

Concerts *IN THE* West

– CELEBRATING 20 YEARS IN 2025 –



BRIDPORT Arts Centre



The Dance House, CREWKERNE



ILMINSTER Arts Centre

CHAMBER MUSIC MINI-TOURS IN THE SOUTH WEST

14 FEBRUARY TO 29 NOVEMBER 2025

2006-2025 www.concertsinthewest.org



14 FEBRUARY Bridport Arts Centre 11.30AM
14 FEBRUARY Ilminster Arts Centre 7.30PM
15 FEBRUARY Dance House, Crewkerne 7.30PM

ENSEMBLE HESPERI

Magdalena Loth-Hill, baroque violin
 Mary-Jannet Leith, recorders
 Florence Petit, baroque cello
 Thomas Allery, harpsichord



A Gift for your garden

Programme to include works by **Telemann, Oswald, Graun, Handel, and Gambarini**

We greet **ENSEMBLE HESPERI**, a dynamic and innovative London-based period ensemble, with a reputation for showcasing Baroque Music through research-led programming. The four members of Ensemble Hesperii met during their studies at the Royal College of Music in London, and the varied talents of each member of the ensemble combine to present joyful and educational performances for audiences of all kinds. Hesperii aims to embody the true spontaneity of chamber music.

In 2020, the ensemble was selected as Britten Pears Young Artists, and won first prize at the London International Festival of Early Music Young Ensemble Competition. In 2021, the ensemble became City Music Foundation artists, and released its debut album, *The ensemble appears regularly on BBC Radio 3's Early Music Show and In Tune programmes.*

www.ensemblehesperi.com



14 MARCH Bridport Arts Centre 11.30AM
14 MARCH Ilminster Arts Centre 7.30PM
15 MARCH Dance House, Crewkerne 7.30PM

ALASDAIR BEATSON, piano

Beethoven Sonata in E minor, Op 90
Ferdinand Ries 8 Variations on a theme of Beethoven, Op 33 no 3
Fauré Thème et variations Op 73
George Benjamin Piano Figures
Beethoven Sonata in F minor, Op 57 'Appassionata'
Bridport: Ferdinand Ries, Fauré and Beethoven 'Appassionata'

It is a special pleasure to welcome the pianist, regular visitor, and one of our Patrons, **ALASDAIR BEATSON**. He champions a wide repertoire on both modern and historical instruments with particular areas of interest: classical, early romantic and French music (especially Fauré), alongside the music of today's composers. A prolific chamber musician, Alasdair's colleagues include Steven Isserlis, Viktoria Mullova, Pieter Wispelwey and the Nash Ensemble.

Recent recordings include works of Beethoven and Schubert for violin and fortepiano with Viktoria Mullova, and a solo piano recital *Aus Wien* on Pentatone. These join a discography of solo and chamber recordings. Performances during 2024 included regular appearances at Wigmore Hall, and at festivals including Bath Mozartfest, Ernen, and Lewes. Alasdair is artistic director of the chamber music festival at Musikdorf Ernen in Switzerland. www.alasdairbeatson.com

Celebrate
 20 seasons
 of
 Concerts in
 the West
 with
 Alasdair
 Beatson.



11 APRIL
11 APRIL
12 APRIL

Bridport Arts Centre 11.30AM
Ilminster Arts Centre 7.30PM
Dance House, Crewkerne 7.30PM

MIKELEIZ-ZUCCHI DUO

David Zucchi, saxophone
Iñigo Mikeleiz-Berrade, accordion

Programme to include works by **Thomas Adès, Enrique Granados, Aileen Sweeney, Ravel, Bach, Bartók,** and **Alex Paxton.**

For the first time, we welcome **MIKELEIZ-ZUCCHI DUO**. They are a London-based ensemble formed by Canadian saxophonist David Zucchi and Spanish accordionist Iñigo Mikeleiz-Berrade. Winners of the Royal Over-Seas League Annual Music Competition's Mixed Ensemble Prize and City Music Foundation Artists, the Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo's repertoire spans everything from reimagined traditional works to modern repertoire and improvisation, all vividly rendered by the unique combination of saxophone and accordion.

