

Historic music in historic churches – early music for voices and period instruments

THE
Suffolk Villages Festival



24–27 August 2018

Artistic Director: Peter Holman MBE



STOKE BY NAYLAND
BOXFORD SUDBURY

The Anthony King Memorial Fund

Professor Anthony King (1934-2017) was Chairman of the Suffolk Villages Festival Committee from 2002 until his death. In his memory we have set up a fund to support SVF work in an area particularly dear to his heart: English music of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Our performances of Thomas Arne's *Alfred* at the 2017 Festival and of John Eccles's *Semele* in May 2018 were the first two supported by the fund.

The SVF Monteverdi Project Fund

This Fund was set up in 2016 with the aim of raising the means to perform all of Monteverdi's major works in a five-year cycle. We began with *The Coronation of Poppea* in 2016, followed by the 1610 Vespers in 2017. The shorter dramatic works are being performed this year, with *The Return of Ulysses* planned for 2019 and *Orfeo* for 2020.

If you would like to donate to either fund, please contact our Administrator, Louise Jameson: louise@suffolkvillagesfestival.com or 01206 366603.



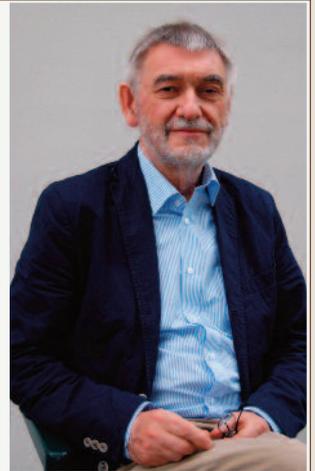
SVF creative lives

At the concert in Stoke by Nayland on Saturday 25 August there will be an exhibition reflecting the creative activities of the community associated with the Festival, which includes instrument makers, furniture makers, photographers and authors.

A message from the Artistic Director

Welcome to the 2018 Festival. Our theme this year is court culture, beginning on Friday 24 August with Monteverdi's Mantuan ballets. The concert develops two ongoing initiatives: our Monteverdi Project to perform all his major works, and our educational work with conservatoire students, in this case lutenists and keyboard players mentored by Fred Jacobs and myself; our chairman Stephen Varcoe also contributed to a preliminary workshop. Fred is joined on Sunday by the distinguished tenor Charles Daniels in a delightful programme of seventeenth-century song – also mostly the product of court culture.

On Saturday Steven Devine returns with a wonderful Bach orchestral programme, including the composer's extraordinary harpsichord arrangement of the double violin concerto. A new departure for us is Kannig's intriguing late-night Sunday concert of Welsh music, preparing us for their lecture recital on Monday morning. This, as they will explain, is true cross-over: traditional music meets historical performance. Finally, on Monday evening there are superb court odes by Purcell and Handel, tied into another afternoon of events at Gainsborough's House. As always there is much to enjoy!



Peter Holman

Now in its thirty-first year, the Suffolk Villages Festival brings high-quality performances of early music to rural East Anglia. Its principal venues are the fine historic wool churches of Stoke by Nayland, Boxford, Nayland, Hadleigh and Sudbury, situated to the north of the River Stour and Dedham Vale.

The area is easily reached by road from London and the Suffolk coast via the A12, and from the Midlands via the A14. The nearest mainline railway stations are Colchester and Ipswich. The website www.southandheartofsuffolk.org.uk lists local accommodation. Alternatively, please contact the Tourist Information Centre: The Library, Market Hill, Sudbury, CO10 2EN. Telephone: 01787 881320.

The Suffolk Villages Festival
Registered Charity No. 1102789
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Friday 24 August at 6.30pm
St Peters, Sudbury CO10 2EH

Monteverdi The Courtly Ballets

Il ballo delle ingrato

Balletto 'De la bellezza le dovute lodi'

Tirsi e Clori

Ballo 'Movete al mio bel suon'

soloists to include:

Claire Coleman *soprano*

Helen Charlston *mezzo soprano*

Daniel Auchincloss *tenor*

Nick Webb *bass*

Psalmody, The John Jenkins Consort
directed by Peter Holman



Our Monteverdi Project continues with four superb works marrying musical drama and courtly dance. In the main work, *Il ballo delle ingrato*, written for Mantua in 1608 and revised for Vienna in 1636, Cupid and his mother Venus visit the Underworld, persuading Pluto to release the spirits of hard-hearted women as a warning to the audience. They dance out their grief until Pluto commands them to return, whereupon one of them turns and sings a heartrending lament. The shorter ballets celebrate various aspects of love in irresistible song and dance.

