



WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2018

BANTRY, CO. CORK, IRELAND FRIDAY 29 JUNE - SUNDAY 8 JULY

The celebrated patroness of modern chamber music, Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, presided in 1919 over a composition competition for a viola sonata. Entries were anonymous and the vote was tied so both winners were duly named, Ernest Bloch and Rebecca Clarke – *And you should have seen their faces when they saw it was written by a woman.* This year's Festival has gone out of its way to find great works by women. The most fruitful era is Seventeenth Century Italy, while the prejudices of the Nineteenth Century lasted for more than half the Twentieth.

The centenary of the 1914-1918 War has inevitably raised the question of how composers respond to conflict and war. Beethoven was famously caught in the middle of Napoleon's conquest of Austria, Weinberg barely escaped with his life when the Nazis overran Poland and several modern composers with less direct connections to the battlefield have deliberately chosen to write about wartime events.

Sometimes listening to complete sets of works gives us a different view of the composer. With this in mind, the Festival presents an opportunity to hear all three of Beethoven's Razumovsky Quartets, five hidden gems by Mozart, three powerful works by both Weinberg and Panufnik, all three violin sonatas by Brahms and three major works by Schubert. The Festival has a reputation for discovering exotic quintets – there are eight this year, three are famous piano quintets, the others feature viola, clarinet and voice as the fifth instrument. Meanwhile the Late Great Show offers four major piano solo recitals, two rare song cycles and a pair of string sextets to finish.



FRIDAY 29 JUNE

Zoltán Kodály was on holiday in the Alps in July 1914 and, on the outbreak of war, was forcibly evacuated as all the hotels were closing down. In the resulting confusion he was stuck for several days at the Austrian border, where he wrote the first movement of his Duo Sonata in a school music exercise book. Everything about this gripping work is both magnificent and strange, you can hear the towering mountains and the advent of War closing in as the composer rides roughshod over all established musical conventions creating fascinating challenges for these two young star performers.

Grażyna Bacewicz also challenges conventional ideas in her quartet writing, but, like many of her compatriots, she can draw upon the riches of Polish traditional music to reinforce her natural lyricism. Her Fourth Quartet was an immediate success with its perfect balance of formal complexity, enticing themes and harmonic sophistication.

Nothing certain is known...every channel of communication is closed; we are surrounded by armies on every side. Such was the situation in occupied Vienna in the winter of 1805-6 when Beethoven began the first of his three quartets commissioned by the Russian Ambassador, Count Razumovsky – music in the time of war has seldom seemed a more appropriate description. Meanwhile the original musicians were so infuriated and insulted by the complexity of these quartets that they claimed they were not music, drawing the composer's magnificent retort – they are not for you – they are for a later age.

1. OPENING CONCERT — BANTRY HOUSE 20.00

Kodály Duo Sonata
Mairéad Hickey, Ella van Poucke
Grażyna Bacewicz Quartet 4
Dudok Kwartet
Beethoven Quartet in F major Op.59/1 'Razumovsky 1'
Quatuor Danel

ADMISSION €50/€40/€30/€16 CONCERT ENDS 22.15

SATURDAY 30 JUNE

The four Tallis Voluntaries, in a brilliant arrangement by Maxwell Davies, will make a solemn but resounding start to the day from the talented young London Chamber Brass. Ensemble Dagda, a young Cork-based Baroque ensemble, have devised a brilliant programme by ten women composers from the late 11th to the early 18th centuries. The Polish Quartet, Apollon Musagète will play Anton Arensky's Quartet dedicated to the memory of his friend and mentor, Tchaikovsky. The Quartet quotes not only the dedicatee but also sombre Russian Orthodox funeral chants as well as Beethoven's dancing Russian tune from his Second Razumovsky Quartet. Dvorak's 14th and final Quartet shows the master in serene and happy mood.

Our two evening concerts feature three glorious masterpieces, old friends who reveal new joys every time we hear them. Mozart's G major Quartet is the first of the six dedicated to Haydn, where the younger composer at the height of his powers stretches himself even further to impress his mentor. Beethoven's Second Razumovsky Quartet circles around one of his great slow movements, whose radiant, chorale-like progression reflects the stately dance of the constellations in a clear night sky. Andrzej Panufnik was a key figure in the postwar revival of Polish music before his dramatic defection to England to escape the Soviet cultural straightjacket. His First Quartet, written in his sixties, centres on a transformational slow movement that moves from a gentle opening to a dramatic conclusion followed by a lively postlude.

The summer night draws in over a candle-lit performance of the Goldberg Variations by the Swiss pianist, Cédric Pescia, who recorded the work fifteen years ago and has been honing his interpretation ever since.

2. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 10.00 Halcyon Quartet with Christopher Marwood FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 11.30



Jan Koetsier Kleiner Zirkusmarsch from Kinderzirkus Op.79

Jan Koetsier Brass Quintet Op.65

Anthony Plog Four Sketches

Enrique Crespo Suite Americana

ADMISSION €20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

4. MASTERCLASS – THE MARITIME HOTEL11.30

Red Abbey Quartet with Liana Gourdjia

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 13.00

5. TOWN CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Ensemble Dagda

Concerto di Donne

Works by Hildegard von Bingen, Jacquet de la Guerre,

Barbara Strozzi, Francesca Caccini and other women composers

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

Apollon Musagète Quartet Photo: Nikolaj Lund



SATURDAY 30 JUNE

6. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 15.00

Doolan Quartet with Liana Gourdjia

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 16.30

7. BAROQUE MASTERCLASS — THE COURTROOM 16.00

Westland Baroque with Peter Spissky

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 17.30

8. CRESPO SERIES — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Arensky Quartet Op.35a

Dvorák Quartet No.14 in A flat Op.105

Apollon Musagète Quartet

ADMISSION €18/€13/€9 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

9. MAIN EVENING CONCERT — BANTRY HOUSE 20.00

Mozart Quartet in G major K.387

Dudok Kwartet

Andrzej Panufnik Quartet No.1

Apollon Musagète Quartet

Beethoven Quartet No.8 in E minor Op.59/2 'Razumovsky'

