

BRAMALL
BIRMINGHAM

Elgar Concert Hall

THE BRAMALL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

www.birmingham.ac.uk/bramall

25 NOVEMBER to 8 DECEMBER





Welcome to the Bramall Music Building – home to the state-of-the-art Elgar concert hall and new residence for the University's world-renowned Department of Music. The main auditorium will be the most flexible performance space at any UK university and will benefit our students, staff and the local community.

The Bramall Music Building will finally complete Joseph Chamberlain's original architectural vision of the Aston Webb semi-circle. The Aston Webb buildings were originally built in 1909, but plans for a final dome were never realised due to a shortage of funding. The Bramall Music Building completes this semi-circle, and will include teaching and rehearsal facilities, as well as the centrepiece 450-seat auditorium.

A transformational donation from the Liz and Terry Bramall Charitable Trust plus extremely generous gifts from trusts, companies and many individuals has made the historic building's completion possible. To reflect the magnitude of Liz and Terry's gift and the University's enduring gratitude, the new building was named as 'The Bramall Music Building'.

These plans continue a rich tradition of music at Birmingham, begun when Sir Edward Elgar became the University's first Professor of Music in 1905. These standards have been maintained to this day, with a Music Department ranked joint second in the country for research, around 200 undergraduate and 50 postgraduate students annually, and strengths in musical composition,

early music, 19th-century music, English music and opera from its beginnings to the 20th century.

Vice-Chancellor Professor David Eastwood says: 'We are truly grateful to everyone who has played a part in funding this project, but particularly to Liz and Terry, who are truly playing a transformative role in securing the future of music at Birmingham. Their generosity, alongside that of everyone who has supported the project, will help to create a wonderful musical resource for the University and the city for generations to come.'

Charitable donations will continue to support the student experience and performance within the Department of Music. To find out more, or to name a seat in the auditorium, please contact Natalie Elderfield on 0121 414 6879.

THE BRAMALL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

Sunday 25 November 3.00pm

University Music Society Philharmonic Orchestra

Carolyn Sampson soprano
Andrew Kirkman conductor

Michael Zev Gordon
Fanfare (World première)

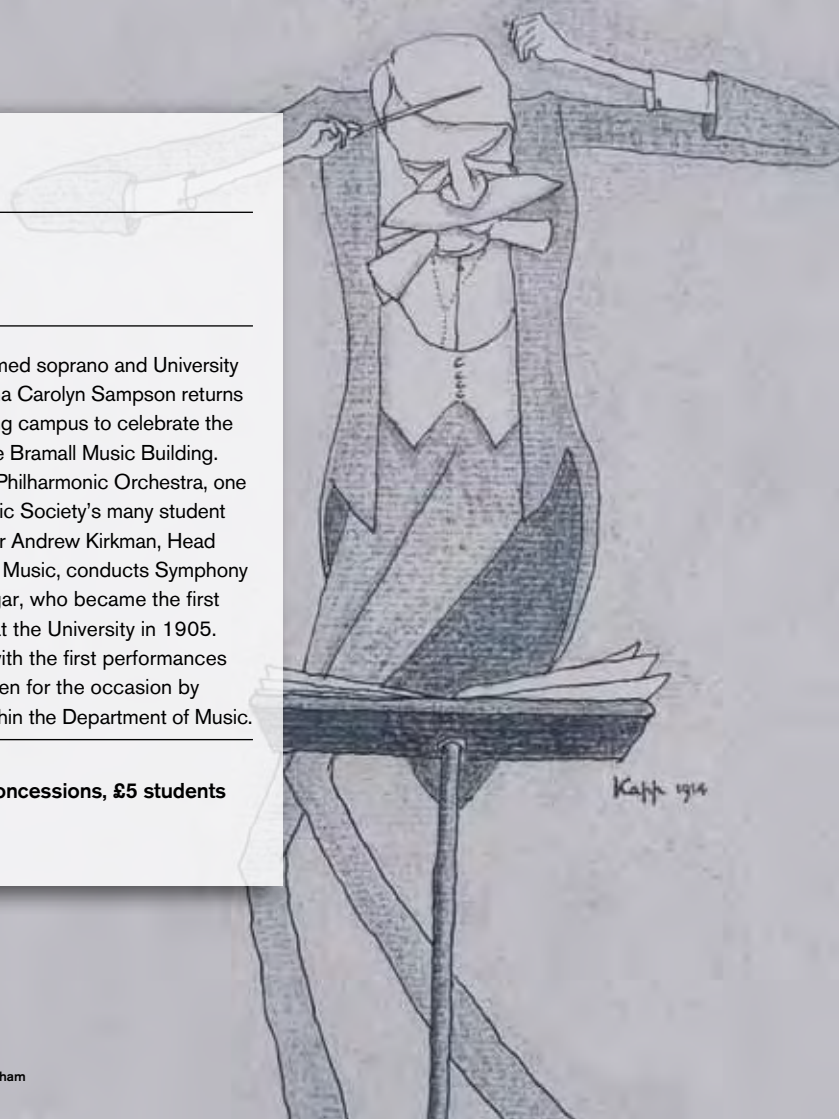
Mahler
Songs from '*Des Knaben Wunderhorn*'
Elgar
Symphony No. 2 in E flat, op. 63

