



## LANCASTER INTERNATIONAL CONCERT SERIES

[www.lancasterconcerts.co.uk](http://www.lancasterconcerts.co.uk)

We are proud to present the new, the exciting, the familiar, the entertaining, the unusual and the provocative in a wide selection of concerts and operas, ranging from the exotic and the intimate to the exhilarating and the spectacular.

## Northern Chamber Orchestra

Nicholas Ward *director* • Raphael Wallfisch *cello*

Mendelssohn	String Symphony No.10
Dvořák	Two Waltzes Op.54 Nos.1 and 4
Mozart	Adagio and Fugue K546
Janáček	Suite for Strings
Schumann	Cello Concerto in A minor (arr. by Arthur Lilienthal)

A string symphony from Mendelssohn's miraculous teenage years and a youthful suite by Janáček, bubbling with Czech tunefulness, open the International Concert Series. Dvořák orchestrated two delightful piano waltzes for an anniversary ball, while Mozart arranged his Fugue, which started out as a piano piece, to form part of this darkly fascinating instrumental work. Schumann's Cello Concerto – part virtuoso showpiece, part dreamy fantasy – is heard in an intriguing arrangement for cello and string orchestra (imagined at one time by the composer himself) and is played by one of today's most expressive cellists, Raphael Wallfisch.

'...outstanding performance, in which abundant energy and finely judged detail make compulsive listening' Gramophone

**7.30pm, Thursday 22 October 2009**

**Tickets:** £19, £16 (£15.50, £13.50 concessions) £7 Young person



Photo: Benjamin Ealovega

Meet the artist: 6.45pm

## Back to (and beyond) the Electric Palace

Psappha conducted by Nicholas Kok

Programme includes: Philip Glass's String Quartet No.3, 'Mishima'; Anna Clyne's *Fits and Starts* and *Rapture*; and a selection of five, rarely screened American 'shorts' with live musical accompaniment.

This intriguing evening exploring music and film opens with the string quartet which the 'father of minimalism' Philip Glass drew from his evocative score for the mosaic biopic about the Japanese writer Yukio Mishima. The programme continues with the lyrical instrumental writing and swirling electronic soundscapes of one of today's most exciting emerging composers, Anna Clyne. Inventive and innovative, five films which shaped American cinema are accompanied by new scores commissioned by Opera North and premiered by Psappha. The five original soundtracks – curated by Gabriel Prokofiev, grandson of Sergei Prokofiev – exploit the potential of sound and silents.



Meet the artist: 6.45pm



**7.30pm, Thursday 29 October 2009**

**Tickets:** £15.50 (£13 concessions) £7 Young person

**Please Note:** This performance is held in the Nuffield Theatre. Seating is unreserved

Supported by the Friends of Lancaster Concerts

Presented in association with Psappha

## Leopold String Trio

Isabelle van Keulen *violin* • Lawrence Power *viola* • Kate Gould *cello*

Beethoven String Trio in G major Op.9 No.1  
Bach Goldberg Variations BWV988 (arr. Sitkovetsky)

The acclaimed and award-winning Leopold String Trio applies its technical polish and musical insight to Beethoven's G major trio, a work of intense passion and riveting authority. Dmitri Sitkovetsky's ingenious arrangement of one of Bach's greatest keyboard works, a set of variations of elusive beauty and remarkable contrast, drew from the Leopolds 'a virtuosity coupled to a sensitive restraint ... a thrilling performance that cast the masterpiece in a new light' according to The Daily Telegraph.

'arguably the leading such trio in the world'  
International Record Review



Photo: Benjamin Ealovega

Meet the artist: 6.45pm

7.30pm, Thursday 5 November 2009

Tickets: £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person

## Winterreise (Winter Journey)

Andrew Foster-Williams *bass-baritone*  
Christopher Gould *piano* • Mariele Neudecker *film*

The eloquent bass Andrew Foster-Williams tackles the icy pinnacle of Schubert's songwriting career as he travels through the melancholy and compelling landscape of his great song cycle *Winterreise*. Schubert's poignant setting of Wilhelm Müller's powerful poems is presented against a backdrop of film by the acclaimed visual artist Mariele Neudecker. Shot on locations in and around Shetland, Oslo, Helsinki and St. Petersburg in the winter of 2003, the stunning imagery – captured on Neudecker's own winter journey – reflects the bleak landscape through which the singer recalls his lost love and imagines bitter mockery, isolation, despair, dreams and nightmares, including a weird encounter with a hurdy-gurdy man ('Der Leiermann').



Meet the artist: 6.45pm

Opera North

7.30pm, Thursday 12 November 2009

Tickets: £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person

Film commissioned by Opera North in association with Leeds Art Gallery

Supported by the Friends of Lancaster Concerts

# Bach Cello Suites 1

Adrian Brendel *cello*

J.S. Bach Suite No.1 in G major BWV1007  
J.S. Bach Suite No.2 in D minor BWV1008  
J.S. Bach Suite No.6 in D major BWV1012

Bach's Suites for unaccompanied cello, a summit of the cello repertoire, are one of Western music's great success stories. Neglected after his death, these Suites are breath-taking in their harmonic inventiveness and lyrical beauty, encompassing serenity and profundity as well as a lively expression of dance. The cello's melodic line conjures an illusion of such polyphonic richness that Mstislav Rostropovich described Suite No.6 as 'a symphony for solo cello'. They're played here in their entirety over two evenings (see 11 March 2010) by Adrian Brendel – one of today's most accomplished and thoughtful young musicians – making a welcome return to Lancaster.

'The younger Brendel's exceptional security of intonation, his almost unflinching ability to hit a pitch dead centre and with the purest of tone...'  
The Independent

**7.30pm, Thursday 19 November 2009**

**Tickets:** £15.50 (£13 concessions) £7 Young person

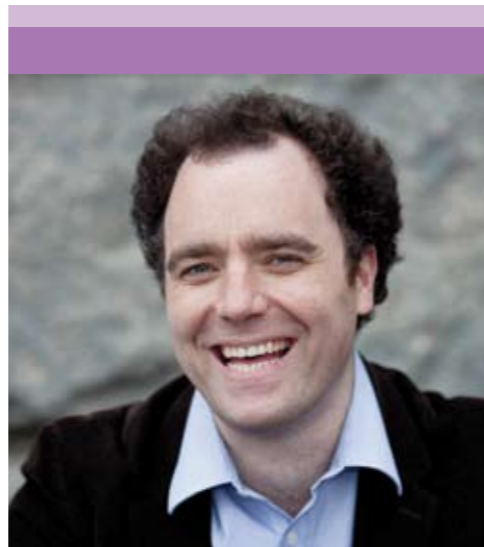


Photo: Emille Holba

Meet the artist: 6.45pm

**Please note:** There will be limited, unreserved seating for this performance which will be in the round

# Nothing Like the Sun

The Gavin Bryars Ensemble

*My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun;  
Coral is far more red than her lips' red;  
... I love to hear her speak, yet well I know  
That music hath a far more pleasing sound;*

Gavin Bryars, one of today's most inventive artistic figures, weaves together eight sonnets by Shakespeare on the subjects of time, memory and music. Music, song, speech and film cast the words in new light in *Nothing Like the Sun*, alongside which Bryars has invited sonnet settings from Antony Hegarty (Antony and the Johnsons), Mira Calix, former 10,000 Maniacs front woman Natalie Merchant, Alexander Balanescu and former Virgin Prunes frontman Gavin Friday. Vocalists Anna Maria Friman, John Potter and Friday join the eight instrumentalists from Opera North for this special performance.

