Welcome to 2022 at Cecil Sharp House – and we very much hope it will be a lockdown-free and restriction-free year.

This season it is great to present old friends and welcome some new ones. Our Trad Nights season returns with performances by Brian Peters, Chris Foster and Jackie Oates. We welcome back Chris Wood, Nancy Kerr and James Fagan, and from the USA Chris W ood, Nancy Kerr and Mairearad Green and Anna Massie. And if you missed the premiere in November, there is another opportunity to see Folk Dance Remixed’s show Hope.

Don’t miss a host of great musical duos – Bryony Griffith and Alice Jones, Kirsty Merryn and Ben Walker (‘Life and the Land’), Emily Portman and Rob Harbron, and Mairearad Green and Anna Massie. And if you missed the premiere in November, there is another opportunity to see Folk Dance Remixed’s show Hope.

Something for everyone this season; we look forward to seeing you.

Chief Executive and Artistic Director

Welcome to Cecil Sharp House – and we present a double bill of traditional songsters Fran Foose and Belinda Kempster with The Sonder Project’s dynamic interpretation of traditional tunes.

As always there are a host of dance events to enjoy including the return of our Family Barn Dances, Youth Ceilidhs, and Dance Around the World – a weekend of traditional dance performances and workshops. And new for this season – Queer Folk present Queer Ceilidh Dance Party.

Look out too for our music and dance courses and classes, and the Library Lectures programme which will continue to be delivered online.

Bursary. And we present a double bill of traditional songsters Fran Foose and Belinda Kempster with The Sonder Project’s dynamic interpretation of traditional tunes.
Sharp’s Folk Club

Tuesdays from 11 January
8pm

Guest nights:
£6 ✽ £5 members/performers
Regular nights:
£4 ✽ £3.50 members/performers

Long-established and much-loved folk club, with monthly guest nights. Floor singers always welcome.

Promoted by Sharp’s Folk Club.

Trad Night: Brian Peters

Wednesday 26 January
7.30pm ☰ £10

Trad Nights are unamplified gigs in our most intimate performance space. Enjoy tales of love and lost, incest and murder, humour and tragedy, with some of today’s finest traditional musicians.

Brian Peters is one of folk’s great all-rounders, a compelling singer and an outstanding multi-instrumentalist on squeezeboxes and strings.

Best known for towering renditions of Child Ballads and other traditional songs from England to Appalachia, Brian’s repertoire is full of variety and humour. You’ll be entertained and educated!

Promoted by EFDSS.

Folk Dance Remixed: Hope

Sunday 6 February
2.30pm ☰ £16 ✽ £10 under 26s

HOPE — a powerful four-letter word!

Stronger than fear, fuelled with love, this is a defiantly joyous new show.

Live musicians and dancers meet electronic soundscapes, poetry and storytelling in a riotous celebration of connectivity, interdependence, comradeship and resilience.

Hope was conceived by Folk Dance Remixed and Bernadette Russell. It was commissioned by the English Folk Dance and Song Society and is funded by the Weston Culture Fund.

Promoted by EFDSS.
**Harmonia**

**Wednesday 2 February**
7.30pm £15 * £10 under 26s

Harmonia evolved out of lockdown, when Jo Freya and Annie Whitehead received an EFDSS bursary to reimagine traditional English tunes, drawing on their diverse roots in folk, jazz, world and pop.

As an album and live shows took shape, co-conspirators Jo May, Jennifer Maidman and Steve Fletcher came on board. The result is an eclectic and irresistible mix of traditional melody, contemporary harmony and deep rhythmic groove.

Promoted by EFDSS.

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**Lady Nade**

**Wednesday 9 February**
7.30pm £15 * £10 under 26s

Eclectic Americana Folk Singer-Songwriter
Lady Nade pours creativity into every song. Her third album, Willing, collects stories about love and friendship – songs about self and loneliness – with a sense of finding and losing these feelings during this strangest of times.

Promoted by EFDSS.

