

Yatton Music Society

**West Mendip Orchestra
with Joss Wort (piano)**

Saturday 30th November, 2024

The West Mendip Orchestra is one of Somerset's principal amateur orchestras and will be joined by local pianist Joss Wort playing Beethoven's 1st piano concerto. Joss is from Yatton and after attending Backwell School entered the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and is now in his fourth and final year. The WMO has been performing since 1974 and was originally known as the Winscombe orchestra. Their performances are highly regarded and for their concert at St Mary's, the programme will also include orchestral music by Schubert and Reinecke.

Autumn 2024 Concerts

28th September, 2024

Natalia Williams-Wandoch (piano)

26th October, 2024

Polaris Duo (saxophone and harp)

30th November, 2024

West Mendip Orchestra with Joss Wort.

YATTON MUSIC SOCIETY

www.yms.org.uk

Polaris Duo

(Gillian Blair & Elinor Nicholson)



Saturday, 26th October, 2024
7.30 pm.



Supporting and championing
voluntary music

In the event of fire or other emergency, members of the audience are asked to move to the churchyard via the door by the font.

Polaris Duo

Gillian Blair (saxophone) and Elinor Nicholson (harp) formed the Polaris Duo in 2011 whilst studying at the Royal Northern College of Music. They have since been exploring an eclectic range of repertoire and possibilities for this unusual combination of instruments.

The duo perform regularly around the UK and in 2018 made their international debut in Croatia at the World Saxophone Congress. They have performed at UK venues including the Bridgewater Hall, Buxton Opera House, Warwick University and Leeds International Concert Season as well as regularly performing for music societies. They are BBC Introducing Artists, were 2nd prize winners in the British Harp Chamber Music Competition and have been featured in the Lake District Summer Music 'New Generation Artists' Concert Series.

Gillian Blair - Saxophone

Gillian holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from the Royal Northern College of Music. During her studies she was a finalist in the RNCM's prestigious Concerto and Gold Medal competitions and received scholarships from the Oglesby Charitable Trust, the Helen Mackaness Award and the Countess of Munster Trust. Upon graduating, Gillian was awarded the Timothy Reynish Award for outstanding contribution to the RNCM.

As a soloist, she has performed around Europe, North America and Asia at festivals and concert series' including the BBC Proms, World Saxophone Congress, and several broadcasts on BBC Radio 3. She has appeared as a guest soloist with ensembles including the Band of the Coldstream Guards, Piccadilly Symphony Orchestra, University of Arkansas Saxophone Ensemble and City of Peterborough Symphony Orchestra.

Elinor Nicholson—Harp

Award-winning Scottish harpist Elinor Nicholson graduated from the Royal Northern College of Music with a first class honours degree in 2014. She then went on to complete a Masters in Music with distinction in 2016. During her studies, Elinor won the prestigious RNCM Concerto Competition and was twice a finalist in the RNCM Gold Medal competition- the highest accolade for performance that the college offers.

Elinor regularly performs with ensembles such as the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Northern Ballet Sinfonia. She has also performed alongside well known names including Nicola Benedetti, Katherine Jenkins, Russel Watson and the rock band Evanescence. This has led her to perform in some of the country's most notable concert halls, including; Royal Albert Hall, Birmingham's Symphony Hall, Royal Glasgow Concert Hall and the Bridgewater Hall.

Programme

Song without words	Rob Buckland (1967 -)
Enniscorthy	Jenni Watson (1985 -)
La Fille Aux Cheveux De Lin	Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
Sonata in G minor <i>I. Allegro</i> <i>II. Adagio</i> <i>III. Allegro</i>	CPE Bach (1714-1788)
What is Joy to You?	Esther Swift (1988 -)
Casadh an TSúgáin - Trad Irish	arr. Daniel Whibley

Interval

Notturmo	Gustav Bumcke (1876 -1963)
Three Preludes <i>I. Allegro</i> <i>II. Andante</i> <i>III. Allegro</i>	George Gershwin (1898 -1937)
Lenski's Aria	Pyotr Tchaikovsky (1840 -1843)
Sonata for Saxophone and Harp <i>I. With energy</i> <i>II. Relaxed</i> <i>III. With purpose</i>	Andy Scott (1966 -)