'Anna Maria Friman's ethereal soprano tones circle above the instrumental world like a halo.'  
The Independent

**7.30pm, Thursday 26 November 2009**

**Tickets:** £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person



Meet the artist: 6.45pm



Co-commissioned by Opera North and the Royal Shakespeare Company

Supported by the Friends of Lancaster Concerts

## BBC Philharmonic – Swan Lake

Gianandrea Noseda *conductor* • Jean-Efflam Bavouzet *piano*

Leoncavallo      Pagliacci, Intermezzo  
Bartók            Piano Concerto No.1  
Tchaikovsky      Swan Lake, Suite

Less than well received at its Bolshoi premiere, *Swan Lake* – a fairytale of good and evil involving the prince, the swan, the evil sorcerer and his daughter – went on to become one of the best-loved ballets of all time. Tchaikovsky's colourfully orchestrated musical narrative enchants with the searing ardour of its main theme, national dances from Siegfried's birthday ball and the gliding waltz of the swans, all included in tonight's suite. The dynamic French pianist Jean-Efflam Bavouzet will be well matched in dramatic flair by the BBC Philharmonic, under its high-octane Chief Conductor Gianandrea Noseda, in Bartók's punchy First Piano Concerto.

*'Bavouzet commands shading, nuance and timbral sensitivity... together with virtuoso flair and characterful spontaneity.'* Gramophone

7.30pm, Thursday 3 December 2009

Tickets: £19, £16 (£15.50, £13.50 concessions) £7 Young person

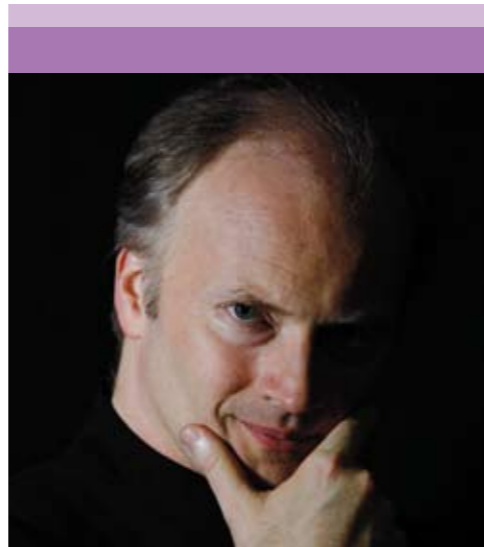


Photo: Jon Super

## Navarra & Sacconi String Quartets

Xander Van Vliet, Marije Ploemacher *violin* • Simone van der Giessen *viola*  
Nathaniel Boyd *cello*

Ben Hancox, Hannah Dawson *violin* • Robin Ashwell *viola* • Cara Berridge *cello*

R. Strauss      Capriccio Sextet  
Brahms          String Sextet in B flat, Op.18  
Mendelssohn    Octet in E flat, Op.20

Two engaging and award-winning quartets join forces in a most appealing programme. The Sextet from Richard Strauss's last opera, *Capriccio*, functions as a prelude; its gentle serenity presaging the opera's character with a luxurious warmth and soaring radiance. With its transparent textures, Brahms's First String Sextet is graceful and classically poised. Mendelssohn composed his stunning Octet when he was just 16. In terms of passion, colour, lyricism and 'elfin' qualities, it anticipates the overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* he went on to write the following year. The electric musicality of these young players and their reputation for not merely performing but for *possessing* the music they play promises a concert to thrill and delight.

7.30pm, Thursday 14 January 2010

Tickets: £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person

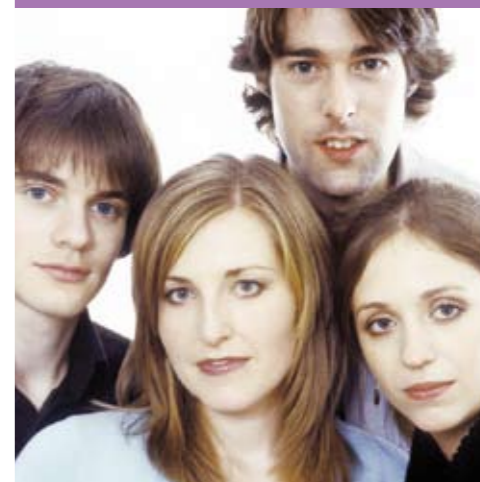


Photo: Susie Atliburg

Meet the artist: 6.45pm

## Dances in Disguise

### Psappha

Schoenberg	Weihnachtsmusik (Christmas Music)
J. Strauss II arr. Webern	Schatz-Walzer (Treasure Waltz)
J. Strauss II arr. Berg	Wein, Weib und Gesang (Wine, Women and Song)
J. Strauss II arr. Schoenberg	Rosen aus dem Süden (Roses from the South)
J. Strauss II arr. Schoenberg	Kaiser-Walzer (Emperor Waltz)
John Adams	John's Book of Alleged Dances

