

# CONCERT SEASON 2016-2017

Putting Music at the Heart of Chester since 1946



**WELCOME** to a new season of concerts by Chester Music Society. We are sure you will find many events here to suit all tastes.

**The Society** promotes more than twenty concerts and other musical events each year, including **Celebrity** and **Club Concerts** as well as performances by our **Choir**.

The **Celebrity Concerts** comprise a series of six high quality recitals with music predominately from the Classical Chamber repertoire, performed by **national and international** chamber musicians.

The **Club Concerts** are open to all members of the society and the public. They provide a wide variety of music covering a broad range of music styles and ensembles. The concerts feature outstanding young musicians from the Chester area as well as more established local artists.

**Chester Music Society Choir** is an adult mixed voice choir of 170 members giving five performances each year including the major choral classics in Chester Cathedral.

The **Diary** of all events this Season is listed on the back cover of this brochure. Full information on all the Society's events in 2016-17 will be found throughout this brochure, together with ticket and contact details.

**Tickets:** Details of how to buy tickets, including season tickets, are at the back of this brochure on pages 13 to 16.

#### St Mary's Creative Space?

Yes, the name of our usual venue of St Mary's Centre has been changed. It is now St Mary's Creative Space, but it is still where it used to be: on St Mary's Hill just behind Chester University Riverside Building and the Crown Court.

**For more information** on any of our activities please telephone 01244 383455; e-mail *info@chestermusicsociety.org.uk*; or visit our website:**www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk**.



Chester Music Society is affiliated to Making Music, the National Federation of Music Societies, which represents and supports amateur music societies throughout the United Kingdom. Chester Music Society is an Equal Opportunities organisation.





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See us on YouTube





Wednesday 12 October 2016, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

## **ODYSSEUS PIANO TRIO**

Clare Hammond piano Sara Trickey violin Gregor Riddell cello

MozartTrio in G, K 564FauréTrio in D minor Op 120DvorakTrio No 4 in E minor ('Dumky')



After studies at Cambridge University and IMS Prussia Cove, and extensive chamber music experience with a number of ensembles, Sara, Gregor and Clare have established the Odysseus Piano Trio. While their repertoire encompasses core works for trio, they also aim to seek out less familiar pieces and to bring them to new audiences. Their debut season in 2015 saw them perform at venues across the UK, including St David's Hall in Cardiff, and the Deal, Frome, Llandeilo and Rye Festivals.

(Clare Hammond plays the younger version of Miss Shepherd, Dame Maggie Smith's character in the film *The Lady in the Van*. A non-speaking, pianoplaying role!)

Celebrity Concert: Tickets £15. For ticket reservations see page 13.

Wednesday 19 October 2016, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space CLUB

Queens Young Voices Margaret Corlett conductor

Chester Youth Symphony Orchestra Jan Modelski conductor Club Event: Admission £5 payable at the door.





Wednesday 2 November 2016, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### CLUB

Wrexham County Youth Choir and soloists Tim Jones and Tina Boycott conductors Club Event: Admission £5 payable at the door.



#### Wednesday 9 November 2016, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### SARAH-JANE BRADLEY viola JOHN LENEHAN piano

J S Bach Rebecca Clarke Benjamin Dale Brahms Viola da Gamba Sonata No 2 Viola Sonata Romance Viola Sonata Op 120 No 2

As a distinguished chamber musician Sarah-Jane has toured throughout the world and has been invited to participate in many festivals, including the prestigious Marlboro Festival in Vermont (1992) and Kuhmo Festival in Finland (2001), as well as the Moments Musicaux Festival in Normandy in August 2008. She was a founder member of the Leopold String Trio (1991-9), a member of the Sorrel Quartet (1999-2005) and Fidelio Piano Quartet. More recently Sarah-Jane has been invited to join the London Soloists Ensemble.

Praised by the New York Times for his "great flair and virtuosity" and the London Times – "a masterly recital" – John Lenehan's performances and recordings have been acclaimed throughout the world.





