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BATTLE FESTIVAL 2023

THROUGHOUT
BATTLE THIS
SUMMER



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BRINGING THE 1066 COUNTRY TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE ARTS



TEA
CONCERTS



PROMS NIGHT OPERA

STUNNING



PICNICS IN
BATTLE ABBEY

AWARD WINNING PERFORMANCES

GUARDIAN PICK OF THE WEEK The Guardian

FAMILY
FUN

MINI GLYNDEBOURNE

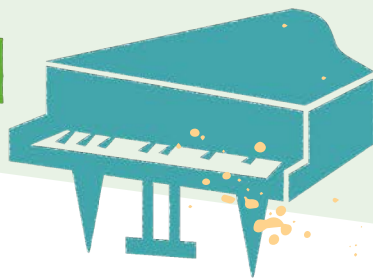
WORLD
CLASS

BRILLIANT



WET WEATHER PROVISION

CELEBRATION
OF FILMS



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Trustees: David Furness, Jill Gyngell, Claire Davies and Mel Powell

All details of events are correct at the time of going to print - any alterations will be announced on our website.

CATEGORY KEY REMINDER

- IDEAL FOR FAMILIES
- MUSIC LOVERS
- THEATRE AND DANCE
- LITERARY
- FILM BUFFS
- THE CREATIVES

This icon means
refreshments are
available!

ALL FINISHING TIMES
ARE APPROXIMATE

Battle
FESTIVAL
of arts & music

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BATTLE FESTIVAL WELCOME

A very warm welcome to our Battle Summer Festival!

This year the Festival will be celebrating its 10th year, and it has now become a firm fixture in the South East England's cultural calendar.

We are proud to be staging world class theatre, jazz, classical music, spoken word and song, and visual arts, as well as author events and other surprise 'pop ups' throughout the town.

This year the Festival will expand its educational outreach work with our world class musicians and authors visiting local primary schools for live performances and workshops. They will encourage the children to create artwork and poems inspired by the music performed at the opening concert, which will feature a special open performance and an exhibition for school children in the afternoon.

The Festival only exists because of dedicated members of the public who donate many hours of work to make the Festival such a success, and I would like to express my thanks to my fellow trustees and committee members who make this possible.

The Festival is a registered charity and all proceeds go to support the arts in the 1066 Country. This year, we have been unable to receive any grants for staging the Festival. This lack of funding places us in a difficult financial position and we may not be able to continue our work in years to come. In order to help the Festival to continue, your support is now needed more than ever. Please come to as many events as you can or make a donation to the Festival on our website. Every bit of support we get is very much appreciated.

David Furness
Chair of Trustees

**BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!
BATTLE FESTIVAL OUTLETS:**

ONLINE AT WWW.BATTLEFESTIVAL.CO.UK
AT **BRITISH DESIGN BRITISH MADE**, 64 HIGH ST
ENQUIRIES: 07377386468 (OPEN 4-6PM)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER
1168104

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1168104

TUESDAY 11 JULY



James Russell is an art historian, curator and author. He also contributed to Margy Kinmonth's new film 'Eric Ravilious: Drawn to War'.

LAUGHTER AND LOSS: BRITISH WAR ARTISTS IN WWII

JAMES RUSSELL



BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | TUE 11 JULY | 7.30 - 9.30PM
TICKETS: £12 | LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM

A colourful, wide-ranging lecture exploring the work of British war artists in WWII. Includes a chance to ask James related questions, and to buy cards, books and art prints by some of our war artists.

At the outbreak of WWII, National Gallery director Kenneth Clark set up a scheme whereby the British government would employ artists to record the war effort. From Eric Ravilious and Edward Ardizzone to Laura Knight and Evelyn Dunbar, a remarkable group of artists created an unforgettable and immensely varied body of work. Widely exhibited at the time in Britain and overseas, this vast collection is not only a historical document, it is also a timeless testament to the human spirit and the capacity of people to endure hardship.

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SATURDAY 15 JULY

COMMUNITY WEEKEND

FREE
FOR ALL!



OPEN AIR POP-UP ART FAIR BLOSSOM FAIRS



TILLS YARD, BATTLE TN33 0AE | SAT 15 JUL | 10AM - 5PM | FREE

Blossom Fairs was created to bring a regular monthly themed boutique market, festival & pop-ups to beautiful Battle! This is part of a new series of pop-up events taking place in 2023 in Tills Yard.

Located just off the High Street, this mini arts fair will feature a curated collection of prints and small artworks from 26 of the areas best local artists, painters and printers and local businesses with live music. Add a little bit of unique artwork to your life that won't break the bank!

SCARECROW COMPETITION BESIDE THE SEA AND ALL AT SEA



THROUGHOUT BATTLE | SAT 15 - SUN 30 JULY | FREE

Now in its 15th year, the Battle Festival Scarecrow Competition has a new theme – 'BESIDE THE SEA and ALL AT SEA'.

Alongside the colourful creations of the Yarn Bombers, our scarecrows contribute towards a Festival that showcases the best summer floral displays that Battle has to offer... putting a smile on everyone's faces!

It is hoped that at least 20 talented scarecrows will perform on the Abbey Green and in formal planted areas; in shop windows and outside business premises; and in private front gardens throughout Battle. This is the perfect way for you and your family to discover our beautiful town. There is always the occasional surprise when you find one grinning at you over the top of a hedge!