A Viennese Night with a twist is how Psappha describes its attractive tribute to the music of Johann Strauss the Younger, its magic allure subtly reworked by members of the Second Viennese School. These imaginative and irresistible transcriptions, full of effortless charm and sophistication, demonstrate the deep affection the younger composers felt for these familiar waltzes. John Adams explained that his 10 humorously titled dances were 'alleged' because 'the steps for them had yet to be invented' – though they have now been choreographed several times. Dry and droll, they range from 'Alligator Escalator' to a sultry habanera while the little pavane, 'She's So Fine' is for sweetly lyrical high cello register and the hoe-down, 'Dogjam', tilts at bluegrass.

7.30pm, Thursday 21 January 2010

Tickets: £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person



Photo: Andrew Price and Tom Banghala

Presented in association with Psappha

## Elias String Quartet

### with Alice Neary cello

Sara Bitloch, Donald Grant violins • Martin Saving viola • Marie Bitloch cello

Schubert String Quartet No.13 in A minor D804 'Rosamunde'  
Schubert String Quintet in C D956

Hailed by *The Sunday Telegraph* for its 'poetic, charismatic, virtuosic... marvellous playing' the international reputation of the Elias Quartet continues to roll with extraordinary momentum. The young quartet demonstrates its fervent passion and infectious enthusiasm for the music of Schubert, opening the programme with his heart-rending 'Rosamunde' Quartet. Completed in the shadow of his fatal illness, it is unmistakably suffused with melancholy yet characterised by gorgeous melody and harmony. The second movement of the sublime String Quintet – with its moments of transcendental beauty, and its extra cello 'voice' – has long been one of the top ten requests on BBC Radio 4's *Desert Island Discs*.

'Neary is indeed a player of the highest calibre: secure in technique and astonishingly mature in her musicianship... a player of rare gifts.'  
The Times

7.30pm, Thursday 28 January 2010

Tickets: £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person



Meet the artist: 6.45pm

## O Duo with Morgan Szymanski *guitar*

Oliver Cox and Owen Gunnell *percussion*

Programme to include arrangements of Bach's French Suite in G and Chopin's Etude in C sharp minor, as well as show-stopping numbers by Latin American composers from Argentina, Brazil, Cuba and Venezuela.

Described by *The Daily Telegraph* as 'brimming with style and panache', percussionists O Duo join the acclaimed guitarist Morgan Szymanski from Mexico City in dazzling arrangements of classical favourites, alongside Minoru Miki's mesmerising *Marimba Spiritual* and O Duo's signature spectacular, *Bongo Fury*. Introducing visual and theatrical elements, the vibrant *Los Ambulantes*, composed for the trio by Stephen McNeff, is named after the street vendors, jugglers, musicians, acrobats and dancers who inhabit the streets of Mexico City. A wonderfully invigorating evening of colour, rhythm, wit and virtuosity.



Meet the artist: 6.45pm

7.30pm, Thursday 4 February 2010

Tickets: £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person

## Sinfonia ViVA

Alexander Shelley *conductor* • Clara Mouriz *mezzo-soprano*

Milhaud	Little Symphony No.2 'Pastorale'
Milhaud	Little Symphony No.3 'Sérénade'
Berlioz (arr. David Matthews)	Les Nuits d'été
Ravel	Introduction and Allegro
Dvořák (arr. Hertl)	Serenade in D minor

In his set of songs *Les Nuits d'été* ('Summer Nights') Berlioz explores the themes of passion and sorrow, this chamber version adding seductive new texture and colour beneath the ravishing vocal line. The soloist is the starry young mezzo Clara Mouriz, recently praised in *The Times* for being 'a classy act: a light, agile mezzo of great charm and elegant intelligence...' Ravel's voluptuous *Introduction and Allegro* for harp, flute, clarinet and string quartet has been compared to a Matisse painting while Milhaud's short chamber symphonies pay tribute to the 'sinfonie' of Monteverdi's time. Awarded first prize in the 2005 Leeds Conductors Competition, the gifted young conductor Alexander Shelley was praised for 'a conducting technique that is immaculate, everything crystal clear and a tool to his inborn musicality.'

