booking when their priority booking period opens. No such code will be required once general booking opens. Ticket buyers will be able to select a number of seats at a particular price, but not specific seats. Seats will continue

to be allocated by our Box Office Manager in order to distribute allocations in the churches fairly across the Festival. All tickets will be sent out in May.

VENUES

We are privileged to use wonderful historic churches as our main festival venues. Built for worship rather than as concert venues, please be aware that some seats may have a restricted view of the stage due to the pillars or quirks of the buildings. Also, pews and chairs can be hard; you are welcome to bring a cushion.

EDUCATION WORK

The Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival is committed to providing music composition workshops and performance opportunities for an expanding network of local primary schools. We are delighted that expert workshop leader and composer, Sam Glazer, will continue to work with children from Peasmarsh, Beckley, Rye, Icklesham and Winchelsea primary schools during 2024, and look forward to welcoming audience members to see and hear the fruits of their amazing journeys from workshop to performance of a new composition.

FOOD AND DRINK

As in past years, we plan to provide professionally prepared and homemade food, before Concert 1, between Concerts 5 and 6 and before Concert 9. Coffee and pastries will be available before Concert 4 and Concert 7. Further information about booking food will be sent with tickets for the appropriate concerts. We also hope to operate a licensed bar at all concerts (other than Concerts 2, 4 and 7). All catered food must be booked and paid for before the Festival. Concerts 1, 3, 5 and 9 will include an interval during which a bar will be available. All audience members are warmly invited to join us for a drink in Peasmarsh Churchyard following Concert 7 on Sunday morning.

BECOME A FRIEND OR PATRON

In Peasmarsh there exists a rare but perfect combination of people and place, essential to creating a successful festival. The support of our Friends and Patrons ensures that a vibrant, stimulating and world-class event will continue in Peasmarsh, and enables us to develop our education work with local schools, giving children a profound and engaging experience with live classical music. In return for their commitment, Friends and Patrons enjoy Priority Booking for all concerts, Friends' receptions and, depending on the level of support, opportunities to meet the artists during the Festival. If you would like more information about our Friends and Patrons schemes, and how to get involved, please contact:

Fiona Mortimore
Friends and Patrons Administrator

44 Ringmer Avenue, London SW6 5LW
email: fiona.mortimore@btinternet.com or visit our
website: www.peasmarshfestival.co.uk

ABOUT US

Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival is promoted by the Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee. The Festival is grateful to the PCCs of Peasmarsh and Rye, and the Friends of Peasmarsh Parish Church for their enormous support.

Reg company no. 4625088

Reg charity no. 1095978

BOOKING FORM

No. Total

Concerts	Festival Pass 9 concerts £205							
	Festival Programme £6							
	Price 1	No.	Price 2	No.	Price 3	No.		
1	£30		£25		-	-		
2	Free		-	-	-	-		
3	£35		£25		£18			
4	£30		£25		-	-		
5	£30		£25		-	-		
6	£22		-	-	-	-		
7	£25		£20	-	-	-		
8	£22		-	-	-	-		
9	£30		£25	-	-			
Ticket Sub Total £								
Postage								£2.00
Additional contribution to support the festival £								
Grand Total £								

Name

Address

Postcode

Daytime Tel No

Email

Please return your form to: **Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival, Strawberry Hole Oast, Ewhurst Lane, Northiam, East Sussex, TN31 6HJ.**

We would encourage payment by bank transfer (Lloyds Bank, Hammersmith Branch; Sort code: **30-93-79**; account number **17063760**; Ref: Your surname), alternatively you can include a cheque with your booking form. In order to avoid refunds or requests for additional payments, cheques should be left blank with a maximum amount entered between the crossed lines, i.e. "A sum not exceeding £x.xx". The box office manager will enter the correct amount. In the unlikely event that tickets are not available, you will be allocated the best available seats and will be reimbursed any difference in price. No tickets will be issued prior to payment being made. Please tick as applicable:

☐ I/we have paid via bank transfer made on (please insert date)

☐ I/we enclose a cheque payable to **The Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival**