

FILLING THE
CITY WITH
SONG



LEEDS LIEDER

Season 2019-20

Mary Bevan
Tara Erraught
Christopher Maltman
Julien van Mellaerts
Joseph Middleton
Mark Padmore
RAM Song Circle
Fatma Said
Carolyn Sampson
Nicky Spence

**'Leeds Lieder has fully realised
its potential and become an
event of international stature'**

Opera Now



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



19 October 2019 7.30pm

Carolyn Sampson *soprano*
Joseph Middleton *piano*

Songs of Heaven and Earth

Programme to include:

Haydn *Arianna a Naxos*
Schoenberg *Vier Lieder, Op. 2*
Mahler *Das himmlische Leben, Das irdische Leben*
(from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn*)
Koechlin *Chansons de Bilitis*
Debussy *Chansons de Bilitis*
Richard Strauss *Four Last Songs*

The Venue, Leeds College of Music

There can be few better ways to open a Leeds Lieder season than with Carolyn Sampson performing one of the greatest works in the song repertoire, Strauss's *Four Last Songs*. Recently described by Musicweb International as 'one of the great singers of our time' she is joined by Leeds Lieder Director and regular duo-partner Joseph Middleton in a programme that includes Haydn's dramatic cantata, sensual Romanticism from the young Schoenberg and Gustav Mahler, and Debussy and Koechlin's highly charged settings of *Bilitis*. Fresh from tours to the USA, Japan and across Europe, and with a fast-growing and award-winning discography, we are thrilled to welcome back Carolyn Sampson: 'Her partnership with Middleton is inspired' (The Observer).



16 November 2019 7.30pm

Christopher Maltman *baritone*
Joseph Middleton *piano*

Carnival of the Animals

Programme to include:

Poulenc, Schumann, Ravel, Reger, Chabrier, Wolf, and Flanders & Swann.

The Venue, Leeds College of Music

Since winning the Lieder prize at the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World competition early in his career, internationally acclaimed British baritone Christopher Maltman has firmly established his position as one of Britain's finest singers. He appears on all the world's greatest opera stages, as well as being a regular at Wigmore Hall. Tonight Maltman and Middleton will present a charming programme that takes in the highways and byways of the animal kingdom. Witty, dramatic, charming and sad, this perfectly constructed programme is a superb vehicle for Maltman's story-telling prowess. His recent Wigmore Hall recital was given 5 star reviews across the board, The Guardian summing up the evening: 'Outstanding, every single second of it.'



29 November 2019 7.30pm

Mary Bevan *soprano*
Julien van Mellaerts *baritone*
Joseph Middleton *piano*

The Italian Songbook

Hugo Wolf *Italienisches Liederbuch*

The Venue, Leeds College of Music

Favourites in Leeds, two young stars of the recital world join forces with Royal Philharmonic Society Award winner Joseph Middleton to perform Wolf's towering masterpiece made up of 46 miniature songs. Italian folksong sits side-by-side with the highest German art as the intense human activity of an Italian village is brought to life by two of its inhabitants. Love, jealousy, sex, nature: all of it is explored, and the full gamut of emotions, from coquettish flirtation to desperate heartbreak will be on show. Mary Bevan, recently awarded a MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, joins Kathleen Ferrier and Wigmore Song Prize winner Julien van Mellaerts for this Mediterranean journey.



10 January 2020 7.30pm

Mark Padmore *tenor*
Joseph Middleton *piano*

A Poet's Journey

Programme to include:

Britten *Who are these children?*
Mahler *Rückert-Lieder*
Schumann *Dichterliebe* (historically correct version including 4 extra songs)

Clothworkers' Centenary Concert Hall, University of Leeds

'When words leave off, music begins': so wrote the nineteenth century German poet Heinrich Heine. No composer set Heine as magically as Schumann and tonight Leeds audiences have a rare chance to hear a complete performance of Robert Schumann's *Dichterliebe*, the original twenty Heine songs, rather than the sixteen usually given. Well-known and well-loved by audiences around the globe, Mark Padmore returns to Leeds on the back of an extraordinary season. Artist in Residence with the Berlin Philharmonic and Bayerische Rundfunk Orchestras, he was awarded a CBE this year and performs at all the major music centres. Tonight's recital also includes Britten's rarely performed Scots songs, *Who are these children?* alongside Mahler's transcendental *Rückert-Lieder*.