As a soloist he has appeared with orchestras at home and abroad. John Lenehan has collaborated with many leading instrumentalists and is recognised as an outstanding chamber musician.

This concert is supported by a Friend of the Celebrity Concerts **Celebrity Concert**: Tickets £15. For ticket reservations see page 13.

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#### Saturday 12 November 2016, 7.30pm Chester Cathedral

#### CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY CHOIR

#### HANDEL MESSIAH

Emma Peaurt soprano James Neville countertenor Stefan Kennedy tenor Miles Horner baritone **Liverpool Sinfonia** Graham Jordan Ellis conductor

Is this the best-loved music ever written? Based on

words chosen from the Bible by Charles Jennens, Handel's masterpiece Messiah tells the story from the prophecy to the birth, death and resurrection of Christ in a series of recitatives, solo arias and choruses. From the opening *Comfort ve my* people, through Hallelujah and I know that my Redeemer Liveth, to the final chorus Worthy is the Lamb, Messiah is now deeply embedded in the British musical consciousness. Last performed by Chester Music Society Choir in 2011, this performance promises to provide a moving experience for everyone.

**Choir Concert**: Tickets: £20, £14 (Nave); £7 (Aisles, restricted view) From Cathedral ticket desk Tel: 01244 500959 Concessions and group discounts available.

#### Sunday 13 November 2016, from 10.00am The King's School, Chester

#### CHESTER YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION

Chester Music Society's annual prize competition for instrumentalists aged 13 to 18.

For a prospectus and application form telephone 01244 678589 or email info@chestermusicsociety.org.uk

The event is open to the public who are free to come and go throughout the day.

Admission (public and competitors' supporters): £5 at the door.









Wednesday 30 November 2016, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

## CLUB

City of Chester Brass Band and Training Band Ewan Easton Musical Director Chris Hardy conductor



**Club Event:** Admission £5 payable at the door.

## Wednesday 14 December 2016, 7.30pm

St Mary's Creative Space

## AURORA ENSEMBLE

Maxine Willis flute Gwenllian Davies oboe Andrew Mason clarinet Richard Bayliss horn Stuart Russell bassoon



Rossini (arr Sheen)	Overture Italian Girl in Algiers
Reicha	Wind Quintet in E flat, Op 88 No 2
Beach	Pastorale
Medaglia	Suite Popular Brasileira
Vivaldi	Trio in G minor RV103
Klughardt	Wind Quintet in C major, Op 79
Walton (arr Mason)	<i>Façade</i> suite (excerpts)

Prizewinners at the European chamber music competition *Musique d'Ensemble* held at the Paris Conservatoire in 2001, the Aurora Ensemble has performed in many major venues and festivals including the Purcell Room and Wigmore Hall, Manchester's Bridgewater Hall, Cardiff's St. David's Hall and the Warwick, Thaxted, Ryedale and Petworth Festivals. They have broadcast on ORS Television (Austria) and BBC Radio 3 for the Young Artists' Forum and were selected as one of the featured ensembles in Making Music's Concert Promoters' Network brochure for the 2005 - 2006 season.

This concert is supported by a Friend of the Celebrity Concerts

**Celebrity Concert**: Tickets £18. Price includes buffet and refreshments. For ticket reservations see page 13.



#### **CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY CHOIR**

#### CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

Celebrate a family Christmas with carols and Seasonal music, and enjoy the humour of The Bard of Barnsley, **Ian McMillan**, who is returning for a second visit to Chester following his outstanding success with the Music Society in 2014. Also this time he will be bringing with him a new "Carol for



Chester" written especially by lan for the Choir with the melody composed by Luke Carver Goss. With accompaniment from Chester's own Philharmonic Orchestra, we can promise you another CMS Choir Christmas concert full of fun and surprises.

