Handel and the Hanoverians

5 March – 10 April 2020

london-handel-festival.com
Dear Fellow Handelians,

The 2020 London Handel Festival takes ‘Handel and the Hanoverians’ as its theme and will explore the links between Handel and the reigning Hanoverian monarchy at the time, to whom Handel dedicated much of his music, and whose patronage he enjoyed. Our usual packed calendar of events will delve into the rich variety of compositional output Handel dedicated to his royal patrons, and furthermore his adept diplomacy in maintaining good relations with the feuding generations of the royal family at the time.

Highlights of this year’s festival include the rarely heard oratorio The Triumph of Time and Truth and Parnasso in Festa written for the Princess Royal’s wedding. Other major events include Early Opera Company’s Serse, Opera Settecento’s Fernando and our ‘Princely Patronage’ concerts with John Andrews and The Brook Street Band. We are pleased to welcome the Academy of Ancient Music for the first time with their ‘Handel’s Heroines’ programme and back by popular demand is our ‘Come and Sing’ event, a wonderful opportunity to perform the Coronation Anthems with Laurence Cummings.

I strongly encourage you to support our annual international Handel Singing Competition, now in its 19th year. Last year we had a record number of entries, with 170 singers from 25 countries worldwide. Come and hear these exceptionally talented young professionals delight us with their all-Handel programmes.

We are a small arts organisation, with big ambition, and our aim is to bring the glory of Handel’s music to larger audiences. Please encourage your music-loving friends to come to the 2020 Festival; once you have booked your tickets, you may want to pass this brochure on. Please also consider joining as a Handel Supporter (see page 22) as ticket sales cover less than 40% of our costs, and we therefore rely on your generosity for our continued success.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Festival in 2020!

Samir Savant
Festival Director

Promoted by the London Handel Society Ltd
Charity number 269384

Patrons
Dame Emma Kirkby
Ian Partridge CBE

Laurence Cummings Musical Director
Adrian Butterfield Associate Director
Richard Hopkin Chairman, London Handel Society

Samir Savant Festival Director
Tuesday 10 March, 7.30pm
Wigmore Hall

**Parnasso in Festa HWV 73**

In 1734, Anne, the Princess Royal and eldest daughter of King George II, married Prince William IV of Orange. Anne had been one of Handel’s staunchest supporters and also his favourite harpsichord student. He not only wrote an anthem specially for the wedding service but composed *Parnasso in Festa* for a celebratory public performance on the eve of the ceremony. A significant portion of the music was derived from the English oratorio, *Athalia*, which had not yet been heard in London. The story is a celebration on Mount Parnassus of the nuptials of Peleus and Thetis. Handel intended the work as a one-off entertainment but it proved so popular that he revived it a number of times.

Adrian Butterfield returns to Wigmore Hall after sold out concerts in the past two years with the London Handel Orchestra and an acclaimed line-up of soloists, including Katie Bray, winner of the audience prize in BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2019 and Eszter Balogh, winner of the 2019 Handel Singing Competition.

**Sponsored by**

Apollo Katie Bray mezzo-soprano
Clio Keri Fuge soprano
Orfeo Charlotte Bowdenn soprano
Calliope Exzter Balogh mezzo-soprano
Chloris Emily Siriass mezzo-soprano
Euterpe Annabel Kennedy soprano
Proteo/Mars John Lee bass-baritone

Adrian Butterfield conductor
London Handel Orchestra

Tickets: £40, £35, £30, £25, £18
Please note that all tickets for this date should be booked directly through the Wigmore Hall Box Office, either by telephone (020 7935 2141) or online (www.wigmore-hall.org.uk).

Friday 13 March, 7pm
Foundling Museum

**The Music Party**

Leclair Violin Sonata No. 3 in D major (Quatrième livre) Première Récréation for two violins and continuo in D major Op. 6
Weidemann Flute Concerto in E minor Op. 2 No. 6
Handel Suite for solo harpsichord in G minor HWY 452
Handel Aria arrangements from L’Allegro HWY 55 and Comus HWY 44

Adrian Butterfield violin
Rachel Brown flute
London Handel Players

In his portrait, ‘The Music Party’ (1733), Philip Mercier painted George II’s four eldest children. Frederick, Prince of Wales, is shown playing the cello accompanied on the harpsichord by Anne, Princess Royal; Princess Caroline is plucking a mandora and Princess Amelia is reading from Milton.