Pre-concert foyer performance:
Scott Wilson
Fanfare (World première)

Internationally acclaimed soprano and University of Birmingham alumna Carolyn Sampson returns to the ever-developing campus to celebrate the official opening of the Bramall Music Building. She is joined by the Philharmonic Orchestra, one of the University Music Society's many student ensembles. Professor Andrew Kirkman, Head of the Department of Music, conducts Symphony No. 2 by Edward Elgar, who became the first Professor of Music at the University in 1905. We also celebrate with the first performances of two fanfares, written for the occasion by composition staff within the Department of Music.

Elgar Concert Hall

Tickets: £15, £10 concessions, £5 students



Monday 26 November 6.30pm

In conversation: Music and Architecture

Glenn Howells, founding director of Glenn Howells Architects, will discuss the design and build of the new Bramall Music Building, alongside Sir Jeremy Dixon, of Dixon Jones, who will talk about his work on the Royal Opera House and Kings Place. They will be joined by architect Ruth Reed, former President of RIBA, and lecturer at Birmingham City University.

This event will also feature Birmingham University Singers under the direction of the newly appointed Director of Choral Music, Simon Halsey.

Elgar Concert Hall

Admission free: Unticketed

Tuesday 27 November 1.10pm

John Ireland: A semi-centenary tribute

Lunchtime Lecture-recital

Professor Kenneth Hamilton
University of Cardiff

Kenneth Hamilton, long-standing member of University of Birmingham's Music Department, and now Professor of Music at Cardiff University, transfers his ever-popular lecture-recitals to the Bramall Music Building in a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the death of John Ireland, one of Britain's most important and intriguing composers. Using the Bramall's splendid new Steinway concert grand, he explores the characteristics of Ireland's bittersweet late-Romantic style with a performance of the hauntingly memorable *Sonata in E*, undoubtedly among the finest of all 20th-century piano sonatas.

Elgar Concert Hall

Admission free: Unticketed

Tuesday 27 November 5.00pm

Elgar: the Enigma

How much of what you thought you knew about Elgar was wrong?

An illustrated lecture by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor David Eastwood, on Edward Elgar.

Elgar Concert Hall

Admission free: Unticketed



Wednesday 28 November 7.30pm

The Power of Music: Lyric and Dramatic Song from 17th-century Italy

Centre for Early Music Performance and Research

Susan Bickley mezzo soprano

Mark Tucker tenor

An evening to indulge the senses and the passions with music from the age of Monteverdi. Some of the most exquisite dramatic moments from *L'Orfeo*, *L'Incoronazione di Poppea* and *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* are enacted by renowned Anglo-Italian tenor Mark Tucker and Susan Bickley, winner of the prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society Singer Award 2011. The programme also includes enthralling vocal gems by Monteverdi's contemporaries, Peri, Caccini and Marco da Gagliano.

