

LSO ST LUKES

MUSIC & DANCE FROM BALI

Saturday 11 April 2026 7.30pm
Jerwood Hall, LSO St Luke's

Tari Pengendag

Gilak Baris

Tari Topéng Gajah Mada

Wangi Durèn

Tari Sekar Jagat

Interval

Tabuh Kosalia Arini

Tabuh Telu Raré Manganti

Tari Lègong Kreasi Mahawidya

Pig in the Kraton!

**Sekar Lukes (LSO St Luke's Community
Gamelan Group)**

Gamelan Lila Cita

Lila Bhawa dancers

Andy Channing artistic director

Ni Madé Pujawati dance director

Margaret Coldiron presenter

Concert supported by LSO St Luke's

Sekar Lukes is supported by Adrian Browne and Libby Rice

The logo for the London Sinfonietta Orchestra (LSO), consisting of the letters 'LSO' in a stylized, handwritten font.

Balinese Gamelan

Unlike the Western orchestra, in which percussion instruments often play a supportive role, the Balinese gamelan orchestra consists almost entirely of tuned bronze gongs and metallophones. These produce a fast and dynamic music characterised by complex interlocking melodic and rhythmic patterns, punctuated by sonorous gongs.

The type of gamelan being played tonight is *Semara Dana*. It was created by famed composer I Wayan Beratha in 1985 as a hybrid of the popular five-tone *Gong Kebyar* with the modal possibilities of the older seven-tone *Semar Pagulingan*. *Gong Kebyar* (*kebyar* means ‘to flare up’) originated in North Bali around 1915 through experimentation with traditional forms and styles and came to dominate musical life in Bali. *Semar Pagulingan* is a court gamelan dating from the 17th century which has become scarce due to the dominance of *Gong Kebyar*.

The Hawksmoor Space is open from one hour before the concert and during the interval (where applicable), selling hot and cold drinks. Please note we can accept card payments only. Only cold drinks will be permitted inside the Jerwood Hall.

In accordance with the requirements of Islington Council persons shall not be permitted to stand or sit in any gangway.

This set of instruments (named *Semara Wertih* or ‘pure, sincere desire’) was made in 2003 by I Made Gabeleran of Blahbatuh in South Bali. Elaborately carved and painted with floral patterns, guardian demons and scenes from the *Ramayana* (a Sanskrit epic poem), it is the only gamelan of its kind in London and has formed part of an extensive learning and community programme for LSO Discovery based at LSO St Luke’s.

In a typical Balinese gamelan piece, the larger metallophones play the core melody (*pokok*), which is punctuated by various gongs and embellished (with interlocking melodic and rhythmic patterns called *kotekan*) by the *gangs*a (small metallophones), *reyong* (a row of small gong-chimes) and *suling* (small bamboo flutes). The ensemble is led by a pair of drums (*kendang*), augmented by small cymbals (*ceng-ceng*).

The taking of photographs and the use of recording equipment are strictly forbidden without formal consent from LSO St Luke’s.

Please make sure that digital watch alarms and mobile phones are switched off during the performance.

Please recycle this programme after use.

Programme

Tari Pengendag

Sekar Lukes

Ni Madé Pujawati, Novie Cawley, Alexandra Vie, Eu Su Lynn, Melissa Dewi, Natasja Cannegieter, Siti Nurhasanah, Marhadawati Dwiastuty S Sjojfan, Oki MacPherson dancers

Pengendag means ‘opening’, and this *Tari Pependetan* is a new sacred dance performed as an offering to welcome the gods to a Balinese temple ceremony, with choreography by Dewa Ayu Tiara Dewi and music composed by Ida Bagus Madé Widnyana (GusDé) in 2021 for their Sanggar seni Dwara Dwani youth group in the village of Tulikup, Southeast Bali. Unusually, it uses the *slendro alit* mode.

Gilak Baris Sekar Lukes

This instrumental piece is derived from the primary melody for the *Baris Tunggal* warrior dance, but is also connected to older ceremonial music in its use of *gilak* gong structure, drumming patterns and *ceng-ceng kopyak* (large crash cymbals).

Tari Topéng Gajah Mada Sekar Lukes

Margaret Coldiron dancer

Topéng Keras is the first introductory mask in a Balinese *Topéng* mask drama performance. This mask, designed by Ida Bagus Alit, represents the great Gajah Mada, warrior and prime minister

(*mahapatih*), whose heroism, skill and determination united Nusantara and established the Majapahit Empire in the 14th century. This dance demonstrates his power, pride and intelligence.