27 January 2020 7.30pm

Fatma Said *soprano*
Joseph Middleton *piano*

Spanish Sun and Songs of Europe

Programme to include:

Schumann, Brahms, de Falla and Gershwin

Clothworkers' Centenary Concert Hall, University of Leeds

Few artists have captured the hearts of Leeds Lieder audiences quite like Fatma Said, who gave one of the most enthusiastically received recitals of recent years at the 2019 Festival. A mixture of extraordinary vocal technique and oodles of charm and charisma, we are thrilled that she returns to Leeds so soon after her auspicious debut. A favourite at La Scala, Milan, and the Salzburg Festival, she has recently signed a major recording contract with Warner. This season Fatma Said and Joseph Middleton appear together at London's Wigmore Hall, in Zürich, Germany and for BBC Radio 3. Their programme includes Falla's popular folk songs as well as late Schumann.



13 February 2020 7.30pm

Tara Erraught *mezzo-soprano*
Joseph Middleton *piano*

Gypsies and Wayfarers

Programme to include:

Brahms *Zigeunerlieder*
Mahler *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* and songs by Strauss, Liszt and Brahms

The Venue, Leeds College of Music

A rich, radiant voice, expansive range and dynamic stage presence are the hallmarks of Irish mezzo-soprano Tara Erraught. Described in The New York Times as possessing 'a beautifully formed mezzo-soprano voice' recent season highlights include a string of successes at The Metropolitan Opera, Staatsoper Berlin, Bayerische Staatsoper, Glyndebourne Festival, Hamburg Staatsoper, Wiener Staatsoper and Washington National Opera. A prolific recitalist, she has appeared at London's Wigmore Hall, New York's Carnegie Hall, the Schubertiade at Schwarzenberg and the Salzburg Festival. Recordings include Deutsche Grammophon's *La clemenza di Tito* with Joyce DiDonato as Sesto and Rolando Villazon as Tito under Yannick Nézet-Séguin in Baden Baden. Tonight, she is joined by Joseph Middleton, hailed by Opera Magazine as 'rightful heir to legendary accompanist Gerald Moore.'

11 December 2019 1pm (please note time)

Royal Academy of Music Song Circle

Clara Schumann Anniversary Concert

The Venue, Leeds College of Music

Each year a small group of the Royal Academy of Music's most accomplished performers of the song repertoire are selected to form the Academy Song Circle. The showcase ensemble – heard at Wigmore Hall – returns to Leeds to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Clara Schumann with a recital of her complete songs.



7 March 2020 7.30pm

Nicky Spence *tenor* Joseph Middleton *piano*

The Diary of One Who Disappeared

Programme to include: Janáček *The Diary of One Who Disappeared*

Clothworkers' Centenary Concert Hall, University of Leeds

Reviewing his 2019 Leeds Lieder recital, the Sunday Times described Nicky Spence as a 'tenor who combines heroic tone and a poetic sensibility that takes the breath away'. We are thrilled that he returns to LL in repertoire he has very much made his own, and with regular duo-partner Joseph Middleton. There is no other work quite like Janáček's *The Diary of One Who Disappeared*. Its unorthodox scoring and theatrical features make for an evening that is tender and poignant, urgent and explosive. Janáček takes us from the first flush of young love to self-hatred, doubt and a tortured destiny. Spence has recently released a recording of the work and it is garnering superb reviews. BBC Record Review selected Spence's version as their Record of the Week and commented that 'Scottish tenor Nicky Spence brings thrilling ardour and emotional angst to Janáček's passionate outpourings... the Diary burns with anguish, passion... I love it' (BBC Record Review).



Booking information

Carolyn Sampson
Christopher Maltman
Mary Bevan and Julien van Mellaerts
Tara Erraught

The Venue, Leeds College of Music

Full price £22; Unwaged/Disabled £20;
Under 26/Student £5
Booking online at lcm.ac.uk/whats-on
or call 0113 222 3434

Mark Padmore
Fatma Said
Nicky Spence

Clothworkers' Centenary Concert Hall, University of Leeds

£20 (£18 if booked and paid for in advance)
FREE for students and under 16s
Booking online at concerts.leeds.ac.uk
or call 0113 343 2584

RAM Song Circle

The Venue, Leeds College of Music

Free event, no ticket required



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Please Note

The information in this leaflet is published in good faith and is correct at the time of printing, but changes may occasionally be necessary in the event of unforeseen circumstances. Leeds Lieder reserves the right to change the performers or programme.

The Tenth Leeds Lieder Festival Thursday 16 – Sunday 19 April 2020

Full details of artists and programme
to be announced shortly.

If you are not already on our mailing/
e-mailing lists and would like to receive
news about our plans please email
info@leedslieder.org.uk to let us know.

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