Ouatuor Danel

ADMISSION €47/€37/€27/€13 CONCERT ENDS 22.00

10. LATE GREAT SHOW — BANTRY HOUSE 22.30

J.S.Bach Goldberg Variations Cédric Pescia

ADMISSION €14 CONCERT ENDS 23.20

Cédric Pescia Photo: Uwe Neumann

SUNDAY 1 JULY

The Danish period instrument ensemble, Camerata Øresund, begins their residency with a dazzling selection of vocal and concerto gems by the Venetian genius, Antonio Vivaldi, concluding with an Adagio from the Four Seasons entwined with a brief but heart-stopping aria from Tito Manlio. Elizabeth Maconchy was an English composer with strong roots in Ireland. She was a contemporary of both Britten and Shostakovich and there is no disrespect to either of those great composers in mentioning her quartets in the same breath. She shares their breadth of vision, their sense of drama and their sheer power. Her quartet is a fitting work to put alongside the third in our series of Beethoven's Razumovsky Quartets.

Nurit Stark and Cédric Pescia have already given Bantry audiences a taste of their mind-jolting interpretations of Ernest Bloch's music, so their return to play his first explosive sonata among other works is a cause for celebration. *Messages* is the title of Panufnik's Second Quartet – imagine a child on a summer holiday in the countryside with his back to a telegraph pole listening to the musical messages of the wires vibrating in the wind.

The Franck Piano Quintet is the first of four major Romantic quintets featured in this year's Festival. Unlike some big Romantic piano quintets, it is not overlong but the sound is massive and the scale feels symphonic.

Brahms' late piano pieces exist in a special world of their own, once described as *the most personal piano music ever written*. The mood is deeply introspective, while never failing to be harmonically and rhythmically adventurous. The interpretative challenge is enormous, no better person than Barry Douglas to show us the way.

11. MORNING TALK — BRICK OVEN 10.00

Evelyn Grant in conversation with **Nathalia Milstein, Dana Zemtsov** ADMISSION €6 TALK ENDS 10.45



12. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 10.00

Beckett Quartet with Liana Gourdjia

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 11.30

13. COFFEE CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Vivaldi

Concerto for Strings in C major RV 114

Cessate, omai cessate RV 519

L'estro armonico - Concerto for 4 violins in E minor RV 550

Motet - In furore iustissimae Irae RV 626

L'estro armonico — Concerto for violin D minor RV 565

Concerto in G minor RV 315 'Summer'

Aria — Sonno, se pur sei Sonno

Eline Soelmark, Lyudmila Shkirtil,

Peter Spissky, Camerata Øresund

ADMISSION €20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

SUNDAY 1 JULY

14. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL11.30

Halcyon Quartet with Dudok Kwartet

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 13.00

15. YOUNG COMPOSERS FORUM — ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

The four winning works selected from the Composition Competition for young Irish composers will be performed and discussed in a Workshop setting. The official World Premieres will take place in the Town Concert series on 2, 5, 6 and 7 July

Forum directed by **Deirdre Gribbin**

FREE ADMISSION FORUM ENDS 17.00

16. BAROQUE MASTERCLASS — THE COURTROOM 16.00

Westland Baroque with Marcus Mohlin

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 17.30

Quatuor Danel Photo: Marco Borggreve

17. CRESPO SERIES — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Elizabeth Maconchy Quartet No.2

Beethoven Quartet No.9 in C major Op.59/3 'Razumovsky'

Quatuor Danel

ADMISSION €18/€13/€9 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

18. MAIN EVENING CONCERT — BANTRY HOUSE 20.00

Bloch Violin Sonata No.1 Nurit Stark, Cédric Pescia Andrzej Panufnik Quartet No.2 'Messages'

Apollon Musagète Quartet

Franck Piano Quintet Quatuor Danel, Julius Drake

ADMISSION €47/€37/€27/€13 CONCERT ENDS 22.00

19. LATE GREAT SHOW — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 22.30

Brahms Fantasias Op.116, Intermezzos Op.117, Piano Pieces Op.118/1, Op.118/6

Barry Douglas

ADMISSION €14 CONCERT ENDS 23.30



MONDAY 2 JULY

Ruby Hughes will be joined by the lutenist, Jonas Nordberg, for further explorations of the works by the 17th Century Italian, trail-blazing singer-songwriters like Barbara Strozzi, Francesca Caccini and Lucrezia Vizzana leavened with lamenting contributions from Restoration England. Weinberg lived for a long time in the shadow of Shostakovich, but as a Polish-Jew who barely escaped from the Nazi terror, he has a different voice. His Third Quartet dates from 1944, while the War still raged. In this context the stunningly beautiful slow movement is overwhelming. Mate Bekavac joins the Dudok Quartet for Chad Cannon's Citizen 13660, a series of reflections on the experiences of Japanese Americans interned during World War II based on the memoir of Citizen 13660, Miné Okubo, a US-born American of Japanese ancestry. This dramatic Crespo Series concert concludes with Mendelssohn's heart-breaking requiem for his beloved sister, who, like him, died before her time.

Ravel's Duo for violin and cello is the best-known sonata for this rare but special combination of instruments, written as a homage to Debussy, played here by two young stars from the Kronberg Academy. Lera Auerbach's *Arcanum* is another comparative rarity, a new full-length viola sonata – the superlative Russian-Dutch violist, Dana Zemtsov, is joined by the Dublin Piano Competition winner, Nathalia Milstein. Schubert's great B flat Trio will be played by a trio of top Irish performers.