Wangi Durèn

Sekar Lukes

This is an arrangement (by Isis Wolf-Light and Andy Channing) of fragments of a piece composed in 2016 by I Madé Terip of Munduk, North Bali, for a scholarship group. He described the piece as ‘the feeling you get when you’re walking in the forest, and you come across a ripe durian on the ground ...’ Durian is an extremely pungent fruit and *Wangi Durèn* translates as ‘fragrant durian’!

Tari Sekar Jagat

Lila Cita

R Thesalonika Yulyanti, Anya Rahma, Saryani Asmayawati, Georgina Harding, Anastasia Widyardari, Rachinta Platts, Ersaly Aisyah Erwinputri dancers

Sekar Jagat means ‘flower of the world’, and this is another welcome dance, choreographed by Ni Luh Swasthi Wijaya Bandem in 1993, featuring movements from the sacred *Rejang* dance, performed by girls and women to welcome the gods to a temple ceremony. The music was composed by I Nyoman Windha, inspired by gamelan *Salunding*.

Tabuh Kosalia Arini

Lila Cita

Created by the renowned composer I Wayan Beratha for the Karangasem Festival Gong group in 1969, this composition helped to establish the model for the standard *kreasi baru* (new creation) form for the following decades. There are three main sections: a *gineman* with several brief, irregular fragments, a *bapang* middle section with *reyong* and *kendang* variations, and a concluding *gambangan* with regular cycles.

Tabuh Telu Raré Manganti

Lila Cita

This piece was composed for Lila Cita by I Nengah Susila in 2011. *Tabuh Telu* takes the form of a classic *Lelambatan* (temple ceremonial) composition, which derives from the ancient gamelan *Gong Gedé*. This framework is given a *kreasi* treatment, not too far removed from the classic style. *Raré Manganti* means 'waiting for a baby or young child'. Pak Susila, surprised that so many members of Lila Cita were having babies, dedicated this composition 'to these children, who are either waiting to become adults or waiting to be born'.

Tari Lègong Kreasi Mahawidya

Lila Cita

Ni Madé Pujawati, Novie Cawley, Anya Rahma, R Thesalonika Yulyanti, Oki MacPherson, Rachinta Platts, Melissa Dewi dancers

Lègong is a genre of classical dance which originated in the early 19th century with a central repertoire of about 15 dances, with themes from a variety of sources, such as the Panji cycle (also known as Malat) and the Ramayana epic. *Lègong Mahawidya* (Great Knowledge) was choreographed by Anak Agung Mas Sudarningsih in 2021, to represent the spirit and power of Ibu Pertiwi (Mother Earth). The music was composed (originally for digital gamelan) by Wahyu Etnica.

Pig in the Kraton!

Sekar Lukes

Maya Rose Channing dancer

Composed by Andy Channing in 1990, this tells the tall, twisted tale of a pig's existential crisis and metaphysical misadventures in a Javanese palace (*kraton*). Played by avant-rock band The Momes, arranged for Javanese gamelan and recorded by Alpha Beta Gamelan, then re-arranged for various Balinese gamelans, it has been performed in Bali and beyond.

Artist Biographies

Sekar Lukes

LSO Community Gamelan Group

Sekar Lukes (the LSO Community Gamelan Group) was founded in 2003 by LSO Discovery. The players are from diverse backgrounds and meet weekly during term time at LSO St Luke's, where they are the resident performers on this wonderful set of instruments.

Performing tonight

Andy Channing (artistic director), Thom Andrewes, Nils Bendle, Sam Blake, Owen Bowden, Andrew Boxer, Beth Carriaga, Felicity Devonshire, Sumit Garai, Armando Gonzalez Sosto, Kit Greveson, Jo Hrabí, Laura Jacobs, Adi Kasliwal, Lucia Lanzalaco, Sunny Liao, Josh Lee, Tom Luckwell, Peter Maurer, Jonathan Morgan, Philippa Morgan, Mick Nolan, Anthony Ossa-Richardson, Benoît Parmentier, Jeffery Pike, Lynn Plouy Cai, Tanguy Plouy, Brad Porter, Sarah Louise Renwick, Evgeniy Riabenko, Libby Rice, Jason Sarris, Ao Shen, Nigel d'Souza, Joseph White, Oliver Whorwood, Mia Willows, Ben Woodhouse, Masaaki Yoshida and Ramin Zamani.

Gamelan Lila Cita

Gamelan Lila Cita ('amusement of the heart' or 'happiness') was founded by Andy Channing in 1992. Several members have studied in Bali, and it is the only group in Britain that regularly performs a wide range of traditional and contemporary Balinese music. The group has played throughout the UK and abroad, including performances at Fundación la Caixa in Barcelona, St James's Palace, Royal Opera House, Münchner Stadtmuseum and Glastonbury Festival. Lila Cita even performed at the prestigious Bali Arts Festival in 2006.

