

17 March - 16 April 2018
London Handel Festival
www.london-handel-festival.com



London Handel Festival

Handel
in London

17 March -
16 April 2018

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SAMIR SAVANT FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Promoted by the London Handel Society Ltd
Charity number 269184

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Cover photo: Handel, by Philip Mercier
Oil on canvas, c. 1730, courtesy of the Earl of Malmesbury

Dear Fellow Handelians,

Welcome to the 2018 London Handel Festival! The 2018 Festival takes 'Handel in London' as its theme and will explore not only the composer's broad and varied musical output but also his wider entrepreneurial and philanthropic life in Georgian society. We present works from his early career in London, including two early operas - *Amadigi di Gaula* and *Teseo* and special staged performances of *Acis and Galatea* to celebrate his 1718 residency at Cannons, right through to his mature period, and we conclude with his rarely heard *Occasional Oratorio*.

Other highlights include *Giulio Cesare* in concert performance (Early Opera Company, Christian Curnyn); Ruby Hughes exploring works sung by Giulia Frasi, one of Handel's favourite sopranos; Handel's music played at the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens with Bridget Cunningham; *The Judgement of Paris* by Thomas Arne (Brook Street Band, John Andrews); and the *Dettingen Te Deum* with Southbank Sinfonia.

I encourage you to engage with the Handel Singing Competition, now in its 16th year. We nurture the very best young talent, just as Handel did in his own day, and the 2018 Festival will feature no fewer than 20 past finalists of the competition.

We are packing more than ever into just one month with a wonderful array of performances, ranging from grand opera to intimate chamber recitals, and our usual selection of walks. This year we also have special talks at the Bank of England and Royal Society of Medicine. There is something on nearly every day, and often events twice a day, so there's no excuse for not getting your fill of Handel!

We are a small arts organisation, but with big ambition, and our avowed intention is to bring the glory of Handel's music to larger audiences. Please do encourage others to come to one of our events; once you have booked your tickets, you may want to pass this brochure on to a friend. Please also consider joining as a Handel Supporter (see page 26) as we rely on the generosity of our family of donors for our continued growth and success.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Festival in 2018.

Samir Savant
Festival Director

Diary

March

Saturday 17 March p 4
Come and Sing: Foundling Anthem

Sunday 18 March p 24
Guided walk: Bloomsbury

Sunday 18 March p 4
Foundling Anthem

Monday 19 March p 6
Acis and Galatea

Tuesday 20 March p 21
Mayfair Organ Concert

Tuesday 20 March p 5
HSC Finalists Recital

Wednesday 21 March p 20
Lunchtime Recital - Guildhall School

Wednesday 21 March p 6
Acis and Galatea

Thursday 22 March p 7
Esther

Friday 23 March p 8
Mr Handel's Scholars

Saturday 24 March p 9
Amadigi di Gaula

Sunday 25 March p 24
Guided walk: Clerkenwell

Sunday 25 March p 10
Handel's German Arias

Monday 26 March p 22
Handel's Investments

Tuesday 27 March p 21
Mayfair Organ Concert

Tuesday 27 March p 11
Harpichord Recital

Wednesday 28 March p 24
Guided walk: Handel's Mayfair

Wednesday 28 March p 5
HSC Semi-Final

Friday 30 March p 11
St Matthew Passion (Bach)

April

Tuesday 3 April p 21
Mayfair Organ Concert

Tuesday 3 April p 11
Harpichord Recital

Wednesday 4 April p 20
Lunchtime Recital - Arianna Vendittelli

Wednesday 4 April p 12
Mr Handel's Vauxhall Pleasures

Thursday 5 April p 20
Lunchtime Recital - Jungkwon Jang

Thursday 5 April p 22
Film: Honour, Profit & Pleasure

Friday 6 April p 13
The Judgement of Paris (Arne)

Saturday 7 April p 14
Giulia Frasi

Sunday 8 April p 15
Chandos Anthems 1, 2, 4

Monday 9 April p 20
Lunchtime Recital - Héloïse Mas

Monday 9 April p 23
Handel, Health & Hallelujah

Tuesday 10 April p 21
Mayfair Organ Concert

Tuesday 10 April p 5
Handel Singing Competition Final

Wednesday 11 April p 21
Lunchtime Recital - RCM

Wednesday 11 April p 24
Guided walk: Westminster

Wednesday 11 April p 16
Giulio Cesare

Thursday 12 April p 21
Lunchtime Recital - Marcjanna Myriak

Thursday 12 April p 17
Teseo

Friday 13 April p 24
Guided walk: Mayfair

Friday 13 April p 18
Music for Kings

Saturday 14 April p 17
Teseo

Monday 16 April p 19
Occasional Oratorio

HANDEL SINGING COMPETITION

Tuesday 20 March, 7pm & 8.30pm
FITZROVIA HOSPITAL CHAPEL

2017 Finalists Recital

MARCJANNA MYRLAK mezzo-soprano
JUNGKWON JANG countertenor
LAURENCE CUMMINGS harpsichord



This special recital, featuring Marcjanna Myrlak (outright winner of 2017 Handel Singing Competition) and Jungkwon Jang (winner of 2017 audience prize) will be held in the stunning, intimate Fitzrovia Hospital Chapel which was

recently restored - a wonderful opportunity to hear these exquisite voices up close.

Dove sei, amato bene? *Rodelinda* HWV 19
Scherza infida *Ariodante* HWV 33
Son nata a lagrimar *Giulio Cesare* HWV 17
O Lord, whose mercies numberless *Saul* HWV 53
Concerto in G (for solo harpsichord) HWV 487
Venti turbini *Rinaldo* HWV 7
Crude furie *Serse* HWV 40

TICKETS: £30 unreserved seating

Wednesday 28 March, 6pm (please note time)
GROSVENOR CHAPEL

Semi-Final

Following the closed first round of the competition, the dozen or so semi-finalists come together for their first public performance, accompanied by harpsichord. They each sing for 15 minutes in an all-Handel programme and the judges will put five or six singers through to the final.

