



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS INTERNATIONAL CONCERT SERIES**

Friday 23 February - Sunday 25 February  
Clothworkers Centenary Concert Hall

# **Leeds Emerging Artist Festival 2024**

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**Friday 23 February, 1:05pm**

## **Student Showcase**

### ***Programme***

Performed by **Lucy Pullan** (clarinet) and **Daniel Gordon** (piano):

**Gerald Finzi** - Clarinet Concerto, op 31

1. Allegro vigoroso
2. Adagio ma senza rigore
3. Rondo: Allegro giocoso

Performed by **Milana Sarukhanyan** (voice) and **Ben Finlay** (piano):

Improvisation on Ukrainian Folk Songs

**Friday 23 February, 7:00pm**

## **Jazz, Pop & Musical Theatre in Clothworkers Bar**

### ***Programme***

Performed by **Ella Fairley** (voice) and **Daniel Gordon** (piano):

**Jule Styne** - Being Good Isn't Good Enough, from Hallelujah, Baby!

**David Javerbaum** - Screw Loose, from Cry Baby

**George and Ira Gershwin** - Someone to Watch Over Me, from Oh, Kay!

**Frank Loesser** - Adelaide's Lament, from Guys and Dolls

Performed by **Leah Welsh** (voice, piano, guitar)

**Leah Welsh** - Lakeside View

**Leah Welsh** - Losing Faith

**Leah Welsh** - My Ballad

**Leah Welsh** - Dear Little Brother

Performed by **Liberty Overall** (voice) and **Daniel Gordon** (piano):

**Amy Winehouse** - Love is a Losing Game

**Anaïs Mitchell** - Flowers, from Hometown

**Ella Fitzgerald** - My Funny Valentine

**Amy Winehouse** - Back to Black

Performed by **Angelina Bonetti** (voice) and **Daniel Gordon** (piano):

**Billie Holiday** - Body and Soul

**J. Russel Robinson** - St Louis Gal

**Etta James** - I'd Rather Go Blind

**Brandi Carlile** - The Joke

Performed by **Eszter Vida** (voice, guitar):

**Eszter Vida** - Kingdom

**Eszter Vida** - Paper Rounds

**Eszter Vida** - Ethereal

**The Cranberries** - Linger

Performed by **Lucy Evers** (voice), **George Pilling** (piano) and

**Ollie Cotton** (bass):

**Corrine Bailey Rae** - Till it happens to you

**Amy Winehouse** - Will you still love me tomorrow

**Brooks Bowman** - East of the Sun (and West of the Moon)

**Harry Warren** - There will never be another you

**Charlie Parker** - Yardbird Suite

**Olivia Dean** - Dangerously Easy

**Sunday 25 February, 2:45pm**

## **Pre-concert talk: Marsyas Trio**

The School of Music FUAM Ensemble in Residence, Marsyas Trio, discuss their work, repertoire, and the history of music for the flute, cello and piano ensemble.

**Sunday 25 February, 3:30pm**

## **Sunday with the Marsyas Trio**

### ***Programme***

Performed by **Marsyas Trio**:

**Carl Czerny** - Fantasia Concertante, op 256

Performed by **Keqiao Yu**:

**Ludwig van Beethoven** - Piano Sonata no 17, "The Tempest" op 31, no 2, first movement

Performed by **Mhairi Sharp** (soprano) and **Helen Vidovich** (flute):

**Albert Roussel** - 2 Poèmes de Ronsard, op 26

Rossignol mon mignon

Ciel, aer, et vens

Performed by **Oliver Heath** (tenor) and **Dan Gordon** (piano):

**Roger Quilter** - Three Shakespeare Songs

Come Away, Death

O Mistress Mine

Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind

Performed by **Naomi Simms** (piano) and **Olga Stezhko** (piano):  
**Claude Debussy** - En Bateau from Petite Suite

***Interval***

Performed by **Heidi Hooper** (soprano) and **Dan Gordon** (piano):  
**Samuel Barber** - Hermit Songs, op 29

At St Patrick's Purgatory  
Church Bell at Night  
St Ita's Vision  
The Heavenly Banquet  
The Crucifixion  
Sea Snatch  
Promiscuity  
The Monk and his Cat  
The Praises of God  
The Desire for Hermitage

Performed by **Marsyas Trio**:

**Mel Bonis** - Scènes de la forêt, op 123 – Marsyas Trio 8'

Nocturne  
À l'aube

Performed by **Ava Lewis** (soprano) and **Marsyas Trio**:

**Ludwig van Beethoven** - Welsh Songs, WoO 155

The fair maid of mona  
Cupid's Kindness  
The Parting Kiss

# Biographies

**Lucy Pullan** is a third year joint honours Music and English student from North Yorkshire. She began playing clarinet around age 8, because she was too small to play saxophone. She has performed in the Sage in Gateshead, as well as going on tour in Germany and Prague and has participated in National Youth Orchestra Inspire days. She achieved her ARSM diploma on clarinet in 2021. As part of her degree, she studies performance on clarinet, her preferred instrument.