This programme by the London Handel Players reimagines an evening of royal domestic chamber music to be performed in the stunning Picture Gallery at the Foundling Museum. The chamber group will perform arias from Handel’s Milton-based works, L’Allegro and Comus, as well as pieces by Leclair, who was later employed by Princess Anne, and Handel’s flute player, Charles Weideman.

Tickets £25 unreserved seating
Thursday 19 March, 7.30pm
Milton Court Concert Hall, Barbican

**Handel’s Heroines**

Mary Bevan soprano
Jennifer France soprano
Laurence Cummings conductor

Academy of Ancient Music

Few composers faced feistier sopranos than Handel, nor wrote for them with such love and understanding, celebrating their voices in some of the most dazzling operatic arias ever written. From Handel’s exhilarating ‘Arrival of the Queen of Sheba’ to the meltingly lovely ‘Lascia la spina’ and Semele’s outrageous display of virtuosity, ‘Myself I shall adore’ this is a concert of high-wire musical thrills and heart-stopping emotions.

The Academy of Ancient Music make their debut in the London Handel Festival with our own Musical Director, Laurence Cummings, bringing his unmistakable flair and zest to a programme that roams through the composer’s best-loved operas and oratorios, including Serse, Ariodante, Rinaldo and Semele, setting their finest arias and duets alongside some of the composer’s characterful works for orchestra.

**Arrival of the Queen of Sheba**

**Solomon** HWV 67

**Volate, amori**

**Ariodante** HWV 33

**Dolce riposo ed innocente pace**

**Teseo** HWV 9

**Felicissima quest’alma**

**Apollo e Dafne** HWV 122

**Suite of dances**

**Ariodante** HWV 33

**Lascia la spina cogli la rosa**

**Il trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno** HWV 46a

**Concerto Grosso Op. 3 No. 2 in B flat major HWV 313**

Will the sun forget to streak

**Solomon** HWV 67

**Tickets:** £15 - £35

Please note that all tickets for this date should be booked directly through the Barbican Box Office, either by telephone (020 7638 8891) or online (www.barbican.org.uk).

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Tuesday 17 March, 7pm
St George’s, Hanover Square

**The Triumph of Time and Truth HWV 71**

Beauty Sophie Junker soprano
Deceit Joanne Lunn soprano
Counsel Helen Charlton mezzo-soprano
Pleasure William Wallace tenor
Time Timothy Nelson baritone

Laurence Cummings conductor
London Handel Orchestra
London Handel Singers

Handel wrote his oratorio Il trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno HWV 46a in 1707 which he then went on to revise and expand in 1737. Fifty years after the first version, he was not writing any new music on account of his failing eyesight, but he decided to re-work the previous two versions and produce a new English language account The Triumph of Time and Truth HWV 71 in 1757. Handel presents an allegorical narrative, with the usual dramatic twists and turns, in which Time, Counsel, Deceit (newly added in 1737) and Pleasure compete for the loyalty of Beauty.

This is Handel at his most mature and confident, combining rousing choralises, beguiling arias and colourful orchestral writing. We are thrilled to present this rarely performed work with an exceptional line-up of soloists, including three past winners of the Handel Singing Competition.

This year’s oratorio is being performed at the request of the Admiral Byng Campaign and we gratefully acknowledge their generous support.

For further details, please see www.admiralbyng.org

**Tickets:** £55, £45, £40, £15, £12

Price Category A

Pre-performance talk by Katie Hanks (free admission with concert ticket) from 6 - 6.30pm

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Jennifer France soprano
Laurence Cummings conductor

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Handel Singing Competition

The internationally recognised Handel Singing Competition is now in its 19th year, and last year we had a record number of applicants – 170 singers from some 25 countries, ranging from Australia to Argentina. Past finalists have included Iestyn Davies and Lucy Crowe. You are warmly encouraged to come to the public events related to the competition and hear the very best emerging talent in one of the world’s leading singing competitions.

Friday 6 March, 6pm (please note time)
St George’s, Hanover Square
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

Thursday 26 March, 7pm (please note time)
St George’s, Hanover Square
Final

Treat yourself to an evening of pure delight, and see if you can spot a star of tomorrow. The finalists represent the very best young baroque singers, who are required to present a varied all-Handel programme and are accompanied by the London Handel Orchestra, directed by Laurence Cummings.

