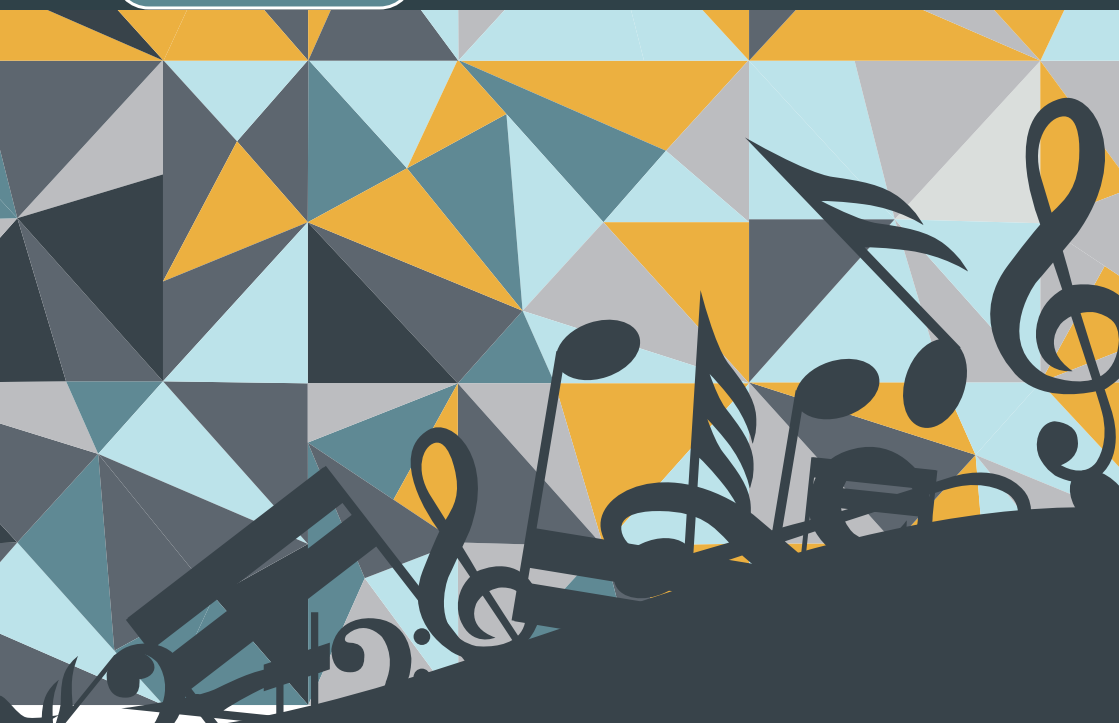




Charles Wood
FESTIVAL & SUMMER SCHOOL

A HYBRID FESTIVAL

ACROSS ARMAGH AND BEYOND



22-29 AUGUST 2021
Where Digital Meets Live

Patron: John Rutter CBE
Artistic Director: David Hill MBE

WELCOME

FROM THE CHAIR, **RICHARD YARR**

A warm welcome to the 2021 Charles Wood Festival and Summer School.

This year we are delighted to welcome the Charles Wood Singers back to Armagh and to present a unique mix of live and digital events in the city's beautiful sacred spaces. Top-quality music, worship and performance will abound, and we'd love you to join us!

You can experience the opening days of the Festival via our digital platforms – from song recitals, to workshops and special features. Then on Wednesday 25th August we will open the doors to live audiences again, following a year's hiatus, and we're so looking forward to it. Our Bach at Twilight concert returns, as well as BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong, a Lunchtime Concert, a special Saturday evening event and Sunday Mass. While some of these will be streamed live online, please join us in person. You can be assured of the highest health and safety standards.

If you'd be more comfortable with an outdoor event, we're presenting our first ever Musical Trail on the Mall: a chance to enjoy the Charles Wood Singers in one of the city's prime locations, with costume, speech and music. We're also thrilled to be marking the 250th anniversary of Armagh's Robinson Library with a unique illustrated lecture, in partnership with the Library itself: an exciting tour through its musical archives.

Across this busy backdrop, the Charles Wood Singers will also be making their first professional album for release on Regent Records. It's a stunning playlist of Charles Wood, Charles Villiers Stanford and Amy Beach. Look out for it very soon.

If it's indoor, outdoor, in-person or digital, we've got it all for you this August.



