

**booking
now open**



St Albans
IO Festival
International Organ Festival
3-15 JULY 2023
Celebrating 60 years

Exhilarating music, inspirational performers

WELCOME

This year we celebrate sixty years of the International Organ Festival with some very special performances.

Large-scale highlights will undoubtedly be a rare chance to hear wonderful musicians headed by the **Britten Sinfonia** presenting two monumental works in the same evening – the Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony and Berlioz's Te Deum – and the first ever concert in St Albans by **The Tallis Scholars**, who are celebrating their own 50th birthday this year.

The list of exceptional performers goes on, catering for a wide range of musical tastes: the **Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective**; solo piano from

our newest Patron, **Angela Hewitt**; recitals by tenor **James Gilchrist** with **Anna Tilbrook** and violinist **Rachel Podger** with **Christopher Glynn**; and the evergreen jazz singer **Elaine Delmar**.

Organ-focused events include **recitals by our distinguished jury**; free **Bach Corner** lunchtime recitals by outstanding young organists; **15 competition sessions** and **Prize-Winners' Concert**; a free showing of a director's cut of the **Organ Stops** documentary which first aired on BBC television on Christmas Eve; and **Judith Weir**, Master of the King's Music and composer of this year's commissioned competition work, in conversation.



I look forward to welcoming you to our 60th anniversary celebrations in July.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Titterington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

David Titterington
Artistic & Executive Director

ART EXHIBITION

TUESDAY 4TH TO THURSDAY 13TH JULY

Every day, 10.00am–4.00pm
(Sunday 1.00pm–4.00pm)
St Albans Cathedral

The ever-popular exhibition returns to the Cathedral's North Transept. Featured artists:
**Susan Bacon | Robert Baggaley | Joe Birnie
Francis Bowyer | Tessa Cole | Bouke de Vries
Jonathan Ellis | Clorinda Goodman
Nicholas Herbert | Lynette Hirschowitz
Christiane Kubrick | Jane Lewis | Juliet Nall-Cain
Caroline Romer | Sue Thomson | Dione Verulam**

FREE
no tickets required



A photograph of a jazz performance at night. In the foreground, a man in a suit and glasses is partially visible on the left. In the center, a man in a grey suit is singing into a microphone, gesturing with his right hand. To the right, a grand piano is visible. The background is a dimly lit bar or club with other patrons and warm lighting.