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

Friday 20 March, 7.30pm
St George’s, Hanover Square
Mr Handel’s Scholars
Concert featuring alumni of the Handel Singing Competition

Erica Elsiss soprano
Caitlin Hulcup mezzo-soprano
Alexander Sprague tenor
Lisandro Abadie 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 19th 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 year, in keeping with our ‘Handel and the Hanoverians’ theme, we have selected arias and orchestral overtures from three popular operas when Handel’s Royal Academy of Music, with George I as its patron, was at the height of its success in the 1720s (Giulio Cesare, Radamisto and Rodelinda) alongside works taken from his lesser-known wedding anthems written for two of the royal children.

The full programme will be available on our website from early December.

Tickets: £40, £35, £30, £12, £10 reserved seating
Price Category C

Pre-performance talk (free admission with concert ticket) 6.30 – 7pm: one of the world’s leading Handel scholars, Professor Donald Burrows will talk about the relationship between Handel and his Hanoverian patrons.

Eszter Balogh, 2019 winner of first prize
**Friday 27 March, 7.30pm**
CLF Art Café, Bussey Building, Peckham

**Handel Remixed: Volume II**

After last year’s exhilarating debut appearance, Festival Voices return to the London Handel Festival and Bussey Building with a varied setlist of well-known Handelian choruses and arias from *Messiah*, *Jephtha* and *Theodora*, remixed live with electronic music in FV’s unique house style.

Featuring baroque ensemble, chorus and a wicked dose of playfulness, Handel Remixed: Volume II will challenge conventions, surprise the senses and inspire the imagination in ways the composer would no doubt have utterly relished.

**Festival Voices**
Ensemble FV
Gregory Batsleer conductor
Nico Bentley producer/DJ

Tickets: £20 unreserved standing

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**Wednesday 25 March, 7pm**
St John’s Smith Square

**Serse HWV 40**

Serse: Anna Stéphany mezzo-soprano
Atalanta: Mary Bevan soprano
Romilda: Anna Devin soprano
Elvira: Edward Grin bass-baritone
Amastre: Hilary Summers contralto
Arsamene: Patrick Terry counter-tenor
Ariodate: Callum Thorpe bass

Christian Curnyan director
Early Opera Company

Handel’s opera *Serse* is characterised by its ironic libretto, humorous situations, and high number of short arias. The main character is the unpredictably obsessive and volatile King Xerxes, a historical character who ruled the Achemenid Empire from 486 BC to 465 BC. The plot concerning the rivalry between Xerxes and his brother, Arsamene, however, is entirely fictional, as is the King’s betrayal of his fiancée, Amastre.

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Early Opera Company’s CD recording of Handel’s tragicomedy received 5-star reviews and a Gramophone Award nomination. Hear this all-star cast live in a concert performance of Handel’s glorious music, full of humour and social satire, with sumptuous arias including the famous Largo, ‘Ombra mai fu’.

“...it’s Anna Stéphany’s show: she sweeps all before her as a magnificent Serse.”

HHHHH
The Guardian (review of *Serse* CD)

Tickets: £59, £49, £39, £25, £19

Please note that tickets for this date should be booked directly through the St John’s Smith Square Box Office, either by telephone (020 7222 1061) or online (www.sjs.org.uk).

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**Wednesday 1 April, 7pm**
St George’s, Hanover Square

**Fernando HW 30**

Under the title *Fernando, Re di Castiglia* Handel began to set to music a story about a power struggle between the Portuguese King Dionisio and his son Alfonso. However, the portrayal of a father-son conflict in the ruling house with parallels to the English situation at the time was probably the reason why Handel wisely relocated the plot to an innocuous eastern milieu and changed the names of almost all of the characters, completing the work as *Sosarme, Re di Media*. The remaining fragment *Fernando, Re di Castiglia* has never been performed in its entirety on the basis of the music sources, and we are pleased to present its premiere in London in collaboration with the Halle Handel Festival, using a new critical edition.

Opera Settecento return to the London Handel Festival following a highly successful run of Handel’s pasticcio operas with a talented cast featuring former Handel Singing Competition prizewinners.

