



## **St Martin-in-the-Fields continues to broaden its artistic offer with a dazzling line up of concerts for Spring 2022**

**7 January – 9 July 2022**

- **Extraordinary range of choral music from leading choirs including Ex Cathedra, The Gesualdo Six, I Fagiolini, Monteverdi Choir, Tallis Scholars, Tenebrae, BBC Singers and Chineke! Voices**
- **Rich baroque strand includes operas by Handel and Purcell with The English Concert and BBC Singers, bold takes on Vivaldi from 12 Ensemble and La Serenissima, and varied concerts from St Martin's-based artists including St Martin's Voices, Academy of St Martin in the Fields, Monteverdi Choir and English Baroque Soloists**
- **Easter Festival includes large-scale works including Pärt's *Passio*, Bach's *St John Passion*, Handel's *La resurrezione* and more**
- **Chineke! Voices makes St Martin's debut with music by one of the earliest known composers of African descent**
- **Outstanding collaborations include Tenebrae with Christian Forshaw, Opus Anglicanum with jazz pianist Jason Rebello and I Fagiolini with actress Tamsin Greig**
- **New partnership with English National Opera, 'ENO in the Fields', to showcase exceptional new musical talent alongside the award-winning ENO Chorus and Orchestra**
  - **London recital debut of Jeneba Kanneh-Mason**
- **Major new Friday lunchtime series with outstanding young artists in partnership with English National Opera, City Music Foundation, Darbar and Monteverdi Choir & Orchestra**
- **Ongoing relationships with John Eliot Gardiner's Monteverdi Choir & Orchestras, Academy of St Martin in the Fields, London Mozart Players and Feinstein Ensemble**

St Martin-in-the-Fields today launches a dazzling line-up of concerts from some of the world's leading artists and ensembles for its new **St Martin's Spring Concert Season**, which helps to cement its position as one of London's landmark venues.

Playing to the strength of its outstanding acoustic and beautiful architectural setting, choral concerts from the UK's leading professional choirs including **BBC Singers**, **Chineke! Voices**, **Ex Cathedra**, **The Gesualdo Six**, **I Fagiolini**, **Monteverdi Choir**, **Tallis Scholars** and **Tenebrae** feature prominently, with an imaginative array of choral music from plainchant to contemporary.

Baroque music, similarly well-suited to the exquisite setting, is also notable with such highlights as bold and imaginative takes on Vivaldi from period-instrument ensemble **La Serenissima** [11 Feb & 2 Jul] and **12 Ensemble** playing Max Richter's *Vivaldi Recomposed* on modern instruments [4 Feb], Mozart, Haydn and J.S. Bach from **John Eliot Gardiner** and the **English Baroque Soloists** [23 Apr & 16 Jun]. Handel is also prominent with **La Nuova Musica** giving a first London performance with countertenor **Iestyn Davies** from their acclaimed CD release *Handel's Unsung Heroes* [21 May], **Laurence Cummings** conducting *La resurrezione* [18 Apr], and **The English Concert** with **Harry Bicket**, who bring their acclaimed opera series with a performance of *Serse* with **Emily D'angelo** in the title role [5 May].

At the heart of St Martin's Spring Concert Season is an Easter Festival built around two different settings of the *St John Passion*. With a traditional Good Friday performance of the famous work by J.S. Bach from **St Martin's Voices** conducted by **Andrew Earis** [15 Apr], the Easter Festival also includes a rare performance of Arvo Pärt's 1989 *Passio* from **The Gesualdo Six** [12 Apr]. There will also be an atmospheric evening of reflective sacred choral pieces and plainchant interlaced by meditative saxophone improvisation with **Tenebrae** and **Christian Forshaw** called 'Drop, slow tears: a meditation for choir and sax' [9 Apr]; a concert from **Ex Cathedra** and **Jeffrey Skidmore** with 'Music of heartbreak and healing', featuring poignant baroque works such as Scarlatti's *Stabat mater* and two of Bach's Cello Suites with cellist **Andrew Skidmore** [7 Apr]; and a complete performance of Handel's Easter Oratorio *La resurrezione* with **Laurence Cummings** conducting a starry line-up of soloists in partnership with the **London Handel Festival** [18 Apr].

St Martin-in-the-Fields is delighted **Chineke! Voices** will be a partner in its future plans. Chineke! Voices is a vocal ensemble which brings together world-class professional black and ethnically diverse singers, and St Martin's will provide the ensemble with rehearsal space, support, resources, development, and performance opportunities. The ground-breaking ensemble, which has previously performed at Southbank Centre where the Chineke! Orchestra is an Associate Orchestra, makes its St Martin's debut in a concert which celebrates the works of one of the first published composers of African descent: the 16th-century Portuguese composer Vicente Lusitano (1520-1561) alongside music by that of his more well-known fellow composers of the period. Lusitano's music survives in manuscript, rarely heard or performed but lovingly researched and edited for this concert by **Joseph McHardy** [18 Jun].