Chester Philharmonic Orchestra Graham Jordan Ellis conductor

**Choir Concert**: Tickets: £16 (Nave); £8 (Aisles, restricted view) From Cathedral ticket desk. Tel: 01244 500959 Concessions and group discounts available





Wednesday 11 January 2017, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### DANIEL SHELVEY baritone DYLAN PEREZ piano

Vaughan Williams Barber	Songs of Travel Op 45 Three Songs: Now have I fed and eaten up the rose;
	A green lowland of pianos;
	Oh boundless, boundless evening
Schumann	Dichterliebe
Schubert	Piano Impromptus D899
Schubert	Der Wanderer, Die Forelle

Liverpool born baritone Daniel Shelvey is 23 and has just finished his fifth year of study at the Royal Northern College of Music under the tutelage of David Maxwell Anderson. His studies were kindly funded by the RNCM and an Independent Opera scholarship. Daniel will continue his studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama under Robert Dean. Daniel is a Jerwood Young Artist 2014 and is supported by the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Dylan Perez, 26, is in his second year in the Artist Master's Program at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he studies piano accompaniment with Pamela Lidiard and Julius Drake. He also holds degrees from the University of Michigan, where he studied with Martin Katz. He has participated in *The Song Continues* at Carnegie Hall, New York and Opera Bastille, Paris. He has worked closely with Graham Johnson on two Song Guild recitals and was subsequently awarded the Paul Hamburger Prize for accompaniment. Last summer, he attended the Franz Schubert Institut in Baden bei Wien, Austria. His





studies are generously supported by the Norman Gee Foundation.

This concert is supported by The Countess of Munster Trust and by a Friend of the Celebrity Concerts

Celebrity Concert: Tickets £15. For ticket reservations see page 13.

#### Wednesday 18 January 2017, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

### **CLUB**

A RECITAL by the winners and runners up of the Society's Young Musicians Competition held on 13 November 2016. Come and hear some of the finest young performers from the Chester area, and support them when they receive their awards from the Society Chairman

Club Event: Admission £5 payable at the door.

#### Wednesday 1 February 2017, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### CLUB

Dale Culliford cello Catherine Riley piano

Dale is a member of the Hallé Orchestra. She has played with many of Britain's top

orchestras including the Philharmonia and CBSO.

Catherine is Head of Piano at the Centre for Young Musicians in London

The programme will include the Rachmaninov G minor Cello Sonata

**Club Event:** Admission £5 payable at the door.















#### Wednesday 8 February 2017, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### ALESSANDRO TAVERNA piano

Chopin	Four Ballades
Ravel	Gaspard de la nuit
Gershwin	Rhapsody in blue

Hailed by the British music critics, Alessandro Taverna's "music making stimulates the senses as does a visit to his native Venice", and "gives rise to a feeling of wonderment". When he reached the final and performed Chopin's First Piano Concerto at the

2009 Leeds International Piano Competition The Independent said "the world was suddenly suffused with grave beauty: flawless minutes of poetry". Since then, Alessandro Taverna has shown a most remarkable, constant development that makes him one of the most interesting, musical pianists of his generation, being in worldwide demand.

Alessandro Taverna has won numerous awards in national and international competitions: among them the international piano competitions of Leeds, London, Hamamatsu, Minneapolis/St Paul, the Casella Prize in Venice, the Busoni Competition in Bolzano, the Scriabin Prize in Grosseto and Premio Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli of Eppan.

This concert is supported by a Friend of the Celebrity Concerts **Celebrity Concert**: Tickets £15. For ticket reservations see page 13.

#### Saturday 18 February 2017, 10.00am The King's School, Chester

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY CHOIR OPEN DAY

#### COME AND SING VERDI REQUIEM

Singers in all voice parts and of every level of ability are invited to join the choir for a full day of relaxation, learning and performing that

giant from the classical repertoire, Verdi's Requiem.

Telephone 0151 336 5088 or see *www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk* for more information.









Wednesday 1 March 2017, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### CLUB

Abbey Gate College Choir and Musicians Stuart Smith conductor Club Event: Admission £5 payable at the door.



