



Patron

The Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire Sir Algernon Heber-Percy KCVO, KStJ

Director Kate Hogwood

Harry Christophers CBE Dame Emma Kirkby
(Honorary Artistic Patrons)

PATRON SCHEME APPEAL

Winter 2016

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Shropshire Music 2016/17 which has opened with some terrific events. The last Season had the highest support of recent years with audiences up 15% over estimate. This is most encouraging and, with your help, we hope to build on this success.

The **Patron Scheme** has now been running since 2012 and has grown over the four years. The income is helping to offset, though not balancing, reductions in grant and other income which are anticipated to continue for the foreseeable future. As a consequence we are keen for more of our supporters to become Patrons and we should be grateful if you would consider this. There is a **Form** below on this website page.

As music lovers you will be aware that over the last 30 years and more the Shropshire Music Trust has been the most significant provider of professional classical music in Shropshire through our annual season of concerts and outreach work.

But you may not be aware that the revenue from ticket sales (around 50% of our income) can never be adequate to cover the full cost of presenting these artists, and a substantial element needs to be covered by grant bodies, local business sponsorship, the Friends of SMT and our Patronage scheme.

Individual Giving now far out-strips other sources of fund-raising for all professional arts organizations as hard-pressed central grant aiding bodies are having to spread their funds more thinly and businesses are under increasing pressure. Our Arts Council grant has reduced and Shropshire Council funding has plummeted. To allow us to continue into our fourth decade, our individual contributors are becoming ever more important to keep great music coming here to Shropshire.

Please do join us.

We are also introducing a **Legacy and Endowment Scheme** to ensure the longer-term future of the Trust - do get in touch if you'd like to discuss this.

The Trustees hope to see you in 2017 at other concerts during this our 33rd season. We thank you for your support.

Season's Greetings!
With kind regards,

Kate Hogwood - Director
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The Form is on the website page, and can also be requested by email. Giving by Direct Debit significantly reduces administration costs. Gift Aid makes your donation worth 25% more.

www.shropshiremusictrust.co.uk

Trustees: R.H.Bickerton D.Harris A.E.H.James M.A.Thorpe Frances Williams
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