



Sea of Faith Network
National Day Conference 2023

In the Beginning was Music?

Music and Religion

with
Patti Whaley
Stephen Mitchell
Katie Hainbach

Monday 24 July 2023

11.00 – 4.30pm

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

www.sofn.org.uk/



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 Underground 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 onto Main Line Station; take **Exit 2** to Waterloo Road.

Buses 1, 4, 26, 59, 68, 77, 139, 168, 171, 172, 188 and 381 stop nearby.

Refreshments

Coffee and tea will be provided during registration, lunch and the afternoon break.

Lunch

A complimentary buffet lunch will be provided.

REGISTRATION FORM (please detach)

SOF National Conference

Monday 24 July 2023

Registration using credit card or PayPal:

Follow instructions on website: www.sofn.org.uk
(Link found at bottom of SOF National Conference item). Email jseargeant3@gmail.com with your details

Registration using cheque:

Please reserve places @ £20.00

I enclose a cheque payable to **SEA OF FAITH NETWORK**

Grand Total:

Name:

Phone:

Address:

Email:

Please send completed cheque and form to: **Janet Seargeant (SOF), 61 Fordington Road, London, N6 4TH**
For acknowledgement, email jseargeant3@gmail.com or send sae. Final details will be sent nearer the time.

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"!

SEA OF FAITH NETWORK started in 1984 as a response to Don Cupitt's book and TV series of the same name.

The Network explores religious faith as a human creation and affirms its continuing value.

The Network has no creed and welcomes people from all faith communities and none.

www.sofn.org.uk/

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 (buffet lunch supplied)

14.15 **Katie Hainbach**
Head of Music and Arts
Alyth Synagogue

15.15 **Tea and Social: feel free to stay and chat with friends, speakers and other attendees until:**

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.

Katie Hainbach
Head of Music and Arts, Alyth Synagogue

A mezzo-soprano, **Katie** is an experienced opera singer, teacher and choral conductor.

She has a BA (hons) in Music Studies (including a distinction in Music Pedagogy) and a MMus in Vocal Performance.

Katie has performed on radio and television in the UK and Ireland.

She has travelled around the country performing music for people with dementia and involved herself with other community music.

At the Alyth Synagogue, Katie is responsible for the choirs, as well as musical and acting groups.

Alyth Synagogue website:
<https://www.alyth.org.uk/>