The centenary of Debussy's death will be commemorated with Book 1 of his Preludes in the hands of Philippe Cassard. An early listener wrote of Debussy's touch – no one can imagine the gentleness of his caressing style, the subtlety of his singing touch which said so much, as it were in a whisper...

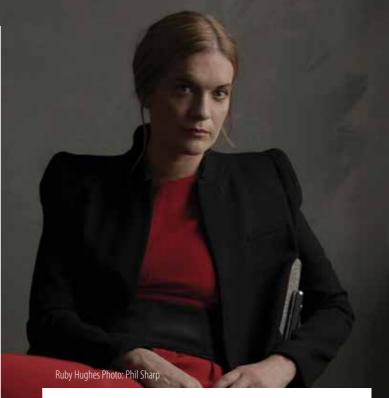
20. MORNING TALKS — BRICK OVEN 10.00

Evelyn Grant in conversation with

Peter Spissky, Eline Soelmark, Camerata Øresund

ADMISSION €6 TALK FNDS 10.45

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21. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL10.00 Red Abbey Quartet with Andreas Reiner FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 11.30

22. COFFEE CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00 HEROINES OF LOVE AND LOSS

Female composers and classical heroines of the 17th century

**Barbara Strozzi L'Eraclito Amoroso; Lamento, Lagrime mie

*Francesa Caccini Lasciatemi qui solo

*Giovanni Kapsberger Works for Theorbo/Archlute

*Henry Purcell Dido's Lament

*Works by John Bennett, Claudia Sessa,

*Lucrezia Vizzana, Anne Boleyn

*Ruby Hughes, Jonas Nordberg

*ADMISSION €20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

23. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL11.30

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Doolan Quartet with **Quatuor Danel** FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 13.00



MONDAY 2 JULY

24. TOWN CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Composition Competition New Work Beethoven Quartet No.6 in B flat Op.18/6 Bartók Quartet No.3 Halcyon Quartet

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

Mairéad Hickey Photo: Fabian Von Schlabrendorff

25. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL15.00

Beckett Quartet with Apollon Musagète Quartet

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 16.30

26. VIOLIN TALK – THE OLD CINEMA 15.15

A Question of Sonority - The challenges and myths in violin and bow making — Robert Pierce
FREE ADMISSION TALK ENDS 15.45

27. CRESPO SERIES — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Weinberg Quartet No.3 Op.14

Chad Cannon Citizen 13660 IRISH PREMIERE

Mendelssohn Quartet in F minor Op.80 'Requiem for Fanny'

Dudok Kwartet, Mate Bekavac

ADMISSION €18/€13/€9 CONCERT FNDS 17.00

28. BAROQUE MASTERCLASS — THE COURTROOM 16.00

Westland Baroque with Peter Spissky

FRFF ADMISSION CLASS FNDS 17.30

29. MAIN EVENING CONCERT — BANTRY HOUSE 20.00

Paule Cotter Memorial Concert

Ravel Duo Sonata Mairéad Hickey, Ella van Poucke

Lera Auerbach Arcanum, Sonata for viola and piano

Dana Zemtsov, Nathalia Milstein IRISH PREMIERE

Schubert Piano Trio in B flat D.898

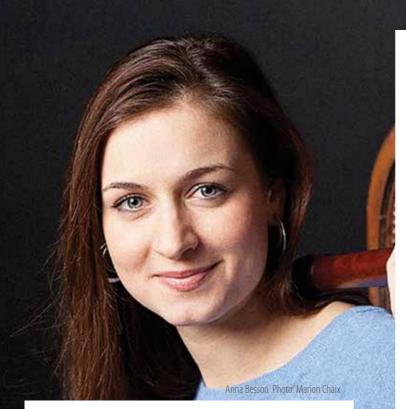
Mairéad Hickey, Christopher Marwood, Barry Douglas

ADMISSION €47/€37/€27/€13 CONCERT ENDS 22.00

30. LATE GREAT SHOW — BANTRY HOUSE 22.30

Debussy Les Préludes, Premier Livre **Philippe Cassard**ADMISSION €14 CONCERT ENDS 23.30

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TUESDAY 3 JULY

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Ich habe genug is one of Bach's best-known cantatas featuring three glorious arias including the much-loved Schlummert ein ihr matten Augen. Originally written for bass, Bach's second wife, Anna Magdalena, transposed it for soprano so she could sing it. Mark Padmore is our soloist. The B minor Orchestral Suite also features a virtuoso flautist as does the Italianate cantata Non sa che sia dolore with Ruby Hughes as soloist.

Beethoven's Fifth and last Cello Sonata is a strange work, opening with a gruff *Allegro con brio* followed by the only full-scale slow movement in the five sonatas leading to a fully-fledged fugue, thrown off with stylish panache. Our Debussy commemoration concludes with his Cello Sonata of which he wrote: *I like its proportions and its almost classical form, in the good sense of the word.* Shostakovich's Sonata is an early work with a big, open-hearted slow movement untouched by later horrors.

Khojaly 613 commemorates a terrible and pointless massacre of civilians escaping from the besieged town of Khojaly in the ongoing war between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Mate Bekavac will play an Armenian traditional reed instrument, the duduk, in place of the clarinet. Mairéad Hickey is undertaking the demanding solo violin part in this intensely dramatic work. A second drama follows with the World Premiere of Deirdre Gribbin's Kindersang, which marks the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht and the development of the Kindertransport movement that rescued 10,000 Jewish children from the Nazis. The work is being composed especially for the electrifying combination of Nurit Stark and Caroline Melzer. Schubert's Schwanengesang is a collection of late songs to lyrics by Heine and Rellstab including some of his most sensual love songs as well as the haunting Der Doppelgänger.