It is completely FREE to enter the competition and we will be awarding PRIZES to our favourite scarecrow entries.

ENTER ONLINE: battlefestival.co.uk/scarecrows



SATURDAY 15 JULY

MEET THE AUTHOR!



PHILIP ARDAGH: BUNNIES IN A BOAT

BATTLE LIBRARY | 10:30AM - 11:30AM | £2.50 PER CHILD (ADULTS FREE)
SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN AGED 2 - 6 YEARS

Come and meet award-winning children's author and Battle resident Philip Ardagh and hear him read from his latest picture book BUNNIES IN A BOAT. Find out all about these naughty bunnies who first appeared in BUNNIES ON THE BUS. There'll be lots of laughter and joining in and you can even have a go at drawing your very own bunny! At 2-metres tall with a big bushy beard, Philip is larger than life and known for his fun-packed events from Australia to China to the USA.



THOMAS TAYLOR: EERIE ON SEA MYSTERIES

BATTLE LIBRARY | 2PM - 3PM | £2.50 PER CHILD (ADULTS FREE)
SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN AGED 7 - 11 YEARS

Come and meet local author and illustrator, Thomas Taylor and explore the world of Eerie-on-Sea. When Thomas first moved to the seaside, he quickly discovered that coastal towns have a strange character of their own in the winter months. When the ice cream kiosks are closed and the bucket-and-spade tourists are gone, darkness and the weather claim the town. Only people with a good reason (or a very bad one) go down onto the beach then, while on windy days you can barely walk upright. At other times sea mist creeps into the streets, full of hidden things that seem to peer in at you through your windows as you stoke up the fire. Exploring these ideas in his imagination, it didn't take long for the fictional town of Eerie-on-Sea to begin to grow. If you haven't visited Eerie-on-Sea before, this is your chance to discover a little bit about Herbert Lemon, lost-and-founder at the Grand Nautilus Hotel, and his brilliant friend Violet Parma, along with the legend of the Malamander and more. Thomas might also tell you about his very special link to Harry Potter.

Event sponsored by



'AN EVENING WITH FLANDERS AND SWANN AND TOM LEHRER

STEVE SCOTT WITH JOHN BRUZON
AT THE PIANO

An evening of song, silliness and glorious mud!

Featuring rib-tickling performances of 'The Hippopotamus', 'The Gnu', 'Poisoning Pigeons in the Park', and many more.

You'll be dancing to 'The Masochism Tango' before the night is out! Performed by Steve Scott with John Bruzon at the piano.

BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | SAT 15 JUL | 7.30 - 9PM
TICKETS: £12 - BF OUTLETS | LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM

SUNDAY 16 JULY

MUSIC & ART WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

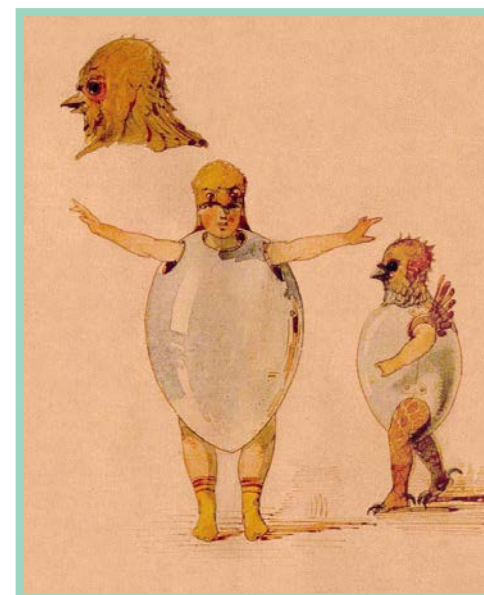
PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

This year's education project focused on Mussorgsky's inspirational work "Pictures at an Exhibition", the centrepiece of the HPO concert on July 16 (see page 10).

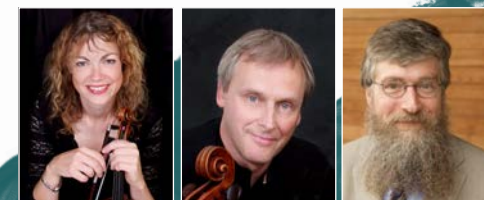
Soloists, Susanne Stanzeleit and Andrew Fuller, together with author, Philip Ardagh, visited primary schools in the Battle area to introduce children to the music of the Mussorgsky and illustrate just how vividly characters are depicted through music in each of the "pictures". The children were then encouraged to contribute their own artwork, short poems or stories based on their perception of the music.

The children's contributions will be exhibited in the foyer of the Memorial Hall from the 16th and there will be an informal open performance of the Mussorgsky for all participating children and their families at 4pm. This performance will also feature readings of poems and stories contributed by the pupils.

A great opportunity to see your work showcased and to experience a professional concert up close and personal!



BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL
SUN 16 JUL | 4 - 5PM | FREE



SUNDAY 16 JULY  

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY MARCIO DA SILVA
WITH SUSANNE STANZELEIT, SOLO VIOLIN AND ANDREW FULLER, SOLO CELLO

Following last year's hugely successful appearance, Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Marcio da Silva make a welcome return to Battle joined by soloists Susanne Stanzeleit and Andrew Fuller. The programme features many favourites of the repertoire, such as Grieg's "Holberg Suite", Schubert Rondo for Violin and Orchestra and Vivaldi Double Concerto. The showstopper of the evening will be Jacques Cohen's celebrated arrangement for string orchestra of "Pictures at an Exhibition" by Mussorgsky.

