

Historic music in historic churches – early and Baroque music for voices and period instruments

THE
Suffolk Villages Festival



27 – 30 August 2021

Artistic Director: Peter Holman MBE



HADLEIGH SUDBURY
EAST BERGHOLT

A message from the Artistic Director

Welcome to the 2021 Suffolk Villages Festival. We are delighted to be back in action after more than a year of enforced inactivity, and I'd like to thank all our supporters for helping us to keep going in this difficult time.

We don't know at the time of going to press whether there will still be Coronavirus restrictions in August, so we've had to plan our programme according to current government guidelines, with one-hour concerts, socially distanced for performers and audiences.

Nevertheless, we have a full and exciting programme for you. On Friday we explore some of the wonderful Vespers music Monteverdi wrote in later life, together with music by his colleagues at St Mark's in Venice. Steven Devine's ongoing series of Saturday Bach concerts is focussed on the two superb but rarely performed concertos for three harpsichords, while Helen Charlston's celebrity recital on Sunday takes us from Monteverdi to Haydn. Joglearesa take us on an entertaining romp through Mediaeval music on Monday morning, while Ricardo Barros and Kath Waters bring the vanished world of Baroque dance vividly to life. As always, there is much to enjoy!



Peter Holman

Now in its 33rd year, the Suffolk Villages Festival brings high-quality performances of early music to rural East Anglia. Its principal venues are the fine historic wool churches of Stoke by Nayland, Boxford, Nayland, Hadleigh and Sudbury, situated to the north of the River Stour and Dedham Vale.

The area is easily reached by road from London and the Suffolk coast via the A12, and from the Midlands via the A14. The nearest mainline railway stations are Colchester and Ipswich. The website www.visitsuffolk.com lists local accommodation. Alternatively, please contact the Tourist Information Centre: The Library, Market Hill, Sudbury, CO10 2EN. Telephone: 01787 881320.

The Suffolk Villages Festival
Registered Charity No. 1102789
119 Maldon Road
Colchester CO3 3AX

01206 543417 (please note new number)

www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com
info@suffolkvillagesfestival.com
[@suffolkvf](https://www.instagram.com/suffolkvf)

Friday 27 August at 6pm
St Mary's Church, Hadleigh IP7 5DT

Venetian Vespers Circa 1640 Monteverdi and his followers

Philippa Hyde *soprano*
Faye Newton *soprano*
Charles Daniels *tenor*
Stuart O'Hara *bass*

members of Psalmody
The John Jenkins Consort
directed by Peter Holman *organ*



In the 1620s and 30s Monteverdi and his followers at St Mark's in Venice created a new type of church music, full of operatic drama, virtuosity and expression. This programme recreates a sequence of music for Vespers as it might have been sung at Mark's around 1640. It includes psalms by Monteverdi, with the famous setting of 'Beatus vir', and his talented but short-lived follower Giovanni Antonio Rigatti, concluding with Rigatti's grand seven-part setting of the Magnificat. There will also be music by Alessandro Grandi and Francesco Cavalli.

The concert features some of the distinguished solo singers assembled for our projected performance of Monteverdi's opera *L'Orfeo*, postponed for another year because of the pandemic.

Supported by the SVF Monteverdi Project Fund

Tickets £15, half-price for full-time students

Friday 27 August at 4.45pm
United Reformed Church, The Market Place, Hadleigh IP7 5DL
(free admission to concert ticket-holders but prior booking required)

'A thieving, cheating he-goat': Monteverdi and his work as Director of Music at St Mark's
A talk by Dr Bryan White, University of Leeds

**pre-concert
talk**



Saturday 28 August at 6pm
St Peter's, Sudbury CO10 2EH

J. S. Bach
Concertos for Three Harpsichords
Brandenburg Concerto No. 4

Steven Devine, Claire Williams
Satoko Doi-Luck *harpsichord*
Tassilo Erhardt *violin*

The John Jenkins Consort
directed by Steven Devine

Johann Sebastian Bach's two concertos for three harpsichords, in D minor BWV 1063 and C major BWV 1064, are rarely performed live, though they are rich and satisfying works; the C Major is one of the finest of all Baroque concertos. Bach seems to have arranged them in the 1740s from earlier string concertos to play with his sons in Leipzig concerts. We contrast them with Steven Devine's scintillating new arrangement for three harpsichords of the famous Toccata and Fugue in D minor. The programme is completed by Brandenburg Concerto no. 4, with its dazzling violin solo and obligato recorder parts.

Steven Devine is one of the world's leading early music specialists, celebrated as a soloist as well as a director of leading ensembles here and abroad. Tassilo Erhardt and Claire Williams are regular members of SVF's team of soloists. They are joined by Satoko Doi-Luck, a distinguished Japanese harpsichordist and composer, working in London.

Tickets £15, half-price for full-time students

Saturday 28 August at 4.45pm
Quaker Meeting House, 22 Friars Street, Sudbury CO10 2AA
(free admission to concert ticket-holders but prior booking required)

J.S. Bach and the Concerto

A talk by Professor Peter Holman, Festival Artistic Director

**pre-concert
talk**

Sunday 29 August at 6pm
St Peter's, Sudbury CO10 2EH

Celebrity Recital
Music for the list'ning soul
from Monteverdi to Haydn

Helen Charlston *mezzo-soprano*
Terence Charlston *harpsichord*



Helen Charlston has delighted SVF audiences over the last few years, notably as Juno in Eccles's *Semele*, as Penelope in Monteverdi's *Il ritorno d'Ulisse* and as the soloist in our first post-lockdown concert. She is a rising star of the early music scene, winning first prize in the 2018 Handel Singing Competition. She is joined by her father Terence, who gave the fascinating clavichord lecture recital at the last festival.

