**For Immediate Release 7.2.14**

**Fridays@7 with the Festival Chamber Orchestra**

**Friday 21st February, Festival Chamber Orchestra\* at St Peter’s Methodist Church, Canterbury**

The third ‘Fridays@7’ concert with Canterbury’s dynamic Festival Chamber Orchestra, known for their progressive programming and high quality performances of great music.

In the wonderful acoustics of St Peter’s Methodist Church right in the centre of Canterbury, the FCO will take you on a journey through baroque to modern day chamber music, on Friday 21st February, starting @7.00pm.

The Concert is an opportunity to hear two string masterpieces written in the late 19th century, by composers in their youth, developing their own musical style. Carl Nielsen, at 23, was little known at this time (1888) but his innovative musical language is already in evidence in his *Little Suite for Strings*, giving a clear intimation of the important symphonist he was to become.

Josef Suk wrote his *Serenade for Strings* during his graduation year (1892) from the Prague Conservatoire. As a pupil of Dvorak, this work owes something to Dvorak’s own *Serenade for Strings,* but Suk's emerging talent and musical personality is very evident. From 19th century strings to baroque strings and continuo, with Corelli’s *Concerto Grosso no. 1*, the finest example of a Concerti Grossi concerto. Performed by FCOs dynamic string section and conducted from the harpsichord by Anthony Halstead.

Ian Crowther performs JS Bach’s *Concerto for Oboe d’Amore* (1st movement) and Handel’s *Concerto for Oboe No.3*, a firm favourite with soloists, with ample opportunity for the oboe and orchestra to shine. Forward to the 21st century, with Michael McGlynn’s short piece, *From Nowhere to Nowhere*, a beautiful, elegiac piece for solo oboe’damore, with its jazz-inflected atmosphere combined with a distinctly Irish flavour.

Tickets are £15, £8 for students and £5 for the under 12s. Available from Crowthers of Canterbury, 1 The Borough, Canterbury CT1 2DR; Tel: 01227 763965; [www.crowthersofcanterbury.co.uk](http://www.crowthersofcanterbury.co.uk)

If you enjoy chamber music, why not sign up as a Friend of the FCO at [www.festivalchamberorchestra.co.uk](http://www.festivalchamberorchestra.co.uk) and receive ticket offers and the latest news via email.

\*The Festival Chamber Orchestra was founded in 2002 for a performance in Canterbury Cathedral as part of the Canterbury Festival, conducted by international conductor and oboist, Nicholas Daniel   
In 2007, the orchestra was brought together once again under conductor Anthony Halstead. A professional orchestra that enjoys exploring and performing a wealth of wonderful chamber music.

‘Rooted in Canterbury, the FCO is one of the great musical assets of the area’. Dr Rosemary Dunn Dr.Rosemary Dunn  
  
The Festival Chamber Orchestra is managed by Ian Crowther (Principal Oboe).

**Contact:**Ian Crowther – [ian@crowthersofcanterbury.co,uk](mailto:ian@crowthersofcanterbury.co,uk)  
[www.festivalchamberorchestra.co.uk](http://www.festivalchamberorchestra.co.uk)  
1 The Borough, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2DR

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