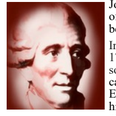
Festival Programme 2025

Welcome to the 31st English Haydn Festival set in the beautiful market town of Bridgnorth. The Festival offers a fascinating array of the music of Joseph Haydn and his contemporaries, performed in St Mary's Church, built by the great 18th century engineer Thomas Telford in 1792, set next to the spectacular remains of the Castle and overlooking the river Severn. The theme this year demonstrates Haydn's mastery of producing musical sounds that reflect 'Images of Life'.

HAYDN: MUSICAL IMAGES OF LIFE



Joseph Haydn was born into the Baroque era, during an age of inventions and new ideas, and through his own creativity became the first great master of the "classical" style.

In the late 1750s he began composing symphonies, and by 1761 he had composed a triptych (*Morning*, *Noon*, and *Evening*) solidly in the contemporary mode. Haydn spent much of his career, from 1761 onwards, as a court musician for the wealthy Esterházy family at their remote estate. Until the later part of his life, this isolated him from other composers and trends in music so that he was, as he put it, "forced to become original". As assistant, and later Kapellmeister, his output expanded: he composed over forty symphonies in the 1760s alone. While his fame grew, as his orchestra expanded, his compositions were copied and disseminated, and his music circulated widely, so for much of his career he was the most celebrated composer in Europe. Haydn reached a place in music that set him above all other composers, matching in stature that of the Baroque era's George Frideric Handel. Haydn took existing ideas, and radically altered how they functioned. His contributions to musical form have earned him the titles "father of the symphony" and "father of the string quartet". Joseph's new ideas formed the basis for music through the "classical" and "romantic" periods, extending onwards to his influence on Prokofiev, who, in 1917, paid tribute by writing his symphony No. 1, in the "classical" style.

It would be difficult to overstate Haydn's contribution to musical composition throughout the ages, and therefore to the future of Western music.

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• WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE •

12.30 pm **St Mary's Church** **LUNCHTIME CONCERT**

THE ENGLISH HAYDN PIANO TRIO
Steven Devine - *fortepiano* **Pavel Serbin**- *violoncello*
Simon Standage- *violin*

Haydn:	**Piano Trio in Eb Hob. XV:29**	(1797)
Haydn:	**Piano Trio in Eb Hob. XV:31**	(1795)
Hummel:	**Piano Trio in Eb Opus 12**	(1804)

Tickets: £28.00 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: The Andrew Harris Trust, and The Harding Trust,

• WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE •

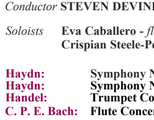
Haydn: The Early Years

7.30pm **St Mary's Church** **EVENING CONCERT**

THE ENGLISH HAYDN ORCHESTRA *on period instruments*
Conductor **STEVEN DEVINE**

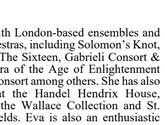
Soloists **Eva Caballero** - *flute*
Crispian Steele-Perkins - *trumpet*

Haydn:	**Symphony No. 6 in D**	(1761)
Haydn:	**Symphony No. 7 in C**	(1761)
Handel:	**Trumpet Concerto in D**	(1717)
C. P. E. Bach:	**Flute Concerto in A**	(1753)
Haydn:	**Symphony No. 8 in G**	(1761)

EVA CABALLERO

Eva performs with London-based ensembles and a variety of orchestras, including Solomon's Knot, The Mozartists, The Sixteen, Gabrieli Consort & Players, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Armonico Consort among others. She has also given recitals at the Handel Hendrix House, Raynham Hall, the Wallace Collection and St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Eva is also an enthusiastic educator and works as a flute teacher in North London primary and secondary schools as well as North London Conservatoire.

After training at the Guildhall School of Music, Crispian became a member of the English National Opera, the Royal Philharmonic, and the English Chamber Orchestra. As a soloist Crispian's performances have received widespread critical acclaim. In 2015 the BBC's 'CD Review' concluded that of all worldwide available recordings of Haydn's Trumpet Concerto his was 'the one to have'. Described as 'the world's leading exponent of the Baroque Trumpet', particularly when heard in duet with some of the world's great singers such as Kiri te Kanawa, Emma Kirkby, John Tomlinson and Bryn Terfel. Crispian collects and restores antique trumpets.

