

perspectives

CHELTENHAMARTSCULTURE

Cheltenham Arts Council: awards_funding_publicity_events listings



*June - September
2017*

Cheltenham 300

Poems for the
300th Anniversary
of Cheltenham
as a Spa Town

Cheltenham Poetry Society

Cheltenham in words and pictures

Cheltenham 300

*photographs and poems from
Cheltenham Poetry Society
marking the tercentenary of
Cheltenham as a SpaTown*

*over 30 colour photographs
28 poems by 14 poets*

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cheltenham
bach
choir

Come and Sing!
A day of English choral classics
Christchurch, Cheltenham
Saturday 14th October 2017
from 10 am to 4 pm

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choir

70th
*Birthday
Concert*
Christchurch,
Cheltenham
Saturday
24th June 2017
7:30 pm



CheltBachChoir

Brahms
A German
& Requiem
Howells

Take Him, Earth,
For Cherishing

**Cirencester
Parish Church
Saturday**

11th November 2017
7:30 pm

MESSIAH

George Frideric Handel

**Cheltenham
Town Hall
Saturday**

23rd December 2017
7:30 pm

For further information or tickets visit www.cheltbachchoir.com

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Welcome

In this issue we look back at Cheltenham Arts Council's Annual Awards Ceremony in March – another opportunity to applaud outstanding contributions from members of a wide cross-section of societies, choirs and clubs, to celebrate the talents of two young musicians and to recognize a local business's support to the arts.

In looking forward to Cheltenham Music Festival in July, we hear from Arts Council President, Graham Lockwood, about the history and role of Cheltenham Music Festival Society. David Pepper looks ahead to the 70th anniversary season of Cheltenham Music Society's chamber concerts, commencing in October. Cheltenham Bach Choir also celebrates its 70th anniversary with a birthday concert in June.

*Cheltenham
Bach Choir
celebrates its
70th anniversary*

David Clarke, a lecturer at Bath University and poet, recalls a lecture he gave for Cheltenham Poetry Society on Landscapes of German Post-War Poetry – a topic of interest to historians, linguists, writers and poets alike.

With this edition, we sadly say goodbye to editor Hollie Smith-Charles as she becomes Director of Gloucester Culture Trust. We wish her every success in this exciting position. We also say farewell to Graham Lockwood as Arts Council President this summer and thank him for everything he has done in this role.

Sharon Larkin, Chairman

COVER IMAGE:
IMOGEN HARVEY-LEWIS : ARTIST AND ILLUSTRATOR
FIND ME ON INSTAGRAM @ PLIMPSOLE_GIRL
WWW.IMOGENHARVEYLEWIS.CO.UK



PERSPECTIVES TEAM

EDITOR SHARON LARKIN AND HOLLIE SMITH-CHARLES
LISTINGS ALICE HODSDON
TEMPLATE DESIGN CHANTAL FREEMAN

Perspectives is produced three times a year. The next issue will span October 2017 – January 2018.

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65 YEARS OF MUSIC CELEBRATED

THE CHELTENHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL SOCIETY COMPLETES ITS FIRST 65 YEARS.

When the conductor's baton signalled the start of the first concert of the first Cheltenham Music Festival on 12 June 1945 it marked the realisation of a project for post-war Cheltenham that had begun to form in the minds of a small group who had been organising a lively sequence of musical events during the war years of the early 1940s. Those recitals, choral and orchestral concerts were remarkably well attended and demonstrated the importance of music to people living through difficult times. It also illustrated that Cheltenham's long tradition of providing musical entertainment for its residents and visitors was being maintained.

It was the visitors who had started it all 150 years earlier when the town was becoming known as a new spa town to which the 'nobility and gentry' could come, usually in late summer, to recover from the rigours of the London social season which extended over the weeks when the Houses of Parliament were in session. While in London, these upper classes enjoyed being entertained by the musical celebrities of the day and when they left for the spas they were followed by the touring opera singers and instrumentalists anxious to augment their income. Cheltenham joined the list of such places from the end of the 18th century.

