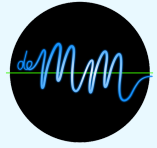




In partnership with
 Severfield



THIRSK HALL FESTIVAL



3 - 5 SEPTEMBER 2021



FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

7.30PM

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

CHORUS & ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

11AM - 5PM

THIRSK HALL

COMMUNITY DAY

SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

8PM

THIRSK HALL BARN

BEFORE THE DAWN

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

12PM

THIRSK HALL BARN

THE LITTLE PRINCE

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

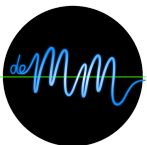
5PM

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

**BACH PIANO
CONCERTO IN D MINOR**

PETER & THE WOLF

Events



FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

WILLOUGHBY GERRISH

Bill is the Creative Director at Thirsk Hall, where he heads up a program of artistic initiatives including exhibitions, curating Thirsk Hall Sculpture Park, and leading on Thirsk Hall Gardens.

He, alongside his wife Daisy and sister-in-law Zillah, is diversifying Thirsk Hall by opening up its buildings, private gardens and parkland to the public in a bid to encourage new tourism and employment opportunities in North Yorkshire.

As an independent art dealer and consultant, specialising in artworks from the Impressionist, Modern, and Post-War periods, Bill brings a wealth of experience in curating large-scale exhibitions, events and working with the museum sector.



In May 2021, Bill launched Thirsk Hall Sculpture Park with a major selling exhibition of Michael Lyons' sculptures alongside work by Austin Wright, Geoffrey Clarke, Gerald Laing, Richard Hudson & Emily Young. Lyons, who passed away in April 2019, was a Yorkshire based sculptor who forged a critically acclaimed career from his non-metropolitan base, consistently maintaining a connection with the land. Other projects include an exhibition of 'Etchings of Thirsk Hall' by Norman Ackroyd RA in collaboration with the Zillah Bell Gallery.

This year, with thanks to the Sculpture Park and the National Garden Scheme, the extensive gardens at Thirsk Hall were open to the public on a regular basis having been private for nearly 300 years. Ongoing work continues in the kitchen garden to return it to its former glory; with a long term view of opening this up to the public - Thirsk Hall currently donate their excess vegetables to local food banks and cut flowers to care homes.

Bill's long term focus is to turn Thirsk into a cultural hub in the North.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR

BENJAMIN ELLIN

Award-winning and critically acclaimed British conductor and composer Benjamin Ellin is currently Music Director of the Thursford Christmas Spectacular, co-founder, conductor and composer of the contemporary-fusion ensemble Tafahum, Principal Conductor of the Slaithwaite Philharmonic Orchestra and President of Pembroke Academy of Music, London. Benjamin is also a founding trustee of the Evgeny Svetlanov Charitable Trust.

As a composer Benjamin's work has been performed all over the world; in the concert hall, theatre and for the screen. Recent highlights have included his oratorio, ONE BEFORE ZERO, commissioned and premiered by the Orchestre de Picardie in 2016, as part of the centenary commemorations for the Battle of the Somme. Following performances in France it has also been performed in Slovakia and Germany under Benjamin's direction: "...

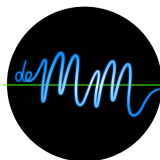


In addition to the two soloists and the boys' choir, it was above all the composer who made the great tension of his oratorio audible on the podium of the Jena Philharmonic Orchestra and allowed everyone involved to play with such intensity that the tension was transmitted to the audience. Benjamin Ellin's oratorio is able to move the hearts of the listeners and keep alive the memory of the traumatic conditions of the war. The warmth and cordiality with which Benjamin Ellin's oratorio was received speaks for the openness of the Jena audience...." (Dietmar Ebert. 11/18, Jena)

His SINFONIA NO. 1 was recently performed at the Royal Opera House in London with the Royal Ballet School as part of their Summer Showcase whilst his Violin Sonata has already been commercially recorded and released twice by different artists. Benjamin has received several commissions for works inspired by the history and culture of First Nation communities of Alberta, with whom he enjoys a close relationship, for long-time collaborator and esteemed violist Rivka Golani.