OUR PROGRAMME

Tickets must be booked in advance due to venue capacities. Full booking details are available on our website.

SUNDAY 22 AUGUST

The Festival Sings!

A Celebration of Charles Wood Song

BBC presenter **John Toal** introduces a special programme of Charles Wood song, recorded in St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh. Join Northern Ireland mezzo-soprano **Carolyn Dobbin** and pianist **Ruth McGinley** for a starry start to our 2021 Festival.

CELEBRITY
DIGITAL

Venue: Charles Wood Festival YouTube Channel

Time: 19:00

MONDAY 23 AUGUST

Open To You!

Charles Wood Singers Open Rehearsal 1

Venue: St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh

Time: 10.00 – 13.00

Admission: Free. Ticket required from our website.

LIVE



OUR PROGRAMME

MONDAY 23 AUGUST

Charles Wood Singers Open Rehearsal 2

Venue: St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh

Time: 14.00 – 17.00

Admission: Free. Ticket required from our website.

LIVE

Strategies: Singing and Mental Health After Lockdown

A demonstrated workshop with Paul Farrington.

A unique opportunity to join the Royal Opera House's vocal impresario, Paul Farrington, as he looks at ways to overcome the physiological effects of lockdown on singers. These have manifested themselves in both the singing and speaking voice, and Paul has the strategies to help. This workshop is suitable for singers of all ages and standards.

DIGITAL

Venue: Zoom

Time: 19.00

Admission: £5. Essential to pre-register on our website.

TUESDAY 24 AUGUST

Charles Wood Singers Open Rehearsal 3

Venue: St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh

Time: 10.00 – 13.00

Admission: Free. Ticket required from our website.

LIVE

Charles Wood Singers Open Rehearsal 4

Venue: St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh

Time: 14.00 – 17.00

Admission: Free. Ticket required from our website.

LIVE



OUR PROGRAMME

TUESDAY 24 AUGUST

Top Tips From Ely: A Chorister Special

John Rutter, Sarah MacDonald and Ian Keatley.

CELEBRITY
DIGITAL

Ian Keatley, Founding Director of the Charles Wood Girls' Choir, travels to Ely Cathedral in Cambridgeshire to hear their renowned girl choristers in action. He'll be meeting Sarah MacDonald, Director of the Cathedral's Girls' Choir, who'll be demonstrating warm-ups and useful exercises. Our Patron John Rutter will also be dropping in to discuss his love of writing for young voices.

Venue: Charles Wood Festival YouTube Channel

Time: 19.00

WEDNESDAY 25 AUGUST

Bach at Twilight

The Festival's much-loved Bach at Twilight concert returns to St. Malachy's Church with leading UK organist Matthew Owens at the console. Matthew, who is Director of Music at Belfast Cathedral, will be performing a 1-hour programme of JS Bach's finest works for the instrument – from the dazzling to the poignant – introduced by our Festival Organist, Philip Scriven.

CELEBRITY
LIVE &
DIGITAL

Music to include the Prelude and Fugue in E flat (BWV 552) and the Chorale Partita "O Gott, du frommer Gott" (BWV 767).

Venue: St. Malachy's Church, Armagh and Charles Wood Festival YouTube Channel

Time: 20.30

Admission: Suggested Donation £10. Ticket required from our website.



OUR PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 26 AUGUST

The Great Outdoors: A Choral Trail

4 Gazebos, 4 Choirs and Multiple Costumes!

The Charles Wood Singers, and characters from the Armagh Georgian Festival, create a choral trail on the city's historic Mall. You'll enjoy 15-minute performances at each gazebo – celebrating summer, colour, love and renewal – with Isaac Beattie, a local Living History Interpreter, acting as the pied piper. Expect a feast of music, spectacle and intrigue!

We are indebted to the Mall Trustees for their support of this event.

Venue: The Mall, Armagh

Time: 19.00

Admission: Free. No ticket required.

LIVE

FRIDAY 27 AUGUST

Choral Evensong with BBC Radio 3

The Charles Wood Singers perform music by Wood, Stanford, Amy Beach and Maggie Burk under the Festival's Artistic Director David Hill. The hymns for the service are Tell Out My Soul and Love Divine All Loves Excelling, with Psalms 126 to 131.

Venue: St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh

Time: 17.00

Admission: Free. Ticket required from our website.