This concert features some of the world's leading early music performers, who also teach in the Centre for Early Music Performance and Research, including Mark Tucker, Paula Chateauneuf (theorbo), Caroline Balding (violin) and David Roblou (harpsichord). These stunning instrumentalists and vocalists join forces to provide a rich palette of colours and textures, presenting skill and musicianship of the highest order.

Pre-concert event at 6.30pm

Director of CEMPR, Dr Mary O'Neill, hosts a celebration of the Power of Music as expressed in art, poetry, and music, with live performances by students of CEMPR in The Dome rehearsal room.

Elgar Concert Hall

Tickets: £12, £9 concessions, £3 students



Thursday 29 November 7.30pm

Play Out

Jesse Bannister saxophone

Zoe Rahman piano

Seb Rochford drums

Kenny Higgins bass

Play Out explores the improvisational nature of Indian and jazz music through fascinating creative partnerships that cross musical and geographical borders.

At the heart of Play Out lies Jesse Bannister's distinctive sound, honed over years of absorbing influences from Indian classical music, jazz and contemporary composition. The outstanding pianist Zoe Rahman has established herself

as a rising star on the contemporary jazz scene and been described as 'one of the finest young pianists in Europe' (*The Observer*). The group features rarely heard saxophone/percussion dialogue with the powerfully original drummer, Seb Rochford, and Kenny Higgins brings his dynamic bass to the collaboration.

This concert is presented by our Cultural Partner, sampad, who exist to develop a deep and distinctive structure of South Asian arts in Birmingham and Britain through production, promotion, advocacy, education and outreach.

Elgar Concert Hall

Tickets: £12, £8 concessions and students



Friday 30 November 2.30pm

Bramall Festival Public Tour

Join us for a **free** behind the scenes tour of the Bramall Music Building.

Tour lasts approximately 45 minutes.

Advance booking required by email:
bramallenquiries@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Please quote 'Bramall Festival Public Tour'
in the subject line when booking.



Friday 30 November 7.30pm

New Music Ensemble and BEER

Department of Music

Daniele Rosina conductor

Programme to include:

Berio

Folk Songs

The University New Music Ensemble performs under the direction of the newly appointed Director of Orchestral Studies, Daniele Rosina, in a concert that features talented students from the Department of Music who are passionate about performing works from the 20th and 21st centuries.

Started as a research project into live electroacoustic performance at the University of Birmingham, BEER (Birmingham Ensemble for Electroacoustic Research) uses networked computer systems to create structured improvisations involving real time programming in performance. This approach allows for pieces to take the form of structural interventions: musical software as conductor/*arbitrer/provocateur par excellence*. Results involve everything from textural feedback to breakbeats.

Elgar Concert Hall

Tickets: £8, £6 concessions, £3 students

Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 December

BEAST@30

Birmingham ElectroAcoustic Sound Theatre

Jonty Harrison director

BEAST celebrates its 30th birthday and the opening of the new Bramall Music Building by deploying its 90-channel loudspeaker system in the Elgar Concert Hall for an unforgettable immersive listening experience. Saturday's events offer historical and recent works by two composers featured in the groups inaugural concert in December 1982 and two who were present that day as undergraduate students and founder members of BEAST; the four composers will be present to diffuse their own pieces. On Sunday the current generation of research postgraduate composers present recent work from the Birmingham Electroacoustic Music Studios.

Saturday 7.30–8.30pm

YESTERDAY

Jonty Harrison

Klang

Denis Smalley

Pentes (1974)

Pete Stollery

Peel (1997; BEAST commission)

Andrew Lewis

Ascent (1994/97; BEAST commission)

Saturday 9.00–10.00pm

TODAY

Andrew Lewis

Lexicon (2012; World première)

Pete Stollery

Three Cities (2012; World première)

Denis Smalley

Spectral Lands (2011)

Jonty Harrison

BEASTiary (2012; World première)

Sunday 2.00–4.00pm (with interval)

TOMORROW

Music by current research postgraduates working in the Electroacoustic Music Studios, including a new work by Constantinos Kontos, commissioned by an anonymous donor via the University of Birmingham Circles of Influence campaign.