For details on this year's Pictures at an Exhibition Schools' Project see page 9!

BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | SUN 16 JUL
7.30 - 9.30PM (INC. INTERVAL) | TICKETS: £17
LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM

 HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA



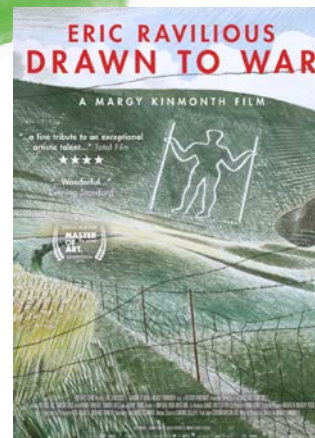
★★★★★
"Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra... the jewel of Hastings cultural life"

Audience Feedback



HASTINGS
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA

19 - 20 JULY

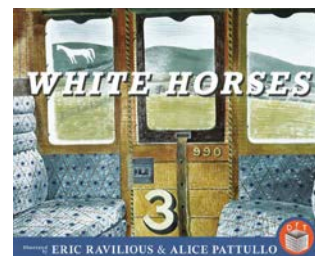


DRAWN TO WAR

FILM SCREENING - HOSTED BY BRITISH DESIGN BRITISH MADE 


BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | WED 19 JUL | 7.30 - 9PM | TICKETS: £5
LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM 

Margy Kinmonth's film is the first major feature length film to be made about Eric Ravilious, the much loved but vastly underestimated landscape painter who became the first British War Artist to die in the Second World War. Featuring conversations with such notable Ravilious admirers as Ai Weiwei, Grayson Perry, Alan Bennett and Robert Macfarlane, the film recounts a life as compelling and enigmatic as his art, set against the dramatic wartime locations that inspired him. Made in co-operation with Imperial War Museums, the story is told in Ravilious's own words through a wealth of material drawn with the blessing of his estate from a treasure trove of private correspondence and previously unseen archive. The film also features the voices of Freddie Fox, Tamsin Greig, Jeremy Irons and Harriet Walter. Foxtrot Films



WAR ARTISTS IN PRINT

BRITISH DESIGN, BRITISH MADE | 8 - 19 JULY
MONDAY TO SATURDAY 10AM TO 5PM FREE TO ALL 

All manner of printed material currently being researched, discovered and presented, ready for you to view in our store. Individual items available to buy on a first come first served basis and can be collected from 20 July. 



WRITING FUNNY FOR CHILDREN: A WRITING WORKSHOP

PHILIP ARDAGH 

THE ALMONRY | THU 20 JUL | 7PM - 9PM WITH INTERVAL
TICKETS: £12 INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS 

Have you ever dreamed of writing a children's book? Here is your chance to make a start!

Best-selling children's author, and Battle resident, Philip Ardagh, has won both national and international prizes, including the Roald Dahl Funny Prize for his books, which makes him ideal to be presenting 'writing funny for children'. Described by The Independent as 'a national treasure' and 'a cross between Monty Python and Dickens' by The Guardian, Philip will be looking at everything from writing humorous picture books to those for older children. As The Independent on Sunday put it, "he can't help writing funny", so let him be your guide in this two-hour workshop, designed to get you putting pen to paper.

FRI 21 JULY



PERFORMED BY RICHARD SHELTON



SINATRA: RAW

You are invited to Palm Springs, California, 1971. Frank Sinatra faces retirement. The air is electric and the crowd jockey for position at Sinatra's last intimate show. But times are changing.

The Rolling Stones and David Bowie dominate the charts. Sinatra's blue eyes are bloodshot and his face craggy with booze, cigarettes and memories. Things take an unexpected turn when he drinks 'One For My Baby' too many.

Richard Shelton is internationally acclaimed as one of the world's best interpreters of Frank Sinatra's music.

With Sinatra: RAW, he brings to life the man behind the music, catching him in confessional mood as he contemplates the end of a career that has defined an era, and was not without controversy.

Intimate, honest and moving, the show reveals a side of Sinatra few people saw but somehow always knew was there.

This is the 2:00am Sinatra you dream of meeting.

Dangerous. Unpredictable. Brilliant.



**"Shelton as Sinatra
is quite simply
phenomenal"**

Mike Young, BBC

BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | FRI 21 JUL | 7:30PM
TICKETS: £15 - BF OUTLETS | LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM

FRI 21 - SAT 22 JULY



ROBBIE ROBSON SEXTET JAZZ SESSION



THE BULL INN | FRI 21 JUL | 8PM | FREE

Trumpeter Robbie Robson is a graduate of Leeds College of Music where he was awarded the John Coates Prize for Outstanding Musicianship, and of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Robbie was a national finalist in the Young Jazz Musician of the Year 1999, and the runner up in the Perrier Young Jazz Musician 2000. Robbie leads his own band 'Dog Soup', but also regularly works with other bands. He has also played with John and Jacqui Dankworth, Cleo Lane, Jamie Cullum, Phil Woods, Tony Bennett and JTQ.

He plays regularly with saxophonist Josephine Davies, winner of the 2019 Parliamentary Award 'Jazz Instrumentalist of the year'. Josephine Davies is a musical artist at the forefront of the UK contemporary music scene, constantly pushing the boundaries of jazz. Now becoming equally known as a composer, her unique voice is a blend of classical, jazz and folk music, creating an intensely dynamic sound infused with the Nordic quality of her Shetland roots.

