

Concert series 2017 at St Mary Magdalene, Bridgnorth.

For the new concert series we have been very fortunate in securing the services of **Elliott Sansom** one of the **BBC TV Finalist in the, 'Young Jazz Musician of the Year 2016' competition**. He will give a concert on Saturday 14th January at 7pm on the Concert Grand along with his Jazz trio from the Birmingham Conservatoire of Music. You may have watched and heard him on TV earlier this year.



Elliott will be joined by Ben Muirhead on the double bass and Nathan England Jones on the drums.

Elliott says, I have been writing original music inspired by some of his favourite composers such as John Taylor, Herbie Hancock, Miles Davis and Paul Bley. He goes on to say...I have also been experimenting with taking some of my favourite classical pieces such as Frederic Mompou's 'Musica Calda' short pieces for piano and playing and improvising with them in a jazz context.

Elliott Sansom was born in Solihull and grew up in a musical family, beginning to experiment on the piano at the age of five. Elliott recently graduated from the Birmingham Conservatoire with a first class honours degree in jazz piano; he was also selected as one of the top five finalists for the BBC young jazz musician of the year award. Most recently, Elliott also appeared at the pizza express jazz club in London as a finalist in the young jazz awards.

Elliott is particularly interested in the harmonic and rhythmic language shared in both jazz and classical music, and this is something he explores and studies in his playing. Currently Elliott is recognised with his trio consisting of Ben Muirhead and Nathan England Jones. He is also very active as a sideman and has collaborated with many musicians throughout the Birmingham area.

Elliott Sansom, born in 1994, grew up in a musical family, and from a young age he was exposed to different types of music, particularly blues music, becoming intrigued by the music of Ray Charles. There was always a piano in the household, and from five years old, Elliott began experimenting with the instrument after showing a keen interest when hearing his mother and grandma playing. Throughout school and college years, Elliott opted to study music and was very tuned into jazz and improvisation, showing a passion for artists such as Bill Evans and Oscar Peterson. In 2010, Elliott gained a place at Yehudi Menuhin School. This was a great opportunity and set him on the right pathway in his musical journey. Further that year, Elliott gained a place at the Junior Jazz department at the Birmingham Conservatoire, following up with the main course a year later. He has studied with John Taylor, John Turville and other tutors such as Mike Williams, Hans Koller, Liam Noble, Jean Toussaint and Percy Pursglove. He has also been involved in projects led by Jeff Ballard, John Riley, Norma Winstone, Dave Holland, John O'Gallagher, Kenny Garrett, and Jimmy Cobb. In his third year, he was offered a placement semester studying at the Prestigious Paris Conservatoire, where he studied with Peiree de Bethman, Herve Sellin, François Theberge, Glenn Ferris and Riccardo Del Fra. He played many concerts and sessions around the city and also went to Germany to study piano with a renowned pianist Pablo Held.

Elliott's current influences include Jazz musicians such as John Taylor, Pablo Held, Paul Bley, Herbie Hancock, and classical composers such as Olivier Messiaen, Federico Mompou and Igor Stravinsky. He is particularly interested in the harmonic and rhythmic language shared in both jazz and classical music, and this is something he is exploring and studying in his playing.

Tickets are on sale at £15 including interval light refreshment and Wine (**Pupils in full time school education-concert tickets only £5**)

Box Office-Contact-John Turnock on 01746-716282 or john.turnock48@gmail.com

For tickets in advance please enclose SAE and send to John Turnock, Chair of St Mary's Concert Committee, Dykes Bower, 5 Willow Close, Hilton, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV 15 5PX

Next in the series is...

On 15th February 2017 at 7pm we are delighted to announce that the **international counter tenor Robin Blaze** with his wife Lisa and son Daniel will be in concert at St Mary's Church.



Children of school age only £5

Robin is now established in the front rank of counter tenors internationally and his career has taken him to concert halls and festivals in Europe North and South America, Japan and Australia. He sings in the choir at Westminster Abbey and has an impressive discography. His wife, soprano Lisa Bexley is a soloist in her own right and works frequently with 'The Sixteen' and other vocal ensembles. There a son Daniel, 13, is a treble of no mean achievement. He is a member of the Tiffin Boys' choir and Kingston Parish Church choir; an enthusiastic pianist and composer; a budding organist and he sought after locally as a French horn player.