

St Stephen Walbrook

Newsletter Summer 2017

St Stephen Walbrook, 39 Walbrook, London EC4N 8BN ststephenwalbrook.net/ office@ststephenwalbrook.net 020 7626 9000

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New church website



St Stephen Walbrook has a new website (www.ststephenwalbrook.net) with a revised layout and updated information. One of the benefits of the new site is the introduction of an events calendar which also highlights three upcoming events or services, so those viewing the site always know the next opportunity to attend. The site has been designed and prepared by the Marketing sub-group of our PCC.

The new site also includes:

- profiles of significant figures from the history of St Stephen Walbrook;
- films, drawings and poems (in the Gallery section) made by artists and poets associated with the church;
- new information about organisations with which we work in partnership;
- a range of useful resources such as worksheets for Schools visits;
- links to sermons preached at St Stephen Walbrook.

Summer Term Services & Events

All are most welcome to the Summer Term Services and Events at St Stephen Walbrook. These include:

- Discover & explore services on Reformation 500 themes. Discover & explore is a service series of musical discovery supported by The Worshipful Company of Grocers and featuring the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields. These services begin at 1.10pm:

 Mon 24th Apr Grace not Works; Mon 1st May Bank Holiday Church closed; Mon 8 May God's written Word; Mon 15 May Through Christ alone; Mon 22 May God loves you; Mon 29 May Bank Holiday Church closed; Mon 5 June Baptism saves; Mon 12 Jun The Lord's Supper; Mon 19 Jun The Cross alone; Mon 26 Jun Forgiveness is free; & Mon 3 Jul Life of repentance.
- Ascension Day Eucharist Thursday 25 May 12.45pm St Stephen's Voices & Joe Sentance will perform Mozart's Missa Brevis in D, K 194.
- The Lord Mayor's St Stephen's Serenades Friday 26th May 2017 5.30-6.15pm with Demelza Stafford (Soprano), Jack Foley (Tenor) and Rimantas Vingas (Piano). Demelza Stafford will this year be joining the Lyric Opera Studio Weimar to make her German debut singing Frau Fluth in Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor. Jack Foley got to the finals of Channel 4's award winning 'Operatunity' TV programme in 2012. Rimantas has given solo performances in Russia, the United Kingdom, Lithuania, Germany, Switzerland and the USA and as a soloist he has performed with the London Mozart players and the Chamber Orchestra of the Lithuanian Academy of Music. Future Serenade Dates: 30th June, 28th July, 29th September, 27th October 2017.
- Evensong for the Feast of the Transfiguration followed by Garden Party Monday 7th August 6.00pm. This service will include music by Tallis, Smith, Stanford and Howells led by St Stephen's Voices & Joe Sentance.





'Transformation'

Artist Terrence Ffyffe presents a series of spectacular new 'Cosmic' paintings alongside a number of large dramatic religious works depicting the Passion of Christ, at St Stephen Walbrook, (by Bank Station) EC4N 8BN, from 15th May-9th June 2017. The Private View will be held on Monday 15th May from 6.30pm.

As with his highly successful first show of 'Cosmic' paintings 'Painting the Light' in 2016, this exhibition entitled 'Transformation' brings the worlds of Quantum physics, Mathematics and Mystical Spirituality together in a new series of stunningly beautiful oil paintings. From his daily practise of meditation, which he describes as 'a space journey to the source', the lights, colours and shapes he sees mirror the images of Galaxies and Nebulas from the Hubble Telescope and the hidden world of atoms, cells and amoebas as revealed through the Electron Microscope. Ffyffe says "The amazing bio morphic patterns seen at all levels in nature demonstrate the oneness of all creation". Terrence has found a way to create the patterns as blueprints and then with his skills as a figurative painter develop them into sumptuous paintings revealing a new form of beauty and a new vision of reality.

The exhibition coincides with the Feast of Pentecost, celebrating the 'Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles', an event that transformed them from cowering in fear to boldly proclaiming the "Good News".

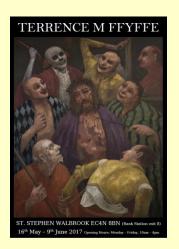
Ffyffe formerly a figurative painter in the classic tradition had a "transformation" experience himself and is now firmly established in his new direction of depicting the beauty of the hidden world of nature and the inner world of the mind". The exhibition brings together the last works that Ffyffe was working on before this profound change. He says, "The early paintings are about the Historical Jesus and the New Paintings are about the Holy Spirit".

Terrance Ffyffe is a visionary artist and as the eminent art critic Edward Lucie-Smith wrote on seeing the New Works for the first time "Wow!": "Every now and then even a hardened old lag in the art business - yes folks, I mean me - gets a nice surprise ... Terry Ffyffe-asked me to come and look at a new series of paintings ... and my reaction was 'Wow!' ... These were whirling, dynamic abstract designs - a total break with anything major of his that I had encountered previously".