For this session, the pair will be playing with some of the South Coast's leading jazz musicians: John Donaldson on piano, Greg Heath on saxophone, Simon Thorpe on bass and Milo Fell on drums.



LIZ FLETCHER QUARTET JAZZ SESSION



THE BULL INN | SAT 22 JUL | 12PM | FREE

Liz Fletcher was born in Kingston Upon Thames into a musical family (her parents were singers, her stepfather a saxophonist). Liz is a highly respected, well established UK jazz singer who has performed at Ronnie Scott's, Pizza Express, Cadogan Hall and many venues, festivals and concert halls globally. Influenced by Peggy Lee and Julie London with a love for Ella Fitzgerald and Chet Baker's phrasing, Liz adds her own musical twist to many of the songs from The Great American Song Book catalogue.

She'll be joined for this session by long-time collaborator Phil Capone on guitar, the ubiquitous Simon Thorpe on bass and long-standing leading session musician Marc Parnell on drums.

"Fletcher has heart, sensitivity and subtle control – she's the real deal." - John Fordham, The Guardian

"EXTRAORDINARY & UNMISSABLE" JAZZ WEEKEND SAT 22 JULY - SUN 23 JULY 2023

Enjoy the sounds of award-winning global jazz artists right in the heart of Battle, for a weekend of superlative performances, never to be seen again in one place!

SATURDAY EVENT

BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | SAT 22 JUL | 2PM - 10PM | TICKETS: £30 | LICENSED BAR FROM 1:30PM

2pm: BYRON WALLEN'S 4 CORNERS PROJECT

Widely recognised as a seminal figure in world jazz, Byron has travelled the world recording, teaching and performing alongside legendary musicians such as George Benson, Andrew Hill, Chaka Khan, Hugh Masekela and Courtney Pine. He has performed in East Africa, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Indonesia and Belize (his parents' homeland).



Raised in a musical environment, as a child Byron learned classical piano, euphonium, flute and drums before deciding in his mid-teens that the trumpet would be his instrument of choice. His work draws inspiration from contemporary jazz and indigenous African and Asian cultures.

As a composer, he has been commissioned by organisations as varied as the Science Museum, the BBC, the National Theatre and FIFA. He has also created soundscapes for Universal Pictures, Warner Bros and Games of Thrones. He has received the BBC Jazz Innovation award (2003), the coveted Paul Hamlyn Award (2017) and has been nominated for the MOBO award several times.

For this session, he will be joined by his band Four Corners. On guitar is BBC New Generation Jazz Artist Rob Luft. On bass is Paul Michael and on drums is the great US drummer Rod Youngs, who was formerly with Gil Scott-Heron. They'll be playing music from their most recent album, Portrait: Reflections

on Belonging, which led to them being shortlisted for Jazz Ensemble of the Year in the Parliamentary Jazz Awards 2020.

It explores issues of ancestry, diasporic journeys and cultural roots. Landmarks of blues, mode and groove are explored and re-invented, with further inspiration from early Renaissance music, Central and East African rhythm and polyphony, and the music of Miles Davis, Wayne Shorter and Thelonious Monk.



3.30pm: KIRK LIGHTSEY / STEVE WATTS DUO

Veteran American pianist Kirk Lightsey was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1937. He is one of the best exponents of the traditional Detroit jazz piano style, alongside two great figures who are no longer with us: Hank Jones and Tommy Flanagan.

During the 60s he worked in Detroit, his home town, and in California, where he frequently accompanied singers such as Melba Liston, Ernestine Anderson, O.C. Smith and Damita Jo. But it was his work with some of the greats that led to him being seen as a jazz giant: judge a man by the company he keeps.

He played and recorded with the great Sonny Stitt, oftentimes collaborator with Dizzie Gillespie and Miles Davis. He recorded five albums with the difficult (to put it mildly) but highly talented trumpeter and singer Chet Baker. He made an album with legendary

guitarist Kenny Burrell. And he spent four years (1979 – 83) touring with the great Dexter Gordon.

In the late 1980s he was a member of the hugely influential jazz super-group The Leaders, and over the years he has released 14 albums as leader of his own projects. Since he moved to Paris at the beginning of the century, he has continued to work with a range of major artists, including Gregory Porter.

He'll be playing in this session with long-time collaborator, UK bass stalwart Steve Watts. Steve has been playing jazz on the British scene for over 25 years, during which time he has worked with many musicians of international stature, including Django Bates, Iain Ballamy, Julian Arguelles, Kenny Wheeler, Stan Sulzman, Jim Mullen, Richard Rodney Bennett and many more.



5pm: DENYS BAPTISTE QUARTET

Born in London of St Lucian parents in 1969, saxophonist Denys Baptiste studied music at the West London Institute (Brunel University) and the Guildhall School of Music, where he was taught by former Jazz Messenger (and Battle Festival artist) Jean Toussaint.

From the moment he joined the London jazz circuit, Denys displayed extraordinary talent, energy and commitment. Over the years he has soared in his development as a soloist and bandleader, earning enormous respect from his peers and leading Time Magazine to

describe him as an "icon of British jazz".

