

A portrait painting of a man with a mustache, wearing a dark suit and tie, standing in a room. He is looking to the left. In the background, there is a piano and a framed picture on the wall.

Supporters' Trip: The Firs with
mezzo-soprano Frances Gregory
Tuesday 27 May

Trip information

Join OAE Rising Star and soloist in Enigma Variations, Frances Gregory, at Elgar's Birthplace, The Firs.

Explore Elgar's birthplace with an introductory talk and tour of the property and enjoy some tea & coffee at their cafe in sight of Elgar's beloved Malvern Hills.

General ticket price: £35

National Trust ticket price: £25

Join us for lunch with Frances Gregory at 12pm, and enjoy a walk around the cottage at 1pm, finishing with a performance by the Elgar Festival 2025 at 2pm at the venue.

Travel options*

A direct train runs from London Paddington to Worcestershire Parkway, a three minute drive from the National Trust property.

See trains here: [National Rail](#)

To arrive at 12pm we recommend the 9.52am train. Return trains run hourly from 2.23pm onwards.

For a taxi company to get you to the property and back see below:

[Cathedral Car Worcester](#)

[Worcester Cabs](#)

[Worcestershire Parkway Taxis](#)

**please note that travel is not included in the ticket price.*

Other activities to do

If you're coming by car and want to add to your day of activities please see below:

Great Malvern Priory

Mappa Mundi, Hereford Cathedral

Elgar Route, Malvern Hills

Berrington Hall

Frances Gregory

Praised for her “idiomatic and stylish singing” (The Telegraph) British mezzo-soprano Frances Gregory is a recent graduate of Royal Academy Opera and a current Rising Star of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.



She begins the 24/25 season as Alcandro L'Olimpiade with Vache Baroque and makes her debut as Cherubino Le Nozze di Figaro with The Mozartists at Cadogan Hall and Teatro Comunale, Sicily, conducted by Ian Page.

During 2023 / 2024 she made her debut with The English Concert as Arnalta / Nutrice / Familiare 1 L'incoronazione di Poppea at the Palau de la Musica, Barcelona and Auditorio Nacional, Madrid; with The Gabrieli Consort in J. S. Bach's B Minor Mass at the KKL Lucerne; and at The Grange Festival as Arnalta L'incoronazione di Poppea with La Nuova Musica. In Summer 2024, she created the role of Ellie Gifford in Paul Carr's Under the Greenwood Tree for Dorset Opera Festival. Concert work included Mozart Requiem at St Endellion Festival, Rossini Petite Messe Solennelle, Dido Dido and Aeneas with Eboracum Baroque and Purcell Songs with Bjarte Eike at the Royal Academy of Music.

Frances will be performing in our upcoming concert, *Enigma Variations*, with guest conductor Dinis Sousa at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre.