

The background of the poster is a lush green hedge with a central opening. Through this opening, a landscape with trees in autumn colors (orange, red, yellow) is visible under a bright sky. Overlaid on the hedge are several abstract, flowing shapes in shades of orange, red, and dark green, resembling stylized leaves or petals. A large white circle is positioned on the left side of the hedge, containing the word 'Plush' in a serif font. To the right of the circle, the word 'Festival' is written in a larger, elegant serif font.

Plush Festival

August —
September
2018



Welcome to our 2018 season. Curated by pianist **Tim Horton**, this year's festival brings another vibrant roster of musicians to the beautiful surroundings of Plush.



Exceptional pianists take centre stage, with **Sir Andrés Schiff** returning for Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier Book II, a first appearance at Plush for young Italian **Filippo Gorini** and **Tim Horton** bringing you music from Schubert to Boulez and beyond.

Over two festival weekends, **Beethoven** and his towering musical legacy are sharply in focus. The five cello sonatas, performed by Tim, **Adrian Brendel**, and **Björg Lewis**, offer a tantalising glimpse into every era of Beethoven's life. This year's Plush Ensemble examine his influence over subsequent generations with works by Brahms and the Second Viennese School.

One of the composer's late triumphs, his String Quartet Op. 132, forms the centrepiece of a varied programme in which the **Heath Quartet** perform

music by **Benjamin Britten** and **Jörg Widmann**.

In more experimental directions, dynamic young fiddle player **James Patrick Gavin** presents an evening of music inspired by his Irish roots, alongside **Teyr & J Eoin**. In addition, vocal ensemble the **Fieri Consort** perform motets and madrigals by the mercurial (and murderous!) Renaissance composer **Carlo Gesualdo**, interwoven with 20th/21st Century piano works by **Stockhausen**, **Michael Berkeley** and more.

The festival concludes with a look to the future: our Young Musicians Workshop brings together local students for a day of musical discovery.

We look forward to seeing you this summer.

The Plush Festival Team



August
Weekend

Fieri Consort & Tim Horton



Fri 3 August
7.30pm, £20
Under 21s £5*

“Their voices blend beautifully and their sound is exquisite”
–Brighton Early Music Festival

Gesualdo Motets and Madrigals (*Fieri Consort*) interspersed with pieces by **Stockhausen**, **Michael Berkeley** and **György Kurtág**. (*Tim Horton*)

~ **Schubert** Piano Sonata in D major D850

The **Fieri Consort** make their Plush debut alongside pianist **Tim Horton** for a programme rich in contrasts. Carlo Gesualdo's non-conformist Renaissance works are interwoven with modern piano pieces before giving way to Schubert's expansive, Alpine inspired Piano Sonata.

Filippo Gorini

Sat 4 August
1pm, £10
Under 21s £5*



“A fearless, breathtaking debut”
–The Guardian

Schumann Geistervariationen
Beethoven Sonata No.29 in B-flat major
“Hammerklavier”

Filippo Gorini's performance of Beethoven's Hammerklavier follows his acclaimed 2017 recording of the composer's Diabelli Variations. Schumann's shadowy and mysterious last piano work, the Ghost Variations, completes a concert that continues the Plush legacy of giving a platform to some of the world's most exciting pianists.

Saturday
Day Ticket £40

Open Rehearsal

Sat 4 August
3-5pm, Free

Heath Quartet
Beethoven Quartet No. 15 in A minor, Op. 132
Jörg Widmann Quartet No. 4

Enter the world of the **Heath Quartet** as they rehearse and discuss the evening's concert programme with Music Director **Tim Horton**, lifting the lid on Beethoven's masterful quartet and Jörg Widmann's bold harmonic language.

Stravinsky For Four Hands

Sat 4 August
5.30pm, 45 mins, £10
Under 21s £5*

Stravinsky
The Rite of Spring for Piano Four Hands

Pianists **Tim Horton** and **Filippo Gorini** unite for Stravinsky's ingenious reworking of his orchestral masterpiece for four hands. The piece is revered as one of the most influential works of the 20th Century. Expect fireworks from the start between these two exceptional pianists.



Heath Quartet



Sat 4 August
7.30pm, £25
Under 21s £5*

"The music's potency and bravura were conveyed with thrilling conviction."
—The Guardian

Saturday
Day Ticket £40

Jörg Widmann Quartet No. 4
Benjamin Britten Quartet No. 2 in C major, Op. 36

~

Beethoven Quartet No. 15 in A minor, Op. 132

The **Heath Quartet** return to Plush bringing music that spans three centuries. Beethoven's late, great String Quartet Op. 132, a glorious work by Britten and Jörg Widmann's experimental textures are all performed with the Heath's world-leading vigour.

James Patrick Gavin & Friends



Sun 5 August
5.30pm, £20
Under 21s £5*
Under 16s free

“J. Eoin is a powerful singer, a fine guitarist and a truly gifted songwriter.”
–The Irish Post

“The playing is exemplary, they mesh and merge beautifully.”
–Songlines on Teyr

James Patrick Gavin fiddle
J Eoin voice & guitar
Adrian Lever guitar & piano
Dominic Henderson pipes & whistles
Tommie Black-Roff accordion

Join us for a sublime evening of post-trad folk and contemporary songwriting presented by stunning fiddle player **James Patrick Gavin**, with heart-melting Irish troubador **J Eoin**, pioneering guitarist **Adrian Lever** and the dexterous talents of **Teyr**, whose “excellent debut album” (The Independent) was released to critical acclaim last year.

This truly unique blend of voices and instruments link the many sounds of the Celtic and British isles. Under 16s go free to this family event.

András Schiff



Mon 6 August
7.30pm, £35
2 hrs (no interval)
Under 21s £5*

“An inspired example of both exquisite playing and creative education.”
–The Guardian, 2017

Bach Well-Tempered Clavier Book II,
BWV 870-893

Pianist **András Schiff** returns to the intimacy of Plush after last year’s riveting solo recital. His performance of Book I at the BBC Proms last year was named among the Guardian’s ‘Top 10’ classical highlights of 2017.

Plush Ensemble

Adrian Brendel cello

James Clark violin

Ruth Gibson viola

Tim Horton piano

Cerys Jones violin

Björg Lewis cello

Rachel Roberts viola



September Weekend

Beethoven to Berg

Fri 14 September
7.30pm, £20
Under 21s £5*



*“Playing of
spellbinding
atmosphere...”*
–BBC Music
Magazine on
Rachel Roberts

Berg Piano Sonata, Op. 1 (11 mins) *Horton*
Webern Langsamer Satz, 1905 (10 mins)
Jones, Clark, Gibson, Lewis
Beethoven Cello Sonata No. 4, Op. 102/1
(15 mins) *Brendel, Horton*
~
Brahms Piano Quartet No. 2, Op. 26
(50 mins) *Clark, Roberts, Lewis, Horton*

Beethoven's fourth Cello Sonata is framed by music heavily indebted to the composer, starting with Berg's impassioned Piano Sonata before Webern's luscious single-movement String Quartet Langsamer Satz. Brahms' majestic and assured second Piano Quartet completes the programme.

Lunchtime Concert

Sat 15 September
1pm, 1hr, £10
Under 21s £5*



© Benjamin Ealovega

Beethoven Cello Sonata No. 1, Op. 5/1
(25 mins) *Lewis, Horton*
Schoenberg Verklärte Nacht, Op. 4 (30 mins)
Clark, Jones, Roberts, Gibson, Brendel, Lewis

Beethoven's Cello Sonata No. 1 precedes Schoenberg's early masterpiece Verklärte Nacht, a sublime sextet penned before his departure into serialism. The work broke new ground at the turn of the 20th Century, due to its advanced harmonic idiom and challenging themes inspired by Richard Dehmel's poem of the same name.

Saturday
Day Ticket £40

Open Rehearsal

Sat 15 September
3pm, 1hr, Free

Schubert String Quintet in C major
Jones, Clark, Roberts, Brendel, Lewis

Beethoven Cello Sonatas

Sat 15 September
4.30pm, 1¼hr, £10
Under 21s £5*



Beethoven Cello Sonata No. 2, Op. 5/2
(25 mins) *Brendel, Horton*

Beethoven Cello Sonata No. 3, Op. 69
(25 mins) *Lewis, Horton*

+ **Talk** with the musicians

Adrian Brendel and **Björg Lewis** discuss Beethoven's five Cello Sonatas with pianist **Tim Horton** before performing a sonata each. Brought to you in full over the weekend, the sonatas redress the balance between cello and piano, giving them equal status for the first time.

Saturday
Day Ticket £40

Beethoven to Boulez

Sat 15 September
7.30pm, £25
Under 21s £5*



“One learnt more about Beethoven’s artistic development in two hours than one might have from entire seminars devoted to this subject.”