AllAboutJazz has said of him: "His colossal talent - based on a powerful technique and an ability to improvise fluently and effortlessly across a wide range of musical styles - is matched only by his unfettered energy which takes him and his audiences into the musical stratosphere. An evening with Denys guarantees a display of unsuppressed expression, ranging from sweet "sexuality" to breathtaking, edge-of-your-seat virtuosity."

A much sought-after soloist, Denys has played/recorded with some of the biggest names in jazz including McCoy Tyner, Bheki Mseleku, Courtney Pine, Gary Crosby, Julian Joseph and Jason Rebello, among many others. He has recorded five albums, each of which received rave reviews and multiple award nominations.

He'll be joined for this session by his regular quartet which features Jazz FM Instrumentalist of the Year Nikki Yeoh in piano and keyboard, long-time collaborator Larry Bartley on bass and the dynamic and powerful Rod Youngs on drums.

6.30pm: JASON REBELLO / TIM GARLAND DUO

This formidable duo featuring two of the UK's most revered jazz musicians - keyboardist Jason Rebello and multi-reedist Tim Garland - is the culmination of three decades of close friendship and frequent collaboration.

Jason Rebello already had three critically acclaimed albums under his belt by the time he was 23. Five years later, in 1998, he became Sting's keyboard player, touring the world and recording with Sting's band for six years. He then spent another six years with guitar legend Jeff Beck's band, while still finding time to work with artists such as Peter Dinklage, Phil Collins, Pee Wee Ellis, Joss Stone and Madeleine Peyroux.

In 2013, Jason decided he wanted to re-

establish himself as a solo jazz artist. He has since released two albums, the most recent of which, 'Held', won best new CD in the British Jazz Awards.



Tim Garland's first break as saxophonist was joining Ronnie Scott's band age 23. Later he was to join Chick Corea as a regular member of several globe-trotting projects over a seventeen year period. Playing tenor and soprano saxes, bass clarinet and flute, he also won a Grammy for his symphonic orchestrations on Corea's "The New Crystal Silence" album from 2007.

He combines jazz with modern classical composition. He has fulfilled commissions from several of the world's top orchestras, including the LSO, The Royal Northern Sinfonia and the BBC Concert Orchestra. Along the way he has won multiple nominations and awards.

Now the pair feel it's time for their duo format to blossom. "I just feel that we have to make music together," says Rebello, "it's a natural outcome of two people that have known each other for a long time."

8pm: DARIUS BRUBECK QUARTET with special guest BRANDON ALLEN

We are talking jazz royalty here. Like his legendary father Dave, Darius Brubeck is a renowned pianist. But has also enjoyed a lifetime of varied international experience as band leader, composer, teacher and broadcaster.

Born in San Francisco, in the '70s and early '80s Darius led his own groups and toured with his father and two brothers Chris and Dan. In 1983 he moved to South Africa where he became Professor of Jazz Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and played and toured with some of the country's leading musicians. In 2006 he moved to the UK where he founded the Darius Brubeck Quartet, which over 16 years has become a successful and popular group in the UK and beyond.

On saxophone will be Brandon Allen, who as well as being a much in demand sideman is also an accomplished composer and arranger. Since moving to London from Australia in 2000, he has worked with a huge range of artists including Eric Clapton, Paloma Faith, Mica Paris, Jools Holland, Gary Barlow and Neil Diamond,

Bass player Matt Ridley has been a core member of the Quartet since its inception. He has recorded three studio albums and two live



albums with them and toured extensively in Europe, Asia and Africa. As a band leader he has made more albums, one of which - The Antidote - was nominated for Best Album in the 2022 Parliamentary Jazz Awards.

Drummer Wesley Gibbens has also been with the band since it began. Born in Durban, his roots have led him to recording and touring with a number of legendary South African and Zimbabwean musicians.

SUNDAY EVENT

SIX PENNY LAWN, BATTLE ABBEY | SUN 23 JUL | 1PM - 6:30PM | TICKETS: £30 | LICENSED BAR FROM 12:30PM

While away a summer's afternoon relaxing in the beautiful grounds of Battle Abbey. Bring your picnics (no alcohol please but licensed bar is available), blankets and chairs, make yourself at home and listen to some wonderful music.

1pm: ART THEMEN QUARTET

Described by Dave Gelly in The Observer as "One of the tiny handful of undeniably perfect jazz musicians", Art Themen has been a much loved figure on the British jazz scene for over 50 years, famously combining jazz with his duties as a consultant orthopaedic surgeon.

He first made an impact in the '60s as a member of the pioneering band Alexis Korner's Blues Incorporated. Then in 1974 he began an association with Stan Tracey that was to last for 25 years and showcased Themen's consistently creative (cont.)



saxophone playing in bands ranging in size from quartet and sextet to full jazz orchestra. He has continued to work at the highest level both in the UK and on the international stage. His most recent album with this current quartet, Hanky Panky, was launched last summer to rave reviews.

On drums is veteran Dave Barry, whose work with various ensembles and big bands has taken him all over the world. He was a member of Don Weller's Quartet and his big band for 16 years.

On bass is Dave Green, whose first public performances were with his childhood friend Charlie Watts. He played with Humphrey Lyttelton for 20 years and went on to work with Stan Tracey. He has regularly backed visiting American stars at Ronnie Scott's, including Coleman Hawkins, Ben Webster, Roland Kirk and Sonny Rollins.

Completing the line-up is pianist Gareth Williams, who has been receiving increasing critical and public acclaim since becoming a professional musician in the 1990s. He has worked closely with jazz singer Claire Martin as well as with a range of major international greats and top British musicians.