This tradition of celebrity appearances continued right up to the time that the proposal to start a Music Festival was put to the Town Corporation and approved, in 1944. Given such a good musical foundation and its chosen theme of Contemporary British Music the Festival made a flying start. The Festival

programme was expanded over the next six years and by the time it became one of the attractions during the 1951 Festival of Britain it was running for two weeks and included opera performances. But in that same year it became public knowledge that the Festival was running at a loss and would be curtailed in future or even in danger of winding up. At the end of the concert in which he had been conducting the Halle Orchestra, John Barbirolli, soon to be knighted, made an impassioned plea to the Cheltenham public not to let this happen.

Shortly afterwards a public meeting was arranged in the Town Hall at the instigation of the Western Regional Director of the Arts Council. Over three hundred people attended and were told that although Cheltenham now had a festival of national significance and was a credit to the enlightened Town Corporation, each Festival had, from the outset, resulted in a financial deficit and that these losses had grown substantially. The Arts Council had given grants from the third year onwards but could not increase the amount any more. What was needed was a body of local supporters who would promote the Festival and bridge the financial gaps. Arthur Benjamin added a plea on behalf of his fellow composers and urged that Cheltenham should continue to provide a highly respected platform for new contemporary music.

Out of that meeting came a committee of ways and means soon to be called the Cheltenham Festival Society. Within 12 months the new Society had a membership of over 300. The annual membership subscription was modest but the new



JOHN BARBIROLI CONDUCTS THE HALLE ORCHESTRA AT CHELTENHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Society was successful in raising further funds by way of donations from local businesses as well as individuals. Although the Festival was shortened in 1952 and 1953 it gradually returned to a fuller schedule and healthier financial state. Funding from the Society, sufficient to support a performance by a major orchestra and one or two other concerts in each Festival helped to achieve this result.

The Festival Society went further when, in November 1960, it was decided to help the Festival by commissioning new works from well-known composers. The first of these was Malcolm Arnold's 5th Symphony with which the 1961 Festival opened, played by the Halle Orchestra with the composer conducting.

Today the Society no longer seeks donations from businesses as this is a responsibility of Cheltenham Festivals but the Society continues its policy of helping the Festival to maintain its reputation for providing performances of the highest



standard, innovative programming, a platform for young artists and composers and an active education and outreach programme for young people. The Society supports all these activities with financial grants. Its members are Friends of the Music Festival in every sense and as well as deriving much satisfaction from seeing the Festival thrive, they also enjoy other specially organised events throughout the year.

BY GRAHAM LOCKWOOD



THE HALLE ORCHESTRA ARRIVES AT CHELTENHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Find out more about Cheltenham Music Festival Society by visiting:

cmfsoc.org.uk

Cheltenham Music Festival takes place from 1st-16th July 2017.

Find out more at: **cheltenhamfestivals.com/music**

SEVENTY YEARS OF FINE CHAMBER MUSIC

CHELTENHAM MUSIC SOCIETY

This October the Cheltenham Music Society will begin its 70th anniversary season of chamber concerts. The Society gave its first concert in October 1948, and has promoted professional concerts every year since then. Performers for this exceptional season have been selected by members from those they particularly enjoyed in the last few years. As usual, the backbone of the series is the string quartet, and the other concerts span a range of genres.

The line-up of string quartets is headed by the world-renowned Takács Quartet, who have been regular visitors to the Society for over 30 years; their November concert will include music by Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms. In the centrepiece of the series, a concert by the Carducci Quartet will include the world première of a quartet by Simon Rowland-Jones that has been commissioned by the Society to mark the anniversary. The final concert will be by the Doric Quartet, who will bring the season to a fitting conclusion with Beethoven's Opus 130.