Fernando: Owen Willetts countertenor
Elvira: Raphaele Papadakis soprano
Dionisio: Jorge Navarro Colarado tenor
Isabella: Helen Charlston mezzo-soprano
Sancho: Jess Dandy contralto
Akomar: David Greco baritone
Alfonso: Hamish McLaren countertenor
Leo Duarte director
Orchestra of Opera Settecento

Tickets: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12 reserved seating

In collaboration with the Halle Handel Festival
Thursday 2 April, 7.30pm  
St George’s, Hanover Square  
Alfred (Arne) & Ode to Saint Cecilia HWV 76

Composed within six months of each other, Handel’s Ode to St Cecilia on Dryden’s famous text and Arne’s Alfred - culminating in ‘Rule Britannia’ - show both composers at the absolute height of their powers.

The two works could not be more different. Handel and Dryden’s Ode envisages the creation of the universe through the order and majesty of divine harmony, whilst Arne’s masque ponders questions of mundane but immediate political importance, growing from a brief masque through at least seven revisions and additions over the following two decades. Alfred was first performed at Cliveden, country home of Frederick, Prince of Wales, and is considered to be a tactful lesson from Arne to the young prince on British values, focusing as it does on the reign of Saxon King Alfred. Returning to the London Handel Festival, John Andrews and The Brook Street Band are joined by talented soloists and acclaimed chamber choir Pegasus in this glorious celebration of the power of music to move the soul. Reviewing their performance of Arne’s Judgement of Paris in Gramophone, Tim Ashley wrote: “John Andrews conducts with flair and style, and there’s some delectable playing from The Brook Street Band...very entertaining, and great fun.”

Saturday 4 April, 3.30pm & 5pm  
St George’s, Hanover Square  
Royal Chamber Music

This varied chamber music programme brings composers supported by both branches of the Royal family together in an hour-long programme celebrating chamber music for strings, something we suggest Frederick (a keen and proficient cellist) would have enjoyed. London’s colourful music scene is brought to life with a selection of compositions either dedicated to Frederick, or by composers he specifically favoured. The Italian cellist Salvatore Lanzietti inscribed his Opus 2 cello sonatas to Frederick, and Naples-born Nicola Porpora (musical director of The Opera of the Nobility) was a firm favourite of Frederick’s. Handel’s music threads its way through the programme, a unifying force between these rival elements.

The Brook Street Band
Rachel Harris and Kathryn Parry violins  
Tatty Theo cello  
Carolyn Gibley harpsichord

Handel
Trio Sonata in C major from Saul  
Porpora
Sinfonia da Camera in G minor Op. 2 No. 3  
Lanzietti
Cello Sonata in C major Op. 2 No. 3  
Porpora
Sonata No. 4 in B flat major  
Handel
Trio Sonata in F major Op. 5 No. 6

Tickets: £15 unreserved seating
Friday 3 April, 7.30pm
St George’s, Hanover Square
The Elements
Rebel
Les Élémens
Biber
Battalia à 10
Locke
The Tempest (1674)
Vivaldi
Concerto La Tempesta di Mare in F major for flute, oboe, bassoon and strings RV 579
CPE Bach
Symphony in D major H. 663 Wq. 183
Handel
Music for the Royal Fireworks HWV 351
Adrian Butterfield
director
Southbank Sinfonia
Southbank Sinfonia, an orchestra of outstanding young professionals, returns to the Festival to present a baroque feast of six composers exploring the elements of earth, wind, air and fire. The highlight of this wide-ranging programme is Handel’s popular Music for the Royal Fireworks commissioned by George II.
Tickets: £15 unreserved seating

Friday 10 April, 2.30pm
St George’s, Hanover Square
Bach St Matthew Passion BWV 244
Nathan Vale Evangelist & tenor
George Humphreys Christus & bass
Alexandra Gibson mezzo-soprano
Laurence Cummings conductor
London Handel Orchestra
Adrian Butterfield leader
Choir of St George’s, Hanover Square
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

Mayfair Organ Concerts
We are pleased that the Mayfair Organ Concerts are part of the Festival again this year, with recitals at St George’s, Hanover Square on the acclaimed Richards, Fowkes & Co organ, and at Grosvenor Chapel on its 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 1.10 – 1.50pm (doors open at 12.30pm). Admission is free with a retiring collection, and seating is unreserved.