Together, these four pack a highly experienced punch.

2.10 pm: ROBERT MITCHELL 'TRUE THINK'

Robert Mitchell is an award-winning pianist, composer, arranger, bandleader and published poet who has built a formidable reputation for working across creative genres. Over his 30 plus years entrenched in the art of music, Robert has released 12 albums of his own projects, participated in over 100 projects as a sideman, has performed/toured in 40 countries and is achieving a growing reputation as an inspirational educator. He was recently appointed Professor of Jazz

Piano at the Guildhall School of Music.

During his career, he has worked with an extraordinarily wide range of jazz artists, including opening for Wayne Shorter at the Brighton Dome and Branford Marsalis at the Barbican. In 2019 he was Musical Director of a BBC4 tribute to the great '60s TV programme Jazz 625 Live: For One Night Only, which won Best Music Programme at the 2020 Broadcast Awards.



He always has a range of projects on the go. For this session he'll be appearing with his new electronic/song ensemble TRUE THINK (Truth inc / Truth Ink), which features Swedish vocalist and songwriter Liselotte Östblom on vocals, award-winning Zayn Mohammed on guitar, multi-genre bassist and keyboard player Tom Mason and renowned drummer and percussionist Saleel Raman.

They'll be performing music from their new double album Hold The Light / The New Resistance, featuring powerful songs of protest, love and peace. They blend electronic, jazz, RnB, spoken word, film and folk influences together to create a unique sound.

One observer described a recent performance as "absolutely incredible – searing musicianship and precisely declaimed poetry combined with a rich instrumental palette and impeccable ensemble playing, all punctuated by epic, euphoric improvisation. Life changing stuff."

3.20 pm: LAURA JURD DINOSAUR

Multi-award-winning trumpeter and composer Laura Jurd has made a huge impact on the British jazz scene since she emerged a decade or so ago. She's been a BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist, won the Worshipful Company of Musicians Dankworth Prize for Composition in 2011 and Young Jazz Musician award in 2012 and was 'Instrumentalist of the Year' in the 2015 Parliamentary Jazz Awards.

Her music celebrates and innovates the rich traditions of jazz and folk music, whilst often reflecting her love of two very distinct influences, The Beatles and Stravinsky. Her compositions dig into something primal, earthy and human, whilst taking twists and turns that both invite surprise and evoke the inevitable.



For this session, she'll be playing with her regular band Dinosaur, which first came together ten years ago. It features Elliot Galvin on keyboards, Conor Chaplin on bass guitar and Corrie Dick on drums. Together, they have earned a reputation as some of the best UK jazz musicians of their generation.

Their first album, Together as One, was nominated for the Mercury Prize in 2017. Since then they have produced two further albums which have been lauded with huge critical praise. Their most recent, To The

Earth, was described by Jazzwise as "a memorable meeting of eclectic contemporary musicianship and jazz's deepest roots".

Having played at some of the world's most iconic jazz festivals including North Sea, Molde and Montréal, the band goes from strength to strength as they enter their 11th year of trumpet-led, improvisatory magic.

4.30 pm: ORLANDO LE FLEMING AND ROMANTIC FUNK



World renowned bassist Orlando le Fleming was born in Birmingham but brought up in Devon. Both of his parents are professional musicians, his mother a cellist and his father a composer. But his first ambition was to be a professional cricketer, an aim he realised by playing for five years in the minor counties. But when he was offered a place at the Royal Academy of Music, his lifelong passion for music won out.

While based in London, his virtuoso technique, boundless creativity and powerful beat led to him touring and recording with the likes of Jason Rebello, Julian Joseph, Jean Toussaint and Ian Ballamy. Then in 2003 he moved to the United States, where

he became one of the most in-demand bass players on the New York jazz scene, playing and recording with many of New York's finest bands.

Orlando has also had great success as a leader. His drum-less OWL trio (with long term associates Will Vinson and Lage Lund) gained plaudits across the board for its hushed, intimate atmosphere. One of his more recent projects, Romantic Funk, presents a pastiche of classic fusion sounds and ideas, updated by Le Fleming's signature palette of polyrhythm and abstract exploration.

This session will feature the latest incarnation of that band, including long term collaborator Will Vinson on saxophone, together with a couple of UK heavyweights, sought-after drummer James Madden and former Pater Gabriel keyboard player Tom Cawley.

They'll be playing excerpts from the band's most recent album The Unfamiliar, which was described by one critic as "Superb... a fresh mix of energy, intelligence and groove". What more could you want?

5.40 pm: ELAINE DELMAR QUINTET featuring JIM MULLEN

Elaine Delmar is a "Grand Dame" among British female jazz singers and has been recognised as such by some of the great and the good: "One of the ageless, evergreen singing stars that we have... as beautiful and talented as ever... she's marvellous", is how Michael Parkinson described her. Humphrey Lyttelton said that she "Truly defines the word class..."

Born in Hertfordshire, UK, Elaine was raised in a strong musical environment. Her father was the renowned trumpeter Leslie 'Jiver' Hutchinson, a leading influence in the jazz and dance band movement in Britain from the 1930s onwards. After initially learning

classical piano, she followed a natural progression towards singing and became a vocalist in her father's own band at sixteen.

It was soon apparent that her vocal talent and natural affinity with the stage would lead her to triumph in many areas of the entertainment world. As well as singing, she's had a successful career on the London stage and on Broadway. She received critical acclaim as a straight actress for her role in Map Of The World at the National Theatre.