A multiple award winner, Benjamin was a laureate and was awarded the Public Prize from the inaugural Evgeny Svetlanov International Conducting Competition in 2007. In September 2009 Benjamin was awarded the Barlow Endowment Prize for composition, becoming only the second British composer in twenty-five years to be awarded the prize. The New York Philharmonic's Principal Trombonist, Joseph Alessi, premiered his subsequent commission for a trombone concerto in April 2012 in the USA. Benjamin's debut composition CD, Three States at Play, was released in Spring 2012 to critical acclaim. Tafahum's debut album 'Osmosis', featuring almost all Benjamin's own compositions, was released to critical acclaim in April 2016; "...beguilingly scored and intelligently structured...the music constantly evolves. Magical."

(Graham Rickson, The Arts Desk, April 2016)



THE FESTIVAL TEAM



DAISY BELL GERRISH

Project Manager

Daisy moved up to Thirsk in March 2020 with her husband Bill and two young children. She is the co-founder of Cramer & Bell art consultancy firm and has extensive knowledge of the art world, working at Tate and the Royal Academy of Arts. In recent years Daisy has organised several art shows, including a charity auction involving David Hockney, Tracey Emin and Damien Hirst. Daisy, along with her husband Bill and sister Zillah, aims to put Thirsk on the map as the Culture Capital of the North with their new exciting changes at Thirsk Hall - focusing on art, music and literature.



EMILY TAYLOR

Project Manager

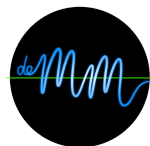
Emily is a secondary school music teacher and has taught Music in several schools in Lancashire and North Yorkshire. She plays oboe and cor anglais with the Slaithwaite Philharmonic Orchestra, with whom she was principal oboe for the 2019/20 New Year Tour in China, and also teaches flute in the local area. Charity and community projects are her passion, and she is striving to bring community music events to Thirsk and the surrounding area through her role as project manager of De Mowbray Music and the Thirsk Hall Festival.



ZILLAH BELL

Project Manager

Having worked in luxury travel for 7 years, Zillah moved back to Thirsk in December 2020 and transferred her exceptional organisational skills into her new role as Project Manager and Head of Finance at Thirsk Hall. Projects this year include the new and exciting Thirsk Hall Festival, Thirsk Hall Sculpture Park which launched in May 2021 and her next project will be the Thirsk Hall Glamping Site which will launch in 2022. She lives on site with her miniature dachshund Rocket and her boyfriend Harry who is a literary agent. We look forward to bringing Harry's literary world into Thirsk Hall Festival in years to come.



BENJAMIN ELLIN

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

“ Music is a communion, a community and an opportunity to share so many aspects of life. This festival starts a journey that embraces these most human of traits, unites wonderful musicians and creatives from across the spectrum and lays the building blocks for creativity we can all share. Please join us and be a part of it.”

WILLOUGHBY GERRISH

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

“ Thirsk Hall Sculpture Park opened to the public in 2021 as an initiative to create a historical and cultural destination in North Yorkshire - with a focus on visual arts, music and literature. The aim of this festival is to place the arts at the heart of our community and to celebrate the creativity of those within the region.”

Welcome

WITH THANKS TO...



Severfield




The Greengrocer Thirsk are delighted to announce we have re-opened our doors for the first time since March 2020. Come & visit us in store!

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ZILLAH BELL GALLERY, a leading contemporary fine art gallery exhibiting paintings, original prints and ceramics.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

18th September - 9th October: LESLEY BIRCH, LOUISE DAVIES and KATHARINE HOLMES. Paintings and Prints.

23rd October - 13th November: 2021 SOCIETY OF WOOD ENGRAVERS Annual Exhibition and NEIL BOUSFIELD: 'Created Territories: Relief Engravings 2012 -2020'.

20th November - 4th December: SALLY ADKINS. Winner of the Zillah Bell Prize at Printfest, Cumbria.

27th November - 11th December:
NORMAN ACKROYD. New works.

15 Kirkgate, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 1PQ
info@zillahbellgallery.co.uk
01845 522479 | 07891 893219
Opening hours 10:00 - 17:00

PROGRAMME

CHORUS & ORCHESTRA

FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2021

7.30PM (DOORS OPEN 7PM)

