

**The Stoller Hall
Chetham's Library
Chetham's School of Music**

Autumn and Winter 2019-2020

From intimate chamber music to orchestral grandeur, from folk and jazz to rock and pop ... you'll find something here to inspire you!

This autumn and winter, The Stoller Hall invites you to share in a rich programme of events across three beautiful and contrasting venues. The Stoller Hall itself is a flawless and intimate space where you can immerse yourself in live music, whilst its smaller sister the Carole Nash Hall welcomes a growing folk programme in a cosy and informal environment.

And we're delighted to be working more closely with Chetham's Library, to share their programme of literary and heritage events in Manchester's oldest surviving buildings, dating to 1421.

Prices listed include booking fees of up to £2 on all purchases.

www.stollerhall.com

0333 130 0967 (2-4pm, Monday to Friday)

Free seats available for personal assistants
Talk to us about our Access Scheme

An Evening with Richard Jobson of The Skids

Thursday 5 September, doors 7pm

Admission: £22

Meet and Greet: £49.50

Special guests Bruce and Jamie Watson of Big Country
From school punk to modern day film producer, Richard Jobson has lived a full and colourful life. Four albums as lead singer and songwriter with The Skids included hit singles such as the immortal *Into The Valley*.

Joining Richard onstage are Bruce and Jamie Watson of Big Country, who perform their own set before stepping out alongside Richard for acoustic renditions of his genre-defining back catalogue.

Chetham's Library

Daily Tours

From Monday 2 September

Weekdays at 11.30am, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Admission: £6.50-£5.50

Heritage Open Days

Monday 16 September, 11am-4pm

Admission: Free – no ticket required

Chetham's is the oldest public library in the English speaking world, and home to volumes dating back to the 13th century, including a rich collection of local, social and political history. Alongside them stands the desk at which, 30 years later, Marx and Engels met in Manchester to explore the ideas leading to *The Communist Manifesto*.

As part of Heritage Open Days 2019, enjoy free access to Chetham's Library and its surrounding courtyard. The oldest surviving buildings in Manchester include the vaulted medieval Baronial Hall, the decorative Audit Room – home to Elizabethan magus Dr Dee – and the charming, cloistered Fox Court.

Daily tours of the Library cost from £6.50-£5.50 and must be booked in advance. Check exact timings on our website.

Beethoven Piano Trios

Tuesday 17 September, 7pm

Tuesday 12 October, 7pm

Tuesday 12 November, 7pm

Carole Nash Hall

Admission: £9

£6.50 for audiences aged 65+

£3.50 for students and under 19s

In spring 2019, the 'technically brilliant' violinist Jiafeng Chen performed the entire Beethoven Violin Sonatas in the intimate setting of the Carole Nash Hall, accompanied by virtuosic pianist Jianing Kong. They return to present the complete cycle of Piano Trios over three concerts, joined by distinguished cellist Nicholas Jones, to celebrate the great composer in the autumn preceding his 250th birthday.

Happy Mum, Happy Baby Live

Saturday 21 September, doors 7pm

Admission: £24.50

Premium: £37 - enjoy a great seat and a goody bag!

Author, podcaster, presenter, YouTuber, mother and wife, Giovanna Fletcher brings her first ever *Happy Mum, Happy Baby* tour to The Stoller Hall. A delightful addition to her Sunday Times No. 1 bestselling book of the same name, the tour sees Giovanna giving her personal account of motherhood and discussing all aspects of parenthood.

Manchester Camerata

Mozart, Made in Manchester

Wednesday 25 September, 7.30pm

Admission: £37.50, 30.50, 22.50

£33.95-£19.45 for audiences aged 60+ and jobseekers

£4 for under 19s

£3 for students

MOZART

Overture to *Il ré pastore*

Symphony No. 29 in A major

Piano Concerto No. 8 in C major

Overture from *Zaide*

Piano Concerto No. 9 in E flat major, 'Jeunehomme'

Jean-Efflam Bavouzet – piano

Gábor Takács-Nagy – Music Director

Manchester Camerata and The Stoller Hall continue their ambitious shared project to perform and record Mozart's complete piano concertos and opera overtures for the first time in Manchester. Joined by a quartet of Chetham's students, the partnership between Camerata's innovative Music Director, Gábor Takács-Nagy, and pianist Jean-Efflam Bavouzet has gained effusive praise across the first three concerts in the cycle, augmented by the energy and talent of Manchester Camerata - dubbed "probably Britain's most adventurous orchestra" - and the young players at their sides.

