

## Southwell u3a Music Lovers Group – 7 October 2020 - Beethoven

YouTube links are provided for each item or the playlist for all the pieces is at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuvqXi4xlw0&list=PLQHiO9b3DnluEZ6vHZKskTiiH97j7IBwX>

Or Search YouTube for John Tebbs and find my channel and this programme is under the Playlists tab as Southwell u3a Music 201007, along with other u3a Music Lovers programmes from January 2020.

Ludwig van Beethoven was baptised on 17 December 1770 in Bonn and died in Vienna in 1827. Wikipedia is as good a place as any to study the story of a creative life. despite the adversity of growing deafness and in the chaos of the Napoleonic Wars.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ludwig\\_van\\_Beethoven](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ludwig_van_Beethoven)

2020 was to have been a year of celebration or the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth with live music by Orchestras and players all over the World. Sadly, many of these events have been cancelled because of the corona virus epidemic. It remains to be seen whether live performances recover so that some of them may go ahead later in the year.

The celebrations started off on a promising note as the German WDR radio orchestra gave an opening concert in Bonn in January. This includes much German dialogue so it is not included in my playlist but can be found at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2\\_TtjuO38zc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_TtjuO38zc)

Some orchestras and players have put on live performances with social distancing to promote themselves on YouTube in the hope of raising funds. Others have put back catalogues on YouTube and my selection includes both formats. Played all through it would take much longer than the two hours of our usual meetings, but I hope I have provided enough information for members to be selective, (such as start times of individual pieces within concerts).

For those who wish to delve even further a YouTube channel the “250<sup>th</sup> Channel has created playlists of all Beethoven’s Symphonies, Piano Concertos, String Quartets, Piano Sonatas and much more the Channel, and is at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB58TFax4UsSylz6SCCj9XA>

**Beethoven Sonata #21 "Waldstein" Op.53 Valentina Lisitsa**

**25:07**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuvqXi4xlw0>

I can certainly recommend the Waldstein and the fascinating story of this sonata can be found at weblink

[http://www.lifesci.susx.ac.uk/home/Chris\\_Darwin/WebProgNotes/pdfs/BeethovenWaldsteinOp53.pdf](http://www.lifesci.susx.ac.uk/home/Chris_Darwin/WebProgNotes/pdfs/BeethovenWaldsteinOp53.pdf)

**The London Philharmonic Orchestra** is also streaming a series of YouTube “Sessions” to raise funds They include a concert for strings including Elgar’s Serenade and Grieg’s Holberg Suite; Nicola Benedetti and friends; a brass and percussion concert and a concert of Rossini and Mozart for the wind instruments. The Beethoven 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary tribute is a programme of chamber music. The concert features LPO players alongside four musicians from the Orchestra’s Foyle Future Firsts Development Programme, which offers an annual opportunity for 17 aspiring orchestral musicians to develop their talent and core professional skills.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xd4fJbx2uZ8>

Programme includes a selection of movements from

Beethoven - Trio for piano, flute and bassoon in G major  
Beethoven - Septet in E flat, Op. 20  
Beethoven - Quintet for piano and wind instruments in E flat major, Op. 16

#### Timings

0:22 Trio for piano, flute and bassoon in G major  
11:56 Adagio  
16:53 Thema Andante con Variazioni  
  
27:53 Septet in E flat  
38:21 Tempo di Menuetto and Trio  
41:33 Scherzo and Trio: Allegro molto e vivace  
  
44:45 Quintet for piano and wind instruments in E flat major  
58:18 Andante cantabile  
1:05:33 Rondo: Allegro ma non troppo

The televised BBC Proms 2020 showcased three blockbuster Beethoven Symphonies, No 3 by the BBC Symphony Orchestra, No 7 from memory by the Aurora Orchestra; and No 5 from the 2017 BBC Proms by the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. My playlist includes two of the other symphonies, No 1 and No 6, by the National Centre for Performing Arts China from the Royal Opera House Muscat. Both symphonies have a happy uplifting feel and are quite different to 3,5 and 7. No 1 is very much of the classical era and No 6 (Pastoral) puts a firm foot in romanticism, as it captures the feelings of the countryside.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xy47hiJFcEU&t=203s>

Beethoven Symphony No 1 in C major Op 21 starts at 4:30

Beethoven Symphony No 6 in F major Op 68 starts at 31:30

The works are preceded by a short piece The Enchanting Night by Liu Tianhua starts 2:00

No reflective of Beethoven would be complete without one of his piano concertos and for this programme and there is a choice of the complete cycle by Rudolf Buchbinder and the Vienna Philharmonic which can be found at the Beethoven 250<sup>th</sup> Channel at

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieW3VDiSL48&list=PL3pCiLH39wT3GkJAr\\_5K4qAwhu5AS-o4a](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieW3VDiSL48&list=PL3pCiLH39wT3GkJAr_5K4qAwhu5AS-o4a)

My favourite from this series is Beethoven Piano Concerto No 3 in C minor Op 37

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJ1B6QepBVU&t=626s>