31. MORNING TALKS - BRICK OVEN 10.00

Evelyn Grant in conversation with **Quatuor Danel** ADMISSION €6 TALK ENDS 10.45

32. COFFEE CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

J.S.Bach

Cantata Ich habe genug BWV 82

Ouverture No.2 in B minor BWV 1067

Cantata Non sa che sia dolore BWV 209

Camerata Øresund, Mark Padmore,

Ruby Hughes, Anna Besson, Peter Spissky

ADMISSION €20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 12.15

33. TOWN CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Sacred and secular — Music from medieval Europe with contemporary music influenced by Hildegard of Bingen Hildegard of Bingen (C12th, Germany)

Guillaume de Machaut (C14th, France)

Francesco Landini (C14th, Italy)

Voice Trio

ADMISSION €7. CONCERT ENDS 15.00

34. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 15.00

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Red Abbey Quartet with Andreas Reiner FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 16.30



TUESDAY 3 JULY

35. BAROQUE MASTERCLASS — THE COURTROOM 16.00

Westland Baroque with **Peter Spissky, Eline Soelmark** FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 17.30

36. CRESPO SERIES — BANTRY HOUSE 16.00

Beethoven Cello Sonata No.5 in D major Op. 102/2
Debussy Cello Sonata
Shostakovich Cello Sonata in D minor Op. 40
Andreas Brantelid, Nathalia Milstein

ADMISSION €25/€20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

37. MAIN EVENING CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 20.00

Thilloy Khojaly 613

Mairéad Hickey, Mate Bekavac, Dudok Kwartet IRISH PREMIERE

Deirdre Gribbin Kindersang

Caroline Melzer, Nurit Stark WORLD PREMIERE

Schubert Schwanengesang D.957

Mark Padmore, Julius Drake

ADMISSION €34/€25/€11 CONCERT ENDS 22.30

Dudok Kwartet Photo: Feiko Koster

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WEDNESDAY 4 JULY

Mozart's E flat Divertimento is one of music's best-kept secrets. It is a work of pure magic that towers above the rest of the string trio repertoire. You open this unassuming door labelled *Divertimento* that you never before noticed and suddenly you are face to face with the composer himself making the purest, most exquisite music you have ever heard.

Brahms' radiant G major *Regensonate* will hopefully act as a spell to keep the rain away. The gentle A major Sonata is one of the composer's most lyrical creations. Louis Vierne, who was born blind, was so famed as the organist at Notre Dame that his chamber music went almost unnoticed. His Violin Sonata is a big, four movement work including a dreamy, nocturnal Andante that reflects the inner light emanating from the gaze of the blind.

The Festival Strings are made up of all the masterclass students with some outside support including Liana Gourdjia as concert master and Yuri Serov as conductor. Their ambitious programme will include two Russian String Symphonies. Shostakovich's Tenth Quartet translates well into the larger format. Weinberg's Fourth Chamber Symphony features an obbligato clarinet part and was the last work he completed. His vision is both clear-sighted and elegiac apart from the great, passionate out-pouring in the Adagio and the clarinet's delicious folk-like theme in the Finale. Jonathan Dove's *In Damascus* brings us back to the dislocations of war and the ability of composers to speak about the unspeakable. Mark Padmore with the Elias Quartet will be our guides through the darkness.

Messiaen's *Harawi* is a song of love and death and eternity that come from another world. *Harawi* is a South American version of the Tristan legend set to a mixture of surrealistic poetry, symbols of Peruvian mythology and sequences from the ancient Quechua language.

Nurit Stark Photo: Uwe Neumann

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38. MORNING TALKS — BRICK OVEN 10.00 Evelyn Grant in conversation with Niek de Groot ADMISSION 66 TALK ENDS 10.45

39. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 10.00

Beckett Quartet with Andreas Reiner FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 11.30

40. COFFEE CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Mozart Flute Quartet in D major K.285

Fiona Kelly, Liana Gourdjia,
Nils Mönkemeyer, Andreas Brantelid

Mozart Divertimento in E flat K.563

Nurit Stark, Nils Mönkemeyer, Andreas Brantelid

ADMISSION €20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00



WEDNESDAY 4 JULY

41. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL11.30 Red Abbey Quartet with Apollon Musagète Quartet

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 13.00

42. TOWN CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S HALL 13.30

Purcell Sonata in 4 Parts, no.6 in G minor Z807 Vivaldi Sonata in D minor 'La follia' RV63 Works by Corelli, Couperin and Handel Westland Baroque ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 14.30

43. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 15.00

Halcyon Quartet with Apollon Musagète Quartet FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 16.30

44. CRESPO SERIES — BANTRY HOUSE 15.00

Brahms Violin Sonata No.1 in G major Op.78 'Regensonate'
Brahms Violin Sonata No.2 in A major Op.100
Vierne Violin Sonata Op.23
Alina Ibragimova, Cédric Tiberghien
ADMISSION €37/€27/€21/€11 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

45. BAROQUE MASTERCLASS — THE COURTROOM 16.00

Westland Baroque with Peter Spissky FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 17.30

46. MAIN EVENING CONCERT — ST BRENDANS CHURCH 20.00

Shostakovich Symphony for Strings Op.118a
Festival Strings, Liana Gourdjia, Yuri Serov
Weinberg Chamber Symphony No.4 Op.153
Mate Bekavac, Festival Strings,
Liana Gourdjia, Yuri Serov IRISH PREMIERE
Jonathan Dove In Damascus
Mark Padmore, Elias Quartet IRISH PREMIERE
ADMISSION €34/€25/€11 CONCERT ENDS 22.00

47. LATE GREAT SHOW — ST BRENDANS CHURCH 22.30

Messiaen Harawi, chant d'amour et de mort Caroline Melzer, Cédric Pescia ADMISSION €14 CONCERT ENDS 23.30

Caroline Melzer Photo: Hannes Caspar

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THURSDAY 5 JULY

The Handel Coffee Concert takes the D major Concerto Grosso and inserts spectacular arias between the movements, some shot through with the bright, airy sound of the Baroque trumpet merging with the soprano voice high in the empyrean.