Among the other artists, the Nash Ensemble have been regular performers in Society concerts; this time they bring flute, harp and viola in a programme ranging from Mozart to Piazzolla. The young Busch Piano Trio won the 2012 Royal Overseas League competition; they will be playing music by Smetana, Bridge and Schubert. The Parnassius Duo play a varied programme of music written or adapted for four hands at one piano, from Schubert to the contemporary Nikolai Kapustin. Finally, the violinist Joo Yeon Sir and pianist Irina Andrievsky return with music by Schnittke, Schumann, Britten and Milhaud.



BUSCH PIANO TRIO



TAKÁCS QUARTET

In addition to the main series, the successful mini-series of Contemporary Concerts will continue with programmes for flute and piano by Sarah Bennett and Daniel King Smith, and for viola and piano by Rosalind Ventris and James Willshire.

DAVID PEPPER

Find out more about Cheltenham Music Society by visiting
cheltmusicsoc.co.uk

Details of the 2017-18 series, as well as the programme of Contemporary Concerts are now online.

EVENTS DIRECTORY JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2017

VISUAL ARTS

Cheltenham Open Studios
COS17, Sat 10- Sun 18 Jun,
 visit studios, workrooms
 and exhibitions of 200+ local
 artists. See Tourist Info or
cheltenhamopenstudios.org.uk
 for venue guide

Art in the Park, Sat 17 Jun-
 Sun 16 Jul, 10am-7.30pm,
 Imperial Gardens, different
 artists each week, original art
 at affordable prices

**AT THE GARDENS
 GALLERY, MONTPELLIER
 GARDENS:**
 10am-5pm daily, as listed:

Jan Whitton,
 Wed 31 May- Tue 6 Jun

Cheltenham Open Studios,
 Wed 7- Tue 20 Jun

Christina Rice,
 Wed 21- Tue 27 Jun

**Cheltenham School of Fine
 Art**, Wed 28 Jun- Tue 4 Jul

Cotswold Weddings,
 Wed 5- Tue 11 Jul

**Wild and Abstract: Patricia
 Courtney, Sue Jolley &
 Leanne Courtney-Crowe**,
 Wed 12- Tue 18 Jul

The Wednesday Group,
 Wed 19- Tue 25 Jul

Robbie Chapman,
 Wed 26 Jul- Tue 1 Aug

The Wilson,
 Wed 2- Tue 15 Aug

Elisabeth Le Vierge,
 Wed 16- Tue 22 Aug



ANNE BUTLER, CHELTENHAM OPEN STUDIOS, SEE CHELTENHAMOPENSTUDIOS.ORG.UK

Pam Stone,
 Wed 23- Tue 29 Aug

Conrad Clarke,
 Wed 30 Aug- Tue 5 Sep

Molly Abbott,
 Wed 6- Tue 12 Sep

Cheltenham Art Club,
 Wed 13- Tue 19 Sep

Victoria Stiff,
 Wed 20- Mon 25 Sep

Elwyn Rosser-Smith,
 Tue 26 Sep- Sun 1 Oct

CAROLINE MCCATTY CHELTENHAM OPEN STUDIOS,
 SEE CHELTENHAMOPENSTUDIOS.ORG.UK



EVENTS FOR JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2017

MUSIC

Musica Vera rehearsals, every Wed during term, 7.30pm, Leckhampton, vacancies in all voice parts. New members who can read music welcome. freewebs.com/musicavera or 01242 517258

The Oriel Singers, Fri 26 May, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church, Winchcombe, Music of the Psalms, part of winchcombefestival.co.uk

The Arthur Bliss Society AGM and recital, Sat 10 Jun, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, arthurbloss.org

Cleeve Chorale at the Bishop's Cleeve Street Fair, Sun 11 Jun, free, everyone is invited to this fun day out

