

PRESS RELEASE  
Friday 4 December

## BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES SECOND SERIES OF LIVESTREAMED SYMPHONIC CONCERTS

6 January – 24 March 2021



*Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra ©Mark Allan*

- The series of 12 concerts will livestream each Wednesday from the Orchestra's base at **Lighthouse, Poole**, thanks to continued support from Series Sponsor, **Investec**.
- The concerts follow the Orchestra's inaugural livestreamed series, in which almost **16,000 digital tickets** were sold to households globally.
- Chief Conductor **Kirill Karabits** opens the series and conducts a further five performances.
- Highlights include the **UK premiere of American composer and DJ Mason Bates' Auditorium** and the continuation of the Orchestra's *Voices from the East* series, with performances of **Nurymov's Symphony No.2 (UK premiere)**, Rimsky-Korsakov's rarely performed Symphonic Suite 'Antar' (Symphony No.2) and **Penderecki's Prelude for Peace**.
- **Sir John Eliot Gardiner** will conduct Brahms and Schumann, and there are welcome returns for **Marta Gardolińska, David Hill, Karl-Heinz Steffens** and **Mark Wigglesworth**.
- **Pianist Benjamin Grosvenor** returns as **Artist-in-Residence** in a recital programme with duo partner **violinist Hyeyoon Park**. Horn player **Felix Klieser** makes his UK concerto debut, and there are performances from mezzo-soprano **Jennifer Johnston** and pianists **Stephen Hough** and **Sunwook Kim**.
- The BSO's ever popular programmes of film and pop music return to the Orchestra's calendar with **Hollywood Classics** [Sat 13 Mar] and **Symphonic Abba** [Sat 20 Feb].

**Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO)** announces a series of 12 livestreamed symphonic concerts broadcast from its home venue, Lighthouse, Poole, from **6 January to 24 March 2021**.

The Orchestra sold **almost 16,000 digital tickets** for its livestreamed autumn season in addition to over 2,000 spectators who watched the concerts live from a limited-capacity audience at Lighthouse, Poole. Taking into account those who watched in groups, **the Orchestra reached greater than a sell-out capacity through these streams.**

Audiences will be able to experience the live performances by digital subscription, which is available for individual concerts or season bundle. **Limited seating will be available** for socially distanced audiences in the concert hall in accordance with current government guidance.

As a touring orchestra, which ordinarily performs around 150 concerts in 40 venues in the South West, the restrictions necessitated in tackling the pandemic have had a particular impact on its work. Whilst maintaining audiences through its livestreamed work from Poole, the Orchestra is now actively exploring how it can get back on the road to bring *BSO on your Doorstep*.

**BSO Chief Executive, Dougie Scarfe**, says, *“The level of support shown for the Orchestra during its inaugural livestream series has been astonishing. These symphonic performances have had a huge impact on audiences at home in the South West, and all around the globe – and for the Orchestra it’s been truly special to know that even in lockdown we have performed to more than a full hall online.*

*“We can’t wait to deliver this second series in partnership with our colleagues at Lighthouse, Poole, and Series Sponsor Investec, and are pleased to be able to present such an extraordinary line-up. From Sir John Eliot Gardiner conducting Brahms and Schumann to the UK premiere of Mason Bates’ Auditorium and further Voices from the East discoveries – we look forward to sharing more live music.”*

**Kirill Karabits, the Orchestra’s Chief Conductor, opens the series in a programme of Ravel, Couperin and Richard Strauss [Wed 6 Jan] before conducting five further performances.**

Known for his ability to discover fine musical rarities, Karabits returns with a lesser-known work in the Orchestra’s *Voices from the East* series: the UK premiere of **Nurymov’s Second Symphony**. Elsewhere, Karabits and the Orchestra pay homage to late composer Krzysztof Penderecki with **Penderecki’s Prelude for Peace** and Haydn’s *Seven Last Words from the Cross*.

