



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

CONCERT SERIES

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

An Evening with Lesley Garrett and Anna Tilbrook

Sunday, September 15th, 2019
Memorial Hall, Marlborough

The 78th season of world-class musicians in Marlborough opened with a performance from the renowned soprano, Lesley Garrett, accompanied by the excellent Anna Tilbrook on piano. The concert was more "An Evening with ..." rather than a conventional song recital, but that didn't matter in the slightest as Lesley Garrett treated us to a journey through her musical life, surrounded by an eclectic range of musical offerings.

A packed Memorial Hall clearly enjoyed the experience as they warmed to some amusing anecdotes and a few trips down memory lane. Lesley's enthusiasm is utterly infectious and she is a huge presence on stage, but special praise should be given to her accompanist, Anna Tilbrook, whose discreet, subtle but essential contribution provided Lesley with the perfect support throughout the entire programme.

Once again, the Memorial Hall acoustics came up trumps, with the gorgeous Steinway (under Anna Tilbrook's touch) revealing its gems of colour and depth. At the time of writing the refurbished Memorial Hall has been open over 12 months. In that time, we have welcomed some fabulous artists to the stage, and they all remark what a special place it is to perform. Make no mistake, it is, and how lucky we are that we have such a facility within our Marlborough community.

Philip Dukes (Artistic Director)



Photo © Lars Borges



Photo © Robin Clewley

Kanneh-Mason duo to offer Cello-Piano recital

Next month, the Autumn sequence of our concert season concludes with a recital by brother and sister duo **Sheku** and **Isata Kanneh-Mason**, playing cello and piano respectively.

Sold out before Opening Night, this much anticipated concert will surely bring the house down with pieces by Beethoven, and Barber. But the highlight of the recital will undoubtedly be the full length finale performed after the interval: the **Sonata in G minor for Cello and Piano, Opus.19** by **Rachmaninov**.

Following the disastrous reception to the première of his first symphony in 1897, Rachmaninov suffered a crisis of confidence that was to blight his creativity for three years. It took a course of

hypnotherapy to overcome this musical inhibition. But by 1901, several notable new pieces began to emerge, including the Opus.19 sonata.

The piece is dedicated to the composer's great friend, the pre-eminent Russian cellist, Anatoliy Brandukov. The cellist was best man at Rachmaninov's wedding, and the two often performed together, as with the première of this work in Moscow on December 2nd, 1901.

The piano introduces most of the key themes, which then undergo development by the cello. But as equal weight is given to piano and cello, Rachmaninov was inclined to describe the piece as a sonata for cello and piano. ■

Still time to book for Ensemble Bash ...

Memorial Hall, Sunday, October 6th, 2019 (7:30pm; doors open 6:45pm)

Book online:

<http://marlboroughconcertseries.org/mccs/main.php?varFunction=prices>

or reserve tickets by phone: 01672 892566.

Some tickets for this concert may also be available on the door.



www.marlboroughconcertseries.org

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