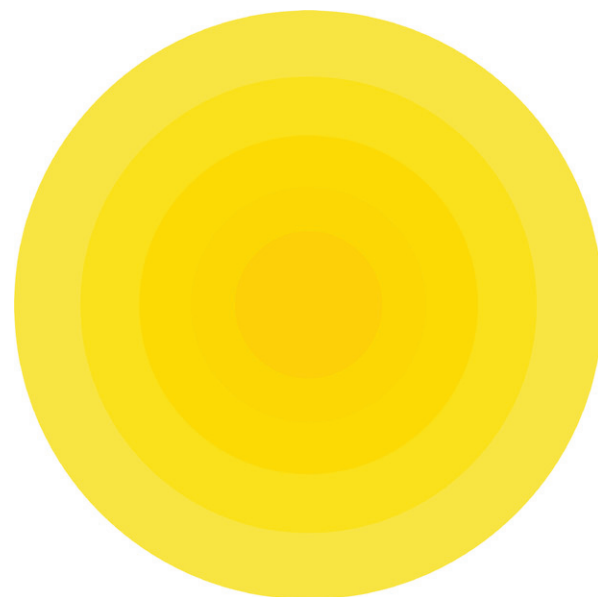
Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra: English Fantasy, Sun 18 Jun, 3pm, Pittville Pump Room, in celebration of the life of Colin Burrow. Holst: Fugal Overture, Frank Bridge: The Sea, Arnold: English Dances, Holst: Cotswold Symphony

Cheltenham Bach Choir 70th Birthday Concert, Sat 24 Jun, 7.30pm, Christ Church, cheltenhambachchoir.org.uk

The Oriel Singers, Sat 24 Jun, St Mary's Church, Painswick, orielsingers.org.uk

Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra: Hands across the Pond, Sat 1 Jul, 7.30pm, Town Hall, Copland, Bernstein, Elgar, Wood, Parry. cheltenham-symphonyorchestra.info

Musica Vera Summer Concert, Sat 1 Jul, 7.30pm, St Mark's Methodist Church, Cond. David Dewar



BRUCE GREGORY, CHELTENHAM OPEN STUDIOS, SEE CHELTENHAMOPENSTUDIOS.ORG.UK

Cheltenham Music Festival, Sat 1- Sun 16 Jul, cheltenhamfestivals.com/music

Cleeve Chorale Summer Concert, Sun 2 Jul, 5pm, Bishop's Cleeve Primary Academy, with BCPA School Choir

Blue Moon Harmony Choir Coffee Morning, Sat 15 Jul, Woodmancote Village Hall, bluemoonharmony.co.uk

Cleeve Chorale new term, Tue 12 Sep, 7.30pm, Bishop's Cleeve Primary Academy, new members always welcome

Holst Birthday Concert, featuring the Holst Singers, Sat 23 Sep, 7.30pm, All Saints' Church, further details: holstmuseum.org.uk

Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra, Sat 30 Sep, 7.30pm, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, Mozart, Britten, Beethoven. Sop. Susan Black

STAGE AND DANCE

Cheltenham Operatic & Dramatic Society: Annie, Tue 30 May- Sat 3 Jun, 7.30pm + 2pm Thu & Sat, Everyman, codsonline.co.uk

Promenade Productions: A Musical Journey, Thu 13- Sat 15 Jul, 7.30pm, £10-12, The Bacon Theatre, journey through musicals old and new, with Saturday charity performance in aid of Sue Ryder. promenadeproductions.co.uk

EVENTS FOR JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2017

LECTURES AND MEETINGS

Cheltenham German Club Stammtisch, twice a month, town centre, for details: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg Arnold 01684 772966

WEA Walking Book Group, monthly, 2-4pm, Pittville Park, info: wea-cheltenham.co.uk or 01242 524621

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 5 Jun, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Beyond One's Comfort Zone
Cheltenham Poetry Society Workshop, Tue 6 Jun, 7-10pm, £5, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389

Cheltenham Decorative & Fine Arts Society (DFAS): Are you sitting comfortably?, Wed 14 Jun, 7.30 for 8pm, Sacred Hearts Hall, CK, development of the chair from ancient times to the 19th century, with Janusz Karczewski-Slowikowski. Full details, inc membership: info@cdfas.org.uk

