



9 June 2023

## KING'S LYNN FESTIVAL 2023 – EARLY MUSIC DAY

St Nicholas Chapel will once again be the setting for King's Lynn Festival's annual Early Music Day on **Saturday 22 July**, exploring the rich repertoire of the Baroque period. The day features a lunchtime **organ recital with David Flood**, a concert with the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** and a late-night recital with **Ibrahim Aziz** (viola da gamba) and **Masumi Yamamoto** (harpsichord).

The 2023 Early Music Day begins with an hour-long recital by former organist at Canterbury Cathedral, David Flood. He will play the **Henry Willis organ**, the last instrument on which Father Willis worked on before his death.

The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment is renowned around the world for its dynamic music-making. Their programme of **Bach, Vivaldi, Handel, Telemann** and **Corelli** highlights their collective virtuosity and their mastery of the Baroque era in creating the closest possible experience to what the composers imagined and the first audiences heard.

The late-night concert as part of the 2023 Early Music Day marks the death of the great Elizabethan composer, **William Byrd** in 1623 and the birth in 1723 of the last great viola da gamba virtuoso of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, **C F Abel**.

Festival artistic director Ambrose Miller said: *“Our annual Early Music Day continues to shine a light on the inspiring and enlightening music of the Baroque period. King’s Lynn is continuing to develop a reputation for presenting high quality period instrument performances alongside drawing attention to its historic associations.”*

Other Early Music performances during the Festival include:

- A performance by Galliarda on Friday 21 July which explores music by 17<sup>th</sup> century female composers, alongside their male counterparts (pre-ceded by a talk exploring the work of the composers featured in the concert). They will also host a free 30-minute informal pop-up recital at King’s Lynn Library at 2.30pm on the same day.
- The first period string quartet to be selected as BBC New Generation Artist, the Consone Quartet, who perform an afternoon concert at Westacre Theatre on Sunday 23 July and a coffee concert at King’s Lynn Town Hall on Monday 24 July.
- Ibrahim Aziz (viola da gamba) will delight visitors to the Duke’s Head hotel in a short pop-up concert on Saturday 22 July.

The King's Lynn Festival takes place from Sunday 16 July until Saturday 29 July 2022. For full details of all events during the Festival visit [www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk](http://www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk). Tickets available via the website or on 01553 764864

## **ENDS**

### **Notes to editors**

For interviews and more information please contact Claire Bowdler, Marketing Consultant – [claire@kingslynnfestival.org.uk](mailto:claire@kingslynnfestival.org.uk) / 07801 538053

### **About**

[King's Lynn Festival](http://www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk) was founded in 1951 and continues to provide high-quality performances of classical music, recitals, choral performances, jazz, folk, talks, walks, exhibitions and films. The Festival features internationally renowned performers and uses beautiful historic venues around the town, including England's largest surviving Medieval Guildhall. The Festival's ongoing success has helped establish King's Lynn as a Festival Town, and is especially known for bringing new compositions to audiences as part of its broad programme of music and arts.