Her stellar recording career has spanned some 60 years. She's equally at home in the concert hall – she appeared with Andy Williams at the Free Trade Hall in Manchester and Michel Legrand and the LSO at the Royal Albert Hall – and in smaller venues. She makes regular and very popular appearances at Ronnie Scott's.

For this event, she'll be supported by guitar legend Jim Mullen, a major figure on the UK scene in his own right. With him will be three more musical luminaries: Barry Green on piano, Bobby Worth on drums and Simon Thorpe on bass.

Unmissable.

CATEGORY KEY REMINDER

-  IDEAL FOR FAMILIES
-  MUSIC LOVERS
-  THEATRE AND DANCE
-  LITERARY
-  FILM BUFFS
-  THE CREATIVES

This icon means
refreshments are
available!

25 - 26 JUL



HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

ROMANTIC MUSIC UNDER THE STARS: OPERATIC FAVOURITES FOR ORCHESTRA

SIX PENNY LAWN, BATTLE ABBEY | TUE 25 JUL | 7.30 - 9.30PM | GROUNDS OPEN FROM 6.30PM
LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM | TICKETS: £20 (SEATED) / FREE (STANDING) AVAILABLE AT HASTINGSPHILORCHESTRA.CO.UK

HPO is delighted to be staging its first outdoor concert at Battle Abbey. Come and join us in the beautiful grounds of the abbey for a glorious concert of romantic music under the stars (picnics welcome!). Conductor Marcio da Silva will be joined by two virtuoso soloists for an evening of well-known romantic opera repertoire.

Soloists: Emil Chakalov (violin), Boyan Ivanov (clarinet)



THE FABELMANS

FILM SCREENING - HOSTED BY BATTLE COMMUNITY CINEMA

BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | WED 26 JUL | 7.30PM | TICKETS: £5 ADULT/£4 CHILD - BF OUTLETS OR ON THE DOOR LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM

Inspired by Steven Spielberg's own childhood, rediscover the magic of movies in The Fabelmans, a coming-of-age story about a young man uncovering a shattering family secret and the power of film and imagination to help us see the truth about ourselves and each other. With a star-studded cast featuring Michelle Williams, Paul Dano, Seth Rogen, Gabriel LaBelle, and Judd Hirsch, The Fabelmans tells a timeless tale of heartbreak, healing, and hope for the dreamer inside all of us.

FRIDAY 28 JULY

SILENT FILM WITH NARRATION & MUSIC



SHIPWRECKED!

TENNYSON/STRAUSS/GRIFFITHS "ENOCH ARDEN"

BATTLE MEMORIAL HALL | FRI 28 JUL | 7.30PM
LICENSED BAR FROM 7PM | TICKETS: £15

Alfred Lord Tennyson's epic poem "Enoch Arden", a tale of shipwreck, tragedy and enduring love inspired this 1911 classic silent film by DW Griffith.

A Battle Festival première, the film will be shown with TV and stage actress Karen Drury reading the Tennyson poem in full with Richard Strauss' rich 1897 piano score performed by leading British pianist John Thwaites.

This is the first time the words of Tennyson's eternally moving poem with the piano score composed by Richard Strauss will have been shown interspersed with the D.W.Griffith film.

A classic story of love and tragedy which was hugely popular in the second half of the 19th and first half of the 20th century, set to a rich piano score and turned into an iconic silent film.

Prepare to be moved!

But when the dawn of rosy childhood past,
And the new warmth of life's ascending sun
Was felt by either, either fixt his heart
On that one girl; and Enoch spoke his love.



Karen Drury, narrator



Enoch Arden, 1911 film



John Thwaites, piano

SAT 29 JULY



MIDSUMMER DELIGHTS

A CELEBRATION OF ENGLISH SONG IN MIDSUMMER

WITH THE WHATLINGTON SINGERS

ST MARY'S CHURCH | SAT 29 JUL | 7.30PM-9.30PM | TICKETS: £12 | LICENSED BAR



Louise Winter

A selection of enchanting English
Song given by Louise Winter,
International mezzo-soprano
Piano Arran Keith
Readings Karen Drury



Karen Drury



AND FINALISTS OF THE
ASHBURNHAM ENGLISH
SONG AWARDS

BATTLE FESTIVAL'S SCARECROW COMPETITION AWARDS

BESIDE THE SEA AND ALL AT SEA

SUN 30 JULY | 2PM | ABBEY GREEN  

The presentation of cups, certificates and prizes will take place today. Please join us as we take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to all who have joined in the fun ... and for bringing the sea a little nearer to Battle! We are sure your holidaying, sailing, marine and environmentally friendly scarecrows have had a 'whale of a time'!



SUNDAY 30 JULY



VIENNESE TEA CONCERT

PRIMROSE PIANO QUARTET AND WILL DUERDEN

A favourite with Battle audiences and one of the foremost chamber groups in the UK, the Primrose Piano Quartet will be joined by young double bass virtuoso extraordinaire, Will Duerden. Their programme features Schubert's ever-popular "Trout" Quintet as well as some dazzling solo virtuoso items and music by Mozart, Strauss and other Viennese favourites. Tickets include tea and cakes served in the interval.