Cheltenham Civic Society: Civic Day, Sat 17 Jun, celebrating our town, see cheltenhamcivicsociety.org.uk
Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 19 Jun, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Blue Moon

Cheltenham Poetry Society Reading Group Meeting, Tue

20 Jun, 7-10pm, £3, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389

Holst Museum: Guided walk along part of the Holst Way, Sat 24 Jun, £6, further details: holstmuseum.org.uk

Prestbury Local History Society History Walk, Mon 26 Jun, new route for 2017, booking essential: prestburyhistory@gmail.com

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting, Tue 27 Jun, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 3 Jul, 7.30pm,

£2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, encouraging creative writing at all levels.

Theme: Writing Exercise
Cheltenham Poetry Society Workshop, Tue 4 Jul, 7-10pm, £5, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 17 Jul, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Summertime

Cheltenham Poetry Society Reading Group Meeting, Tue 18 Jul, 7-10pm, £3, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389

Cheltenham Poetry Society



CAROLE BURY, CHELTENHAM OPEN STUDIOS, SEE CHELTENHAMOPENSTUDIOS.ORG.UK

EVENTS FOR JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2017

Members' Writing Group**Meeting**, Tue 25 Jul, info:

Sharon Larkin 07540

329389

Cheltenham Writers'**Circle**, Mon 31 Jul, 7.30pm,

£2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt

Terrace, encouraging

creative writing at all levels.

Theme: Nipped in the Bud

Cheltenham Poetry Society**Workshop**, Tue 1 Aug,

7-10pm, £5, info: Sharon

Larkin 07540 329389

Cheltenham Writers'**Circle**, Mon 14 Aug, 7.30pm,

£2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt

Terrace, encouraging

creative writing at all levels.

Theme: White Lies

Cheltenham Poetry Society**Reading Group Meeting**,

Tue 15 Aug, 7-10pm, £3,

Parmoor House, Lypiatt

Terrace, info: Sharon Larkin

07540 329389

Cheltenham Writers'**Circle**, Mon 28 Aug, 7.30pm,

£2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt

Terrace, encouraging

creative writing at all levels.

Guest Speaker

Cheltenham Poetry Society**Members' Writing Group****Meeting**, Tue 29 Aug,

info: Sharon Larkin 07540

329389

Cheltenham Poetry Society**Workshop**, Tue 5 Sep,

7-10pm, £5, Parmoor House,

Lypiatt Terrace, info: Sharon

Larkin 07540 329389

Heritage Open Days,

Thu 7- Sun 10 Sep, events

and venues throughout

Cheltenham. See

heritageopendays.org.ukLAURE FILHO, CHELTENHAM OPEN STUDIOS, SEE CHELTENHAMOPENSTUDIOS.ORG.UK**Cheltenham Camera Club****Opening Evening**, Thu 7

Sep, 7.30 for 7.45pm, Holy

Apostles Church, new

members very welcome

to an introduction to

the club and the 2017/8

programme of weekly

meetings. More info:

[cheltenhamcameracub.](http://cheltenhamcameracub.co.uk)[co.uk](http://cheltenhamcameracub.co.uk)**Cheltenham Writers'****Circle**, Mon 11 Sep, 7.30pm,

£2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt

Terrace, encouraging

creative writing at all levels.

Theme: Temptation

Cheltenham DFAS: Frida**Kahlo and Diego Rivera**,

Tue 12 Sep, 7.30 for 8pm,

Sacred Hearts Hall, CK,

Mexican art in the early

20th century, with Chloe

Sayer. Full details, inc

membership: [info@cdfas.](mailto:info@cdfas.org.uk)[org.uk](http://info@cdfas.org.uk)**Cercle Français**, Mon 18

Sep, 7pm, St Luke's Hall,

détails à suivre, cercle-

francais-cheltenham.webs.

com

Cheltenham Poetry Society**Reading Group Meeting**,

Tue 19 Sep, 7-10pm, £3,

Parmoor House, Lypiatt

Terrace, info: Sharon Larkin

07540 329389

Cheltenham Writers'**Circle**, Mon 25 Sep, 7.30pm,

£2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt

Terrace, encouraging

creative writing at all levels.

