

STELLAR LINE-UP CELEBRATE BEETHOVEN 250 WITH THE BSO



Sunwook Kim conducts an all-Beethoven programme ©Marco Borggreve

- **Kirill Karabits** conducts the **BSO** in celebrations at the **Barbican** and **Sage Gateshead**
 - **Pianist Sunwook Kim** makes conducting debut in all-Beethoven programme
- **Marta Gardolińska** and **Alfredo Ovalles** tour 'Pastoral Beethoven' across **South Coast**

The works of Beethoven are set to take centre stage in 2020 as audiences celebrate the composer's 250th anniversary. Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra plays its part by presenting a series of performances with leading global talent.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra performs at the **Barbican's Beethoven Weekender** (1 Feb) under the baton of Chief Conductor **Kirill Karabits** before taking performances of Beethoven's Symphonies 1 & 3 'Eroica' to **Sage Gateshead** (22 Feb). The Orchestra presents the programme with Stravinsky's Violin Concerto at their home at Lighthouse, Poole (29 Jan), with American violinist, **Stefan Jackiw**.

Karabits says, 'I'm looking forward to bringing performances of Symphonies 1 & 3 'Eroica' to the BSO's audience in Poole before we join the celebration at the Barbican's 'Beethoven Weekender' and Sage Gateshead. It will be an exciting year as the world collectively revisits these dramatic works born out of such revolutionary times; whilst 250 years has passed, this is music which continues to give.'

Former Leeds Piano Competition Winner, **Sunwook Kim**, makes his anticipated conducting debut with an all-Beethoven programme. He will direct Piano Concerto No.5 'Emperor' from the keyboard and conduct the much-admired Symphony No.4. The concert opens with the powerful *Egmont Overture* in Poole (1 Apr) and Exeter (2 Apr). He says, *'I can't wait to bring this all-Beethoven programme to audiences in Poole and Exeter. To perform the 'Emperor' concerto is always a huge thrill – to also make my professional conducting debut, alongside my friends in the BSO, will make these concerts extra special.'*

Marta Gardolińska, the Polish conductor recently announced as a 2019/20 Dudamel Fellow with the LA Philharmonic, will tour a programme featuring Beethoven's Symphony No.6 'Pastoral'. The BSO Young Conductor in Association will perform alongside pianist **Alfredo Oвалles** in Piano Concerto No.4 in Plymouth (5 Feb), Exeter (6 Feb) and Portsmouth (7 Feb).

Gardolińska says, *'The vivid imagery of Beethoven's 'Pastoral' Symphony continues to fascinate. In this increasingly frazzled world – 250 years since Beethoven's birth – it's always a treat to take time out and jump into the musical pool of colour that he created for us to enjoy. I am very much looking forward to joining the brilliant pianist Alfredo Oвалles in a fresh interpretation of my favourite of Beethoven's Piano Concertos - the delicate but expressive no. 4!'*

The BSO celebrate the 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven throughout 2020. For tickets and further details visit bsolive.com

[ENDS]

Notes to Editors:

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1. Images available [here](#)
 - 1) Players of the BSO © Patrick Baldwin
 - 2) Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits © Konrad Cwik
 - 3) BSO's Young Conductor in Association Marta Gardolińska © Bart Barczyk
 - 4) Alfredo Oвалles © Jürgen Knoth
 - 5) Sunwook Kim © Marco Borggreve

2. Performances

Beethoven 250

Wed 29 Jan (Poole) | Sat 1 Feb (London) |
Sat 22 Feb (Gateshead)

Beethoven Symphony No.1; Symphony No.3
'Eroica'

Stravinsky Violin Concerto (Poole only)

Kirill Karabits conductor

Stefan Jackiw violin

Pastoral Beethoven

Wed 5 Feb (Plymouth) | Thurs 6 Feb (Exeter) | Fri 7 Feb
(Portsmouth)

Mozart *Don Giovanni Overture*

Beethoven Piano Concerto No.4; Symphony No.6
'Pastoral'

Marta Gardolinska conductor

Alfredo Oвалles piano

Imperial Beethoven

Wed 1 Apr (Poole) | Thur 2 Apr (Exeter)

Beethoven *Egmont Overture*; *Symphony No.4*;
Piano Concerto No.5 'Emperor'

Sunwook Kim conductor/piano

3. Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is a world-class ensemble known for spearheading change both on and off the stage since 1893. Highly regarded for its ambitious programming and recordings, its Prokofiev cycle and survey of Eastern European music under the baton of Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits has received recent critical acclaim.
4. In 2019, the BSO won the Royal Philharmonic Society Impact Award for its work in improving opportunities for the next generation of disabled talent. The Orchestra serves a 10,000-square mile region, touring around 140 performances each year to audiences in South West England and beyond; it also offers a number of smaller ensembles, including BSO Resound, the disabled-led ensemble pushing the boundaries of performance practice, and Kokoro, a contemporary chamber ensemble.
5. A bold champion of new talent the BSO boasts an enviable list of principal conductors, from Marin Alsop – the first female principal conductor of a major UK orchestra – to Constantin Silvestri, Paavo Berglund and Andrew Litton. It has given memorable performances at Carnegie Hall, the Musikverein, and Rudolfinum, and gives regular live broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM.
6. As a registered arts charity the BSO is increasingly reliant on the support of individuals, charitable trusts and companies. The income earned from ticket sales, commercial activity and grants from public funding sources help the Orchestra greatly and is increasingly invaluable in supporting BSO's on-going mission to enrich and inspire the cultural lives of many.
7. The BSO's Principal Broadcast Partner is BBC Radio 3
8. The BSO is Classic FM's Orchestra in the South of England.