

30TH WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2025

BANTRY, CO. CORK

FRIDAY 27 JUNE to SUNDAY 6 JULY

Barry Douglas [Photo: Benjamin Ealovega]



30TH WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2025

This year we will be celebrating the 30th West Cork Chamber Music Festival. Our first Festival opened in June 1996 with 13 concerts and 3 masterclasses over a week with all events taking place in Bantry House. That was an ambitious beginning, but a small thing beside the treasure trove of music we have presented over the last 29 years.

We will mark this Festival milestone by doubling down on the number of Quartets, inviting old friends Doric and Chiaroscuro, both with new line-ups, alongside newbies Marmen and Tchalik and a return visit by Ardeo. Their collective repertoire will include much-loved works by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn and Brahms as well as a wide selection of less familiar works. Other guests will include Barry Douglas, Rachel Podger, Anna Besson, Brett Dean, Lotte Betts-Dean, Mairéad and Seamus Hickey, Ella van Poucke, Nathalia Milstein, Lucy Fitz Gibbon, Agnès Clément and many others. We will celebrate Ravel's 150th birthday in some style, in particular his exciting and erotic Chansons Madécasses part of a concert about the many faces of love.

Biographies of almost all great composers and top musicians have two things in common – they start playing at a very young age, usually between three and five years old, and their parents are not only musicians, but often come from extended musical families, all of whom understand the sacrifices a musical life demands. In this year's Festival we will meet several musical families, most famously composer and violist, Brett Dean, and his golden-voiced daughter, Lotte. The Festival will be opened by the Ukrainian-French Tchalik Quartet, two brothers and two sisters, who form a brilliant and adventurous ensemble. The outstanding Norwegian violinist-composer, Henning Kraggerud, will join us with his three children. Amongst the Irish performers we find sister and brother Mairéad and Seamus Hickey and among the students the Ukrainian sisters, Yerlaliia and Kseniia Yershova.

Musical Families

We open our ten day celebration of chamber music with a World Premiere by Cork composer, Sam Perkin, to mark the occasion of our 30th Festival. The composer promises his new quartet will be dazzling, celebratory and fun. The brothers and sisters of the Tchalik Quartet will do the honours. To follow they will play Boris Lyatoshynsky's Second Quartet dating from 1922 during Ukraine's short-lived cultural flowering before the Soviets commenced their brutal regime. The multi-national Ardeo Quartet will commence their return visit to Bantry with the second of Beethoven's three quartets commissioned by Count Razumovsky, Russian Ambassador to the Hapsburg Court, who had his own in-palace string quartet.

1. OPENING CONCERT BANTRY HOUSE 20.00

Tchalik Quartet

Sam Perkin Celebration Quartet **WORLD PREMIERE**

Lyatoshynsky Quartet No.2 in A major

Ardeo Quartet

Beethoven Quartet in E minor Op.59/2

ADMISSION €55/42/32/16 CONCERT ENDS 22.30

Tchalik Quartet [Photo: Alex Kostromin]



How to pay a debt

The jaunty opening theme of Mozart's *'Hunt Quartet'* is a classically cheerful way to open a day's music making. Its jovially relaxed exterior hides breathtaking moments of perfection. Nothing in the seemingly straightforward opening movements prepares you for the wonderfully delicate Adagio. The *'Hoffmeister'* is named after a fellow musician and composer, to whom Mozart felt indebted, so he gifted him this quartet with its bright, clear textures and a riotous Finale in Mozart's best *opera buffa* style. Two later concerts will celebrate the strange translucent world of the recently departed Finnish composer, Kaija Kaariaho with two key works, each paired with a mighty work by Schubert. Our Emerging Ensemble, Paddington Trio, play his masterpiece of light-hearted Viennese charm, the B flat Piano Trio.

Later the great pianist Barry Douglas, who also played in the 1996 Festival, performs Schubert's 1825 A minor Sonata, exactly 200 years after its premiere. Also from 1825 comes Beethoven's enigmatic late B flat Quartet that closes with the unpredictable and monumental *Grosse Fuge*, a movement that begins in chaos and ends in beauty.

2. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Tchalik Quartet

Mozart Quartet in B flat K.458 'Hunt'
Quartet in D major K.499 'Hoffmeister'

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

Ardeo Quartet [Photo: Fraziska Strauss]



SATURDAY 28 JUNE

3. YOUNG MUSICIANS SERIES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 12.10

Sonic Quartet

Schulhoff Five Pieces for String Quartet

Garth Knox 'Dimensions' from Satellites

Beethoven Quartet in C minor Op.18/4

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 13.00

4. YOUNG COMPOSER'S FORUM

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 14.00

Workshop for Composition Competition Winners

Director *Deirdre Gribbin*

ADMISSION FREE FORUM ENDS 17.00

5. CRESPO SERIES ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Paddington Trio

Kaija Kaariaho Light and Matter

Schubert Piano Trio No.1 in B flat D.898

ADMISSION €20/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

6. MAIN EVENING CONCERT BANTRY HOUSE 19.30

Ardeo Quartet

Janáček Quartet 2 'Intimate Letters' (with viola d'amore)

Kaija Kaariaho Terra Memoria

Barry Douglas

Schubert Sonata in A minor D.845

ADMISSION €50/40/30/14 CONCERT ENDS 21.20

7. CANDLELIT LATE NIGHT BANTRY HOUSE 22.00

Tchalik Quartet

Beethoven Quartet in B flat Op.130/133

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 22.50

SUNDAY 29 JUNE

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A riotous conclusion

The day opens with an unusual Scandinavian Quartet of four virtuoso recorder players, whose arrangements of Baroque and folk they call *Borrowed not stolen*. Bach's *Art of Fugue* has also been borrowed by almost every conceivable combination of instruments, the version for string quartet is particularly inspiring. None better than the wonderful unassuming Ardeo Quartet to perform this extraordinary work, known to be Bach's final work, stopping suddenly in the final Fugue. Just occasionally a concert programme arrives featuring three works from the first great Viennese composers, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and the young pretender, Schubert. Mozart was inspired to write his six greatest quartets after hearing Haydn's Op.33 set so they make a great pairing, two light-filled, joyous major key quartets. Schubert's *Death and the Maiden* is a work that has grown to legendary proportions inspired by the tale of the desperate father galloping through the night to save his daughter from Death's cold embrace. Mendelssohn's E flat quartet generates enormous energy, while also soaring and throbbing with late-night desires before a wild celebration in the fiery Finale – a riotous conclusion to the day's music.

8. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Borrowed not stolen

Woodpeckers Recorder Quartet

Arrangements of works by *Vivaldi, Telemann, Turlough Carolan, Ruaidhrí Dall Ó Catháin* and Scottish, Swedish and Danish folk tunes

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

9. VIOLIN TALK MARINO CHURCH 12.15

José Catoira – Early Violin making in Europe and use of alternative European woods ADMISSION FREE TALK ENDS 12.45

10. YOUNG MUSICIANS SERIES ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Cork County ETB School of Music Ensembles

Showcase of young ensembles from County Cork

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.30



11. CRESPO SERIES ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Ardeo Quartet

J.S.Bach Art of the Fugue BWV 1080

ADMISSION €20/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 17.30

12. MAIN EVENING CONCERT BANTRY HOUSE 19.30

Marmen Quartet

Haydn Quartet in D major Op.33/6

Mozart Quartet in C major K.465

Chiaroscuro Quartet

Schubert String Quartet in D minor D.810 'Death and the Maiden'

ADMISSION €50/40/30/14 CONCERT ENDS 21.30

13. CANDLELIT LATE NIGHT BANTRY HOUSE 22.00

Ardeo Quartet *Mendelssohn Quartet in E flat Op.44/3*

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 22.40

Marmen Quartet [Photo: Marco Borggreve]

The table napkin contract

The story goes that the cellist Rostropovich and the composer Britten concluded a late night dinner with their table napkin contract whereby composer promised cellist six Cello Suites to pair with the six of Bach. Violist-composer father and mezzo-soprano daughter have created a special recital for their unusual musical pairing. Fauré waited until he was 78 and almost completely deaf before he dared to compose in a genre made unapproachable by those who lived in the shadow of Beethoven. His Quartet is an introverted and spiritual work with an incandescent slow movement of heart-breaking beauty. Liszt was one of the great originals of the nineteenth century, his B minor Sonata is his most consummate work for his own instrument. Haydn wrote of his 'Seven Last Words' – *'Each Sonata is expressed in such a way that it creates the most profound impression even on the most inexperienced listener, there is a pause after each Sonata.'* In each pause, Paula Meehan will read from her new work written for this occasion.

14. TALKING MUSIC BRICK OVEN 10.00

Sean Rafferty in conversation with **Tchalik Quartet**

ADMISSION €7 TALK ENDS 10.40

15. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Nuala McKenna

J.S. Bach Cello Suite No. 6 in D major BWV 1012

Britten Cello Suite No. 1 Op. 72

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

16. CRESPO MIDDAY SERIES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 12.10

Mairéad Hickey, Agnès Clémènt

Gabriel Bussi Sakura, Sakura

Spohr Sonata in E flat for harp and violin Op. 113

Saint-Saëns Fantaisie Op. 124 Tedeschi Elegie Op. 22

ADMISSION €10 CONCERT ENDS 13.10



Nuala McKenna [Photo: Hans van der Woerd]



17. CHILDRENS CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Woodpeckers Recorder Quartet *Bach and the birds*

ADMISSION €7/5 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

18. CRESPO SERIES ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Lotte Betts-Dean, Brett Dean

Works by *Vaughan Williams, Stuart MacRae, Sally Beamish, Michael Berkeley, Hindemith, Posadas, Brett Dean, Nicola LeFanu*

ADMISSION €20/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

Chiaroscuro Quartet [Photo: Joss McKinely]

19. MAIN EVENING CONCERT BANTRY HOUSE 19.30

Tchalik Quartet

Escaich Scènes de bal

Fauré Quartet Op.121

Barry Douglas

Liszt Sonata in B minor

ADMISSION €50/40/30/14 CONCERT ENDS 21.10

20. CANDLELIT LATE NIGHT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 22.00

Chiaroscuro Quartet, Paula Meehan

Seven Sonnets for Seven Words

Haydn Seven Last Words

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 23.00

When you think you are looking

The day begins with three cantatas from the French Baroque and a delicious Trio Sonata by Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre. The Midday Recital features the young star Dutch cellist Ella van Poucke playing two Bach Suites. Debussy created a magical new world with his unusual combination of flute, viola and harp. Composed at the height of the 1st World War, Debussy presents a delicate and sensuous world far removed from the slaughter in the trenches. The Bax Trio composed in the aftermath of the Easter Rebellion inhabits a different world. Deirdre Gribbin has been working with soprano Lucy Fitz Gibbon and Marmen Quartet on her new work *'when you think you are looking'* with texts by poet Jessica Traynor. Mendelssohn's Second String Quintet could almost be described as a mature version of the famous Octet he wrote when he was only sixteen. Schumann's popular D minor Trio was written as an answer to a Trio written by his wife, Clara, who premiered both works in one of their famous family concerts.

