

Canterbury Festival



15-29 OCTOBER 2011

Kent's International Arts Festival

www.canterburyfestival.co.uk

NEWS RELEASE

9 May 2011

Canterbury Festival provides platform for local talent

Young local musicians of national standing perform in atmospheric surroundings

As Kent's International Arts Festival, Canterbury Festival is committed to supporting international, national and local talent. In a number of fundraising events every year it provides a platform for amateur and professional performers.

In 2010 the Canterbury Festival Foundation set up the Building for the Future appeal with the aim to lend support to young musicians at the beginning of their careers.

On Saturday, 21 May at 6pm Sophia Dee, 17 year old pianist from Faversham, will perform in the ballroom at Lees Court.

Sophia Dee, BBC Young Musician of the Year 2010 finalist, has been playing the piano since the age of six and has been winning major prizes in the UK since 2003. The programme of the evening includes works by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy and Chopin.

The stunning surroundings of the recital venue, not usually open to the public, provide the perfect backdrop for this rare opportunity to hear a talented performer such as Sophia at the beginning of her career in an intimate setting.

As part of the annual series of events organised by the Friends of the Festival, harpist Camilla Pay will perform on Sunday, 22 May at 5pm at Charlton Park, Bishopsbourne. The recital will include works by Ravel, Bach, Debussy, Piazzolla and many more.

Camilla Pay was a music scholar at both King's School Canterbury and The Royal Academy of Music. Since graduating in 2001 she has performed as soloist from Prague to Amsterdam and throughout the UK, notably in St. David's Hall and for the Festival at Canterbury Cathedral. She appears regularly alongside a wide variety of artists on television (incl. The Priests, Katherine Jenkins), but she is equally at home in the studio or on the concert platform. She currently performs in the West End production of the 'Umbrellas of Cherbourg'.

The recitals showcase two young performers at different stages in their careers and further information can be found in the Friends events section at www.canterburyfestival.co.uk. Tickets for either recital are £15 (incl. a glass of champagne) and are available from the Canterbury Festival office on 01227 452 853 or info@canterburyfestival.co.uk.

Ends.

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For further information, review tickets or interviews contact:

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Notes to Editors:

- The Canterbury Festival Foundation has been set up to ensure the continued provision of high quality international performances at Canterbury Festival, to enable major projects such as the commissioning of new plays and compositions, the hosting of premieres and the development of wide-ranging education and outreach projects within the local community.
- Canterbury Festival has nearly 1,000 friends who enjoy many benefits including priority booking, special discounts and a full programme of social events. Membership is available from £20 per year, further details are available in the Friends section on the website.
- Canterbury Festival 2011 runs from 15-29 October in and around Canterbury, Kent.
- Full details of the programme of events will be announced in July and will be available in the Festival brochure online at www.canterburyfestival.co.uk and from the Festival Office.
- Booking for the general public opens on Monday 8 August, with a priority booking period commencing 25 July for Friends of the Festival. Tickets will be available online at www.canterburyfestival.co.uk, from the Festival Box Office in the Canterbury Visitor Information Centre in person and by phone 01227 787787.