**Milana Sarukhanyan** is a classical singer, improviser, and a vocal coach. Her speciality is Bel Canto opera, classical and contemporary vocal repertoire and free improvisation. Her recent performance of Bertha in the Barber of Seville "added to an already silky layer of sound." (Telegraph & Argus). Despite her rich artistic background in opera and chamber vocal repertoire, she is a passionate advocate of free improvisation and experimental staging. As an improviser, Milana has appeared on stages such as: Cafè OTO (London), Nilsson (Düsseldorf), Witzli-Poetzli (Antwerp), and the Hundred Years Gallery (London). In 2022, she became a member of London Improvisers Orchestra.

**Ben Finlay** is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, and conductor based in Leeds, UK. Having studied cello at the Royal Academy of Music, Ben's expertise ranges from historical performance to premiering new works. Ben is currently studying for a masters in Critical and Experimental Composition at the University of Leeds. His compositional language focuses on integrating live instrumental music with the sound worlds of synthesisers, field recording, and popular electronic music styles. In 2022, Ben began learning the viola da gamba and helped found the Londinium Consort, a group focused on exploring the music of the renaissance period through new eyes.

**Ella Fairley** is a second year BA Music student. With a passion for musical theatre, she has performed in many productions and recently directed a show for Stage Musicals Society here in Leeds. Through studying music at university, she has diversified her repertoire, branching out into more jazz elements of musical theatre, which she hopes is



apparent in her set. Last summer Ella had the exciting opportunity to perform at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with the University union's a cappella group, The Songsmiths.

From Liverpool, **Leah Welsh** is a third year BA Music student at the University of Leeds. She is a singer-songwriter who takes her personal experiences and shares them through her music to relate to others.

**Liberty Overall** is a final year music student at the University of Leeds. Over the last few years she has been exploring her love for singing a wide range of genres, especially jazz and musical theatre, which she will be showcasing in LEAF! Alongside her studies she is a member of The Songsmiths, the University's A Cappella society, where she is both a musical director and social media manager! She will also be releasing a single within the next few months, so if you like what you hear, head to her instagram @liberty.overall to stay updated!

**Angelina Bonetti** is a second year music student at the University of Leeds. She began singing at the age of nine, and hopes to sing for the rest of her life.

**Eszter Vida** is a singer-songwriter from Warrington, studying BA English and Music at the University of Leeds. Having always loved storytelling and writing as well as singing, music became an obvious intersection of self-expression from a very young age. The release of her indie-rock EP 'Turning Sour' and subsequent single 'Kingdom' catapulted her into playing shows at the likes of Hyde Park Book Club, the Lending Room and Royal Park Pub in Leeds, alongside her bandmates who bring an eclectic and exciting live atmosphere to the shows. So far, she has been featured on BBC Introducing West Yorkshire twice and is gaining momentum as an artist after such a short time in the city. Influences include Wolf Alice, Joni Mitchell, The Cranberries, Suzanne Vega, The Cure.

**Lucy Evers** is a second year Music with Enterprise student. Her first instrument is voice and over the last few years she has become really interested in listening to, and singing jazz. She takes inspiration from jazz

singers such as Veronica Swift and Diana Krall, and admires how they blend traditional jazz elements and technique, with a more contemporary feel. She hopes this approach translates through her performance.

**Keqiao Yu** is a third-year music and music psychology student from China, learning piano from age five. He achieved awards at various international piano competitions in both China and Japan prior to university. At Leeds, he has achieved a first in all performance exams, is the accompanist of a higher voice choir and instrumental ensemble, and has created piano covers of various music (on Bilibili). Piano is an inseparable part of Keqiao's life.

Scottish soprano **Mhairi Sharp** began her musical training with the National Youth Choir of Scotland before undertaking her musical studies at the University of Aberdeen. Whilst a student at Aberdeen, Mhairi performed regularly as part of the university's Chamber Choir, the St Andrews Cathedral Choir and undertook international tours to New York, France, and Poland. As a member of the university's Chamber Choir, Mhairi had the opportunity to perform for members of the royal family in Braemar. In 2018, Mhairi was a finalist in the prestigious Ogston Music Prize and graduated with a First-Class Honours in Music. Notable performances include Morgana in Handel's Alcina (2018), soloist in Mozart's Requiem (2018) and in Orff's Carmina Burana (2018). Mhairi is currently studying on the MMus Performance course at the University of Leeds under Hilary Thomas.

