

Animo 

VIP Event

Official Launch

Animo, flute and piano duo

24th October 2019

6 pm

Programme


COACH HOUSE

Official sponsors, Coach House Pianos


BLACKFRIARS
GLOUCESTER

www.animofluteandpiano.co.uk

Sarah Waycott – flute

Sarah is a versatile flautist, cellist, conductor and peripatetic music teacher based in the Forest of Dean.

Sarah's love for performing music started at a very young age.

She graduated from Bath Spa University with a BMus(Hons) degree, studying flute and cello and a Postgraduate Diploma in Performance from the 'Welsh College of Music and Drama'.

Sarah has travelled extensively in the UK and abroad, performing a wide range of music as an established freelance musician.



An eclectic musician, Sarah studied Jazz, World music and devoted years in learning to play Baroque flute and cello and the Viol. More recently she has ventured into modern, popular and film music and has started experimenting with electronics to layer and manipulate the sound of the flute and create new textures to her sound.

Sarah is a very enthusiastic and supportive teacher and enjoys sharing her love of performing with all her students. As a choral conductor, she shares her love of a diverse range of music with several local community choirs.

As an established freelancer, she has performed in the UK and overseas and enjoys the combination of teaching and performing. Among her most notable performances, Sarah has performed at St Martin in the Fields, for the Countess of Wessex, appeared in an advert for Sky Television and performed at the premiere of 'Pictures', a Thursday film production starring Andrea Corr and Neil Pearson.

Sarah was a founding member of the ELO Again Tribute Band and as their lead cellist she had the opportunity to 'let her hair down' and perform an entirely different repertoire in large venues across the UK and Europe for several years.

Yanna Zissiadou - piano

Yanna is a Greek-born concert pianist, accompanist, conductor and, since 2016, retired music teacher.

Settling in Gloucestershire in 1993 where she lives with her wife, a writer, Yanna has spent the last 26 years performing on stage both as a freelance musician and a music educator.



Yanna's upbringing helped shape her eclectic taste in music: from Classical to Pop and Baroque to Jazz, Musicals and 'Rebetika', Operas and Folk music from Pontos (her family's ancestry), Yanna's distinctive style is to let music speak directly to the listener without labels.

The recipient of the 'Dimitri Sgouros Prize and Scholarship' in 1987, Yanna graduated from the New Conservatory of Thessaloniki in 1988 with the 'Diploma for Piano Performance and Teaching'. She continued her studies at the Royal Academy of Music, London where she studied piano with Hamish Milne, conducting with Denise Ham and chamber music with Malcolm Martineau. She graduated the Royal Academy in 1990 with the 'Diploma of Advanced Studies'. Yanna continued her postgraduate studies with a Master's in 'Piano Performance and Literature' at the Eastman School of Music, U.S.A., where she was taught by Jeffrey Kahane.

As a concert pianist Yanna spent 10 years performing across Greece, the U.S.A. and the UK but also toured in Europe. An experienced accompanist, Yanna has played with a variety of orchestral instruments, accompanying different vocalists, choirs and playing for Opera and Theatre companies.

Yanna wants to reignite her solo piano career adapting to an online performance platform on YouTube and Soundcloud. Her website can be found at www.yannapiano.com

Animo: Sarah and Yanna created ANIMO after a shared desire to create music without any restrictions, always deferring to each other's opinion to shape each piece uniquely. The aim is to get away from 'leading and following' but rather organically find a common sound.

It was both their idea to make ANIMO their new venture with which to encourage more people to listen to contemporary music without barriers and for them to perform challenging, soulful music.

Adam Caird: 'After all' (2003)

Originally written for saxophone and piano, 'After all' reflects a more spiritual side of modern life. This was the piece that influenced our decision to become a contemporary music duo. Simply evocative and 'right up our street'.



Andy Scott: 'Fujiko' (2005)



Commissioned by the British Clarinet Ensemble and premiered in Tokyo, 'Fujiko' is a reflective, soulful arrangement for flute and piano. Its soaring intensity on the flute part is beautifully contrasted by a stately piano part. Japanese folk idioms contrast against improvisatory Jazz and Blues influences, clashes between the two instruments and virtuosic runs on the flute make this a passionate piece to perform. Andy Scott is increasingly becoming one of our most favourite composers.

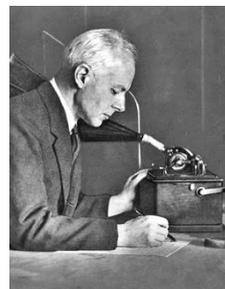
Anne Boyd: 'Bali moods' (1987)

Bali Moods is the first of a series of three works for flute and piano - the other two being Red Sun, Chill Wind and Cloudy Mountain - to explore the varied characteristics of Balinese moods and modes. What we love about this piece is its perpetual forward dance-like motion in contrast with the more mystical flute solos and some challenging passages for both instruments.