CRISPIAN STEELE-PERKINS



Tickets: £32.00, £28.00, £22.00 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Terry & Nicky Lipscombe, and Haydn Festival Friends

• THURSDAY 12 JUNE •

12.30 pm **St Mary's Church** **LUNCHTIME CONCERT**

THE REVOLUTIONARY WIND MACHINE *on period instruments*

Mark Baigent - *oboe* **Cait Walker** - *oboe*
Emily Worthington - *clarinet* **Fiona Mitchell** - *clarinet*
Richard Bayliss - *horn* **Clare Penkey** - *horn*
Robert Percival - *bassoon* **Catriona McDermid** - *bassoon*
Simon Munday - *trumpet* **Rosie Moon** - *bass*

Beethoven: **Fidelio Overture Opus 72. Arrangement by Wenzl Sedlak.**
Haydn: **4 Military Marches**
Haydn: **Symphony 97. Arrangement by Josef Triebensee.**

Josef Triebensee: (1772 - 1846). Bohemian composer and oboist, Josef was a member of the Austrian Emperor's 'Wind Band', and principal oboist at the National Theatre of Vienna. He succeeded Weber as Director of Prague Opera.

Mark Baigent

Robert Percival

Richard Bayliss

Emily Worthington

Tickets: £28 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: The Florabella Trust, and Ray Wood

• THURSDAY 12 JUNE •

7.30 pm **St Mary's Church** **EVENING CONCERT**

THE CONSONE QUARTET
Agata Daraskaite - *violin* **Magdalena Loth-Hill** - *violin*
Elitsa Bogdanova - *viola* **George Ross** - *violoncello*

Beethoven:	**Quartet in F major H34**	(1798)
Haydn:	**Quartet in D minor Opus 76 No. 2**	(1797)
Schubert:	**Quartet in D minor No. 14 D810**	(1824)

FRANZ PETER SCHUBERT: (1797 to 1828) was an Austrian composer of the late Classical and early Romantic eras. Despite his short life, Schubert left behind a vast catalogue of work, including more than 600 secular vocal works, seven complete symphonies, sacred music, operas, incidental music, and a large body of piano and chamber music. His Quartet in D minor, known as '**Death and the Maiden**', has been called "one of the pillars of chamber music repertoire".

THE CONSONE QUARTET: These four talented musicians, with diverse birth-places formed their quartet whilst studying at the Royal College of Music, London. They are dedicated to exploring and recreating the sound-worlds of the Classical and early Romantic string quartet repertoire through period instrument performances. The quartet's success at the 2015 York Early Music International Young Artists Competition earned them a place on the prestigious Emerging European Ensembles Scheme. The group have performed throughout Europe and their first CD featuring music by Haydn and Mendelssohn,was released in April, 2018, on the Ambronay Label.

Tickets: £28 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Carolyn Cundy, and Joe & Lil Whitehouse

• FRIDAY 13 JUNE •

12.30 pm **St Mary's Church** **LUNCHTIME CONCERT**

THE CONSONE QUARTET & THE HAYDN WIND BAND

Agata Daraskaite - *violin* **Magdalena Loth-Hill** - *violin*
Elitsa Bogdanova - *viola* **George Ross** - *violoncello*
Clare Penkey - *horn* **Richard Bayliss** - *horn*
Eva Caballero- *flute* **Mark Baigent** - *oboe* **Mike Escreet** - *bass*

Wranitzky: **Arrangement of Haydn's Opus 71 No. 1**
Haydn: **Quartet in Eb Opus 33 No. 2** (The Joke) (1781)
Wranitzky: **Arrangement of Haydn's Opus 71 No. 2**

WRANITZKY: (1756 - 1808) studied at the Theology Faculty of the University of Olomouc, Czech Republic, and later in Vienna. From 1790, he conducted both royal Viennese theatre orchestras. He was highly respected by Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven; the latter two preferred him as conductor of their new works.