Regular SVF soloists are joined by Helen Charlston (as Venus in *Il ballo delle ingrato*), who starred in our performance of Eccles's *Semele* in May and recently won the prestigious Handel Singing Competition. The John Jenkins Consort is amplified by a sumptuous continuo group of lutenists and keyboard players drawn from conservatoire students led and mentored by Fred Jacobs and Peter Holman.

**Concert supported by The Mistley Thorn & Lucca Enoteca
and donors to The Monteverdi Project Fund**

**Tickets £20 (reserved), £14 (unreserved)
half-price for full-time students; see p. 9 for booking information**

Festival Season Ticket – top-price tickets for all five concerts £82



Saturday 25 August at 6.30pm
St Mary's, Stoke-by-Nayland CO6 4QY

Johann Sebastian Bach

Harpichord Concerto no. 1 in D minor
Concerto for Two Harpsichords no. 3 in C minor
Brandenburg Concerto no. 3 in G major
Suite no. 2 in A minor

Steven Devine *harpsichord*
Claire Williams *harpsichord*
Tassilo Erhardt *violin*

Essex Baroque Orchestra
directed by Steven Devine

Four of J.S. Bach's greatest orchestral works – but two of them in unfamiliar guises. The famous 'double violin concerto' is played in the composer's fascinating elaboration for two harpsichords and strings, while Tassilo Erhardt plays his reconstruction of the lost original version of the popular Suite in B minor, for solo violin rather than flute. The D minor is Bach's finest and most extended harpsichord concerto, a favourite with virtuosi from his time to the present. Brandenburg Concerto no. 3 is a radical reinvention of the concerto, in which the nine solo strings engage in complex and joyful interplay.

Steven Devine is one of Britain's brilliant and authoritative harpsichordists, working with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and many other groups here and abroad. In the double concerto he is joined Claire Williams, another SVF regular.

Tickets £18 (reserved), £12 (unreserved)
half-price for full-time students; see p. 9 for booking information

Saturday 25 August at 5.15pm St Mary's, Stoke-by-Nayland
(free admission to concert ticket-holders)

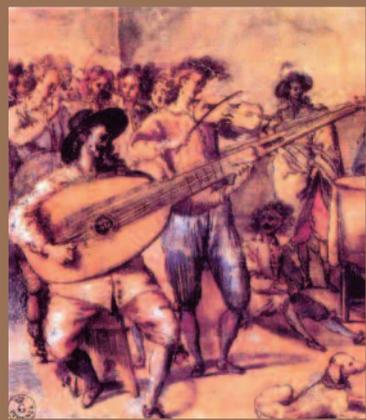
Johann Sebastian Bach and the Concerto
A talk by Peter Holman, Artistic Director

pre-concert
talk

Sunday 26 August at 6.30pm
St Mary's Church, Boxford CO10 5DU

Gather ye Rosebuds: Songs of Love from Monteverdi to Purcell

Charles Daniels *tenor*
Fred Jacobs *theorbo*



Charles Daniels is one of Britain's greatest early music tenors, with more than 90 solo recordings to his credit. A recent recording with Fred Jacobs was described as 'an amazing display of musicianship and subtlety'. In this absorbing tour of seventeenth-century song they take us from the Italy of Monteverdi and Giovanni Girolamo Kapsberger to Restoration England. On the way they visit the French court and the beautiful airs of Michel Lambert, Lully's father in law. Crossing the Channel, they explore the Cavalier songs of Nicholas Lanier, John Jenkins and the brothers Henry and William Lawes, ending with Matthew Locke and Henry Purcell.

'Charles Daniels contributes burning passion and utter conviction' *The Gramophone*

Tickets £18 (reserved), £12 (unreserved)
half-price for full-time students; see p. 9 for booking information

Sunday 26 August at 5.15 pm, Boxford Village Hall CO10 5NS
(free admission to concert ticket-holders)

pre-concert
talk

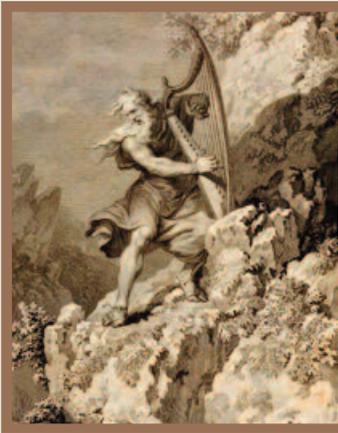
English Musicians Portrayed: Nicholas Lanier and his Contemporaries
A talk by Tassilo Erhardt

Sunday 26 August at 9.45pm The Fleece, Boxford CO10 5DX

Patrick Rimes & Kannig

An hour of Welsh traditional music as a prelude to Kannig's lecture recital on Monday morning. The historic Guild Room at the Fleece in Boxford is renowned for its folk music gigs and is a wonderfully atmospheric venue. Space is limited, so book early. Food and drink will be available downstairs.