Music for Organ and Brass

Tuesday 1 October, 7.30pm

Manchester Cathedral

Admission: £16, £11

£13-£8.50 for audiences aged 65+

£3.50 for students and under 19s

As a choirmaster, conductor, composer and organist, David Hill is renowned for his fine musicianship and his distinguished achievement across the sector.

David is joined by outstanding young brass players from Chetham's as he performs for the first time on the magnificent Stoller Organ in neighbouring Manchester Cathedral.

Hannah James and the JigDoll Ensemble

Tuesday 8 October, 8pm

Admission: £14

Hannah James has been an unmatched force of innovation in British folk for nearly two decades. Showing virtuosic talent as a singer, accordionist, composer and clog dancer.

With her talented JigDoll ensemble she uses cutting-edge looping technology with vocal, accordion and composition skill to create a multi-layered soundscape is woven onstage, providing the backdrop for James' spellbinding fusion of traditional and wholly original dance.

Brodsky Quartet with Martin Roscoe

Thursday 10 October, 7.30pm

Admission: £20, £13

£17, £11.40 for audiences aged 65+

£3.50 for students and under 19s

ELGAR

Violin Sonata in E minor

String Quartet in E minor

Piano Quintet in A minor

Since forming in 1972, the Brodsky Quartet has performed over 3000 concerts across the world. A natural curiosity and an insatiable desire to explore - the quartet stands up to perform, bringing a new brilliance to familiar pieces - guarantees energy and craftsmanship in abundance.

Citizen Cope: Heroin and Helicopters Tour

Friday 11 October, doors 7pm

Admission: £24.50

with special guest Jo Harman

American Urban-folk artist Citizen Cope has built a following organically over the years since his 2002 debut album. His songs have been covered by everyone from Carlos Santana and Sheryl Crow to Richie Havens and Rhymefest, and in the years that followed, Cope has shared stages with superstars like Eric Clapton.

Chetham's Symphony Orchestra: Petrushka

Friday 18 October, 7.30pm

Admission: £19, £16, £11

£15.40-£8.50 for audiences aged 65+, students and under 19s

Paul Mann - conductor

Yixuan Ren - violin

HINDEMITH Symphonic Metamorphoses of Themes by
Carl Maria von Weber

TCHAIKOVSKY Violin Concerto in D major

STRAVINSKY Petrushka

Chetham's alumnus Paul Mann – former Assistant Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra, and noted for his musicality, versatility and breadth of repertoire – conducts the School's flagship orchestra in Petrushka, Stravinsky's ballet burlesque, animating the lives and loves of a puppet trio and the revelry of Mardi Gras.

Inside the Orchestra

Saturday 12 October, 2.30pm

Admission: £6

Join CSO onstage with Tom Redmond and Paul Mann to explore this autumn's programme. How does an orchestra come together? What makes music work? What links a conductor and a puppeteer?

Festival50

joined in/joined up

Saturday 19 – Sunday 20 October

All day event

Admission: Free

Festival50 marks fifty years of learning and diversity at Chetham's with a lively weekend showcasing the region's creative spirit. Arts, educational and community groups join our celebrations to present 50 visual and performing arts responses to the Festival50 theme: joined in/joined up. Their artistic, musical and dance pieces are showcased in our unique performance and display spaces.

Sinfonia Cymru with James Crabb, accordion

Thursday 24 October, 7.30pm

Admission: 20

£17 for audiences aged 65+

£13 for under 35s

£3.50 for students and under 18s

PIAZZOLLA Libertango; Romance del Diablo; La Muerte del Angel; Aconcagua Concerto

PÄRT Fratres

VIVALDI Concerto in F major

Kalevi AHO Kolme Tangoa

A AGRI/J CARLI Desde Adentro

Sinfonia Cymru is a dynamic chamber orchestra formed of players in the early years of their professional careers, all aged under 30 and drawn from the best young musical talent across the UK.