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, THIRSK YO7 1PR

CONDUCTOR - BENJAMIN ELLIN

LEADER - HARRIET MACKENZIE

Tippett: Steal Away

Handel: Zadok the Priest

Mozart: Opening Scene from The Magic Flute

Bizet: Pearl Fishers Duet

Mozart: Lacrimosa from Requiem

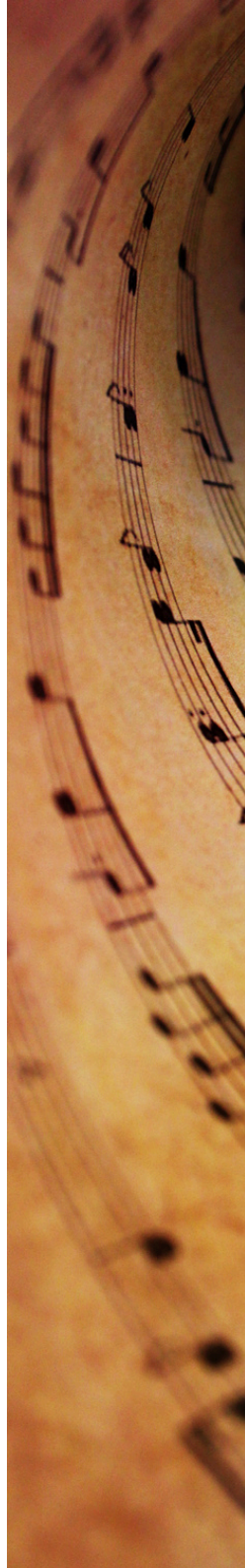
Mascagni: Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana

Mozart: Finale from The Marriage of Figaro

- Interval -

Grieg: Holberg Suite

Vivaldi: Gloria



PROGRAMME

COMMUNITY DAY

SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2021

11AM - 5PM

THIRSK HALL, YO7 1PL



Poster for Thirsk Hall Festival Community Day. The top section is light blue with the text 'In partnership with Severfield' and 'THIRSK HALL FESTIVAL Community Day'. Below this, it says 'SAT 4 SEPT 2021' and 'GROUNDS OF THIRSK HALL'. A central image shows Thirsk Hall, a large stone building with a green lawn. To the left of the image is a yellow circle with 'ADULTS £5' and to the right is a yellow circle with 'UNDER 16S FREE!'. The bottom section is dark blue with various activities listed: 'FUN FAIR', 'FOOD & DRINKS', 'LOCAL CHARITY STALLS', 'LIVE PERFORMANCES', 'CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES', and 'ICE CREAM'. At the bottom, it says 'CHANCE TO LOOK AROUND THIRSK HALL SCULPTURE PARK, INCLUDED IN THE TICKET PRICE!' and 'TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM WWW.THIRSKHALL.COM, ZILLAH BELL GALLERY OR ON THE DOOR'. The footer includes a question about Free School Meals and a contact email.

In partnership with Severfield

THIRSK HALL FESTIVAL

Community Day

SAT 4 SEPT
2021

GROUNDS OF
THIRSK HALL

ADULTS
£5

UNDER
16S
FREE!

FUN FAIR

FOOD & DRINKS

LOCAL CHARITY
STALLS

LIVE
PERFORMANCES

CRAFTS &
ACTIVITIES

ICE CREAM

CHANCE TO LOOK AROUND THIRSK HALL SCULPTURE
PARK, INCLUDED IN THE TICKET PRICE!
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM WWW.THIRSKHALL.COM, ZILLAH BELL
GALLERY OR ON THE DOOR

Is your family entitled to benefits-related Free School Meals? elle@ruralarts.org for FREE tickets

PROGRAMME

BEFORE THE DAWN

SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2021

8PM (DOORS OPEN 7.30PM)

THE BARN, THIRSK HALL YO7 1PL

CONDUCTOR - BENJAMIN ELLIN

POET - BEN MAIER

SINGER - CATRINE KIRKMAN

ARTIST - LOUISE KLINCK

Ellin (Visuals - Collett): Before The Dawn

Ellin: Prologue

Ellin: Tok Tuk

Trad. (Arr. Kirkman): The Eddystone Light

Bickerton: A Close Shave

Trad. (Arr. Rowlands): All at Sea

Ellin: Tim's Fair

Ellin (Text - Maier): Melodious Boat

Ellin: Rania's Dance

Trad. (Arr. Ellin): Suo Gan

Ellin: Three Fishes Laughing

Trad. (Arr. Kirkman/Maier): Scarborough Fair

Ellin: Blakey Point

Ellin: Nocturne

Ellin: New Dawn

There is no interval during this performance.

There will be a bar available before & after the concert.