7.30pm, Thursday 11 February 2010

Tickets: £19, £16 (£15.50, £13.50 concessions) £7 Young person



Meet the artist: 6.45pm

Supported by  
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ENGLAND  
ORCHESTRAS *Live*

Lancaster International Concert Series in association with Orchestras Live presents Sinfonia ViVA

## Manchester Camerata Ensemble

Benjamin Frith *piano*

Beethoven	Quintet for Piano and Wind in E flat Op.16
Françaix	Theme and Variations for clarinet and piano
Poulenc	Trio for oboe, bassoon and piano
Mozart	Quintet for Piano and Wind in E flat K452

Manchester Camerata's brilliant wind principals are joined by the outstanding pianist Benjamin Frith in an irresistible programme. Poulenc's 'Mozartian' Trio brims over with infectious wit and soulful lyricism while Françaix's more sober Theme is followed by a set of florid Variations, jazzy in mood and immediate in appeal. Beethoven clearly had Mozart's quintet for piano and wind in mind when composing his own, with the same instrumentation, key and structure. Mozart considered his quintet to be 'the best work I have so far composed', the characteristics and balance of each instrument beautifully judged. The later quintet bears the unmistakable stamp of Beethovenian genius, his craftsmanship creating music that resembles a chamber concerto for piano and wind.

**7.30pm, Thursday 18 February 2010**

**Tickets:** £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person



## Paul Lewis *piano*

Mozart	Adagio in B minor K540
Schumann	Fantasy in C Op.17
Liszt	Années de pèlerinage 1: 'Vallée d'Obermann'
Beethoven	Piano Sonata in C, Op.53 'Waldstein'

The young British pianist Paul Lewis is celebrated for his considered, compelling and profound interpretations of the Viennese classics including the complete Beethoven sonatas. He makes an eagerly anticipated return to Lancaster with one of Beethoven's greatest and most exhilarating sonatas, from his 'Heroic' period, the 'Waldstein'. Mozart's mysterious *Adagio* opens the programme which includes two striking examples of overwhelming romanticism – Schumann's mercurial Fantasy in C and Liszt's headily Byronic 'Vallée d'Obermann'.

**'Lewis's sense of structure and constant awareness of what the harmonic rhythm is doing allows him to generate tension in the most subtle ways.'**  
The Guardian

**7.30pm, Thursday 25 February 2010**

**Tickets:** £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 concessions) £7 Young person



Photo: Harmonia Mundi and Eric Manas

## Doric String Quartet

Alasdair Beaton *piano*

Alex Redington, Jonathan Stone *violin* • Simon Tandree *viola* • John Myerscough *cello*

Haydn String Quartet in B flat Op.50 No.1  
Korngold String Quartet No.2 Op.26  
Brahms Piano Quintet in F minor Op.34

One of the outstanding quartets of its generation, the Doric String Quartet delighted Lancaster concertgoers at the opening of the 40th Anniversary Series. It returns with more Haydn, the first of his 'Prussian' Quartets, influenced by Mozart and paying tribute to the cello-playing King of Prussia. Korngold, a contemporary of Richard Strauss, is best known for his swashbuckling Hollywood filmscores. In marked contrast, the second of his three string quartets takes us from skittish fanfares and tumbling energy to a world of half-lights and gentle melancholy. Brahms's F minor Piano Quartet – powerfully tragic yet also lilting and whimsical – ends the concert on a glorious note.

**7.30pm, Thursday 4 March 2010**

**Tickets:** £15.50, £13 (£13, £10.50 con) £7 Young person



Photo: Simon Tottman

Meet the artist: 6.45pm

## Bach Cello Suites 2

Adrian Brendel *cello*

J.S. Bach Suite No.4 in E flat major BWV1010  
J.S. Bach Suite No.5 in C minor BWV1011  
J.S. Bach Suite No.3 in C major BWV1009

In the second of Adrian Brendel's concerts devoted to Bach's Suites for unaccompanied cello, he brings his sureness of technique, lightness of touch and instinct for intimacy and fantasy to the three suites which Pablo Casals hailed, in turn, as 'grandiose', 'tempestuous' and 'heroic'. Under this bold young player's fingers, their remarkable dynamic contrasts and piquant textural diversity will surely make compelling listening.