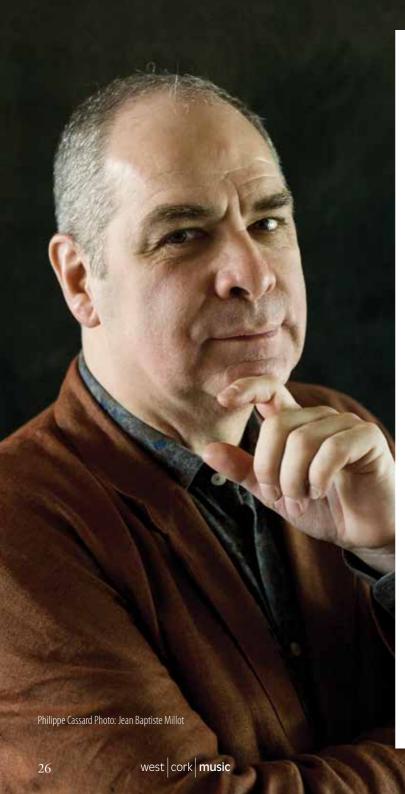
Sally Beamish's *Reed Stanzas* were written on the Island of Harris in the Outer Hebrides and the music calls upon Scottish traditional fiddle music as well as evoking the lonely wildness of a wind-swept island. Huw Watkins' quintet is a double setting of Dylan Thomas' two-verse meditation on the poet's calling. Fauré's *La Bonne Chanson* selects nine of Verlaine's set of poems written in happy adoration of his young wife with no hint of the clouds to come. Fauré responded in kind to Verlaine's obsessive texts with equally love-saturated music.

Mozart's *Kegelstatt Trio* was written for performance in the family circle with the famous Anton Stadler on clarinet, a friend's talented daughter on piano and the composer on viola – as violists are fond of pointing out, many of the great composers' instrument of choice was the viola. Weinberg's Second Violin Sonata dates from 1944, after he had travelled from Tashkent to Moscow on Shostakovich's invitation. This is a powerful wartime work, moments of extraordinary beauty dwarfed by passionate outbursts, the music straining to break away from self-imposed boundaries. The familiarity of Dvořák's Second Piano Quintet demands a great performance to capture his unique combination of yearning melancholy and boisterous gaiety.

Georgy Sviridov's vocal poem *Petersburg* to texts by Alexander Blok is a tour de force. The previous Festival performance by Mila Shkirtil and Yuri Serov of a song-cycle by Sviridov have become long-treasured memories – the darkened church, an intimate and dedicated audience and Mila's unbelievable voice.

48. MORNING TALKS — BRICK OVEN 10.00 Evelyn Grant in conversation with Nurit Stark, Caroline Melzer, Cédric Pescia





THURSDAY 5 JULY

51. MASTERCLASS – THE MARITIME HOTEL11.30

Halcyon Quartet with Andreas Reiner FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 13.00

52. TOWN CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Shostakovich Quartet No.9 in E flat Op.117 Composition Competition New Work Ravel Quartet in F major Beckett Quartet

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

53. MASTERCLASS - THE MARITIME HOTEL 15.00

Red Abbey Quartet with Quatuor Danel

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 16.30

54. VIOLIN TALK — THE OLD CINEMA 15.15

Wood and tools, hands and sound — Patrick Robin Free Admission Talk Ends 15.45

55. CRESPO SERIES - ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Sally Beamish Reed Stanzas IRISH PREMIERE

Watkins In my craft or sullen art IRISH PREMIERE

Fauré La Bonne Chanson

Mark Padmore, Ruby Hughes, Philippe Cassard,
Niek de Groot, Elias Quartet

ADMISSION €18/€13/€9 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

56. MAIN EVENING CONCERT — BANTRY HOUSE 20.00

Mozart Clarinet Trio K.498 'Kegelstatt'

Annelien Van Wauwe, Nils Mönkemeyer, Barry Douglas

Weinberg Violin Sonata No.2 Op.15 Elina Vähälä, Yuri Serov

Dvořák Piano Quintet in A major Op.81

Philippe Cassard, Apollon Musagète Quartet

ADMISSION €47/€37/€27/€13 CONCERT ENDS 22.00

57. LATE GREAT SHOW – ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 22.30

Sviridov Petersburg, vocal poem to text by Alexander Blok
Lyudmila Shkirtil, Yuri Serov

ADMISSION €14 CONCERT ENDS 23.15

FRIDAY 6 JULY

Haydn wrote 67 quartets so even the most dedicated quartet enthusiast occasionally finds an unfamiliar one, among which we could number the E flat Quartet that opens today's Coffee Concert. Its stand-out moments are a dementedly virtuosic finale and an Andante whose exquisite outer sections enfold an outburst of wild gypsy arabesques. Mozart's Oboe Quartet was written during rehearsals for *Idomeneo* to show off the technical dexterity of his friend, Friedrich Ramm. Mendelssohn's A minor Quartet was written a few months after Beethoven's death and the 18-year-old composer set out to write a deeply studied act of homage that mirrors Beethoven's late quartet in the same key. As a romantic unifying theme he takes Question motif from his delicious love-song, *Frage*.

Sofia Gubaidulina composed *So sei es* especially for a recording Nurit Stark and colleagues were making *in memoriam Viktor Suslin*. The chorale that crowns the work with its shimmering harmonics is the farewell of one composer to another. Schubert's C major *Fantasie* comes from a different world although it too is a late work requiring a degree of virtuosity that transcends mere virtuosity in order to seek out moments of almost mystical purity.

Mozart's G major violin-viola Duo is another of his hidden miracles, unknown to all but the connoisseur, its joyful dancing duet is beloved by musicians. The great Finnish composer, Einojuhani Rautavaara, passed away in July 2016 and we commemorate him with his Rimbaud-inspired two-cello string quintet *Unknown Heavens*. The Festival quintet will be led by the outstanding Finnish violinist, Elina Vähälä. Brahms Piano Quintet is the third of the great Romantic quintets in this year's Festival.