Elgar Concert Hall

Saturday tickets: £14, £8 concessions,

£3 students

Sunday tickets: £7, £5 concessions,

£3 students



Tuesday 4 December 1.10pm

Raffles International Schools (Singapore)

Lunchtime Concert

Programme to include:

Beethoven

Piano Sonata in D for Four Hands, op. 6
(1st movement)

Essl

More or less

When winter has started to lose its romance and spring seems all too distant, what better time to reconnect with some familiar and unfamiliar classics from the chamber music repertoire. Join music students from the Raffles Academy, the Raffles Institution and Raffles Girls' School as they present a concert of Bach, Beethoven and Essl.

Elgar Concert Hall

Admission free: Unticketed

Wednesday 5 December 7.30pm

Utterly Brass'd Off!

Sovereign Brass and University Music Society Brass Band

The UMS Brass Band joins forces with the Midlands Championship section band, Sovereign Brass, for a performance of some of the most popular Brass Band music ever written, celebrating the 15th anniversary of the hit British film *Brassed Off!*

Whether you are new to the world of brass bands or something of an aficionado, you are sure to enjoy this light-hearted evening. With marches including *Death or Glory* and *Colonel Bogey*, the haunting Flugelhorn solo *En Aranjuez con tu amor*, plus classics such as *Floral Dance*, *Danny Boy* and *William Tell Overture*, the only things missing are the miners' helmets!

Elgar Concert Hall

Tickets: £8, £6 concessions, £3 students

Thursday 6 December 7.30pm

University Music Society Big Band

This popular University Music Society ensemble performs a lively mix of traditional and contemporary music by some of the biggest names in the world of jazz. They performed in the Birmingham International Jazz and Blues Festival earlier in the year and have also impressed audiences at Symphony Hall in the Rush Hour Blues series. The Big Band features fine instrumental and vocal soloists and is led by talented student Music Directors.

Elgar Concert Hall

Tickets: £8, £6 concessions, £3 students



Friday 7 December 7.30pm

Birmingham Contemporary Music Group

Claire Booth soprano
Marie-Christine Zupancic flute
Timothy Lines clarinet
Malcolm Wilson piano
Laurence Jackson violin/viola
Ulrich Heinen cello

Birmingham Contemporary Music Group performs two classics of 20th-century music – Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire*, premiered 100 years ago, in which the moonstruck naïf of Albert Giraud's poems half-speaks, half-sings of love, religion, violence and homesickness; and Olivier Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du temps* (Quartet for the End of Time), a piece that with its grandly singing lines and gently ringing chords stops time with each performance.

BCMG is the Department of Music's Ensemble in Association, working with its staff and student composers in workshop settings.

Elgar Concert Hall

**Tickets in advance: £14,
£8 concessions, £5 under 16s
On the door: £16, £10 concessions,
£6 under 16s of the concert
(subject to availability).**



'A candlelit Christmas evening by
Jeffrey Skidmore and his incomparable
Ex Cathedra is not to be missed.'
Birmingham Post



Saturday 8 December 7.30pm

Gaudete!

Ex Cathedra Consort

Jeffrey Skidmore conductor

English, 16th century Coventry Carol

Padilla Missa Ego flos campi

Victoria O magnum mysterium

Fernandes Xicochi

J. S. Bach In dulci jubilo

The glorious polyphony and rhythmic verve of Padilla's *Missa Ego flos campi* is complemented by stunning, seasonal music from Renaissance Spain and Latin America in the first half of this intimate concert, performed by candlelight. Ex Cathedra return to their roots in the second half with a selection of 'most highly favoured' Christmas music from the 13th to the 18th century.

Elgar Concert Hall

Tickets: £25 (£20)/students £9.50

Box Office: 0121 345 0603

or www.excathedra.co.uk





venue**bir**m**ing**ham

Music to the ears...

After enjoying an evening of music at the Bramall Music Building, in the beautiful grounds of the University of Birmingham, why not arrange to extend your stay with overnight accommodation at venuebirmingham.com? Only a short walk away from the Bramall Music Building, the Conference Park has a great range of accommodation available to make your evening experience a pleasurable one. Bed and Breakfast prices start **from £45** per person.

venuebirmingham.com also have lots of special offers and packages available, including pre-show dinners. Call us on 0121 415 8400, or visit our website www.venuebirmingham.com for special offers and package deals.

lets talk...

