Summer Festival of Chamber Music
Paxton House, Berwickshire
17-26 July 2015
Welcome to Music at Paxton. We’ve reached our 10th Festival and are proud to present our most ambitious programme yet!

We are excited to have in our programme the distinguished cellist Natalie Clein and the amazing young pianist Benjamin Grosvenor, who has long been on our radar and is at last able to fit us into his incredibly busy schedule.

This year has a distinctly Viennese feel, with a talented young duo flying in from Vienna, an all-Viennese programme from the Phoenix Piano Trio, plenty of Brahms, including his major works for piano trio, piano quartet and string quintet and even some Strauss waltzes.

Other delights include the multi-award-winning Notos Piano Quartet and former BBC New Generation Artists, the Signum Quartet. We are thrilled to welcome back Steven Osborne with Jean Johnson and you can meet them in conversation earlier in the evening.

For something a bit different, come along to our special Dowland’s Table event, which will take us back in time to the 16th century, with appropriate refreshments included. And celebrate with us in Champagne Saturdays – enjoy a glass of fizz with the Board in the Library during the interval of both Saturday evening concerts.

Paxton House is a wonderful place to visit so do fill in any non-concert hours with a House tour or, new this year, a boat trip on the River Tweed. Enjoy a stroll, or a picnic, in the lovely grounds. We want to make your visit special!

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‘For high quality music in fabulous surroundings, the Music at Paxton Festival hits the mark at every level.’

Scotsman

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Friday 17 July 7.30pm

Notos Piano Quartet

Beethoven Piano Quartet in E flat Op 16
Suk Piano Quartet in A minor Op 1
Brahms Piano Quartet in C minor Op 60

This multi-award-winning German quartet has thrilled music critics and audiences alike with the quality of their playing. This year their busy touring schedule brings them to Manchester as Waverley Chamber Music Fellows at the Royal Northern College of Music. We are delighted to welcome them to Paxton to play some of the music for which they have been so highly acclaimed.

Tickets £22 (concessions £11)

Buffet suppers in the Hayloft Gallery from 6pm – tickets £24

‘The finest chamber music performance I have heard anywhere.’

Classical Voice, North America

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Saturday 18 July from 5-5.45pm

Meet the artists

Jean Johnson and Steven Osborne

Get up close and hear about the rigours of life on the international music circuit for this husband and wife team.

Tickets £5 (concessions free of charge) – unreserved

Buffet suppers in the Hayloft Gallery from 6pm – tickets £24
Saturday 18 July 7.30pm

Jean Johnson, clarinet
Steven Osborne, piano

Schubert  Piano Sonata in B flat D960
Macmillan  From Galloway (solo clarinet)
Schumann  Three Romances
Brahms  Clarinet Sonata in E flat Op 120 No 2

The Scottish pianist Steven Osborne has been hailed as one of the greatest pianists of his generation, pursuing a hectic schedule of performances and recordings for which he has received the highest critical acclaim. For this concert, he is joined by his wife, distinguished clarinetist Jean Johnson, in an intensely lyrical programme, opening with the last of Schubert’s late, great piano sonatas and closing with the radiant beauty of Brahms’ Clarinet Sonata in E flat. Perfect music for a Sunday evening!

Tickets £25 (concessions £12.50)

Sunday 19 July 6pm

Natalie Clein, cello
Håvard Gimse, piano

Debussy  Cello Sonata
Kurtág  Three Pieces from Signs
Games and Messages
Britten  Cello Sonata in C
Rachmaninov  Cello Sonata in G minor Op 19

A BBC Young Musician of the Year award-winner at the age of 16, Natalie Clein is more often heard in the major concert halls of the World. We have the great privilege of hearing her at Paxton in an intimate setting, performing a varied programme of classic cello and piano repertoire with one of Norway’s leading pianists.

Tickets £25 (concessions £12.50)

Sunday 19 July 2.30-3.30pm in the Hayloft Gallery

Dowland’s Table
Les Canards Chantants
Jacob Heringman, lute

Formed at York University but now based in Philadelphia, Les Canards Chantants have delighted Music at Paxton audiences on many occasions with their virtuosity and humour. Join them, with renowned lutenist Jacob Heringman, for this special event, performed in the round, bringing the music of John Dowland to life in an informal, convivial setting. Expect exquisite music, interspersed with text and anecdotes, and enjoy some refreshments* of the period to complete the experience!

Tickets £15 (concessions £10) – unreserved.
Please note seating limited to 50.

*Refreshments include a glass of mead or non-alcoholic alternative with sweet and spicy treats.

‘The effect was magical… the four voices blended effortlessly, with tremendous control.’