JAZZ AT THE FESTIVAL

Free live music every night from
3 to 15 July at Lussmanns St Albans

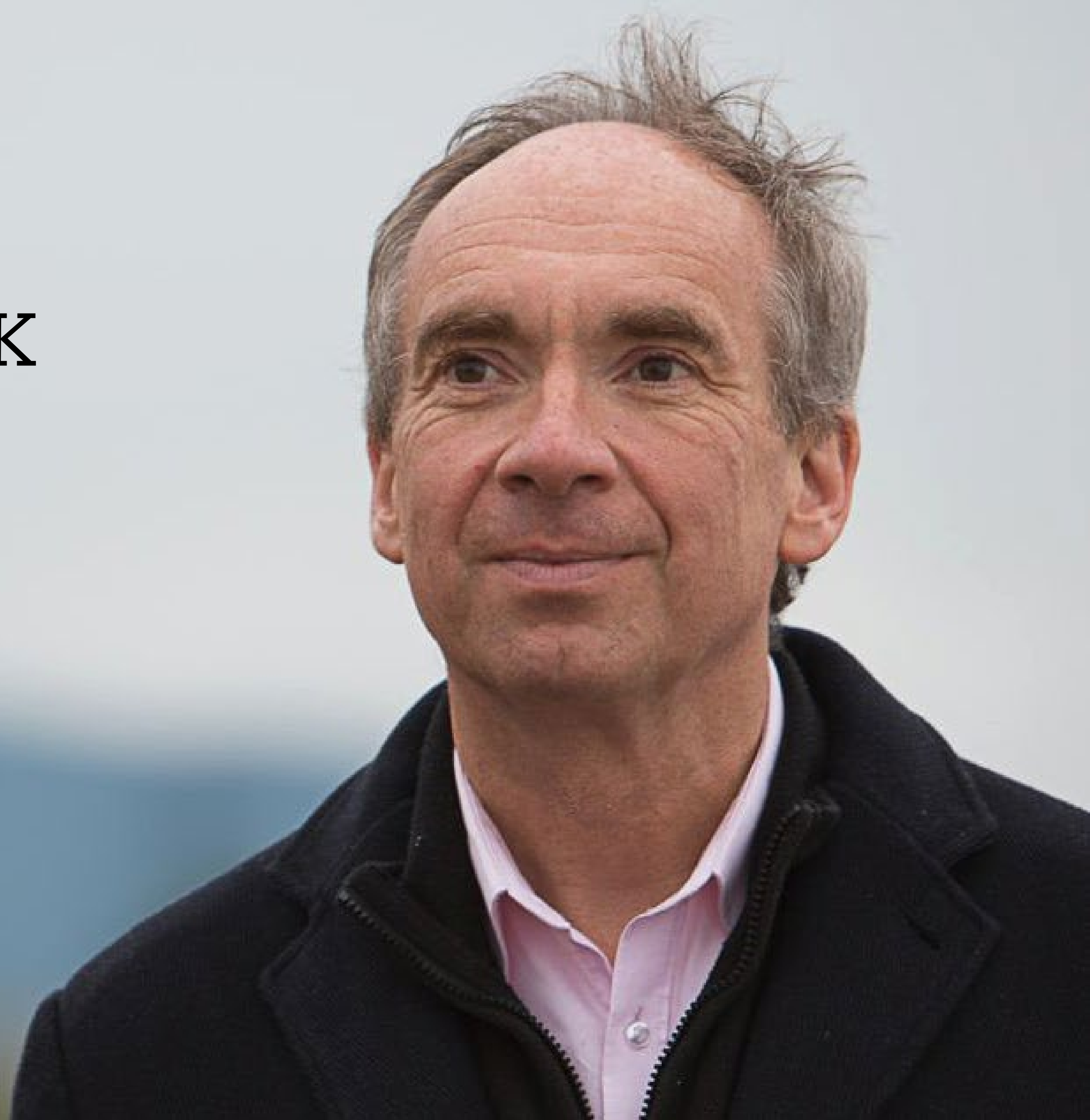
JAMES GILCHRIST WITH ANNA TILBROOK

MONDAY 3RD JULY 8.15pm
St Peter's Church, AL1 3HG

Celebrated tenor James Gilchrist performs tuneful and evocative British music from the 20th and 21st centuries with his distinguished regular pianist Anna Tilbrook.

Sponsored by Sue and Philip Vaughan.

BOOK NOW



RACHEL PODGER WITH CHRISTOPHER GLYNN

TUESDAY 4TH JULY 8.30pm

St Albans Cathedral

BOOK NOW



A recital of **Mozart** Sonatas by renowned violinist Rachel Podger, accompanied on fortepiano by Christopher Glynn.
Interspersed with readings from Mozart's letters, with a special guest narrator **John Suchet**. *Sponsored by Colin Innes-Hopkins.*

THE TALLIS SCHOLARS 50TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT

THURSDAY 6TH JULY 8.00pm
St Albans Cathedral

In 1973, Peter Phillips founded a group dedicated to the performance of Renaissance polyphony. This concert – their first ever in St Albans – celebrates 50 years and well over 2300 performances to date.

Sponsored by Rogers Covey-Crump.



BOOK NOW



BERLIOZ AND SAINT-SAENS

SATURDAY 8TH JULY 7.30pm

St Albans Cathedral

Berlioz Te Deum†

Saint-Saens Symphony no.3 ('Organ')‡

Britten Sinfonia

David Hill‡ and **Andrew Lucas**† conductors

James Gilchrist tenor

Thomas Trotter organ

St Albans Bach Choir

The Choristers of St Albans Cathedral

A rare chance to hear two monumental orchestral and choral works in the same evening.
A concert not to be missed!

BOOK NOW



A photograph of pianist Angela Hewitt performing. She is shown from the waist up, seated at a piano. Her head is tilted back, eyes closed, and her right arm is raised in a dramatic gesture. She has long, curly brown hair and is wearing a red dress with black lace detailing. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on her.

ANGELA HEWITT, PIANO

SUNDAY 9 JULY 8.30pm
St Albans Cathedral

Solo Bach and Schumann, performed by one the most celebrated exponents of our time and a Festival Patron.

Sponsored by Colin Innes-Hopkins.

BOOK NOW



ELAINE DELMAR

MONDAY 10TH JULY 8.30pm
St Albans Cathedral

With **Barry Green** piano
and **Simon Thorpe** double bass

One of the truly legendary jazz singers comes to the Festival for the first time. Hertfordshire-born Elaine Delmar 'truly defines the word class' (Humphrey Lyttelton, BBC Radio 2).

