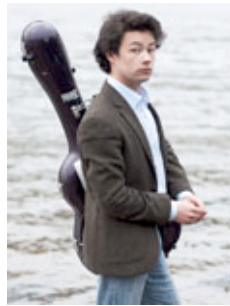


BBT Wednesdays at Wilton's



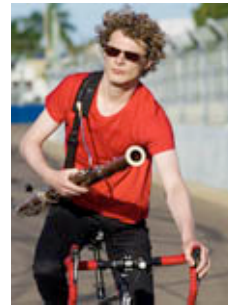
Kate Whitley



Sean Shibe



Erik Bosgraaf



Bram van Sambeek



Alec Frank-Gemill

ROOM TO PLAY Trust in the Music

In association with **Wilton's Music Hall**, the Borletti-Buitoni Trust (BBT) is presenting a series of concerts on the last Wednesday of each month from February to June 2015 to showcase some of the talented young musicians who have recently won BBT awards and fellowships. Building work for the second and final phase of Wilton's Capital Project to repair the building and open up additional rooms is currently taking place (due to be completed autumn 2015). **BBT Wednesdays** will be some of the first events to appear in what will be Wilton's newly repaired and expanded cocktail bar and performance space. Upstairs, in this smaller ambient space (capacity 60), BBT's young musicians will share their virtuosity, experimentation and profound passion for their instruments and their music.

Pianist and composer Kate Whitley launches the series on 25 February in the main hall with a contemporary programme including her own works, plus guest artists including guitarist Sean Shibe, who will have his own 'upstairs' evening on Wednesday 25 March. In April and May come two Dutch musicians, bent on proving the beauty and versatility of their instruments - recorder player Erik Bosgraaf and bassoonist Bram van Sambeek. Rounding off the series is young horn supremo Alec Frank Gemmill.

BBT Chief Executive, Susan Rivers, comments: *"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to showcase some of our award winners in this wonderful venue. Wilton's itself has embraced its heritage as a producing venue and is intent on providing entertainment for a widely diverse audience. That's just what our young musicians are doing as they forge ahead in their careers, opening up eyes and ears to the huge repertoire of which their sometimes under-appreciated instruments are capable. We are not fixing programmes in advance and know that our performers are likely to embrace a huge and enticing range of music from Baroque to modern. What we are asking is for our audiences to just trust in the music – and, of course, the supreme talent of these award-winning young soloists."*

Performances start at 8pm and last approximately one hour

Tickets £15 (Discounts available when booking for more than one concert)

Box office T +44 (0)20 7702 2789 www.wiltons.org.uk

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Notes to editors

Kate Whitley is a composer, pianist and producer who received a 2013 Sky Academy/Ideas Tap Futures Fund Bursary for her work in bringing classical music out of the concert hall and into new contexts. She is the founder and Artistic Director, with conductor Christopher Stark, of Multi-Story, which began with a critically acclaimed performance of Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* in a disused multi-storey Car Park in Peckham. She is the 2014 Borletti-Buitoni Trust Special Award Winner and was 2013-4 Music Fellow at Rambert Dance Company.

BBT Wednesday at Wilton's 25 February 2015 - Wilton's Main Hall

Sean Shibe was the youngest ever musician to enter the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (graduating with first class honours) and is a trailblazer for his instrument, being the first guitarist to be admitted the BBC New Generation Artists Scheme and the only solo guitarist to receive a BBT Fellowship (2012). He has won numerous other awards and first prizes including the Royal Over-Seas League and Ivor Mairants Guitar awards.

BBT Wednesday at Wilton's 25 March 2015 - Wilton's Upstairs

Erik Bosgraaf is hailed as one of the most gifted and versatile recorder players of the new generation. He has a colourful past in a rock band and as an oboe player, believes that good music is irrespective of style and feels equally at home in early and contemporary music. He is a winner of the Dutch Music Prize (2011), has recorded an eclectic mix of critically acclaimed CDs and performed as soloist with some of the world's leading orchestras, chamber groups and jazz musicians. He received his BBT award in 2009 and has used it to commission new works and have new instruments made for him.

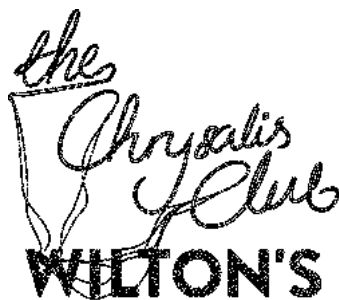
BBT Wednesday at Wilton's 29 April 2015 - Wilton's Upstairs

Bram van Sambeek was the first bassoonist ever to win the Dutch Music Prize. He sees no boundaries in his music making and is keen to commission new work as well as collaborate with musicians from other musical genres such as jazz and rock music. He regularly performs with some of the world's leading orchestras and conductors; Valery Gergiev complimented him as being "artistically involved, motivated...gifted...a very nice person and also being a little bit unusual!" He won his BBT Award in 2011 and has used part of it to co-commission a new concerto from Finnish composer Sebastian Fagerlund which he world premiered in December 2014.

BBT Wednesday at Wilton's 27 May 2015 - Wilton's Upstairs

Alec Frank-Gemmill is highly sought after as a soloist and a chamber musician (the Financial Times recently referred to him as "a phenomenon with a tone of golden purity, wraparound warmth and ecstatic afterglow") and plays with leading orchestras and at prestigious festivals throughout Europe and the UK. As well as being principal horn with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra he also plays regularly with the London Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Europe and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. This year he received a BBT Fellowship and also entered the BBC New Generation Artists scheme.

BBT Wednesday at Wilton's 24 June 2015 - Wilton's Upstairs



The Borletti-Buitoni Trust has been rewarding musical excellence and helping outstanding young talents to develop and sustain international performance careers since 2003. <http://www.bbtrust.com/>

Press Release date 13.01.15

Wilton's Music Hall is the oldest and last surviving Grand Music Hall in the world. It has a fascinating history that has seen the building journey from 18th century ale house to music hall and Methodist mission to rag warehouse, eventually being left derelict and half forgotten. The Wilton's Music Hall Trust has lovingly coaxed the building back to life and it has been producing shows regularly since 2004. The work you can see at Wilton's today is imaginative and distinctive, usually with its roots in the early music hall tradition but reinterpreted for an audience of today. As the front of house undergoes a metamorphosis due to repairs, Wilton's is staging a limited season of events on an intimate scale called the Chrysalis Club. Booking and BBT Series offers: <http://wiltons.org.uk/event.php?p=931>