John Cage's Sonatas and Interludes for prepared piano is an exercise in magic - inserting pieces of rubber and plastic, bamboo slits and bolts between the strings transforms the piano into a lush garden of wind chimes, babbling brooks, 88 gamelan players and African xylophones. The music is simple and direct and tranquil.

58. MORNING TALKS — BRICK OVEN 10.00

Evelyn Grant in conversation with **Kwartet Dudok**ADMISSION €6 TALK ENDS 10.45

59. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 10.00

Beckett Quartet with **Quatuor Danel**

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 11.30

60. COFFEE CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Haydn Quartet in E flat Op.64/6

Mozart Oboe Quartet K.370

Mendelssohn Quartet in A minor Op.13

Ramon Ortega Quero, Elias Quartet

ADMISSION €20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

Elias Quartet Photo: David Shapiro



FRIDAY 6 JULY

61. MASTERCLASS – THE MARITIME HOTEL11.30

Halcyon Quartet with Andreas Reiner

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 13.00

62. TOWN CONCERT – ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Shostakovich Quartet No.3 in F major Op.73 Composition Competition New Work Dvořák Quartet in F major Op.96 'American' Red Abbey Quartet ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

63. MASTERCLASS – THE MARITIME HOTEL 15.00

Doolan Quartet with Dudok Quartet

FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 16.00

64. CRESPO SERIES – ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Gubaidulina So sei es Nurit Stark, Cédric Pescia, Niek de Groot, Luigi Gaggero IRISH PREMIERE Schubert Fantasie D.934 Nurit Stark, Cédric Pescia ADMISSION €18/€13/€9 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

65. MAIN EVENING CONCERT — BANTRY HOUSE 20.00

Mozart Duo for violin and viola in G major K.423
Alina Ibragimova, Nils Mönkemeyer
Rautavaara String Quintet 'Unknown Heavens'
Elina Vähälä, Mairéad Hickey, Dana Zemtsov,
Christopher Marwood, Ella van Poucke IRISH PREMIERE
Brahms Piano Quintet in F minor Op.34
Quatuor Danel, Barry Douglas
ADMISSION €47/€37/€27/€13 CONCERT ENDS 22.00

66. LATE GREAT SHOW — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 22.30

Cage Sonatas and Interludes for prepared piano **Cédric Tiberghien** ADMISSION €14 CONCERT ENDS 23.30

Alina Ibragimova Photo: Eva Vermandel



SATURDAY 7 JULY

Louise Farrenc was ahead of her time – a published composer including three symphonies, a touring piano virtuoso and Professor of Piano at Paris Conservatoire in mid-nineteenth century France – an extraordinary achievement. Her Sextet for piano and wind quintet was the first of its kind. Beethoven's Quintet was the young composer's homage to Mozart's Quintet for the same combination of instruments.

The final Crespo Series concert in Bantry House gives a platform for two young stars in major works by Prokofiev. Rebecca Clarke, once given a one-line entry in the New Grove Dictionary as the viola-playing wife of another composer, is now recognized as a fabulous and independent-minded composer in her own right.

Brahms D minor Sonata holds at its heart one of his most heart-stopping melodies, whose restrained nobility makes us wish for the return of the old custom of encoring movements. Take four world-class musicians - a soprano, a violin, a cimbalom and a double-bass - and, in fifteen short episodes, Kurtág unveils a complete Russian novel before our astonished eyes. Taneyev's chamber music inhabits the same emotional world as Schubert's, in addition he has Dvorak's melodic gift and was praised by Tchaikovsky as Russia's greatest master of counterpoint. His two-viola Quintet is a masterpiece built around a magnificent Adagio and concluding with a pulsating, polyphonic, whirling Finale.

Schoenberg's hymn to the night, Verklärte Nacht, must selfevidently be heard after night falls, so Panufnik's sextet version of his Song to the Virgin Mary will accompany us until darkness descends. This music harks back to songs Panufnik wrote in 1940 in Nazi-occupied Warsaw, songs whose serenity stood in rebuke to the outside world.

67. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 10.00 **Doolan Quartet with Dudok Quartet** FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 11.30

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68. COFFEE CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Connesson Techno Parade

Fiona Kelly, Annelien Van Wauwe, Philippe Cassard **Louise Farrenc** Sextet for piano and winds in C minor Op.40 Fiona Kelly, Ramon Ortego Quero, Annelien Van Wauwe, Ron Schaaper, Bram van Sambeek, Philippe Cassard **Beethoven** Quintet for piano and winds Op. 16 Ramon Ortego Quero, Annelien Van Wauwe, Ron Schaaper, Bram van Sambeek, Barry Douglas ADMISSION €20/€14/€10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

69. MASTERCLASS — THE MARITIME HOTEL 11.30 **Beckett Quartet with Christopher Marwood** FREE ADMISSION CLASS ENDS 13.00

70. TOWN CONCERT — ST BRENDAN'S HALL 13.30

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Beethoven Quartet No.11 in F minor Op.95 Composition Competition New Work Brahms Quartet in C minor Op.51/1

Doolan Quartet

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 14.30

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SATURDAY 7 JULY

71. CRESPO SERIES — BANTRY HOUSE 15.00

Prokofiev Visions Fugitives Op.22 Nathalia Milstein Rebecca Clarke Piano Trio

Andreas Reiner, Ella van Poucke, Nathalia Milstein Prokofiev Cello Sonata Ella van Poucke, Nathalia Milstein ADMISSION €34/€27/€21/€11 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

Alina Ibragimova, Cédric Tiberghien **Kurtág** Scenes from a Novel Op. 19

Taneyev String Quintet Op. 16 Dudok Quartet, Nils Mönkemeyer ADMISSION €34/€25/€11 CONCERT ENDS 22.00

73. LATE GREAT SHOW — ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 22.30

Andrzej Panufnik Song to the Virgin Mary for String Sextet Schoenberg Verklärte Nacht Op.4 Alina Ibragimova, Elina Vähälä, Nils Mönkemeyer,

Dana Zemtsov, Andreas Brantelid, Christopher Marwood ADMISSION €14 CONCERT ENDS 23.15

Elina Vähälä Photo: ICA



SUNDAY 8 JULY

Mozart's delightful Duo for cello and bassoon is the perfect prelude to Beethoven's cheerful and much-loved Septet, both special treats for this final Coffee Concert. The Young Musicians Platform gives the twenty masterclass students their opportunity to showcase their talents after ten days of intensive classes and rehearsals.