After their debut concert at the Vale de Cambra Classical Music Festival (Portugal) in 2019, the duo has performed across the UK and Europe, including appearances at Wigmore Hall, Edinburgh Fringe, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Buxton International Festival, and St George's Bristol. They have appeared on BBC Radio 3's In Tune and were 2023 residents at Music at Brel (Roquecor, France). Individually, Iñigo and David have distinguished themselves as award-winning interpreters of classical, improvised, contemporary and experimental music.



9 MAY
9 MAY
10 MAY

Bridport Arts Centre 11.30AM
Ilminster Arts Centre 7.30PM
Dance House, Crewkerne 7.30PM

TRIO ANIMA

Rosalind Ventris, viola
Anneke Hodnett, harp
Matthew Featherstone, flute

Programme to include works by **Arnold Bax, Sally Beamish, Fauré, Astor Piazzolla, Debussy, John Dowland,** and **Nathan James Dearden**

We are delighted to welcome back Rosalind Ventris who has come to Concerts in the West in various guises over the years. **TRIO ANIMA** was formed in 2006 at the

Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Since then, they have delighted audiences with their distinctive instrumental combination and imaginative programming. The trio won the Elias Fawcett Award for Outstanding Chamber Ensemble at the 2012 Royal Overseas League Competition. They have been Live Music Now Artists and were awarded a Chamber Music Fellowship at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in 2011. In 2017 they were selected as Kirckman Concert Society Artists.

They have been praised for the 'superb sense of ensemble between the players, and the impressive vitality of their playing' (Planet Hugill). They have appeared at numerous festivals and have performed live on BBC Radio 3's In Tune and toured France.



27 JUNE **Bridport Arts Centre** 11.30AM
 27 JUNE **Ilminster Arts Centre** 7.30PM
 28 JUNE **Dance House, Crewkerne** 7.30PM

MATHIS ROCHAT, viola
ERDEM MISIRLIOĞLU, piano

York Bowen Phantasy in F major
Brahms Sonata in F minor No 1, Op 120
Schumann Fairy Tale Pictures, Op 113
Brahms Sonata in E-flat major No 2, Op 120
Bridport: York Bowen and **Brahms** in F minor

'The viola needs advocates like Mathis Rochat' (The Arts Desk)
MATHIS ROCHAT is a Swiss-French violist who is quickly gaining attention as 'one of the most upcoming and creative violists of his generation' (concerti). Praised for 'his rich and subtle viola sound' and '... a marvelous poetic imaginative power' (Bachtrack), he takes the freedom to both uncover forgotten original works and add his personal transcriptions to the viola repertoire. www.mathisrochat.com

The return of British-Turkish pianist **ERDEM MISIRLIOĞLU** is a real pleasure. He is in demand as a solo recitalist, chamber musician and concerto soloist. He frequently appears in UK venues such as Barbican Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Snape Maltings and Wigmore Hall and has had numerous invitations to play across Europe, North and South America and Asia.



11 JULY **Bridport Arts Centre** 11.30AM
 11 JULY **Ilminster Arts Centre** 7.30PM
 12 JULY **Dance House, Crewkerne** 7.30PM

COLIN SCOBIE, violin
JÂMS COLEMAN, piano

Beethoven Violin Sonata No 3 in E-flat major, Op 12 No 3
C Schumann Three Romances for Violin and Piano
E Alberga No Man's Land Lullaby
Elgar Violin Sonata in E minor, Op 82
Bridport: Beethoven and **Elgar**

Last with us in 2017 as part of the Maxwell Quartet **COLIN SCOBIE** is already established as one of the most creative and compelling violinists and chamber musicians of his generation. He has performed as concerto soloist to critical acclaim across Europe and further afield, with orchestras including Camerata Nordica, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Arcangelo, La Serenissima and Scottish Ensemble. www.maxwellstringquartet.com

'Coleman's playing is outstanding, with thrilling variety...exquisite touch... and imagination at the piano' (BBC Music Magazine). From Anglesey, **JÂMS COLEMAN** performs as a soloist, chamber musician, and vocal accompanist. He regularly performs at prestigious festivals and recent highlights include recitals at the Aldeburgh Festival, BBC Proms, Cheltenham Festival, Kings Place, LSO St Luke's, Oxford International Song Festival, Prussia Cove Open Chamber Music, and Wigmore Hall.
www.jamscoleman.com