Tuesday 10 March
Grosvenor Chapel
Peter Stevens assistant master of the music, Westminster Cathedral

Tuesday 17 March
St George’s, Hanover Square
Freddie James Basel and London and prizewinner in several international organ competitions

Tuesday 24 March
Grosvenor Chapel
Timothy Wakerell assistant organist, New College Oxford

Tuesday 31 March
St George’s, Hanover Square
Callum Alger organ scholar, Westminster Cathedral and first prizewinner at the IAO/RCO organ playing competition 2018

Tuesday 7 April
Grosvenor Chapel
The Choir of the Grosvenor Chapel
Richard Hobson director and organist
In keeping with our Festival theme of Handel’s links with the Hanoverian dynasty, there will be a special display in the Handel Gallery at the Foundling Museum introducing the ‘Handel Commemoration Concerts’ of 1784. The concerts were immense social and musical occasions, attended by King George III and his family; the souvenir book, written and compiled by Charles Burney in the following year, includes the suggestions and amendments made by the King. The Commemoration Concerts in London were considered the stimulus for what became the major provincial music festivals around the British Isles; the display includes many related programmes, prints and advertising material.

Normal museum admission applies.

Saturday 28 March. from 11am
St George’s, Hanover Square

**Come and Sing: Coronation Anthems**

Come and experience the joy of singing Handel under the inspirational leadership of our musical director, Laurence Cummings. We will work our way through the Coronation Anthems, written specifically for the coronation of George II, including the wondrous ‘Zadok the Priest’ which has been sung at every coronation since. The event will take place in St George’s, Hanover Square, Handel’s own parish church in London’s Mayfair, and there will be a special early evening performance for friends and family to appreciate all your hard work. We will be accompanied by Belsize Baroque.

Our ‘Come and Sing’ events are always popular and all are welcome, although we do ask participants to be able to sight read and have some choral experience. Please note singers must bring their own scores – all editions are acceptable.

11am – 1pm Choir only
2 – 3pm Orchestra only
3 – 5pm Orchestra and Choir
6pm Concert for friends & family

Tickets: £30 for singers; £5 for concert only

Laurence Cummings
© Anton Saeckl

**5, 7, 11, 12, 14 March**
**Linbury Theatre, Royal Opera House**

**Susanna HWV 66**

Please note that this production sold out during the priority booking period. All ticketing is being handled by the Royal Opera House; to enquire about returns, please contact the Royal Opera House directly by telephone (020 7304 4000) or online (www.roh.org.uk).

**Foundling Museum display**

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Normal museum admission applies.

**Friday 3 July. 7.30pm – Chapel of King’s College, London**

The talented choir of King’s College with the London Handel Orchestra under the direction of Joseph Fort will present a recreation of the 1784 ‘Handel Commemoration Concerts’ attended by the Hanoverian royal family. The programme will include Zadok the Priest, Dettingen Te Deum and excerpts from Esther and Israel in Egypt.

**Monday 25 May, 3pm – Gunnersbury Park Museum**

We are delighted to bring Handel’s music back to the beautiful house in Gunnersbury Park where Princess Amelia, one of Handel’s favourite royals, lived. The house is now the local history museum for Ealing and Hounslow and has recently undergone a restoration project to return it to its former Georgian glory. Our hour-long recital with David de Winter (2019 finalist in Handel Singing Competition) and Asako Ogawa (harpsichord) will feature Handel favourites.

**Save the Date**

**Tuesday 23 March – Chapel Royal, St James**

A very special occasion for our supporters with exclusive access to the Chapel Royal to hear their choir sing a programme of Handel under the direction of Laurence Cummings, followed by dinner in nearby Pall Mall. This event is open to all Handel Supporters, including Friends. Full details will be available in December.

