



CHAMPS HILL

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SPRING PROGRAMME 2026

CONCERTS & EVENTS

Alexandra Dariescu

Afternoon Concert – Tuesday 20th January

Matthew Barley and Mishka Rushdie Momen

Friday 30th January

Trio Gaspard

Friday 6th February

RCM showcase: The Delphine Trio

Friday 20th February

In Conversation with the Artist – Piers Ottey

Tuesday 24th February

Art Exhibition – Confronting Illusion: Piers Ottey

March 10th – 12th, 17th – 19th, 24th – 26th

Elias Quartet with Jâms Coleman

Saturday 14th March

Peter Moore and Zeynep Özsuca

Coffee Concert – Saturday 21st March

The Bowerman Charitable Trust

CHAMPS HILL MUSIC ROOM

Waltham Park Road, Coldwaltham, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 1LY
The Bowerman Charitable Trust Reg Charity No. 289446

CONCERTS & EVENTS

Alexandra Dariescu - *piano*

Afternoon Concert - *Tuesday 20th January*

Prior to her recital at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, we are delighted to welcome back Champs Hill favourite, Alexandra Dariescu, who has made it her mission to create concert programmes that give under-represented female composers equal billing with their better-known male colleagues.

In this kaleidoscopic journey through the wealth of music for piano written across the ages and around the world, she places miniature masterpieces by **Clara Schumann**, **Missy Mazzoli**, **Florence Price** and **Lili Boulanger**, among others, alongside those by **Bach**, **Villa-Lobos** and Dariescu's fellow Romanians **Enescu**, **Ciortea** and **Silvestri**.

Alexandra devotes the second half to the ultimate set of miniatures: **Chopin's** 24 Preludes, brief pieces that are filled with evocative atmospheres and visceral drama. The Chopin also forms the main part of her "Preludes Vol.1" album on the Champs Hill Records label.

Please note that this performance will be filmed for promotional purposes.

1.30pm Doors Open

2.00pm Concert

Suggested donation £20 per ticket.

Tea and biscuits during the interval only

Matthew Barley - *cello*

Mishka Rushdie Momen - *piano*

Friday 30th January

Matthew Barley is no stranger to Champs Hill, having performed here alongside his extraordinarily talented family members in October 2025. His previous eclectic and cross-genre programme is now replaced with a much more classical feel as he is joined by Mishka Rushdie Momen, hailed as "one of the most thoughtful and sensitive of British pianists".

Their chosen programme focuses on the Romantic giants of Brahms and Schumann: a selection of **Schumann** Songs, transcribed by Matthew Barley, **Schumann's** Adagio and Allegro, Op.70; and **Brahms'** Cello Sonata No.1 in E minor, Op.38, with its roots firmly planted in the music of the past. Mishka will also take centre stage to display her exceptional talent as a concert pianist with two solo performances: **Ravel's** Miroirs (*Oiseaux tristes* and *Alborada del gracioso*), and **Byrd's** Fantasia in A minor.

6.45pm Doors Open / Wine

7.30pm Concert

Suggested donation £20 per ticket.

Trio Gaspard

Jonian Ilias Kadesha - *violin*

Vashti Hunter - *cello*

Nicholas Rimmer - *piano*

Friday 6th February

Prize-winning Trio Gaspard returns to Champs Hill as one of the most sought-after trios of its generation, praised for its unique and fresh approach to the score. As well as exploring and championing the traditional piano trio repertoire, Trio Gaspard works regularly with contemporary composers and is keen to commission and discover seldom-played masterpieces. Their programme includes recent works by two composers best known as performing artists, **Olli Mustonen** (Introduzione e Allegro alla Polacca) and **Patricia Kopatchinskaja** ("Roh-Rau" for Piano Trio), setting these distinctive pieces alongside consummate piano trios by **Haydn** (Piano Trio in F Major Hob.XV:2) and **Beethoven** (Piano Trio in E flat, Op.70 No.2). The ever-adventurous Gaspards also undertake the intense expressive landscape of **Arno Babadjanian's** Piano Trio in F sharp minor of 1952, a cornerstone of 20th-century Soviet chamber music.

6.45pm Doors Open / Wine

7.30pm Concert

Suggested donation £20 per ticket.

RCM showcase: The Delphine Trio

Magdalenna Krstevska - *clarinet*

Jobine Siekman - *cello*

Roelof Temmingh - *piano*

Friday 20th February

Winners of the 2025 Royal Overseas League Competition in the Mixed Ensembles Category in London, and recipients of a RCM Junior Fellowship, we are delighted to welcome the Delphine Trio to Champs Hill to showcase their extraordinary instrumental talent. Their diverse programme includes **Farrenc's** Trio Op.33 in E flat major; **Fauré's** Piano Trio Op.120 in D minor (1st mvt); **Seiber's** Introduction and Allegro, with its influences of Hungarian folk music; **Brahms' Clarinet Trio** Op.114 in A minor; and **Muczynski's** (hailed as the most important neoclassical composer of post-war America) wonderfully energetic Fantasy Trio, Op.26.

