

Ashburton Chamber music festival 2021



Welcome to a very special type of festival! Top international musicians are coming to live amongst us for a week, playing formal concerts, and informal 'Hausmusik', in interesting places, with a glass of something, where the audience chooses what they play, and they sight-read it! Plus open rehearsals, where you can come along and watch (for free).



COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

15 WEST ST, ASHBURTON
DEVON, TQ13 7DT

The Four Main Concerts – Full details: ashburtonarts.org.uk/acmf

Tickets £15 or £11 or £7 – you choose!* One ticket for all four concerts: £50 or £40.

Sunday, 18 July 2021 CONCERT No.1, 7:30pm Ashburton Arts Centre A TASTING MENU

RICHARD STRAUSS: (1864 – 1949):
String Trio, Variations on "Das Dirndl..."

ARTHUR HONEGGER (1892 – 1955):
Dance de la Chèvre for solo flute

CLAUDE DEBUSSY: (1862 – 1918):
Syrinx for solo flute

GYÖRGY KURTÁG: (b.1926): Signs, Games,
Messages for string trio (selected movements)

W.A. MOZART: (1756 – 1791):
Flute Quartet in A Major, K.298

A playful programme, with the divine French impressionism of Honegger and Debussy followed by Kurtág's minimalism, which includes "a sometimes baffling succession of prickly pizzicato and cartoonish, sweeping glissandi, demented see-saw bowing and mouse-like scurrying" (The Independent). All this sandwiched between some sublime Strauss and Mozart – a great opener to this festival feast of musical delight!

Friday, 23 July CONCERT No.2, 7:30pm Bremridge

(A brand new concert venue just outside Ashburton)

ERWIN SCHULHOFF: (1894 – 1942)
Five Pieces for string quartet

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH: (1906 – 1975)
String Quartet No. 9 in Eb Major, Opus 117

JOSEPH HAYDN (1732 – 1809)
String Quartet in Eb Major, Opus 71, No. 3

Two wonderfully exciting 20th century pieces, alongside Haydn's classical work from 200 years earlier. Shostakovich finished the first version of the 9th Quartet in 1961, then "in an attack of healthy self-criticism, I burnt it in the stove." Three years later the new Ninth Quartet arrived – and survived!

OPEN REHEARSALS/FESTIVAL PASS

Will be announced at ashburtonarts.org.uk/acmf which are **FREE** to attend.

Festival pass £50 or £40 for all four concerts – email: boxoffice@ashburtonarts.org.uk

Saturday, 24 July CONCERT No.3, 7:30pm St. Andrews Church, Ashburton

EUGENE YSAÏE (1858 – 1931):
Sonata No. 4 in E Minor for solo violin

AMY BEACH (1867 – 1944):
Theme and Variations for flute and strings,
Opus 80

TOM VIGNIERI (b. 1961):
American Suite for Sax and String Quartet
(FESTIVAL COMMISSION)

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809 – 1847):
String Quartet in Eb Major, Opus 12

Another great mix of pieces, featuring the second instalment of our commission. In 2019, Tom took the gospel song I Want Jesus to Walk With Me and turned it into something delicate, funky and beautiful – sax improvisation blending with the strings. This year, God Only Knows from Pet Sounds by the Beach Boys receives the Vignieri treatment. We'll hear both together here for the very first time.

Sunday, 25 July CONCERT No.4, 7:30pm Ashburton Arts Centre FESTIVAL FAVOURITES

In this concert we'll hear a selection of favourites from the festival. Like most artistic masterpieces, great music improves the better you get to know it. It might be that something from the unrehearsed 'Hausmusik' sessions (below) is such a hit that the audience, or the musicians, or both, want to get another taste of it. So it's a mystery tour full of lovely things, to be decided on the day.

Full details: ashburtonarts.org.uk/acmf

***Booking Tickets:** We offer tickets at three prices – please choose what you can afford (it all helps the artists and the Arts Centre). They're all for the same unreserved seats. If choosing a lower price means you can afford to come to more, please do it! All seats are unreserved. Go to wegottickets.com/ashburtonarts for more about every show, and to book. WeGotTickets provides us with a really great service, paid for by the 10% fee they add to each ticket, including collecting NHS Track and Trace details. They will send a confirmation email. NB: recently many of these have been going to spam folders – so please check there if it's not in your inbox. If unable to book online, please leave a message on 01364 652781 or email boxoffice@ashburtonarts.org.uk. If any event is cancelled for any reason, a refund will be offered.

