

2026
YORK
EARLY
MUSIC
FESTIVAL

Duo Gambelin

All'improvviso

Undercroft, Merchant Adventurers' Hall

Wednesday 8 July 9.30pm

Duo Gambelin

Lucile Boulanger *viola da gamba*

Christian Elin *bass clarinet, soprano saxophone*

All'improvviso

Recercada seconda sul passamezzo antico
from Trattado de glosas (Rome, 1553)

Diego Ortiz c. 1510-1570
arr. Christian Elin

La Chiesetta (2015)

Christian Elin b. 1976

Les Couplets
from Concerts à deux violes égales

Jean de Sainte-Colombe
c. 1640-c. 1700

prelude and hymn (2008)

Christian Elin

Sinfonia de L'Orfeo

Claudio Monteverdi 1567-1643

L'incantesimo del profumo di legno (2017/25)

Christian Elin

Rhapsody on Diwan Songs ((2023)
World premiere, dedicated to Duo Gambelin

Avner Dorman b. 1975

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When early music meets jazz and modernity, four centuries of music merge, carried by the sounds of two instruments that never met in the Baroque era: the bass clarinet and the viola da gamba.

Lucile Boulanger and Christian Elin do not stop at a juxtaposition of these styles. When they come together, something completely new emerges from

their music: a concert like an aspiration, an immersion in a world of sound that did not yet exist.

Christian Elin's compositions, written especially for this duo, create a perfect bridge by drawing on all the surprising similarities between Baroque and jazz music: harmonic patterns, freedom of improvisation, swing and rhythmic irregularities.

You will hear the world premiere of a original composition by Israeli-American composer Avner Dorman: *Rhapsody on Diwan Songs*.

Gambelin was founded in 2015 by Christian Elin. Since then, the duo has given more than 80 concerts in concert series and festivals in Germany, France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland, including the Schwetzingen SWR Festspiele, the Händel Festspiele Halle, the Bach Festival Arnstadt, the Gezeitenkonzerte and the Festival junger Künstler Bayreuth.

In 2022, Gambelin received the ensemble grant from the German Music Council as part of the Neustart Kultur programme and was thus able to commission several works from internationally renowned contemporary composers, all of whom approached the theme of Baroque music in their own way. Tonight, you will hear one of the commissions: 'Rhapsody on Diwan Songs' by Israeli composer Avner Dorman.

Lucile Boulanger began playing the viola da gamba with Christine Plubeau at the age of five and continued her studies with Ariane Maurette, Jérôme Hantaï and finally Christophe Coin at the CNSMD in Paris. She has won several international prizes: Bach-Abel Competition in Köthen, Musica Antiqua in Bruges, Società Umanitaria in Milan. Highly sought after as a chamber musician, she records for labels such as harmonia mundi and Alpha Classica and performs with Philippe Pierlot and the Ricercar Consort, François Lazarevitch, Pierre Gallon, Justin Taylor, L'Achéron and regularly joins larger ensembles such as the Ensemble Pygmalion.

She received the Victoire de la Musique 2025 award in the Instrumental Soloist category. Lucile Boulanger teaches viola da gamba at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels and has just been appointed professor at the Conservatoire National de Paris.

Christian Elin is a clarinetist, saxophonist and composer. Since studying in Munich, Paris and Basel he has performed with numerous orchestras such as the Berlin and Munich philharmonic orchestras, the Bavarian State Orchestra, Ensemble Modern, Klangforum Heidelberg and the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra. He has collaborated with conductors Sir Simon Rattle, Kirill Petrenko, Mariss Jansons and Zubin Mehta. With his chamber music ensembles Duo Elin Sakas and Gambelin, he performs at numerous international festivals. As a composer, he has released four CDs of his own works on the raccanto label. His music combines influences from jazz, ethnic music and classical music. In addition to numerous scholarships and awards, he has received the Bavarian Prize for the Promotion of the Arts.



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YORK EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

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Friday 2 – Friday 9 July

Guest artists include the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment,
Apotropaik, Cinquecento, The Sixteen,
Elizabeth Kenny & Nardus Williams, The English Concert

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