Terrence Ffyffe says: "Art should inspire the viewer, ideally raise the consciousness and elevate the mind to think of higher things like the beauty and mystery of the natural world, to contemplate the deep questions as to purpose and meaning, like 'What is the origin of this life? What is Reality? Questions that have no easy answer but require a personal journey of developing awareness."



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Art exhibition programme 2017

Spiritual art by Jamaican artists: 3 - 14 July

Theresa Roberts was born in Jamaica (St Elizabeth) and is now one of Europe's most prominent collectors of Jamaican art. Theresa will curate an exhibition of spiritual art by established and emerging Jamaican artists. The exhibition will include work by Carl Abrahams, Lesli-Ann Belnavis, Laura Facey Cooper, Marlon James and Edna Manley, among others.

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commission4mission: 4 - 15 September

commission4mission encourages churches to commission contemporary art. Their 13 completed commissions provide marvellous examples of what can be achieved when artists and churches share a vision for creativity and mission. They will hold their fifth exhibition at St Stephen Walbrook in September 2017. Previous exhibitions have been entitled 'Inspire', 'Presence', 'Gift' and 'Reflection'.

Alexander de Cadenet: 2 - 27 October

Alexander de Cadenet's 'Life Burger' sculptures sit within the Vanitas tradition of art which has been a mode of artistic communication for the church since the 16th Century as an aid to spiritual contemplation. These sculptures incorporate many high status consumer items as emblems of our consumer orientated existences today and topped with a Momento Mori skull. The works question the vanity of worldly existence. De Cadenet writes for Watkins Mind Body Spirit magazine on the spiritual element within art and will organise a conference on art and spirituality together with St Stephen Walbrook and the magazine.

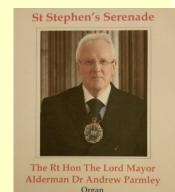
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The Lord Mayor's St Stephen's Serenades

The Lord Mayor's St Stephen's Serenades are free Music Recitals on the last Friday of the month, 5.30 - 6.15pm. All are welcome - Just come along.

For the Serenade held on Friday 31st March we were fortunate to have The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley as organist. The Lord Mayor performed to a packed house and shared with his audience a varied and enjoyable programme that included:

- Prelude and Fugue in F minor, BWV 534 Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750
- Voluntary III in C William Boyce 1711-1779
- Toccatina Pietro Yon 1886-1943
- Carillon-Sortie Henri Mulet 1878-1967
- Psalm Prelude, Set 1, No 1 Herbert Howells 1892-1983
- Sortie in E Louis-James-Alfred Lefébure-Wely 1817- 1869



Stations 2017

This Easter, at St Stephen Walbrook, we were involved in a two-part art work based on the Stations of the Cross and the Stations of the Resurrection. The first part involved the artist Mark Dean in projecting filmed Stations of the Cross onto the Henry Moore altar throughout the night on Easter Eve.

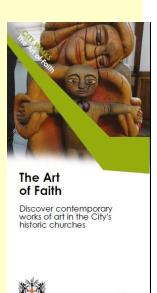
Mark Dean's videos were not literal depictions of the Stations of the Cross. Instead Dean appropriated a few frames of iconic film footage together with extracts of popular music and then slowed down, reversed, looped or otherwise altered these so that the images he selected were amplified through their repetition. As an example, in the first Stations of the Cross video, a clip of Julie Andrews as the novice Maria from the opening scenes of The Sound of Music was layered over an extract, from the Alfred Hitchcock film Psycho, of a car arriving at Bates Motel where Marion Crane would be murdered by Norman Bates. The blue of the sky and the innocence suggested by Maria's religious vocation was in contrast with the footage from Psycho, which was indicative of the violent death to which Jesus was condemned. In St Paul's Cathedral for the second part of the project, the staging was inverted as the dancers performed in the central space under the dome, whilst Dean's video was played on television monitors placed around the edge of this circular space. The monitors appeared like a clock face marking out the boundaries of human experience. Five dancers emerged from the shadows around the edge of the stage and started to navigate the space, sometimes individually and sometimes in groups, to form tableaux which were visually reminiscent of the acts of protecting, comforting and carrying each other. The dancers regularly perforated the boundary, moving out beyond the stage and the audience, before returning to the centre and reconnecting in different configurations. As a result, the on-lookers found themselves within the action of these movements.





The Art of Faith City Walk

The Art of Faith City Walk recently produced by the Corporation of London, with the support of the Diocese of London, features St Stephen Walbrook and was initiated by Revd Jonathan Evens. The City of London has the greatest concentration of historic church buildings anywhere in the country. In the 16th century there were 111 churches in the City. 80 were destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 with 51 subsequently rebuilt under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren. Today there are no fewer than 42 historic churches situated within the Square Mile, all of which are either Grade I or Grade II listed, and together they illustrate an extraordinary breadth of architectural history. Less well known is the extent to which they contain significant examples of art commissioned from the 20th century onwards. Many of the churches in the City were damaged by bombing during World War II, providing opportunities in the post-war reconstruction to engage with contemporary art. These artworks are by prominent modern artists such as Jacob Epstein, Patrick Heron, Damien Hirst, Henry Moore, John Skeaping and Bill Viola, as well as work by other reputable artists such as Thetis Blacker, John Hayward and Keith New.



