

Finding a Voice

5th - 8th March 2021
Streaming from Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

*Music by women composers from
the 12th century to present day*



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

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TICKETS CAN BE BOUGHT ONLINE AT EVENTBRITE

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The fourth edition of *Finding a Voice* will look very different as we move online for the first time. Last year's concerts took place just before the pandemic and the first lockdown and so, for many of the musicians involved, *Finding a Voice* 2020 was the last time they played in front of a live audience. While we look forward to being back in Clonmel for live concerts next year, we also hope that moving online will give us the opportunity to bring the concert series to a whole new audience.

The theme for 2021 is "it's about time" with the idea being that many of the concerts will focus on the notion of time in all its different iterations. This could be the passage of time, or time of the day, month or year, or even time in a musical sense, relating to rhythm, tempo and duration.

The 2021 series goes from an opening concert featuring the percussion music of Keiko Abe; a time-travelling programme by three virtuoso musicians; through to the elasticity of time in a completely improvised set by two of Ireland's finest performers. Along the way, we take in Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel's epic piano piece *Das Jahr* [The Year], a musical diary of her travels in Italy in 1839-40, as well as Irish composer Rhona Clarke's beautiful song cycle *The End of Day*, which deals with the passage of time from childhood to old age.

In 2021 we also celebrate the bicentenary of Pauline Garcia Viardot (1821-1910), one of the most significant and intriguing musical figures of the nineteenth century. Garcia Viardot's achievements as both performer and composer are remembered with a song recital of her music, alongside readings from her letters and diaries and accounts from those who knew her.

Of course, there is another meaning to the phrase "it's about time", in that a stronger presence of women composers on concert programmes and on the airwaves is well overdue. Over the last four years, *Finding a Voice* has programmed music by more than eighty women composers from the twelfth century to the present day, celebrating the wealth of creativity of women through the ages and around the world, and demonstrating that there is certainly no shortage of talent and repertoire out there.

We look forward to having you join us online for this year's very special series of concerts.



Róisín Maher
Artistic Director, Finding a Voice



Friday 5th March



About Time

Alex Petcu (percussion)

1pm
Free

Book Ticket

Percussion music for marimba and vibraphone from one of Ireland's leading percussionists, with a special focus on the music of Japanese composer Keiko Abe, one of the world's most celebrated composers for the modern marimba, alongside works by Australian and Irish composers.

Keiko Abe - *Dream of the Cherry Blossoms*

Evelyn Glennie - *A Little Prayer*

Keiko Abe - *Wind in the Bamboo Grove*

Ella Macens - *Falling Embers*

Elena Kats-Chernin - *Violet's Etude*

Elaine Agnew - *Seagull*

Andrea Keller - *Pierrot the Clown*

Kate Moore - *Spel I* (from *Coral Speak*)

Ella Macens - *Verve*

Keiko Abe - *Little Windows*

Fanny Mendelssohn's | Das Jahr

A First in Musical History

{ 7pm
Free

Book Ticket

Friday 5th March

This fascinating talk followed by a live Q&A will look at Fanny Mendelssohn's background and relationship with her brother Felix, her journey to Italy, the tripartite creation of *Das Jahr* – including music, art and poetry – and some discussion of the music.

Author, broadcaster, pianist and music publisher **Diana Ambache** is a leading authority on women composers. She was shortlisted for the European Women of Achievement Award in 2002, for her pioneering work researching and presenting music by women. Her book *The Soul of the Journey* covers many details of Fanny Mendelssohn's expedition of 1839-40 to Italy and the creativity that came out of it.



Saturday 6th March

Time travellers

Marja Gaynor (violin)

David Power (uilleann pipes)

John Walsh (guitar)

1pm
€5

Book Ticket

Uilleann pipe master, virtuoso flamenco guitarist and trad-loving Baroque violinist get creative with a diverse and exciting set of tunes from 12th to 21st century.

Works by Beatriz de Dia, Barbara Strozzi, Pauline Garcia Viardot, Dana Lyn, Marja Gaynor and more...



A Woman of Genius: The Life and Music of Pauline Garcia Viardot

Kelley Lonergan (soprano)

Gabriela Mayer (piano)

Aideen Wylde (voice)

{ 7pm
€12

Book Ticket

Celebrating the 200th anniversary of Pauline Garcia Viardot (1821-1910), one of the greatest divas of the nineteenth century, soprano Kelley Lonergan Petcu and pianist Gabriela Mayer present a recital of works by Garcia Viardot, alongside readings from her letters and diaries by actor Aideen Wylde.

Pauline Garcia Viardot *Lamento, Hai luli, Fleur deséchée, Evocation, Chant du soir, Les filles de Cadix, Madrid, Canción de la Infanta* and more



Saturday 6th March

Sunday 7th March

Ex-Tempore | In the moment

Izumi Kimura (piano)

Cora Venus Lunny (violin)

{ 1pm
Free

Book Ticket

Live improvised sounds from this pairing of Irish-based Japanese pianist Izumi Kimura and virtuoso violinist Cora Venus Lunny. The *Irish Examiner* describes them as 'one of the Irish scene's most intriguing duos' and 'definitely ones to watch'. Their 2021 *album Folding*, with field recordings by Anthony Kelly, is available now on Farpoint Recordings



Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel; Das Jahr

Ellen Jansson (piano)

{ 7pm
€12

Book Ticket

Sunday 7th March

This concert features one of the towering works of nineteenth-century piano music, **Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel's** epic *Das Jahr* [The Year], a chronicle of her travels in Italy. The thirteen movements cover the twelve months of the year and an epilogue, and is considered one of the composer's greatest achievements. In what we believe will be the first performance in Ireland of this outstanding work in its entirety, rising star Ellen Jansson returns to Clonmel to wow audiences again.



Monday 8th March

Soleils couchants | End of Day

Elizabeth Hilliard (soprano)

David Bremner (piano)

{ 1pm
€5

Book Ticket

International Women's Day

Music by French, Belgian and Irish composers including Nadia Boulanger, Augusta Holmès, Poldowski and featuring Rhona Clarke's beautiful song cycle *The End of Day*, throughout which there are references to time, to its passing, moving between images of childhood and of older people.



Poldowski *L'heure exquise*

Holmès *L'heure de pourpre*

Holmès *L'heure d'azur*

Nadia Boulanger *Heures ternes*

Rhona Clarke *The End of Day* [Song Cycle]

Nadia Boulanger *Soleils couchants*

Nadia Boulanger *Le beau navire*

Nadia Boulanger *Cantique*

Nadia Boulanger *Chanson*

Nadia Boulanger *Soir d'hiver*

La Donna Barocca 2021

Irish Baroque Orchestra

Claire Duff (violin)

Malcolm Proud (harpsichord)

{ 7pm
€12

Book Ticket

Monday 8th March

International Women's Day

Musicians from the wonderful Irish Baroque Orchestra return to Clonmel for their third year in a programme of music from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Isabella Leonarda

Sonata Duodecima (Op.16, 1693)

Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre

Prelude in A minor (from *Pièces de clavecin*, 1687)

Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre

Sonata no. 2 in A minor

(from *Sonates pour le Violon et pour le Clavecin*, 1707)

Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre

Suite in D minor (from *Pièces de clavecin*, 1707)

Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre

Sonata no.1 in D minor

(from *Sonates pour le Violon et pour le Clavecin*, 1707)