For those of you who might think of the accordion as just a 'squeeze box', James Crabb is the man to change your mind. His playing combines technical virtuosity with the utmost musical sensitivity. The programme includes his own arrangements of Piazzolla repertoire, his speciality, alongside music by Vivaldi, Arvo Pärt and Finnish composer, Kalevi Aho.

Faking Gothic Furniture

With Manchester Gothic Festival

Tuesday 29 October, 5.30pm

Baronial Hall

Admission: Free

George Shaw (1810–76), a local lad from Uppermill, Saddleworth, was fascinated by medieval architecture, sculpture, and heraldry even as a teenager. In the 1840s this interest took a dark turn: instead of undertaking sober antiquarian studies of local families, architectural fragments, and material culture, he used his knowledge of the medieval to create mock Tudor and Elizabethan furniture for the Duke of Northumberland, the Earls of Bedford and Derby, and also Chetham's.

This lecture looks at the origins of Shaw's Gothic forgeries, and shows how harmless antiquarian enquiry turned into a business based upon deceit.

Murray McLachlan, piano

Tuesday 5 November, 7.30pm

Admission: £19

£15.40 for audiences aged 65+

£3.50 for students and under 19s

BRAHMS

Sonata No. 1 in C major, Op. 1

Sonata No. 2 in F# major, Op. 2

Sonata No. 3 in F minor, Op. 5

Murray McLachlan continues Chetham's 50th anniversary celebrations with all three of Brahms' Piano Sonatas, written within a year from 1852-53, whilst Brahms was only 19 and 20 years old. In the extensive Third Sonata Brahms draws heavily on Beethoven, with motives from the earlier composer's Fifth Symphony recurring throughout its five movements.

Northern Chamber Orchestra with Raphael Wallfisch, cello

Friday 8 November, 7.30pm

Admission: £27, £19, £13

£5.50 for students

Free for under 18s

HOLST St Paul's Suite in C major

TCHAIKOVSKY Variations on a Rococo Theme

WEINBERG Cello Concertino

SCHUBERT Symphony No. 5 in B flat major

Raphael Wallfisch, one of the most distinguished solo cellists of our time, plays Tchaikovsky's original version of the *Rococo Variations*, which marries the expressive power of the instrument with the virtuosity of its player. Raphael also gives the UK première of the concertino by Mieczysław Weinberg, a contemporary of Shostakovich; whilst the evening ends with the ever fresh Fifth Symphony by the youthful Franz Schubert.

6 Hands – 3 Guitars

Saturday 9 November, 7.30pm

Admission: £27

Six hands weave together two musical traditions, as three giants of the guitar world form a Jazz and classical supergroup. Together, John Williams, John Etheridge and Gary Ryan present a colourful and varied programme of solos, duos and trios, in a programme which has played to sold out venues across the UK.

Adam Walker, flute

Friday 15 November, 7pm

Carole Nash Hall

Admission: £6.50

£5.50 for audiences aged 65+, students and under 19s

MOZART Rondo in D major; Andante in C major

MESSIAEN Vocalise

FRANCK Sonata in A major

Nicholas Oliver piano

Adam Walker is Principal Flute of the London Symphony Orchestra, as well as an internationally celebrated soloist and chamber musician. He leads a day of performance and learning for flautists and audience members of all ages, ending with an up-close recital of flute repertoire and arrangements in the Carole Nash Hall.

Focus on Flutes

Friday 15 November, from 4pm

Masterclasses, workshop and professional training

Admission: 11

Join professional flautists from Chetham's expert staff for an early evening event, focussed on flutes of all shapes and sizes. Young musicians and amateur players are invited to a choice of participatory sessions, whilst for flute teachers, focussed professional training sessions and masterclasses look at successful methods to challenge and develop students' performance.