TICKETS: £15 (free to students with ID) unreserved seating

Tuesday 10 April, 7pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Final

Come and hear the very best emerging talent in one of the world's leading singing competitions. Past finalists of the Handel Singing Competition have included Lucy Crowe and Iestyn Davies; see if you can spot a star of tomorrow. All of the finalists are required to prepare an all-Handel programme and are accompanied by the London Handel Orchestra, directed by Laurence Cummings. The panel of adjudicators will be chaired by internationally acclaimed tenor John Mark Ainsley.

TICKETS: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category B

Monday 19 March & Wednesday 21 March, 7.30pm
ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

Acis and Galatea HWV 49

To celebrate the 300th anniversary of the very first performance of *Acis and Galatea*, the London Handel Festival presents a colourful staging of Handel's popular pastoral opera. The bittersweet story, taken from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, tells of the love between the shepherd Acis and sea-nymph Galatea, thwarted by the jealous giant Polyphemus.

Laurence Cummings (conductor) and Martin Parr (director), with the London Handel Orchestra and a stunning line-up of soloists, conjure up an Arcadian world of glades and bowers, embracing the grandeur as well as the intimacy of St John's in this imaginative exploration of love, grief and fortitude.

NICK PRITCHARD Acis
LUCY PAGE Galatea
EDWARD GRINT Polyphemus
JORGE NAVARRO COLORADO Damon
LAURENCE CUMMINGS conductor
MARTIN PARR director
CHARLOTTE ESPINER costume designer
JACK WEIR lighting designer
LONDON HANDEL ORCHESTRA
PEGASUS choir



ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

TICKETS: £55, £45, £35, £25, £15

We are holding an allocation of tickets for Handel Supporters in the two top ticket categories, and you are welcome to book for this performance through your postal booking.

If you wish to book directly with the venue, please telephone 020 7222 1061 or book online www.sjss.org.uk





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Thursday 22 March, 7.30pm
WIGMORE HALL

Esther HWV 50

This event has already been on sale through the Wigmore Hall box office and is now sold out. We are holding a modest allocation of tickets back for Handel Supporters, and you are asked to e-mail Latasha Lamb (boxoffice@londonhandelfestival.org.uk) if you wish to reserve from this allocation.

Friday 23 March, 7.30pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Mr Handel's Scholars

Concert featuring alumni of the Handel Singing Competition

ANNA DEVIN soprano
MARIA OSTROUKHOVA mezzo-soprano
NATHAN VALE tenor
DEREK WELTON bass-baritone

LAURENCE CUMMINGS conductor
LONDON HANDEL ORCHESTRA

Handel was known to encourage young singers, many of whom became his star soloists and were known as 'Mr Handel's Scholars'. We continue his great tradition of nurturing young talent through our annual Handel Singing Competition, which is now in its 16th year. This concert is an opportunity to celebrate the success of the competition and to hear four past finalists who have gone on to major international careers. This will be an evening to remember, an all-Handel programme guaranteed to please everyone from those new to baroque music to Handel aficionados with a ravishing selection of sung items and orchestral pieces.

Overture; Verdi prati; Tornami a vagheggiar *Alcina* HWV 34
I know thy virtues... Descend kind pity *Theodora* HWV 68
Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine *Wedding Anthem* HWV 263
Dopo notte *Ariodante* HWV 33
Overture; Rendimi il dolce sposo; Il fuggir *Arminio* HWV 36
See the raging flames arise *Joshua* HWV 64
Go, baffled coward, go! *Samson* HWV 57
His mighty arm; O spare your daughter *Jephtha* HWV 70

TICKETS: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category B





Saturday 24 March, 7pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Amadigi di Gaula HWV 11

Amadigi is a tale of love, jealousy, betrayal and sorcery which focuses on the trials and tribulations of four characters: the hero, Amadigi, in love with Princess Oriana who has been imprisoned by the enchantress, Melissa. Amadigi and Dardano - his companion and rival in love - seek to rescue Oriana from Melissa's dark magic. Good and Evil seem unambiguous, yet Handel's musical genius might have you questioning where your sympathies lie.

Charles Burney described *Amadigi* as having 'more invention, variety and good composition, than in any one of the musical dramas of Handel which I have yet carefully and critically examined'. Today, the opera is usually remembered for such astonishing arias as 'Pena tiranna', and 'Ah! spietato'. Opera Settecento's performance will provide a rare opportunity to re-set these jewels in the splendid crown of this operatic masterwork.

MICHAŁ CZERNIAWSKI	Amadigi
ERICA ELOFF	Melissa
ILONA REVOLSKAYA	Oriana
MARIA OSTROUKHOVA	Dardano

LEO DUARTE director
ORCHESTRA OF OPERA SETTECENTO

TICKETS: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category B

★★★★☆ *'Elpidia of 1725, splendidly resurrected for the London Handel Festival by Leo Duarte and the young British group Opera Settecento'*

The Times

★★★★☆ *'Opera Settecento performed it with authoritative style and grace'*

The Guardian

Sunday 25 March, 2.30pm & 4pm
THE CHARTERHOUSE

Handel's German Arias

In the historic setting of the Great Chamber at the Charterhouse, the London Handel Players are joined by one of today's great Handel sopranos, Julia Doyle, to perform a selection of Handel's exquisite German arias which he wrote whilst in London during the mid-1720s. This one-hour programme will also include charming trio sonatas by Handel and Johann Christoph Pepusch, Handel's friend and contemporary, who wrote the music for *The Beggar's Opera* and who was also organist at the Charterhouse from 1737 until his death in 1752.

The Charterhouse is one of London's great survivors, with over 660 years of history to its name. Over the centuries the Charterhouse has been a monastery, a great Tudor mansion and a charity, functioning both as an almshouse and school and charitable work remains the Charterhouse's main purpose, offering a community for elderly people in financial and social need. Tickets to the performance will include a post-recital guided tour by one of the resident brothers.