Theme: How not to do it

Prestbury Local History**Society**, Mon 25 Sep,

7.30pm, Prestbury W.I. Hall,

Archive & Quiz Evening

Charlton Kings Local**History Society**, Tue

26 Sep, 7.30pm, Baptist

Church, Charlton Kings,

What Victorian school

logbooks tell us about local

social history, with Fiona

Mead

EVENTS FOR JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2017

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting, Tue 26 Sep,
info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389

CHELTEHAM WEA COURSES: Details: wea-cheltenham.co.uk or Derek Briggs 01242 234488.
Please enrol at wea.org.uk or tel. 01392 490970

Taster Sessions for the Autumn Term:

Art and Poetry, Sat 27 May, 10am-4pm, £8, Highbury Congregational Church
Calligraphy, Wed 14 Jun, 10.30am-1.30pm, £4, Tithe Barn, Bishop's Cleeve
Talk Spanish, Thu 22 Jun, 11am-3pm, £5, Christ Church Hall, Malvern Road
Courses:

Great Artists of the Twentieth Century, Tue 2 May- Tue 20 Jun, 2-4pm, £56, St Mark's Methodist Church

The Early 1970s: Literature and Social History, Tue 19 Sep- Tue 28 Nov, 10.30am-12.30pm, Christ Church

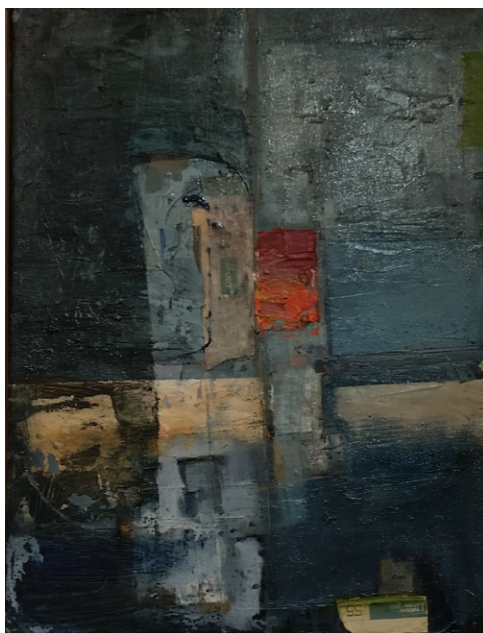
Further your French with Fun, Thu 21 Sep- Thu 7 Dec, 2-4pm, Christ Church

Developing your Drawing and Painting, Mon 25 Sep- Mon 20 Nov, 10.30am-12.30pm, Highbury Church
Poetry, Wed 27 Sep- Wed 15 Nov, 2-4pm, St Mark's Methodist Church

Talk Spanish, Thu 28 Sep- Thu 7 Dec, 11am- 1pm Christ Church



LO COLE, CHELTENHAM OPEN STUDIOS, SEE CHELTENHAMOPENSTUDIOS.ORG.UK



NIKI HARE, CHELTENHAM OPEN STUDIOS, SEE CHELTENHAMOPENSTUDIOS.ORG.UK

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LANDSCAPES OF POST-WAR GERMAN POETRY

CHELTENHAM POETRY SOCIETY'S ANNUAL LECTURE

Dr David Clarke, Senior Lecturer in German at the University of Bath, was invited to give Cheltenham Poetry Society's annual lecture on 'Landscapes of Post-War German Poetry' in March. Here, David provides Perspectives with an overview of his lecture, which proved to be of considerable interest to historians, artists and linguists – as well as poets.