26 SEPTEMBER Bridport Arts Centre 11.30AM
26 SEPTEMBER Ilminster Arts Centre 7.30PM
27 SEPTEMBER Dance House, Crewkerne 7.30PM

MITSU TRIO

Laura Custodio Sabas, violin
Akito Goto, cello
Tyler Hay, piano

Haydn

Piano Trio XV:24

Saint-Saëns

Piano Trio No 1 in F major, Op 18

Simon Speare

"Once around the sun" (2019-20 rev. 2024) (Ilminster)

Hans Werner Henze

Kammeronate (Crewkerne)

Mendelssohn

Piano Trio No 2 in C minor, Op 66

Bridport: Haydn, Henze and Saint-Saëns

A warm welcome is extended to MITSU TRIO which was formed in 2020 by British pianist Tyler Hay, Japanese cellist Akito Goto and Catalan violinist Laura Custodio Sabas. All three members met at the Purcell School for Young Musicians when they were just teenagers, where they formed a strong musical connection. Aside from the vast standard repertoire for piano trio, the Mitsu Trio enjoy exploring less played composers, such as Czech composer Bohuslav Martinů and Brazilian composer Henrique Oswald, with on going plans of the trio's debut album with music of the latter. They are also strong advocates of contemporary music, having given the world premiere of Simon Speare's piano trio, and having held workshops with the young composers at the Purcell School for Young Musicians.



24 OCTOBER Bridport Arts Centre 11.30AM
24 OCTOBER Ilminster Arts Centre 7.30PM
25 OCTOBER Dance House, Crewkerne 7.30PM

VOICE

Victoria Couper
Clemmie Franks
Emily Burn

Patterns of Love is a programme of a cappella songs that explore the beauty, heartache, and humour of love. The trio's performance spans hundreds of years, from medieval up to the current day with music from 12th century Germany by Hildegard of Bingen, 13th century France, Shakespearean song, and folksong arrangements from the UK and Ireland. Including special commissions and new music by British composers Marcus Davidson, Liz Dilnot Johnson, Stevie Wishart, and Ayanna Witter-Johnson, this is an uplifting concert filled with rich harmonies, beautiful lyrics, space for reflection and both sad, and funny stories.

"Brilliant trio ... sensational singers" (The Choir, BBC Radio 3)

VOICE is an exciting, female vocal trio. In their years together, they have built a dedicated fan-base across the world; a rich, varied repertoire of their own arrangements, new commissions, and rarely performed Early Music; and they have honed a truly unique sound. Victoria, Clemmie, and Emily first began singing together in Oxford as members of the Oxford Girls' Choir, before going on to form the trio as well as forging their own successful, diverse careers. They draw on their individual musical interests and experiences to create thrilling timbres and a blend that has been described as 'one voice'. www.voicetrio.co.uk



28 NOVEMBER Bridport Arts Centre 11.30AM
28 NOVEMBER Ilminster Arts Centre 7.30PM
29 NOVEMBER Dance House, Crewkerne 7.30PM

CONSONE QUARTET

Agata Daraškaite, violin
 Magdalena Loth-Hill, violin
 Elitsa Bogdanova, viola
 George Ross, cello

Wolf Italian Serenade
Mozart String Quartet No 17 in B-flat major
 K 458, The Hunt
Beethoven String Quartet in B-flat major, Op 130

Bridport: **Haydn** String Quartet in G major, No 5, Op 33
 and **Mozart** String Quartet No 17 in B-flat major, K 458

'... They play with perfect intonation, tremendous attack, and impeccable historical style. All the four instruments work together with such intelligence and imagination that I would happily listen to them every day' (Sir Roger Norrington)

The first period instrument string quartet to be selected as BBC New Generation Artists, the **CONSONE QUARTET** are fast making a name for themselves with their honest and expressive interpretations of repertoire, notably from the classical and romantic eras. Formed at the Royal College of Music in London, the Consone Quartet launched their professional career in 2015, shortly after which they were awarded two prizes at the 2015 York Early Music International Young Artists Competition, including the EUBO Development Trust Prize and a place on the EEEmerging Scheme in France. They went on to win the 2016 Royal Over-Seas League Ensemble Prize, and in 2022 were awarded a prestigious Borletti-Buitoni Trust (BBT) fellowship.