Wednesday 8 March 2017, 7.30pm

#### St Mary's Creative Space

#### **ESCHER STRING QUARTET**

Adam Barnett-Hart violin Aaron Boyd violin Pierre LaPointe viola Brook Speltz cello



BorodinString Quartet No 2 in D majorShostakovichQuartet No 9 in E flatTchaikovskyQuartet No 1 in D major

This is full-blooded quartet playing in the grand, classic manner: extrovert and eloquent... hugely engaging music-making: BBC Music Magazine

The Escher String Quartet has received acclaim for its profound musical insight and rare tonal beauty. A former BBC New Generation Artist, the quartet has performed at the BBC Proms, at Cadogan Hall and is a regular guest at Wigmore Hall. In its home town of New York, the ensemble serves as Artists of The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

Within months of its inception in 2005, the ensemble came to the attention of key musical figures worldwide. Championed by the Emerson Quartet, the Escher Quartet was invited by both Pinchas Zukerman and Itzhak Perlman to be Quartet in Residence at each artist's summer festival: the Young Artists Programme at Canada's National Arts Centre; and the Perlman Chamber Music Programme on Shelter Island, NY.

The Escher Quartet has made a distinctive impression throughout Europe, with recent debuts including the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Berlin Konzerthaus and Les Grands Interprètes series in Geneva. Last season also saw debuts at London's Kings Place.

This concert is supported by a Friend of the Celebrity Concerts **Celebrity Concert**: Tickets £15. For ticket reservations see page 13.



#### Saturday 25 March 2017, 7.30pm Chester Cathedral

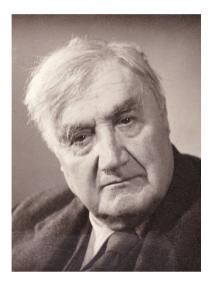
#### **CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY CHOIR**

#### **MUSIC OF VAUGHAN WILLIAMS**

The Garden of Proserpine In the Fen country Dona nobis pacem

Alison Pearce soprano James Cleverton baritone Liverpool Sinfonia Graham Jordan Ellis conductor

Vaughan Williams is among the best-known British composers, noted for his wide range of moods, from stormy and impassioned to tranquil, from mysterious to exuberant. His vocal works include hymns, folk-song



arrangements and large scale choral pieces, two of which are to be performed by the Society choir.

*Dona nobis pacem* was written and first performed in 1936 to mark the centenary of the Huddersfield Choral Society. Vaughan Williams produced this plea for peace by referring to recent wars during the growing fears of a new one. His texts were taken from the Mass, three poems by Walt Whitman, a political speech, and sections of the Bible.

The orchestral work *In the Fen Country* evokes feelings of traversing East Anglia's often bleak Fen landscape, illustrated by the solo opening melody, then wide open spaces as portrayed by sweeping string orchestral textures, with a melodic language strongly reminiscent of English folksong.

*The Garden of Proserpine* was written when Vaughan-Williams was only 27 and was his first attempt at a large-scale work for soprano soloist, chorus and full orchestra. It is an impressive achievement: a combination of radiance and nobility that is so characteristic of this composer in his later works. Unpublished and unperformed until 2011, it receives its first performance in the North West in this concert.

**Choir Concert**: Tickets: £20, £14 (Nave); £7 (Aisles, restricted view) From Cathedral ticket desk. Tel: 01244 500959 Concessions and group discounts available

#### Saturday 8 April 2017 (Provisional Date) Abbey Gate College

#### **CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP**

The Society's annual training day for amateur instrumentalists – mainly, but not exclusively, string players – performing chamber music in groups with professional tuition will be held again in 2017. For more information telephone 01606 882007, or see our website: www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk

## Wednesday 26 April 2017, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### **CLUB**

#### Bethan Griffiths harp, Charlotte Thomas flute

Charlotte is currently studying at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and Bethan is studying at the Royal College of Music.Their programme for this concert will include works by Bach, Bax and Rossini.

Club Event: Admission £5 payable at the door.

#### Wednesday 10 May 2017, 7.30pm St Mary's Creative Space

#### **CLUB GALA CONCERT**

#### JOHN GOUGH piano

John Gough, born and bred in Chester, enjoys a busy career as a solo pianist, duo player and accompanist. He has broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 on many occasions and has given recitals at the Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room and Carnegie Hall. John's programme will include works by Rachmaninoff, Ravel and Haydn.