LIVE

3



OUR PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 27 AUGUST

Celebrating The Collection: The Robinson Library 250

To mark the 250th anniversary of the Armagh Robinson Library, the Festival is delighted to present this illustrated lecture in partnership with the Library team. Dr David O'Shea, of University College Dublin, will shed light on Charles Wood, his music and influences, with performances of songs contained in the Library's collection. Leading Irish soprano Aisling Kenny will be accompanied by Gail Evans.

LIVE

Venue: St. Mark's Parish Church, Armagh

Time: 20:00

Admission: Suggested Donation £10. Ticket required from our website.

SATURDAY 28 AUGUST

Stars of the Future: The Earl and Countess Castle Stewart Concert

Featuring:

Aimee Kearney (soprano), Armand Rabot (baritone) and Julie Piggott (violin), with Ruth McGinley (piano).

LIVE

Sure to be a highlight of the Festival, this lunchtime concert brings together 2 winners of the Charles Wood Junior Song Competition and the winner of the Northern Ireland Young Musician of the Year 2021.

Venue: First Presbyterian Church, Armagh

Time: 13:00

Admission: Suggested Donation £10. Ticket required from our website.

OUR PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 28 AUGUST

Sing Unto The Lord A New Song!

Featuring:

The Charles Wood Singers

Christopher Willoughby (tenor) – Charles Wood Song

Competition Senior Winner 2021 – with Ruth McGinley (piano)

Joshua Simoes – Prize Winner, Northern Ireland International Organ Competition 2020

Philip Scriven (organist)

David Hill (conductor)

LIVE &
DIGITAL

Musicians associated with the Festival come together for a glorious evening of music and meditation spanning the centuries in the prayerful atmosphere of St. Patrick's Cathedral on the hill of Armagh. This, the climax of the week, will uplift, comfort and inspire. Music includes *Canticle of the Sun* by Amy Beach, *Etrick Banks* by Judith Weir and Charles Wood's *Shall I Forget*.

Venue: St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh and Charles Wood Festival YouTube Channel

Time: 20.00

Admission: Suggested Donation £15. Ticket required from our website.

SUNDAY 29 AUGUST

Sung Mass

The Charles Wood Singers sing Mass in the rich acoustic of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral. Music to include Mozart's 'Coronation' Mass.

LIVE &
DIGITAL

Venue: St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Armagh and their website

Time: 11.00

OUR PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 29 AUGUST

A Postcard From Our Patron

John Rutter offers a personal message to musicians across the globe as we look forward to more active music-making and performance experiences. The perfect wrap to the 2021 Festival.

CELEBRITY
DIGITAL

Venue: Charles Wood Festival YouTube Channel

Time: 14.00



Ruth McGinley



Christopher Willoughby



Aisling Kenny



David Hill



Philip Scriven



Joshua Simoes



Carolyn Dobbin



Ian Keatley



Gail Evans



Aimee Kearney



Armand Rabot



Matthew Owens



Julie Piggott



John Rutter



Sarah MacDonald

ONLINE LESSONS

WITH PAUL FARRINGTON



Our vocal coach Paul Farrington will be available for private tuition via Zoom during the Festival week. Singers must be 16 years or over and Grade 6 standard or above.

The fee is £40 for a 30 minute lesson.

Lessons are available on Tuesday 24th August and Wednesday 25th August.

Slots and registration details are available on our website.

SUPPORT OUR FIRST ALBUM

During the Festival, Regent Records will produce the first-ever album of the Charles Wood Singers in St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh. It will be conducted by David Hill, with organist Philip Scriven, and released in CD and digital format in 2022.

To support this landmark project, please visit our JustGiving page, which contains full details: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/charleswoodCD>



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The Charles Wood Festival and Summer School is also grateful to all business sponsors. These are listed on our website.



We are working hard to keep you safe and secure during the Festival week. The safety of our audience, artists and staff is of top priority, so please help us by following signage and adhering to guidance in place during the Festival.

For the benefit of all attendees, we request that you continue to follow some COVID-related measures, even if no longer compulsory.

Please give others space while queuing. We also encourage all audience members to wear a face covering throughout events and when entering and exiting venues. It remains very important that you do not attend any event at the Festival if you develop COVID symptoms or test positive.



www.charleswoodsummerschool.org

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