

Artrix, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire



Exploring Shostakovich

A rare opportunity for you to hear all Shostakovich's string quartets in one weekend.

The Dante Quartet will play all fifteen quartets during the weekend, each performance introduced by Stephen Johnson, plus talks by respected speakers, and a Masterclass for Birmingham Conservatoire students run by Robin Ireland.

The Dante Quartet

Krycia Osostowicz - violin Yuko Inoue - viola
Oscar Perks - violin Richard Jenkinson - cello

Priority Booking is now open for the whole event:

Gold Saver tickets (restricted to 60) will include all events, two lunches and two evening meals: £215

Silver Saver tickets will include all events, no meals: £125

Single tickets are available from 1 March 2018 from Artrix.

Student tickets are free for any event. Book through jimpage@btinternet.com or in person on the day.

Each concert during the weekend will be introduced by Stephen Johnson, who will talk about the quartets to be played in the context of Shostakovich's life in Russia.

Friday 26 October 2018

5.30 pm no charge Keynote talk : *The Man and his Music*
Stephen Johnson followed by Quartet No.1 played by the **Dante Quartet**

7.00 pm Supper for Gold Savers

8.15 pm £20.00 Concert 2, introduced by **Stephen Johnson**
Dante Quartet Quartet No. 2
Quartet No. 3

Saturday 27 October

10.00 am £5.00 **Alan George** talking about
Meeting Shostakovich

11.15 am £20.00 Concert 3
Stephen Johnson followed by
Dante Quartet Quartet No. 4
Quartet No. 5
Quartet No. 6

1.00 pm Lunch for Gold Savers

2.30 pm £5.00 **Elizabeth Wilson**, author of *Shostakovich, A Life Remembered*, in conversation with
David Curtis

4.00 pm £10.00 **Masterclass with Robin Ireland**
Student quartet from Birmingham Conservatoire

6.00-6.30 £5.00 Concert 4
Stephen Johnson on the composer's private life followed by
Dante Quartet Quartet No. 7

6.40 pm Supper for Gold Savers

7.45 pm £20.00 Concert 5
Stephen Johnson followed by
Dante Quartet Quartet No. 8
Quartet No. 9
Quartet No. 10

9.00-11.45 no charge **David Rudkin**, screenwriter, introduces
Testimony, Tony Palmer's 1987 film.

Sunday 28 October

10.00 am £5 **Roderick Swanston**
DSCH - A Haunting Metaphor

11.15 am £20.00 Concert 6
Stephen Johnson followed by
Dante Quartet Quartet No. 11
Quartet No. 12
Quartet No. 13

12.45 pm Lunch for Gold Savers

2.00 pm £5.00 Forum: **Stephen Johnson** (Chairman),
David Rudkin, **Roderick Swanston** and
Elizabeth Wilson

3.30 pm £20.00 Concert 7
Stephen Johnson followed by
Dante Quartet Quartet No. 14
Quartet No. 15

Saver tickets

Gold Saver tickets may very quickly sell out as there are only 60 available. It may help if you send an 'open' cheque giving an upper limit, to save phone calls should Gold Savers sell out.

There is no numbers restriction on **Silver Savers**.

Saver tickets are only available by post and cheque from Exploring Shostakovich
2 College Walk, Bromsgrove B60 2ND.
(email jimpage@btinternet.com; 01527 872422) £

Please send me Gold Saver tickets @ £215
..... Silver Saver tickets @ £125

Any donation would be very gratefully accepted!

I enclose SAE and cheque to *Festive Classics*. Total £.....
Please also fill in your name and address below and return the form to 2 College Walk, Bromsgrove B60 2ND.

Single tickets

Available from 1 March 2018 from Artrix Box Office

Postal address: School Drive, Bromsgrove B60 1AX
or ring 01527 577330 for credit card booking
or book online: www.artrix.co.uk

Friday 26 October £

..... tickets for Opening Concert @ no charge

..... tickets for Concert 2 @ £20

Saturday 27 October

..... tickets for Alan George @ £5

..... tickets for Concert 3 @ £20

..... tickets for Elizabeth Wilson @ £5

..... tickets for Masterclass @ £10

..... tickets for Concert 4 @ £5

..... tickets for Concert 5 @ £20

Sunday 28 October

..... tickets for Roderick Swanston @ £5

..... tickets for Concert 6 @ £20

..... tickets for Forum @ £5

..... tickets for Concert 7 @ £20

Any donation would be very gratefully received!

Name(s) Total £

Address

.....

email phone

Please don't forget SAE !



Festive Classics presents

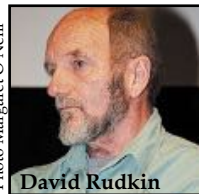
Exploring Shostakovich

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975) wrestled with fate all his life and it is his ability to triumph over crippling misfortunes that helped to make him a great composer who dominated the musical world during his lifetime.

Written between the 1930s and the 1970s, Shostakovich's fifteen string quartets span his whole career, and relate to the difficulties of life in Soviet Russia, on war and the holocaust.



Robin Ireland



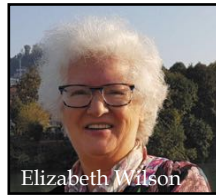
David Rudkin

Photo Margaret O'Neill

Festive Classics is grateful for financial support from The Elmley Foundation, a generous anonymous donor, and Bromsgrove District Council.



Stephen Johnson



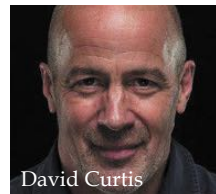
Elizabeth Wilson



Alan George



Roderick Swanston



David Curtis

We are grateful to Arturo Espinosa for his drawing of Shostakovich

General Information

BROMSGROVE is easy to visit by car, being almost at the centre of the Midlands motorway system. It is 10 minutes from the M5 and M42, less than 2 hours from the M25, 1½ hours from Manchester and from Bristol. There are fairly frequent **trains** to Bromsgrove, but you can't rely on there being a taxi at the station - two firms to ring beforehand are 01527 837222 and 01527 570707.

ARTRIX, Slideslow Drive, Bromsgrove **B60 1PQ**
Artrix is well signed, just off the A38 Bromsgrove bypass. Bromsgrove's arts centre was designed with the performance of music in mind and the acoustics are excellent for string quartets. There is a large foyer and a bar for sandwiches, coffee, alcoholic and soft drinks. Meals for Gold Savers will be in the building. The seating for the Shostakovich weekend will be unnumbered so you can choose where to sit for each concert once you have seen the hall.

ACCESS for wheelchairs at Artrix is easy, but it would be helpful to know beforehand. 01527 577330

PARKING is plentiful and free.

ACCOMMODATION

We would advise booking accommodation early. The Bromsgrove Central Premier Inn is three minutes walk across Artrix car park. There are numerous other hotels, but very few b&bs. Regrettably there is no Bromsgrove TIC but Droitwich TIC have a useful list of hotels in the area (01905 774312). Otherwise the internet is probably the easiest way to find what would suit you. Try www.visitworcestershireshire.org

Festive Classics has organised the weekend in association with Bromsgrove Concerts & Birmingham Conservatoire.

FURTHER INFORMATION: 01527 872422

Box Office for Saver tickets on sale now:
2 College Walk, Bromsgrove B60 2ND.

Box Office for single tickets after 1 March:
Artrix 01527 577330 or www.artrix.co.uk

www.festiveclassics.co.uk

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Friday 26th to Sunday 28th October 2018

Bromsgrove is Exploring Shostakovich



The Dante Quartet

Stephen Johnson

Elizabeth Wilson

Alan George

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Robin Ireland David Rudkin



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