Among the other outstanding events is the UK premiere of a new choral work by David Lang called *sun-centered*, specially commissioned by **The Tallis Scholars** as a companion piece for Antoine Brumel's monumental 'Earthquake' mass from the early 16<sup>th</sup> century [12 May]. Also that week, **I Fagiolini** return with its hugely acclaimed and powerful concert exploring themes of renewal and creation: 'Rewilding the Wasteland' with **Tamsin Greig** is inspired both by T.S. Eliot's ground-breaking poem *The Waste Land* - written 100 years ago in the wake of the catastrophic upheavals of the First World War and the 'Spanish Flu' - and by David Attenborough's plea to 'rewild the world' in the midst of the latest pandemic [19 May]. In *Super-Choral: Super Excellent*, **I Fagiolini** will also fill the glorious acoustic of St Martin's with the sounds of sumptuous Italian poly-choral music from St Mark's, Venice [10 Mar].

**Tenebrae** and **Christian Forshaw** is not the only extraordinary collaboration between a choir and jazz artists this season: **Opus Anglicanum** and jazz pianist **Jason Rebello** also come together for a

seamless spiritual blend of plainchant and jazz piano [3 Feb]. Another imaginative coming together of old and new is the acclaimed **12 Ensemble** in a concert of music by Max Richter, including his *Recomposed: Vivaldi - The Four Seasons* [4 Feb]. A pair of concerts entitled **Baroque Meets Minimalism** will see guitarist **Sean Shibe** in a typically boundary-crossing programme ranging from J.S. Bach to Julius Eastman's *Buddha* and Steve Reich's *Electric Counterpoint* [1 Apr] and organist **James McVinnie** in a programme of J.S. Bach, Nico Muhly and Philip Glass, drawn from his new album *Counterpoint* [24 Feb].

St Martin's is also delighted to present the London recital debut of pianist **Jeneba Kanneh-Mason** in a wide-ranging programme spanning Bach and Mozart to Liszt, Scriabin and Coleridge-Taylor [15 Mar].

Also announced today is a major new partnership between St Martin's and **English National Opera** for a new strand called 'ENO in the Fields'. This is a new series of both evening and lunchtime concerts which demonstrate both ENO's and St Martin's commitment to supporting new musical talent. Past and present ENO Harewood Artists (ENO's programme for the next generation of operatic talent) and ENO Mackerras Fellow (for emerging conductors) will be placed centre stage alongside the ENO's award-winning Chorus and Orchestra. There will also be some guest appearances for some evening performances from regular ENO visiting artists. The series will feature a broad range of repertoire and artists, with a particular focus on underrepresented composers, in line with ENO's mission that opera is for everyone and to create new experiences that inspire, nurture creativity and make a difference.

Alongside the new partnership with ENO, St Martin's has also joined forces with [City Music Foundation](#), [Darbar Arts Culture Heritage Trust](#) and the [Apprentices Programme](#) of the **Monteverdi Choirs & Orchestras** – which all strive to create a pathway to professional musical careers for exceptional young musicians – to create an exciting new Friday lunchtime series featuring brilliant young singers and instrumentalists from a range of musical genres and backgrounds.

The recently announced partnership with **John Eliot Gardiner** and the **Monteverdi Choir & Orchestras** – which created a first UK home for these ensembles – continues with two concerts in spring: an all Haydn and Mozart concert for which the English Baroque Soloists are joined by violinist **Isabelle Faust** [23 Apr] and an exploration of 'The Music of Consolation' by J.S. Bach, Schütz and Schein, which sees the return of Monteverdi Choir itself [16 Jun].

The fine work of **Academy of St Martin in the Fields** has long been a vital part of concert life at St Martin's and it returns for two concerts which range from Haydn and Mozart to Vaughan Williams [25 Jan and 30 Jun]. **London Mozart Players**, also well-known to audiences at St Martin's, return three times bringing glittering soloists – including viola player **Timothy Ridout**, tenor **James Gilchrist**, horn virtuoso **Ben Goldscheider** and Young Artist in Residence **Leia Zhu** – for music by Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Elgar, Britten and Cecilia McDowell [26 Mar, 20 May and 9 Jul].

St Martin's much-loved selection of 'concerts by candlelight' also continue throughout the season featuring popular repertoire in an accessible format.