Hausmusik Events – Tickets £10, £8 or £5

Three informal concerts in beautiful locations, where the musicians will sight-read music selected by the audience.

#1 Monday, 19 July, 7pm Royal British Legion Hut, Ashburton Blorghay Lane, Ashburton

If the weather's good, the garden here will be the perfect place to stroll down to on Monday evening, for some great music and chat over a glass of something. If wet, we'll move to the Arts Centre. Bar open. Come from 6pm and bring a picnic.

#2 Wednesday, 21 July, 7pm Bigadon Cottage Nr Buckfastleigh, TQ11 0FJ

(follow signs to Pennywell Farm)
This is a wonderful garden 'room' with four walls and no roof. Beyond is a lovely wild garden, containing a stone circle. A favourite from 2019's Hausmusik concerts. Bar open. Come from 6pm and bring a picnic.

#3 Thursday, 22 July, 7pm Southcombe Barn, Widecombe Next to School, TQ13 7TU

This beautiful setting, nestled among the Dartmoor fields includes gardens, fields, barns, an art gallery and outdoor beds made from fallen eucalyptus trees. It's a magical place, turn right just after Widecombe Primary school. Come from 6pm and bring a picnic. Bar and Ice cream available.

GETTING THERE AND ACCESSIBILITY:

Ashburton Arts Centre, 15 West St, Ashburton TQ13 7DT.
Flat access from the street. Parking in the main car park behind the Town Hall. There's also free parking after 6pm and at weekends in the Grey Matter compound on Chuley Road, which is a short walk away along the path which comes out on West Sreet next to Dart Vale Vets.

Bremridge, Nr Ashburton, TQ13 7JX. As you go up from the A38 towards Denbury, this is on the right before you get to The Rising Sun pub. Look out for signs. Very easy access by car, with disabled parking spaces close to the hall.

St Andrews Church, West St, Ashburton TQ13 7DT.
Some disabled parking at the Church Hall next door. Ramps available for the small step at the door.

Bigadon Cottage, Nr Buckfastleigh, TQ11 0FJ. This is up a long drive just before you get to Pennywell Farm (signed from A38). There's parking in the lane, with a short walk to the cottage. Limited disabled parking – please get in touch if needed.

Southcombe Barn, Widecombe in the Moor, TQ13 7TU.
Parking in adjacent field. Signed Southcombe from main road – just after the Primary School as you leave

Widecombe going towards Postbridge. Southcombe barn is a quarter of a mile on the left. *Limited disabled parking* – please get in touch if needed.

Royal British Legion Hut, Ashburton, TQ13 7DT.
This is a 2 minute walk along the footpath from West St (between Rafikis and Dart Vale Vets), or from St Lawrence Lane (next to The Silent Whistle pub).

Wheelchair users, let us know if you're coming and we'll reserve a space for you. PA tickets are available on request. Email boxoffice@ashburtonarts.org.uk or leave a message on 01364 652761.

Other Events at Ashburton Arts Centre

**Saturday 17 July 7.30pm
LUNATRAKTORS WITH SEREN THE HERON:**
ARTS CENTRE £13 or £10 or £6

This folk-as-you've-never-heard-it-before will be a prologue to our festival of chamber music. Influenced by flamenco, post-punk and trip hop, their 'broken folk' sound strips trad folk back to rhythm and voice, and looks like being pretty amazing! See ashburtonarts.org.uk for more (and for everything else described oh so briefly here!)

**Tuesday, 20 July, 6pm
FAMILY CONCERT, ARTS CENTRE** (outside if fine)
With short sweet nuggets the musicians will engage their young audience with humour and story. Adults £5 – Children (and any grandparents they'd like to bring). **Free** Approx: 45 minutes

**Thursday, 22 July, 11.30am,
ASHBURTON FOLK ORCHESTRA MEETS THE ACMF MUSICIANS.** ARTS CENTRE. **Free** (Donations).
Local amateurs join the international pros to make music together!