Sound Sums

For schools:

Friday 15 November, 10am and 11.30am

Admission: £47.50 per class

For families:

Saturday 16 November, 11am

Admission: £10

£7 for audiences aged 65+, students and under 19s

£28 for a family of 5

Figures and fractions, patterns and pulses, music, measures and multiplication ...the wonder of numbers explored through music!

This school and family event presented by our energetic and inspiring Outreach Ensemble will get you buzzing about music and numbers. If you're a young Number Whizz, bring your grown-ups along to see if they are clever enough to work out the musical clues and solve our giant number puzzle.

Chetham's Big Band

Saturday 16 November, 7.30pm

Admission: £12

£10 for audiences aged 65+, students and under 19s

The next big Jazz talent ...Chetham's Big Bands and Jazz ensembles have performed with artists including Gwilym Simcock, Mike Lovatt and Iain Ballamy, showcasing their finest ensemble and solo skills through standards of the repertoire and contemporary compositions.

Aquarelle Guitar Quartet

Tuesday 19 November, 7.30pm

Admission: £17, £15, £11

£13.80- £8.50 for audiences aged 65+

£3.50 for students and under 19s

Programme includes:

Carlos Rafael RIVERA Cumba-Quin

REINHARDT Minor Swing from *Chocolat*

Catriona McKAY The Swan

Clarice ASSAD Danças Nativas

The Aquarelle Guitar Quartet is a dynamic and innovative ensemble, formed and trained in Manchester and now recognised nationwide for its quality of performance, expansive repertoire and ground breaking work across the guitar quartet medium.

Featuring the Grammy nominated *Danças Nativas* by Clarice Assad and arrangements from much loved films, this programme draws on music from around the globe and includes many of the quartet's most popular pieces.

Manchester Collective: The Centre is Everywhere

Saturday 23 November, 8pm

Admission: £18

£11 for audiences under the age of 30

LIGETI String Quartet No. 1 'Métamorphoses
Nocturnes'

with VIVALDI Concerto Nos. 1-4 'The Four Seasons'

Edward FINNIS The Centre is Everywhere

STRAUSS Metamorphosen

Rakhi Singh - violin, Music Director

His music is a breath on the wind.

His music is light dancing on water.

His music is a lover's whisper in the dead of night.

It is both beautiful and strange.

Manchester Collective proudly present a beautiful and mysterious new work by Edmund Finnis. Alongside his "iridescent and compelling" music, the show also features an unholy mashup of Ligeti's *Métamorphoses Nocturnes* and Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, performed by Artistic Director, Rakhi Singh. It closes with Richard Strauss' devastating *Metamorphosen* - a piece of music written by an old, dying man during the last months of the Second World War. The piece is an elegy for Europe.

"Metamorphosen is a piece we've wanted to play for a long time - it's a real 'Mount Everest' for string players - and we can't wait to share it with you in this, our largest and most ambitious programme to date."

Manchester Collective

Poem of the Week with Carol Rumens

Sunday 24 November, 3pm

Chetham's Library

Admission: £8 including a complimentary drink
£6 for senior citizens, students, jobseekers and
disabled visitors

Carol Rumens' popular 'Poem of the Week' blog has been featuring in *The Guardian* for more than a dozen years. Join her and Carcanet's Michael Schmidt for a wide-ranging conversation about poetry, how to read it and how to illuminate it with commentary and context.

Fitzwilliam String Quartet

Tuesday 26 November, 7.30pm

Admission: £17, £15, £11

£13.80-£8.50 for audiences aged 65+

£3.50 for students and under 19s

SHOSTAKOVICH Quartet Movement in E flat major
MOZART String Quartet No. 19 in C major, 'Dissonance'
SHOSTAKOVICH Elegy and Polka for String Quartet
HAYDN String Quartet in D major, 'The Frog'

Having made its debut performance in 1969, the Fitzwilliam is now one of the longest established string quartets in the world. One of many highlights in its fifty year journey was a close personal association with Dmitri Shostakovich and a central role in championing his works; the great composer himself described the Fitzwilliams as his "preferred performers of my quartets".