All artists are encouraged to introduce the music from the stage and talk directly to audiences, bringing a new level of informality, inclusivity and insight to performances at St Martin's.

Chris Denton, Chief Executive of St Martin-in-the-Fields, said:

***“I am immensely proud to announce our Spring season. With a wonderful range of prestigious ensembles, innovative collaborations and important new partnerships, these concerts confirm St Martin-in-the-Fields’ position as one of London’s key destinations for outstanding classical music and play to the strengths of our beautiful acoustic and architecture.”***

**For more information please visit: [smitf.org/concerts](https://smitf.org/concerts)**

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## **Notes for Editors**

St Martin-in-the-Fields is an architectural jewel sitting at the corner of one of the world’s most famous squares. Presenting over 300 concerts each year, St Martin’s is transforming its artistic and cultural offer, and attracting new audiences, as it broadens the roster of artists it presents (including early career artists) and the repertoire performed in the beautiful and acoustically superb setting of the church.

[smitf.org/concerts](https://smitf.org/concerts)

### **St Martin’s Spring Concert Season - Listings:**

- 25 Jan Mozart & Caroline Shaw from the Academy of St Martin in the Fields**  
Mozart Violin Concerto No. 4 in D, K218; Caroline Shaw *Entr’acte*; Haydn Symphony No. 91 in E flat  
*Academy of St Martin in the Fields/Tomo Keller (leader/violin)*
- 3 Feb Jason Rebello/Opus Anglicanum: Adorna**  
A seamless spiritual blend of plainchant and jazz piano, followed by crypt late-night jazz session with the Jason Rebello Trio  
*Jason Rebello piano; Opus Anglicanum*
- 4 Feb 12 Recomposed by Max Richter: Vivaldi - The Four Seasons**  
The pioneering 12 Ensemble perform Max Richter’s chart-topping reworking of Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons*  
*12 Ensemble*
- 11 Feb La Serenissima/Vivaldi & Brescianello: A Tale of Two Fiddlers**  
*La Serenissima/Adrian Chandler (Director/violin)*
- 12 Feb ENO in the Fields: Natalya Romaniw & Iain Burnside in recital**  
*Natalya Romaniw (soprano); Iain Burnside (piano)*
- 22 Feb Jayson Gillham Romantic Bach**  
J.S. Bach in arrangements by Romantic pianists and composers including Busoni, Kempff, Gounod, Liszt and Rachmaninoff  
*Jayson Gillham (piano)*
- 24 Feb Baroque meets Minimalism: James McVinnie plays Bach & Glass**  
Programme drawn from James’s new album *Counterpoint* to include music by J.S. Bach, Philip Glass and Nico Muly  
*James McVinnie (organ)*
- 10 Mar I Fagiolini: Super-Choral, Super-Excellent**

Baroque music for multiple choirs from Italy, Spain, Peru, Germany and England including music by G. Gabrieli, Cererols, Juan de Araújo, Palestrina, E Hooper and Schütz  
*I Fagiolini/Robert Hollingsworth (Director)*

**15 Mar Jeneba Kanneh-Mason's London debut recital**

Music by J.S. Bach, Mozart, Scriabin, Coleridge-Taylor and Liszt  
*Jeneba Kanneh-Mason (piano)*

**18 Mar Purcell's Dido and Aeneas/BBC Singers**

Purcell Dido and Aeneas, plus music by Monteverdi and Lotti  
*BBC Singers/Sofi Jeannin*

**26 Mar Mozart & Tchaikovsky from the London Mozart Players**

Mozart Sinfonia Concertante; Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings  
*Jonian Ilias Kadesha (violin); Timothy Ridout (viola); London Mozart Players*

**1 Apr Baroque meets Minimalism: Sean Shibe plays Bach and Steve Reich**

Music includes J.S. Bach, Julius Eastman's *Buddha* and Steve Reich's *Electric Counterpoint*  
*Sean Shibe (guitar)*

**7 Apr Easter Festival - Baroque Passion: Music of Heartbreak and Healing**

Programme includes music by J.S. Bach, Purcell, D. Scarlatti and Monteverdi  
*Andrew Skidmore (cello); Ex Cathedra/Jeffrey Skidmore (Director)*

**9 Apr Easter Festival - Tenebrae & Christian Forshaw: Drop, slow tears: A Meditation for Choir and Sax**

Sacred choral music and plainchant, including pieces by Tallis, Gibbons and Hildegard of Bingen, with reflective saxophone improvisation.  
*Tenebrae/Nigel Short (Director): Christian Forshaw (saxophone)*

**12 Apr Easter Festival - Arvo Pärt: Passio**

Pärt: Passio Domini Nostri Jesu Christi secundum Joannem  
*The Gesualdo Six; St Martin's Choirs; Owain Park (Director)*

