



Music Festivals in 2024 – Issue 180, April 2024

Although we are concentrating on **music festivals** in this issue of our newsletter, our daily content continues as normal. If you don't visit us very often, please use [this link to our home page](#) to explore our latest CD reviews, concert reviews, interviews, profiles and tributes, new releases, news, obituaries, games and puzzles and various humorous articles.

SUMMER AND OTHER 2024 FESTIVALS



Here, in approximate date order, and with links for further information, is a quick round-up of a few of the music festivals taking place this year. They take place annually, unless specified otherwise. Please **let us know** if we've missed out your festival.

Musica Polonica Nova Festival takes place 10-14 April 2024 at the National Forum of Music in Wrocław, Poland. It has been running every two years for over fifty years, organised by the Polish Composers' Union. It features the latest trends in music and compositions important for the development of Polish music in the twentieth and 21st centuries. This year's festival, on the theme of 'Pop culture/subculture' is about inspiration, fluid boundaries and connections.

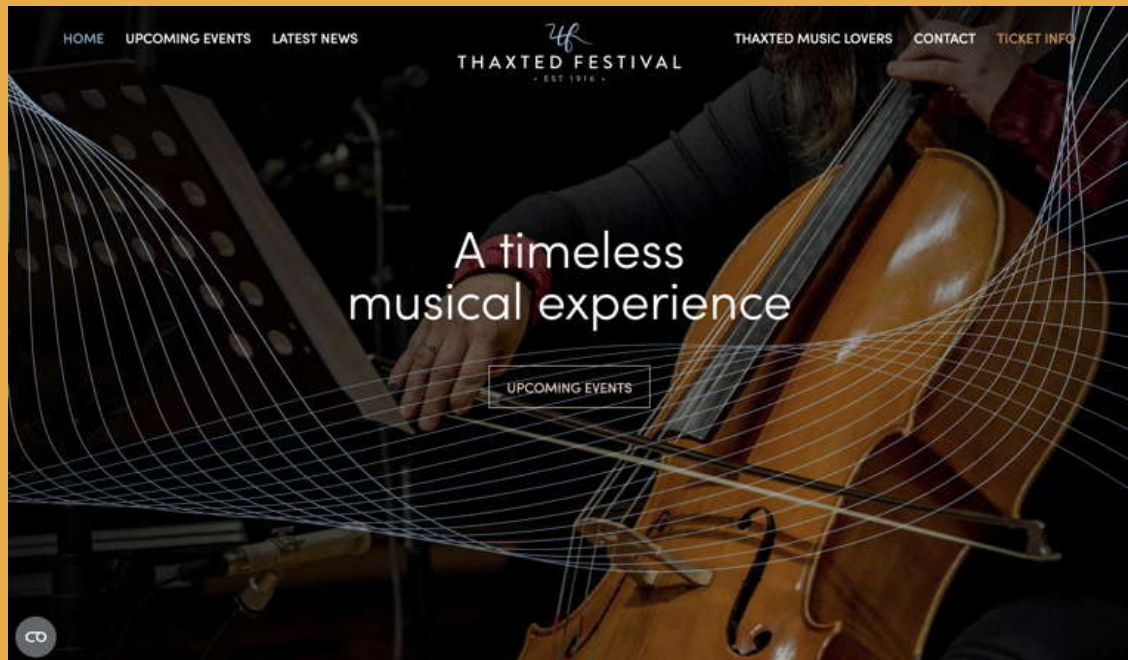


Public booking is open now for the **Newbury Spring Festival**, 11-25 May 2024 in Newbury, Berkshire, UK, which is welcoming musicians to the south of England from as far afield as Argentina, Czech Republic, Hungary, India, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Ukraine and the USA.



Although the **Presteigne Festival** takes place in Welsh/English border country at the end of the summer - this year 22-26 August 2024, the festival's 'springboard weekend', 11-12 May 2024, includes a solo recital by Dutch violinist Emma Roijackers, who also teams up with harpist Heather Brooks for a joint Sunday recital, and a benefit concert of sea shanties and Irish songs for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution by Presteigne's shanty band, The Pressgangers. There's also a 'singing walk' and an introduction to the full August festival.