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**Jon Wilks**

**Wednesday 16 February**
7.30pm £16 * £10 under 26s

Jon’s background as a journalist (Time Out, Dazed & Confused, The Guardian and more) means that he has a great eye (and ear) for a story, and this shows in his amusing mix of song and conversation. He throws in weird and wonderful tidbits from his research on the original singers and collectors – half concert, half standup routine.

Promoted by EFDSS.
Music

The Sonder Project and Fran Foote & Belinda Kempster

Saturday 19 February
7.30pm ➭ £14 ✽ £10 under 26s

Harriet Riley and Alex Garden (The Sonder Project) present a novel, hypnotic dialogue between the unusual pairing of vibraphone and fiddle, taking in trad folk, minimalism and jazz.

Without frills or fuss, mother and daughter Fran Foote and Belinda Kempster share songs from their Essex family history of farming and working on the land.

Fran grew up immersed in the local folk scene, learning songs from her parents from a very young age.

Promoted by EFDSS.

Nancy Kerr & James Fagan

Saturday 5 March
7.30pm ➭ £16 ✽ £10 under 26s

Nancy Kerr and James Fagan are one of our best-known and most experienced folk duos. Outstanding musicianship, a lifelong grounding in traditional singing and instrumental playing, acclaimed original compositions and most noticeably a visceral chemistry make them a perennial favourite at festivals, venues and clubs across the country.

Promoted by EFDSS.
Trad Night: Chris Foster

Wednesday 23 February
7.30pm £10

A distinctive voice with inventive, finely crafted guitar arrangements. A mesmeric performer. Superbly arranged traditional and modern songs. Chris Foster is a master of his trade.

Promoted by EFDSS.

Chris Wood

Thursday 17 March
7.30pm £16 * £10 under 26s

In a world of soundbites and distractions, Chris Wood is a truth seeker. His writing is permeated with love and wry intelligence, uplifting and challenging as he celebrates the sheer one-thing-after-anotherness of life.

Winner of six BBC Folk Awards, he has played with The Royal Shakespeare Company and was a key member of The Imagined Village. A wise and soulful craftsman, his concerts are a cliche-free zone.

Promoted by EFDSS.

Bryony Griffith & Alice Jones

Wednesday 16 March
7.30pm £14 * £10 under 26s

This powerful new duo draw on traditional songs inspired by the landscape, language and characters of their native county. Combining tradition with their own contemporary style, they combine fiddle, harmonium and tenor guitar with intricate and distinctive Yorkshire vocals.

Promoted by EFDSS.
Music

Trad Night: Jackie Oates

Wednesday 23 March
7.30pm £10

'The sweetest voice of her generation of English folkies’ – Independent on Sunday

Jackie’s music speaks deeply about childhood, parenthood, grief and renewal.

Promoted by EFDSS.

National Youth Folk Ensemble

Wednesday 13 April
7.30pm £10 ✽ £6 under 26s

This is your chance to hear folk stars of the future!

The National Youth Folk Ensemble brings together talented young folk musicians from across England. Sparks invariably fly when they create their own contemporary takes on traditional music from England and beyond.

These exceptional 14-18 year olds meet four times a year for intensive weeks of music-making.

Join us for a special night of music created and performed by these rising stars.

Promoted by EFDSS.

Life and the Land

Wednesday 30 March
7.30pm £14 ✽ £10 under 26s

Focusing on archive songs from rural England, Ben Walker and Kirsty Merryn breathe new life into long-lost songs of the land, bringing eclectic influences from classical to jazz to electronica as well as deep roots in traditional music. Ben’s guitar and mandolin provide a perfect frame for Kirsty’s piano, harp and silver voice.

Promoted by EFDSS.
Since its beginnings in the late 1990s, the Hot Club of Cowtown’s star has continued to rise as its reputation for jaw-dropping virtuosity and unforgettable live shows has become the band’s global brand.

The band’s musical alchemy has been described as ‘another breathless journey in the Texas tardis’ by The Times, while American Songwriter observed that ‘the excellent three players of this band could be doing anything but have chosen to honor the greats of jazz and swing with their sound’.