Tickets: £28 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Kate & Philip Douglas, and Ray Wood

• FRIDAY 13 JUNE •

7.30pm **St Mary's Church** **EVENING CONCERT**

THE ENGLISH HAYDN ORCHESTRA *on period instruments*
Conductor **STEVEN DEVINE**

Soloists **Pavel Serbin** - *violoncello*
Jennifer Pike - *violin* **Agata Daraskaite** - *violin*

Haydn:	**Symphony No. 83 in G minor**	(1785)
Haydn:	**Cello Concerto No. 1 in C**	(1765)
J. C. Bach:	**Concertante for 2 violins & cello in G WC32**	(1770)
Haydn:	**Symphony No. 73 in D**	(1782)

PAVEL SERBIN: PAVEL is recognised for not only his orchestral and solo performances, but his passion for research into lost compositions of both Russian and European eighteenth century composers. His achievements include the discovery of "lost" works by Russian baroque composers and Festival performances of discovered concertos by Woschitka, J. C. Bach, and Hoeke. His latest discovery is by the German composer Carl Friedrich Abel who established the first subscription concerts in London.

JENNIFER PIKE MBE

JENNIFER, a truly inspirational performer, took part in a broadcast on Classic FM for the Queen's 90th Birthday celebration concert. Much in demand as a solo artist, Jennifer finds time to work with multiple charities, and is an acting ambassador for The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts, The Prince's Trust, London Music Masters, City Music Foundation and The Wellspring Stockport. In acknowledgement of her talent and charitable work Jennifer was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to classical music.

AGATA DARASKAITE: AGATA enjoys a busy and varied performing career on both modern and period instruments. Of Lithuanian-Polish descent, she studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School and the Royal College of Music, where, as a winner of the concerto competition, she performed Berg's Violin Concerto conducting by Edward Gardner. She graduated with Distinction, winning The Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Rosebowl which she received from the then HRH Prince Charles.

Tickets: £32.00, £28.00, £22.00 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Tim Toft Violins, and The Haydn Festival Trust

• SATURDAY 14 JUNE •

12.30 pm **Acton Round Church** **LUNCHTIME CONCERT**

By kind permission of Thomas & Louisa Kennedy **VIOLIN RECITAL**

Jacqueline Ross - *violin*
Artem Belogurov - *fortepiano*

Beethoven:	**Sonata Op. 12 No. 3 in Eb**	(1798)
Haydn:	**Violin Sonata in G**	(1793)
Beethoven:	**Variations from Mozart's 'Se vuol ballare'**	
Beethoven:	**Sonata Op. 23 in A minor**	(1801)
Haydn:	**Movements from Divertimento 'Der Gerburstag'**	

Jacqueline Ross enjoys a unique and varied career performing on modern and period instruments. Born in New York, she began her studies under the legendary Joseph Fuchs at the Juilliard School, continuing her studies in baroque violin with Lucy van Dael in Amsterdam. Her solo recordings, which have been met with wide critical acclaim, include the complete Sonatas and Partitas of JS Bach.

Tickets: £28 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Hew & Sue Kennedy, and The Arts Society Wrekin

• SATURDAY 14 JUNE •

7.30pm **St Mary's Church** **EVENING CONCERT**

THE ENGLISH HAYDN ORCHESTRA *on period instruments*
Conductor **STEVEN DEVINE**

Soloists: **Mark Baigent** - *oboe*
Jennifer Pike - *violin*

Schubert:	**Symphony No. 1 in D**	(1813)
Herschel:	**Oboe Concerto No. 1 in Eb**	(1759)
Mozart:	**Violin Concerto No. 5 in A K219**	(1775)
Haydn:	**Symphony No. 104 in D**	(1795)

Mark Baigent: Mark tours extensively throughout Europe, America and the Far East, performing for festivals, music societies and radio with ensembles including the Sixteen, English Baroque Soloists, The Academy of Ancient Music, and his two chamber groups, the Denner Ensemble and Pipers 3 oboe trio. His playing career took off in 2000 when he joined the English Baroque Soloists under Sir John Eliot Gardiner for their epic year long Bach Pilgrimage. Since then Mark has freelanced with most of the UK's leading period instrument orchestras as well as those in Europe and Australia performing repertoire from Bach to Stravinsky using copies and original oboes from his collection of over 20 instruments.

Jennifer first gained international recognition in 2002,when, aged 12, she became the youngest-ever winner of the BBC Young Musician of the Year and the youngest major prizewinner in the Menuhin International Violin Competition. Aged 15 she made acclaimed débuts at the BBC Proms and Wigmore Hall. Jennifer was invited to become a BBC New Generation Artist (2008-10), she won the inaugural International London Music Masters Award and became the only classical artist ever to win the South Bank Show/Times Breakthrough Award. Passionate about helping young people from all backgrounds enhance their lives through music, she was recently invited to become an ambassador for the Prince's Trust and Foundation for Children and the Arts, and patron of the Lord Mayor's City Music Foundation.