Béla Bartók: 6 Romanian Folk Dances (1915)

- Jocul cu bâta (Stick Dance)
- Brail (Sash Dance)
- Pe loc (In One Spot)
- Buciumeana (Horn Dance)
- Poarg romaneasca (Romanian Polka)
- Maruntelul (Fast Dance)



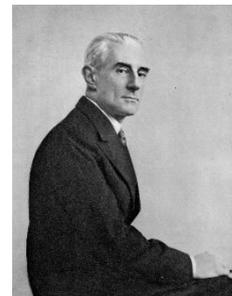
There are many different versions of this popular piece by the Hungarian pianist and composer Béla Bartók but this new arrangement is specifically edited for flute and piano and is enhanced with a touch of contemporary playing techniques by the Hungarian, Gergely Ittzés, himself a highly skilled flautist (2015)

We love the funky instrumental techniques which make it sound closer to the original recordings. Pe loc (In one spot) is such a crafty arrangement; dampened strings in the piano part against harmonics in the flute part.

Bartók recorded, collected and transcribed folk music from his native Hungary, the Balkans, America since his early 20s. These recordings on an Edison phonograph greatly influenced his compositions and preserved for posterity a generation of intuitive folk music-making.

Maurice Ravel: 'Pièce en forme de Habanera', transcribed for flute by Louis Fleury (1895)

Habaneras were all the rage in 19th century France! Inspired by the Cuban Contradanza, all Habaneras feature the distinctive bass line which is played here by the left-hand piano part. Ravel's Habanera started life as a Vocalise, a virtuosic study for voice. There are symphonic arrangements of this piece, all equally magical. Sources tell us that Ravel's inspiration for this piece was the French contradanza (Habanera) and his mother's singing from her Basque heritage. We love it for the opening bars in the piano part and for the freestyle flute cadenzas resembling the intricate vocalisms but mostly, for its heartfelt simplicity.

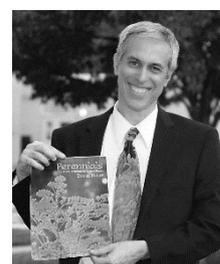


Andy Scott: Salt of the earth (2011), *Latin feel*

Taken from his 3rd movement of his Tuba concerto, this extended flute arrangement is heavily influenced by Latin and Jazz music, fast, virtuosic and relentless for the flute (and piano). Andy Scott asks for a rhythmic tap on the piano lid at the start of the piece against the flute. We experimented with Yanna blowing into a Kilner bottle tuned to a B; now we are back to tapping the lid (much safer!).

Daniel Dorff: From Sonata, Three Lakes: no. 1 'Lake Wallenpaupack' (2013)

The first movement of the Sonata (three lakes). The distinguished composer Daniel Dorff created an 18-minute sonata depicting three lakes. Each lake evokes its own memories. The first one, "Lake Wallenpaupack" recalls a romantic getaway, "Kezar Lake" is a memorial to the composer's father, and "Salmon Lake" is a playful scherzo-finale recalling Dorff's own childhood. This is a lyrical with transcendent beauty. We shall be recording the entire Sonata in 2020.



Manos Hatzidakis: 'Hartino to Feggaraki' - Paper moon (1949)

Composed in 1949, Hatzidakis wrote this song for the play 'A streetcar named desire' and it was first performed by his dear friend, actress, activist and Greece's Minister of Culture, Melina Merkouri. An instantly recognised melody that speaks of a delusionary world made famous worldwide by Nana Mouskouri. We arranged it very lightly for flute and piano.



Joseph Howard: 'Ex Arcadia' (2019). **Animo's first commission.**

Our commissioned piece written by a young PhD student from the Royal Academy of Music. We gave Joe a blank canvas and a few suggestions: Alto flute, epic/film-like mood, soundscape, lyrical and gutsy, live performance against pre-recorded so, Joe created a two-movement piece based on a pastoral theme which gives way to a more pulsing, rhythmic explosion until it fades away.

A challenging first collaboration with a few fraught moments for both composer and performers. Joe visited us twice, the first time to share with us his draft and the second time to record the pre-recorded material which he then manipulated electronically ready for this, its first performance. It is the first time we had the opportunity to perform against a layered pre-recorded score which is triggered live on stage. We hope you love the piece as much as we do!

Tonight's event will be filmed, photographed and recorded.

We have asked our technical team to focus on Animo rather than our audience so you needn't worry about being filmed without your permission.

If you are concerned please let one of our team know.



Coach House Pianos

<https://www.coachhousepianos.co.uk/>

'Coach House Pianos are delighted to support Animo, flute and piano duo's official Launch event with nothing less than the new Bösendorfer 280 Vienna Concert Grand Piano.



With its supreme quality and awe-inspiring ability to perform with any instrument and transform any genre, the Bösendorfer's breathtaking versatility is the perfect match to Animo's synergy.

Supplying pianos of distinction for over three decades, this collaboration between Coach House and Animo, is a prime example of a long-lasting relationship established through prestigious workmanship, service and care.

