



New surprises and old favourites at Arts Festival

By David Melsome

The East Finchley Arts Festival runs for an extra day this year at All Saints' Church in Durham Road, N2, with a film screening as usual at the Phoenix Cinema.

The festival opens on Thursday 27 September with the London Mozart Players and London Ripieno Singers performing works by Debussy and Mozart and the debut of a new work by festival director Geoffrey Hanson.

New this year is a Last Night of the Festival with the London Metropolitan Brass, which will have some of the favourite music and all the verve of the Last Night of the Proms. Returning artists include Tim Arnold, Paprika and the Finchley Music Children's Group.

Here is the full line-up for this year's festival with times and ticket details:

Thursday 27 Sept

London Mozart Players and **London Ripieno Singers** perform *Trois Chansons* by Claude Debussy, *Piano Concerto no 23 in A major K488* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and *Death, Be Not Proud* by Geoffrey Hanson; All Saints' Church, Durham Road, N2, 7.30pm. Tickets: £25 / £20 / £12.

Friday 28 September

Festival Art Exhibition runs every evening from 6pm during the Festival and at weekends from 12 noon until 10pm. Art of every kind is for sale and 40% of the price of each work sold will be donated to the two festival charities.

Saturday 29 September

Wind ensemble **Harmoniemusik** play Ibert, Bach, Rossini, Barber, Sammartini & Jim Parker; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £20 / £15 / £10.

Sunday 30 September

Screening of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* starring Maggie Smith, in celebration of author Muriel Spark's centenary; Phoenix Cinema, High Road, N2, 2pm at Phoenix Cinema, High Road, N2; tickets: £12.50 / concs £8.50, direct from Phoenix Box Office on 020 8444 6789.

Pop-Up Opera perform Peter Brook's *La Tragedie de Carmen*, a reimagining of Bizet's famous masterpiece; All Saints' Church, 6pm. Tickets: £25 / £20 / £12.

Monday 1 October

The Max Bruch Trio plays works by Max Bruch, Anthony Bailey, W.A. Mozart, Darius Milhaud, Geoffrey Hanson & Gordon Jacob; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £20 / £15 / £10.

Tuesday 2 October

North London choral group **Voxcetera** perform music from their varied repertoire, including Tallis, Biebl, Haydn, Sondheim and Rutter; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £20 / £15 / £10.

Wednesday 3 October

Tomorrow's Warriors StringTing blaze a trail for women and strings in jazz with performances of classics such as Thelonius Monk's *Brilliant Corners*, and Ornette Coleman's *Lonely Woman*; guest

Right: Some of the performers at the Arts Festival.

Top, Tomorrows Warriors, left centre Ignas Maknickas, right centre Finchley Childrens Music Group, below left, London Metropolitan Brass, below right, Harmoniemusik.

appearance by saxophonist Aleksandra Topczewska; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £20 / £15 / £10.

Thursday 4 October

Finchley Children's Music Group, currently celebrating its 60th year, presents a programme of works ranging from Bach to Bernstein; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £10 (unreserved).

Friday 5 October

Singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and Muswell Hill lad **Tim Arnold** performs music from his 17 solo albums; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £20 / £15 / £10.

Saturday 6 October

Paprika, the UK's leading Balkan band, are festival favourites and return this year with their fusion of Eastern European, Balkan, Gypsy and classical music; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £20 / £15 / £10.

Sunday 7 October

Last Night of the Festival: London Metropolitan Brass lead a programme including Elgar's *Imperial March*, *Nimrod* and *Chanson de Matin*. In the second half Elgar's *Pomp & Circumstance March* and Parry's *Jerusalem* allow for plenty of audience participation; All Saints' Church, 7.30pm. Tickets: £10 unreserved.

Tickets

Tickets are available online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/efinchleyarts and from *Black Gull Books*, 121 High Road, N2, (tel: 020 8444 4717). A season ticket at £60 entitles the holder to one ticket for each event at All Saints'. Tickets may also be purchased at the door according to availability (credit cards not accepted at the door). Under-18s can buy tickets at half price. All Saints' Church and the Phoenix Cinema are both fully accessible.



Generations of youngsters on the right path

By John Lawrence

Mike Herring started helping out at Finchley Sea Cadets in 1980 because his 10-year-old daughter Sharon had just joined the unit. Sharon left seven years later but Mike stayed on and he's still there in 2018.

Mike, of Richmond Road, N2, has received a special certificate from Ken Olisa, the Lord Lieutenant of London, for his 38 years of service to the youth organisation, based in Long Lane, N3. He still goes every week, teaching marine engineering, rope work and first aid, and helping out when the cadets sail on the lake at Welsh Harp, near Brent Cross.

"I've seen a lot of good cadets pass through the unit in my time," said Mike, 71. "One boy went on to study avionics at university and he now works for a private airline. Another girl became a Chief Petty Officer in the Royal Navy."

Worthwhile

The unit, which currently has about 20 members, is an excellent way for young people to learn how to



Long service: Ken Olisa, Lord Lieutenant of London, left, presents Mike with his certificate. work in a team, with practical skills like navigation, catering and communication.

"We had a reunion a few years ago," said Mike, "and one lad came up to me and said: 'Don't ever close this place down; without it I could have gone in totally the wrong direction in life.' That kind of thing makes it all worthwhile."

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