Jennifer Pike, violin with Martin Roscoe, piano

Tuesday 3 December, 7.30pm

Admission: £19

£15.40 for audiences aged 65+

£5.50 for students and under 19s

BACEWICZ Polish Capriccio

ELGAR Violin Sonata in E minor

Jeremy PIKE Violin Sonata

RÓSCZA Variations on a Hungarian Peasant Song

Renowned for her "dazzling interpretative flair and exemplary technique," the unique artistry of Jennifer Pike has taken the musical world by storm since she won the BBC Young Musician competition aged 12, whilst studying at Chetham's.

Jennifer's interest in repertoire which shares her Polish heritage has seen her curate a three day festival at Wigmore Hall and, in early 2019, release her new album, *The Polish Violin*, to critical acclaim. In this concert she combines Eastern Europe with English idyll in Elgar's Violin Sonata, inspired by the 'wood magic' of his local Sussex woodland; and with a work written by her father, Jeremy Pike, to celebrate his own 60th birthday.

Chetham's Library: Unscripted

Thursday 5 December, 6pm

Thursday 27 February, 6pm

After the Library has closed to the public and the dust of the day has settled, the buildings come alive for a unique and magical experience. Join us for an exclusive self-guided tour through the medieval stone passages, secret staircases and richly panelled rooms as night begins to fall.

Lights will be low, shadows will be long and the air will be thick with the silence of centuries as you wander freely without a guide through this richly atmospheric space, finishing in the Baronial Hall for a glass of wine and an informal chat with staff and curators of one of the most ancient and lovely buildings in the city centre. Come with an open mind and expect some surprises.

A Christmas Carnival

Sunday 8 December, 3.30pm

Admission: £9

£7 for audiences aged 65 plus, students and under 19s

Norman COCKER Chetham's Symphony

Gerald LITTLEWOOD Psalm No. 150

SAINT-SAËNS The Carnival of the Animals

Featuring Roger Wright, Simon Wright and David Hill

Presented by Tom Redmond

On 6 December 1969, Chetham's Intermediate Orchestra performed The Carnival of the Animals. Fifty years later the school is doing it again, along with a selection of carols and instrumental works from Chetham's Christmasses through the ages.

Former students Roger Wright – now Chief Executive of Aldeburgh Music, and former Director of the BBC Proms – and his brother Simon Wright, conductor, organist and Musical Director of the Britten Singers – lead an orchestra of students past and present in a festive journey through Chetham's history, and a celebration of those visionaries who created this unique musical community half a century ago.

Paul Lewis, Piano

Thursday 12 December, 8pm

Admission: £19

£15.40 for audiences aged 65+

£3.50 for students and under 19s

BEETHOVEN 33 Variations on a Waltz by Anton Diabelli
SCHUBERT Piano Sonata in G major

Paul Lewis is internationally regarded as one of the leading musicians of his generation. A former Chetham's student, he closes the School's 50th anniversary year with a recital featuring Schubert's profound, posthumous *Piano Sonata in A minor*, and Beethoven's intricate, virtuosic *Diabelli Variations*.

The winner of numerous awards, and one of the foremost interpreters of the central European classical repertoire, Paul's interpretations range from "white hot intensity" (Independent) to the "immensely thoughtful and refined" (Guardian), demonstrating the full breadth and talent of this remarkable performer.

A Causley Christmas

Thursday 12 December, 7.30pm

Carole Nash Hall

Admission: £11

Join acclaimed folk musician Jim Causley in celebrating the Christmas season. Let him entertain you with lesser known songs from the West Country, medieval and secular carols from around the British Isles, and his own settings of moving Christmas poems. Tuck into mulled wine and mince pies in our cosy Carole Nash Hall as you enjoy a gurt dollop of festive fun, songs of over-indulgence, and a spot of panto too!

Awake Arise: A Christmas Show for our Times

Saturday 14 December, 8pm

Admission: £18

In an unmissable one-off collaboration, five of the English folk scene's most inventive artists bring you *Awake Arise - A Christmas Show For Our Times*. Celebrating the riches of our varied winter traditions, the show reflects upon the hope and resilience in music and song and the joy they can bring to all of us in the darkest season.

