

Peter Aviss – Concerto for Viola and String Orchestra

Peter Aviss's Concerto for Viola receives its world première on Saturday, 27th January 2018 at West Faversham Community Centre ME13 7RH. The concerto has been composed for Martin Outram and will be performed by Martin with Oare String Orchestra (OSO), conducted by Peter Aviss.

Martin Outram is well-known as the violist in the world renowned Maggini Quartet, professor of viola at the Royal Academy of Music since 1984, and viola soloist and performer. Martin has been a soloist with OSO on four previous occasions, one of which was the 2012 OSO Composition Competition, where he was also one of the judges. Martin is passionate about viola education, coaching and promoting courses for violists, as well as new music for viola, whether written 100 years ago, or this year!

The concerto is a three-movement work lasting just under 30 minutes, and follows a traditional form of three movements – quick slow quick. The first movement with its continuing development and drifting tonality has rhythmic drive and momentum, but also lyrical sections to show off the mellow beauty of the viola tone. The second is a slow arching meditative exploration of some ideas from the first movement; the short-lived turbulent climax at the centre is quickly swept away with searching musings from the solo viola. The last movement is a fugue in 7/8 time. Episodes vary between a lyrical 10/8 melody, more aggressive driving explorations of asymmetrical times, and a broad 6/4 melody which again is built from material from the 1st and 2nd movements. The concerto ends with a brisk coda.

The other works in the programme are Capriol Suite by Warlock, Handel's Concerto Grosso Op.6 No.7, Suk's Meditation and Nielsen's Little Suite. The concert begins at 7.30pm and tickets are £12 at the door. Further details at www.oare-string-orchestra.org