As mentioned previously, the UK's **Thaxted Festival** runs from 21 June to 14 July in Essex, south-east England, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of local composer **Gustav Holst**. The festival features soprano Nadine Benjamin, The Joanna Eden Band, The Nash Ensemble and pianist Iyad Sughayer, alongside VOCES8, Mozart's *Magic Flute* with Wild Arts, the English Chamber Orchestra and The Festival's resident ensemble, the London Mozart Players. There will be a first performance of Symphony No 1 by Noah Max, who is composer in residence in 2024.



Germany's **Spannungen** chamber music festival in Heimbach, North Rhine-Westphalia, was founded in 1998 by pianist Lars Vogt. This year's edition runs from 23-30 June 2024. The full programme will be available from 11 April and tickets can be booked two days later.



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Use *Classical Music Daily's* search feature to search more than twenty-five years of features, reviews, news and other articles. There's now a search box on most of our pages, and the search facility can also be found [here](#).

This year's **West Cork Chamber Music Festival** at Bantry in the Republic of Ireland runs from 28 June until 7 July 2024. Artists include the Chiaroscuro Quartet, pianists Boris Giltburg and Julius Drake, viola player Dana Zemtsov and soprano Anna Devin.



The **Bellingham Festival** season in Bellingham, Washington, USA, begins on 30 June 2024 with violinist Sarah Chang playing music by John Corigliano, Sibelius and Tchaikovsky, and ends on 21 July 2024 with a guitar recital by Pablo Sáinz-Villegas which features music by de Falla, Rodrigo, Gabriela Lena Frank, Piazzolla and Ginastera. The season also includes recitals by pianists Natasha Paremski and Stewart Goodyear, a concert by the Calidore String Quartet and an evening of vocal music by soprano Jennifer Bromagen, mezzo Sarah Mattox, tenor Andrew Etherington and bass Richard Hodges.



NEXT NEWSLETTER — IMPROVISATION DISCUSSION

Our next newsletter will be an edited recording of an online discussion on the subject of *Improvisation*, particularly, but not exclusively, in terms of its connections with classical music. The discussion, chaired by **John Dante Prevedini**, will be recorded around 16-20 April 2024. Watch out for further announcements. All welcome. Please join us if you can. [READ MORE](#)

This year's **Aix-en-Provence Festival** in France runs from 3-23 July 2024. Aix is particularly known for its opera performances, and won the Best Festival Award in last year's International Opera Awards. This year's offerings include operas by Debussy (*Pelléas et Mélisande*), Gluck (*Iphigénie en Aulide* / *Iphigénie en Tauride*), Puccini (*Madama Butterfly*) and Rameau (*Samson*).

FESTIVAL D'AIX—EN—PROVENCE

3 — 23 JUILLET 2024

FESTIVAL D'AIX—EN—PROVENCE
PRIX DU MEILLEUR FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL OPERA AWARDS 2023

De ce monde qui nous stupéfie chaque jour davantage, l'opéra ne nous divertit pas plus qu'il ne l'imite platement. Il le raccorde aux temps immémoriaux et aux passions premières, dont il livre le spectacle brûlant avec ses moyens inimitables.



L'Atride Iphigénie passant de victime à bourreau, l'élu Samson que sa force isole jusqu'au carnage, Butterfly vulnérable et obstinée à en mourir : l'édition 2024 est peuplée de ces destinées exemplairement ambivalentes. La violence, la folie, la destruction se déchainent ; mais la fidélité, la volonté, la lutte pour la justice et l'émancipation leur font face. Voici l'humaine fragilité, résistant à sa propre barbarie à travers le plus sublime et pathétique des langages.

[LIRE LA SUITE](#)

The **Newport Classical Music Festival** in Rhode Island, USA, celebrates its fifty-fifth anniversary in 2024, with events from 4 until 21 July. Highlights include an evening with American violinist Anne Akiko Meyers, a morning concert from the Lincoln Trio, a group celebrating its twentieth anniversary, and a composer talk with Clarice Assad.