Das zitternde Glänzen HWV 203

Süßer Blumen Ambräfloeken
HWV 204

Trio Sonata in C major for flute,
violin and continuo (Pepusch)

Singe, Seele, Gott zum Preise
HWV 206

Trio Sonata Op. 5 No. 6 in F major
HWV 401 for flute, violin and
continuo

Künft'ger Zeiten eitler Kummer
HWV 202

Meine Seele hört im Sehen
HWV 207

LONDON HANDEL PLAYERS

RACHEL BROWN flute

ADRIAN BUTTERFIELD violin

KATHERINE SHARMAN cello

SILAS WOLLSTON harpsichord

with JULIA DOYLE soprano

TICKETS: £40 unreserved seating

Handel at Home

We are delighted to present two hour-long concerts for harpsichord at Handel's own home in Brook Street, part of the *Handel & Hendrix in London* museum.

Everyone attending the Festival is also entitled to a special discounted ticket for admission to the museum (£8 in lieu of £10 full price). 25 Brook Street is the house that belonged to Handel and the place where he composed some of the world's most enduring music such as *Zadok the Priest* and *Messiah*. Visit the rooms where he ate, slept, rehearsed and entertained in a modest mid-terraced house for the last 36 years of his life and understand the man behind these incredible works. Open Monday-Saturday, 11am-6pm (last entry 5pm), 25 Brook Street, W1K 4HB.

You must purchase this ticket at the same time as your Festival tickets. Simply add 'Handel House admission' under 'Performance' on the booking form, and you will receive a separate ticket to be shown at the museum to gain admission.

[Handel & Hendrix in London museum](#)

Tuesday 27 March, 6.30pm
HANDEL & HENDRIX IN LONDON

Kindred Spirits

JULIAN PERKINS harpsichord

No artist exists in a vacuum – least of all Handel. This programme celebrates an array of musical styles which fed into Handel's creative genius, and includes a suite that he wrote for Princess Louisa.

Handel	Overture to <i>Rodelinda</i> HWV 456
J Haydn	Divertimento in G major Hob. XVI/8
Rameau	Suite in A minor from <i>Premier Livre de Pièces de Clavecin</i>
J C Smith	Lesson No. 4 in B flat major from <i>Six Suites</i> (1755)
Handel	Suite in G minor HWV 452

Tuesday 3 April, 6.30pm
HANDEL & HENDRIX IN LONDON

The Duel

GILBERT ROWLAND harpsichord

As a young man Handel famously survived a duel with friend and fellow composer Johann Mattheson. This programme relives this moment in history, comparing the music of these two precocious talents.

Johann Mattheson	Suite No. 1 in D minor
Handel	Suite in E major HWV 430
Johann Mattheson	Suite No. 2 in A major
Handel	Suite in D minor HWV 448

TICKETS: £12 unreserved seating

Friday 30 March, 2.30pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Bach

St Matthew Passion

BWV 244

NATHAN VALE	Evangelist & tenor
GEORGE HUMPHREYS	Christus & bass
MARIE LYS	soprano
MARCJANNA MYRLAK	alto

LAURENCE CUMMINGS conductor

LONDON HANDEL ORCHESTRA
ADRIAN BUTTERFIELD leader

CHOIR OF ST GEORGE'S

Join us for our popular annual performance of Bach's St Matthew Passion, sung in German and as part of the Good Friday Vespers service. This is a rare opportunity to experience the work in its original liturgical context, complete with sermon and congregational hymns.

TICKETS: £55, £45, £40, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category A

Wednesday 4 April, 7pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Mr Handel's Vauxhall Pleasures

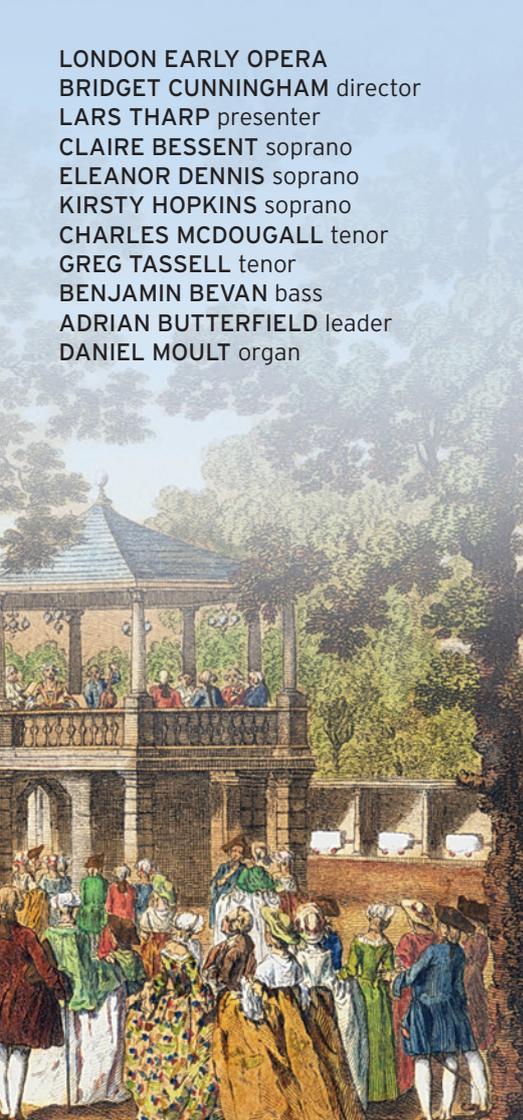
In the 1740s Handel underwent an epic stylistic re-invention, premiering *Messiah* in Ireland and later on performing at the Foundling Hospital, which re-established him as England's pre-eminent composer. Opera, the engine of Handel's London career, was in decline, yet still Handel's music featured constantly at the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens and his genius was commemorated there with Roubiliac's statue. Inspired by Jonathan Tyers, the entrepreneurial proprietor, Handel and his fellow composers, including Arne, Boyce and Hebden, and the artist Hogarth transformed the reputation of the Gardens from a place of intrigue and risky assignations to a civilised place of public Enlightenment with all the playful pleasures of the Rococo.

London Early Opera have recorded two discs of Handel's music for Vauxhall which have been critically acclaimed. Their programme will delight you with its sumptuous mix of music, words and images of Vauxhall which will bring alive the colourful characters, excitement and emerging spirit of the Modern Age in this musical 'Happening'.

