

# Proms at St Jude's

## **MUSIC & LITERARY FESTIVAL**

**Saturday 22 June - Sunday 30 June 2024**

### **TO CELEBRATE THE LAUNCH OF THE 32nd YEAR OF THE FESTIVAL**

*The Board of Trustees of Proms at St Jude's welcomes you to*

**A drinks reception and entertainment  
for Benefactors, Friends, Sponsors and Guests**

**7.00 pm Sunday 24 March 2024**

**The Henrietta Barnett School Hall, Central Square,  
Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11 7BN**

**WELCOME: Kate Webster,  
Chair of the Proms Board**

*With music provided by*

**GUS McQUADE**

*Guitar*

**ELEANOR GRANT**

*Voice and Double Bass*

Traditional and original arrangements of songs and  
instrumental music from the 16th to 21st centuries performed  
by a duo of award-winning young artists.

*~ Early music, folk and jazz ~*

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**Susie Gregson MBE, Chief Executive**

## PROGRAMME

John Dankworth (1927-2010) - It was a lover and his lass

Robert Johnson (1583-1633) - Where the bee sucks

John Wilson (1595-1674) - Now the lusty spring is seen

David Shire (born 1937) - Autumn

Eric Wetherell (1925-2021) - How Like a winter

Eric Wetherell - Shall I compare thee?

Rebecca Clarke (1886-1979) - Cherry blossom wand

John Duke (1899-1984) - Loveliest of trees

Elizabeth Maconchy (1907-1994) - Ophelia's song

Robert Johnson (1583-1633) - Have you seen but a white lily grow?

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987) - Sweet Suffolk Owl

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) - The trees they grow so high

Joni Mitchell (born 1943) - Circle Game

## BIOGRAPHIES

Eleanor and Gus formed their duo three years ago as second year undergraduates at the Royal Academy of Music. While working together, they became aware of a mutual passion for exploring multiple genres, from the Renaissance period to the present day, embracing folk and jazz influences.

Eleanor and Gus have written many arrangements for their own special and unusual combination of instruments (guitar, double bass and voice). Their first performance together was at the Royal Academy of Music in an Autumn Guitar Chamber Concert. They presented songs by Dowland, and Eleanor's arrangement of Gershwin's I Got Rhythm. In 2023, Eleanor and Gus became holders of the Musicians Company's prestigious New Elizabethan Award. They made their debut at the Wigmore Hall in February 2023 and have since performed at various festivals and concert venues, most recently being Burgh House (London), Stapleford Granary (Cambridge), and Dillington Guitar Festival. The pair will be recording their debut album with the independent record label Deux-Elles in Autumn 2024.



**Classical guitarist Gus McQuade** was born and educated in Leamington Spa. He recently graduated from the Royal Academy of Music, London, with First Class Honours (BMus) and is currently studying there under Professor Michael Lewin on the Masters course funded by a number of scholarships, including a Help Musicians Postgraduate Award and the Drake Calleja Trust. Recent awards include the Timothy Gibson and Blyth Watson Prizes (2022), and runner-up in both the Leicester Music Competition (2022) and the Royal Classics Guitar Concerto Prize (2020).

Gus has performed in masterclasses with some of the world's leading guitarists, including David Russell, Fabio Zanon, Roberto Aussel and Xeufei Yang and has regularly featured in the Royal Academy of Music's concert series. Notable

performances include Lorenzo Palomo's *Madrigal y Cinco Canciones Serfadiés* (UK premiere) and Sofia Gubaidulina's *Repentance* for three guitars, cello and bass. Gus is passionate about expanding the guitar repertoire and is a keen arranger, writing for both guitar chamber ensemble and solo guitar.

**Eleanor Grant** is an accomplished singer, actress, double bass player and bass guitarist, holding versatility at the core of her identity. She studied at the Royal Academy of Music (double bass scholar) and recently graduated with First Class Honours (BMus). She has played under the baton of several eminent conductors including Gustavo Dudamel, Sakari Oramo, Sir Mark Elder and Edward Gardner. She has played with the English National Opera and with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at The Albert Hall. Theatre productions include Cy Coleman's *City of Angels* (RAM), Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* (RAM), and *Anyone Can Whistle* (Southwark Playhouse 2022), Jason Robert Brown's *The Last Five Years* (Minack Theatre, Cornwall) and Lourds Lane's *SuperYou* (Lyric Theatre 2023). She was the double bass/bass guitar dep for *Standing at the Sky's Edge* at the National Theatre and is currently the electro-acoustic double bass player/singer for the London Symphonic Rock Orchestra.

Eleanor regularly records at AIR, Angel & Abbey Road studios in London, recording vocal solos for composers Ennio Morricone, Rachel Portman, John Debney, Patrick Doyle, and Alan Menken. Recent film soundtracks include Eurovision Song contest: The Story of Fire Saga, Cinderella, Cruella, Puss in Boots and Disney's live- action remakes of Aladdin and The Little Mermaid.

In 2018 Eleanor was the vocal soloist in a film showing of The English Patient LIVE (Avex Classics) with live orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall (with the RPCO). She performed the same concert in China (Shanghai Symphony Orchestra) and in Luxembourg (Orchestre Philharmonie). She travelled to France (2019) and Taiwan (2023) to be the featured soloist in Titanic LIVE. Eleanor was honoured to be invited by Gabriel Yared to be his soprano soloist in a televised gala concert 'Hollywood in Vienna'. Yared was presented with the 2019 Max Steiner Film Music Achievement Award at the concert held at the Vienna Konzerthaus, Austria, and presented by the city annually to a world-renowned film composer. Eleanor returned to Vienna to sing in the 2022 concert (honouring Alan Menken, recipient of the 2022 Award). Eleanor made her solo debut with the BBC Concert orchestra in 2019, recording The Way of Light by Nigel Hess (available on iTunes, Apple Music and multiple streaming platforms) and most recently travelled to Ireland to be a vocal soloist alongside the RTÉ Concert Orchestra for their '100 Years of Disney Music' concerts.

## Help spread the word

Please take further copies of the Proms leaflet to give to your friends and help to spread the word about the Festival.

For full details of the programme, including updates on the Literary Festival and heritage walks, visit our website [www.promsatstjudes.org.uk](http://www.promsatstjudes.org.uk).



@promsatstjudes

We should like to thank all our Patrons, Sponsors, Benefactors, Friends and numerous others who have been working to make this annual festival possible by supporting and helping us in so many different ways.

On this occasion in particular we wish to thank:

Mandy Watts, Acting Head Teacher, and The Henrietta Barnett School

Mike Eleftheriadis, photography

RAISING FUNDS FOR TOYNBEE HALL, NORTH LONDON HOSPICE  
AND EDUCATION OUTREACH

**Patrons:** Sir Rodric Braithwaite GCMG, Henry Kelly,  
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