21. TALKING MUSIC BRICK OVEN 10.00

Sean Rafferty in conversation with **Chiaroscuro Quartet**

ADMISSION €7 TALK ENDS 10.40

22. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Reinoud Van Mechelen, *a nocte temporis*

Clérambault Cantatas Apollon, La Jaloux, Pyrame et Thisbé

Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre Trio Sonata No.1 in G minor

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

23. CRESPO MIDDAY SERIES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 12.10

Ella van Poucke

J.S.Bach Cello Suite No.3 in C major

Cello Suite No.5 in C minor

ADMISSION €10 CONCERT ENDS 13.00

Agnès Clémènt [Photo: Tysje Severens]





24. YOUNG MUSICIAN SERIES ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Olympia Quartet

Fanny Mendelssohn String Quartet in E flat

Winning Work from Young Composers Competition

Glass Quartetsatz

Shostakovich Quartet No.8 in C minor Op.110

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

25. CRESPO SERIES BANTRY HOUSE 16.00

Agnès Clémènt, Brett Dean, Anna Besson, Lucy Fitz Gibbon

Debussy Sonata for flute, viola and harp

Earl Kim now and then

Bax Elegiac Trio

Britten Lachrymae

ADMISSION €28/22/16/12 CONCERT ENDS 17.00



26. MAIN EVENING CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 19.30

Lucy Fitz Gibbon, Marmen Quartet

Deirdre Gribbin when you think you are looking **WORLD PREMIERE**

Brett Dean, Ardeo Quartet

Mendelssohn String Quintet No.2 in B flat Op.87

Chiaroscuro Quartet

Beethoven Quartet in E flat Op.127

ADMISSION €38/26/12 CONCERT ENDS 21.30

27. CANDLELIT LATE NIGHT BANTRY HOUSE 22.00

Paddington Trio

Schumann Piano Trio in D minor Op.63

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 22.40

Paddington Trio [Photo: J. Lindroos]

And once I played Ophelia

Bach's Sonatas for violin and harpsichord were picked out by his son Carl Philippe as *'amongst the finest works of my dearly beloved father. They still sound excellent and give me great pleasure although they are over 50'*. Now they are over 300 years old and still give great pleasure. Haydn's Op.20 'Sun Quartets' are the moment the string quartet becomes the chamber music form par excellence and towards which all composers would later aspire. Later we can hear back to back the two greatest French quartets by Debussy and Ravel. Brett Dean will be in the audience for the Irish Premiere of his Second Quartet 'And Once I played Ophelia', a nightmare in five movements as power and innocence clash. Early Fauré is full of life and romance, a passionate outpouring to the woman he loved. Later we get to hear the Brahms Piano Quintet, a masterpiece that began life as a string quintet, was recast for two pianos and rejected again before reaching its final familiar and triumphant form.

28. TALKING MUSIC BRICK OVEN 10.00

Sean Rafferty in conversation with

Brett Dean, Lotte Betts-Dean and Lucy Fitz Gibbon

ADMISSION €7 TALK ENDS 10.40

29. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Rachel Podger, Marcin Swiatkiewicz

J.S. Bach Sonata in B minor for violin and harpsichord BWV1014

Sonata in G minor for solo violin BWV1001

Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue in D minor BWV903

Sonata in E major for violin and harpsichord BWV1016

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

Lucy Fitz Gibbon [Photo: Steve Riskind]



30. CRESPO MIDDAY SERIES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 12.10

Chiaroscuro Quartet

Haydn Quartet in G minor Op.20/3

Quartet in D Op.20/4

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 13.15

31. YOUNG MUSICIANS SERIES ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Magnolia Quartet

Haydn Quartet in D major Op.76/5

Winning Work from Young Composers Competition

Smetana Quartet No.1 'From My Life'

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

Doric Quartet [Photo: Kirk Truman]

32. CRESPO SERIES ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Marmen Quartet

Debussy String Quartet Op.10

Ravel String Quartet

ADMISSION €20/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

33. MAIN EVENING CONCERT BANTRY HOUSE 19.30

Lucy Fitz Gibbon, Doric Quartet

Dean And Once I Played Ophelia **IRISH PREMIERE**

Mairéad Hickey, Brett Dean, Ella Van Poucke, Nathalia Milstein

Fauré Piano Quartet No.1 in C minor Op.15

Barry Douglas, Marmen Quartet

Brahms Piano Quintet in F minor Op.34

ADMISSION €50/40/30/14 CONCERT ENDS 21.40



Seven dark midnight Romances

Opus Five by Corelli was published in 1700 and created a veritable music revolution. His new Italian style was both virtuosic and sonorously brilliant. Their triumph was undeniable, republished 42 times by the end of the century with arrangements for many instruments. *Awkward Dances* features new dances for recorder quartet by four Scandinavian composers intertwined with Baroque dances. Henning Kraggerud is joining his three children to create a Family Concert by a family of musicians. The unnamed violinist in the Brahms recital is Joseph Joachim, all three works were composed for him to play forever thanked by generations of violinists ever since. Enescu's Octet demands very special musicians for he crafted its four movements as a single unbroken sonata on a very large scale culminating in an extraordinary Waltz that brings all themes together in a blazing light-filled conclusion. Shostakovich's seven dark midnight Romances conclude with a mystical and impassioned hymn that puts Music at the centre of the universe and tells of the sacrifices that must be made by her lovers.

Woodpeckers Recorder Quartet [Photo: Anna-Julia Granberg, Blunderbuss]

34. TALKING MUSIC BRICK OVEN 10.00

Sean Rafferty in conversation with Doric Quartet

ADMISSION €7 TALK ENDS 10.40

35. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Anna Besson, *a nocte temporis*,
Corelli Violin Sonatas Op.5 adapted for traverso, Trio Sonatas Op.3

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

36. CRESPO MIDDAY SERIES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 12.10

Woodpeckers Recorder Quartet
Lene Grenager, Emmy Lindström, Fredrik Österling,
Niklas Schmidt – *Awkward Dances* IRISH PREMIERES

ADMISSION €10 CONCERT ENDS 13.00

37. YOUNG MUSICIANS SERIES ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 14.00

Alma, Franz and Hector Serafin Kraggerud
and Henning Kraggerud

Works by *Handel/Halvorsen, Mendelssohn, Ysaÿe, Kraggerud* and
Brahms ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

