
THE

Suffolk Villages Festival

MOZART WIND SERENADE PROJECT

with Gail Hennessy, Fiona Mitchell,
Sally Holman, Anneke Scott & Peter McCarthy
28 July (London) & 23–24 August (Suffolk)

Applications are invited from players of the Classical oboe, clarinet, bassoon & horn to take part in our Mozart Wind Serenade Project

What is the Mozart Wind Serenade Project?

A collaboration of the four highly-regarded members of the SVF Wind Soloists (Gail Hennessy *oboe*, Fiona Mitchell *clarinet*, Sally Holman *bassoon*, Anneke Scott *horn*) and Peter McCarthy *bass* with four student players (1 oboe, 1 clarinet, 1 bassoon, 1 horn) to study and perform Mozart's Serenades in E flat K375 and C minor K 388 as part of the 2025 Suffolk Villages Festival.

The SVF Wind Soloists will work with the students on the repertoire on 28 July (in London) and then during the Festival itself (23 August 2025) in Suffolk, culminating in a concert in Dedham Church on 24 August as part of the Suffolk Villages Festival.

Is it for me?

You should be enrolled at a British college, conservatoire or university and have access to a Classical instrument at A=430. You should also be free on 28 July (to rehearse in London) and on 23-24 August (for rehearsals and a concert in Suffolk).

How do I apply to take part?

You should submit a completed application form (<https://forms.gle/hxXrs3ddLsDVhXiu8>) together with a CV and a letter or email of recommendation from your teacher by 23 May. Please note that you may be asked to attend an audition or submit a short demo CD or sound file if we receive lots of applications.

How much does it cost?

Participation in the project is free. In addition you will be provided with food and accommodation in Suffolk and reimbursed for all reasonable travel expenses.

The Suffolk Villages Festival has been promoting historically informed performances of early music for over 30 years and this project is part of our education programme, designed to encourage stylish performances of music before 1800. Based in 'Constable Country' on the Suffolk-Essex border, the Suffolk Villages Festival offers about nine concerts throughout the year, five at the Festival itself during the August bank holiday weekend and more in its Spring Series, from January to June. The Festival's resident groups (Essex Baroque Orchestra, Psalmody and the John Jenkins Consort) have a unique mix of players and singers (professional, student and local amateur) and aim to provide young musicians and good local amateurs with the opportunity to perform early music at a high level. Some members of the SVF wind soloists (Sally Holman, Anneke Scott) took part in similar Suffolk Villages Festival concerts when they were students and gained valuable experience. We are therefore delighted to be able to invite them back to this year's Suffolk Villages Festival, and they in turn are delighted to be able to pass on their expertise to another generation of wind players by way of our Mozart Wind Serenade Project.

For any further information please contact: louise@suffolkvillagesfestival.com

Gail Hennessy is one of the foremost exponents of the Baroque oboe in Britain. She was born in Wisconsin in the USA and studied modern oboe at the University of Louisville before taking a position as cor anglais player in an orchestra in North Carolina. There she encountered a Baroque oboe for the first time and fell in love with its sound. This, together with her empathy for Baroque music, led her to study Historical Performance Practice at Washington University and ultimately drew her to Britain. She now has a busy career playing and recording with many of Britain's early music groups, including The Academy of Ancient Music, La Serenissima, New London Consort, The Parley of Instruments, St James's Baroque, and Ex Cathedra. She appears as a soloist and chamber musician around the world and has been broadcast as a soloist on BBC Radio 3, and on radio in France, Denmark, Japan, Switzerland, Belgium and the USA. She also encourages composers to write new music for old instruments, and has premiered works by Jennifer Fowler, Roderick Williams, Rhian Samuel, and Thea Musgrave. Her highly acclaimed recordings of Bach sonatas and Vivaldi chamber music are available on the Signum label.

Fiona Mitchell was awarded a Masters degree from the Royal Academy of Music in 2010, having already completed her undergraduate studies at the Royal College of Music. She now pursues a busy professional career, performing in orchestras, playing in chamber groups and teaching. In 2009 Fiona started playing with Sir John Eliot Gardiner's period orchestras, the English Baroque Soloists and Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique. This has led her to perform in some of the leading concert venues around the world including Carnegie Hall, Amsterdam Concertgebouw and at the BBC Proms in the Royal Albert Hall. Fiona also performs with various other period orchestras in the UK and abroad including the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Academy of Ancient Music and Pygmalion Orchestre. She enjoys participating in chamber music and regularly performs with wind trios or piano quintets in various festivals such as Harrogate, Cheltenham, Cambridge Arts and further afield at such venues as Saintes, France and the Utrecht Festival in Holland. When Fiona is not performing she teaches clarinet and saxophone at the London Oratory School.

Sally Holman studied modern bassoon at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and Baroque and Classical bassoon in The Hague. She now performs with many of the leading period instrument ensembles across Europe, and is equally in demand as a soloist and chamber musician. Sally has played in numerous chamber groups on dulcian, Baroque and Classical bassoons, including Apollo & Pan (winner of the 2001 International Early Music Network Young Artists' Competition), Syrinx, Florilegium and the Hanover Band Wind Ensemble. With these group she has performed solo and chamber works at many leading festivals and concert series in the UK and Europe, including the South Bank Early Music Festival, Handel Halle Festival, the Spitalfields Festival, the Dutch Early Music Network, the Tage Alter Musik in Regensburg and the York Early Music Festival. Sally and her family have been living in Puchheim near Munich since 2019.

Anneke Scott is a leading exponent of historical horn playing. Her work takes her around the globe and through centuries of music with a repertoire incorporating music and instruments from the late seventeenth century through to the present day. She is principal horn of several internationally renowned historical performance ensembles including Sir John Eliot Gardiner's Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique, English Baroque Soloists, ensemble Pygmalion, Orchestra of the Sixteen, Irish Baroque Orchestra, and Dunedin Consort as well as regularly appearing as guest principal with ensembles worldwide. Anneke enjoys an international solo, chamber and orchestral career performing on a whole range of historic horns. Her critically acclaimed solo recordings also include three discs of music by the leading Parisian horn player of the nineteenth century; Jaques-François Gallay. She enjoys collaborating with a wide range of musicians and is a founder member of The Prince Regent's Band and of Boxwood and Brass.

Peter McCarthy plays a variety of different bass (and double bass) instruments in ensembles such as St James' Baroque and London Viols and was the bass player for the English Concert for 24 years. He also runs 'Music in the Village', a concert series in Walthamstow, London, now in its 23rd season.