To pre-register interest, please email administrator@londonhandelfestival.org.uk.
Monday 9 March, 1pm
Ed Ballard baritone
2018 finalist
La mia sorte fortunata HWV 58
La mia sorte fortunata HWV 67
Cantata: Dal fatale momento HWV 101b
Cantata: Spende ancora a mio dispetto HWV 165
Nathaniel Mander harpsichord

Wednesday 11 March, 1pm
Royal College of Music
Hisrorical Performance Faculty
Handel
Suite No. 3 in G major from Water Music HWV 350
William Boyce
Trio Sonata No. 4 in G minor HWV 431
John Stanley
Concerto for Strings Op. 2 No. 3 in G major
Ashley Solomon director

Thursday 12 March, 1pm
David de Winter tenor
2019 finalist
Arias from Rinaldo HWV 17
Cantata: La Resurrezione HWV 41
Cantata: Cecilia, volgi un sguardo HWV 89
Sharp violins proclaim Ode to St Cecilia HWV 76
Schütz Ich werde nicht stehren HWV 346
Labelt den Herrn HWV 360
Herr unser Herrscher HWV 343
George Ross cello
Chad Kelly harpsichord

Sunday 15 March, 5pm
Eszter Balogh mezzo-soprano
2019 winner of first prize
Arias from Floridante HWV 14
Alma mia Z 362
Salda quercia HWV 32
Cara speme HWV 7
Brilla nell’alma HWV 408
Arrival of the Queen of Sheba & Arias from Solomon HWV 67
Da tempeste il legno infranto HWV 125

Asako Ogawa harpsichord

Wednesday 18 March, 1pm
Students from Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Purcell
Timon of Athens Z 362
Bach
Nach dir, Herr, verlanget mich BWV 150
James Johnstone director

Thursday 19 March, 1pm
Patrick Terry countertenor
2019 winner of second prize
Claudio o’ertake: T. The parent bird in search of food Susanna HWV 66
Ombra mai fu & Crude furie Serse HWV 40
Cara sposa Rinaldo HWV 7
Langi da me pensier tiranno HWV 125
Arias from Amadis HWV 63
Asako Ogawa harpsichord

Sunday 22 March, 5pm
Morgan Balfour soprano
2019 winner of Handel Aria Competition
Arias from Rodelinda HWV 19
Allegro in C minor HWV 408
Arrival of the Queen of Sheba & Arias from Solomon HWV 67
Da tempeste il legno infranto HWV 125

Our chamber recitals are held in the Georgian splendour of St George’s, Hanover Square, Handel’s own church. We showcase finalists from the international Handel Singing Competition, as well as the very best talent from London conservatoires. As a new development for 2020 we have recitals on Sundays at 5pm to complement our existing lunchtime series; we also have the winner of the Handel Aria Competition (USA), and a special recital by Neil McLaren (principal flute with the London Handel Orchestra). Please note that programmes are subject to change; confirmed final details will be available on our website. All works are by Handel unless otherwise stated.

Wednesday 25 March, 1pm
Trinity Laban Baroque Ensemble
Purcell
Chacony from The Fairy Queen
Songs
Handel
Concerto Gross No. 6 in A minor HWV 322
Telemann
Suite ‘Les Nations Anciens et Modernes’ TWV 55: G4

Sunday 5 April, 5pm
Neil McLaren and friends
Hasse
Trio Sonata in D Op. 2 No. 6
Telemann
Quartet in G minor TW43: c3
Quartz
Duo in C Gv3:2.4
Bach
Trio Sonata in G BWV 1039
Neil McLaren & Rachel Brown Blades
Catherine Rimer cello
Sakito Doi-Luck harpsichord
Musical Walks

Meet outside the Wallace Collection, Manchester Square W1
Mayfair and Marylebone Meander

Hanoverian houses, pleasure gardens, carnivals and burial grounds are all part of tonight’s walk which takes us from the former home of the 2nd Duke of Manchester to the development of a square named in honour of the new royal family. We weave around the streets of the area to find out how the area developed during the 18th century together with those who lived here. We arrive in time for the final of the Handel Singing Competition (see page 8).

Sunday 29 March, 2 – 4pm
Meet Green Park Underground station (exit South side near The Ritz)
Royal Parks and Palaces

An afternoon discovering more about the life of the royal family, their palaces and the gardens and parks developed during the Hanoverian period. We will walk along the streets in the area around St James’ Palace and see the shops and gentlemen’s clubs that were established to support the Royal Court. Our royal connections continue with a stroll through St James’ Park into Hyde Park, along by the Serpentine Lake, and the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens before finishing at Kensington Palace, a favourite of George II and his wife Queen Caroline.