38. VIOLIN TALK MARINO CHURCH 15.10

Jeroen Reuling

Advice on choosing a professional Instrument

ADMISSION FREE TALK ENDS 15.40

39. CRESPO SERIES BANTRY HOUSE 16.00

Mairéad Hickey, Barry Douglas

Brahms Violin Sonata No. 1 in G major Op.78

Violin Sonata No.2 in A major Op.100

F-A-E Sonata 'Scherzo'

ADMISSION €28/22/16/12 CONCERT ENDS 17.00



Pacific Wind Quintet [Photo: Clara Evens]

40. MAIN EVENING ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 19.30

Pacific Wind Quintet

Fazil Say Alevi Dedeler raki masasinda, for woodwind quintet, Op. 35

Paddington Piano Trio

Anna Clyne A Thousand Mornings

Marmen and Doric Quartets

Enescu Octet for Strings in C major Op.7

ADMISSION €38/26/12 CONCERT ENDS 21.15

41. CANDLELIT LATE NIGHT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 22.00

Lotte Betts-Dean, Mairéad Hickey,

Ella van Poucke, Nathalia Milstein

Shostakovich Seven Romances to poems by Alexander Blok

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 22.30

Love Stories

Ever since her childhood, Anna Besson has been immersed in the world of Irish and French traditional music and dance. Her programme combines the most popular airs in eighteenth-century Ireland and France, from a time when traditional and 'art' music were in no way opposing concepts. Bartók once said of Kodály's solo Cello Sonata: '*No other composer has written music that resembles this*'. The Pacific Quintet have a raison d'être: '*This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before*'. Their performances will be the proof - beginning with Ibert's joyful miniature. The evening's Love Stories will tell of the many stages of love – eroticism, breakdown and resignation. Ravel's Chansons Madécasses are irresistibly voluptuous, two love-songs and a war cry to drive away invaders. Katherine Balch's 'estrangement' is a modern take on Schumann's and Goethe's high Romantic '*Dichterliebe*', but from the point of view of the unnamed woman who rejected the poet. Brahms C minor Piano Quartet took twenty years to write and tells of the passionate sorrows of parting from a beloved, who nonetheless remains a close and devoted friend.

42. TALKING MUSIC BRICK OVEN 10.00

Sean Rafferty in conversation with **Rachel Podger**

ADMISSION €7 TALK ENDS 10.40

43. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Anna Besson, Reinoud Van Mechelen, a nocte temporis

'From Paris to Dublin' a florilegia of Irish tunes and French brunettes

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

44. CRESPO MIDDAY SERIES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 12.10

Nuala McKenna

Ligeti Sonata for solo cello

Dall'Abaco Caprices

Kodály Sonata for solo cello in B minor

ADMISSION €10 CONCERT ENDS 13.00



Anna Besson
[Photo: Anaëlle Trumka]

45. YOUNG MUSICIAN SERIES ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00**Meliora Quartet***Janáček Quartet No.1 'Kreutzer Sonata'**Winning Work from Young Composers Competition**Beethoven Quartet in E minor Op.59/2*

ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

46. CRESPO SERIES BANTRY HOUSE 16.00**Pacific Quintet***Ibert Three Short Pieces**Sally Beamish The Naming of Birds**Jolivet Serenade for Wind Quintet**Tomasi Cinq Danses Profanes et Sacrées*

ADMISSION €28/22/16/12 CONCERT ENDS 16.50

47. MAIN EVENING ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 19.30*Love Stories***Lotte Betts-Dean, Ella van Poucke,****Aliya Vodovozova, Nathalia Milstein***Ravel Chansons Madécasses***Lucy Fitz Gibbon, Ryan McCullough***Katherine Balch estrangement* IRISH PREMIERE**Barry Douglas, Henning Kraggerud,****Ella van Poucke, Emma Wernig***Brahms Piano Quartet in C minor Op.60*

ADMISSION €38/26/12 CONCERT ENDS 21.30

48. CANDLELIT LATE NIGHT**ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 22.00****Doric Quartet***Britten String Quartet No.2 in C major Op.36*

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 22.40

Nathalia Milstein [Photo: Lyodoh Kaneko]





Zum Wilden Mann

The 17th Century composer Heinrich Biber was a spectacular violinist, reputedly the best in Europe (and he knew it), better still he could turn his brilliance into joyful and uplifting scores; give this to a musician such as Rachel Podger and expect the skies to light up. Midday Van Eyck's Garden of Delights vies for pride of place with two giants of the 18th century, Bach and Telemann. Ravel loved to cause outrage by updating the classic tradition of the violin sonata with a strong infusion of jazz and the famous 'Blues' slow movement. On the other hand Francaix' avowed intention was to give pleasure with his light, vibrant and witty quintet, gracious music for us, tough going for the musicians. The Weird Sisters come to life in Beethoven's Ghost Trio, music intended for a Macbeth opera recycled for a piano trio commission. Two hundred years ago in a hot and stuffy upstairs room at the inn 'Zum Wilden Mann' took place the private premiere of Beethoven's supreme A minor Quartet composed to celebrate the composer's recovery from illness.

49. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Rachel Podger, Brecon Baroque

Biber Violin Sonatas Nos 1 in A, 3 in c, 6 in F Sonata Representiva

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

50. CRESPO MIDDAY SERIES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 12.10

Kate Hearne

Van Eyck Derde Doen Daphne d'over; Den Nachtegaal

Telemann Fantasias III & VIII

J.S. Bach Cello Suite No. 1 in G major

ADMISSION €10 CONCERT ENDS 13.00

51. YOUNG MUSICIAN SERIES ST BRENDAN'S HALL 14.00

Passeri Ensemble

Works by Uccellini, Van Eyck, Telemann, J.S. Bach, Vivaldi, Handel

and *Merula* ADMISSION €7 CONCERT ENDS 15.00

Mairéad Hickey [Photo: Ben Russell]



52. CRESPO SERIES ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 16.00

Henning Kraggerud, Ryan McCullough

Works by *Grieg, Svendsen, Halvorsen, Kraggerud, Schubert*

ADMISSION €20/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

53. MAIN EVENING BANTRY HOUSE 19.30

Mairéad Hickey, Nathalia Milstein

Ravel Violin Sonata

Pacific Quintet

Francaix Wind Quintet 1

Mairéad Hickey, Ella van Poucke, Nathalia Milstein

Beethoven Piano Trio in D major Op.70/1 'Ghost Trio'

ADMISSION €50/40/30/14 CONCERT ENDS 21.00

54. CANDLELIT LATE NIGHT BANTRY HOUSE 22.00

Doric Quartet

Beethoven Quartet in A minor Op.132

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 22.45

Ella van Poucke [Photo: Wouter le Duc]

Finale

Rachel Podger has put together a delectable programme exploiting the rich tradition of intimate early English chamber music where the violin joins a selection of instruments creating sonatas, fantasies, suites, grounds and popular folk tunes. This was still a time when folk and Baroque music had but a thin dividing line between them. Five of this year's young masterclass Quartets will each play one of the works they've been studying, each year the standard of the performances both surprises and delights. The Finale traditionally has two intervals to stretch the Festival music-making out a little longer. The programme opens with the lightest of touches, the sound of light on water and the cry of gulls, and concludes with Tchaikovsky trying to transform a string sextet into an orchestra. In between the sparky French composer, Louise Farrenc, who forced the doyens of the Paris conservatoire to treat women better, presents a sparkling sextet for piano and winds; and Mendelssohn's D major Cello Sonata precedes Tchaikovsky's overwhelmingly romantic memories of his time in Florence

55. COFFEE CONCERT ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 11.00

Rachel Podger, Brecon Baroque

'The Muses restor'd' Violin Music of the English Baroque

Works by *Purcell, Locke, Blow, Handel, Jones*

Geminiani, Schop, Barsanti and Oswald

ADMISSION €22/16/10 CONCERT ENDS 12.00

56. YOUNG MUSICIANS PLATFORM

ST BRENDAN'S CHURCH 14.00

Passeri Ensemble *Telemann Trio Sonata in D minor;*

Vivaldi La Follia

Sonic Quartet *Garth Knox Satellites*

Olympia Quartet *Fanny Mendelssohn Quartet in E flat*

Meliora Quartet *Janáček Quartet No.1 'Kreutzer Sonata'*

Magnolia Quartet *Smetana Quartet No.1 'From my Life'*

ADMISSION €15 CONCERT ENDS 17.00

Henning Kraggerud [Photo: Nikolaj Lund]

57. FINALE BANTRY HOUSE 19.30

Doric Quartet

Andrea Tarrodi String Quartet No.3 'Light Scattering'

Ryan McCullough, Pacific Quintet

Louise Farrenc Sextet for piano and winds

Ella van Poucke, Nathalia Milstein

Mendelssohn D major Cello Sonata

Henning Kraggerud, Alma Serafin Kraggerud, Emma Wernig,

Séamus Hickey, Ella van Poucke, Christopher Marwood

Tchaikovsky String Sextet 'Souvenir de Florence'

ADMISSION €55/42/32/16 CONCERT ENDS 22.30



Get behind the scenes to see the hard work that goes into a wonderful performance. Audiences are welcome to come and watch as promising young musicians from Ireland, the UK and Norway learn from some of the top chamber musicians in the world.

All masterclasses are free admission and last 90 minutes.

Limited spaces available – advanced booking advised.