Karabits says, *“I’m excited to be joining my BSO colleagues for this new series. I’m especially pleased that we’re able to present a number of interesting lesser-known works for audiences in the South West and around the world to explore. I look forward to paying homage to the late Krzysztof Penderecki, a key figure of symphonic music in the past and present century who means a great deal to me personally. We will conclude our series with his Prelude for Peace on 24 March, almost exactly a year on from when he passed away.”*

### **Mason Bates’s Auditorium (UK premiere)**

The BSO will give the UK premiere of **Mason Bates’ Auditorium [Wed 3 Feb]**. Bates is an American composer and DJ whose symphonic music has received widespread acceptance for its unique integration of electronic sounds. Bates’ work has been championed by the world’s leading

conductors, from Riccardo Muti to Michael Tilson Thomas, and he is Composer-in-Residence at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Commissioned by the San Francisco Symphony, *Auditorium* features an electronically enhanced Baroque ensemble which haunts the live orchestra on stage, suggesting that an orchestra, like a person, can be possessed. Kirill Karabits conducts *Auditorium* in an all-American programme featuring Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man* and Gershwin's *Catfish Row Suite*.

### **Voices from the East series**

Known for championing the music of former Soviet countries through its **Voices from the East series**, the Orchestra presents the UK premiere of **Chary Nurymov's Symphony No.2 [Wed 10 Feb]**. Nurymov was one of the most prominent figures in Turkmenistan's cultural output, yet his work is little-known in the west. His music is heavily infused with folklore and eastern intonations, expressing the deepest feelings and reflections on the human existence. His Symphony No.2 appears alongside **Rimsky-Korsakov's Symphonic Suite 'Antar' (Symphony No.2)**, the rarely performed work is often regarded as his 'other *Scheherazade*'. Borodin's *In the Steppes of Central Asia* completes the programme, performed under the baton of Kirill Karabits.

Karabits closes the series paying homage to Polish composer **Krzysztof Penderecki [Wed 24 Mar]**, who died in March 2020. The BSO pair **Penderecki's Prelude for Peace** with **Haydn's Seven Last Words from the Cross**.

### **Guest soloists**

**Horn player Felix Klieser [Wed 17 Feb]** makes his UK concerto debut with a performance of Mozart's Horn Concerto No.4 K.495, in a concert that also features Bruckner's Symphony No.0 in D minor '*Die Nullte*' under Kirill Karabits.

**Artist-in-Residence, Benjamin Grosvenor [Wed 10 Mar]** returns to perform a recital with duo partner, **violinist Hyeyoon Park**; together they perform Cesar Franck's mighty duet, the Sonata in A major, and Clara Schumann's *Romances*. Grosvenor opens the programme with Robert Schumann's *Kreisleriana*, and appears courtesy of Decca Classics.

Mezzo soprano **Jennifer Johnston [Wed 13 Jan]** is the soloist in Mahler's song cycle, *Songs of a Wayfarer*, in a programme of Richard Strauss and Brahms with the Orchestra's Associate Guest Conductor David Hill. Pianist **Stephen Hough [Wed 24 Feb]** returns to perform Brahms' Piano Concerto No.1 with Sir John Eliot Gardiner, and **Sunwook Kim [Wed 17 Mar]** performs Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.4 with Kirill Karabits.

### **Guest conductors**

**Sir John Eliot Gardiner [Wed 24 Feb]** makes an anticipated return to the Orchestra with a programme of Schumann's *Genoveva Overture* and Brahms' Piano Concerto No.1 with pianist Stephen Hough.

There are also returns for: **David Hill [Wed 21 Oct]** in a programme of Haydn and Brahms; **Marta Gardolińska [Wed 3 Mar]** with Schubert, Liadov and Shostakovich; **Karl-Heinz Steffans [Wed 20 Jan]** with Fauré and Beethoven; and **Mark Wigglesworth [Wed 27 Jan]** in Wagner and Vaughan Williams.

Investec's series sponsorship of the Orchestra's inaugural livestream series enabled the BSO to be at the forefront of the sector, trailblazing a 12-concert digital series to great acclaim. Investec is a proud partner of the Orchestra and is excited to return as Series Sponsor.

In addition to its main season performances, the Orchestra will present two additional programmes for audiences in the South West and beyond: ***Symphonic Abba*** [Sat 20 Feb] and ***Hollywood Classics*** [Sat 13 Mar].

