

SHAKESPEARE IN MUSIC FESTIVAL
Stratford-upon-Avon
2 May to 5 May 2025



Songs and Sonnets

Elizabeth Kenny and Mark Padmore

Like as the Lute Samuel Danyel/John Danyel (1564-1626)

Time, cruel time John Danyel

Sonnet 7 Lo in the Orient Shakespeare/John Dowland (1563-1626)

Sonnet 61 Is it thy will Shakespeare/Dowland

Galliard Robert Johnson (c1583-1633)

O sweet woods Philip Sidney/John Dowland.

Sonnet 43 When most I winke Shakespeare/Dowland

Sonnet 29 When in disgrace with Fortune Shakespeare/Dowland

Rosa (lute solo) John Danyel

Grief, keep within Danyel

INTERVAL

It was a lover and his lass Shakespeare (*As you Like It*)/Thomas Morley (1557-1602)

Sonnet 130 My mistress' Eyes are nothing like the sun Shakespeare/Robert Jones

Love wing'd my Hopes Morley

Can she excuse my wrongs? Dowland/Robert Devereux

Fantasie All in a Garden Green (lute solo)

Now I now I needs must part Dowland

To ask for all thy love Dowland

Autumnal Alec Roth

If my complaints could passions move Dowland

Second Lute Song from *Gloriana* (1953) Benjamin Britten (1913-76)

Elizabethan songwriters were attracted to the expressive possibilities of the sonnet form. This recital features sonnets by Samuel Danyel and Sir Phillip Sidney. But until now, there has been a musical void where Shakespeare's sonnets might live. Ross Duffin, scholar and author of "Shakespeare's Songbook" has recently completed a project matching some of the best-loved sonnets to pre-existing tunes from the lute-song repertory. Marl Padmore and Elizabeth Kenny will perform some of these for the very first time; they place them alongside songs by John Danyel, Thomas Morley and John Dowland, and their twentieth-century descendants, Benjamin Britten and Alex Roth.



Elizabeth Kenny is one of Europe's leading lute players. Her playing has been described as "incandescent" (*Music and Vision*), "radical" (*The Independent*) and "indecently beautiful" (*Toronto Post*). She has played with many of the world's best period instrument groups and experienced many different approaches to music making. She has an extensive discography of collaborations with ensembles across Europe and the USA, and her own repertoire interests have led to critically acclaimed recordings of solo music from the ML Lute Book, and songs by Lawes, Purcell and Dowland. She is currently Professor of Lute and Theorbo at the Royal Academy of Music.

She has given premiere performances of solo and chamber pieces by James MacMillan, Benjamin Oliver, Heiner Goebbels and Rachel Stott. In June 2019 she premiered Nico Muhly's *Berceuse* for solo theorbo, which was written for her in 2018, and features on her CD *Ars longa: Old and new music for theorbo* for Linn records which was nominated in the 2020 BBC Music Magazine Awards in the Instrumental category.

In recent seasons, Elizabeth has performed at numerous festivals including the Lied Festival Victoria de los Ángeles, Salisbury International Arts, Tetbury Music, Spitalfields Music, London International Festival of Early Music, the Trigonale Festival der Alten Musik in Austria, Britten Pears Arts, the Ludlow English Song Weekend, Newbury Spring, Lammermuir, Bath BachFest, and a BBC Prom in Scotland with Nardus Williams and Mary Beard.



Mark Padmore was born in London and studied at King's College, Cambridge. He has established an international career in opera, concert and recital. His appearances in Bach Passions have gained particular notice, especially his renowned performances as Evangelist in the *St Matthew* and *St John* Passions with the Berlin Philharmonic and Simon Rattle. His discography is extensive and award-winning.

This season Mark sings Evangelist in the *St Matthew Passion* with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra and Simon Rattle; tours Japan appearing in concerts and recitals; performs Britten's *Nocturne* with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Ryan Wigglesworth and the Freiburg Chamber Orchestra. Recitals include Schubert *Winterreise* with Julius Drake for Temple Music as well as with Till Fellner at the Innsbrucker Festwochen.

Recent highlights included Judith Weir's *In the Land of Uz* at the Worcester Three Choirs Festival; recitals, including performances in Barcelona and Madrid with Julius Drake; Alicante with the Elias String Quartet; the Muziekgebouw Amsterdam with Till Fellner; the Théâtre de l'Athénée Paris with Julius Drake and Schubert *Winterreise* with Mitsuko Uchida at Carnegie Hall New York, the Kimmel Center Philadelphia and the University of California at Berkeley.

Mark was Artistic Director of St. Endellion Summer Music Festival from 2012-2022, voted 2016 Vocalist of the Year by Musical America and appointed a CBE in 2019.

His extensive and award-winning discography includes Schumann *Dichterliebe* with Kristian Bezuidenhout and Schubert song cycles with Paul Lewis, both for Harmonia Mundi. Described by the New York Times as "Schubert Masters" Mark Padmore and Mitsuko Uchida recently embarked on a series of highly acclaimed, worldwide recitals and this partnership has culminated in a recording on Decca Classics of Schubert *Schwanengesang* and Beethoven *An die ferne Geliebte*.