Masterclass Quartets Director: Christopher Marwood

SATURDAY 28 JUNE

I. 10.00 – MARITIME HOTEL **Paddington Trio** / Alex Redington

II. 16.00 – COURTROOM **Sonic Quartet** / Tchalik Quartet

SUNDAY 29 JUNE

III. 10.00 – MARITIME HOTEL **Paddington Trio** / Barry Douglas

IV. 11.45 – COURTROOM **Magnolia Quartet** / Alex Redington

V. 14.00 – COURTROOM **Olympia Quartet** / Tchalik Quartet

VI. 16.00 – CFC* **Passeri Ensemble** / Kate Hearne [BAROQUE]

MONDAY 30 JUNE

VII. 10.00 – COURTROOM **Meliora Quartet** / Ardeo Quartet

VIII. 11.45 – COURTROOM **Olympia Quartet** / Chiaroscuro Quartet

IX. 14.00 – COURTROOM **Magnolia Quartet** / Ardeo Quartet

X. 16.00 – COURTROOM **Sonic Quartet** / Marmen Quartet

TUESDAY 1 JULY

XI. 10.00 – COURTROOM **Meliora Quartet** / Mairéad Hickey

XII. 11.45 – COURTROOM **Magnolia Quartet** / Chiaroscuro Quartet

XIII. 14.00 – COURTROOM **Sonic Quartet** / Alex Redington

XIV. 16.00 – CFC* **Passeri Ensemble** / Kate Hearne [BAROQUE]

WEDNESDAY 2 JULY

XV. 10.00 – COURTROOM **Olympia Quartet** / Alex Redington

XVI. 11.45 – MARITIME HOTEL **Kraggerud Family** / Nuala McKenna

XVII. 14.00 – COURTROOM **Meliora Quartet** / Alex Redington

XVIII. 16.00 – CFC* **Passeri Ensemble** / Brecon Baroque [BAROQUE]

THURSDAY 3 JULY

XIX. 10.00 – MARITIME HOTEL **Paddington Trio** / Henning Kraggerud

XX. 11.45 – COURTROOM **Magnolia Quartet** / C. Marwood

XXI. 16.00 – CFC* **Passeri Ensemble** / a nocte temporis [BAROQUE]

XXII. 16.00 – COURTROOM **Meliora Quartet** / C. Marwood

FRIDAY 4 JULY

XXIII. 10.00 – COURTROOM **Olympia Quartet** / Doric Quartet

XXIV. 11.45 – COURTROOM **Magnolia Quartet** / Marmen Quartet

XXV. 14.00 – COURTROOM **Sonic Quartet** / Mairéad Hickey

XXVI. 16.00 – CFC* **Passeri Ensemble** / Brecon Baroque [BAROQUE]

SATURDAY 5 JULY

XXVII. 10.00 – COURTROOM **Meliora Quartet** / Doric Quartet

XXVIII. 11.45 – COURTROOM **Sonic Quartet** / C. Marwood

XXIX. 14.00 – COURTROOM **Olympia Quartet** / C. Marwood

STUDENT ENSEMBLES:

MAGNOLIA QUARTET

Lucia Murphy, Ellen O'Connell,
Jeannette Bogado, Anna Varga

MELIORA QUARTET

Kate Ní Shé, Cillian O Cathasaigh,
Kseniia Yershova, Oscar Casey

OLYMPIA QUARTET

Yevlaliia Yershova, Ellen Crowley,
Charlie Duff, Adam Joyce

SONIC QUARTET

Maxim Novojilov, Julia Antolec,
Shane Quinn, Doireann Ní Aodáin

PASSERI ENSEMBLE

Clodagh Sweeney, Sean Hurley,
Lizzie Troup, Shauna Davies

KRAGGERUD FAMILY

Alma, Franz and Hector Serafin Kraggerud

TUTORS: Alex Redington, Christopher Marwood, Mairéad Hickey, Henning Kraggerud, Barry Douglas, Ardeo Quartet, Tchalik Quartet, Marmen Quartet, Chiaroscuro Quartet, Doric Quartet, Kate Hearne, a nocte temporis, Brecon Baroque, Nuala McKenna

* CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

To find out more or to book visit us here



FRINGE FESTIVAL

Each day during the Festival musicians will give a free concert in locations around Bantry and West Cork.

Each concert will last approximately 40mins and are suitable for all families and all age groups. These short concerts are the perfect opportunity to try something new – informal, afternoon concerts in some of the best venues and locations in West Cork – from the picturesque islands to the cosy atmosphere in some of the local villages. **No booking necessary.**

VENUES INCLUDE: Heir Island; Two Green Shoots, Glengarriff; Sherkin Island; Bere Island; Whiddy Island; Levis Corner House, Ballydehob; Uillinn Arts Centre, Skibbereen; Durrus Festival, Cork Airport

PERFORMERS INCLUDE: Woodpeckers Recorder Quartet, Pacific Wind Quintet, Magnolia Quartet, Meliora Quartet, Sonic Quartet and Olympia Quartet

See our Fringe pages at westcorkmusic.ie for a full list of events

Sonic Quartet



AN EXHIBITION OF VIOLIN & BOWMAKING

WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF FINE CONTEMPORARY

VIOLIN & BOWMAKING

MARINO (OLD METHODIST CHURCH), MARINO STREET, BANTRY

Join some of the world's leading makers of violins and bows at an international exhibition. The makers will be present, some will be working at their benches and will be happy to discuss their work and demonstrate their craft.

TALKS

The exhibition will include two talks from makers at Marino Church:

SUNDAY 29 JUNE 12:15

Jose Catoira

Early Violin making in Europe and use of alternative European woods

THURSDAY 3 JULY 15:10

Jeroen Reuling

Advice on choosing a professional Instrument

Admission is free and booking is not required

BOW MAKERS

Victor Bernard, Doriane Bodart, Noel Burke, Emmanuel Carlier, Charles Espy, Niall Fleming, Klaus Grünke, Pierre Nehr, Stéphane Thomachot

VIOLIN MAKERS

Baerbel Bellinghausen, Youenn Bothorel, Jose Catoira, Bertrand Galen, Eero Haahti, Michiel de Hoog, Ian Knepper, Jeremie Legrand, Conor Russell, Noémie Viaud

THE EXHIBITION RUNS THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL. ADMISSION IS FREE

Instrument and bow maintenance service available throughout the Festival

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THE MARITIME HOTEL
Bantry, West Cork
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Visiting Bantry?

The 4 Star Maritime Hotel offers luxury accommodation overlooking beautiful Bantry Bay with both guest bedrooms & suites.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WEST CORK MUSIC
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027 54700 | info@themaritime.ie | themaritime.ie

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West Cork Literary Festival

Friday 11 – 18 July 2025
Bantry, Co. Cork

west | cork | music

www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie   

Image: Bernadette Cotter, *Ascent* (detail), 2002, © / www.bernadettecotter.com

west | cork | music

MASTERS *Since ♡ of ♡ 2003* TRADITION



WEDNESDAY 20 - SUNDAY 24 AUGUST
BANTRY, CO. CORK

CURATED BY MARTIN HAYES

www.westcorkmusic.ie   

Design: edit+

A VISION 30 YEARS IN THE MAKING

As we stand at the threshold of the 30th West Cork Chamber Music Festival, we're looking to the future and finalising designs for the first purpose-built chamber music venue outside Dublin. Each summer, our audiences mingle with exceptional musicians and writers in characterful venues around Bantry, but the West Cork Music vision has always been to establish year-round spaces for performance, as well as music and arts education, at the edge of Europe.

WORK WITH US TO DELIVER OUR DREAM

Thanks to a generous private donation, West Cork Music has secured a site, and we have been working with internationally renowned McCullough Mulvin Architects to design a flagship arts venue and education hub for the heart of Bantry town. Equipped with a permanent home and new spaces where we can help creativity to thrive, West Cork Music will:

- Enable year-round access to the highest quality performances across the full range of artistic disciplines and traditions,
- Foster arts participation and excellence from the grassroots to elite levels, and
- Make a powerful contribution to a regionally balanced arts ecosystem and development opportunities in Ireland.

