



**NEWSLETTER**

**October 2023**

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Welcome to this Autumn Newsletter with our exciting plans for 2024/2025 and how you might be able to help us achieve our goals.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who regularly donate to La Folia, and to everyone who gave so generously during our Wincanton Race Day event last year. We are extremely grateful for all your donations, without which none of our projects could happen.

La Folia's existence relies upon this continuing generosity. We are very keen to welcome new Friends so please consider how you might encourage people you know to become Friends. Full details are on the La Folia website.

We look forward to updating you about our future events.

With best wishes,

John Cox  
Chair, La Folia

## Evening Songs III 2024



It has been wonderful to work again this year with students from Exeter House School and Year 5 at Salisbury Cathedral School as we developed our **Holst's "The Planets" Project**. Over several months we introduced the students to Holst's "The Planets", and in response to Assistant Director of Music (Salisbury Cathedral) John Challenger's wonderful transcription for the organ of Holst's masterpiece, the students created their very own new planet – Planet Three Eleven

Thousand (311000) culminating in a shared experience in the Cathedral.

Howard Moody wove his musical magic once more as we were reminded of our unique relationship with both schools and the Cathedral. Howard said *"The collaboration between the Cathedral and La Folia is precious. Next stop 'Evening Songs'!"*

After the huge success of Evening Songs in 2016 and 2019, we have been asked by Salisbury Cathedral to put together another Evening Songs in 2024.



We are seeking £40,000 to enable us to present this project in its fullest form, including holding 10 workshops with Exeter House and Cathedral School choristers, leading up to a 'takeover' of the Cathedral's Evensong service. Those of you who came to our 2019 Evening Songs will remember the incredible atmosphere as the 700-strong congregation stood to applaud the Exeter House students and the Cathedral choristers as they processed down the nave at the end of the service.

### **Total budget: £40,000 (approx)**

- Sponsor a workshop: 10 donations of £100 would enable us to run 1 workshop.
- Sponsor a musician: 10 donations of £30 pays for 1 musician.
- Core costs: 5 donations of £50 pays for 1 administration day.

## Eagle Music 2024/2025



Howard has been in discussions with recorder virtuoso Piers Adams about writing a recorder concerto for his modern “Eagle” recorder, the invention of Netherlands recorder maker, the late Adriana Reukink. The Eagle recorder makes a much bigger, louder sound than an original baroque recorder, and is capable of aurally matching orchestral instruments. Following on from the success of our Musical Offerings concert as part of the 2023 Salisbury International Arts Festival, we feel that a version of an Eagle recorder concerto would fit well in a future La Folia concert at the festival.

Initially we are looking for funding to commission the piece from Howard, followed by funding to promote the concert in Salisbury.

Commission fee: £5,000-£10,000

Concert budget: £14,000

## Bee Fest 2025 – a weekend of film, music and poetry, dedicated to the bee.



*Bee concert:* we are negotiating with Salisbury Cathedral to be the ‘hive’ of our project. A specially commissioned film of the life of the honeybee through the seasons will be projected onto a large screen erected in the spire crossing with images projected onto the interior fabric of the Cathedral. As each season ends, Howard and his ‘Bee Band’, made up of musicians from Best Foot Music who have sought asylum in the UK, will play newly commissioned music inspired by the sounds of bees, along with readings of former Poet Laureate Carol Anne Duffy’s poems “The Bees”, read by an acclaimed actor.

The film will be beautifully lyrical in its celebration of bees and their intelligence, rituals and dances. Groups of musicians will be seated in different positions around the cathedral as the audience is invited to promenade in a figure of eight from one group to the next aping the honeybees’ waggle dance.

*Workshops* will take place with the cathedral choristers and children from local schools, carefully selected to include those new to the UK, introducing them to the bee-inspired music created by Howard and his ‘Bee Band’, and capturing the children’s response to it with their own compositions. The children will also be introduced to the importance of the survival of bees for the future of our planet, with visits to the Cathedral’s Bug Hotel and discussions with Dave Goulson, Professor of Biology at University of Sussex, specializing in bee ecology as one of the world’s leading experts on the bumblebee.

*Photography exhibition:* around the cathedral cloisters will be an exhibition of the extraordinary honeybee pictures of award-winning wildlife photographer Ingo Arndt.

*For sale:* Honey, 100% beeswax candles and other bee related merchandise will be on sale throughout the weekend.

To enable this exciting project to happen in its fullest iteration will require a budget of around **£80,000**.

- Sponsor the “bee band”: 5 donations of £50 pays for one musician.
- Sponsor the actor: 20 donations of £100 pays for our actor.
- Sponsor the film: 35 donations of £100 pays for the camera kit.
- Sponsor a workshop: 10 donations of £100 runs 1 workshop.
- Sponsor the photo exhibition: 10 donations of £350 pays for the photo exhibition.

We rely entirely on donations from individuals and grants from Trust Funds and Foundations, and without this generous support we could not keep La Folia’s vision alive, to bring professional music making to young people and adults who might not otherwise have the opportunity to experience it. We are extremely grateful for all the continued help we are given by our Friends, Benefactors and supporters, and are always hoping to encourage new people to become Friends of La Folia. Please speak to Cesca at this event should you be able to recommend anyone, or suggest they visit: [lafoliamusic.org/about/support/friends](http://lafoliamusic.org/about/support/friends) to find out how to become a Friend.

To donate via **JustGiving** visit [justgiving.com/lafolia](http://justgiving.com/lafolia) or scan this QR code:



A very easy and simple way to generate donations for La Folia is while you shop online. If you sign up to The Giving Machine and select La Folia as your charity of choice, a percentage of what you spend will automatically be gifted to La Folia - at no extra cost to you! There are over 2,000 participating retailers, including Waitrose, John Lewis and Amazon.

To donate while shopping online visit [shopandgive.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/lafolia-music](http://shopandgive.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/lafolia-music) or scan this QR code:



If you are a UK taxpayer, you can send us a completed Gift Aid form. It doesn’t cost you more but increases the donation La Folia receives by 25% as it allows us to reclaim basic tax on your donation. Forms are available at this event, or you can download one by scanning this QR code:



We hope that you enjoy the afternoon, and we look forward to seeing you at one of our future events.

## Memorable Quotes:

### Evening Songs

*"A remarkable and special gift to Salisbury Cathedral, and I am very grateful to La Folia for making it possible."*

*(Nicholas Papadopoulos, Dean of Salisbury Cathedral)*

*"This was one of the most, if not the most important thing the cathedral has ever done. It has undoubtedly been transformational for all of us."*

*(Tom Clammer, former Canon Precentor, Salisbury Cathedral)*

*"I urge you to embrace La Folia and the Evening Songs project as a very intense, unique collaboration between a cathedral and a local Special School, and as an experience that will move you as never before and reaffirm the raw power of music."*

*(David Halls, Director of Music, Salisbury Cathedral)*

### Holst's "The Planets" Project

*'One of the most important and significant things I've ever been a part of in this world of cathedral music.'*

*(John Challenger (Assistant Director of Music, Salisbury Cathedral))*

### Photo credits:

1. Finnbarr Webster
2. Ash Mills Photography
3. Katie Vandyck
4. Ingo Arndt