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The Best of British to delight classical fans at King's Lynn Festival



The Best of British, a stirring concert involving 140 musicians and singers at the Corn Exchange will launch the 63rd King's Lynn Festival on Sunday.

Handel's spine-tingling Coronation Anthems including Zadok the Priest – music played at the Queen's Coronation 60 years ago – will be performed by King's Lynn Festival Chorus, world-famous trumpet virtuoso Crispian Steele-Perkins and the European Union Chamber Orchestra.

Mr Steele-Perkins will also play Haydn's Trumpet Concerto and there will be music by John Rutter and Edward Elgar. The centenary of Benjamin Britten will be marked by music written for the Queen's Coronation and aspiring young music students attending Gresham's Britten Music Course will also take part.

The Festivals Service will be held at King's Lynn Minster at 11.30am on Sunday, marking the start of Lynn Festival and the end of this year's Festival Too. The preacher will be the Bishop of Lynn, the Rt Rev Jonathan Meyrick.

Festival organisers are expecting an 11th hour rush for tickets, adding to the tally of events which have already sold out. "Public enthusiasm for this summer's two-week programme has been reflected in brisk business at the box office and there is a waiting list for tickets for a third of the 26 events," said festival chairman Alison Croose

"Ever since we announced our plans for 2013 there has been a lot of interest in the wide-ranging programme and now that has been translated into good ticket sales right across the board. We are looking forward to welcoming our supporters from all over Britain when they converge on Lynn over the next two weeks," she said.

The current BBC Young Musician, cellist Laura Van Der Heijden, will appear at St Nicholas Chapel on Tuesday, July 16, with the European Union Chamber Orchestra and on Sunday July 21 cellist Guy Johnston and pianist Melvyn Tan will perform the complete Beethoven cello sonatas in two concerts.

Adding to the variety will be the top-notch BBC Big Band who will celebrate the music of the great swing bands on Tuesday, July 23. Another world-famous name taking part will be jazz saxophonist Courtney Pine with his band on Friday, July 19.

With talks, films, exhibitions, walks and the very popular series of five morning coffee concerts there is something for every taste.

Call the box office on 01553-764864, visit www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk or call the festival office on 01553-767557.



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