Tickets £10 (students £5) – NOT included in the Festival Season Ticket



Monday 27 August at 11am
St Peters, Sudbury CO10 2EH

The Roots of Welsh Traditional Music

Patrick Rimes & Kannig

Patrick Rimes *violin & voice*
Sioned Webb *Welsh triple harp & voice*
Arfon Gwilym *voice*

Patrick Rimes is an extraordinarily talented and versatile multi-instrumentalist, at home in Welsh traditional music, contemporary classical music and early music. In this entertaining lecture recital Kannig introduce us to the fascinating history of Wales's music, from ancient three-part carols in the Montgomeryshire Plygain tradition to airs and variations by Edward Jones and John Thomas, harpists to the Prince Regent and Queen Victoria. Kannig (old Welsh for 'they sing') is a new venture exploring Welsh music through the lens of early music and period instruments – including the magnificent triple harp, a Welsh survival of the Italian Baroque harp.

Tickets £15, £10; half-price for full-time students; under-18s FREE
see p. 9 for booking information

Monday 27 August Gainsborough's House, Sudbury CO10 2EU 2–5pm

An afternoon of events in collaboration with Gainsborough's House

- 2pm ***Reviving an Artist's Birthplace***
a talk by Mark Bills, Executive Director of Gainsborough's House
- 3pm A tour of the permanent collection at Gainsborough's House,
led by Mark Bills
Tea will be available.
- 4pm ***Robert Pindar, Thomas Busby and the Mysterious Scoring
of Henry Purcell's 'Come ye Sons of Arts'***
a talk by Professor Rebecca Herissone of Manchester University

Tickets FREE, but places are limited, so booking is essential

Monday 27 August at 6.30pm
St Peters, Sudbury CO10 2EH

Courtly Pleasures: Purcell & Handel

Purcell: Come, ye sons of arts
Te Deum & Jubilate in D major

Handel: Eternal source of light divine

Philippa Hyde *soprano*

James Hall *countertenor*

Daniel Auchincloss *tenor*

Psalmody, Essex Baroque Orchestra
directed by Peter Holman



Two great court odes celebrating English female monarchs. Henry Purcell wrote 'Come, ye sons of arts' for Queen Mary's birthday, on 30 April 1694. We perform it in Rebecca Herissone's radical reconstruction of Purcell's original score; it only survives in a later re-orchestration. 'Eternal source of light divine', written for Queen Anne's birthday on 6 February 1713, is Handel's eloquent tribute to the English style, beginning with the beautiful countertenor solo with trumpet obbligato. Purcell's grand orchestral setting of the Te Deum and Jubilate was written for St Cecilia's Day in 1694 and was regularly performed in St Paul's for state occasions.

Peter Holman's vivid performances of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century music have delighted SVF audiences for many years. In this concert he is joined by our resident choir and orchestra, and by SVF favourites Philippa Hyde and Daniel Auchincloss. James Hall made a great impression in Arne's *Alfred* during last year's Festival.

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half-price for full-time students; see p. 9 for booking information