TICKETS: £35, £30, £25, £10, £8 reserved seating
Price Category C

Dead March *Saul* HWV 53
Sinfonia *Acis and Galatea* HWV 49
Organ Concerto Op. 4 No. 2 in B flat major HWV 290
Ye verdant plains and woody mountains... Hush, ye pretty warbling quire!
Acis and Galatea HWV 49
The Melancholy Nymph HWV 228.19
The Ladies in Vauxhall Gardens, to the British Officers at Dettingen
(Thomas Gladwin)
Green Wood Hall (Thomas Gladwin)
O ruddier than the cherry! *Acis and Galatea* HWV 49
Colin and Phoebe - a pastoral (Thomas Arne)
As steals the morn upon the night
L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato HWV 55
Concerto for Strings and Basso
Continuo No. 1 in A major
(John Hebden)
Spring Gardens (William Boyce)
Hornpipe in D major HWV 356
A Song on the Victory over the
Rebels by his Royal Highness
the Duke of Cumberland HWV 228.9
The Farewel to Vaux Hall (John Lampe)

E. Rooker after Canaletto, A View of the
Grand Walk in Vauxhall Gardens, taken
from the Entrance, *etching and engraving,*
hand-coloured (1751)



LONDON EARLY OPERA
BRIDGET CUNNINGHAM director
LARS THARP presenter
CLAIRE BESSENT soprano
ELEANOR DENNIS soprano
KIRSTY HOPKINS soprano
CHARLES MCDUGALL tenor
GREG TASSELL tenor
BENJAMIN BEVAN bass
ADRIAN BUTTERFIELD leader
DANIEL MOULT organ

Friday 6 April, 7pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

The Judgement of Paris

Arne The Judgement of Paris
Handel Arias from *Semele* HWV 58

ED LYON Paris
SORAYA MAFI Venus
ANTHONY GREGORY Mercury
GILLIAN RAMM Juno
SUSANNA FAIRBAIRN Pallas

BROOK STREET BAND
JOHN ANDREWS director

The Competition to End All Competitions. William Congreve wrote his riotous and raunchy libretto to *The Judgement of Paris* for the famous 'Musick Prize' Competition of 1701 - the Eurovision of its day - which pitted London's finest composers against each other for winnings of 100 guineas. Forty years later, in 1742, Thomas Arne set the libretto as part of his attempts to wrest dominance of the London Theatre from Handel. This in turn prompted Handel to set Congreve's other great libretto, *Semele*.

In a re-creation of the competitive spirit of the 18th century, our talented cast of young singers, including three former Handel Singing Competition finalists, will present Arne's witty and tuneful masque-opera, and then *you* get to choose which arias you would like them to sing from *Semele* in the second half of the concert. The audience will be invited to vote on the evening for their favourite arias from Handel's masterpiece which can be compared to Arne's from the first half ... and then all that's left is to vote for your favourite composer.

TICKETS: £35, £30, £25, £10, £8 reserved seating
Price Category C

Saturday 7 April, 7.30pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Giulia Frasi

Handel's last Prima Donna

RUBY HUGHES soprano

LAURENCE CUMMINGS conductor

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT (strings, oboes)



© Camillo Escheverri

Ruby Hughes was the winner of the 2009 Handel Singing Competition and has gone on to an impressive international career, with stage and concert appearances around the world and several critically acclaimed CDs. She has carefully researched one of her idols, Giulia Frasi - one of Handel's favourite sopranos - for this programme which aligns with her latest CD.

She writes: "Baroque music has always been at the heart of my repertoire and some of my fondest memories are of performing music from this era. It has had a profound impact on later repertoire and has come to define where my musical roots lie. The inspiration behind this programme came about through researching some of my favourite Handel roles, only to discover that most of them had been composed for Giulia Frasi. Time and again I found myself drawn to the empathetic temperament and lyrical ease of the vocal writing, embodied in roles such as Theodora and Iphis. With the help and support of historian David Vickers we set about researching the music and roles that were written for Frasi during her lifetime. It seems her star began to ascend from the point at which Handel started composing for her. It is an immense joy to be able to share these musical gems with you."

"A poised singer with a lovely soulful tone and great legato... she has great stage presence too."

Opera Now 'Who's Hot', Robert Thicknesse

"Hughes's voice is ravishing, her interpretations wonderfully fresh... her dynamic control, from the whispered opening to the blaze and glory at the close, is breathtaking."

Gramophone Magazine

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba; Will the sun forget to streak *Solomon* HWV 67

Overture; It comes it must be death *Paradise Lost* (John Christopher Smith)

Overture; With darkness deep; Oh, that I on wings could rise *Theodora* HWV 68

Overture; Crystal streams *Susanna* HWV 66

Gracious heav'n, O hear me (Thomas Arne)

Farewell, ye limpid springs *Jephtha* HWV 70

TICKETS: £35, £30, £25, £10, £8 reserved seating
Price Category C

Sunday 8 April, 4pm
ST LAWRENCE, Little Stanmore

Chandos Anthems

Handel Chandos Anthem No. 1, O be joyful in the Lord HWV 246
Handel Chandos Anthem No. 2, In the Lord put I my trust HWV 247
Handel Chandos Anthem No. 4, O sing unto the Lord a new song HWV 249B

The medieval church of St Lawrence, Little Stanmore was given a spectacular rebuild in 1716 by James Brydges, owner of the Cannons estate, who became the Duke of Chandos in 1719. An enormously wealthy man due to his years as paymaster-general of His Majesty's Forces during the War of the Spanish Succession, Brydges also rebuilt Cannons and set up a musical establishment at the house, inviting Handel to compose 11 anthems and a *Te Deum* for performance at St Lawrence's Church 300 years ago. Adrian Butterfield continues his cycle of performing these works with the intimate forces for which Handel wrote them with three talented young singers, including Grace Davidson and Timothy Nelson, previous finalists in the Handel Singing Competition. There will be a short talk on the architecture and history of the church at the beginning of the second half by Stuart Cawthorne.