(Steven Osborne – RPS Instrumentalist of the Year 2013)
**Thursday 23 July 7.00pm**

**Phoenix Piano Trio**

The members of this Trio, formed in 2010, are all distinguished chamber musicians in their own right and the Trio is fast establishing itself as one of Britain's leading ensembles. Their programme traces three centuries in Vienna, and features as its centrepiece the late Romantic first Piano Trio by Erich Korngold (1897-1957) an Austro-Hungarian composer who adopted US nationality, well known for his classic film scores.

- Haydn Piano Trio in E flat
- Korngold Piano Trio No 1 in D
- Brahms Piano Trio No 1 in B Op 8

Tickets £20 (concessions £10)

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**Wednesday 22 July 7.30pm**

**Anna Huntley, mezzo soprano**

**Joseph Middleton, piano**

Currently mentored by the renowned Angelika Kirchschlager, the young British mezzo soprano Anna Huntley is described as a 'fast-rising British talent'. Her programme, with the acclaimed Joseph Middleton, opens with Haydn's *Arianna a Naxos*, followed by Schumann's heartfelt *Frauenliebe und Leben*. The contrasting second half of the concert features music by composers including Sullivan, Vaughan Williams, Stanford, Weil, Flanders and Swan and Noel Coward. One not to be missed!

Tickets £20 (£10)

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**Tuesday 21 July 7.30pm**

**Young Musicians’ international double bill**

Elizabeth Juen, clarinet

Elena Ivanova, piano

**Spencer – Strachan Duo**

We present, in association with Live Music Now Scotland, a double bill of two outstanding duos, from Vienna and Scotland respectively.

Their programme will include music by Brahms, Schulze, Horovitz, JS Bach, Ravel and Edward McGuire.

Tickets £12 (concessions £6) – unreserved

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**Friday 24 July 7.30pm**

**Signum Quartet**

Mozart Adagio and Fugue K546

Janáček Quartet No 2

*Intimate Letters*

Beethoven Quartet Op 130 with

Grosse Fuge Op 133

Recent graduates of the BBC New Generation Artists scheme, this distinguished German quartet's touring schedule takes them all over the world and we are delighted to welcome them to Scotland for a one-off visit. The programme includes Janáček's deeply emotional *Intimate Letters*, inspired by a long and spiritual friendship with a married woman 38 years his junior. The concert culminates in Beethoven's mighty Opus 130 quartet with its original 'great fugue' ending.

Tickets £22 (concessions £11)

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**Saturday 25 July 3.00-4.00pm**

**Pure Brass – Brass on the Grass**

Firm favourites with Music at Paxton audiences, we welcome back this exuberant quintet for an hour of virtuosity and brass antics. One for all the family! Bring a rug or folding chair. Event will be moved indoors in case of bad weather.

Presented in association with Live Music Now Scotland

Tickets £7.50 (concessions free of charge) – unreserved

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Photo: Kaupo Kikkas Photo: Sussie Ahlburg

‘...complex musicianship, outstanding technical command, meticulous ensemble.”

Classical Source (on Beethoven Op 130)

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Photo: Irene Zandel

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Photo: Irene Zandel

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Still in his early twenties, the phenomenal Benjamin Grosvenor is already a profoundly mature artist, combining dazzling virtuosity with questing intelligence. Come and hear what the fuss is about as he brings us a beautifully crafted programme, blending the known and the less well known and concluding with Liszt’s deeply evocative Venezia e Napoli from his Années de Pélérinage.

Tickets £25 (concessions £12.50)

Buffet suppers in the Hayloft Gallery from 6pm – tickets £24

Mitball's sofa.jpg

‘A skill and talent not heard since Kissin’s teenage Russian debut’

Gramophone Magazine

**Saturday 25 July 7.30pm**

**Benjamin Grosvenor, piano**

*Mendelssohn*  Two Preludes and Fugues from Op 35

*Chopin*  Sonata No 2 in B flat minor, Op 35 Funeral March

*Ravel*  Le Tombeau de Couperin

*Liszt*  Venezia e Napoli

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Tickets £25 (concessions £12.50)

Buffet suppers in the Hayloft Gallery from 6pm – tickets £24

**Sunday 26 July 4.50pm**

**Hebrides Ensemble 1**

*Bach*  Suite for Solo Cello No 1 in G

*Strauss*  Two Viennese Waltzes for String Quartet

Whet your appetite for this evening’s performance with a short programme, contrasting the rich sonorities of the cello with the glittering elegance of waltzes by the great master of the form, Johann Strauss.

Tickets £10.00 (concessions £5) – unreserved

**Sunday 26 July 6.30pm**

**Hebrides Ensemble 2**

*Mozart*  String Quintet in C minor

*Brett Dean*  Epitaphs for String Quintet

*Brahms*  String Quintet in G major

In this special programme, the Hebrides Ensemble presents an evocative piece by Australian composer Brett Dean, echoing Elgar’s Enigma Variations, sandwiched between two pillars of the chamber music repertoire. A glorious conclusion to our 10th Festival – prepare to be blown away!

Tickets £25 (concessions £12.50)

‘They are one of the great glories of Scotland.’