The Finale opens with a dialogue of extremes that increasingly inspires composers to create works with astonishing new and intensive colours. Franck's Violin Sonata stands out in the repertoire for the sheer beauty of the violin line, something greatly to be savoured in the hands of the celebrated duo of Alina Ibragimova and Cédric Tiberghien.

Traditionally the Festival brings together four soloists for one of the great piano quartets, this year we return to Fauré's G minor Piano Quartet that takes us on a lyrical if turbulent journey, its restlessness stilled only for the gentle Adagio that movingly recalls church bells heard in a distant childhood. Another firm favourite is Brahms great G major Sextet that gives us the pleasure of hearing six superlative string soloists join together. It tells the story of a lost love and its climax comes in the tranquil summer nights variation in the Adagio before leading into the majestic, and seemingly eternal dance, of the final Allegro that brings the Festival to a sonorous conclusion.

74. COFFEE CONCERT - ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Mozart Duo for cello and bassoon K.292

Bram van Sambeek, Christopher Marwood

Beethoven Septet in E flat Op.20 Andreas Reiner, Dana Zemtsov, Christopher Marwood, Annelien Van Wauwe, Ron Schaaper, Bram van Sambeek. Niek de Groot

ADMISSION \(\xi\)0/\(\xi\)11/\(\xi\)10 CONCERT FNDS 12.00

Cédric Tiberghien Photo: Benjamin Ealovega

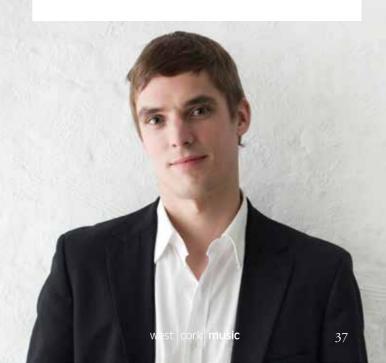
75. YOUNG MUSICIANS PLATFORM

- ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 14.00

Vivaldi Sonata in D minor 'La follia' Westland Baroque
Haydn Quartet in D major Op.20/4 Halcyon Quartet
Janáček Quartet No.1 'Kreutzer Sonata' Doolan Quartet
Dvořák Quartet in F major Op.96 'American' Red Abbey Quartet
Ravel Quartet in F major Beckett Quartet
ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 16.00

76. FINALE — BANTRY HOUSE 19.00

Isang Yun Together for Violin and Double Bass
Elina Vähälä, Niek de Groot
Franck Violin Sonata in A major
Alina Ibragimova, Cédric Tiberghien
Fauré Piano Quartet in G minor Op.45
Elina Vähälä, Dana Zemtsov, Andreas Brantelid, Cédric Pescia
Brahms String Sextet No.2 in G major
Andreas Reiner, Mairéad Hickey, Nils Mönkemeyer,
Dana Zemtsov, Andreas Brantelid, Ella van Poucke
ADMISSION €50/€40/€30/€16 FESTIVAL ENDS 22.00





FESTIVAL MASTERCLASSES

The Masterclass Programme is generously sponsored by

THE HARGREAVES AND BALL TRUST

Masterclass Programme Director: Christopher Marwood

Masterclasses take place up to four times daily [See daily listing for times]

MARITIME HOTEL/THE COURTROOM FREE ADMISSION

Tutors:

Andreas Reiner, Liana Gourdjia, members of Quatuor Danel, Apollon Musagète Quartet, Dudok Kwartet, Camerata Øresund and Alina Ibragimova and Christopher Marwood

Student Quartets

Halcyon Quartet Claudia Fuller, Leidy Sinclair,

Nathalie Green-Buckley, Hee Yeon Cho

Beckett Quartet Richard Thomas, Claire Austen,

Fiachra de h0ra, Cormac O Briain

Red Abbey Quartet Kevin Jansson, Kate Fleming,

Seamus Hickey, Zoë Nagle

Doolan Quartet David McElroy, Rachel Masterson,

Martha Campbell, Grace Coughlan

Westland Baroque Jenna Raggett, Aisling Lyons,

Gabriele Dikcuite, Matthew Breen

The Masterclass Programme is also supported by David Stang and the National String Quartet Foundation.





FESTIVAL FRINGE

Each day during the Festival musicians will give a free concert at various locations in and around Bantry and West Cork including Garnish Island, Whiddy Island and St James Church, Durrus.

Festival musicians taking part will include London Chamber Brass,

Alec Petcu & Caitriona Frost, Ensemble Dagda, Elias Quartet, Voice Trio and Halcyon Quartet.

They will be joined by others in a spirit of inspired improvisation.

MORNING TALKS

FROM **SUNDAY 1** TO **FRIDAY 6 JULY** IN **THE BRICK OVEN**DAILY at 10am ADMISSION €6 INCLUDES COFFEE







To start the day, Evelyn Grant, flute player, conductor and radio presenter, is in conversation with selected musicians from the Festival. These informal, behind-thescenes discussions give great insight into the musicians' thoughts about music and the experience of performing.