BOOK NOW

KALEIDOSCOPE CHAMBER COLLECTIVE

TUESDAY 11TH JULY 8.15pm
St Peter's Church

Elena Urioste violin
Rosalind Ventris viola
Laura van der Heijden cello
Tom Poster piano

Fanny Mendelssohn Piano Quartet in A flat
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Piano Quartet in E flat, K.493
Errollyn Wallen Dervish for cello and piano
Antonín Dvorák Piano Quartet in E flat, op. 87

Associate Ensemble at Wigmore Hall, this 'sparky, shape-shifting ensemble of starry young musicians' (TheArtsDesk) perform celebrated piano quartets by Mozart and Dvořák alongside exciting music by women from the 19th and 21st centuries.

BOOK NOW





DER GOLEM, SILENT HORROR FILM

BOOK NOW

WEDNESDAY 12 JULY 9.30pm
St Albans Cathedral

Music improvised on the organ and the infinite possibilities of electronics combine to extraordinary effect to bring this 1920 German silent horror film to life.

Performed by students from the Royal Academy of Music and directed by Franz Danksagmüller.

JURY ORGAN RECITALS

SATURDAY 8TH JULY 4.30pm
St Peter's Church
Pieter van Dijk (Netherlands)

SUNDAY 9TH JULY 3.00pm
St Albans Cathedral
Todd Wilson (USA)

MONDAY 10TH JULY 1.00pm
Christ Church Spitalfields
Bine Bryndorf (Denmark)
Sponsored by the Champniss Foundation

THURSDAY 13TH JULY 6.00pm
St Albans Cathedral
Jean-Baptiste Robin (France)

FRIDAY 14TH JULY 3.30pm
St Peter's Church
Rie Hiroe (Japan)

BOOK NOW



FREE
no tickets required

BACH CORNERS

THURSDAY 6TH JULY 1.15pm
Paul Greally (Cambridge)

FRIDAY 7TH JULY 1.15pm
Ophelia Amar (London)

THURSDAY 13TH JULY 1.15pm
Johannes Güdelhöfer (Leipzig; Bach Prize
winner, Northern Ireland International
Organ Competition 2020)

FRIDAY 14TH JULY 1.15pm
Charles Francis (Wolverhampton)

St Albans Cathedral

Bach performed by outstanding young organists:
thirty minutes of uplifting music in the middle
of the day.

FREE
tickets

JUDITH WEIR IN CONVERSATION

WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY 1.00pm
St Albans Cathedral

The Master of the King's Music and composer of the commissioned work for this year's Interpretation Competition, sponsored by Martin Owen, in conversation about her life and work with Artistic Director David Titterington.

BOOK NOW



ORGAN STOPS: SAVING THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS

FREE
tickets

TUESDAY 4TH JULY 12.30pm | St Peter's Church, AL1 3HG

A moving documentary following the tireless efforts to save magnificent organs across Britain as churches and venues close.

BOOK NOW



INTERPRETATION AND IMPROVISATION COMPETITIONS

Top organists aged 33 and under from across the world will compete in a total of 15 competition sessions, running from Monday 3 July to the finals on Thursday 13 and Friday 14 July.

Supported by the Royal Academy of Music, Champniss Foundation, Williams Church Music Trust, Amphion Fund, The Eric Thompson Charitable Trust for Organists, Mrs Elisabeth Wells and Mr Andrei Lussmann.

SATURDAY 15 JULY 11.00am
St Albans Cathedral

The Presentation of Awards and Prize-Winners' Concert will be your chance to hear the winners of the 32nd St Albans International Organ Competition, together in a celebratory programme.

BOOK NOW

THANK YOU

For 60 years the International Organ Festival has relied on financial support from Trusts, Foundations and individual supporters, for which we are hugely grateful.

The St Albans International Organ Festival acknowledges the support of the following organisations and individuals:

The Alan Brentnall Charitable Trust
Amphion Fund
The Champniss Foundation
Douglas May Trust
Eric Thompson Charitable Trust for Organists
Foyle Foundation
Gretna Charitable Trust
Kirby Laing Foundation
Old Possum's Practical Trust
St Albans City and District Council
The Williams Church Music Trust
Wixamtree Trust

Mr Andrei Lussmann
Mrs Elisabeth Wells

Thank you also to our generous Supporters (find out how you can join them and help secure the future of this unique organisation and charity:
organfestival.com/support-us)

Hurford Circle

Lord & Lady Charles Cecil
Rogers Covey-Crump
Colin Innes-Hopkins
Don & Lesley King
Martin Owen
Richard Syred & Brian Parsons
Philip & Sue Vaughan
The Earl of Verulam &
The Countess of Verulam cvo
David Wakefield

Bach Circle

Andrew Blankfield & Bernadette Hillman
Mark Combes
Brian & Angela Dixon
Colin & Linda Hamling
The Hurford Family
Mike & Janet Hurford
HE Milton Inniss
Phillip Parr
David Titterington
Thomas Trotter

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