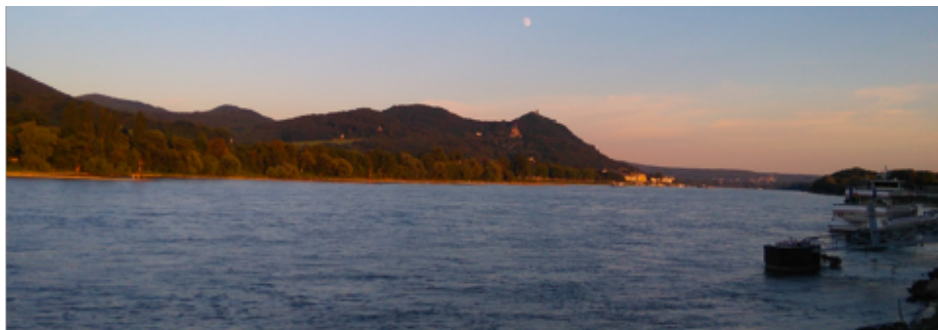
I was pleased to be invited to deliver this year's Cheltenham Poetry Society lecture and to respond to the request to address a topic related to German poetry. I chose to focus on the concept of landscape both because it tells us something specific about the context of German poetry and because of its interest to a society whose members are themselves poets. While we can find many fine poems about landscape in British literature, this theme has taken on different meanings in the German context: meanings that have been conditioned by Germany's attempts to come to terms with its history in the post-war period and by the emergence of two very different social and political orders in East and West Germany until 1990.

The (untranslatable) notion of *Heimat* is often identified as a specifically German phenomenon, associated with a

romanticized rural world of belonging in which local traditions survive in the face of rapid modernisation. However, Germans' relationships to such local identities and the landscapes associated with them were troubled after 1945 by the experience of National Socialism and the war: not only did Germany itself become a battleground, but it was also invaded and divided by the Allied powers; Germany lost a significant amount of its territory and millions of ethnic Germans were expelled from eastern and central Europe; also, the violence of National Socialism haunted German landscapes, not least in the remaining material traces of the concentration camps.

In my lecture, I used the notion of landscape in a very specific way to explore some of these concerns. Landscape poetry and nature poetry are clearly linked, in that descriptions of landscape often present natural phenomena onto which the human observer projects their concerns, as the art historian Kenneth Clark notes of landscape art more generally:

We have surrounded ourselves with things which we have not made and which have a life and structure different from our own: trees, flowers, grasses, rivers, hills, clouds. [...] We have recreated them in our own imaginations to reflect our moods.



THE RHINE NEAR BONN PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID CLARKE

However, landscape poetry often also traces the human influence on the scenes observed, revealing to us, as Chris Fitter notes, that they also bear the marks of our economic and political order. When writing landscapes, poets see nature not as something pure and unchanging, but as something on which human beings have worked. In the German case, this sensitivity to the ways in which human activity is inscribed into the landscape is often coupled with an awareness of the layers of history that can also be revealed. The poet Jürgen Becker, whose work I considered in my lecture, has spoken of his own interest in landscape in the following terms:

the important thing is to recognize that the landscape represents history: the history of humanity, of politics, of war. The landscape for me is a kind of collage in which I can identify multiple layers of history.

In my lecture, I explored the role of landscape in the work of poets who emerged in the early post-war period, whose writing often presents us with scenes haunted by violence. While poets such as Günter Eich, Ilse Aichinger or Peter Huchel frequently refrain from discussing politics and history directly, their landscapes contain uncanny elements that are the disturbing echoes of a brutal past. Later poets, such as Becker or Sarah Kirsch, were discussed for their engagement with the emerging post-war Federal Republic and its socialist counterpart in the GDR through the medium of landscape. Younger poets of the twenty-first century, on the other hand, have arguably turned away from these historical concerns to consider their relationship to the landscape in the post-modern, digital age.



DAVID CLARKE

I hoped that the ideas on landscape and poetry presented in the lecture would allow the audience to make connections with English-language writers they might already know, as well as introducing them to a range of poets writing in German whose work is also accessible in translation.