GRACE DAVIDSON soprano
LAURENCE KILSBY tenor
TIMOTHY NELSON baritone

ADRIAN BUTTERFIELD conductor
LONDON HANDEL ORCHESTRA

TICKETS: £25 unreserved seating
Sponsored by Darwin Escapes



Chandos Mausoleum
St Lawrence, Little Stanmore



Wednesday 11 April, 7pm
ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

Giulio Cesare HWV 17

First performed in London nearly 300 years ago, *Giulio Cesare* focuses on the legendary romance between the Roman general Julius Caesar and Cleopatra, the Egyptian princess fighting her brother for the throne. The dramatic score takes centre stage with triumphalism, love and vengeance holding sway before the final peace. Early Opera Company makes its debut in the Festival under the direction of Christian Curnyn with an all-star cast, including three past finalists of the Handel Singing Competition, in this concert version of Handel's operatic masterpiece.

TIM MEAD	Cesare
ANNA DEVIN	Cleopatra
RACHEL KELLY	Sesto
HILARY SUMMERS	Cornelia
RUPERT ENTICKNAP	Tolomeo
CALLUM THORPE	Achilla
JAMES HALL	Nireno

CHRISTIAN CURNYN director
EARLY OPERA COMPANY

TICKETS: £55, £45, £35, £25, £15

We are holding an allocation of tickets for Handel Supporters in the two top ticket categories, and you are welcome to book for this performance through your postal booking.

If you wish to book directly with the venue, please telephone 020 7222 1061 or book online at www.sjss.org.uk



ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

During the Festival, there will be a special display related to *Giulio Cesare* in the Handel gallery at the Foundling Museum. Normal museum admission applies.

Thursday 12 & Saturday 14 April, 7pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Teseo HWV 9

Medea	LEILA ZANETTE	HANNAH POULSOM
Agilea	MEINIR WYN ROBERTS	ILONA REVOLSKAYA
Clizia	EMILIE CAVALLO	ALEXANDRA OOMENS
Teseo	PATRICK TERRY	OLIVIA WARBURTON
Arcane	ALEXANDER SIMPSON	
Sacerdote	DARWIN PRAKASH	

DAVID BATES director
LA NUOVA MUSICA
ROYAL ACADEMY OPERA

Teseo is a wonderful and intriguing opera, its music full of interesting orchestrations that paint the heightened emotional journey of the passionate and turbulent libretto. It was Handel's third London opera and his only opera in five acts, in the French tradition, rather than the usual three acts of Italian *opera seria*, which adds an exoticism and would certainly have unsettled Handel's audience back in 1713. La Nuova Musica always impress under the expert baton of David Bates, and this year we are delighted to present the exceptionally talented singers studying on the Royal Academy Opera programme at the Royal Academy of Music.

TICKETS: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category B



David Bates

Friday 13 April, 7.30pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Music for Kings

Purcell	King Arthur Suite
Corelli	Concerto Grosso Op. 6 No. 9
Bach	Oboe & Violin Concerto in C minor BWV 1060
Rameau	Suite from <i>Zoroastre</i>
Handel	Dettingen Te Deum HWV 283

SOUTHBANK SINFONIA BAROQUE
ADRIAN BUTTERFIELD director
VOX MUSICA
MICHAEL BERMAN conductor

GARETH JOHN baritone
TOM VERNEY countertenor
JULIAN PERKINS harpsichord & organ

Written for King George II's return from the Battle of Dettingen in 1743, Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum* is a wonderful celebratory work - joyful, dramatic and full of contrasting moods. Alongside this, music from Purcell's *King Arthur*, Corelli's splendid Italian concerto grosso, dances in the French style from Rameau's late opera *Zoroastre* and Bach's beautiful double concerto provide a wonderfully varied tapestry of music of the time.

Adrian Butterfield

We welcome back Southbank Sinfonia, an orchestra of outstanding young professionals who recently played to great critical acclaim in the National Theatre's *Amadeus*, and chamber choir Vox Musica, alongside talented soloists Tom Verney and Gareth John, winner of the 2013 Kathleen Ferrier Award.

TICKETS: £15 unreserved seating

Monday 16 April, 7pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Occasional Oratorio HWV 62

FFLUR WYN soprano
GALINA AVERINA soprano
ALEXANDER SPRAGUE tenor
LISANDRO ABADIE bass

LAURENCE CUMMINGS conductor
ADRIAN BUTTERFIELD leader
LONDON HANDEL ORCHESTRA
LONDON HANDEL SINGERS



Handel wrote his *Occasional Oratorio* rather hastily in early 1746 in response to the Jacobite rebellion in 1745; it was felt at the time that London's audiences needed a major musical work to boost their morale. The oratorio is based on a libretto by Newburgh Hamilton, after the poetry of John Milton and Edmund Spenser, which exhorts the nation to rise up against its foes and trust in Jehovah. Handel borrowed heavily from earlier compositions, including *Israel in Egypt* and *Athalia*, and the work climaxes with music based on his popular *Zadok the Priest*.

Festival audiences will be delighted by the usual heady mixture of rousing choruses, stirring arias and first-rate orchestral writing of this rarely performed oratorio. Our talented team of internationally acclaimed soloists is made up entirely of past finalists of the Handel Singing Competition.