LONDON

Spring, Lent & Easter 2017 events

During the Spring Term we organized the following: Annual Parochial Church Meeting; Art Exhibitions - Hannah Thomas, The 3 Mothers and Crucifixions: Francis Bacon; Claudio Crismani concert; Discover & explore service series exploring significant figures from the history of St Stephen Walbrook; Easter Vigil Service with the Archdeacon of London; Launch of HeartEdge, a new network of Churches; Maundy Thursday Eucharist; Poetry Reading by Rupert Loydell; St Stephen's Serenades monthly; Stations2017, an Easter Eve Vigil by Mark Dean; and Walbrook Art Society Lent lectures.



Launch of HeartEdge



Edward Lucie-Smith lecture on Francis Bacon



Claudio Crismani concert



Hannah Thomas - 'The Divine Image'



Rupert Loydell - poetry reading



Stations2017 - All Night Vigil

HeartEdge launch

HeartEdge is a network of initiated by St Martin-in-the-Fields for churches working at the heart of culture, community and commerce with those at the margins and on the edge. HeartEdge aims to build association, learning, development and resource.

February 8 saw the launch of HeartEdge with a day exploring mission by sharing ideas, uncovering solutions and finding support held at St Stephen Walbrook, London and hosted by Revd Dr Sam Wells. 80+ attendees heard a wide range of contributions.

Following the event Sam Wells said, 'I was so delighted to see so many energised and engaged faces at the HeartEdge launch as we spoke about structures, configurations, approaches, insights - but most of all of renewal of vocation, vision and common exploration. That left me full of hope for the emergence of HeartEdge - a movement as yet of many different words but one purposeful spirit. I hope you will sign up and encourage others to do so.'

HeartEdge supports churches in blending their mission around four key areas:

- Congregation Inclusive approaches to liturgy, worship and day-to-day communal life
- Community models of outreach serving local need and addressing social justice
- Culture art, music and ideas to re-imagine the Christian narrative for the present moment
- Commerce Commercial activities that generate finance, creatively extending and enhancing mission and ministry through social enterprise



Wednesday 31 May 1.00 - 4.00pm St Stephen Walbrook



Start:Stop Seminar

Learn about the genesis of Start:Stop (10-minute work-based reflections for people on their way to work) together with Revd Jonathan Evens, Associate Vicar Partnership, St Martin-in-the-Fields, and Priest-in-charge, St Stephen Walbrook An opportunity to discuss:

- growing a new congregation; engaging with working people; ministering in the workplace; communicating with busy people.

Free to HeartEdge members, £10 for others. Register with Revd Jonathan Evens at jonathan.evens@smitf.org or 020 7766 1127.

For more information, see $\label{lem:http://www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/church/worship/partnerships/.predictions.org/church/worships/.predictions$

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London Internet Church

The London Internet Church (LIC) is a gathered global community which meets online to worship, enquire, encourage and pray at londoninternetchurch.org.uk/.

So through LIC you can join with the more than 25,000 people throughout the world who, since 2006, have placed prayers on the prayer board or lit a candle on the webpage. When you pray or light a candle online, your prayer will be prayed by the LIC community and once a week a candle is lit in the church of St Stephen Walbrook.



Using St Stephen Walbrook

We welcome enquiries about weddings, baptisms and memorial services from those working in the area and, with its breath-taking interior, St Stephen Walbrook is used by many businesses and institutions for Carol Services and other social functions throughout the year. We are in the heart of the City, conveniently next to Bank Station and two minutes from Cannon Street.

We would be delighted to give you more information and show you around. If you would like to explore how your business or organisation might use the building, please do get in touch.

Music at St Stephen Walbrook

Tuesday music recitals

Music recitals are organised by the Walbrook Music Trust each Tuesday at 1.00pm. These are concerts which provide a platform for musicians and singers to hone their performance skills. The Walbrook Music Trust was established as a registered charity in October 2007. Its founders had a vision to further the appreciation of music in the City of London using St Stephen Walbrook as the primary venue. See @Walbrookmus and www.facebook.com/walbrookmus?fref=ts for news of these free chamber music recitals.

Thursday Choral Eucharist

Our Choral Eucharist includes a mass setting, introit, and a motet (as well as a congregational hymn) sung by St Stephen's Voices every Thursday at 12.45pm. These services are followed by a light lunch and a prayer meeting.

Friday Organ Recitals

Our Friday Organ Recitals, organized by our organist Joe Sentance, are given by visiting organists with a varied programme of works often taking into account the season of the church. Recitals are free and you are welcome to bring your lunch.

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Phone:

020 7626 9000

Email:

office@ststephenwalbrook.net

Web:

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