ABBOT'S HALL, BATTLE ABBEY SCHOOL
SUN 30 JUL | 3PM | TICKETS: £17.50

★★★★★

*"The Primrose's playing is
selflessly beautiful... everything
seems to be just right."*

The Strad



LISTINGS

SATURDAY 8TH - SUNDAY 16TH JULY

PAGES 5 - 10

 War Artists in Print	Sat 8 Jul	See page 5	British Design, British Made
 Laughter & Loss: British War Artists	Tue 11 Jul	7:30pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Open Air Pop Up Art Fair	Sat 15 Jul	10am - 5pm	Tills Yard
 Scarecrow Competition Begins	Sat 15 Jul	See page 6	Throughout Battle
 Meet the Author: Philip Ardagh	Sat 15 Jul	10:30 - 11:30am	Battle Library
 Meet the Author: Thomas Taylor	Sat 15 Jul	2 - 3pm	Battle Library
 Flanders & Swann with Tom Lehrer	Sat 15 Jul	7:30 - 9pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Pictures at an Exhibition Project	Sun 16 Jul	4pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra	Sun 16 Jul	7:30 - 9:30pm	Battle Memorial Hall

WEDNESDAY 19TH - SUNDAY 23RD JULY

PAGES 11 - 20

 Eric Ravilious: Drawn to War	Wed 19 Jul	7:30 - 9pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Writing Funny for Children	Thu 20 Jul	7 - 9pm	The Almonry
 Richard Shelton's Sinatra:RAW	Fri 21 Jul	7:30pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Robbie Robson Sextet Jazz Session	Fri 21 Jul	8pm	The Bull Inn
 Liz Fletcher Quartet Jazz Session	Sat 22 Jul	12pm	The Bull Inn
 Saturday Jazz Afternoon	Sat 22 Jul	2pm - 10pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Sunday Jazz Afternoon	Sun 23 Jul	1pm - 6:30pm	Six Penny Lawn

TUESDAY 25TH - SUNDAY 30TH JULY

PAGES 21 - 25

 Romantic Music Under The Stars	Tue 25 Jul	7:30 - 9:30pm	Six Penny Lawn
 Film Screening: The Fabelmans	Wed 26 Jul	7:30pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Shipwrecked! Silent Film & Live Music	Fri 28 Jul	7:30pm	Battle Memorial Hall
 Midsummer Delights	Sat 29 Jul	7:30 - 9:30pm	St Mary's Church
 Presentation of the Scarecrows	Sun 30 Jul	2pm	Abbey Green
 Viennese Tea Concert at Battle Abbey	Sun 30 Jul	3pm	Abbots Hall

BATTLE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME IS PRODUCED BY

Nina Maria

DESIGNS

GRAPHIC & BRAND DESIGNER

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CRAFTING HISTORY

Battle Brewery is a small batch craft brewery with taproom and bottle shop, located on Beech Farm in the beautiful 1066 countryside.

PROUD SUPPORTERS AND VENUE FOR THE BATTLE FESTIVAL

LOOK OUT FOR OUR SPECIAL EDITION
FESTIVAL BEER AT SELECTED VENUES



TAPROOM

Visit the brewery tap to try our fresh cask and keg beers, local cider, wine, or drink any of the great guest beers on sale. Open Thurs 11-2pm, Fri & Sat 11-7pm.

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Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0HN.

t: 01424 772838

e: hello@battlebrewery.co.uk

w: www.battlebrewery.co.uk

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Photography: John Powell

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THANK YOU

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

This year, the Festival has only been possible due to the hard work of the Trustees and Committee members and the unfailing support from our partners - Battle Town Council, British Design British Made, Battle Brewery, Wild about Battle, Gary Dunk, The Memorial Hall, English Heritage, Battle Abbey School, Holland Harper LLP and St Mary's Church.

As a registered charity, Battle Festival is normally funded by grants and donations. This year, we have unfortunately received no grants from either the Arts Council or Lottery Funds which has placed the Festival in a very difficult financial position. Despite this, we have managed to offer a full programme of events. In order to continue with our aims of

developing and mentoring talent in the 1066 Country, bringing world class artists to our town and helping the local economy, we are more than ever relying on public donations.

If you have enjoyed any of our performances or support our aims, please give generously on our donation page on our website. This will then enable us to plan for next year. There are lots of ways that you can help support us from volunteering time, to individual giving or sponsorship. Please visit our website battlefestival.co.uk for further information about all the opportunities.

Registered Charity Number 1168104

Trustees: David Furness, Jill Gyngell, Mel Powell and Claire Davies



1066
Country



Battle
Memorial Hall

Nina
Maria



BRITISH
design
made



St MARY
THE VIRGIN
BATTLE





North Trade Road

BATTLE
RECREATION
GROUND

A2100

Mount St

Battle High Street

Battle Abbey

Upper Lake

Marley Ln

Lower Lake

Falconers Dr

Harrier Ln

Station Approach

1. Battle Library, 7 Market Rd, TN33 0HN
2. The Almonry / Battle Museum of Local History, 42 High St, TN33 0EE
3. The Bull Inn
4. British Design, British Made, 64 High St, Battle, TN33 0EN
5. Battle Memorial Hall (Wynne Room & Shephard Room), 81 High St, TN33 0AQ
6. Battle Abbey and School (inc. Abbots Hall and Six Penny Lawn)
7. St Mary's Church, Upper Lake, TN33 0AN
8. Till's Yard, TN33 0AE

BATTLE FESTIVAL 2023

SEE YOU THERE!



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