David Clarke is a teacher, researcher and poet. His poetry publications include *Gaud* (2012; Winner of the Michael Marks Award), *Arc* (2015; longlisted for the Polari First Book Prize) and *Scare Stories* (2017). He blogs at <http://athingforpoetry.blogspot.co.uk/>

Interested in the themes in this article? The following might be of interest to you:

Cheltenham Poetry Society cheltenhampoetrysoc.blogspot.co.uk

Cheltenham German Club cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com

Cheltenham WEA (poetry courses and lectures) wea-cheltenham.co.uk

AWARDS GALORE

ANNUAL CHELTENHAM ARTS COUNCIL AWARDS CEREMONY

Sharon Larkin records moments during the annual Cheltenham Arts Council Awards Ceremony, held at The Playhouse Theatre earlier this year.

Arts Awards in the form of framed certificates - and three cups - were presented by The Mayor of Cheltenham, Councillor Chris Ryder, to celebrate outstanding achievements in music, the visual arts, languages, history and writing. The President of Cheltenham Arts Council, Graham Lockwood, presided at the ceremony, with Sharon reading the citations before each award was presented. The following award winners were supported by friends, family and fellow members of their associations, with over 120 in the audience:

Robin Baggs nominated by The Cheltenham Bach Choir for his musicianship in accompanying Cheltenham Bach Choir on piano and organ, in rehearsals and performances over many years.



ROBIN BAGGS

John Boxall nominated by Cheltenham Art Club for his contribution in the role of studio manager.

Neela Mann nominated by Cheltenham Local History Society for her dedication and commitment in promoting an interest in the history of the town, especially Cheltenham in the Great War, and preparing for Heritage Open Days.



NEELA MANN

Gerald O'Shaughnessy nominated by Cheltenham Poetry Society for encouraging the reading and writing of poetry during more than 30 years of dedication and commitment to the Society, formerly as chairman and currently as treasurer.

John Simpson and the Pittville History Works Team nominated by the Friends of Pittville for groundbreaking research on the Pittville area, and for making the resulting historical information available both to local residents and researchers.

Vivien Nicholson for long service as a founder member of The Gotherington Singers. Vivien was also awarded the Cheltenham Opera Group Cup for enterprise and innovation in music-making. A large number of her friends



VIVIEN NICHOLSON, FOR THE GOTHERINGTON SINGERS

and colleagues from The Gotherington Singers were in the audience, supporting and applauding Viv in this, the choir's 50th anniversary year.

Jo Dean nominated for an Arts Award by Cheltenham Italian Society, endorsed by Cheltenham German Club and the Twinning Association. Jo was also awarded the Joyner Cup for the most outstanding citation in this year's Arts Awards, recognizing her exceptional contribution in furthering Cheltenham's relationships with its twinning partners in Europe.

Two outstanding young musicians were awarded The Elizabeth Webster Cup for the most promising young person for achievement in any branch of the arts in the preceding year: Emily Hannis, nominated by Cleeve School, and April Perrott, nominated by The Beauregard Academy. Their considerable achievements are the result of

determination, hard work, commitment – and exceptional talent.

Helene Hewett of Suffolk Anthology Bookshop nominated by Cheltenham Writers' Circle for the Charles Irving Award for the local organisation providing outstanding support through sponsorship of the voluntary arts in Cheltenham. The citation recognized the many ways in which the Suffolk Anthology Bookshop and Café supports local artists and writers, and provides a unique service for the local community.



EMILY HANNIS



APRIL PERROTT

Cheltenham Arts Council congratulates all the 2017 Award winners and thanks The Mayor of Cheltenham, Councillor Chris Ryder, for presenting the certificates and cups. Thanks also to Paul Scott of The Playhouse Theatre for hosting the event and to John Cook of Cheltenham Camera Club for taking the photographs.

CHELTENHAM

Music Festival

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Monteverdi's Vespers in Gloucester Cathedral • Florilegium
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