PROGRAMME

THE LITTLE PRINCE

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2021

12PM (DOORS OPEN 11.30AM)

THE BARN, THIRSK HALL YO7 1PL

STORYTELLER - MATTHEW CRAMPTON

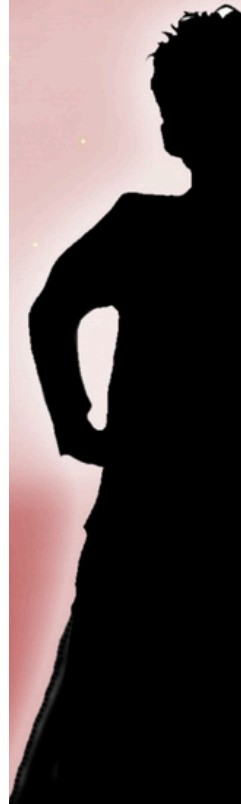
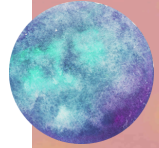
PIANIST - OLGA JEGUNOVA

**MAYBE ONE DAY YOU WILL FIND YOURSELF IN THE DESERT.
MAYBE YOU WILL MEET A YOUNG BOY
WHO LAUGHS, WHO HAS GOLDEN HAIR,
AND WHO REFUSES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS....**

Following their success with traditional tales such as The Firebird and Diana & Actaeon, pioneering storytellers Olga & Matthew now take on the beloved story of The Little Prince. Their unique fusion of words and music is perfectly suited to bring this French classic to English language audiences.

In a spellbinding one hour show, Matthew Crampton tells his own version of the famous book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Pianist Olga Jegunova tells the tale too, improvising on classical themes to weave musical magic through the words.

**CHILDREN. BE PATIENT WITH ADULTS.
THEY CAN'T HELP BEING GROWN-UP.**



PROGRAMME

PETER & THE WOLF

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2021

5PM (DOORS OPEN 4.30PM)

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, THIRSK YO7 1PR

CONDUCTOR - BENJAMIN ELLIN

LEADER - HARRIET MACKENZIE

PIANIST - OLGA JEGUNOVA

NARRATOR - MATTHEW CRAMPTON

Ellin: Kirkgate (WORLD PREMIERE)

Holst: St. Paul's Suite

J.S. Bach: Piano Concerto in D Minor

- Interval -

Prokofiev: Peter and the Wolf



PERFORMERS

5 SEPTEMBER



OLGA JEGUNOVA - PIANIST

WEBSITE: OLGAJEGUNOVA.COM

Latvian pianist Olga Jegunova has gained an enviable reputation as soloist and recitalist, winning many major international piano competitions. Olga regularly performs at festivals across Europe. These include Gstaad Piano Academy, Edinburgh International Festival, Deal Festival, IMS Prussia Cove and Sounds New Contemporary Music Festival. Olga has worked as a live presenter for Medici TV during XIV Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow and also works as music journalist for the Russian Gap magazine in London. Olga is a Steinway Artist. In 2015 Olga founded the music charity OlgaRhythm, which supports young talented musicians. Olga released her Poetic Piano Sonatas CD in October 2016.



MATTHEW CRAMPTON - STORYTELLER/NARRATOR

WEBSITE: MATTHEWCRAMPTON.COM

Matthew Crampton is a storyteller, writer and folk singer. His recent show The Transports won Five Stars from The Guardian, toured widely and was featured as an evening concert on BBC Radio 3. His show Human Cargo – based on his book of the same name – has also toured nationally. Based in London, Matthew also sings in folk clubs, performs music hall, and writes books on subjects as diverse as human migration, Hebridean fishing and making sweets.



PERFORMERS

SINGERS - 3 SEPTEMBER



CATRINE KIRKMAN - SOPRANO

Based in South East London, Catrine Kirkman graduated with a Masters from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Awards include First Prize and Audience Prize at the 2012 John Kerr English Song competition and the Russell-Davies Prize. A former Britten Pears Young Artist, Catrine's operatic roles include *French Girl* *Death in Venice* at the Aldeburgh & Bregenz Festivals & *Isabel The Pirates of Penzance* for Scottish Opera. www.catrinekirkman.com



BIBI HEAL - SOPRANO

Bibi has a First Class degree in Music from UEA, postgraduate diploma from RAM, and studied privately with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa. She performs all over UK and Europe; recently Opera North, ROH, RPO, BBC Concert Orchestra, and Konzerthaus, Berlin.