0121 415 8400

www.venuebirmingham.com

Booking information

General box office: 0121 345 0492
www.birmingham.ac.uk/bramall

Tickets can be purchased online at the above address, or by telephone or in person at the Symphony Hall Box Office.

Box Office opening hours

Monday to Saturday:

10.00am–6.00pm

Sundays and Bank Holidays:

12.00noon–4.00pm

On the evening of a performance there will be a box office facility in the Bramall Music Building foyer, opening one hour before the advertised start time and selling tickets only for the event that is due to take place.

Limited blue badge holder parking is available on Chancellor's Court: please speak to the box office staff when booking for availability.

Ex Cathedra box office: 0121 345 0603
www.excathedra.co.uk

Concessions

Concessionary rates are offered to the disabled, the unemployed, and patrons over 60 years-of-age.

Latecomers

Please arrive early to ensure a prompt start. Latecomers are admitted at our discretion.

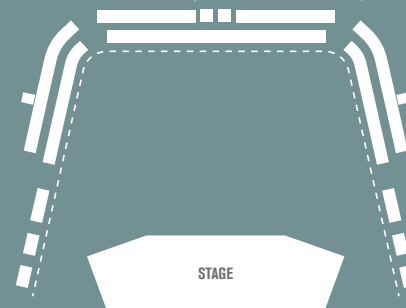
We reserve the right to substitute artists and vary programmes if necessary in unavoidable circumstances. Patrons will be notified if such a change occurs once tickets have been purchased.

Join our mailing list

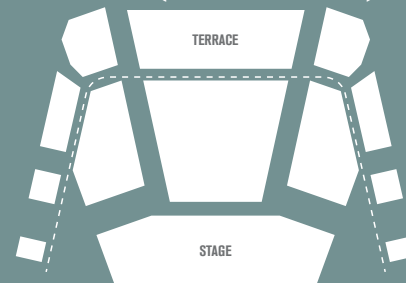
Go to www.birmingham.ac.uk/bramall to sign up for our email concert and events newsletter or fill in a form when you visit.

Seating

BALCONY (FIRST FLOOR)



STALLS (GROUND FLOOR)



Finding us

Bramall Birmingham is located in south-west Birmingham, approximately three miles from the city centre, at the University of Birmingham, off Edgbaston Park Road.

By road

South car park (off Edgbaston Park Road) is five-minutes' walk away. Charges apply Monday–Friday, 8.30am–4.30pm. Free parking is available outside these times.