TICKETS: £55, £45, £40, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category A

Pre-performance talk by Ruth Smith: 'Handel and the Hanoverians'
(free admission with concert ticket) from 6 - 6.30pm

2018 Lunchtime Recitals

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, 1pm

Our lunchtime recitals showcase the finalists from the 2017 Handel Singing Competition as well as the very best talent from the London conservatoires. What better way could there be to spend your lunch hour? Please note that all our lunchtime recitals will be at St George's and start at 1pm, and all music is by Handel unless otherwise stated. **TICKETS: £10 unreserved seating**

Wednesday 21 March

Students from Guildhall School of Music and Drama

- Buxtehude** Jesu, meine Freude BuxWV 60
Handel Meine Seele hört im Sehen HWV 207
Handel In den angenehmen Büschen HWV 209
Buxtehude Ich habe Lust abzuschneiden BuxWV 47
Handel Flammende Rose, Zierde der Erden HWV 210
Buxtehude Herr, wenn ich nur dich hab BuxWV 38
Handel Süße Stille, sanfte Quelle HWV 205
Buxtehude Cantate Domino BuxWV 12

Wednesday 4 April

ARIANNA VENDITTELLI

(winner of second prize)

- Handel** Ah! Che pur troppo è vero HWV 77
Scarlatti Io per Dori mi struggo
Scarlatti Sonata in C major for violoncello and basso continuo
Handel Ditemi, o piante HWV 107

Nikolay Ginov cello
Asako Ogawa harpsichord

Thursday 5 April

JUNGKWON JANG (winner of audience prize)

- Handel** O Lord, whose mercies numberless; Such haughty beauties rather move *Saul* HWV 53
Handel Dove sei, amato bene? *Rodelinda* HWV 19
Corelli Trio Sonata Op. 2 No. 12 'Ciaccona'
Handel Frondi tenere... Ombra mai fu *Serse* HWV 40
Handel Cara sposa; Di speranza un bel raggio... Venti, turbini *Rinaldo* HWV 7
Corelli Trio Sonata Op. 4 No. 1
Handel Chi scuopre al mio pensiero... Mi lusinga il dolce affetto; Verdi prati *Alcina* HWV 34

Baroque Ensemble LUX
Katarina Đorđević violin
Haru Sekiya violin
Nikolay Ginov cello
Asako Ogawa harpsichord

Monday 9 April

HÉLOÏSE MAS (finalist)

- Un pensiero nemico di pace *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno* HWV 46a
Cease, ruler of the day, to rise *Hercules* HWV 60
Ah, mio cor *Alcina* HWV 34
Pena tiranna *Amadigi di Gaula* HWV 11
La Lucrezia HWV 145
Scherza infida *Ariodante* HWV 33
Morirò ma vendicata *Teseo* HWV 9

Baroque Ensemble LUX
Ann Allen oboe
Plamen Ginov bassoon
Haru Sekiya violin
Nikolay Ginov cello
Asako Ogawa harpsichord

Wednesday 11 April

Students from Royal College of Music's Historical Performance Faculty

Sammartini	Sinfonia in A major
Handel	The Harmonious Blacksmith Air and Variations Vol. 1 No. 5 HWV 430
James Paisible	Suite from 'She Wou'd and She Wou'd Not'
Handel	Trio Sonata in G minor Op. 2 No. 6 HWV 391
Sammartini	Recorder Concerto in F major

Thursday 12 April

MARCJANNA MYRLAK (winner of first prize)

Ogni' indugio d'un amante *Rinaldo* HWV 7
E vivo ancora?... Scherza infida *Ariodante* HWV 33
Non disperar *Giulio Cesare* HWV 17
M'hai vinto al fin... Ritornava al suo bel viso *Orlando* HWV 31
Chaconne in G major HWV 435
Caro, Cara, tu m'accendi *Faramondo* HWV 39
Stà nell'Ircana pietrosa tana *Alcina* HWV 34
Scherzano sul tuo volto *Rinaldo* HWV 7
As with rosy steps the morn *Theodora* HWV 68

with Dagmar Barna soprano
Nikolay Ginov cello
Asako Ogawa harpsichord



Mayfair Organ Concerts

We are delighted that the Mayfair Organ Concerts are part of the Festival again this year. The recitals this year take place at St George's, Hanover Square on the acclaimed Richards, Fowkes & Co organ, installed in 2012, and at Grosvenor Chapel on its newly restored William Drake organ. The programmes feature works by Handel, together with related repertoire and are performed by some of the leading names in the organ world today. We also have a special recital featuring the choir of Grosvenor Chapel. Each recital runs from 1.10pm to 1.50pm (doors open at 12.30pm). Admission is free with a retiring collection, and seating is unreserved.

Tuesday 20 March

MARKO SEVER - ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC
St George's, Hanover Square

Tuesday 27 March

GROSVENOR CHAPEL CHOIR directed by **RICHARD HOBSON**
with **JACOB COLLINS** organ
Grosvenor Chapel

Tuesday 3 April

GRAHAM THORPE - ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
St George's, Hanover Square

Tuesday 10 April

ALEXANDER HAMILTON - TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE
Grosvenor Chapel

Extra-Curricular

If you want to explore this year's theme 'Handel in London' fully, we encourage you to book for one of our additional events, organised to give you special insight into Handel's life in the city where he chose to settle and spent most of his adult life.



Monday 26 March, 11am & 2pm
BANK OF ENGLAND MUSEUM

Handel's Investments

From 1712 to 1759 Handel was a London resident and engaged fully in the life of the city. His accounts at the Bank of England show him to be a cautious but, in the end, successful investor, while also portraying the ups and downs of his career. Ellen T Harris, an expert on the composer's investments, will provide an illustrated guide through his accounts in Bank of England ledgers and explain what they tell us about Handel the man. Selected original ledgers will be available to view after the talk.

Free admission, but there are limited spaces available (up to 50) and tickets must be reserved in advance through the London Handel Festival Box Office.

Thursday 5 April, 7.30pm
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square

Honour, Profit and Pleasure

Simon Callow CBE stars as Handel in this film, which was originally produced for Channel 4 in 1985. Screened during the 2014 Festival, the film proved so popular that we have brought it back again for a further screening. Made on a small budget, it tells the story of his life after he moved to England in the 1710s. The film gives some insight into his personality along with some amusing stagings of his operas. Sadly, director Anna Ambrose died shortly after the film was completed. The cast includes Simon Callow, Hugh Grant, Alan Devlin, T P McKenna, Jean Rigby and James Villiers.

