

Muse meets Medicine, Festival of Arts and Human Dimension in Healthcare St Bartholomew Hospital, London

***Transformation* – The Great Hall, St Bartholomew Hospital – 19.00hrs 17th March 2026**

***Toggle Dance and Pulse Dance for Eb Clarinet and Live Electronics* – Rob Godman**

Eb Clarinet – Kate Romano

This pair of works explore different aspects of musical and naturally occurring environmental rhythm, an area of research carried out by the composer over the past few years, including his research project (*Pulse*) at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London in collaboration with Dr. Giampaolo Martinelli, Consultant Cardiothoracic Anesthetist.

Toggle Dance makes use of extended variations of toggle rhythms – drum patterns analogous to the call-and-response technique of singing found in sub-Saharan Africa. Canonic, polyrhythmic patterns are formed through the use of synchronised delay systems. *Pulse Dance* uses polyrhythms formed from asynchronous loops of clarinet samples phasing over time forming complex rhythmic patterns in multiple tempi. Rhythmic irregularities in *Pulse Dance* are analogous to heart arrhythmia, normally requiring VT ablation surgical procedures to correct the condition.

<https://robgodman.co.uk>

Kate Romano is a clarinettist, writer, presenter and CEO and Artistic Director of Stapleford Granary, a vibrant arts and education centre near Cambridge. As a chamber musician and soloist, she has performed at most major UK venues and festivals and given over 70 premieres. She has recorded for NMC, Metier and Minabel and her debut solo CD was awarded 5 reviews from Gramophone and 'Pick of the Month' in the chamber music section for the BBC Music Magazine. In 2011, she found Goldfield Productions, working with composers and other artists to make unique 'adventures in sound'.*

...lover of story-telling, artistic curating and 'making things happen'...

<https://kateromano.co.uk>

Rob Godman works across concert hall music, galleries, large-scale public art, and experimental film. His practice explores the relationship between art and science, spatial sound, and interdisciplinary methods, with a particular interest in future-proofing historic technologies and creating immersive sonic environments. He is currently collaborating with Kate Romano on a recording of 1970s/80s clarinet and electronics works by William O Smith, to be released in 2026.

<https://robgodman.co.uk>

***I See You, I Hear You* - Mark (Hun Sik) Lee**

Violin - Mark (Hun Sik) Lee

This work is a short semi-aleatoric composition for solo violin based on sounds and experiences encountered during my first experience within the ICU as a final year medical student.

It is aimed to capture the juxtaposition of the intensity of the environment combined with the recurring background noises that blend into its surroundings; all within the context of looking after critically unwell patients.

Mark (Hun Sik) Lee is a Korean-born professional violinist and violist, having performed nationally and internationally over the past decade. He balances a busy and varied freelance schedule of orchestral, chamber and solo work nationwide, having played and held principal positions with ensembles such as London City Philharmonic, Piccadilly Sinfonietta and Orion Orchestra. In addition to his music career, he is currently reading medicine at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry and due to finish his studies in 2026.

***Elysium* – Seb Harcombe**

Welkin Theatre, actors - Max Keeble, Lucinda Lloyd

Elysium is a testimony-theatre work developed from interviews with former intensive care patients, exploring experiences of coma, near-death and recovery. Drawing on real testimonies gathered through peer support groups for ICU survivors at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, the piece reflects on the mysterious psychological landscape encountered by patients during coma, and upon their return to consciousness. Created by theatre director and coma survivor Seb Harcombe, the work is also informed by his own experience of suffering a cardiac arrest in 2019 and spending time in an induced coma in the intensive care unit at St Thomas'.

Interwoven with the testimonies is music from George Frideric Handel's masque *Alceste*, inspired by the Greek myth of the woman who journeys into the underworld and returns. The music frames the stories as a contemporary descent and ascent - an exploration of the subconscious 'underworld' experienced during coma, and the fragile process of re-emergence into life.

Elysium is currently under commission by the Thames Festival Trust for September 2026 as a five-part audio play designed as a listening walk across five central London bridges, inviting audiences to reflect on the thresholds between life and death, memory and oblivion, isolation and return.

The extract presented today comes from Section Two: Acheron.

www.thewelkin.org

<http://www.secretheart.org/seb-harcombe.html>

***Abnormal Heart Beats* - Elaine Chew**

Piano - Elaine Chew

Abnormal Heart Beats comprises of three musical contributions, each featuring a sonification of electrocardiographic traces of abnormal heartbeats. These pieces represent a kind of sonification because they were constructed from precise rhythm transcriptions and direct mappings of the originating ECGs.

Little Etudes for Piano based on aberrations of cardiac electrophysiology

The Little Etudes are a series of miniature piano pieces based on a variety of cardiac arrhythmias and other aberrations of cardiac electrophysiology. The compositions comprise of excerpts from existing music transformed to reproduce the rhythms of abnormal heartbeats. Composed during COVID quarantine when many re-discovered the joys of learning piano.

Arrhythmia Suite, Nos 1-3

The Arrhythmia Suite are collage music pieces for piano based on fragments of existing music mapped onto precise transcriptions of electrocardiographic data to contemporary music rhythm notation.

Professor Elaine Chew is a pianist and computational mathematician forging new paths at the intersection of music information research and cardiovascular science. She is founder/director of the Digital Music Theranostics Lab in the School of Biomedical Engineering & Imaging Sciences at King's College London, researching music as a diagnostic and therapeutic tool for cardiovascular conditions.

<https://eniale.kcl.ac.uk>