Evelyn Grant in conversation with: Nathalia Milstein, Dana Zemtsov, Camerata Øresund, Quatuor Danel, Niek de Groot, Caroline Melzer, Nurit Stark, Cédric Pescia and Dudok Kwartet.

Evelyn Grant, Nathalia Milstein, Dana Zemtsov Photos: Frances Marshall, Marco Borggreve

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AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF FINE CONTEMPORARY

VIOLIN & BOW MAKING

WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
THE OLD CINEMA, WOLFE TONE SQUARE, BANTRY
FRIDAY 29 JUNE — SUNDAY 8 JULY

Featuring violin makers: Youen Bothorel, Bertrand Galen, Michiel de Hoog, Conor Russell (Ireland), Francis Kuttner (USA), Jérémie Legrand and Patrick Robin (France)

Bow makers: Florian Bailly (France / UK), Doriane Bodart, Joséphine Thomachot (France), Noel Burke, Niall Flemming, Robert Pierce (Ireland) and Rüdiger Pfau (Germany)

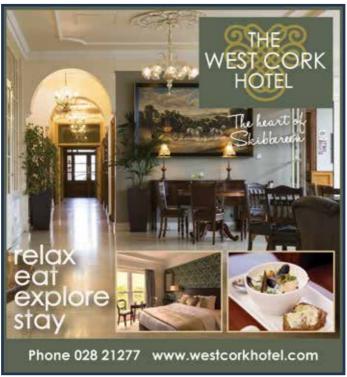
Our exhibition of fine contemporary violin and bow making displays instruments and bows from some of the leading makers working in the field today. The exhibition is comprised of makers from both Ireland and abroad, whose work is recognised and appreciated internationally, and presents a rare opportunity to try their instruments and bows. Most of the instruments and bows are available for sale. So come early!

The makers will be present, some will be working at their benches, and all will be available to meet and to discuss their work. This year internationally renowned makers Robert Pierce and Patrick Robin will each be giving a talk during the festival.

An instrument and bow maintenance and repair service will also be available. THE EXHIBITION RUNS THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL.













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WILD ATLANTIC WAY

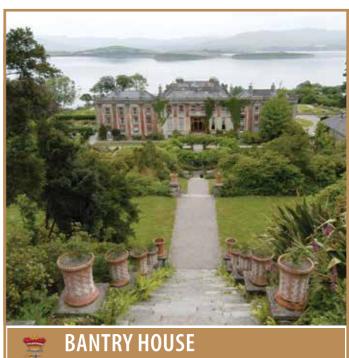
For information on activities around Bantry and the Sheep's Head peninsula www.livingthesheepsheadway.com

The whole area is part of the Wild Atlantic Way, the 2,500 km scenic driving route along the west coast of Ireland from Donegal to Cork

www.ireland.com/wildatlanticway







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President Michael D. Higgins **Honorary Patron**

and home to the festival for twenty-three years.

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& BOOK EARLY FOR THE 2018 WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

In recent years there has been a huge demand for Festival tickets and it is becoming increasingly important for Festival Friends to take advantage of the Friends' priority booking scheme with up to 8 weeks priority booking.

By joining West Cork Music as a Gold or Silver Friend you will also be directly funding the West Cork Chamber Music Festival which in turn helps us continue to deliver world class music for all to enjoy.

In recognition of their generosity and commitment, we extend the following series of benefits to our Friends:

GOLD FRIENDS €275 single / €325 dual per annum

8 weeks priority booking for 2 people for the 2018

West Cork Chamber Music Festival (Opens Thursday 1 February)

Invitations to exclusive Friends & Artists receptions at 2018 Festival

& a range of other benefits

SILVER FRIENDS €175 single / €215 dual per annum

4 weeks priority booking for 2 people for the 2018

West Cork Chamber Music Festival (Opens Thursday 1 March)

Invitation to Friends & Artists receptions at the 2018 Festival

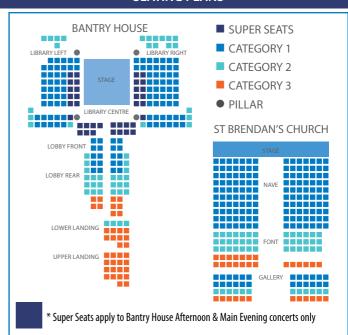
& a range of other benefits

Alternatively, you can support us as a **YOUNG MUSICIAN SPONSOR** (\leqslant 100 / annum) or if you are under 30 years old, as a **FLEDGLING FRIEND** (\leqslant 50 / annum). Support us now - include your donation with the attached booking form.

For full details contact the West Cork Music Office or visit our website.

www.westcorkmusic.ie

SEATING PLANS



All concerts will start at advertised time, late-comers will not be admitted until a break in performance.
End of concert times should be treated as approximate.

ONLINE BOOKING AVAILABLE FROM TUESDAY 29 MARCH 2018

www.westcorkmusic.ie

BOOKING: Box Office Opening Hours: Monday — Friday 10.00 — 17.00

Tel: + 353 (0)27 52788 Lo Call: 1850 788 789 (Ireland only)

Post: West Cork Music, 13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co Cork, Ireland.

BIG FESTIVAL SAVERS AVAILABLE

Festival Pass and Day Ticket Savers do not include Morning Talks or Town Concerts. These must be booked separately. (see reverse of booking form)

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Once purchased, tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded
- Refund will only be given in the case of a cancelled concert
- Festival Passes and Day Tickets cover all concerts except Town Concerts and Morning Talks
- Masterclasses and Composer Forum are free but must be booked

Customers with limited mobility please contact West Cork Music prior to attending a performance for assistance with access to Bantry House.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme will proceed as advertised. However West Cork Music accepts no responsibility for any changes made due to circumstances beyond its control.

GENERAL BOOKING OPENS THURSDAY 29 MARCH 2018

BOOKING FORM. DETACH & POST TO WEST CORK MUSIC

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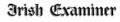












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