Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival 24 – 26 May

Threads of Gold

Welcome to the 2024 Festival weaving together the golden threads of Beverley’s remarkable history alongside a host of concerts and workshops presented within some of the country’s most beautiful ecclesiastical buildings. Opening the Festival we welcome the acclaimed young instrumental group from Spain – El Gran Teatro del Mundo – with guests over the weekend including the London Handel Players, The Telling, Bojan Čičić and Steven Devine, BBC New Generation Artists Ensemble Augelletti and for the first time, the glorious voices of Tenebrae join us to celebrate music of the Golden Age of Spain. Music lovers wanting to join in the fun are invited to bespoke orchestral and choral workshops and we are extending an open invitation to all to join us for a song and a healing walk across Beverley led by SongPath. Thanks are due to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council, the National Centre for Early Music, the Arts Council, the Mayfield Valley Arts Trust and the Spanish Embassy for their support. And thank you to all our NCEM Patrons – we really do value your on-going help. We look forward to seeing you in May.

Best wishes Delma Tomlin MBE, DUniv Director

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE BY DR JOHN JENKINS  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 1

Friday 24 May 4.00pm – 5.00pm   
£12.00  
Venue: St Mary’s Church Hall, Beverley

…and oil dripped from the golden tomb”

Medieval Pilgrimage to St John of Beverley:  
An illustrated lecture presented by Dr John Jenkins

From his death in 721, to the destruction of his golden shrine in Beverley  
Minster in 1541, John of Beverley was the most important saint in the East Riding, and pilgrims flocked to his golden and bejewelled shrine from near and far. By the close of the Middle Ages, thanks to the miracles he worked for the kings of England, St John had become a saint of national importance on a par with St George. This lecture reveals why pilgrims came, or in some cases were forced to come, to Beverley, and the unique and wonderous spectacle the Minster canons provided for medieval visitors.

Dr John Jenkins is co-Director of the Centre for Pilgrimage Studies at the University of York and is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He has published extensively on saints’ cults and cathedrals in the Middle Ages, including an edition of the Customary of the Shrine of St Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral

EL GRAN TEATRO DEL MUNDO  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 2

Friday 24 May 7.30pm  
£23.00 (£21.00 concessions | £7.00 under 35)  
Venue: St Mary’s Church, Beverley

Alice Julien-Laferrière, Andrés Murillo *violins* Michael Form *recorder* Miriam Jorde *oboe*  
Martin Jantzen *viola da gamba* Jonas Nordberg *theorbo* Julio Caballero *harpsichord and artistic direction*

We are delighted to welcome this brilliant young Spanish ensemble as they return to Yorkshire to open the 2024 Festival with an evocative programme taking us on a magical musical journey through the night. Specialists in French music from the time of the Sun King, this programme will bring to life the operas of the Grand Siècle with instrumental interpretations of scenes in which night will be the best ally of love, and sleep, death’s best friend.

Supported by the Creative Europe EEEmerging+ scheme, El Gran Teatro del Mundo have enchanted audiences with their sparkling musicianship since winning the Cambridge Early Music Prize at the 2019 York International Young Artists Competition.

INSTRUMENTAL WORKSHOP  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival

Saturday 25 May 9.30am  
£18.00 (£10 Students)  
Venue: Hexagan Music Centre, Beverley

The Birth of the Orchestra

A workshop on Baroque orchestral performance practice based on the writings of George Muffat with additional music by Corelli and Lully, directed by Julio Caballero of El Gran Teatro del Mundo, with Miriam Jorde oboe, Bruno Hurtadoviol, cello and Andrés Murillo violin.

The workshop is open to players of Baroque oboe, traverso, bassoon, recorder and string players with Baroque instruments or modern instruments with gut strings and Baroque bows. Music will be provided and available to download on the NCEM website for private practice before the event. Participants should be confident sight- readers

ENSEMBLE AUGELLETTI  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 3

Saturday 25 May 10.00am – 11.00pm (please note revised timings)  
£19.00 (£17.00 concessions | £7.00 under 35)  
Venue: St Nicholas Church, Beverley

Ellen Bundy *violin* Toby Carr *lutes* Carine Drury *cello*  
Olwen Foulkes *recorders* Benedict Williams *keyboards*

A Curious Mind

For their first visit to Beverley, the newly appointed BBC New Generation Baroque Ensemble focus their musical lens on a curious and wellconnected local clergyman and musician – Edward Finch. Specialising in making musical arrangements of the most popular music of his time, including Henry Purcell’s wonderful ‘Golden Sonata’, Ensemble Augelletti tell Finch’s singular story and they perform some of his compositions and arrangements alongside music by his friends Purcell, Handel, and Geminiani.

“*This is a group whose enthusiasm is infectious*” Martin Dreyer, York Press

Musical Walking Trail

SONGPATH  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 4

Saturday 25 May 1.30pm – 3.00pm  
£10.00  
Venue: Meet at Hengate Memorial Gardens, Beverley

Jess Dandy *contralto*  
Joanna Harries *mezzo-soprano*  
Olwen Foulkes *recorder*

Immerse yourself in an outdoor experience that transcends conventional concerts, exploring mental well-being through the transformative power of music and nature.

We welcome SongPath to Beverley for the first time with an uplifting blend of walking, talking and music-making.

Please note that this event takes place outdoors and involves walking and standing. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear. If you have any accessibility concerns, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can accommodate you. If appropriate, please bring a brolly too!

BOJAN CICIC violin & STEVEN DEVINE harpsichord  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 5

Saturday 25 May 4.00pm – 5.00pm  
£22.00 (£20.00 concessions | £7.00 under 35)  
Venue: Toll Gavel United Church, Beverley

Handel Sonatas

Harpsichordist Steven Devine returns to Beverley with the virtuoso violinist Bojan Čičić in a programme melding the violin sonatas of GF Handel with those of the Italian born violinist and composer Giovanni Stefano Carbonelli.