Sir Peter Maxwell Davies

Concert sponsored by the Patrons, Benefactors and Friends of Music at Paxton

Concert supported by The Bacher Trust

Photo: Decca-Sophie Wright

Photo: Sussie Ahlburg
BUFFET SUPPERS

For many, enjoying a freshly prepared buffet supper prior to our weekend concerts is part of the Music at Paxton experience. Once again, we will be collaborating with Berwick-based caterers Amaryllis who will produce mouth-watering pre-concert suppers in the Hayloft Gallery on Fridays and Saturdays. Wine will be available by the bottle or glass. Suppers should be booked through Hub Tickets by 15 July (for weekend 1) and by 22 July (for weekend 2). For menus and further information, please visit our website www.musicatpaxton.co.uk

CHAMPAGNE SATURDAYS

Champagne will be on sale during the intervals of the 7.30pm performances on both Saturday evenings in the Main House (enter from Picture Gallery). Enjoy a glass for just £6.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEAS

Special Viennese-themed Sunday afternoon teas, bookable directly from Paxton House. Indulge yourself in an array of delicious home baking, and perhaps a glass of champagne, in the Stables Tearoom. For more information and to reserve your place, telephone Paxton House on 01289 386905 by 15 July (for weekend 1) and by 22 July (for weekend 2).

OTHER REFRESHMENTS

The Stables Tearoom will be open every day until the end of the evening concert interval, serving drinks and light refreshments.

Interval drinks may be ordered in advance of the concert from the Stables Tearoom.

Picnics: You are very welcome to bring your own picnic to enjoy in the grounds.

ACCOMMODATION

Why not make a weekend of Music at Paxton? There are numerous comfortable hotels and B&Bs in the area, some within walking distance. See www.visitscotland.com or www.visitinnorthumberland.com for full details.

HOW TO BOOK

CONCERTS AND SUPPERS

Booking opens to the public on Monday 27 April 2015 from Hub Tickets.

Book by telephone: 0131 473 2000

Book online: www.hubtickets.co.uk

Book in person: Hub Tickets, Castlehill, Royal Mile, Edinburgh EH1 2NE

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm
From 13 July: Mon-Sun 10am-6pm

Any unsold tickets will be available to purchase from the box office at Paxton House from one hour before the start of the concert.

PRIORITY BOOKING

Priority booking is offered to Friends of Music at Paxton from Monday 13 April. You can join the Friends (from £25 p.a.) and take advantage of early booking by contacting friends@musicatpaxton.co.uk or tel 07752 570389.

CONCESSIONS

Concessions are available to those under 18 or in full time education, registered unemployed, disabled persons and their carers/escorts. We regret we are not able to offer concessions to senior citizens.

UNRESERVED SEATING

For concerts marked ‘unreserved’ seats are unallocated and you may sit where you please.

DOORS/ACCESS

Unless otherwise indicated, concerts take place in the Picture Gallery (up the stairs at the far side of the courtyard), which houses paintings from the collection of the National Galleries of Scotland. Doors will open 30 minutes before the start of each performance. We regret that latecomers can be admitted only when there is a suitable break in the programme.

Paxton House has fully disabled access, although assistance may be required for wheelchair users wishing to use the lifts. It is important in this case that you let us know in advance, so that we can welcome you and make all arrangements necessary for your comfort.

SEATING PLAN

STAGE AREA
HOW TO GET TO PAXTON HOUSE

By road (postcode TD15 1SZ)
The entrance to Paxton House is on the B6461, opposite the junction with the B6460, adjacent to the village of Paxton in the Scottish Borders. Paxton House is signposted from the A1 Berwick-upon-Tweed bypass and the entrance is 3 miles along the B6461 on the left hand side of the road.

By rail
Berwick-upon-Tweed station is on the East coast main line, served by East Coast and Cross Country trains. Paxton House is a 5-10 minute taxi journey from the station.

MUSIC AT PAXTON

Music at Paxton was formed in 2006 to present high quality performances of music at Paxton House. Music at Paxton is registered in Scotland No. 305241; Charity No. SC037392.

OUT AND ABOUT

Through our association with Live Music Now Scotland, a number of Live Music Now ensembles, including the Spencer-Strachan Duo, Elisabeth Juen and Elena Ivanova, will deliver an outreach programme of ten performances in the Scottish Borders, in schools, care homes and centres, at the time of the Festival. For more information, telephone 0131 332 6356 (www.livemusicnow.org).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Music at Paxton would like to thank the numerous individuals and organisations who have supported this event, including:
The Patrons, Benefactors and Friends of Music at Paxton, Creative Scotland, Bacher Trust, Binks Trust, Henfrey Charitable Trust, Frank Hitchman, Jocey Trust, Live Music Now Scotland, Samuel Storey Family Charitable Trust and the team of volunteers whose help is invaluable to us.