They explore the richly rewarding mezzo-soprano repertory from Monteverdi and his contemporaries Francesca Caccini and Barbara Strozzi, both famous singers, to Haydn's great cantata *Arianna a Naxos*, which enraptured London audiences in 1791. Along the way they perform music by John Blow, Henry and Daniel Purcell, Handel and Haydn's pupil Marianne Martinez.

'A key performer in the next generation of British singers', *The Daily Telegraph*

Supported by the Anthony King Memorial Fund

Tickets £15, half-price for full-time students

Sunday 29 August at 7.15pm
Quaker Meeting House, 22 Friars Street, Sudbury CO10 2AA
(free admission to Festival attendees but prior booking required)

Baroque Dance

Ricardo Barros in conversation with Peter Holman

Monday 30 August at 11am
St Peter's, Sudbury CO10 2EH

Joglaresa Boogie Knights

Belinda Sykes *voice, recorder
& director*

Victoria Couper *voice*

May Robertson *fidel & voice*

Jeremy Avis *voice & percussion*

Hazel Askew *voice & harp*

Elsa Bradley *dulcimer & percussion*

Jordan Murray *dulcimer & percussion*



A romp through the Middle Ages, where the knights are villainous, the dancers seductive and even the lullabies are groovy. This programme includes Mediaeval hits such as Machaut's 'Douce dame jolie' and 'Cuncti simus concanentes' alongside lesser-known pieces such as 'De muitas guisas' ('The imprisoned knight'), 'Ali u a penedenca' ('The thieving knight') and 'Sempr' acha Sancta Maria' ('The knight castrated by the Virgin Mary'), all performed with the group's inimitable energy and cheer.

Joglaresa is one of Britain's leading Medieval groups, regularly touring the world from Amsterdam to the Yemen. It is renowned for transcending boundaries, drawing on Irish, English, Maghrebi, Balkan and Middle Eastern traditions to inform its innovative approach to European Mediaeval music.

'Never a dull moment ... brilliantly off-kilter', *BBC Music Magazine*

**Supported by a grant from
the Continuo Foundation**

Tickets £15, half-price for full-time students



Monday 30 August at 6pm
East Bergholt High School CO7 6RJ

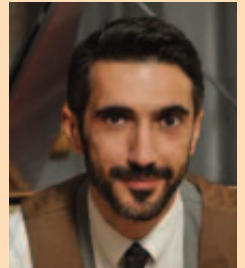
La Danse
Baroque Dance and Music
from Versailles

dancers
Ricardo Barros
Kath Waters

members of Essex Baroque Orchestra
directed by Peter Holman *harpsichord*



Ricardo Barros makes a welcome return to SVF after his very successful performances in 2017. He has an extraordinary ability to bring the vanished world of Baroque dance vividly to life, drawing on his research into the ways it expressed the passions as a type of formal rhetoric.



In this programme Ricardo and his dancing partner Kath Waters explore masterpieces of French Baroque dance. It features Jean-Féry Rebel's *Les caractères de la danse* (1715), a famous vehicle for virtuoso ballerinas, as well as pieces by Jean-Baptiste Lully, André Campra and Marin Marais featuring some original choreographies. There will also be music by Marc-Antoine Charpentier, Michel-Richard de Lalande and others, colourfully scored for recorders, flutes, bassoon, strings and continuo.



'It was like watching old prints come to life', *Dance Europe*

Tickets £15, half-price for full-time students

Hear Ricardo Barros talk about Baroque dance on Sunday 29 August
(see previous page for full details)

BOOKING INFORMATION

Booking opens on 7 July to Supporters (Friends, Patrons and Benefactors) of Suffolk Villages Festival, and on 12 July to the general public. To book tickets, please visit the website at www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com or telephone the box office on **01206 543417** (please note new number).

Please note that we are no longer issuing paper tickets. You will receive email or postal confirmation with your allocated seat numbers, together with information about the special arrangements currently in place for our concerts.

Festival season ticket

£67 for all five concerts, a saving of more than 10%. Please note that the season ticket does not automatically include the pre-concert talks, which are free but should be booked separately.

concessions

Half-price tickets are available to full-time students.

seating

All seats will be reserved, allocated on a first-come-first-served basis and will conform to the government social distancing guidelines in place at the time of the Festival.

refunds

We regret that refunds can only be given if the concert is sold out and we are able to sell on the ticket.

programme

If government guidelines allow, we will be producing a full Festival programme that will be available to pre-order (at a reduced price) and collect at the Festival. Please check our website for the most up-to-date information or join our emailing list for regular updates – this can be done via the Mailing List page on our website.

Every effort will be made to adhere to the advertised programme but please note that the organisers reserve the right to amend or cancel any part.

venue information

Public car parks are clearly signposted in Hadleigh and Sudbury but for ease of navigation we suggest Magdalen Road car park in Hadleigh (IP7 5AD) and North Street car park in Sudbury (CO10 1JG). You are welcome to use the car park at East Bergholt High School (CO7 6RJ). Toilet facilities are available at or near all venues.

SUFFOLK VILLAGES FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE

01206 543417

info@suffolkvillagesfestival.com

www.suffolkvillagesfestival.com



Cover illustration:

Henri de Gissey, *Louis XIV as Apollo*, 1653