Performing tonight

Andy Channing (artistic director), Kaori Allenson, Gill Bland, Charlie Cawood, Margaret Coldiron, Debbie Fether, Mel Green, Daisy Heath, Robert Hills, Manuel Jimenez, Dawn Kelleher, Helen Loth, Kate Marrs-Gant, Peter Maurer, Jonathan Morgan, Philippa Morgan, Nye Parry, Kerenza Peugniez, Wil Procter, Innes Rock, Liz Routhorn, Kate Wakeling, John Whitfield and Mia Willows

Andy Channing

Andy Channing, Artistic Director of Lila Cita and Sekar Lukes, studied gamelan at Southbank Centre and at STSI (now ISI, the Indonesian Academy of Performing Arts) Surakarta in Central Java, and with various teachers in Bali. Since 1991 he has been teaching Balinese and Javanese gamelan throughout Europe, primarily at SOAS, City University of London, Southbank Centre and LSO St Luke's, and has performed worldwide.

Ni Madé Pujawati

Ni Madé Pujawati, Artistic Director of Lila Bhawa, started dancing at the age of six and is a graduate of ISI (the Institute of the Arts) in Bali. As well as performing with Lila Cita, she also performs virtuoso Javanese dance with Southbank Gamelan Players and cross-Asian dance roles with the Foundation of Indian Performing Arts. She has performed extensively in Europe, the US and Bali.

Lila Bhawa

Lila Bhawa is a London-based Indonesian dance group specialising in classical dances from Bali and Java. The group was founded by Ni Madé Pujawati in 2002 and includes several experienced performers, together with younger dancers who started learning in the UK. Lila Bhawa performed with Lila Cita at the 2006 PKB (Bali Arts Festival).

Maya Rose Channing has been dancing most of her life and is currently studying Music at St Catherine's College, Oxford.

Saryani Asmayawati was born in West Java and learned Balinese dance at Sanggar Tari Gita Saraswati in Bandung at the age of ten. She also learned Sundanese dance and was a member of Lingkung Seni Sunda at Institut Teknologi Bandung.

Novie Cawley was born in Jakarta and is a professional dancer, performing different Indonesian styles.

Nastasja Cannegieter is half Dutch and half Indonesian. She moved to London and joined Lila Bhawa in 2024.

Margaret 'Jiggs' Coldiron trained as an actress at the Drama Centre, London, and studied Topéng dance and mask-carving in Bali. She is the author of *Trance and Transformation of the Actor in Japanese Noh and Balinese Masked Dance Drama* (Mellen press 2004).

Melissa Dewi has a Dutch father and Chinese Indonesian mother but discovered Indonesian culture while studying World Performance at East 15 Acting School.

Ersaly Aisyah Erwinputri (Saly) grew up in Jakarta but came to the UK to study for a master's degree in economics.

Georgina Harding was born in Jakarta and moved to the UK when she was young. She would learn Balinese dance when visiting family in Indonesia.

Alexandra Vie was born in Jakarta and has been dancing since 1974. She came to the UK in 1998 and performs solo Sundanese dance for private events.

Eu Su Lynn learned Balinese dance in Colorado when she was at university.

Oki MacPherson was born in Bali and started to learn Balinese dance at the age of six.

Siti Nurhasanah learned to dance in West Java when she was young. She moved to the UK for a job in the Indonesian government sector.

Rachinta Platts grew up in Indonesia and the south of England. She now works in London as an animator.

Anya Rahma grew up in Bandung where she learned Balinese dance with Sanggar Tari Bali Sekar Tampaksiring and Sundanese dance with Studio Tari Indrawati Lukman. She moved to Singapore and danced with Eka Suwara Santhi and now lives in London.

Marhadiwati Dwiastuty S Sjojfan (Tuty) was born in Banjarmasin and learned Balinese and Javanese dance in high school.

Anastasia Widyadari was born in Jakarta and learned traditional Indonesian dances with Sanggar Gema Suara Muda from the age of seven.

R Thesalonika Yulyanti learned Balinese dance at Sanggar Tari Bali Saraswati in Jakarta.

Thank You

Tonight's concert would not be possible without the help of many.

Thank you to our inspirational teacher, Andy Channing; to all the dedicated and enthusiastic group members of Sekar Lukes; to those who do the admin; move the instruments; bake delicious Monday evening treats and have designed and produced the coordinated 'uniform' Sekar Lukes is wearing tonight. Also to LSO St Luke's staff who give us their encouragement and support throughout the year.

To Lila Cita and Lila Bhawa whose wonderful playing and dancing help to make this such a special event.

Terima kasih semuanya! Many thanks to all.

Get Involved

Anyone can play gamelan! If you have enjoyed tonight's concert and would like to give it a go, please contact us at lsogamelan@gmail.com for more information.