**Club Event:**Tickets £15, including buffet, must be reserved in advance: *clubinfo@chestermusicsociety.org.uk*; Tel. 01928 787496













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#### Saturday 20 May 2017, 7.30pm Chester Cathedral

#### **CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY CHOIR**

#### THE FRENCH CONNECTION

GounodSt Cecilia MassFauréCantique de Jean RacineFauréAve verum corpusFranckPanis AngelicusFranckPsalm 150

Soloists from the Royal Northern College of Music Chester Music Society Choir Graham Eccles organ Graham Jordan Ellis conductor



Towards the end of the romantic era the 'classical' styles of the great Austrian and German composers were gradually overtaken by a more impressionistic style typified by a new generation of musicians from France. Join the Society Choir for performances of late 19<sup>th</sup> century atmospheric French music: four ever-popular and well-known pieces by Gabriel Fauré and César Franck and the St Cecilia Mass of Charles Gounod.

"This simplicity, this grandeur, this serene light which rose before the musical world like a breaking dawn": Saint-Saens

Tickets: £14 (Nave); £7 (Aisles, restricted view) From Cathedral ticket desk. Tel: 01244 500959 Concessions and group discounts available

Friday 2 June 2017, 7.30pm St Werburgh's RC Church, Chester

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY CHOIR

As part of St Werburgh's Concert Series CMS Choir will be performing

Morten Lauridsen Pergolesi César Franck César Franck Lux Eterna Magnificat Panis Angelicus Psalm 150

**Graham Eccles** organ **Graham Jordan Ellis** conductor Free admission (Retiring collection)





## **TICKET INFORMATION**

#### **CELEBRITY CONCERTS**

Ticket prices are shown with each concert in the body of this brochure.

Tickets may be purchased at the door; in advance by telephoning

Ticketsource: 0333 666 3366 (£1.50 fee per booking); in person at the Chester Town Hall Visitor Information Centre; or online:

*www.ticketsource.co.uk/chestermusicsociety.* For general enquiries: 01244 678589.

#### **CHOIR CONCERTS**

Ticket prices are shown with each concert in the body of this brochure.

**Tickets** may be purchased online via Chester Cathedral Box Office: *www.chestercathedral.com;* by telephone 01244 500959; or in person at the Cathedral Reception Ticket Desk. Payment is by cash, or debit/credit card (£1 fee for all card bookings).Tickets are also available on the door on concert night subject to availability.For information about prices, concessions and group discounts email *choirtickets@chestermusicsociety.org.uk.* 

#### **CLUB CONCERTS**

Ticket prices are shown with each concert in the body of this brochure.

Tickets may be purchased at the door. Tickets for the Gala Concert on

10 May (see page 11) are sold separately: information from: 01928 787496 or email *clubinfo@chestermusicsociety.org.uk*.

#### VENUES

Choir concerts are in Chester Cathedral, St Werburgh Street, CH1 2HU.

All other events are in St Mary's Creative Space, CH1 2DW. (It used to be called St Mary's Centre, but it hasn't moved: it's still at the top of St Mary's Hill, at the back of the Castle car park on the left.)

#### PARKING

For St Mary's: free evening parking is available in the Chester Castle car park off the Grosvenor Roundabout. (CH1 1SF )

For the Cathedral: free evening parking is available in the Delamere Street (CH2 2AY) and Princess Street (Market, CH1 2HH)) car parks. (Be sure to observe the notices in the car parks.)

#### **MEMBERSHIP: SAVINGS AND DISCOUNTS**

By becoming a Member of the Society you will be entitled to purchase season tickets for both Celebrity and Club events at a substantial saving. Overleaf you will find our membership and season ticket application form.



## SEASON TICKETS AND MEMBERSHIP

#### PURCHASE SEASON TICKETS

A season ticket for the **Celebrity Concerts** will enable you to attend all six concerts for the price of four, and allow you to reserve numbered seats in advance. Just fill in the application form opposite. More information from 0151 648 3258, 01244 678589 or celebtickets@chestermusicsociety.org.uk.