Emily Portman & Rob Harbron

Wednesday 20 April
7.30pm £15 £10 under 26s

Emily (voice, banjo) and Rob (English concertina, guitar, voice, fiddle) are amongst the finest and most distinctive performers in British folk. Together they create a boldly stripped-back and intricately woven sound, exploring the traditional music in which they are both steeped and offering their own original contributions. A live experience brimming with subtlety, depth and a shared love of the music.

Mairearad Green & Anna Massie

Wednesday 27 April
7.30pm £14 £10 under 26s

Mairearad (accordion and bagpipes) and Anna (guitar, banjo, fiddle) are a truly captivating duo, combining highly energetic performances with an instantly warm stage presence. They both grew up in the Scottish Highlands, and having now played together for over ten years they revel in an intuitive approach to musical ideas and interpretations and an almost telepathic communication on stage.

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Cotswold Arts and Crafts and Folk Music
by Martin Graebe
Wednesday 12 January 7.30pm * Online

Late in the Victorian era, the Arts and Crafts movement and the revival of interest in folk music both looked back to past ways of life. Meeting in these cross-currents, Cotswold villagers and the arts and crafts community sang and danced together, with the help of Mary Neal, Cecil Sharp and others.

Martin Graebe is a researcher and writer about traditional song and song collectors.

Songs, Tales and Drolls
by Joan Passey
Wednesday 16 March 7.30pm * Online

In the nineteenth century Cornwall was the last county to be connected to the national rail network. Folk collectors such as Sabine Baring-Gould (pictured) mobilised to preserve narratives threatened by the perceived onslaught of tourists and modernity, and some of these collectors also wrote fiction. This talk considers the relationship between folklore collecting and literature set in Cornwall at that time.

Dr. Joan Passey is a Lecturer in English at the University of Bristol, specialising in nineteenth-century literature and the Gothic from the eighteenth century to the present.

‘All together in the dance’
by Matt Simons
Wednesday 20 April 7.30pm * Online

Alec Hunter (1899–1958) was an artist, textile designer and Morris dancer. Raised on Arts and Crafts precepts, he perceived Morris dancing as a highly developed form of English ‘social art’, an apt panacea for an age of disenchantment and division. This illustrated lecture will examine Hunter’s influence on the interwar Morris revival and will explore many of the threads woven throughout his life.

Dr. Matt Simons is a Morris dancer and scholar. His doctoral thesis examines ideas of Englishness in the Morris dance revival of the early twentieth century through a series of intellectual biographies.

BROADSIDE DAY
Saturday 12 February 9.30am–6pm * Online £12

The Broadside Day is the annual conference for people interested in Street Literature and Cheap Print in all its fascinating aspects – broadsides, chapbooks, songsters, woodcuts, engravings, last dying speeches, catchpennies, news (real and fake), almanacs, carol sheets, wonder tales, and all kinds of cheap printed ephemera sold or distributed to ordinary people in the streets and at fairs, from pedlars’ packs, and in backstreet shops, up and down the country.

Organised jointly by the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library and the Traditional Song Forum, the 2022 Broadside Day will be an online live streamed event.
Dance Around The World
Saturday 19 March ➭ Sunday 20 March
10am – 11pm
£17 full day ticket ✽ £10 evening ticket
£30 weekend ticket (concessions: £2 off)
Dance Around The World is a community festival which celebrates traditional dance cultures from all over the world.

In two exciting and energetic days of dance, performers and teachers provide a non-stop programme of extraordinary variety from styles as varied as Flamenco, Indian, Caribbean, South East European, Tango, Maori and much, much more!

Promoted by Dance Around the World and supported by EFDSS.

Queer Folk
Thursday 24 February
7.30pm ✽ £14 ✽ £10 under 26s
Queer Folk presents Queer Ceilidh Dance Party! Come one and come all to a night of ceilidh dancing and drag. Swing your partner and get down to tunes from the queerest ceilidh band in town. No dance experience necessary just open arms!

Promoted by EFDSS.

Youth Ceilidh
Sunday 13 March
6 - 7.30pm ✽ £6
Our Youth Ceilidhs are fun, friendly social events with energetic live music from top musicians. We welcome all 12 - 19 year olds to take part in the dancing, or sit back and soak up the music and atmosphere.