17 – 25 July
Ashburton
Chamber
music
festival
2021

Full details at ashburtonarts.org.uk/acmf

David Yang started this unusual type of festival in Newburyport, near Boston in 2002 where it continues to thrive. For the second time, he's bringing it to the UK, right here in Ashburton.

This international group of top classical musicians is coming to live in Ashburton for a week.

They'll also perform near Buckfastleigh, Widecombe and Denbury in a unique form of festival that lets you really get to know the music and the musicians.



COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

15 WEST ST, ASHBURTON
DEVON, TQ13 7DT

These are the musicians who'll be living amongst us from 17 – 25 July 2021

Music
comes to
life...

...when you experience it close up; when you're near to the performers and can see the physicality involved – and even more when you can get to know them as people.

That's really what this festival is all about. The best classical musicians (and these are all right up there) are also some of the most fun, entertaining folk to be around. And, the best 'classical' music is more than a collection of 'difficult notes' – when played well, it's full of passion, emotion and soul. Perhaps you know this already, and can't wait to have something this magical right here on your doorstep. But if chamber music is a new thing to you, then come and give it a try. You might just find a window into another world, full of fresh, amazing things to discover!

DAVID YANG – VIOLA



David Yang has been called "a conduit for music" and his playing described as "lithe and expressive" (The Strad). His string trio, Ensemble Epomeo's debut recording was a "Critics' Choice" in Gramophone Magazine and of its second CD, The Strad wrote, "... remarkable intensity and elegant assurance throughout". David is the founding force and Artistic Director of the Ashburton Chamber Music Festival. David has an infectious enthusiasm for life, for music and for bringing down the barriers around 'classical' music, and making it fun and enjoyable for anyone.

MIRIAM TEPPICH – VIOLIN



Miriam Teppich has been soloist and chamber musician at London's Barbican, Royal Albert Hall and the Wigmore Hall, and has played with several of the UK's top orchestras. She's a founder member of Ensemble Reza, and champions the work of living composers. She also admits to being a big fan of jazz, Sinatra, Bennett, Billie Holliday and 70s music, "the cheesier the better!"

SÉBASTIEN VAN KUIJK – CELLO



Sébastien van Kuijk prize winner of Prague Spring, Rostropovich and Casals competitions, he has performed as soloist in the concert halls in Europe's capitals and around the world. He's now based in London as principal cellist of the Aurora Orchestra. He says his favourite concert to date was at the Aldeburgh festival when the musicians were joined on stage by circus performers in an extraordinary production of Britten's Les Illuminations.

TOM VIGNIERI – COMPOSER



Tom Vignieri grew up on a farm in rural Wisconsin, USA. He's been director of Tanglewood at Boston University, won an Emmy for his radio programme 'From the Top at Carnegie Hall' and written choral, orchestral and chamber works for performance in the US, Europe and Japan. He's now back on a farm, but in South Devon, where he's been working hard to add a new movement to his American Suite for this festival, based on 'God Only Knows' from Pet Sounds by The Beach Boys. He's now back on a farm, but in South Devon.

JUDITH HALL – FLUTE



Judith Hall Originally from Australia, Judith Hall began her career as Principal Flute with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and has since developed an international solo career. She's been guest principal or soloist with several of the UK's top orchestras, including the LSO and the RPO. She teaches flute at Birmingham Conservatoire.

SARA TRICKEY – VIOLIN



Sara Trickey is noted for her "fiery and passionate" performances (The Strad) and with her "...natural finesse and sensitivity, accomplished technique and a beautifully refined tone ... there was never for one second any doubt of her intellectual and emotional understanding of the music" (Musical Opinion). saratricky.com

ANDY WILLIAMSON – SAXOPHONE



Andy Williamson has been blowing a tenor sax since he was 15: in big bands and orchestras; with the Honkin' Hep Cats at the Edinburgh Fringe and Radios 2, 3 & 4. He started the campaign to turn the old Methodist Church into an Arts Centre, and is now the Arts Director: "I love performing myself, and creating the scene for others to do the same, and for audiences to have a great time – *that's what this place is all about!*"