Award winning trio Lady Maisery have for nearly a decade produced "some of the most exquisite, thrilling vocal harmony work in the English folk scene" (Guardian). The beguiling musical partnership of Jimmy Aldridge and Sid Goldsmith complete the powerful lineup, bringing outstanding vocals, sensitive instrumentation and powerful social conscience.

The Syd Lawrence Orchestra: Mistletoe and Miller

Saturday 21 December, 7.30pm

Admission: £26

A festive Big Band spectacular, celebrating the unique voices of Glenn Miller and the Rat Pack - with a liberal sprinkling of Christmas cheer. Swing into the season of goodwill with the explosive sound of the best Big Band in the land, taking you on a sleigh ride through legendary dancehall classics all the way to Yuletide favourites.

Described as "The best band currently playing the music anywhere in the world" by BBC Radio 2's Malcolm Laycock, it's the perfect night to get you 'In the Mood' for Christmas!

Miloš Karadaglić, guitar

Wednesday 15 January, 7.30pm

Admission: £27

Firmly positioned as a leading exponent of his instrument, Miloš Karadaglić continues to top record charts and delight audiences worldwide. The first ever guitarist to have performed in solo recital at the Royal Albert Hall, where his performance saw him acclaimed as, "not only a magician, but a serious and accomplished musician" (Guardian).

A champion of both classical guitar repertoire and contemporary composers, Miloš has premièred works by Joby Talbot and Howard Shore, among many others, and his three albums have enjoyed global success.

Northern Chamber Orchestra
with Colin Currie and Elizabeth Jordan

Friday 17 January, 7.30pm

Admission: £27, £19, £13

£5.50 for students

Free for under 18s

GRIEG Praeludium from Holberg Suite

Stephen BARLOW Nocturne for Solo Clarinet, Marimba and Strings

Kurt SCHWERTSIK Now you hear me, now you don't

DELIUS Two Aquarelles

DVOŘÁK Serenade for Strings in E major

Northern Chamber Orchestra welcomes the marvellously talented Scottish percussionist, Colin Currie. He's playing an entertaining piece by contemporary Viennese composer Kurt Schwertsik, whose works are characterised by his particular exploration of tonality, musical irony and humour. Colin also partners NCO's principal clarinet, Elizabeth Jordan, in the atmospheric *Nocturne* by Stephen Barlow, who conducts the piece during the concert.

Dvořák's *Serenade*, in five movements, contains a waltz, a scherzo and one of his loveliest slow movements. The high-spirited finale eventually returns to the benign calm of the opening section, giving an arch-like structure to the whole piece. Delius' glowing harmonies and Grieg's bracing opener make up the rest of the programme.

Catrin Finch and Cimarrón

Thursday 23 January, 7.30pm

Admission: £20

Catrin Finch is a remarkable and fearless artist, one of the world's leading harp players, whose career has featured both orchestral solos and collaborations with leading world music artists including Toumani Diabate and Senegalese kora player Seckou Keita.

The six-piece Grammy-nominated Cimarrón performs joropo dance music from the cattle-rearing plains of the Orinoco, rooted in a deep tradition defined by the mestizo mixed heritage of African, Spanish and indigenous cultures, and led by harpist and composer Carlos Rojas. Fast paced and powerful, Cimarrón's music bursts with impetuous singing, amazing stomp dancing and the fierce instrumental virtuosity of strings and percussion.

A rare chance to witness a thrilling global collaboration.

Manchester Collective: Ecstatic Dances

Saturday 25 January, 8pm

Admission: £18

£11 for audiences under the age of 30

Poul Høxbro - pipes and drums

Paul Clark - composer

Poul Høxbro has been called 'the great man of small instruments'. He's an endlessly fascinating and inspiring musician - a Danish master of ancient flutes and bells, of bones and drums. Whilst he and Manchester Collective were building this show, there was a moment when they realised that this combination of instruments had literally never been heard before. The set they are presenting is all new - terrifyingly, ink-barely-dry new. Ancient music, brought vividly to life for 21st century ears.