JENNIFER PIKE MBE

Tickets: £32.00, £28.00, £22.00 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Michael Crowther, and Ray Wood

• SUNDAY 15 JUNE •

12 noon **St Mary's Church** **LUNCHTIME CONCERT**

ORGAN RECITAL

Organist: **IAN CLARKE**

Mozart:	**Fantasia in F minor**	(1790)
Haydn:	**Musical Clock Pieces**	(1792)
J S Bach:	**Fantasia in G minor**	(1710/17)

After studies as Organ Scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge, Ian directed music at his home-town of Northampton's two famous musical churches, All Saints' and St. Matthew's. He has an active freelance career as an examiner for the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, and extensive teaching interests. Ian performs with several instrumental ensembles as solo harpsichordist and organist.

Tickets: £20 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Ray Wood, and Pawel & Jean Nowak

• SUNDAY 15 JUNE •

GRAND FINALE CHORAL CONCERT

HAYDN: 'THE CREATION' (1798)

7 pm **St Mary's Church** **EVENING CONCERT**

THE ENGLISH HAYDN ORCHESTRA *on period instruments*
Conductor **STEVEN DEVINE**
THE PHOENIX CHOIR - *Musical Director* **David Thomas**

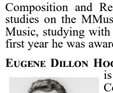
Soloists:
Ana Beard Fernandez -*soprano*
Timothy Langston - *tenor* **Eugene Dillon Hooper** - *bass*

THE CREATION: Of all the compositions that Haydn wrote he certainly demonstrated to his contemporaries, and the World, that he was a master at writing musical illustrations of 'Life', starting with his 'explosion' of the word "Light" sung by the choir, with a powerful orchestral C major chord, at the opening phrase of 'The Creation'. This masterpiece of choral music is littered with great images of the birth of 'Life' itself, depicting with operatic style writings the interaction of humans and animals in a 'New World'.

ANA BEARD FERNANDEZ, born in Manchester, Ana received a chorister scholarship to Chetham's School of Music and sang with Manchester Cathedral Choir for five years. She performed on BBC Songs of Praise, sang in BBC Radio 3 broadcasts, and received a world-class musical grounding in performance and musicianship. Upon leaving Chetham's in 2006 she joined the Hallé Youth Choir and Orchestra, with whom she gave her solo debut as the cante-jondo soloist in De Falla's El Sombrero de Tres Picos with the Hallé Orchestra at the Bridgewater Hall. Ana sang with the Hallé Youth Choir at the BBC Proms and for the highly-acclaimed recording of Edward Elgar's Dream of Gerontius with Bryn Terfel and Alice Coote.

TIMOTHY LANGSTON read Music at the University of Manchester where he studied voice under Andrew Heggie. He achieved First Class Honors and was awarded Proctor Gregg Fund awards for Composition and Recital. In September 2012 he began his studies on the MMus course at the Royal Northern College of Music, studying with Peter Alexander Wilson. At the end of his first year he was awarded the Anne Ziegler Award by the RNCM.

EUGENE DILLON HOOPER a graduate of the Royal Northern School of Music is currently a full-time member of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Eugene made his solo debut at the Royal Opera House in 2023 as Count Ceprano in Rigoletto, and in April 2024 took on the role of Talpa in Puccini's opera "Il Tabarro" with Opera Camerantini. Recent concert performances include La Petite Messe Solonelle (Rossini) and Armida and Orlando Paladino (Haydn).



Tickets: £32.00, £28.00, £22.00 (unreserved seats)
In partnership: Stan Barber, Ken & Lyn Addison, Sally & Chris Harvey

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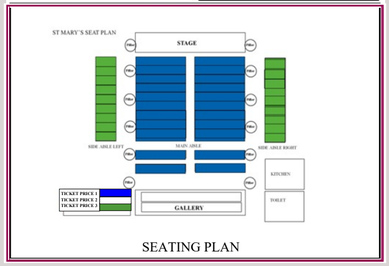


SEATING PLAN

Where to stay

The Visitor Information Office, Listley Street, Bridgnorth WV16 4AW will send a free list of hotels, guest houses and farm accommodation in the area if you **telephone 01746 763358**.