**Oliver Heath** is a second year music student from Northern Ireland. He is a composer, singer, and conductor and holds an Enhanced Choral Scholarship at Leeds Cathedral, under Tom Leech, allowing him to conduct their various choirs and work in the National School Singing Programme. He is the Concerts Manager, as well as Chamber Choir Conductor, for the Leeds University Union Music Society and is committed to diversifying repertoire and championing more works by living composers in both of these roles.

**Naomi Simms** is a third year music and music psychology student from Bedfordshire. Since beginning violin lessons at the age of 6 and piano lessons from the age of 8, she has spent her musical life being involved

in various school ensembles and playing in regional orchestras, such as the North Bedfordshire Youth Chamber Orchestra and joining local orchestra courses in the holidays. At university, she has been able to join LUUMS' Symphonic Wind Orchestra on piano, has accompanied both a student choir and her course mates on their solo instruments, as well as playing in pit bands. She is currently enjoying being part of the LUUMS string orchestra, SWO, symphony orchestra, sinfonia and concert band.

**Heidi Hooper** is a MA Music Management student who loves singing. Currently, she is a part of LUUMS Chamber Choir as soprano. Outside university, she enjoys regular performances, most recently competing in the David Clover Festival of Singing competition. Heidi has performed with Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble, Bristol University Singers, Bristol University Symphony Orchestra and Bristol University Music Society Chamber Orchestra. As a soloist she has performed as mezzo-soprano in Pergolesi's Stabat Mater, Manuel de Falla's El Amor Brujo as well as performing excerpts of Mozart's Don Giovanni with orchestra. She has also been involved in recording music for an advert which won "Best Re-record or Adaptation in Online, Viral + Ambient Advertising" in 2022. Upcoming for Heidi is a performance in Westminster Abbey with Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble.

**Ava Lewis** is a second year BMus student at the University of Leeds, studying with singing teacher Rachel Horan. Ava sang in the Halle Training Choir, and subsequently, the Halle Youth choir for six years. She has continued her love of choral music through being a part of the Clothworkers Consort in Leeds, led by Bryan White. Ava particularly enjoys singing Baroque repertoire, as well as early romantic music. She has also composed a musical that she is hoping to stage this academic year. After graduation, Ava would like to continue composing and do a Masters degree in singing at a conservatoire.

**Daniel Gordon** is the Répétiteur of the University of Leeds (part-time). He is also the Accompanist and Assistant Chorusmaster of Huddersfield Choral Society, and Conductor of the Huddersfield Singers. He has worked with the Hallé Orchestra (piano), Black Dyke Band (organ and piano), the CBSO chorus (repetiteuring), Manchester Camerata (harpsichord and chamber organ), Westminster Abbey Choir (singing), Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus (honorary member), and many others.

The London-based **Marsyas Trio**, formed of graduates of the Royal Academy of Music - Australian flautist Helen Vidovich, Canadian cellist Valerie Welbanks and Belarusian pianist Olga Stezhko - is one of the UK's foremost mixed chamber ensembles.

For over a decade, the Marsyas Trio has been championing the vast body of repertoire for flute, cello and piano, an instrumental combination which originated in the Classical era with Haydn and Clementi. The medium continued to evolve in tandem with the progress of instrument making, to the modern day where the musical possibilities have never been greater. The Trio continues to develop this tradition through commissioning, and through our commitment to presenting a balanced range of works by historic and living composers, offering audiences an interesting perspective on gender, societal and political themes.

Recent concert highlights include performances at Kettle's Yard, Conway Hall, the Red House Aldeburgh for Britten-Pears Arts and a Northern tour, taking in two full-house concerts at Skipton Town Hall and the King's Hall in Ilkley. The Trio also premiered a family show 'Three Little Mammoths' in Glasgow featuring comedian Janey Godley, with the subsequent performance taking place at the Three Choirs Festival, with Ed Balls as narrator.

The Trio's last album 'In the Theatre of Air' (NMC Recordings 2018) debuted at No. 7 on the classical charts and their next CD will be released on the Métier | Divine Art Recordings label in 2024 featuring collaborations with award-winning mezzo-soprano Lotte Betts-Dean.

The Trio are passionate cross-art collaborators and educators with a portfolio including multimedia projects with the Smoking Apples puppeteers and filmmaker Julian Hand, and various outreach projects for children and teenagers across the UK.

In 2022-24 the Marsyas Trio will be working regularly at the University of Cambridge, through Artist By-Fellowships at Churchill College.

In 2024 the Trio were appointed as the FUAM Ensemble in Residence at the University of Leeds, chosen out of 100 applications.

The Marsyas Trio takes its name from Greek mythology: inspired by the bold, spirited passion of Marsyas, the celebrated pipe-playing satyr who dared to defeat Apollo in a musical contest.