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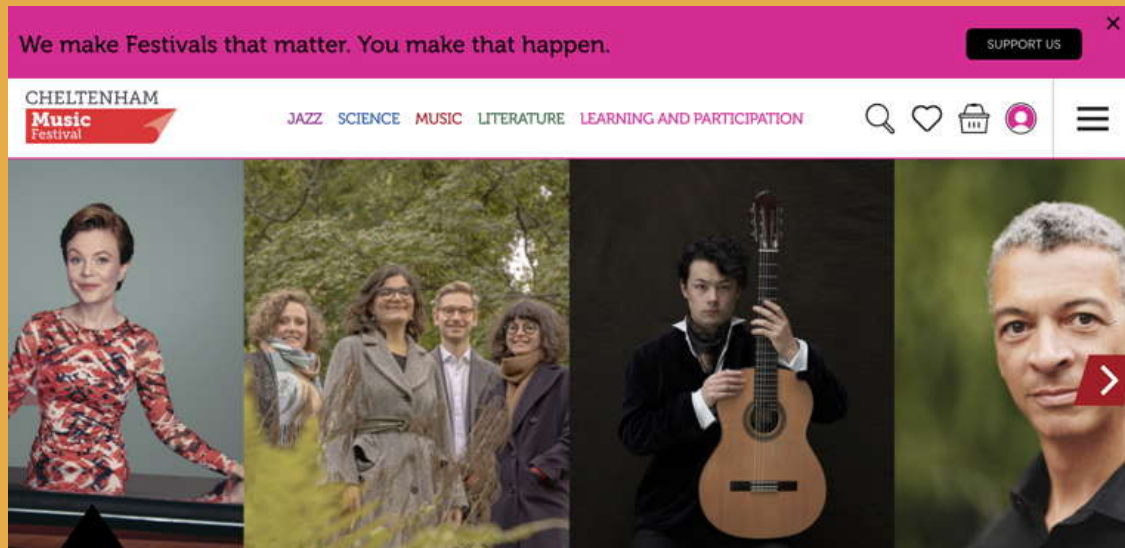
2024 Newport Classical Music Festival

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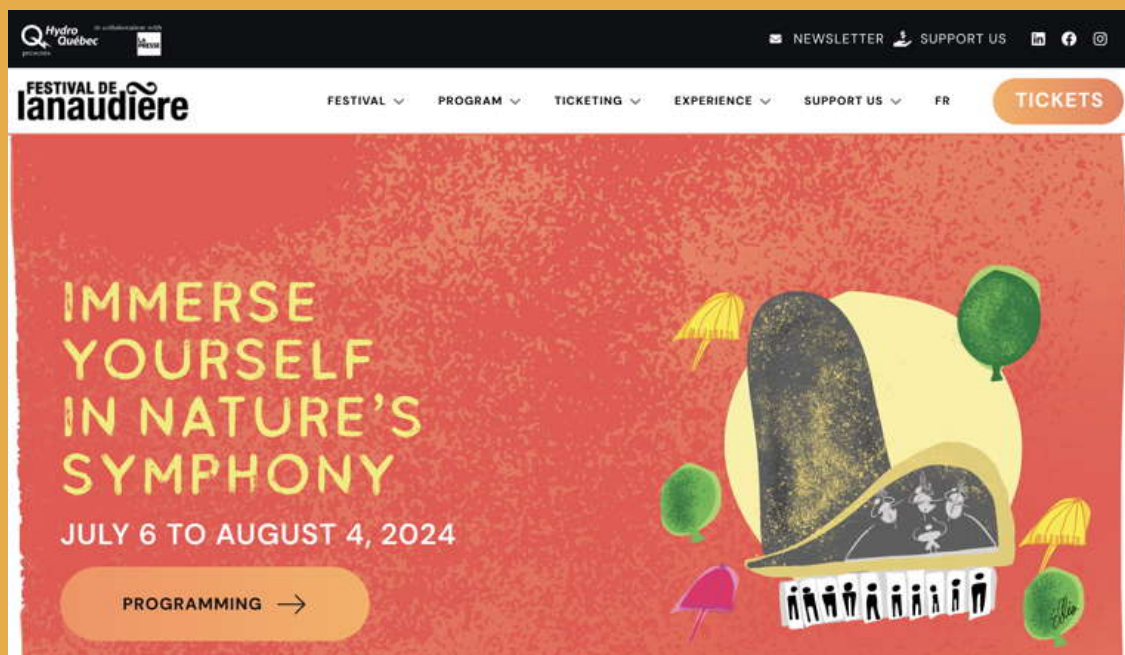
2024 NEWPORT CLASSICAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Celebrating the 55th Anniversary: July 4 – 21, 2024

Cheltenham Music Festival, 6-13 July 2024 in Gloucestershire, UK, features artists including the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Roderick Williams and Roger Vignoles, pianist Clare Hammond, the Dunedin Consort and Sean Shibe. The festival marks the 150th anniversary of the birth in Cheltenham of English composer Gustav Holst with several events including a final concert including *St Paul's Suite*, *A Fugal Concert* and *Two Songs without Words*, Op 22, performed by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Andrew Manze.