A **Club** season ticket entitles you to reduced price admission to all seven Club events (normal cost £35). If you buy season tickets for both the Club Series and Celebrity Series you can save nearly 40 percent on the cost of all 13 concerts. Just fill in the form opposite and post it to Philip Josling.

#### FRIENDS OF CELEBRITY CONCERTS

Become a Friend of the Celebrity Concerts and give support while enjoying special benefits. Subscription: minimum  $\pounds 30$  single,  $\pounds 40$  per couple. For full information on the benefits of becoming a Friend telephone 01244 678589.

## For any of the above benefits please complete the application form opposite.

#### PAYMENT

Payment against the application form on page 15 is preferred by cheque, but if you wish to pay by electronic transfer please telephone

0151 648 3258 to obtain our account information.

#### LEGACIES

Please remember Chester Music Society in your will. To discuss legacy donations telephone 01244 381995 or go to *www.cafonline.org* on the web.

#### **GIFT AID**

If you pay UK tax at the standard, or higher, rate, by declaring Gift Aid you will enable the Society to recover additional income from the Government at no additional cost to yourself. If you would like the Society to benefit in this way please sign the Gift Aid declaration on the opposite page.

#### DATA PROTECTION

Information about Society members is kept for administrative purposes only. We maintain a mailing list of members which we may use from time to time to send you details of our activities and those of other local arts organisations. We do not pass your details to third parties.

APPLICATION FORM
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	Price	No.	Cost £
SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTION	£11		
CLUB Series Season Tickets: (7 concerts)	£20		
CELEBRITY Series Season Tickets: (6 concerts)	£49		
CHOIR (To Sing) (Students in Full Time Education: half price)	£102 £51		
FRIEND OF CELEBRITY CONCERTS (£30 single/£40 couple)			
VOLUNTARY DONATION			
TOTAL (Including Society Subscription from Line 1 above)			

Name(s).....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Email.....

giftaid it I would like Chester Music Society to reclaim the tax on any eligible donations or membership subscriptions that I have already made, or will make, until further notice. I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed.....

Please fill in this form and send it with your cheque, made payable to Chester Music Society, to:

**Philip Josling, 10 Cestrian Drive, Thingwall, Wirral, CH61 9PL** (from whom extra copies of this form are available on request: 0151 648 3258)



## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## WHEELCHAIR ACCESS



All venues are accessible by wheelchair. Please make your needs known when booking tickets so that we can ensure you (and your companion if necessary) are provided with appropriate seating.

## JOIN THE CHOIR

The choir meets for rehearsal at 7.30 pm every Thursday during the season at The Queen's School, City Walls Road, Chester, CH1 2NN. New members in all voice parts are welcome to attend rehearsals in September or January with a view to taking the audition. More information from Becky Ford: 0151 336 5088, or e-mail choirmembers@chestermusicsociety.org.uk. For choir ticket information email choirtickets@chestermusicsociety.org.uk.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

For General Membership enquiries contact the Society Membership Secretary: 0151 648 3258 or email *membership@chestermusicsociety.org.uk* 

## WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE

to our monthly information email? Just email "Subscribe" to *info@chestermusicsociety.org.uk.* 

**Keep in touch** with the whole Chester music scene: pick up a copy of the Music in Chester leaflet or go to *www.musicinchester.co.uk* 

#### More information

For more information on any of our activities:

Telephone 01244 383455 or email info@chestermusicsociety.org.uk

or visit our web site: www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk

#### Other useful web sites include:

Cheshire West and Chester Council: www.visitchester.com Chester Cathedral: www.chestercathedral.com Chester 360: www.chester360.co.uk/whats-on/ Concert Diary: www.concert-diary.com Gerontius: www.gerontius.net Music in Chester: www.musicinchester.co.uk Storyhouse (Chester Performs): www.storyhouse.com St Mary's Creative Space: www.stmaryscreativespace.co.uk/ Where Can We Go: www.wherecanwego.com/

## The Season at a Glance

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While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure Chester Music Society accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions