



**BISHOPSGATE
INSTITUTE**

Lunchtime Concerts

Alba Cabral

with special guest Lara Eidi

08 October 2021



Kenwood Ladies' Pond Association Archive

Introduction



**Watch our
summer series
of concerts**

Our free Friday lunchtime concerts at Bishopsgate Institute are back. Join us to hear Brazilian musician and performer Alba Cabral as she presents her mesmerising music that fuses different aspects of Brazilian traditions, singing and body percussion. She joined by special guest Lara Eidi.

Follow us on a journey through ten 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 - woodwind, piano and the human body as an instrument - presented and combined in different ways.

At the heart of this series are our well-known archives and each week we ask our performers to respond to a theme suggested by the collections in our Library and curate their programme around it. Today's theme is Water and the concert takes inspiration from the Kenwood Ladies' Pond Association Archive.

Inspired by our archives



Kenwood Ladies' Pond
Association Archive

Today's concert draws inspiration from a recent acquisition to our special collections. The Kenwood Ladies' Pond Association (KLPA) is a voluntary organisation of women who care about the ladies' pond on Hampstead Heath in north London. The group's history stretches back over more than one hundred years, and their archive includes a clutch of 1920s photographs that capture the joy of outdoor swimming and indicate the close bonds between this adventurous group of women.

For the most part, however, the KLPA collection records the period from the 1980s when the group transitioned to an activist organisation as access to outdoor swimming in the ponds on Hampstead Heath came under threat. Today's concert celebrates the association's determination to preserve the ponds for public use.

Our archives document dozens of similar battles between grassroots organisations and large corporations. To discover more, why not [visit our library](#) and explore our protest or feminist collections?

Programme

Water

calabashes, water drums, udu

Womb

Menina é
kalimba

Body

Improvisation
body percussion

Earth

Ecoa (original & traditional indigenous
Guarani songs)
caxixi shakers

Sea

Água, Filha do Mar and O mar em mim
(original songs)
guitar

Pond

Waves of love

1. Breaking the ice
2. The plunge and swim
3. Re-born

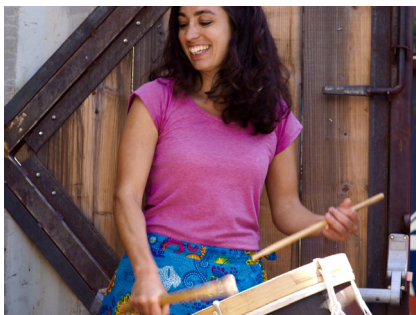
A collaboration with singer, songwriter and pianist Lara Eidi based on Breaking the ice from the Bishopsgate Institute archive.



Kenwood Ladies' Pond Association Archive



Credit: Leandro Facundo



Credit: Vitoria Lelis

Meet the artists

Alba Cabral

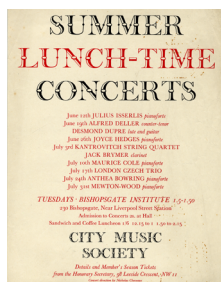
Alba Cabral is an award-winning Brazilian musician currently based in London where she performs, composes and collaborates with musicians and artists from around the world. Her background as a street performer in Sao Paulo is still a strong element in her professional and artistic practice.

Alba's musical works are based on Afro-Brazilian music, Brazilian Folk Music & Dances, Body Music, and Singing, and lately she has been developing works with guitar, ukulele and thumb-piano.

She recently completed a Masters Degree in Music Leadership at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama and has been devising work with Creative Learning Barbican in cross-arts collaboration and educational contexts in community centres, schools, institutes.

Lara Eidi

Athens-born to Lebanese/Canadian parents, Lara Eidi is a critically acclaimed genre defying vocalist, songwriter and recording artist based in Athens and London. "A singer with a true gift of a voice , soul and captivating presence." (Jazz UK)



Bishopsgate Institute Archive

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.

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](#).

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