



Martin Read Foundation
presents...

Festival of Contemporary Music
2022

Sunday 1st May
Martin Read Hall
Alton College GU34 2HU



Artwork:
with grateful thanks to
Gill Robinson www.gill-robinson.co.uk

PROGRAMME

3.30pm Composers in Conversation - masterclass-style

5.30pm Picnics - find a spot in the Forum Grounds or, if the weather is unfavourable, in the Martin Read Hall.

6.30pm Festival Concert

MRF is grateful to Alton College for its on-going support of this annual Festival.

Welcome...

to this 8th year of the MRF scheme Supporting 'composers, and associated events.

All our plans went on-line for 2020 & 2021.

Yet out of those restrictions emerged two positives: the usefulness of the *In Conversation* sessions with Judith Weir, patron; and a group of alumni keen to work together to produce new works, despite being distanced. Their determination and skill overcame the obstacle of isolation which was thrust upon us, and produced music and musical experiences of positive emotional impact and hope.

And here we are - in-person, once more. *Re-building* is a theme we have taken on for this year, unsure when first planning, whether it would finally be able to go ahead, or would have to go back on-line. The result is a mix of live, on-line and pre-recorded - of making the best use of technology.

We are very sorry that Alan Bullard, guest composer and teacher, and Alison Willis, composer, mentor & trustee, are not able to join the Festival in-person. They joined the Conversations on Zoom.

The concert will be filled with new music - most pieces receiving their premiere.

MRF issued composing briefs to:

- our alumni, for:
 - *new works reflecting on re-building*
- our award-holders Ella, Naomi & Daniel, for:
 - *new music for piano with electronics to a 4-minute film animation*

3.30pm Composers in Conversation - masterclass-style **ALL WELCOME!**
Ella Laughton, Naomi Dragomir & Daniel Jurado-Hoshino, MRF award-holders '22 in conversation with their mentors: Ali Willis, Simon Speare & Pande Shahov, with Dan Keen - MRF composer-in-residence.

MRF is hugely grateful to it's amazing supporters (you know who you are...!)
Particular thanks to Nich Harvey for his invaluable tech support today.

Funds are needed to ensure the continuation of this unique support for young composers, filling the gap between local music service provision and undergraduate study.

Please consider donating either a one-off amount, or preferably by direct debit.

MRF acc. no.: 67199909 sort code: 089299 www.martinreadfoundation.org Thank you.

Concert programme

Ensemble / film premiere	Concert item	Location on film
MRF Festival choir	<i>Song to the Moon</i> by Alan Bullard, Piano - Alex Ling, Directed by David Gibson.	3.10
Music for Film: <i>Spring</i>	MRF award-holder - Ella Laughton, introduced by Dan Keen	7.56
MRF Festival choir	<i>Warm Summer Sun</i> by Simon Speare, Piano - Sarah Lewin, Directed by David Gibson	13.15
Music for Film: <i>Spring</i>	MRF Award-holder - Naomi Dragomir, introduced by Dan Keen	17.33
MRF Flexible Ensemble	<i>Don't Burn Your Bridges until after you've crossed them</i> Composer-director - Ellen Drewe, MRF alumnus.	23.55
MRF Festival choir	<i>Beati quorum via</i> by Howard Skempton, Directed by David Gibson	29.50
Music for Film: <i>Spring</i>	MRF Award-holder - Daniel Jurado-Hoshino, introduced by Dan Keen	35.05
MRF Festival choir	<i>Sumer is icumen in</i> , with electronics, by Alison Willis, Directed by David Gibson	44.21

Martin Read Foundation

Trustees: Freddie Hodkin, Beccy Read, Simon Speare & Alison Willis

Patrons: Gwyneth Herbert, Howard Skempton and Judith Weir

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Naomi Dragomir MRF award-holder '22

Naomi says: I discovered composition at 13 as a way to express myself when I felt out of place in the country I lived in, and began to compose at my piano. I'm planning on studying music at university, later with a focus on composition. Film music is something I am particularly interested in.

Ellen Drewe MRF alumnus

Ellen is a composer and conductor who recently graduated from the Royal Academy of Music with a First Class Honours. Ellen has received awards for her compositions, including being shortlisted for BBC Young Composer of the Year Award 2016. She is currently the Conductor and Musical Director for the Luna Collective and a core team member for the Martin Read Foundation www.ellendrewe.com

David Gibson Choral director

David began his musical training as a chorister and Lay Clerk in Chichester Cathedral Choir. He has worked a freelance conductor for many years, working with many of the top orchestras in the country,

including the Philharmonia, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, London Mozart Players, The Hanover Band and the New London Sinfonia www.southamptonphil.org/web/DavidGibson

Daniel Jurado-Hoshino MRF award-holder '22

Daniel is 16 years old & lives in London. He's a musician who plays the cello and the piano, and also studies composition at the Royal College of Music Junior Department.

Dan Keen Composer-in-residence '22

Dan Keen is a London-based composer. An in-house composer for sample library developer Spitfire Audio since 2021, and Gary Barlow's music producer since 2020. Alongside this, Dan enjoys creating educational videos on his YouTube channel to a growing audience of thousands. [YouTube.com/dankeenmusic](https://www.youtube.com/dankeenmusic)

Ella Laughton MRF award-holder '22

Ella says: I compose because there is no other feeling like it. In the future, I'd love to be a musical theatre composer, and also write classical works. I also feel really passionately about making classical music more accessible.

Pande Shahov MRF composer mentor

Pande music has been performed by the Macedonian and Sofia Philharmonic Orchestras, Macedonian National Opera Orchestra, Cabrillo Festival Orchestra and New London Chamber Choir. He works as an Assistant Director of Music at Portsmouth Grammar School and Academic Studies Professor at the Royal College of Music. www.pandeshahov.info

Simon Speare MRF trustee & composer mentor

MRF composer mentor Simon Speare is the Head of Composition and Contemporary Music at the RCM Junior Department. He teaches composition at The Purcell School and has lectured and examined at universities and conservatoires. He is an experienced leader of workshops in schools and colleges and an experienced adjudicator and has been a judge for the British Composer Awards. www.simonspeare.co.uk

Alison Willis MRF trustee & composer mentor

Composer and educator now based in the East of England. Loves all things medieval, forgotten voices and English folk song. One husband, four boys, two dogs, five chickens.... www.alisonwillis.com