Thursday 2 April, 5.30 – 6.45pm
Meet St George’s Church, Bloomsbury Way WC1
From Poverty to Pleasure

A journey taking us from the route to the gallows and gin drinking of the 18th century passing by churches including a Hawksmoor gem and one on the site of a former Leper hospital. We walk through squares from the Hanoverian period, learning en route about the growth of London, visitors who came from abroad to adopt the capital as their home and we streets walked by Handel during his lifetime. We arrive in time for the evening concert (see page 12).

General Information

Booking Dates
2 December – Advance Priority Booking for Patrons Circle and above
6 December – Priority Booking (online, postal) for Associate Beneficiaries and Beneficiaries
9 December – Priority Booking (online, postal) for Friends of the London Handel Society
16 December – Public Booking (online, postal)

You can book tickets for all events listed in this brochure through our website (click on the icon next to the shopping basket in the top right-hand corner). You can also change your contact preferences at any time to make sure that we know that you would like us to contact you by post/email or telephone.

Online booking

We have invested in our future by upgrading our ticketing system and website, for which we have received many positive comments, and we hope your personal experience has also been good. We are strongly encouraged to book online which will enable you to access the seats you want, and to use the option either to print your tickets at home or save them to your mobile phone. Two-thirds of our audiences already do this, as they are finding our new website much easier to use.

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If you are a Handel Supporter, you can also check how much you are giving, and when your membership renewal is due; all this information is available by logging into your account.

Seating

Reserved - numbered seats, booking recommended
Unreserved - choose your seat on arrival, but we recommend that you book in advance to ensure a seat.

Please e-mail us if you have special access needs. Doors will open at the venue 30 minutes before each performance.

Discounts

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

Price categories

These ticket categories relate to all reserved seating concerts at St George’s, Hanover Square. All the programmes listed are restricted view, but the sound is good in all these auditoriums. A full seating plan for the church is available on our website.

Price Category A: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12
Price Category B: £45, £40, £35, £15, £12
Price Category C: £35, £30, £25, £10, £8
Top price (£55, £45, £35) Front Nave, Rows A – E
Second price (£45, £40, £35) Mid Nave, Rows F – J
Third price (£30, £25, £15) Back Nave, Rows K – M
Fourth price (£20, £15, £10) Back Side Aisles, Side Nave & Gallery Second Row at Sides
Fifth price (£12, £9) Gallery Back Row – very restricted view

All details were correct at time of printing, artists and programmes are subject to change. All pieces are by Handel unless otherwise stated. All tickets are non-refundable once purchased.
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 at St George's, Hanover Square, many of which sell out
  - Invitations to special events and rehearsals
  - 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/price
  - Exclusive access to rehearsals and to meet musicians
  - Regular meetings with Festival Director to share views

We would like to thank all our supporters for their contribution to our work. We are particularly grateful to our Benefactors for their generosity. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or would like to discuss further details.

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. 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, Jestyn 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.

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If you wish to join or to renew your membership, please complete the booking form opposite and send it back to us.

Thank you for your support.

Booking Form
You are strongly encouraged to book online via our website at www.london-handel-festival.com, as this gives you the opportunity to select the exact seats you want. If you wish to book by post, please return this form to the address overleaf, but please note that we may not be able to process your order before online booking opens. Please read all the information on page 21 before completing your order. If you have any queries, please e-mail us at administrator@londonhandelfestival.org.uk.

Name ....................................................................................................................................................................................................................
Address .................................................................................................................................................................................................................
.................................................................................................................................................................................   Postcode ...........................
Telephone/mobile ..............................................................  Email ...................................................................................................................

If you are booking by post, please return to: London Handel Festival, PO Box 76210, London NW1W 8JN

I wish to renew/join* as a ................................. (e.g. Friend/Benefactor etc) @ £ ........................................
*please delete as appropriate

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Date e.g. 20/3</th>
<th>Price £</th>
<th>No. of tickets</th>
<th>Total £</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friend/Benefactor etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donation</td>
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<td>Booking Fee (£3.50)</td>
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</tbody>
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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: □□ / □□

CSV security number: □□□ Name as on the card ................................................................................................................................

(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 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 you are happy for us to remain in contact:

I am happy to receive future communications by email □
I am happy to receive future communications by post □
I am happy for you to contact me by telephone □

(Data Protection)

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 my Gift Aid declaration □ (tick box)
I am a new donor – please contact me about my Gift Aid declaration □ (tick box)

(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.