JOIN US ON OUR JOURNEY

Your contribution and support will enable us to progress this exciting project and shape a vibrant future for the arts in the west of Ireland.

Find out more at www.bantrymusiccentre.ie

or contact our capital project team via siobhan@westcorkmusic.ie

BECOME A FRIEND OF WEST CORK MUSIC AND RECEIVE PRIORITY BOOKING FOR THE 2025 WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Enjoy benefits including priority booking, invitations to our opening receptions, and Bantry House garden passes when you become a friend of the West Cork Chamber Music Festival. We rely on the generosity of our friends and donors to ensure we can deliver world-class immersive festivals and grow our important education and outreach work.

PLATINUM FRIENDS €500

- 8 weeks Priority Booking for 2 people for the 2025 Festival (Opens 21 January)
- 2 nights dinner for 2 people in the Artists' dining room. Invitations to exclusive Friends and Artists events and a range of other benefits at the Festival and throughout the year

GOLD FRIENDS €350

- 8 weeks Priority Booking for 2 people (Opens 21 January)
- Invitation to exclusive Friends and Artists events and a range of other benefits

SILVER FRIENDS €250

- 4 weeks Priority Booking for 2 people (Opens 13 February)
- Invitation to Friends and Artists receptions and events. Benefits including a complimentary festival programme and Bantry House Garden Pass.

YOUNG MUSICIAN SPONSOR €250

West Cork Music is able to nurture the talent of younger generations of musicians in Ireland thanks to the support of generous donors who support our workshops and masterclasses. With your support, we can continue to invest in the future of exceptional classical music in Ireland.

SUPPORT US NOW

Include your donation with the attached booking form.

For full details contact the West Cork Music Office or visit

www.westcorkmusic.com/friends

BANTRY TOWN CENTRE



THE WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL TEAM

Honorary Patron	President Michael D. Higgins
Board of Directors	Donagh Collins [Chair] Deborah Kelleher [Vice-Chair] John Bowen, Aibhe Cunningham Holly Cairns, Ann Davoren Dan Flinter, Aiden McCarthy Patrick G Murphy, John O'Kane
Company Secretary	Grace O'Mahony
Festival Director	Francis Humphrys
General Manager	Grace O'Mahony
Programme Co-ordinator	Helen Dawson
Marketing & PR Manager	Sara O'Donovan
Box Office Manager	Lia Choice
Box Office & Website	Daniel Burke
Box Office	Meg O'Connell
Venue Development Manager	Siobhán Burke
Production Manager	Will Reed
PR	Kearney Melia Barker Communications
Graphic Design	Stuart Coughlan, edit+
Cover image	Tom Climent

WEST CORK MUSIC ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN

West Cork Music is committed to reducing the impact of our work on the environment while maintaining high standards of artistic excellence. Three international festivals in a remote location has always been our attraction for both artists and audiences, but emissions, from transport in particular, create a substantial carbon footprint.

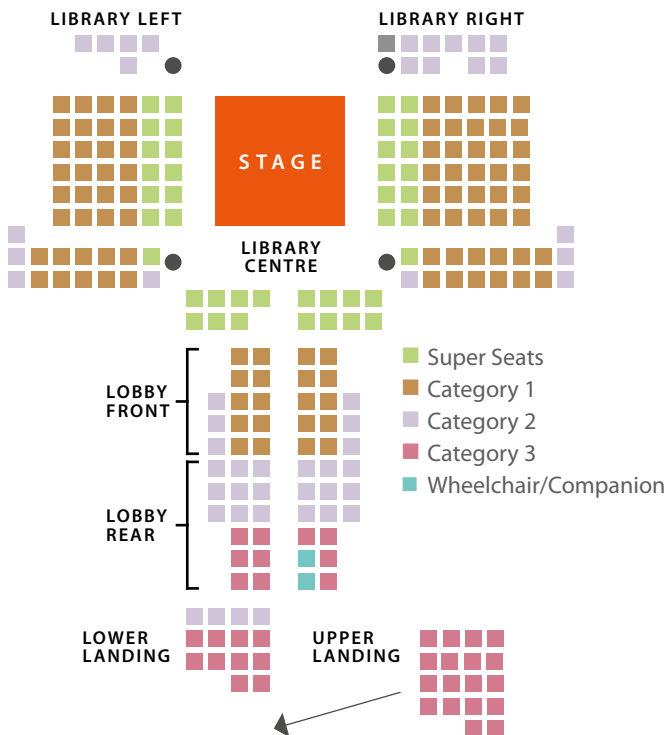
Unfortunately attempts to reduce emissions are hindered by poor public transport infrastructure and local airports with poor international connectivity. Slow travel as practised in the rest of Europe is impractical in Ireland. We have been tracking and reducing our Carbon footprint year on year, mainly by encouraging artist residencies, discouraging connecting flights and recommending rail, coach and bus travel.

Our research so far has only measured the carbon footprint of artists and production team; this year we need to calculate it for you, our audience, as well. So in addition to crucial survey questions about our economic value to West Cork we will have questions about how you get here and how you get around once here. For our part we will work on providing detailed information on low impact travel and establishing a base-line as a guide to future planning. In the near future arts funding will be conditional on detailed emissions action plans and their implementation.