Please join us in supporting these talented young musicians.

6.45pm Doors Open / Wine

7.30pm Concert

Suggested donation £20 per ticket.

In Conversation with the Artist – Piers Ottey

Tuesday 24th February



Sussex based artist, Piers Ottey, is well known for his instantly recognisable paintings and as a great raconteur.

This special event will enable you to explore our spring exhibition, *Confronting Illusion*, with the added bonus of the rare opportunity to hear first-hand from Piers, the inspiration behind this striking collection of paintings.

Join us on Tuesday 24th February at 7pm for what promises to be an engaging conversation with Piers. Not to be missed!

Further information about the 'Confronting Illusion' art exhibition on the final page.

Evening Lecture

6.15pm Doors Open / Wine

7.00pm Lecture

Suggested donation £10 per ticket.

Elias Quartet with Jâms Coleman

Sara Bitlloch - violin

Donald Grant - violin

Jâms Coleman - piano

Saturday 14th March

Simone van der Giessen - viola

Marie Bitlloch - cello

Ensemble-in-residence at the RNCM, the Elias Quartet is known as one of the most intense and vibrant quartets of its generation, and this concert sees it collaborating with the extremely accomplished pianist, Jâms Coleman. Having studied and performed all of Beethoven's string quartets, it is appropriate that the quartet's programme focuses on this repertoire: **Beethoven's** String Quartet in C minor, Op.18, No. 4 and his 'Harp' String Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 74, so called on account of the characteristic pizzicato sections in the allegro of the first movement. They close with **Dvořák's** Piano Quintet in A major, Op.81, one of the finest examples of late Romantic chamber music.

6.45pm Doors Open / Wine

7.30pm Concert

Suggested donation £20 per ticket.

Peter Moore - *trombone*

Zeynep Özsuca - *piano*

Coffee Concert – **Saturday 21st March**

The youngest ever winner of the BBC Young Musician competition in 2008 aged just 12, and the youngest ever player and Principal Trombone of the LSO in 2014, Peter Moore is one of the finest trombonists on the global stage.

His first appearance at Champs Hill was in 2019 as part of Septura Brass Septet and he now joins us as a soloist alongside Zeynep Özsuca, international concert pianist, chamber musician and accompanist.

Their programme includes **Bach** - Oboe Concerto in D minor (after Marcello) arr. Ralph Sauer; **Schubert** - Ave Maria; **Stravinsky** - Pulcinella Suite; **Brahms** - Vier Ernste Gesänge; **Kreisler** - La Précieuse (in the style of Couperin); **Rameau-Kreisler** - Tambourin; and **Pryor** - La Petite Suzanne.

A wonderful spring morning concert – not to be missed.

10.15am Doors Open / Coffee

11.00am Concert (*no interval*)

Suggested donation £15 per ticket.

‘Confronting Illusion’

Art Exhibition

details and open dates on next page

ART EXHIBITION

Confronting Illusion: Piers Ottey



Upwaltham Church

Our Spring 2026 exhibition '**Confronting Illusion**' features a selection of stunning paintings by Sussex based artist **Piers Ottey** whose paintings are instantly recognisable.

His trademark 'colour code' around the edge of paintings, drawing marks and even mistakes/overpainting are all to be seen in these seemingly simple works. He works from his studio in West Sussex, on the edge of the Downs.

Much of Piers' work derives from visiting places at home and abroad. He has worked on images from the mountains of Switzerland to city paintings of San Francisco and London, where he was born and raised, but most often he returns to paint the Sussex landscape. Piers paints what he is passionate about – even his motorbikes! The process of painting is important, but so is the form: these paintings are characterised by rigorous structure, using geometry as well as varying surface textures and finishes.

Piers Ottey is represented by Kevis House Gallery, Petworth.

Please come along to Champs Hill to view the exhibition - dates and times below - and weather permitting, also enjoy a walk around the gardens and view the sculptures.

Exhibition Open Dates & Times:

Tuesday to Thursday

10th - 12th March, 17th - 19th March, 24th – 26th March

11am to 4pm

Suggested donation £10 per ticket (*on the door or via website*) - includes tea/coffee and biscuits

Private Group Visit

Enquire via our website to book a private group to view the exhibition – some dates available in February.

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