Acclaimed for their sheer exhilarating brilliance, Carbonelli’s sonatas proved him to be so much more than ‘just’ a contemporary of Vivaldi, amply demonstrating the respect in which he was held in his native Italy before setting off to find fame and fortune in England.

Following their recent recordings for Delphian, Bojan and Steven have turned their attention to Handel’s works for violin and harpsichord promising us a multitude of contrasts with flowing and agreeable chamber music, in which the violinist is in musical conversation with the keyboard player.

“*Čičić’s distinctive sound – sweet, slightly dry and exquisitely centred – is ideal for the taut beauty of Carbonelli’s solo lines*.” BBC Music Choice

Steven Devine “*fantastic touch and élan*” Gramophone

TENEBRAE  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 6

Saturday 25 May 7.30pm  
Front nave: £35.00  
Rear nave and side aisle: £25.00 (£23.00 concessions | £10.00 under 35)  
Venue: Beverley Minster

*directed by* Nigel Short

Spanish Glories of the Sixteenth Century

Described as ‘phenomenal’ by The Times and ‘devastatingly beautiful’ by Gramophone Magazine, this award-winning choir join us in Beverley Minster with their acclaimed interpretation of Tomás Luis de Victoria’s masterpiece – his Requiem Mass for six voices, written in 1603 and published in 1605. One of just a handful of large-scale works which continues to enjoy mainstream appeal in the 21st century, the Requiem evokes the sounds of the Renaissance presented here in one of England’s most glorious churches.

*“Victoria called on all his imaginative resources in this Requiem, and Tenebrae interprets them magnificently*.” The Daily Telegraph

CHORAL WORKSHOP  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival

Sunday 26 May 9.30am  
£18.00 (£10 Students)  
Venue: Hexagan Music Centre, Beverley

Music of the Spanish Golden Age

Following Tenebrae’s award-winning programme given on Saturday evening in Beverley Minster, choral singers are invited to join Tenebrae’s Joseph Edwards, an experienced workshop leader, to work on some of the repertoire included in their programme.

Music for the day includes Alfonso Lobo’s Versa est in luctum and Tomás Luis de Victoria’s Taedet anima and Astiterunt reges terrae.

The workshop is open to all voices (S/A/T/B) with some sight-singing experience. Tea and coffee will be provided for morning and afternoon breaks. Participants should make their own arrangements for lunch (bringing a picnic is recommended as the venue is a little way out of the centre of Beverley). The afternoon will conclude with a short informal performance of music studied during the day, open to all, free of charge. The Hexagon Music Centre is a spacious venue with plentiful car parking on site.

Links to the music for private study will be available in due course on the festival website. Printed copies will be provided on the day.

Your application will be acknowledged with a ticket for the workshop and you will be informed when online music is available.

LONDON HANDEL PLAYERS  
Beverley & East Riding early Music Festival: Event 7

Sunday 26 May 3.00pm – 4.00pm  
£22.00 (£20.00 concessions | £7.00 under 35)  
Venue: Toll Gavel United Church, Beverley

Rachel Brown *flutes, recorders* Adrian Butterfield, Oliver Webber *violins*  
Rachel Byrt *viola* Katherine Sharman *cello* Silas Wollston *harpsichord*

A World of Inspiration

Many European Baroque composers were fascinated by music and culture from further afield, and this programme brings together an extraordinary wealth of styles and influences from countries such as Poland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the Canary Islands, India and the British Isles!

“*Consummate skill and musicianship*” New York Times

MELANIE GILES  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 8

Sunday 26 May 4.30pm – 5.30pm  
£12.00  
Venue: Toll Gavel United Church Hall, Beverley

Ancient threads and enchanted garments:  
Stories of preserved textiles from Iron Age and Roman Yorkshire and Lincolnshire

For the second of the festival lectures this year, we are delighted to welcome Professor Melanie Giles from the University of Manchester as she reveals more of the remarkable ancient history of the East Riding.

Ancient textiles, made of both vegetal and wool fibres, are rarely preserved in archaeological contexts due to their organic and fragile nature. In this talk, Melanie will share the story of some rare examples, ranging from the edge of Iron Age cloaks, bags and containers from Arras burials in East Yorkshire to threads and garments found with bog bodies dating to the early Roman period in North Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

Melanie Giles’ Bog Bodies: Awarded Book of the Year 2022 Current Archaeology Magazine

THE TELLING  
Beverley & East Riding Early Music Festival: Event 9

Sunday 26 May 7.30pm  
£20.00 (£18.00 concessions | £7.00 under 35)  
Venue: East Riding Theatre, Beverley

Suzanne Ahmet *actor as Blanca*  
Patience Tomlinson*actor as Queen Isabella (offstage voice)*  
Clare Norburn *singer*  
Avital Raz *singer*  
Emily Baines *recorders, doucaine*  
Giles Lewin *oud*  
Jean Kelly *harp & percussion*

Nicholas Renton *director*  
Clare Norburn *playwright*  
Natalie Rowland *lighting designer*

Into the Melting Pot

Music and theatre collide in this fully staged show taking us back to 15th century Spain. A story of migration, community and conflict. Spain, 1492. At twilight on her final night in Seville, a Jewish woman lights the lamps. She is being forced to leave Spain and set sail for an uncertain future. Her story echoes down the ages to the personal stories of people of all faiths and backgrounds affected by politics and war today. She tunes into a community of stories told by Jewish, Christian and Muslim women, soundtracked by plaintive Sephardic songs and lively Spanish medieval music.

“*mesmerising*” The Guardian on The Telling