

**The
Eric Thompson
Charitable Trust**

**for organists
and organ music**

Grants to aspiring professional musicians in financial need, including:
scholarships, summer schools, specialist lessons, composition

2017 NEWSLETTER

Welcome!

It has been another good year for the Trust's grant-making and performances. Thank you to all our supporters whose generosity is greatly appreciated.

We hope this newsletter is an informative update of our work. We're always interested to hear about anyone needing support or wishing to find out more, so if we can help please email

info@OrganTrust.org or call + 44 (0)20 3143 3040.

Also, do feel free to share this Newsletter with others!

Grants 2016 - 17

So far this year the Trust has awarded close to £4,000 in grants, enabling young musicians to:

- Attend summer school
- Undergo specialist tuition and masterclasses
- Study the craft of organ building

More grant applications will be considered at the next Trustees' meeting in November 2017.

Meanwhile [click here](#) to read more about our past recipients.

Awards 2016 - 17



Richard Moore and Ellie Lovegrove
at the recording in Portsmouth Cathedral

This year's recipients of our prestigious **Annual Award** for a project associated with organ study, performance, composing, recording or research are **Richard Moore and Ellie Lovegrove**. Pieces from their newly published CD of hitherto unrecorded virtuoso music by contemporary British and American artists will be performed at our October Recital Series in St Lawrence Jewry, London.

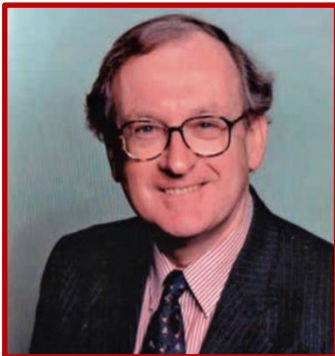
Richard and Ellie are prize-winning graduates of the Royal College of Music. They formed the [Illumina Duo](#) in 2012 since when they have built a strong professional reputation, commissioning and performing music of the highest quality in venues across the UK. Their new CD is produced in collaboration with [Convivium Records](#) and includes works by Solfa Carlile, Dan Locklair, Torbjörn Hultmark and Paul Burke.



Many congratulations to former Royal Holloway organ scholar [Matthew Searles](#) (left) who will go to Holland on our prized **Fientrop Scholarship**. Sponsored by [Fientrop Orgelbouw BV](#), Matthew will travel to Zaandam for an introduction to the craft of organ building and tuning, and for lessons with distinguished Dutch organists. The scholarship is open to organ students studying in the UK or Ireland aged under 25 at the time of taking up the scholarship.

Recent & Forthcoming Events

John Hill Organ Series



In May another successful organ recital series was held at The [Guild Church of St Lawrence Jewry](#), in memory of the late John Hill (left). John was Chairman of The Eric Thompson Trust which now sponsors this annual series. The virtuoso recitals delighted our audiences with music ranging from baroque to contemporary.

The young artists who played magnificently were: [Benjamin Bloor](#) (UK), Soyon Park (South Korea), [Geerten Liefding](#) (Netherlands), and [Marko Sever](#) (Australia). Sadly illness prevented [Johannes Skoog](#) (Germany) from performing this year, but he was most ably replaced at short notice by [James Orford](#) (UK).

October 2017 Organ Recitals - Tuesdays 1.00 to 1.45 pm



The Eric Thompson Trust weekly organ recitals are held every October at The Guild Church of **St Lawrence Jewry**, Guildhall, London. This year the series will include the launch of a new CD by the [Illumina Duo](#), the 2017 beneficiaries of the Trust's Annual Award. We are grateful to them and to all our recitalists for taking part.

See you there!

Arrivals

New Trustee



A warm welcome to **Kathleen Duncan OBE** (pictured left) former Director General of the Lloyds Bank TSB Foundation for England and Wales, and a Past Master of [The Worshipful Company of Musicians](#), who has joined our team of Trustees. Kathleen first met Eric Thompson back in 1974 when he worked at the Arts Council of Great Britain and she was with the newly formed South East Arts Association.

Looking Ahead

25 Years of Grant Making

In 2018 we shall celebrate the 25th anniversary of The Eric Thompson Trust, and we'll update our website and Facebook page with our plans to mark this milestone year.

Fundraising

The Trust recently launched a campaign to raise further awareness of its mission, increase the amount of grants and to fund our Annual Award of up to £5,000 p.a. for specialist projects.

[To sustain these achievements our fundraising must continue!](#)



The Eric Thompson Trust 17 Hill Street St Albans AL3 4QS

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