Bridgnorth is a hill-town, a rarity in England. It stands high above the river Severn, its High Town and Low Town connected by a funicular railway. The skyline is dramatically broken by the two church towers of St Leonard rebuilt in 1862, and St Mary Magdalene, the parish church, where the English Haydn Festival is held.

The old market town has a wealth of beautiful, interesting and historic buildings; the Castle boasts a leaning tower, just as Cromwell left it. Bridgnorth is the northern terminus of the celebrated Severn Valley Steam Railway.

Beyond Bridgnorth lies all the beauty, the wild country and the literary and historic fascination of Shropshire, at its very best in late spring.

The Prebendary & Church Warden are warmly thanked for making the use of St Mary's Church available to the Festival.

The English Haydn Festival gratefully acknowledges financial support from:

Continuo Foundation

English Haydn Festival Friends & Sponsors

Friends of English Haydn Festival:

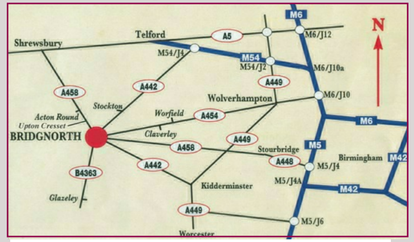
Friends' subscriptions contribute to the costs of organising the Festival and sponsor individual concerts.

The Friends of the Festival are given the earliest notice of the Festival dates, programmes and artists and receive the Festival Leaflet automatically when it is published. They receive a Spring & Autumn newsletter and meet together at their annual Reception at the Festival which is also attended by sponsors, members of the Festival Committee as well as soloists and musicians.

All these benefits are available for only £20 a year (or £30 for couples). If you would like to join the Friends and support the work of the Festival, please contact lindy@englishhaydn.com, or write for full details, include a stamped addressed envelope, to:

Lindy Macdonald, Secretary, Festival Friends,
Morville Farmhouse, Morville, Bridgnorth, Shropshire. WV16 4RJ

How to get to Bridgnorth



How to book your concert tickets

General Booking: From 4th February
By phone on **07547 289704** from 9.30 am till 5 pm Monday to Saturday.
On-Line from: http//www.ticketsource.co.uk/haydn-festival-trust
By E-mail: forms@englishhaydn.com
By post from the **Festival Box Office** using the booking form overleaf. Please remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope. The Box Office address is:

Morville Farmhouse, Morville, Bridgnorth, Shropshire. WV16 4RJ

Cheques. Should be made payable to 'English Haydn Festival'.

Ticket prices for Orchestral Concerts in St Mary's Church.
The top price is for seats in the nave with an unrestricted view of the stage. The second price is for seats in the gallery with unobstructed views. The third price is for seats in the side aisles with views largely obstructed by pillars. The acoustics are excellent in all parts of the church.

You are advised to bring a cushion..

Disabled access. St Mary's has easy access for wheelchairs, there is also an induction loop. Please tell the Box Office in advance and we will make any special provision necessary for you.

• Festival Marquee •

Pre-concert drinks will be served in the Marquee from 6pm to 7-15pm ready for concert start at 7-30pm prompt. Drinks will be served in the Marquee during the **30 minute** interval.

CAR PARKS are clearly signposted from all the roads approaching Bridgnorth.

John Reid and Professor Robbins Landon

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Haydn's London Plaque

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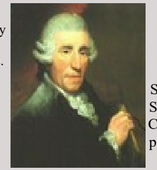

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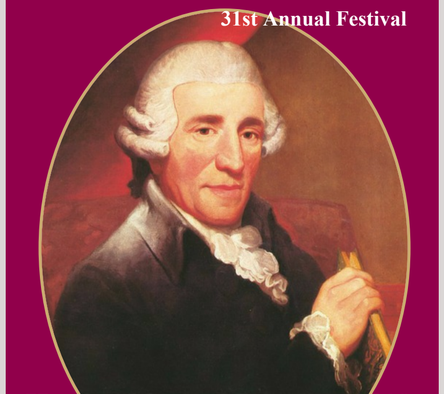
ENGLISH HAYDN FESTIVAL

31st Annual Festival



Haydn: Musical Images of Life

THE ENGLISH HAYDN ORCHESTRA
Conducted by: **Steven Devine**

BRIDGNORTH SHROPSHIRE

11 JUNE–15 JUNE 2025

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