**7.30pm, Thursday 11 March 2010**

**Tickets:** £15.50 (£13 concessions) £7 Young person



Photo: Emile Hobla

**Please note:** There will be limited, unreserved seating for this performance which will be in the round

## Trouble in Tahiti

Psappha • Nicholas Kok conductor • Elaine Tyler-Hall director

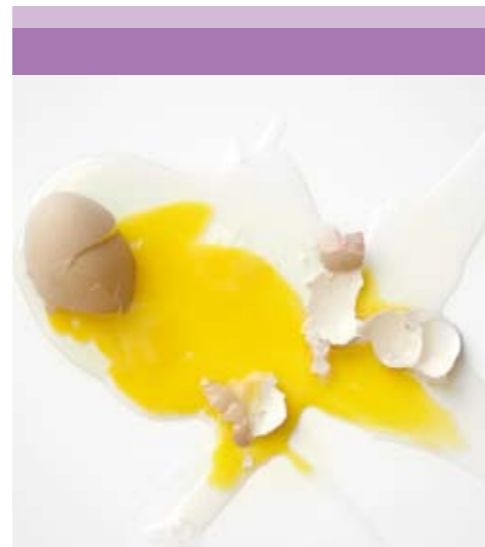
Ian Wilson  
Bernstein

Humpty Dumpty *world premiere*  
Trouble in Tahiti *UK premiere of new orchestration by Garth Sunderland*

Leonard Bernstein's one-act opera *Trouble in Tahiti*, from the early 1950s, bites deep into the Big Apple in its bittersweet exploration of the shattered American dream and a day in the life of a young married couple. It draws on jazz, musical and operatic idioms, as well as referencing radio jingles of the time. In a novel reinterpretation of the tale of Humpty Dumpty's fall – part morality play and part vehicle for some extravagant singing – the vocal champion Don Dumpty is left looking rather egggy by a rival competitor. Composed for Psappha by Ian Wilson to a libretto by Brian Leyden, this sparkling new work puts Humpty together again. An engaging and witty operatic double bill.

7.30pm, Thursday 18 March 2010

Tickets: £19.00, £16 (£15.50, £13.50 concessions) £7 Young person



Meet the artist: 6.45pm



Presented in association with Psappha

To be available as a **WEBCAST**

## Mahler 3 at Manchester's Bridgewater Hall

Saturday 13 February 2010 (Departure Lancaster c.5pm - Arrival back in Lancaster c.11pm)

In response to your suggestions, a new venture this season is the opportunity to hear the BBC Philharmonic in the magnificent Bridgewater Hall, as part of Manchester's Mahler Festival. Park your car safely at Lancaster University, board a comfortable coach and be dropped off and collected at the front door of the Bridgewater Hall. Take advantage of a special price for the best seats in the Bridgewater Hall.



Package: £30 (no concessions). Includes best seats in the house and return coach travel from Lancaster University to Manchester.

### Mahler Symphony No.3

BBC Philharmonic

Vassily Sinaisky, *conductor* • Karen Cargill *mezzo-soprano*  
City of Birmingham Symphony Chorus & Youth Chorus

Mahler declared that a symphony should be all-embracing, like the universe itself. In the Third Symphony the composer explores every corner of the world and every shade of human emotion, ranging from sheer physical exuberance and the enjoyment of outdoor life to a contemplation of ultimate mysteries and a vision of the joys of heaven.

A six-movement work, laid out in two parts, its sheer physical size, like its extraordinary expressive range, is a realization of Mahler's universe. A vast musical celebration of nature, life, and love. The symphony is preceded by a short BBC commission, *Like a Musical Tragedy* by the 84-year-old Viennese composer Friedrich Cehra, Austria's greatest living composer, conducted by H.K. Gruber.