

# MUSIC WEEKEND 2021

## FRIDAY 26th MARCH

5.00 pm RECEPTION

Welcome to our (delayed) 2020 weekend at the Craiglands . Join members of the Committee for a pre-dinner drink, to renew old friendships and to meet those coming for the first time.

6.00 - 8.00 pm DINNER

8.15 pm CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

8.20 - 9.50 pm DAVID PATMORE

### **"Great days at Decca"**

Decca Records celebrated its 90th birthday in 2019. This presentation marks that landmark event by looking back at some of the major achievements of their first 90 years in both artistic and technical fields of recording. It will cover its appeal to middle of the road and popular audiences as well as to classical music lovers world wide.

## SATURDAY 27th MARCH

7.30 - 9.30 am BREAKFAST

10.30 am COFFEE/TEA AVAILABLE

11.00 am - 12.30 pm GARY MIDGLEY

### **"Art for ... Music's Sake"**

This presentation will explore how some composers have been inspired by works of art. The talk features music and, illustrated with slides, the works of art associated with their

creation. Music by Walton, Debussy, Hindemith, Reger and others will feature.

12.45 pm LUNCH

2.00 - 3.30 pm TIM LIHOREAU

### **"A day at Classic FM"**

Tim Lihoreau is the presenter of the biggest breakfast show on commercial radio and has won a multitude of awards for his radio writing and production on both sides of the Atlantic. With a degree in music from the University of Leeds, he was a professional pianist before moving into radio. Along with his wife, he runs three amateur choirs in his home village in Cambridgeshire, where they live with their three children and four pianos.

3.30 - 3.50 pm COFFEE/TEA

4.00 - 5.30 pm BRIAN NEWBOULD

### **"Schubert and the Age of Virtuosity"**

Brian will consider such questions as 'Why no (real) concerto?', 'Did Schubert nevertheless embrace virtuosity?', 'What chances of a concerto coming later if he'd lived a year or two longer?' and 'Is there such a thing as virtuosity in composition?' (with reference to creative aspirations in late Schubert).

6.00 pm DINNER

8.15 - 9.45 pm NIGEL SIMEONE

### **"British Ballet Music: A Musical Diversion"**

Sullivan and Elgar wrote ballets for special occasions, but British ballet music only began to

flourish in the 1920s when Constant Lambert and Lord Berners wrote for Diaghilev's Russian Ballet. The Camargo Society (1930-33) was responsible for Vaughan Williams's *Job* and Lambert's *Pomona* as well as the ballet version of *Façade*. But it was the foundation of the Vic-Wells Ballet in 1933 with Constant Lambert as its musical director that saw the growth in new ballets over the next thirty years by composers such as Arnold, Bliss, Britten, Walton and Lambert himself, as well as brilliant arrangements of older music by Gordon Jacob, John Lanchbery and Charles Mackerras. This programme will explore these ballets – some are well known while others are all but forgotten.

## SUNDAY 28th MARCH

7.30 - 9.30 am BREAKFAST

10.15 am COFFEE/TEA AVAILABLE

10.30 - 11.30 am PAUL CORFIELD GODFREY

### **"Recording a new work: *The Children of Húrin*"**

Paul Corfield Godfrey, FRMS National Treasurer, composed the largest work of classical music written in Wales in the twentieth century, a four-evening cycle of 'epic scenes' based on J R R Tolkien's *The Silmarillion*. In an illustrated talk, he will follow the whole process from initial inspiration to the CD release of the complete score presenting excerpts from the third instalment, *The Children of Húrin*. Reviewing the release of the first instalment, Brian Wilson of MusicWeb International described the music as "hauntingly beautiful."

## SUNDAY (Continued)

11.30 - 11.40 am SHORT BREAK

11.40 am - 12.45 pm SONG RECITAL

Three of the singers from Welsh National Opera who were involved in the recording of *The Children of Húrin* will present a recital of songs and operatic arias. They will also be available to discuss the recording project in greater detail.

1.00 pm LUNCH

2.30 - 4.00 SUE PARKER

### **"By the Side of the Silvery Sea"**

Traditional seaside holidays may have dwindled in popularity but many of us will have fond memories of sandcastles, donkey rides, rock pools and other delights. In a mainly light-hearted programme, Sue will play music that she hopes will revive some of these memories and send us home in cheerful mood.

Sue is the chair of Barnsley and Huddersfield RMSs and is a familiar presenter in Yorkshire and the Northwest, where she has been giving presentations of recorded music for nearly thirty years. Her musical tastes are very wide, with a particular interest in English music. She is an active supporter of the English Music Festival and has made a special study of the life and music of Arnold Bax.

4.00 pm Closing remarks followed by coffee/tea

4.45 approx WEEKEND CLOSE

We hope you have enjoyed the weekend  
– have a safe journey home!

## THE SPRING MUSIC WEEKEND

The origin of the weekend is twofold. There were the weekends organised nationally by the FRMS, most recently in Daventry from 2004 to 2017. Concurrently with these, the Yorkshire (later Yorkshire & Northwest) Region of the FRMS organised its own weekends, first in Scarborough and most recently in Ilkley.

After the Daventry weekends came to an end a number of the regular attenders there found a welcome at the Ilkley weekends, so when the Y&NW Region decided reluctantly to disband, the FRMS committee felt that this event was too good to lose and took on the task of organising an event for 2020, building on the excellent foundation provided by the regional organisation. In particular we acknowledge the assistance of Jim Bostwick, the former regional secretary, as a local contact providing continuity in liaison with the hotel and some of the presenters.

Then came covid-19 and firstly the event was postponed to the autumn, but even that proved impracticable. So now, almost a year late, welcome to the FRMS Music Weekend!

Weekend enquiries may be addressed to:

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## SPRING MUSIC WEEKEND 26-28 MARCH 2021



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