We welcome the return of the quartet that has been enthusiastically received at London's major venues and UK festivals, as well as further afield in Europe. Consone are Artists-in-Residence at Paxton House (2023-2025) and at Saxon Shore Early Music Kenardington (2024-2027).

www.consonequartet.com



ILMINSTER ARTS CENTRE

33 East Street — ILMINSTER
 Somerset — TA19 0AN

The concert starts at **7.30PM**
 Doors open at **6.30PM**

• **CONCERT TICKETS: £20**
£25 on 14 March - Celebration concert

• Buy **Online** from:
www.concertsinthewest.org

• By **phone**: 01460 54973

Ticket sales by phone or in person
 Tuesday - Saturday - 9.30am - 3pm
 Closed Sunday & Monday
 Cash or card at the door on the night.

BRIDPORT ARTSCENTRE



BRIDPORT ARTS CENTRE

South Street — BRIDPORT
Dorset — DT6 3NR

The concert starts at **11.30AM**
Doors open at **11.15AM** (finishes 12.30PM)

- **CONCERT TICKETS: £16**
£18 on 14 March - Celebration concert
- **Buy Online from:**
www.bridport-arts.com
- **By phone: 01308 424204**

Ticket sales by phone or in person from the
Tourist Information Centre — South Street
Bucky Doo Square — Bridport — DT6 3LF
Monday to Saturday, 9am - 5pm
1 November to 29 March:
Monday to Saturday, 10am - 3pm

You can buy on the door at the Arts Centre
from 11am by card only, on the day of the
concert.



THE DANCE HOUSE

Gouldsbrook View — North Street
CREWKERNE — Somerset — TA18 7AL

The concert starts at **7.30PM**
Doors open at **6.45PM**

- **CONCERT TICKETS: £20**
£25 on 15 March - Celebration concert
- **Buy Online from:**
www.concertsinthewest.org
- **OR reserve -** concertsinthewest@gmail.com
Cash or card at the door on the night.
- **OR in person from the**
Local Information Centre at the Town Hall
Market Square, Crewkerne TA18 7LN
Monday - Friday 9.30am - 1pm
Closed Saturday & Sunday

DIRECTIONS: The Dance House is behind
the Baptist Church in North Street -
red double doors in the lane.



LIST OF EVENTS IN DATE ORDER - 2025

Friday 14 February	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Ensemble Hesperii
Friday 14 February	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Ensemble Hesperii
Saturday 15 February	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Ensemble Hesperii
Friday 14 March	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Alasdair Beatson
Friday 14 March	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Alasdair Beatson
Saturday 15 March	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Alasdair Beatson
Friday 11 April	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo
Friday 11 April	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo
Saturday 12 April	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo
Friday 9 May	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Trio Anima
Friday 9 May	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Trio Anima
Saturday 10 May	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Trio Anima
Friday 27 June	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Rochat & Misirlioğlu
Friday 27 June	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Rochat & Misirlioğlu
Saturday 28 June	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Rochat & Misirlioğlu
Friday 11 July	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Scobie & Coleman
Friday 11 July	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Scobie & Coleman
Saturday 12 July	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Scobie & Coleman
Friday 26 September	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Mitsu Trio
Friday 26 September	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Mitsu Trio
Saturday 27 September	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Mitsu Trio
Friday 24 October	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	VOICE
Friday 24 October	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	VOICE
Saturday 25 October	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	VOICE
Friday 28 November	11.30pm	Bridport Arts Centre	Consone Quartet
Friday 28 November	7.30pm	Ilminster Arts Centre	Consone Quartet
Saturday 29 November	7.30pm	Dance House, Crewkerne	Consone Quartet



PHOTOS ABOVE:
COLIN SCOBIE, JAMS COLEMAN, MATHIS ROCHAT, ERDEM MISIRLIOĞLU
VOICE, CONSONE QUARTET