Festival Season Ticket – top-price tickets for all five concerts £82



Daniel Auchincloss
tenor



Clare Coleman
soprano



Charles Daniels
tenor



Steven Devine
harpisichord



Tassilo Erhardt
violin



James Hall
countertenor



Peter Holman
director



Philippa Hyde
soprano



Fred Jacobs
theorbo



Patrick Rimes
violin



Claire Williams
harpisichord

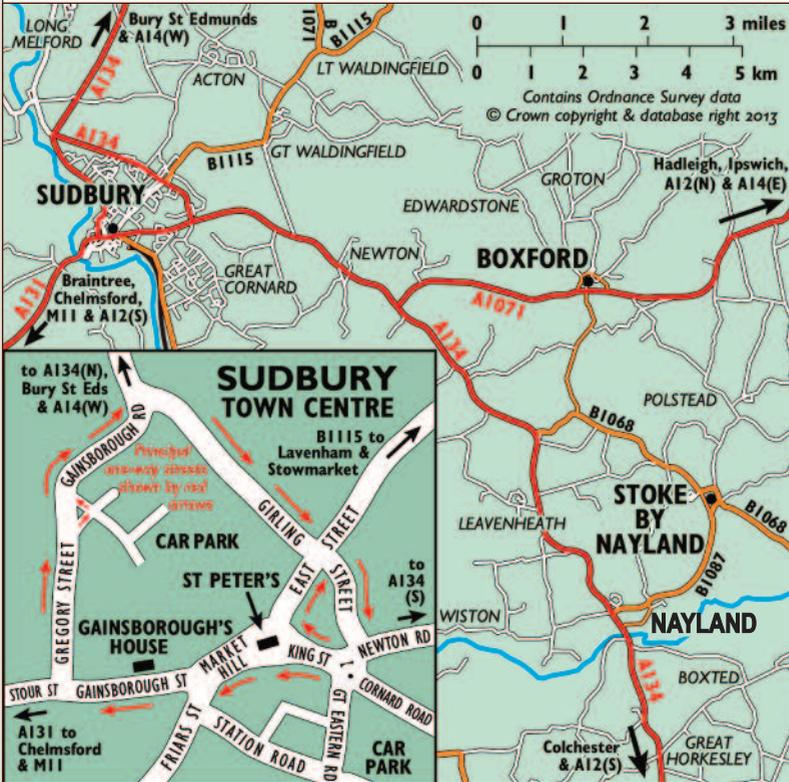
**Festival Season
Ticket
top-price
tickets for all
five concerts
£82**

Essex Baroque Orchestra, founded by Peter Holman, has been the resident orchestra of the Festival for more than 25 years. Among the most accomplished groups of its type performing on period instruments, it is made up of professional Baroque specialists, music teachers and experienced amateurs.

The John Jenkins Consort, formed in 2013 and named after East Anglia's greatest seventeenth-century composer, unites leading instrumentalists associated with the Festival, playing Renaissance and Baroque strings and continuo instruments. It is the resident ensemble for the Monteverdi Project.

Psalmody, founded in 1996, is the resident choir of the Suffolk Villages Festival, made up of accomplished and experienced choral singers, some of whom take solos when required. It cultivates a forthright, open and word-centered style, suitable for Baroque music.

Our venues



- CO10 5DU Boxford (St Mary's)
- CO10 5NS Boxford (Village Hall)
- CO10 5DX Boxford (The Fleece)
- CO6 4QU Stoke by Nayland (St Mary's)
- CO10 2EU Sudbury (Gainsborough's House)
- CO10 2EH Sudbury (St Peter's)

Parking: please follow signs to the Suffolk Villages Festival car park in Stoke by Nayland. Public car parks are clearly signposted in Sudbury; there is on-street parking in Boxford.

Toilet facilities are available at or near all venues.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Booking opens on 4 June to Supporters (Friends, Patrons and Benefactors) of Suffolk Villages Festival, and on 11 June to the general public.

By post: please write to SVF Box Office, 119 Maldon Road, Colchester, CO3 3AX enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope. If ordering ten or more tickets, please use a large letter stamp. Cheques should be made payable to Suffolk Villages Festival.

Online: please visit the website at www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com to order your tickets and pay online via PayPal (please note that you do not need to have a PayPal account in order to do this – you can simply pay using your credit or debit card).

By telephone: please contact the box office on 01206 366603. We can take payments over the phone via Visa, Visa Electron, Mastercard and Maestro.

Postage & packing: we will send your tickets to you, if time permits. If this is the case then a charge of £1 will apply, to cover the cost of post & packing.

Festival Season ticket: £82 for top-price seats for all five concerts, a saving of 10%.

Concessions: half-price tickets are available to full-time students. Free admission to under-18s for 'The Roots of Welsh Traditional Music' on 27 August at 11am.

Refunds: We regret that refunds can only be given if the concert is sold out and we are able to sell on the ticket.

Seating: Top-price tickets for the evening concerts are in numbered seats and have views unobstructed by pillars. All other tickets are unreserved and may have an obstructed view.

Every effort will be made to adhere to the advertised programme but please note that the organisers reserve the right to amend or cancel any part.

General enquiries: please contact the Suffolk Villages Festival Office for general information.

BOX OFFICE

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