Bibi and internationally-acclaimed pianist Stephen Barlow are also founders of the hugely popular Song Surgery; a unique recital project 'prescribing' classical songs to satisfy, advise and uplift.

www.bibiheal.com



OLIVIA RAY - MEZZO SOPRANO

Olivia Ray studied at the RNCM, ENO's *The Knack*, and GSMD. She has performed roles including Anna Politkovskaya *The Life & Death of Alexander Litvinenko*, Flora *La traviata*, Enrichetta di Francia *I puritani*, and Soeur Mathilde *Dialogues des Carmélites* (Grange Park Opera); Lady Spencer *Georgiana* (Buxton Festival); and Alisa *Lucia di Lammermoor*. She has also performed with Scottish Opera, Opéra de Baugé and Mid Wales Opera.



AMY PAYNE -MEZZO SOPRANO

Originally from South Devon, Amy J Payne lives in Leeds and trained at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She is a Samling Scholar and holds a Bachelor Honours degree in French and German from King's College, London. She has an extensive repertoire with companies including Opera North, Buxton Festival, The National G&S Opera Company, Scottish Opera, D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, English Touring Opera and Leeds Playhouse.

PERFORMERS

SINGERS - 3 SEPTEMBER



NICK HARDY - TENOR

Having worked extensively as a freelance chorister with ENO, WNO, Scottish Opera and Opera North, Nick Hardy made his debut with ROH Covent Garden in 2017 in the opening of the new Jones/Pappano La Bohème. He is a principal tenor with London Festival Opera in Europe and has performed many major roles for small-scale productions in the UK and in Kuwait. Nick first studied singing and opera at the Royal Academy of Music, London.



SEAN BRINES - TENOR

Sean Brines is a 27-year-old, Irish born tenor with deep roots in traditional Irish music. He is a bachelors of music graduate with an appetite for 19th century opera: he recently studied voice at the 'conservatorio di Musica Fausto Torrefranca', and will start studies in 'Musical Institute Vincenzo Bellini', Catania in October. Sean held a position in Bradford cathedral as tenor choral scholar and has performed with BYO,SPO and Opera North.



SAM HIRD - BARITONE

Sam studies at the Royal College of Music in London under the tutelage of baritone Peter Savidge. Previous engagements include Songs by George Butterworth at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Jason in opera Medea Maria at York Theatre Royal, Anthony in Sondheim's Sweeney Todd at 41 Monkgate, York, and Maquerelle in John Marston's The Malcontent in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse at Shakespeare's Globe in London.



TIMOTHY NELSON - BARITONE

Timothy Nelson gained a degree in Physiology from Cardiff University before studying with Peter Savidge at the Royal College of Music International Opera School, where he was awarded the McCulloch Prize for Opera and won the Bruce Millar Culliver Prize. Operatic experience includes Lieutenant Gordon in Silent Night for Opera North & Nathan in the World Premiere of Pleasure for Opera North/Aldeburgh/ROH.

PERFORMERS

ORCHESTRA - 3 & 5 SEPTEMBER

Violin 1

Harriet Mackenzie (Leader)
Tom Greed
Matthew Crisp
Sarah Reece

Violin 2

Charlotte Price
Beatriz Carbonell
Paul Milhau

Viola

Katie Jarvis
Ellen Brookes

Cello

Jessica Burroughs
Catherine Strachan

Double Bass

Alan Easterbrook

Keyboard/Organ

Jenny Martins*

Percussion

Jonathan Grogan

Flute

Della Blood
Louise Evans*

Oboe

Philip Cull
Alex Nightingale*

Clarinet

Ian Noonan
Andrew Cavell*

Bassoon

Glyn Foley
Sarah Faulkner*

French Horn

Mark Bennett
Janus Wadsworth
Simon Twigge^

Trumpet

Ceri Heaney*
James Corking*

Trombone

Christian Jones^

* 3rd September only

^ 5th September only

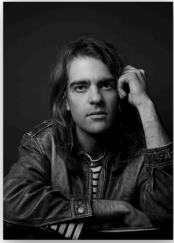
RECENT PROJECTS



Highlights from the Thirsk Hall Sculpture Park, De Mowbray Songbook Exhibition and De Mowbray Music Community Events

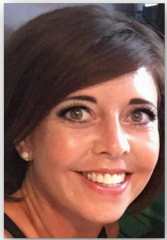
FEATURED ARTISTS

BEFORE THE DAWN - 4 SEPTEMBER



BEN MAIER - POET

Ben is a musician, writer and performer. His music has been featured on Radio 6 Music on the Tom Robinson and Marc Riley Shows. His writing has been published in Irish Pages, Resonance FM and The Salt Book of Younger Poets. He holds a PhD in Creative Writing from the Seamus Heaney Centre, Queen's University Belfast.