**15 Apr Easter Festival - Good Friday Bach St John Passion**

*St Martin's Voices; London Mozart Players/Andrew Earis*

**18 Apr Easter Festival - Handel La Resurrezione/London Handel Festival**

*Nardus Williams, Rachel Redmond (sopranos); Ed Lyon (tenor); Callum Thorpe (bass); London Handel Orchestra/Laurence Cummings*

**23 Apr Mozart & Haydn from Sir John Eliot Gardiner**

Haydn Symphony No. 103, 'The Drumroll'; Mozart Violin Concerti Nos. 1 & 3; Symphony No. 39  
*Isabelle Faust (violin); English Baroque Soloists/John Eliot Gardiner*

**30 Apr ENO-in-the-Fields: An Evening with the Chorus of English National Opera**

Programme includes Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* and Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*  
*Chorus, soloists and players from English National Opera*

**5 May English Concert: Handel's Serse**

*Emily D'angelo (Serse); Lucy Crowe (Romilda); Mary Bevan (Atalanta); Neil Davies (Ariodate); Daniela Mack (Amastre); William Dazely (Elviro); The English Concert/Harry Bicket*

**12 May Tallis Scholars: The Earth Moves**

Antoine Brumel 'Earthquake' Mass; David Lang 'sun-centered' (UK premiere)  
*The Tallis Scholars/Peter Philipps*

**19 May I Fagiolini: Rewilding the Wasteland**

Celebrating the centenary of T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* (written in the wake of the First World War and the 'Spanish Flu' pandemic), concert includes readings from *The Waste Land* and music by Victoria, Byrd, Vaughan Williams, Leighton, Joanna Marsh and Shruthi Rajasekar  
*Tamsin Grieg* (narrator); *I Fagiolini/Robert Hollingsworth*

**20 May Elgar, Mozart & Britten from London Mozart Players**

Elgar Introduction and Allegro; Mozart Horn Concerto No. 4; Cecilia McDowall 'Off the Ground' and Britten Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings  
*Ben Goldscheider* (horn); *James Gilchrist* (tenor); *London Mozart Players*

**21 May Handel's Unsung Heroes: Iestyn Davies & La Nuova Musica**

Selection of arias and overtures from Handel operas  
*Iestyn Davies* (countertenor); *La Nuova Musica/David Bates*

**16 Jun Monteverdi Choir: Bach, Schütz & Schein - The Music of Consolation**

Programme includes Bach's *Actus Tragicus*  
*Monteverdi Choir; English Baroque Soloists/John Eliot Gardiner*

**18 Jun Chineke! Voices: The Music of Vicente Lusitano**

Music by one of the first known classical composers of African descent: the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Portuguese composer Vicente Lusitano (1520-1561)  
*Chineke! Voices/Joseph McHardy*

**25 Jun Summer Music by Candlelight**

A programme of seasonal music and readings inspired by nature, summer holidays, sea and sunshine  
*Ex Cathedra/Jeffrey Skidmore*

**30 Jun Academy of St Martin in the Fields: The Lark Ascending**

Programme to include Vaughan Williams' *The Lark Ascending*  
*Academy of St Martin in the Fields*

**2 Jul La Serenissima: Vivaldi and the Mad Monks of Venice**

Baroque instrumental music by Vivaldi, Legrenzi, Lazzari, Bigaglia  
*La Serenissima/Adrian Chandler* (violin/Director)

**9 Jul Mozart from the London Mozart Players**

Mozart Serenata Notturna; Violin Concerto No. 5, 'Turkish'; Symphony No. 29  
*Leia Zhu* (violin); *London Mozart Players*

**FRIDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES, 1pm (on sale Monday 29 November)**

7 Jan **ENO in the Fields:** Meet the New Harewood Artists

14 Jan **Giacomo Susani**, guitar

21 Jan **Echéa Quartet**

28 Jan **Indian classical concert**, artist tbc

4 Feb **James Larter**, percussion

11 Feb **Reylon Yount** yangqin (Chinese hammered dulcimer)

18 Feb **Joy Lisney**, cello

25 Feb **Monteverdi Apprentices** in chamber music for strings by Schubert, Puccini and Rossini.

4 Mar **Indian classical concert**, artist tbc

11 Mar **Ensemble Hesperis**

18 Mar **Connaught Brass**

25 Mar **ENO-in-the-Fields:** Meet the New Harewood Artists

22 Apr **ENO-in-the-Fields:** ENO Mackerras Fellow Conducts the Orchestra of ENO in American Classics

Full details and booking at [smitf.org/concerts](https://www.smitf.org/concerts)