To learn more visit www.westcorkmusic/green-policy

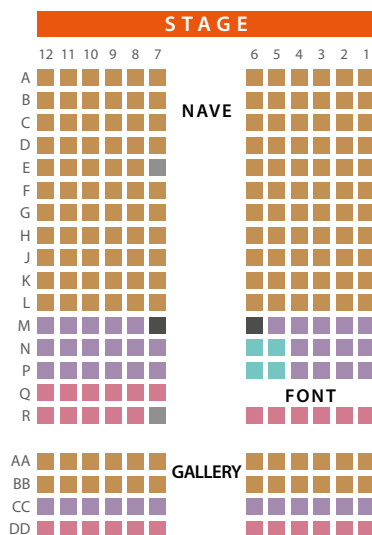
SEATING PLANS

Bantry House



St Brendan's Church

- Category 1 (Orange)
- Category 2 (Purple)
- Category 3 (Red)
- Restricted view (Black)
- Wheelchair (Teal)



BOOKING

General Booking Open Wednesday 12 March

Box Office: Monday – Friday 10.00 – 17.00

www.westcorkmusic.ie

Tel: + 353 (0)27 52788

Email: info@westcorkmusic.ie

Post: West Cork Music, 13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co. Cork, Ireland P75 HW72

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Once purchased, tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded
- Refunds will only be given in the case of a cancelled concert
- Masterclasses and the Young Composers Forum are free, but booking is advised
- Student Day Passes available at €50. Also limited number of student discounts for individual concerts. Contact Box Office for details.

ACCESSIBILITY

St Brendan's Church, St Brendan's Hall, the Courtroom and the Marino Church are wheelchair accessible. When booking events for Bantry House, please contact the Box Office in advance if you have mobility issues. Pre-booked Parking for patrons with mobility difficulties are available at Bantry House and St Brendan's Church. An Accessibility Guide is available to download on the Booking Pages of the website. Please contact us by phone or email to book wheelchair seats, parking or for more information.

EVENT START & FINISH TIMES

All events will start at the times stated, so please arrive well before the scheduled start time. All Finish times in the brochure, programme and website are approximations. Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme will proceed as advertised. However West Cork Music accepts no responsibility for any changes made due to circumstances beyond its control.

DETACH & POST TO WEST CORK MUSIC

Where postage is requested tickets will be posted closer to the Festival.

BOOKING FORM 2025

No.	Time	Super*	Qty	Cat 1	Qty	Cat 2	Qty	Cat 3	Qty	Total
FRIDAY 27 JUNE										
1	20:00	€55		€42		€32		€16		
SATURDAY 28 JUNE										
2	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
5	16:00	-	-	€20		€16		€10		
6	19:30	€50		€40		€30		€14		
7	22:00	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
SUNDAY 29 JUNE										
8	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
11	16:00	-	-	€20		€16		€10		
12	19:30	€50		€40		€30		€14		
13	22:00	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
MONDAY 30 JUNE										
15	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
18	16:00	-	-	€20		€16		€10		
19	19:30	€50		€40		€30		€14		
20	22:00	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
TUESDAY 1 JULY										
22	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
25	16:00	€28		€22		€16		€12		
26	19:30	-	-	€38		€26		€12		
27	22:00	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
WEDNESDAY 2 JULY										
29	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
32	16:00	-	-	€20		€16		€10		
33	19:30	€50		€40		€30		€14		
THURSDAY 3 JULY										
35	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
39	16:00	€28		€22		€16		€12		
40	19:30	-	-	€38		€26		€12		
41	22:00	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
FRIDAY 4 JULY										
43	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
46	16:00	€28		€22		€16		€12		
47	19:30	-	-	€38		€26		€12		
48	22:30	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
SATURDAY 5 JULY										
49	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
52	16:00	-	-	€20		€16		€10		
53	19:30	€50		€40		€30		€14		
54	22:30	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
SUNDAY 6 JULY										
55	11:00	-	-	€22		€16		€10		
56	14:00	-	-	€15		€15		€15		
57	19:30	€55		€42		€32		€16		

SUPER	Qty	Cat 1	Qty	Cat 2	Qty	Cat 3	Qty	Total	
FESTIVAL PASS* 20% SAVING Covers COFFEE, 4pm CRESPO, MAIN & LATE NIGHT									
780.00		705.00		547.00		347.00			
MAIN EVENING CONCERT PASS 20%									
378.00		319.00		234.00		110.00			
15% DAY TICKET SAVER - COFFEE, 4pm CRESPO, MAIN EVENING & LATE NIGHT									
DAY	SUPER	Qty	Cat 1	Qty	Cat 2	Qty	Cat 3	Qty	Total
Sat 28	€91		€82		€65		€41		
Sun 29	€91		€82		€65		€41		
Mon 30	€91		€82		€65		€41		
Tues 1	€87		€82		€62		€41		
Wed 2	€83		€75		€54		€29		
Thur 3	€87		€82		€62		€41		
Fri 4	€87		€82		€62		€41		
Sat 5	€91		€82		€65		€41		
Sun 6	€78		€67		€53		€35		
TALKING MUSIC / 12.10 CRESPO CONCERTS / YOUNG MUSICIANS SERIES									
Sat 28	Sun 29	Mon 30	Tue 1	Wed 2	Thur 3	Fri 4	Sat 5	Total	
TALKING MUSIC €7									
		€7	€7	€7	€7	€7			
12.10 CRESPO €10 – EXCEPT WED 2 €15									
		€10	€10	€15	€10	€10	€10		
YOUNG MUSICIANS SERIES €7									
€7	€7		€7	€7	€7	€7	€7		
* FESTIVAL PASS does not include Young Musicians Series, 12.10 Crespo or Morning Talks		Platinum Friend €500							
		Gold Friend €350							
		Silver Friend €250							
		Young Musicians Sponsor €250							
		Booking Fee							€5
		Ticket Postage if required + €3							
		GRAND TOTAL							

NAME:

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EXPIRY:

TICK TO COLLECT TICKETS

TICK FOR TICKETS POSTED + €3

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West Cork Music gratefully acknowledges major funding from the Arts Council/An Comhairle Ealaíon



CRESPO FOUNDATION



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www.westcorkmusic.ie



Scan to view
the programme
or to book online