LOUISE KLINCK - ARTIST

After over 20 years of teaching Fine Art, Louise has changed direction to pursue her first love as a painter. Louise Klinck's work is a metaphorical depiction of our increasingly changing world - interwoven marks and layers of human traces, impact and emotion. Everything is connected, interwoven and it's these moments where changes and ripples are made. Website launch 30th September 2021.



RUTH COLLETT - ANIMATION

Scarborough-based artist Ruth Collett has developed digital ipad drawings since lockdown exploring her reactions to living in a pandemic. "What surprised me was how pattern, shape and colour expressed my daily mood, and using my finger on the screen added to the commitment and energy of the mark-making. I created images I would not have done in another medium - it freed me to be immediate and responsive to what was going on."



CATRINE KIRKMAN - SOPRANO

See 'Singers - 3 September' page for full biography.

FEATURED ARTISTS

BEFORE THE DAWN - 4 SEPTEMBER



VIOLIN
HARRIET MACKENZIE



KEYBOARD
JENNY MARTINS



FLUTE/CLARINETS/
SAXOPHONES
GEMMA MOORE



HARP
DEIAN ROWLANDS



FRENCH HORN
MARK BENNETT



PERCUSSION
JONATHAN GROGAN



BASS GUITAR/DOUBLE BASS
JOSEPH NICKSON

CONTACT DETAILS

DE MOWBRAY MUSIC

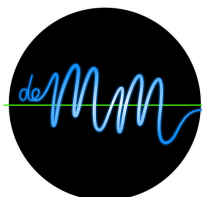
De Mowbray Music is based in the beautiful market town of Thirsk, nestled between the North York Moors and the Yorkshire Dales, in the Vale of Mowbray. It was founded in 2020 by Benjamin Ellin and Emily Taylor as a way to build on the already vast array of arts in this thriving area, and to ensure music is at the forefront of the local conscience. The community is at the heart of everything we do, and through our work we bring together and connect individuals from all walks of life to produce high-quality and inspiring performances across an abundance of genres. Working in a wide-range of musical styles and in a broad portfolio of projects, De Mowbray Music will continue to both curate the best quality concerts, productions and events while concurrently developing opportunities for talent development and educational projects for all.

Website: www.demowbraymusic.com

Email: office@benjaminellin.com

Facebook: [@demowbraymusic](https://www.facebook.com/demowbraymusic)

Instagram: [@benjaminellin](https://www.instagram.com/benjaminellin)



CONTACT DETAILS

THIRSK HALL GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK



Thirsk Hall is a place to be inspired, to be creative and to enjoy with friends and family. Despite being in the centre of Thirsk, behind this Georgian house lies 20 acres of gardens and parkland. Having opened its private gardens to the public in May 2021 for the first time in nearly 300 years, Thirsk Hall welcomes visitors to enjoy the Sculpture Park & Gardens - a fantastic way to spend a fun day with out all the family.

Plans next year include the launch of the Thirsk Hall Glamping Site, work converting the Barn into an indoor gallery space to accompany the already established Thirsk Hall Sculpture Park; and developments to begin on the Stable Stays accommodation project. Thirsk Hall provides a picturesque backdrop to photo shoots, films, weddings and events.

Tickets for the Sculpture Park can be found online at www.thirskhall.com or if you're hosting an event, wedding or looking for the perfect place for a film or photo shoot - do get in touch.

Website: www.thirskhall.com

Email: info@thirskhall.com

Instagram: [@thirskhallandgardens](https://www.instagram.com/thirskhallandgardens)



Thirsk Hall Festival would like to thank Severfield for their support and generosity with what we have started to build for the community and the wider region!



Severfield plc is the UK's market leading structural steel company that has been shaping the skylines of the UK and Europe for many years. We're proud of our history, but even more passionate about what's to come. Since our inception we've become internationally synonymous with quality, innovation and unrivalled expertise within the steel industry. Today, with multiple sites in the UK, including our head office and large fabrication facilities in Dalton, Thirsk, and our India factory, we have an annual capacity to produce around 300,000 tonnes of fabricated steelwork. You'll find our legacy in infrastructure, transport, culture, the commercial sector and more; you'll be surprised to see just how many of the iconic landmarks and buildings you know and love are part of our portfolio, including The Shard, the new Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, the City of London's tallest skyscraper 22 Bishopsgate, to name only a few. We are passionate about supporting communities local to our sites and are pleased to have been given the opportunity to support the very first Thirsk Hall Festival this September.