

Press information

January 2012

THE CHILINGIRIAN QUARTET SUMMER SCHOOL AND CONCERTS AT WEST DEAN

Near Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0QZ
www.westdean.org.uk

The Chilingirian Quartet have been inspiring Quartets at West Dean for over three decades. 13 – 19 July 2012 will be the 31st year of the Chilingirian Quartet Summer School at West Dean College. And this year, they've added a twist.

Levon Chilingirian and Susie Mészáros

For the first time, members of the Chilingirian Quartet (Levon Chilingirian, Ronald Birks, Susie Mészáros and Philip De Groot) will be mentoring individual quartet players alongside pre-formed professional and amateur quartets. So if you are an individual violin, viola or cello player in search of specialist instruction on playing in a Quartet this is your chance.



Each year, musicians from around the world gather at West Dean for playing, coaching, watching, and listening opportunities with the internationally-renowned Chilingirian Quartet. The College and its environment within the heart of the South Downs near Chichester in the South of England have been awarded Grade II* listed

status by English Heritage and offer a sensational backdrop for study.



The Summer School consists of one-to-one tuition, masterclasses (some in front of an audience), dedicated practice space and time, informal concerts, and the chance to hear the Chilingirian Quartet in concert.

Bursaries are available for young quartets at the beginning of their careers, and are made possible through the generous support of the Friends of the Chilingirian Quartet, The Edward James Foundation and the Belmont Trust. In addition each year one of the 'up and coming' professional Quartets is invited to return as Quartet in Residence with further studying and performing opportunities. In 2011, the Archos Quartet who attended the Summer School was awarded this honour. Of this, they said: *"It was a great pleasure for us to be in this beautiful estate. West Dean College is a very special place, it has a unique, warm, inspiring atmosphere and beautiful surroundings, which has had an amazing influence on us and our music. We spent a fantastic week here working with the Chilingirian Quartet whom we admire so much."*



The Archos Quartet

Chilingirian Quartet Summer School events open to the public this year:

THE CHILINGIRIAN QUARTET IN CONCERT

Saturday 14 July, 8pm, St Andrew's Church, West Dean, £15

- Haydn Op76 No5 Quartet
- Ravel Quartet
- Brahms Op51 No2 Quartet

PUBLIC MASTERCLASS WITH THE CHILINGIRIAN QUARTET

Monday 16 July, 2pm, The Old Library, West Dean College, £8 (incl interval tea)

Student quartets perform a movement and receive coaching in technique and interpretation.

THE CHILINGIRIAN QUARTET IN CONCERT

Tuesday 17 July, 8pm, The Old Library, West Dean College, £15

- Mozart K589 Quartet
- Enescu No2 Quartet
- Beethoven Op135 Quartet

STUDENTS' 'SHOWCASE' CONCERT

Wednesday 18 July, 8pm, The Old Library, West Dean College, £6

An opportunity for selected student quartets to perform a complete work in front of an audience.

STUDENTS' INFORMAL CONCERT

Thursday 19 July, 2pm, The Old Library, West Dean College, £6 (incl tea)

Students perform a selection of works studied during the course in front of an audience.

To find out more about attending the Summer School as a Quartet or an individual player (note: must be Grade 8 equivalent or above) contact Rosemary Marley on 01243 818 263 or rosemary.marley@westdean.org.uk

To book tickets for the public events go to www.westdean.org.uk/events and book online or phone 01243 818 314.

Notes to editors

- All photography is free to use for promotional purposes.
- The Edward James Foundation, a charitable trust comprises the West Dean College, West Dean Gardens, West Dean Estate and the West Dean Tapestry Studio. Charity No. 1126084.
- The College runs over 700 short courses in arts, crafts, gardening, creative writing, food and music each year as well as postgraduate programmes in visual arts, conservation and making and creative writing.
- The Gardens are open throughout the year (closed in January), and there are three garden events each year.
- Any journalist interested in attending a course or event for news or review purposes should contact the Communications Office.
- West Dean College is situated on the A286, six miles north of Chichester and six miles south of Midhurst.

For further information and high-resolution digital images, please contact

Ellen Cheshire, Head of Communications, +44 (0)1243 818277

ellen.cheshire@westdean.org.uk

Penny Smith, Press Officer, +44 (0)1243 818301

Penny.smith@westdean.org.uk

[West Dean College, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0QZ www.westdean.org.uk](http://www.westdean.org.uk)