With thanks to the BFI National TV Archive
TICKETS: £10 unreserved seating

Monday 9 April, 7pm
ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

Handel, Health & Hallelujah

Handel lived to the considerable age of 74, well beyond contemporary life expectancy and for many of these years his home at 25 Brook Street was just a short distance from the Royal Society of Medicine. The last 20 or so years of his life were troubled by periodic ill health, though his compositional and performing abilities were unimpaired, and eventually he lost his sight completely. Contemporary wits pointed to his prodigious appetites in highly satirical, not to say derogatory, terms, and even his friends and admirers made no secret of his corpulence and unsteadiness of gait. More recently, scholars have taken an interest in attempting to identify his maladies and their causes more precisely. This hour-long lecture by specialist Charles Bonney will review the evidence and provide an opportunity for questions from the audience. All attendees are welcome to join us after the lecture for a drinks reception and to continue the discussion.

TICKETS: £8 unreserved seating

Please note that tickets for this event should be booked directly through the Royal Society of Medicine's events department either by telephone on 020 7290 3855 or online at www.rsm.ac.uk/events/MRK04.

We need your help...

In addition to giving valuable philanthropic support to the London Handel Festival by joining one of our Handel Supporter schemes (see page 26), please consider getting involved with us in another way through volunteering or hosting a musician in your home.

For most of our events, we need a team of volunteer stewards who help to make our audiences feel welcome, direct people to their seats, check tickets and sell programmes. We are looking to recruit volunteers for the 2018 Festival who are confident, friendly and enjoy interacting with the general public. In return, you will get to enjoy the music and meet like-minded enthusiasts whilst supporting a great charity. There are other specific volunteering opportunities available, including help with social media, general administration or concert logistics. If you have a particular skill to offer, we would be delighted to hear from you.

In addition, many of our musicians are looking for hosts who can provide free accommodation within easy travelling distance of central London. This is a perfect way to welcome a musician into your home, and it is a rewarding experience for everyone!

If you would like to get involved, and to find out more about anything described above, please contact Samir Savant, Festival Director by e-mail (festivaldirector@londonhandelfestival.org.uk). Thanks in advance for your interest.

SCHOOLS PERFORMANCE

On the morning of Thursday 29 March, we present a special performance for schools of Handel's *Water Music* performed by students from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, directed by Walter Reiter.

If you are interested to find out more, please contact Samir Savant (festivaldirector@londonhandelfestival.org.uk)

Musical Walks 2018

We continue our popular series of pre-performance walks on musical and Georgian themes with Blue Badge Guide Janice Liverseidge. We have an additional bonus walk with Professor Ellen T Harris. Each walk is specially tailored to arrive in good time for the relevant performance later that day or evening.

Sunday 18 March, 1.15 - 2.30pm
Meet: outside Holborn Underground,
Kingsway exit

Bloomsbury philanthropists, inventors and eccentrics

This walk links together a number of Handel's contemporaries who were, like him, supporters of the new Foundling Hospital. We will see the site where Purcell, Gay and Handel's operas were performed, and learn about the man who was probably the first in London to use an umbrella, demon drinks, a famous clockmaker, medicine men and prison reformers. We finish our walk at the Foundling Museum in good time for the 3pm recital.

Sunday 25 March, 2.30 - 3.30pm
Meet: outside Farringdon Underground
Clerkenwell including coffee houses, coal and the Clerk's well

Clerkenwell is steeped in history and this afternoon's walk provides a glimpse of the area's past. We will find the coal depot connected with Handel, discover the link between the Clerk's well and gin production, as well as learning about Hogarth's links with the area. We finish at the

Charterhouse, recently opened to the public as a museum.

Wednesday 28 March, 3 - 5pm
Meet: Lancashire Court, behind Handel's house on Brook Street
Handel's Mayfair (with Ellen T Harris)

Handel moved into his house on Brook Street in 1723 and died there in 1759, but we generally see him only in terms of his profession at the King's Theatre or at court. What was his life like closer to home? Ellen T Harris, who has studied Handel's social connections in depth, will lead a tour of the houses he visited to enjoy parties and music-making with close friends in Mayfair, including Mary Delany, Joseph Goupy, Elizabeth Palmer and Anne Donnellan. We finish at Grosvenor Chapel.

Wednesday 11 April, 5.30 - 6.30pm
Meet: outside Westminster Underground, exit on corner of Parliament Square and Whitehall (east side)
1000 years of destruction, conservation and restoration in one hour!

Westminster was home to a monastery over 1000 years ago, and during this evening's

stroll we will see an area that was important due to its links with royalty and democracy. We see some striking memorials and statues, trace the World War II damage to and subsequent restoration of key buildings, including a garden which is a former graveyard. Our destination is tonight's concert venue, often referred to as Queen Anne's footstool.

Friday 13 April, 5.30 - 6.30pm
Meet: Eros Statue, Piccadilly Circus
Churches, squares, artists, doctors and musicians

In an area of London that includes wonderful Georgian buildings, we venture into the world of high art and places frequented by the rich. We see where George II worshipped and the home of Handel's amanuensis, John Smith. We will also learn about the work of the anatomy schools and the increasing skills of the medical profession during the period.

TICKETS: £15 per walk or £10 if you come to the performance afterwards. Walks need to be booked in advance.

General Information

HOW TO BOOK

Booking dates are as follows:

Tuesday 9 January - Advance priority booking for Patrons Circle and above

Tuesday 16 January - Priority booking (online, postal and telephone) for all other Handel Supporters, including Friends of the London Handel Society

Tuesday 30 January - Public booking (online and postal)

Tuesday 6 February - Public booking (telephone)

For further information about how to become a Handel Supporter, please see page 26. Please note that you can book tickets for all events listed in this brochure through the London Handel Festival Box Office except for the events at the Foundling Museum (18 March) and Royal Society of Medicine (9 April), and for Handel Supporters we are holding back an allocation of tickets for *Acis and Galatea* and *Giulio Cesare* but you may wish to book directly from the St John's Smith Square box office. Ways to book tickets for these events are listed on the relevant page for each event. All details were correct at time of printing. Artists and programmes are subject to change. All pieces are by Handel unless otherwise stated.

YOUR BOOKING

Reserved = numbered seats, booking recommended.

Unreserved = choose your seat on arrival, but we recommend that you book in advance to ensure a seat.

Access and general enquiries: 01460 54660

All tickets are non-refundable once purchased.

