London Day Conference 2020

In the Beginning was Music?

Music and Religion

with

Patti Whaley
Stephen Mitchell
Joanna MacGregor

Saturday 28 March 2020
10.30 (for 10.55am) – 4.30pm

St John’s Church, Waterloo Road, is at the south end of Waterloo Bridge, adjacent to IMAX cinema. It is opposite Waterloo Station (BR main line and Northern, Bakerloo and Jubilee Under-ground lines). Coming by Jubilee, follow the Way Out sign for Waterloo NOT South Bank. At exit, turn left onto Waterloo Road. Bakerloo or Northern passengers follow the Way Out sign for Trains Not South Bank. Exit 2 to Waterloo Road, take Exit 2 to Waterloo Road. Exit 2 to Waterloo Road, take

Buses 1, 4, 26, 59, 77, 139, 171, 172, 188 and 381 stop nearby.

Refreshments
Coffee and tea will be provided during registration and the afternoon break. You may bring your own packed lunch and drink. There are cafes and pubs in the area where lunch can be bought.

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Registration Form (please detach)

SOF London Conference Saturday 28 March 2020

Grand Total: …… ...

I enclose a cheque payable to SEA OF FAITH NETWORK LONDON

Please reserve ……… places @ £20.00

Address: …………………………………………………………………………………………. ……...

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Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………. ……...

Registration using Cheque: (or Internet bank transfer: sort code: 090156 account no: 418153)

(Link found at bottom of London Conference item)

Follow instructions on website www.sofn.org.uk

Registration using Internet banking or credit card or PayPal:

St John’s Church, Waterloo Road, London, SE1 8TY

www.sofn.org.uk/
In the Beginning was Music?

Music and Religion

We thought we could build a Conference around the idea of our need for music to help shape and enrich our lives and how religions are built on not only stories and poetry (our last Conference) but music also.

How and why does music transport so many of us into a sense of transcendence?

Why is music so intrinsically bound up with religious expression and belief?

Can we explain the ‘religious’ power of music, or can we only experience it?

Our speakers and performers will stimulate and challenge you with their ideas on “faith in music; and music in faith”!

Programme

10.30 Registration & Coffee
10.55 Introduction by Chair:
11.00 **Patti Whaley**
   “And again I say rejoice: music as spiritual practice.”
12.00 Break
12.15 **Stephen Mitchell & Elaine Henson**
   “Music in faith”
13.15—14.15 Lunch
14.15 **Professor Joanna MacGregor CBE**
   Royal Academy of Music
15.15 Tea
15.30 **Speakers’ Plenary Panel and Audience Questions**
16.30 Close

“Music’s everything. Any other art form...is trying to do what music does indelibly, which is just get us as close as we can to the divine”

Bradley Cooper (‘A Star is Born’ Actor & Director, including ‘Shallow’, 2019 Oscar winner Music [Best original Song])

Speakers

**Patti Whaley**
A chartered accountant, IT specialist and Charity manager (formerly Chair, ActionAid UK; Treasurer, Food Ethics Council; Deputy Secretary General, Amnesty International), **Patti** is a local church organist. She has a B.A. & M.A. in Musicology and an ABRSM Diploma in organ performance (distinction). She is a former Chair of the Sea of Faith Network.

**The Revd Stephen Mitchell with Elaine Henson**
Published author (including ‘God in the Bath’ and ‘Past Perfect’) and former Rural Dean & Canon, **Stephen** has always been a musical vicar. He has a degree in Music and taught music in a secondary school before reading Theology at Cambridge. Stephen is also a former Chair of the Sea of Faith Network.

**Elaine** is a music graduate of the Universities of Exeter and Durham and a singing licentiate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

**Professor Joanna MacGregor CBE**
Head of Piano, Royal Academy of Music.

**Joanna** is known as one of the world’s most innovative pianists. Her early musical influences included exposure to church music at her parent’s church. After a Cambridge degree in Music, further study at the Royal Academy of Music, and acclaim as BBC Young Musician of the Year, she embarked on a career as an international pianist and recording artist, performing with many of the world’s top orchestras and conductors.

Joanna’s website: [www.soundcircus.com](http://www.soundcircus.com)

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