

MUSIC WEEKEND 2022

FRIDAY 25th 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

"CRQ Editions at 500"

Founded in 2011, CRQ Editions is dedicated to the reissue of recordings of historical and musical interest. With over 500 releases now under its belt, its founder David Patmore presents some highlights from its extensive catalogue.

SATURDAY 26th 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 GEORGE STEELE

"Introducing George Gershwin"

Gershwin showed musical talent at an early age. He started writing songs in his teens and his first big hit, *Swanee*, gave him independence and the opportunity to study composition. He sought lessons from several European composers including Ravel who declined, reputedly saying "Why be a second-rate Ravel when you can be a first-rate Gershwin?" His more substantial works include his *Rhapsody in Blue* and the opera *Porgy and Bess*, music from which will feature in this programme.

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 27th MARCH

7.30 - 9.30 am BREAKFAST

10.15 am COFFEE/TEA AVAILABLE

10.30 - 11.30 am PAUL CORFIELD GODFREY

"Anybody up for a Cycle?"

An Introduction to the Silmarillion: epic scenes after the mythology of J R R Tolkien

Paul Corfield Godfrey writes: When I completed the composition of these 'epic scenes' in 1997 I little imagined that it would take some twenty-five years before they appeared on disc. In this talk I will explain some of the background to the composition itself, and the manner in which the recordings were made and finally issued. I will be playing extracts from all four of the original sets of scenes, as well as previewing new compositional work forthcoming next year. Three of the Welsh National Opera singers featured in the recordings will then be providing

a live recital of miscellaneous items – and will be available to provide their own perspective on the whole tangled process of making a new work available on a world-wide basis.

11.30 - 11.40 am SHORT BREAK

11.40 am - 12.45 pm SONG RECITAL
We welcome the singers from Welsh National Opera to round off our Sunday morning.

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 ‘national’ weekends organised by the FRMS, latterly at Daventry, until 2017. Concurrently, the Yorkshire & Northwest Region of the FRMS organised its own weekends, most recently in Ilkley, until 2019.

After the Daventry weekends ended some of the regular attenders found a welcome at the Ilkley weekends, so when the Y&NW Region decided reluctantly to disband, the FRMS committee took on the task of organising an event for 2020, building on the foundation provided by the regional organisation. In particular we had the invaluable assistance of Jim Bostwick, the former regional secretary, as a local contact with the hotel and some of the presenters. Then came covid-19 and postponement first to October, then March 2021, but even the latter proved impracticable. So now, almost two years late, welcome to the FRMS Music Weekend! Sadly, though, some familiar faces are missing and we are particularly sad that Jim Bostwick, who died in December 2021, will not be with us..

Weekend enquiries may be addressed to:

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SPRING MUSIC WEEKEND 25-27 MARCH 2022



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