A FAMILY-RUN BUSINESS FOR THE PAST 30 YEARS

It all started over a quarter of a century ago, from a 250-year-old landmark Coach House...Coach House Pianos became established as the trusted, family operated piano specialists.

"Over the past 30 years at Coach House, I have worked with an enthusiastic team of staff members who passionately uphold our company ethos of outstanding customer care and unrivalled piano knowledge.

Being associated with such a dynamic organisation and superior piano brands is truly inspirational, and I am delighted to offer you this opportunity to enjoy the Coach House experience for yourself."

Nick Rusling, founder of Coach House Pianos





Launching Animo

www.animofluteandpiano.co.uk

Animo (soul, mind, spirit) previously known as Ex-animo ("from the heart")

Hello and welcome to our VIP event, the official promotional **launch** of our Contemporary flute and piano duo, Animo.

Tonight, we present 'A Taste of Animo'! a 45' tour of some of our favourite works.

Spread the word about Animo! We are looking for **venues** that will give us the platform to perform our music and connect with a wider audience. To **book** us for an event, talk to us tonight or contact us via email or our website. Leave us your **feedback** on a postcard, business card, our guest book.

We are now looking forward to networking with other musicians through competitions and festivals and hope to create new opportunities for our commissioned compositions to be performed live.

Tonight, we are also launching our:

- † **'New music project'**: Until 2024 we will be commissioning more composers like Joseph Howard to write music for us.
- † **Festival** of Music in the Forest of Dean, close to where Animo rehearse and record. A space for open, inclusive, eclectic music-making.

Interested? Find out more tonight or via our website **Blog** where you can also subscribe to our news.

Thanks

Thanks go to our launch sponsors, **Coach House Pianos**, for their extremely generous donation of the VC Bösendorfer grand piano and everyone at **Gloucester Blackfriars** for preserving such a stunning monument to perform timeless music and for helping us with organising tonight's event.

Adam Bertenshaw for helping us shape 'our sound' and producing our videos and recordings since the beginning. Adam is the Master Technician and Tech team leader for tonight's event.

Jack Blanch for the fabulous photos and videos.

Iteracy, our website designers, for creating our wonderful website and most of our promotional materials -including the limited-edition CD cover!

Gary Jones for imagining our Animo logo.

Our families and friends who have supported us for many years before this moment.
You, our VIP guests for being a crucial part of our journey as it begins tonight.

Enjoy the show!

Animo, October 24th, 2019



Working with Adam



Jack Blanch



Ex-Arcadia pre-recorded elements



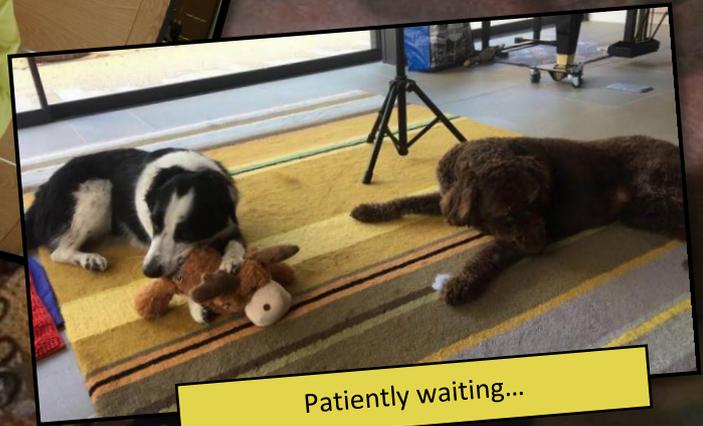
'Eden's Hill Studio'



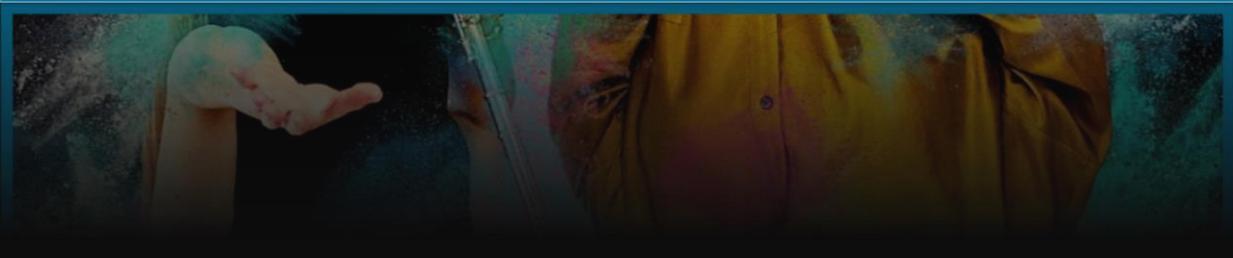
Tackling Carl Vine's Sonata



From a BLANK canvas to GRAFFITI



Patiently waiting...



Admit One
Official Promotional Launch

Animo 
VIP TICKET

Thursday 24th October 2019 at 6pm
Blackfriars Gloucester

Photography: Jack Blanch | Ticket and photo design: Iteracy