It’s easy to join in with the dances, which are suitable for all levels of experience. A caller will show you the moves and use gender-free calling.

Come with your friends or on your own – ceilidhs are a great way to meet new people.

Promoted by EFDSS.
English Country Dancing

Thursdays: 13 January – 24 March
10 week term (no session 17 February)
7.30-9.30pm
Summer term begins 21 April
Term fee: £75 ✽ £60 concessions
(advance booking required)
Single session: £10 ✽ £8 concessions
(payable on the night)

Learn English country, ceilidh and barn dancing, and related social folk dance styles from further afield, led by tutors/callers Mike Ruff and Erin Mansfield with lively music. No need to bring a partner and open to dancers of all levels of experience including absolute beginners. Promoted by EFDSS.

Morris Dancing

Tuesdays: 11 January – 22 March
10 week term (no session 15 February)
6.30-8pm
Summer term begins 26 April
Term fee: £60 ✽ £48 concessions
(advance booking required)
Single session: £8 ✽ £6.50 concessions
(payable on the night)

Learn lively Cotswold morris dances, complete with hankies and sticks, in this friendly and accessible class. All levels of experience, including absolute beginners, are welcome. Led by tutor Andy Richards. Promoted by EFDSS.

Family Barn Dance

Saturdays 8 January | 12 February
12 March | 9 April: 3–5 pm
£8 Adult ✽ £6 Child ✽ £2 Under 2s

Bring all the family and take part in lively dances from Britain and beyond in a supportive and fun environment! Live music inspires the dancing and expert callers guide the moves with simple instructions.

No unaccompanied children or adults!

Promoted by EFDSS.
Monday Folk Singers with Lisa Knapp

Mondays: 10 January – 21 March
10-week term (no session 14 February)
7–8.30pm ➭ £100 ✽ £80 concessions
Online
Learn folk songs and singing from the comfort of your home with our new online course. These weekly sessions are suitable for singers of all abilities.
Each term, you will have the opportunity to learn repertoire, arrangements and folk style singing from an established folk singer and educator. All material is taught by ear.
Promoted by EFDSS.

Cecil Sharp House Choir

Wednesdays: 5 January – 30 March
12-week term (no session 16 February)
7–9 pm ➭ £90 ✽ £72 concessions
Sing traditional songs from Britain and beyond, in a cappella harmony arrangements, by choir leader Rose Martin. For confident singers, who can hold a tune and are keen to perform.
Promoted by EFDSS.

Saturday Folk Music Workshops

8, 22, 29 January | 12, 19 February
5, 12, 26 March | 2 April (9 sessions)
timings vary
£118 ✽ £95 concessions
Discover your inner folk with our professional and friendly team of folk music tutors. We offer workshops at different levels for accordion, banjo, fiddle, guitar, melodeon, song and a ceilidh band. Led by our team of inspiring and friendly professional folk musicians including Hazel Askew, David Delarre, Beth Gifford, Ed Hicks, Aine McLoughlin, Will Allen and Ross Grant.
Promoted by EFDSS.

Other regular classes

MONDAY MUSICIANS
Various Mondays, 7–10pm
£5 | £4 concessions
mondaymusicians.org.uk

CAMDEN CLOG
Various Tuesdays, 6.45–9pm
One session: £4 | £3 concessions
Two sessions: £9 | £6.50 concessions
camdenclog.org.uk

FRIDAY FEET
Fridays from 7 January, 7.30–9.30pm
£4 | £3 concessions
Pay on the door

TANGO ETNIA
Sundays from 9 January, 7–11pm
Prices start from £10
tangoetnia.com

SOS SALSA ON SUNDAYS
Sundays from 9 January, 7–11pm
£9 members | £10 non-members
Pay on the door

SENZALA LONDON
Thursdays from 6 January, 6–8pm
£12 per class
The Young Folk Club

Mondays: 31 January | 28 February
28 March
5.30–7pm  Free
For 14–21 year-olds
Online

Join in with this vibrant online events series for young folk enthusiasts and people curious about folk music, song and dance. Everyone aged 14–21, regardless of experience in folk music, is very welcome to come along!

Presented by EFDSS Youth Forum and promoted by EFDSS.