"Full disclosure - *Ecstatic Dances* feels scary for us. New work is always frightening, mostly because until you start making it, you never really know what you're going to end up with. Fortunately, we're not particularly fond of being comfortable. Let's get risky."

Manchester Collective

Chetham's Symphony Orchestra

Friday 14 February, 7.30pm

Admission: £19, £16, £11

£15.40-£8.40 for audiences aged 65+, students and under 19s

TCHAIKOVSKY Romeo and Juliet

Keiko ABE Prism Rhapsody

BARTÓK Concerto for Orchestra

Franz Anton Krager – Conductor

Fang Zhang – Marimba

How silver-sweet sound lovers' tongues by night

Like softest music to attending ears!

Love shines through in this Valentine's Day programme by the talented young players of Chetham's Symphony Orchestra. First comes Romeo and Juliet; a musical interpretation of three key themes from the famous tale – faith, war, and love. The programme continues with a tour de force concerto for marimba, performed by 16 year old Fang Zhang. Finally, we hear Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra, a celebration of every instrument onstage and a reminiscence for the exiled composer's lost homeland.

Inside the Orchestra

Sunday 9 February, 2.30pm

Admission: £6

Take a seat onstage with Tom Redmond and CSO to discover how Tchaikovsky transformed a great love story into music.

Manchester International Gospel Festival

Sunday 16 February, 6.30pm

Admission: £16

Free to under 12s – ticket required

Amateur choirs and singers from the UK, Europe and USA come together with the dynamic Wayne Ellington – a star of *The Voice* in 2018 – for a concert that will have the whole audience clapping their hands!

Wayne leads Manchester Inspirational Voices, winners of the BBC Songs of Praise Gospel Choir of the Year 2016, as the host choir for this event. Appropriately enough, he's joined by Clinton Jordan - where Wayne sang with the Kingdom Choir at the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Jordan composed a Lullaby for their son, Archie Mountbatten-Windsor.

The culmination of the Sixth Manchester International Gospel Festival sees choirs and singers from near and far performing as individual ensembles and as a amassed choir.

Feel the vibe - it's going to be magic.

Manchester Collective: Cries and Whispers

Friday 13 March, 8pm

Admission: £18

£11 for audiences under the age of 30

WIDMANN String Quartet No. 2, 'Choralequartett'

BRITTEN String Quartet No. 1

GESUALDO Selected Madrigals

SHOSTAKOVICH String Quartet No. 8

This music will move you if you let it – it will scare you and inspire you.

There is darkness in this programme. Widmann's 'Chorale' Quartet is inspired by the seven last works of Christ on the cross – his string music is augmented by unsettling sounds of rubbing and scratching that evoke skin and bone on wood. Britten's music emerges from a mist: fragile, lost, and precious. Next appears intensely expressive and sacred music by Carlo Gesualdo, an Italian musical genius hundreds of years ahead of his time. Finally, the concert concludes with the huge emotional impact of Shostakovich's Eighth String Quartet, a biographical scream written by a man desperate to create, haunted by fear and political oppression.

Sheku Kanneh Mason and Guy Johnston

Saturday 14 March, 7.30pm

Admission: £30

£24 for audiences aged 65+, students and under 19s

BOCCHERINI Duo 'Militaire' in G major

TORTELIER 4 Pieces en forme de bis

BOCCHERINI Sonata in C minor

Emma-Ruth RICHARDS Until a Reservoir No Longer Remains (world première tour)

BOCCHERINI Sonata in A major

BARRIÈRE Sonata No. 4 in G major

GLIÈRE Selection in A major

José ELIZONDO Danzas Latinoamericanas

Jazz arrangements by Simon Parkin, featuring music by Eric Clapton, Glen Miller, Dave Brubeck and George Gershwin

Two titans of the cello playing world come together in concert.

Sixteen years apart, both Guy Johnston and Sheku Kanneh-Mason blazed into the public consciousness as standout winners of the BBC Young Musician competition.

Since their successes, both have carved out exciting performance careers as chamber musicians, soloists and recording artists exploring both classical and cutting edge repertoire.

