

# **Clifton Harrison**

16 July 2021



#### Introduction

Our free Friday lunchtime concerts at Bishopsgate Institute are back. Join us as we welcome Clifton Harrison, who presents a solo viola programme which combines the old and the new, taking us from Baroque repertoire to the latest contemporary sounds.

Follow us on a journey through nine concerts taking in a range of musical genres, from the traditional to the unexpected. Over the course of the series, you will hear three groups of instruments - strings, percussion and electronics - presented and combined in different ways. Every week we ask our performers to respond to a theme suggested by the collections in our world famous Library and curate their programme around it.



Find out what inspired the artists

#### **Programme**

#### Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Prelude in G Minor for Solo Viola, ZN 773 (Originally for Violin)

#### Domenico Gabrielli (1651-1690)

Ricercar Primo for Solo Viola from Seven
Ricercare (1689)

(Originally for Violoncello)

#### Nicola Matteis (1650-1714)

Prelude and Fantasia from Ayres for the Viola (1676) (Originally for Violin)

#### Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Elegy for Solo Viola (1944)

#### Kaija Saariaho (b.1952)

Vent Nocturne for Viola and Electronics (2006)



Credit: London and Middlesex Archaeological Society (LAMAS)



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Bishopsgate Institute Archive

#### Inspired by our archives

Our special collections and archives hold more than one million photographs. Many of these images depict scenes of industrial unrest or protest marches, but we also have thousands of photographs that document London's changing landscape. Today's concert takes inspiration from a set of these photographs.

In the early twentieth century, members of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society (LAMAS) set out with cameras to photograph the Capital's buildings, streets and waterways. The glass slides they produced have since been digitised, providing a comprehensive visual record of a city that appears at once both familiar and strange. The images documenting the West End after dark are especially atmospheric.

#### Meet the artist

American viola and viola d'amore player Clifton Harrison has performed as a chamber musician, recitalist, and in orchestras throughout Europe, the United States, Central America, and Asia. He is the viola player in the acclaimed Kreutzer Quartet with whom he has recorded extensively. As a member of the quartet, Clifton is currently artist-in-residence at Oxford University. He has been artist-in-residence at Goldsmiths, Southampton, and Bath Spa University and continues a close association with the Royal Northern College of Music.

Clifton is a graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy, America"s oldest and most prestigious boarding school for the arts. This was followed by studies at the Juilliard School with Dorothy Delay (violin) and Karen Tuttle (viola) and at the Royal Academy of Music with Yuko Inoue (modern viola) and Jane Rogers (baroque viola).

## History of the lunchtime concerts

Our concerts have been a tradition since the Second World War, when Dame Myra Hess instigated them at the National Gallery to bring people together at a time of hardship.

Lunchtime Concerts began at the Institute in 1948 and Dame Myra's Steinway piano now lives at the Institute and is often played at our concerts. This is our first summer season, building on the success of our regular autumn and spring programmes.

### Support our free concerts

Our lunchtime concerts have been a tradition since 1948, providing inspiration and respite from the world outside for an hour a week in a relaxed performance environment. We always pay our musicians for these performances, but the concerts are free to audiences.

Help support these concerts by donating here.

The summer series of Lunchtime Concerts is supported by The City of London Corporation