POSTAL BOOKING

Please complete the back page of this booklet and send to:

Box Office, London Handel Society,
PO Box 79, Ilminster, TA19 9WP

Payment may be made by cheque or signed credit card authorisation. Please do not enter a specific amount on the cheque, but state the maximum amount payable at the bottom of the cheque, in case we are not able to supply all the seats you request.

ONLINE & TELEPHONE BOOKING

www.london-handel-festival.com
01460 54660

Monday to Friday: 10am-12.30pm and 2-4pm
Please note that our box office staff work part-time so please leave a message if no-one is available to take your call.

The Box Office will open at the venue 45 minutes before each performance.

DISCOUNTS

You are entitled to £2 discount per ticket if you book for 3 or more concerts before 1 March, or for group bookings of 10 or more people. Please contact us if you are a student or registered disabled. We do not offer standby tickets.

PRICE CATEGORIES

Please note that these ticket categories relate to all reserved seating concerts at St George's Hanover Square. Please see below for which seating is included in each price bracket. Some of the seats in the Side Aisles and Gallery are restricted view, as indicated below, but the sound is good in all areas of the church. A full seating plan for the church is available on our website.

TICKETS: £55, £45, £40, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category A

TICKETS: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12 reserved seating
Price Category B

TICKETS: £35, £30, £25, £10, £8 reserved seating
Price Category C

Top price (£55, £45, £35) Front Nave, Rows A-E

Second price (£45, £40, £30) Mid Nave,
Rows F-J & Gallery by Organ

Third price (£40, £35, £25) Back Nave, Rows K-M; Front
Side Aisles & Gallery Front Row at Sides

Fourth price (£15, £10) Back Side Aisles; Side Nave &
Gallery Second Row - restricted view

Fifth price (£12, £8) Gallery Back Row - very restricted
view

Please support our work

The London Handel Festival is an annual celebration of the work of George Frideric Handel. Each year we present a critically acclaimed season of concerts, recitals, talks and walks, and everyone is welcome. Since the very beginning the Festival has been supported by those passionate about Handel's music.

A major aim of the Festival is to encourage and promote young talent. The annual Handel Singing Competition was inaugurated in 2002, and past finalists include singers who have gone on to stellar international careers, such as Ruby Hughes, Iestyn Davies and Lucy Crowe.

Our supporters make a huge contribution to the Festival each year, helping us to maintain our high artistic standards whilst keeping ticket prices affordable. We do not receive any public subsidy and ticket sales alone do not cover all of our costs. Therefore we are reliant on our loyal group of supporters for our continued success each year, in particular to support our artistic ambitions to nurture young talent and explore Handel's lesser known repertoire. Please join us.

We offer several levels of support, with a range of benefits designed to bring you closer to our work. Please note that the amount for each level is the suggested minimum donation per year.

Friend of London Handel Society

- £40 per annum

- Priority booking for all performances, many of which sell out
- Invitations to concerts organised by the Friends
- Regular e-newsletter

Associate Benefactor

- £250 per annum

All of the benefits above +

- Personal acknowledgement in donor lists on website (if desired)
- Advance notification of Festival calendar of events
- Special events designed to give 'behind the scenes' access

Benefactor - £500 per annum

All of the benefits above +

- Personal acknowledgement in donor lists in printed programmes (if desired)
- Two free Festival programmes on request
- Personalised communication from Festival Director, including review of each Festival

Patrons Circle

- £1,200 per annum

All of the benefits above +

- Priority booking before other supporters
- Opportunity to designate support towards a particular project
- Annual Season Preview event

Director's Circle

- £5,000 per annum

All of the benefits above +

- Opportunity to support specific concert/project/prize
- Exclusive access to rehearsals and to meet musicians
- Regular meetings with Festival Director to share views

If you wish to join or to renew your membership, you will be able to do this by completing the booking form opposite and sending it back to us.

Thank you for your support.

Booking Form

Please return this form to the address overleaf or book online or by telephone on 01460 54660.
Please read all the information on page 25 before completing this form.

Please note that there is a £2.50 booking fee per order to cover administration and postage costs. If seats are not available in any given area, the next best will be allocated.

Name

Address

..... Postcode

Telephone/mobile Email

Please use this form to renew or join as a Handel Supporter (see page 26 for details).

I wish to renew/join as a e.g. Friend/Benefactor etc @ £

I wish to make a donation of £ to support the London Handel Festival

If you are booking for a performance where there is a choice of times, please indicate your preferred time.

I would like to book tickets for the London Handel Festival as follows:

Performance	Date e.g. 20/3	Price £*	No. of tickets	Total £
Friend/Benefactor etc.				
Donation				
Booking Fee				
TOTAL				

* please deduct discount if appropriate

I enclose a cheque for £ made payable to the London Handel Society Ltd (please leave total amount open, stating only an upper limit above, in case your first choice of seats is not available)

OR pay by credit/debit card

(Mastercard, Visa, and Visa Debit are accepted)

Card no:

Start date: / Expiry date: /

**London Handel Society, PO Box 79,
Ilminster, TA19 9WP**
boxoffice@londonhandelfestival.org.uk
www.london-handel-festival.com

CSV - the last three numbers on the back of your card

CSV security number: Name as on the card

Notes Please use this space to write any special requirements e.g. prefer end of row seat. We will endeavour to meet your request, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Data Protection

As part of our service to you, your name, telephone number, email and postal address together with a record of your ticket bookings will be held on our database to facilitate future transactions. We will never pass your details on to a third party without your prior consent.

We would like to stay in touch with you with news of the London Handel Festival, including information about future events, ways to support the Festival and promotional offers - please tick here to indicate that you are happy for us to remain in contact:

I am happy to receive future communications by e-mail

I am happy to receive future communications by post

I am happy for you to contact me by telephone

Making the most of your support

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the London Handel Society from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

All payments made to join the Handel Supporters or any general donations are eligible for Gift Aid if you pay tax in the UK. If you have made a donation to the London Handel Society in the past four years, it is likely that we have a Gift Aid declaration from you already.

I have made a donation to the London Handel Society in the past four years - please check if you have a Gift Aid declaration from me

I am a new donor - please contact me about my Gift Aid declaration