–Berliner
Tagesspiegel
(on Adrian)

Saturday
Day Ticket £40

Haydn String Quartet in D minor, Op. 42
(12 mins) *Clark, Jones, Gibson, Lewis*
Boulez 12 Notations for piano (10 mins)
Horton

Webern Three Little Pieces for cello and piano, Op. 11 (4 mins) *Brendel, Horton*
Beethoven Cello Sonata No. 5, Op. 102/2
(20 mins) *Brendel, Horton*

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Schubert String Quintet in C major (50 mins)
Jones, Clark, Roberts, Brendel, Lewis

Intimate works by Beethoven, Webern and Boulez reveal strong links between the three composers' styles, while Haydn's joyful quartet opens the evening. We continue the tradition of inviting a new ensemble to perform Schubert's String Quintet every year for our festival finale.



Young Musicians Workshop



Sun 16 September
10-6pm
Students 11-18 yrs
Free

"It is always amazing to see what can be achieved in a day, when the students have the chance to work with such experienced musicians."

—Peter Oakes,
Thomas Hardy School

Students based in Dorset are invited to Plush Manor for an inspiring and educational day of masterclasses, Feldenkrais body work and ensemble workshops led by our visiting professional musicians.

For further information and to apply for 2018 visit www.plushfestival.com/education or contact us.

Info

Travel

All festival events take place at St. John's, Plush Manor. The village of Plush is 20 mins from Dorchester South and 30 mins from Sherborne. Trains and taxis are available from both.

Parking

Follow signs in the village to the festival car park at Plush Manor. **Please note that parking in the lane by the church is strictly prohibited.**

Access

Wheelchairs are welcome and we have designated parking spaces. Contact us in advance to arrange your visit.

Food & Drink

Picnic in the grounds, enjoy a drink at our festival bar, or book a table at award-winning local pub www.braceofpheasants.co.uk
T: 01300 348 357

Visit Dorset

Discover the rich cultural life and beautiful landscapes of Dorset. Visit www.plushfestival.com for more information on places to stay, from quirky Airbnb's to luxurious hotels.

Tickets

Book online

www.plushfestival.com

Book by Post

Request a booking form by calling 020 3286 1885 or write to us at Plush Festival, 13 Well Walk, London NW3 1BY.

Booking Dates

Patrons 2-8 April 2018
Friends 9-15 April 2018
General Public 16 April 2018

Concert Duration

Daytime concerts 1hr without interval. Evening concerts 2hr max with a 15 mins interval.

Booking fees

Booking fees and programme notes are included in the price of a ticket.

Refunds

Refunds are only offered if a concert is sold out.

Student Tickets

Under 21s are eligible for £5 tickets to all concerts. Under 16s go free to James Patrick Gavin & Friends.

Support

Your support enables Plush Festival to remain independent, community driven and focused on artistic quality.

Become a Friend

£20 per year Friend
£40 per year Friend +1

- Full advance season programme
- Priority booking

Become a Patron

£200 per year Patron
£400 per year Patron +1

- Full advance season programme
- Priority booking before Friends

Sponsor a Seat

£45 per seat
£200 gets you the best seat allocation at the time of booking.

Sponsor a Concert

Give your name to an event in the 2018 programme. Starting at £500.

Leave a legacy

Make a lasting contribution to the festival by remembering us in your will.

Contact

Volunteers

Lend your skills to tasks such as driving, ushering, bar work or publicity and get a free seat in return, while making a great difference to the festival.

Thank you to all our members, partners, volunteers, sponsors and trustees for your commitment to the festival.

To join members or support us in any of the ways above please visit www.plushfestival.com or contact the Plush Festival team.

Kat Brendel

Festival Manager
020 3286 1885
info@plushfestival.com
13 Well Walk, London NW3 1BY
Charity no. 1121687

Plush Manor

Plush Manor can be hired exclusively for weddings and select occasions. Visit www.plushmanor.com for more information or call 07966274398.



Festival Diary

Fri 3 August

Fieri Consort & Tim Horton
7.30pm, £20

Sat 4 August
Festival Day £40

Filippo Gorini
1pm £10

Open Rehearsal
3pm Free

Stravinsky For Four Hands
5.30pm £10

Heath Quartet
7.30pm £25

Sun 5 August

James Patrick Gavin & Friends
5.30pm £20 (Under 16s, Free)

Mon 6 August

András Schiff
7.30pm £35

Fri 14 September

Beethoven to Berg
7.30pm £20

Sat 15 September
Festival Day £40

Lunchtime Concert
1pm £10

Open Rehearsal
3pm Free

Beethoven Cello Sonatas
4.30pm £10

Beethoven to Boulez
7.30pm £25

Sun 16 September

Young Musicians Workshop
10-6pm, Free

Tickets

020 3286 1885
www.plushfestival.com

*Under 21s £5 for all concerts.
Limited availability



Festival

St Johns, Plush
Dorset DT2 7RJ

Office

13 Well Walk
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Booking

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