

Saturday 20th September at 1.00pm

SONG RECITAL

CHRISTINE BURAS, SOPRANO
JOSHUA RYAN, PIANO

Christine received her early musical education as a chorister at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, and later obtained her BA (with honours) in Music History and Theory from the University of Chicago and her Masters of Music at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music Historical Performance Institute. Christine recently completed her MA in Vocal Studies at the Royal Academy



of Music, where she was generously supported by the Josephine Baker Trust, the Adah Rogalsky Scholarship, and the William Gibbs Educational and Religious Trust. While studying at RAM, she won third prize in the 2015 Joan Chissell Schumann Lieder Competition and was commended in the Major Van Someren-Godfrey Prize for English Song and the Marjorie Thomas Art of Song prize. Upon graduation, she was awarded a DIP RAM.

Saturday 18th October at 1.00pm

PHIL HOPKINS, HARMONICA
RACHEL FRYER, PIANO

The chromatic harmonica is a uniquely expressive instrument, equally at home with baroque music and contemporary film scores. Phil Hopkins studied with the greatest classical harmonicist, Tommy Reilly, and has since played harmonica with the London Sinfonietta, BBC Concert Orchestra, and for West End musicals such as Porgy and Bess, Gone with the Wind and Tim Rice's From Here to Eternity – as well as performing live on ITV's This Morning!



Rachel Fryer, a well-known local soloist and accompanist on the south coast, has performed nationally at the Fairfield Halls, St John's Smith Square and for the Beethoven Society. Phil and Rachel will perform repertoire chosen from Bach, Handel, Debussy, Bernstein, Poulenc and Morricone.



Saturday 15th November at 1.00pm

CHARITY CONCERT
FOR ST. CECILIA'S DAY
RETIRING COLLECTION TO CHRISTIAN AID
SUSSEX FLUTES



Sussex Flutes is an ensemble of Sussex based flute players and teachers. They were formed at the start of 2009, and have established a reputation for high quality flute chamber music. Performances usually include the whole range of the flute family, from piccolo to bass flute, which gives their recitals great variety. They have a substantial repertoire, which ranges from original works for two, three for four flutes to many of their own arrangements of classics and more popular music.

2025 will be the eighteenth series of Lunchtime Concerts at St Leonard's Church. My aim was to provide a free hour long Saturday Concert that residents and visitors alike might enjoy.

Sixteen years and 167 Concerts later I think its fair to say they have proved successful, with audience numbers ranging from fifty to a hundred each month. The Concerts remain free and self supporting by the donations given at the end of each concert by our generous audience, to whom we are deeply grateful.

We look forward to welcoming you to another year of concerts in our 900 year old Church to enjoy listening to some wonderful music given by great musicians in a beautiful setting.

John Baker, Organist
stlensorganist@seafordparish.org.uk
www.seafordparish.org.uk
Concerts may be subject to change

St Leonard's Church
Church Street
Seaford
Lunchtime Concerts



February - November
2025

Saturday 15th February at 1.00pm
SIMONE TAVONI, PIANO



The Italian pianist Simone Alessandro Tavoni has given recitals internationally, including in the United States, United Kingdom, Denmark, Hungary, France, Spain, Malta, Estonia, Greece and across Italy. He was awarded a place on the BBC Pathway scheme during the 2015/2016 academic year and through this, he has had the opportunity to rehearse

and perform as an orchestral pianist with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and some of these performances have been played by BBC Radio 3. In 2019 Simone was selected as a Parklane Group Artist, as Keyboard Charitable Trust Artist and received the Luciano and Giancarla Berti full-ride scholarship to attend the Aspen Music Festival and School studying with renowned Professor Fabio Bidini.

Saturday 15th March at 1.00pm
JOSHUA RYAN, ORGAN



Australian organist, collaborative pianist, and conductor Joshua Ryan is a prizewinning graduate of the Royal Academy of Music. He is Organist and Assistant Director of Music of Hampstead Parish Church, Organist of St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate (the National Musician's Church), accompanist of Dulwich Choral Society. His recordings and live performances have been lauded

as "impeccable" (British Music Society), "beautiful, wonderful, and full of colour" (BBC Radio 3), and "offers great clarity and panache" (Music Web International).

He has worked across Europe and Australia as a soloist, collaborative pianist, and continuo player with a vast array of conductors, singers, choirs, and ensembles including the BBC Singers, Academy of Ancient Music, London Mozart Players, Hampstead Collective, Sydney Chamber Choir and Allegri Ensemble.

Saturday 17th May at 1.00pm
NEIL CROSSLAND, PIANO



Neil Crossland is a distinguished British pianist and composer hailing from Yorkshire. His musical journey began at the age of six, leading him to the prestigious Royal College of Music in London, where he earned top prizes in both piano and composition. Crossland has performed in some of the world's most iconic venues, including the Barbican, Queen Elizabeth Hall, and Wigmore Hall. He is particularly celebrated for his complete performances of Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas at St James' Piccadilly, showcasing his profound interpretation of these monumental works. In addition to his live performances, Neil Crossland is a prolific recording artist. He has undertaken an extensive recording project with the Deltatel label, producing over 20 recordings which include the complete Beethoven piano sonatas,

Saturday 21st June at 1.00pm
CLARE BEESLEY, FLUTE
PETE CHURCHILL, PIANO ACCORDION



Based in The Hague, The Netherlands, Clare Beesley is a flautist with a particular interest in early flutes, performing with various orchestras, chamber ensembles and in solo recitals Europe-wide. She is an enthusiastic teacher and coaches at 'Baroque Week', an annual residential course in Caversham.

Clare is a PhD candidate at Utrecht University and serves as an international diploma and grade examiner for ABRSM. Beginning his studies as a junior exhibitioner in piano and double bass at the RCM, organ scholar and subsequently music graduate of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, multi instrumentalist Peter Churchill now works as a community musician in Birmingham. He runs several prison choirs, directs Birmingham's Choir With No Name and plays accordion with mega-folk band The Destroyers.

Saturday 19th July at 1.00pm
MAGGIE GRIMSDELL, PIANO
PAM CRAGG, PIANO



Pam and Maggie were both scholars at the Royal Academy of Music and have had wide-ranging careers in music, taking in broadcasting, Journalism, education, and arts administration. Over the last few years they have established themselves as a popular piano duo, giving regular concerts in

the South East and London. Their repertoire includes many of the famous favourites for four hands but they also enjoy finding surprising gems from all periods of piano music. They are pleased if they can encourage other people to play piano duets-there is some wonderful music for two players and it's great fun! Maggie founded the Zongora Piano Courses for adult pianists who want to revisit or build on their skills with a flourishing group in London and Sussex area. Zongora.weebly.com

Saturday 16th August at 1.00pm
D'ARCY TRINKWON, ORGAN

One of the distinguished musicians of his generation, D'Arcy Trinkwon is acclaimed as a unique artist who demonstrates superlative artistry and prodigious talent at international festivals and celebrity concert series in concert halls, cathedrals and churches around the world, including solo, concerto and broadcast appearances, master classes and coaching. Alongside his concert career he is Organist to the University of Sussex.

