

# **'Miss Austen Invites' – an evening with an author**

**Crowcombe Court, Crowcombe, TA4 4AD**

**Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m.**

**B3**

**Host: Sue Goodman**

Jane Austen (1775-1817) was the first truly modern novelist and a genius at observing how ordinary people behave. Join us for an evening which will reflect the time of literary and musical enlightenment in which she lived. Readings from her novels and letters will be illuminated by songs, both intimate and public. **Kate Littlewood** (reader) and **Lorna Anderson** (soprano) are accompanied by the **Taunton Sinfonietta**, directed by **Sarah Wormell**. Among others we will hear excerpts from *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mansfield Park* and *Sense and Sensibility*.



*Kate Littlewood*

Crowcombe Court (*right*) dating from the 1730s and now owned and run by David and Kate Kenyon, is the ideal setting for this unique concert and has recently benefited from a major restoration project. The public rooms are exceptional and add a sympathetic ambience to events held here. And as well as the music, the audience will enjoy hot and cold canapés, served in the Ballroom.



**Lorna Anderson** (*left*) has appeared in opera, concert and recital with major orchestras and at Festivals, throughout Europe. As a renowned performer of the Baroque repertoire she has sung with ensembles such as the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Les Arts Florissants, and The Sixteen; and under conductors of the calibre of William Christie, Harry Christophers, Trevor Pinnock and Richard Hickox.

'**Taunton Sinfonietta** - a Musical Trend Setter' is no mere slogan; the Sinfonietta has indeed been a force for innovation in the West Country's musical scene for over 30 years. It was founded by Hugh Bushell in 1982 out of the belief that there was a place, indeed a need, for a professional orchestra working in the area and built from resources available within the region. Based in Taunton and playing throughout the south-west, it is a local focus of excellence. Often working without a conductor, the Sinfonietta has a broad repertoire encompassing music from the baroque, classical, romantic and modern periods.



**Sarah Wormell** (*left*) studied both violin and viola at Trinity College of Music in London, where she won several prizes, including the Barbirolli Prize for string quartet, the Leonard Smith duo prize, the Sophie Langdon Classical Concerto competition and the Alfred Gibson Memorial prize.

Sarah is as much at home on the concert platform giving recitals as she is playing chamber music and being part of a larger orchestra. She is delighted to be back, playing with the Taunton Sinfonietta. Her instrument was made for her in 2014 by David Munro.

All the performers will be in period costume, as befits the Georgian splendour of their surroundings.

## **The Musical Items will include:**

Boyce (1711-1779)

Handel (1685–1759)

Handel

Herschel (1738-1822)

Handel

Symphony No. 1 in B flat major

Hornpipe, from the Water Music

Concerto Grosso in B minor

Symphony No. 5 in D major

'La Réjouissance', from Music for the Royal Fireworks.

**Book early – space is limited. Ticket price £27.50 including refreshments.**