Folk Unlimited

For 12-30 year olds
16, 30 January | 13, 27 February
13, 27 March: 2–4 pm
6 sessions
Summer term begins 24 April
Term fee: £36
Single session: £6
Assistant/carer: free ticket

Join us for creative, inclusive, multi-sensory music-making sessions for disabled young people, led by folk artists Emmie Ward and Nick Goode.

Promoted by EFDSS.

Youth-friendly Folk: Folk Development Day

Saturday 26 February
11am–5.30pm
(with refreshments and networking from 10.30am)
£20 * £15 concessions * £10 Under-26

Our Folk Education Network presents this lively informal conference of presentations, panel discussions and workshops, alongside the opportunity to discuss and debate issues for artists, educators, practitioners, callers, and organisers – across folk music, dance, and related folk arts.

How do we involve a more diverse range of young people in folk – in and out of school – in terms of ethnic diversity, gender equality, disability, and challenging circumstances?

Promoted by EFDSS.
Getting here

Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent’s Park Road
London, NW1 7AY

Cecil Sharp House is a ten-minute walk from Camden Town or Chalk Farm underground stations, or fifteen minutes from Camden Road overground station. Bus route 274 runs past Cecil Sharp House along Regent’s Park Road.

Parking
We have limited parking for visitors and ticket holders. There is also on-street parking nearby – see camden.gov.uk for details.

Disabled Access
Cecil Sharp House has complete step-free access for visitors. The lift can be accessed from the car park. We have a limited number of parking spaces, which should be reserved in advance.

Disabled customers are entitled to a free companion ticket to any of our events. cecilsharphouse.org/access | 020 7485 2206
info@efdss.org

Beasts, Jacks and Punkies: The work of the Golden Thread Project

Until 30 April
Free

We are delighted to be extending our current exhibition with The Golden Thread Project. Collaborating with a wide range of artists, musicians, and writers; the project gathers and promotes fresh visions of folkloric, historical and mythic themes.

The show explores a wide range of motifs and rituals including: Jack in The Green, Día de los Muertos from Mexico, Chinese River Dragons and the Somerset Halloween custom ‘Punkie Night’.

Pre-ordering drinks
You can now pre-order drinks from our café / bar ready for collection before each gig.
Visit efdss.org/drinks

The exhibition also features a collaboration with the charity Hart Club London, who champion neurodiversity in the arts. Entitled ‘Folk Beasts’ it gathers works by 17 artists who were unable to attend their usual art clubs during the lockdowns of 2020-21 and were invited to explore the theme of magical creatures throughout time.

So come and enjoy the world of the GTP; celebrating the rich tapestry of global folk tradition, myth and legend one golden thread at a time.

Artists: Aidan Saunders, Beau Brannick, Bate-Belle Blanchard, Celine Lau, George Finlay Ramsay, Hannah Dyson, Harriet Vine, Holly St Claire, Jay Cover, Karolina Jone Buczek, Lena Yokoyama, Michelle Edwards, Naomi Subryan-Anderson, Stephen Fowler, Tommy Brentnall, Yak Fun, and ZEEL.

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Visit efdss.org/drinks

Hire our Venue

Hire for concerts, weddings, parties, rehearsals, conferences and workshops

Hire for concerts, weddings, parties, rehearsals, conferences and workshops

Cecil Sharp House is run by the English Folk Dance and Song Society, EFDSS aims to place the traditional arts of England at the heart of our cultural life – preserving, protecting, developing and promoting English traditional folk arts.

We couldn’t be happier that we picked Cecil Sharp House and got the best team in town!

Cecil Sharp House is the home of the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library. The essential folk resource, VWML is England’s national folk music and dance archive: at Cecil Sharp House and online. Rapidly putting its precious cargo onto a searchable website, its treasures are an invaluable source of inspiration and information. vwml.org

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Cover artwork by Amy Goodwin and photographed by Rosie Reed Gold
SPRING
SPECIAL OFFER

❤

Buy full-price tickets for three or more EFDSS-promoted gigs in the same transaction, and get 20% off all of them.

Just quote code SHARPER.