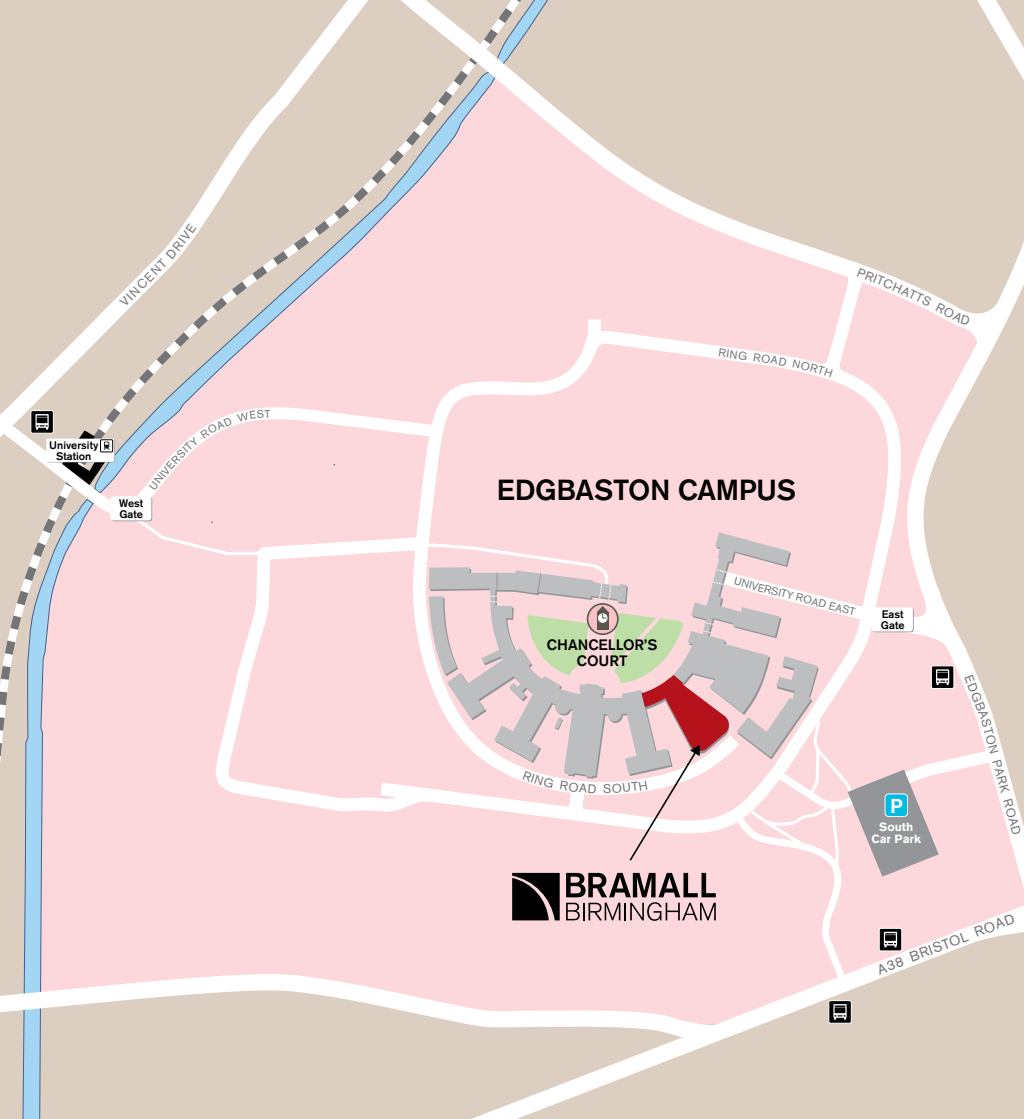
For your satnav: B15 2TT

By rail

Local trains operated by London Midland run from Birmingham New Street to University station, a five-minute walk from the Bramall. Check train times and buy tickets at www.londonmidland.com

By bus

There are frequent buses (61 and 63 operated by National Express West Midlands) from the city centre past the bottom of Edgbaston Park Road.



THE BRAMALL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

25 NOVEMBER to 8 DECEMBER

Date	Time	Event	Page
25 November	3.00pm	UMS Philharmonic Orchestra and Carolyn Sampson	4
26 November	6.30pm	In Conversation: Music and Architecture	5
27 November	1.10pm	Lecture-recital by Kenneth Hamilton: John Ireland	5
27 November	5.00pm	Vice-Chancellor's Lecture – Elgar: the Enigma	5
28 November	7.30pm	CEMPR: The Power of Music	6
29 November	7.30pm	Sampad: Play Out	7
30 November	2.30pm	Bramall Festival Public Tour	8
30 November	7.30pm	New Music Ensemble and BEER	8
1 December	7.30pm	BEAST@30: YESTERDAY	9
1 December	9.00pm	BEAST@30: TODAY	9
2 December	2.00pm	BEAST@30: TOMORROW	9
4 December	1.10pm	Raffles International Schools (Singapore)	10
5 December	7.30pm	Sovereign Brass and UMS Brass Band: Utterly Brass'd Off!	10
6 December	7.30pm	UMS Big Band	10
7 December	7.30pm	Birmingham Contemporary Music Group	11
8 December	7.30pm	Ex Cathedra: Gaudete!	12

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Edgbaston, Birmingham,
B15 2TT, United Kingdom
www.birmingham.ac.uk/bramall



[www.facebook.com/
BramallMusicBuilding](http://www.facebook.com/BramallMusicBuilding)



[www.twitter.com/
BramallMusic](http://www.twitter.com/BramallMusic)

venue**brim**ingham