Canada's **Festival de Lanaudière** is back, 6 July-4 August 2024, featuring more than a thousand international, Canadian and local artists, centred around the Fernand-Lindsay Amphitheatre in Joliette, Quebec.



READ OUR CD REVIEWS

Our reviews of recorded music are all illustrated with short sound samples, usually chosen by the author of each review, and each review has a detailed information page about the album under scrutiny. We also publish a long list of new releases, normally once each month.

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The **Bregenzer Festspiele**, 17 July to 18 August 2024, is essentially opera - particularly Puccini - on a lake in Austria, which began in 1946, just after World War II. The large opera stage literally floats on Lake Constance in Vorarlberg, Austria's westernmost state. This year's operas include Weber's *Der Freischütz*, Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, and Rossini's *La cambiale di matrimonio* and *Tancredi*. The festival also features orchestral and other concerts.

The screenshot shows the website for the Bregenzer Festspiele. The header includes the festival logo, navigation links (PROGRAMME, TICKETS, VISIT, ABOUT US, PARTNER, YOUNG FESTIVAL), and a language selector (DE) with a search icon. The main banner features the text 'OPERA ON THE LAKE 2024/25' and 'DER FREISCHÜTZ' by Carl Maria von Weber. A 'read more' button is present. The background image depicts a clock tower on fire, a large red moon, and a dark, winged figure.

Tickets are already on sale for **The Australian Festival of Chamber Music** in Townsville-Gurambilbarra, Queensland, which runs from 26 July until 4 August 2024. Artistic director Jack Liebeck says: 'I am particularly excited to welcome back our former Artistic Director, the man for whom I can credit my entire connection to Australia, Piers Lane. I know his appearance this year will be a major highlight.'

The screenshot shows the website for the Australian Festival of Chamber Music (AFCM). The header includes the festival logo, navigation links (AFCM 2024, DESTINATION, SUPPORT, DISCOVER), and a 'BUY TICKETS' button. The main banner features a photograph of a violinist and a double bassist performing on a beach. A pink callout box contains the text 'AFCM 2024' and 'AFCM is back in Townsville-Gurambilbarra from 26 July - 4 August, 2024 with over 30 events and concerts to explore! View the 2024 Festival Program and purchase tickets - on sale NOW!'. A 'LEARN MORE +' button is also present. A vertical sidebar on the right says 'JOIN AFCM FRIENDS TODAY'. Below the banner, a blue callout box titled 'DISCOVER' contains the text 'AFCM has a rich history and legacy in Townsville-Gurambilbarra and throughout the region.' The background image for this section shows a musician performing on stage.

Festival Puccini 2024 runs from 12 July until 7 September 2024 in Tuscany, Italy. The festival is centred largely on performances of Giacomo Puccini's operas, including *La bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Manon Lescaut*, *Tosca* and *Turandot*.



The banner features a large, detailed sculpture of a man's head and shoulders, likely representing Giacomo Puccini, set against a scenic background of a lake and buildings. The text on the banner includes the festival's name, location, and a list of operas with their respective dates and conductors.

Puccini Festival | Ticket Purchase | The Puccini Award | Contacts | 

TICKETS

70° Festival
PUCCINI 2024
TORRE DEL LAGO - VIAREGGIO - TUSCANY - ITALY
GRAN TEATRO ALL'APERTO GIACOMO PUCCINI

Dittico Le Willis Edgar 12 and 19 July	Tosca 26 July 9, 18 and 24 August	Roberto Bolle and Friends 17 July
Manon Lescaut 13 July and 2 August	Turandot 3, 10, 17 and 23 August	Il Volo Tutti per Uno - Capolavoro 5 August
La Bohème 20 and 27 July 8 and 22 August	Madama Butterfly 120 years from the premiere 31 August and 7 September sets by Kan Yasuda	

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube icons

The Swiss Alps-based **Verbier Festival** runs from 18 July until 4 August 2024 in the mountain resort of Verbier. In addition to its series of concerts, the festival also runs an academy and a series of masterclasses to nurture young musicians, who come together this year to perform Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* conducted by Gábor Takács-Nagy. The opening concert features Gustav Mahler's Symphony No 3, conducted by Simon Rattle.



