



Shipleys Arts Festival

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www.shipleysartsfestival.co.uk www.BMGLive.com

The Blue Idol Friday 8th June for 7.30 pm

A celebration of William Penn, his legacy and Quaker life in 2018, 300 years since his death.

Welcome

Reading

This year we are celebrating the tercentenary of William Penn's death. He was one of the most famous and influential early Quakers. Among his many achievements was the foundation of Pennsylvania, his "Holy Experiment", the colony in America where people were allowed to worship without fear of persecution. Yet he also spent a large part of his life in Sussex, where he lived in a house at Warminghurst near the village of Thakeham. Until the establishment of proper Quaker Meeting Houses, Friends would assemble at other members' homes, and after their arrival at Warminghurst in 1676, the Penn household was also made available for this purpose. Warminghurst came into the area of the Horsham Monthly Meeting, and when Penn left England in 1682 for his first visit to America, he took with him many Quakers from the local area.

In 1691 he helped to buy a property at Coolham, where the Thakeham Meeting House was established. This is where we are now - the Blue Idol, and as you know this famous building is still being used as a place of Quaker worship. It receives many visitors, often from the United States, who, among other things, come to experience the atmosphere of this beautifully restored building.

Christop Willibald Gluck: Concerto in G Major for Flute and Strings: Allegro non Molto, Adagio, and Allegro Comodo

Reading

William Penn founded Pennsylvania on the principle that all religions would be free, so that every person could have freedom of thought, worship, expression,

and conscience. This was in stark contrast to what was happening here, where in 1661 there were 4,200 Quakers in prison because of their faith and their refusal to sign oaths. William Penn believed in the power of acceptance and tolerance.

Reading

Here at home, William Penn was arrested several times. In 1670 he was accused of preaching before a gathering in the street. A recently renewed act denied the right of assembly to "more than five persons in addition to members of the family, for any religious purpose not according to the rules of the Church of England". Penn pleaded for his right to see a copy of the charges laid against him and the laws he had supposedly broken, but the judge, Thomas Howel, refused, although this was a right guaranteed by law. Furthermore, the judge directed the jury to come to a verdict without hearing the defence.

Despite heavy pressure from Howel to convict Penn, the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty". When invited by the judge to reconsider their verdict and to select a new foreman, they refused and were sent to a cell to mull over their decision. The Lord Mayor then told the jury, "You shall go together and bring in another verdict, or you shall starve". Penn was sent to Newgate prison, on a charge of contempt of court for refusing to remove his hat, but the full jury followed him, and they were additionally fined the equivalent of a year's wages each. The members of the jury, fighting their case from prison, managed to win the right for all English juries to be free from the control of judges. This case was one of the more important trials that shaped the concept of jury nullification and was a victory for the use of the writ of habeas corpus as a means of freeing those unlawfully detained. William Penn believed in justice.

Cecilia McDowall: 'Descending Blue' (A 2008 Shipley Arts Festival commission) for Flute and Strings

Interval

Reading

The "Peace Treaty" between William Penn and the Native Americans was reported to have ended with these words of the Native Americans.

"We will be brethren, my people and your people, as the children of one father. All the paths shall be open to the Christian and the Indian. The doors of the Christian shall be open to the Indian and the wigwam of the Indian shall be open to the Christian.

The Christian shall believe no false stories, the Indian shall believe no false stories, they shall first come together as brethren and inquire of each other; when they hear such false stories they shall bury them in the bottomless pit.

The Christian hearing news that may hurt the Indian, or the Indian hearing news that may hurt the Christian, shall make it known the one to the other, as speedily as possible, as true friends and brethren.

The Indian shall not harm the Christian, nor his friend; the Christian shall not harm the Indian, nor his friend; but they shall live together as brethren. As there are wicked people in all Nations; if the Indian or the Christian shall harm the one or the other, complaint shall be made by the sufferer, that right may be done; and when right is done, the wrong shall be forgotten, and buried in the bottomless pit.

The Indian shall help the Christian, and the Christian shall help the Indian, against all evil men, who would molest them.

We will transmit this League between us to our children. It shall be made stronger and stronger, and be kept bright and clean without rust or spot, between our children and our children's children, while the creeks and rivers run, and while the sun, moon, and stars endure." William Penn believed in equality and the power of dialogue.

J.S. Bach: Trio sonata for Flute and Continuo BMV 1035

Reading

We are too ready to retaliate, rather than forgive, or gain by Love and Information. And yet we could hurt no Man that we believe loves us. Let us then try what Love will do: For if Men did once see we Love them, we should soon find they would not harm us. Force may subdue, but Love gains: And he that forgives first, wins the Lawrel. If I am even with my Enemy, the Debt is paid; but if I forgive it, I oblige him for ever. *Some Fruits of Solitude In Reflections And Maxims 1693* William Penn believed in peace.

Reading and silence

William Penn said "I expect to pass through life but once. If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again." As we take a minute or two in silence on this Friday evening to reflect on this week you might like to recall a kindness you have been shown or a good thing that someone has done for you. For kindness is good for us all.

J.S. Bach: Movements from Suite No.2 in B minor, BWV 1067

Words by Chrissie McGinn and Richard Hewitt

Bernardi Music Group:

Andrew Bernardi, Andy Laing, Virginia Slater, Jonathan Few and Bruce Martin

Forthcoming Festival Concerts:

Friday 15 June 2018 7.00pm

Boxgrove Priory, Church Lane, Boxgrove, Chichester PO18 0ED.

Directed by Andrew Cleary with Bernardi Music Group and Crispian Steele Perkins.

Handel: Cuckoo and Nightingale Concerto for organ

Albinoni: 'Adagio'

Bach: Brandenburg Concerto no.4

Bach: Brandenburg Concerto no.2

Interval auction by Revd Rupert Toovey

In aid of Winston's Wish.

Tickets: £41.50 (including a flute of Nyetimber on arrival)

Sunday 17 June 2018 for 5.00pm

Knepp Castle, West Grinstead, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 8LJ.

The Wilding Concert with The Stradivarius Piano Trio.

Sally Beamish: Carnival Samba

Grieg: Andante con moto in C minor

Debussy: Prélude No. X, 'La cathédrale engloutie' - solo piano

Granados: Goyescas IV Quejas o la Maja y el Ruiseñor - The Maiden and the Nightingale - solo piano

John Ireland/Roderick Williams: 'Sea Fever' - solo piano

Roderick Williams: A Piano Trio inspired by the Knepp Turtle Doves (a 2018 Shipley Arts Festival commission sponsored by Life Friend John Snelling)

Bach: Sheep May Safely Graze

Mussorgsky: Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks from Pictures at an Exhibition

Schubert: Notturmo D897 in E flat

Tickets: £41.50 (including Nyetimber wine tastings)

Friday 22 June 2018 7.30pm

Lackenhurst, Lackenhurst Lane, Brooks Green, West Sussex RH13 0JL.

Joe Townsend Band and Bernardi Music Group.

Jazz violin from Bach through Bartok to Django Reinhardt - jazz, swing and gypsy sounds from the Joe Townsend Band.

"Townsend's music is an authoritative compendium of European folk styles played with thrilling virtuosity." The Guardian

Tickets: £36.50 (including canapés and drinks)