



# Farnham Chamber Music Festival



## **Mēla Guitar Quartet**

**Daniel Bovey**

**George Tarlton**

**Jiva Housden**

**Matthew Robinson**

Festival Director: Elizabeth Cooney

**2 October 2020**

**[www.tilbach.org.uk](http://www.tilbach.org.uk)**

## **Programme**

### **Camille Saint Saëns**

Bacchanale from Samson et Delilah arr. Bovey

### **Philip Houghton**

Opals

### **Bryan Johanson**

Pluck, Strum, and hammer

### **Stephen Goss**

Fantasy on Themes of Bizet's Carmen

*Torero; Seguidilla; Gypsy Song*

----- INTERVAL -----

**To comply with regulations please do not leave your seats except**

- to visit the loos via door to right of pulpit area or**
- to go outside for some fresh air via door to left of pulpit area.**

**If you go outside please return by the main front entrance to maintain a one-way system.**  
**There is also a loo at the front entrance to the left of the café hatch.**

### **Anton Weber**

Oberon overture arr. Burgess

### **Laura Snowden**

My Clock is Broken!

### **Dave Brubeck/Paul Desmond**

medley arr. Tarlton

### **Sergio Assad**

Uarekena

### **Egberto Gismonti**

Agua Y Vinho

### **Darius Milhaud**

Brasileira arr. Robinson

**making  
music**

## Mēla Guitar Quartet

Mēla guitar quartet was established in 2014 by graduates of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and Royal Academy of Music. In 2016 they recorded their first CD of the Guitar Chamber Works of Stephen Dodgson, sponsored by the Dodgson Trust and it was released with NAXOS in 2017 to positive reviews.

"Dodgson would have lavished praise on the performances captured in a recording of an exalted level of perfection." - Naxos CD review by David Denton on naxos.com 2017

They self-released their latest CD: Pluck, Strum and Hammer in 2018 and their recording of the complete guitar quartets of Anthony Burgess has been accepted for release by NAXOS in 2020.

The quartet were International Guitar Foundation Young Artists in 2015 and Park Lane Group young artists in the 2018/19 season performing at some of the best concert halls in the UK including Kings Place, Hall one. They won the chamber music category of Acerra Guitar festival competition, Italy in 2018, and were finalists of the Royal Overseas League Strings Chamber Music competition in 2019.

The quartet are passionate about expanding the repertoire of guitar quartet and have premiered major new works by Michael Finnissy, Anglia on the Road to Hell, Laura Snowden, My Clock is Broken!, and Stephen Goss, Venezuela, at their sold-out concert at London Southbank Centre's Purcell Room in 2019. They have recently had a two-week tour of China, including a sold-out performance at the Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre.

Visit their website [www.melagq.com](http://www.melagq.com) to find out about their upcoming projects.

The quartet play guitars by master luthier Michael Gee.

### Daniel Bovey



As well as Mēla Guitar Quartet, Dan performs in the Vickers-Bovey Guitar Duo. The duo studied at the Royal Academy of Music on the Masters of Arts Guitar Duo Programme. They are the dedicatees of new works by composers including Joe Cutler, Michael Finnissy and Ryan Probert, whose extensive work 'Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji' forms the duo's debut album. In 2017, the duo will be performing at Wigmore Hall and at St John's Smith Square as part of the Park Lane Concert series.

Dan has many brothers and sisters but grew up in a house populated by a greater number of cats than humans.

### George Tarlton

George's musical career began as a boy with the Norbury based choir "Libera" singing on multiple TV appearances, recordings and concerts across the country and abroad. Later the guitar became an all-consuming passion which led to his studies with Robert Brightmore and David Miller at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where he graduated with a first-class Bachelor of Music Honours Degree in 2015.

Notable recent performances include: BBC Radio 3's "Late Junction", Joaquin Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez with the Cerddorfa Dinas Powys Orchestra and ones in venues such as Milton Court and Kings Place.

He also enjoys his 4 cats, Jeremy, Roger, Luka and Boris.



### Jiva Housden



Jiva graduated from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2014. Whilst there he won the English Song Prize with tenor Dominick Felix and performed at St. Martins in the Fields.

A busy performer and teacher, Jiva plays in the Accord guitar duo with George Tarlton as well as the Richter-Housden duo with violinist Hartmut Richter. Jiva has recently performed with several orchestras, including performing on the mandolin in Mozart's Don Giovanni alongside the tenor Marcin Bronikowski.

In the spirit of not being the odd one out Jiva now lives in a 2 cat household, both of which begrudgingly feel at home with the sound of guitars.

### Matthew Robinson

A graduate of the Birmingham conservatoire under Mark Ashford and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama under Robert Brightmore, Matthew obtained a 1st class BMus(hons) degree and a Masters in Performance with distinction.

As a soloist he has performed the Richard Rodney-Bennett concerto at the Purcell room, London, conducted by Ben Gernon.

Since 2009 Matthew has been touring Europe and the U.K. with virtuoso Flamenco/jazz guitarist Eduardo Niebla, [www.eduardoniebla.com](http://www.eduardoniebla.com).

Matthew is head of guitar at the Junior Guildhall School of Music and Drama and a tutor/director of the National Youth Guitar Ensembles.

Matthew's cat Monty enjoys using a bespoke 'cat-ladder', which the rest of the quartet helped build.



## **Future Festival Concerts**

**7-30pm Saturday 3 October 2020**

*Bury Court Barn, Bentley GU10 5LZ*

**Tippett String Quartet**

**7-30pm Saturday 10 October 2020**

*Farnham Spire Church, GU9 7QU*

**Elizabeth Cooney, violin & John Mansfield, organ**

**[www.tilbach.org.uk/farnhamfestival](http://www.tilbach.org.uk/farnhamfestival)**

**Advance registration essential for all concerts!**

**7-30pm Saturday 17 October 2020**

*Farnham Spire Church, GU9 7QU*

**Illustrated talk by Matthew Taylor on Beethoven**