**Northern Chamber Orchestra
with Chloë Hanslip violin**

Sunday 22 March, 3pm

Admission: £27, £19, £13

£5.50 for students

Free for under 18s

MOZART Divertimento in F major

SHOSTAKOVICH Sonata for Violin, Strings and
Percussion

HANDEL arr. MANSON Sonata

MOZART Violin Concerto No. 4 in D major

The Northern Chamber Orchestra's Artist in Association, Chloë Hanslip, returns to direct and perform in a concert of delightful string music. Mozart's captivating Salzburg divertimento opens the concert, followed by Shostakovich's violin sonata, composed for David Oistrakh on his 60th birthday. Arranged for violin, strings and percussion by violinist Mikhail Zinman, it provides a typically powerful emotional journey ending with a monumental passacaglia. After the NCO's principal double bass player and resident composer James Manson's take on Handel's violin sonata in D, Chloë ends with the 19-year-old Mozart's D major violin concerto. This has one of his most warm-hearted slow movements, an abundance of melody together with ample opportunities for the soloist to show her virtuosity.

Manchester Camerata: Where the Bee Dances

Wednesday 15 May, 7.30pm

Admission: £37.50, 30.50, 22.50

£33.95-£19.45 for audiences aged 60+ and jobseekers

£4 for under 19s

£3 for students

Dobrinka TABAKOVA Dawn

Missy MAZZOLI Violent, Violent Sea (2011)

COPLAND Appalachian Spring Suite

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS The Lark Ascending

Michael NYMAN Where the Bee Dances

Jess Gillam – saxophone

Jess Gillam is a pioneer, a Classical Brit winner and one of the most exciting saxophonists working today. Jess oversees a special programme inspired by the energy of nature, embracing the power of the sea, the ethereal beauty of sunrise, and the vibrancy of skylarks and dancing bees in spring sky. The power of the natural world is perfectly matched by Jess' talent and enthusiasm, Camerata's skilled playing and Gábor's inspirational conducting.

Manchester Collective: Voice of the Whale

Saturday 2 May, 8pm

Admission: £18

£11 for audiences under the age of 30

JOYCE *High and Low*

GROVES New Work (world première)

TAKEMITSU *Between Tides*

HAMILTON *In Beautiful May*

CRUMB *Vox Balanae*

In 1969, George Crumb heard a tape recording of undersea sounds emitted by a humpback whale. The experience never left him, and eventually inspired one of his most enigmatic pieces of music: *Vox Balanae*, or *Voice of the Whale*.

Manchester Collective also perform newly commissioned music by Alex Groves, Molly Joyce's exuberant *High and Low* for solo piano, electro-acoustic madness from Andrew Hamilton, and Toru Takemitsu's magical piano trio, *Between Tides*.

**Northern Chamber Orchestra
with Anthony Marwood violin**

Friday 15 May, 7.30pm

Admission: £27, £19, £13

£5.50 for students

Free for under 18s

James MANSON New Commission

HAYDN Symphony No. 101 in D major 'The Clock'

BEETHOVEN Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 61

Superb British violinist Anthony Marwood is equally at home playing the great concertos, chamber music and pioneering new works, and his interpretation of Beethoven's Olympian Violin Concerto in the second half is eagerly awaited. The first half features Haydn's D major symphony, the ninth of his twelve London symphonies. It has a large-scale grandeur alongside sophisticated wit and broad humour together with his inexhaustible inventiveness. The concert begins with a new piece specially composed by the Northern Chamber Orchestra's principal double bass player and resident composer, James Manson.

Manchester Collective: Enescu Octet

Saturday 20 June, 8pm

Admission: £18

£11 for audiences under the age of 30

BACH Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major

PANUFNIK Modlitwa

TENNEY Koan

TAVERNER The Lamb

ENESCU String Octet in C Major

This show moves from focused and intense works for just one instrument to the huge combined string sound of Enescu's *String Octet*; from the shape-shifting *Koan* by James Tenney to the haunting *Modlitwa*, a musical prayer by father-daughter compositional team, Andrzej and Roxanna Panufnik.

In the words of Stephen Pritchard

(Observer/Guardian/Bachtrack): "Catch it if you can – the future has arrived."