The banner features a large, stylized white 'V' logo over a vibrant, colorful mountain landscape. The text on the banner includes the festival's name, dates, and a list of sponsors.

fr | en

verbierfestival

18.07 - 04.08.2024

REYL INTESA SANDBIOLIO, LES AMIS DE VERBIER FESTIVAL, SICPA

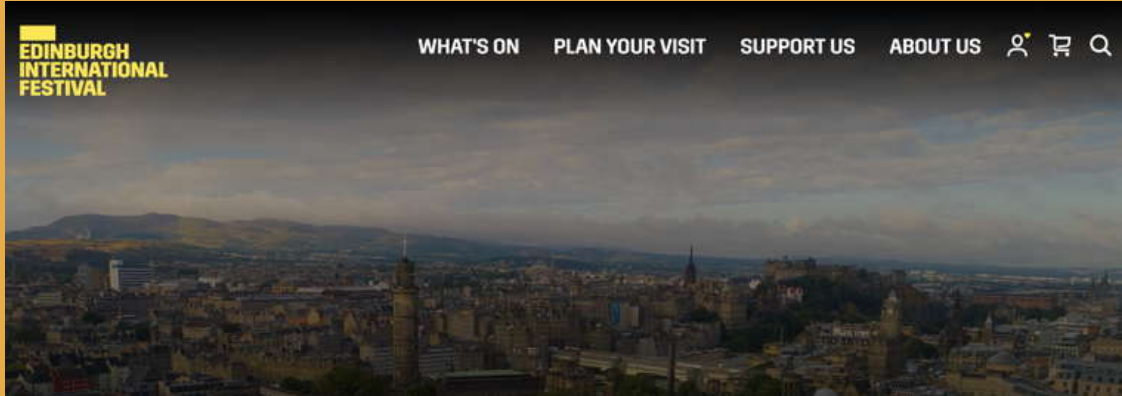
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2-25 August 2024 are the dates for this year's **Edinburgh International Festival** in Scotland, UK. Festival director Nicola Benedetti has planned a programme celebrating 'rituals that unite us', and this year's classical music events include a residency by the Bamberg Symphony, and appearances by the São Paulo Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the European Union Youth Orchestra, the Schola Cantorum de Venezuela, the Edinburgh Festival Chorus, the Takács Quartet, the Leonore Piano Trio, pianist Yuja Wang, Sheku Kanneh-Mason, Ian Bostridge and Steven Osborne, and harpsichordist Mahan Esfahani.



The **Seiji Ozawa Matsumoto Festival** in Nagano Prefecture, Japan, begins on 9 August and runs through until 4 September 2024, featuring the Saito Kinen Orchestra - celebrating its fortieth anniversary in 2024. Orchestral concerts will be led by conductors Andris Nelsons - leading performances of all four Brahms symphonies - and OMF principal guest conductor Nodoka Okisawa, although not, sadly, the late **Seiji Ozawa** (1935-2024). Andris Nelsons comments: 'Maestro Seiji Ozawa was a wonderful role model, an incomparable leader, and a great friend. While we are still grieving this great loss, it is testament to Seiji's generosity and clarity of vision that his beloved Matsumoto Festival will not only take place this year, but act as a reminder of his enduring legacy, as well as a tribute to his inspiring role as an ambassador for music all over the world.'

セイジ・オザワ 松本フェスティバル 長野県松本市で開催!

2024年 8月9日(金) ~ 9月4日(水)

総監督 小澤征爾
Director Seiji Ozawa

指揮 アンドリス・ネルソンス
Conductor Andris Nelsons

OMF 首席客演指揮者 指揮 沖澤のどか
Conductor Nodoka Okisawa

サイトウ・キネン・オーケストラ Saito Kinen Orchestra

2024年 6月8日(土) チケット発売開始! 詳細はOMF公式ウェブサイトをチェック!
ozawa-festival.com facebook.com/SeijiOzawa.MatsumotoFestival X/Ozawa_Festival @ozawa_festival

サイトウ・キネン・オーケストラ Saito Kinen Orchestra

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Finally, the very first edition of Florida's **Del Mar-a-Logo Contemporary Classical Music Festival** is being held completely on-line, taking as its themes the music of Eastertide plus the early church organ music of composers Conlon Nancarrow and Brian Ferneyhough.



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