**All performances are livestreamed through the BSO website ([bsolive.com](https://bsolive.com)) and are available for 30 days. For full details and tickets visit [bsolive.com](https://bsolive.com).**

[ENDS]

### **Notes to Editors:**

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*There may be the need to change programmes and/or artists due to safety requirements or changes to government guidelines. If the concert has to be cancelled in its entirety and an alternative livestream is not possible, all ticket money will be refunded.*

1. [Images available here](#)
  - a) Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at Lighthouse, Poole ©Mark Allan
  - b) Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits ©Konrad Cwik
  - c) Conductor Sir John Eliot Gardiner ©Sim Canetty-Clarke
  - d) Pianist Benjamin Grosvenor ©Patrick Allen/Operaomnia
  - e) Horn player Felix Klieser © Maïke Helbig
  - f) Pianist Stephen Hough ©Sim Canetty-Clarke
  - g) Pianist Sunwook Kim ©Marco Borggreve
  - h) Chief Executive Dougie Scarfe ©Corin Messer/Bournemouth Echo

2. Concert listings and booking link: <https://bsolive.com/whats-on/bso-spring-2021/>

**6 January (Lighthouse, Poole) \***

Kirill Karabits *conductor*  
Ravel — Le tombeau de Couperin  
Couperin — Suite from L'Apothéose de Lully  
R Strauss — Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme Suite  
[\*pre-recorded performance]

**13 January (Lighthouse, Poole)**

David Hill *conductor*  
Jennifer Johnston *mezzo soprano*  
R Strauss — Träumerei am Kamin  
Mahler — Songs of a Wayfarer  
Brahms — Symphony No.2

**20 January (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Karl-Heinz Steffans *conductor*  
Fauré — Pelléas et Mélisande Suite  
Beethoven — Symphony No.3 'Eroica'

**27 January (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Mark Wigglesworth *conductor*  
Wagner — Die Meistersinger Suite  
Vaughan Williams — Symphony No.5

**3 February (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Kirill Karabits *conductor*  
Copland — Fanfare for the Common Man  
Mason Bates — Auditorium (UK premiere)  
Gershwin — Catfish Row: Suite from Porgy and Bess

**10 February (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Kirill Karabits *conductor*  
Borodin — In the Steppes of Central Asia  
Nurymov — Symphony No.2  
Rimsky-Korsakov — Symphonic Suite No.2 'Antar'

**17 February (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Kirill Karabits *conductor*  
Felix Klieser *horn*  
Mozart — Horn Concerto No.4  
Bruckner — Symphony No.0 'Nullte'

**24 February (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Sir John Eliot Gardiner *conductor*  
Stephen Hough *piano*  
Schumann — Genoveva Overture  
Brahms — Piano Concerto No.1

**3 March (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Marta Gardolińska *conductor*  
Schubert — Symphony No.3  
Liadov — The Enchanted Lake  
Shostakovich — Symphony No.9

**10 March (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Benjamin Grosvenor *piano*\*  
Hyeyoon Park *violin*  
Schumann — Kreisleriana  
Clara Schumann — Romances  
Cesar Franck — Sonata in A  
[\*Benjamin Grosvenor appears courtesy of Decca Classics]

**17 March (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Kirill Karabits *conductor*  
Sunwook Kim *piano*  
Beethoven — Piano Concerto No.4  
Schumann — Symphony No.4 (original version)

**24 March (Lighthouse, Poole)**

Kirill Karabits *conductor*  
Penderecki — Prelude for Peace  
Haydn — The Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the Cross

3. **About Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra**

[www.bsolive.com](http://www.bsolive.com) | @BSOrchestra

Chief Conductor – Kirill Karabits | Associate Guest Conductor – David Hill MBE  
Conductor Emeritus – Marin Alsop | Conductor Laureate – Andrew Litton

One of the UK's best-loved orchestras, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is a professional ensemble known for igniting change both on and off the stage. With residencies in Bournemouth, Bristol, Exeter, Poole and Portsmouth it is also the largest cultural provider in the South West of England serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions.

Maintaining the highest artistic ideals the Orchestra remains committed to new and lesser-known repertoire while remaining relevant to its broad audience's tastes. Under Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits the Orchestra's *Voices from the East* series of music from former Soviet countries continues to receive critical acclaim, and its recent recordings of Prokofiev and Walton are outstanding modern performances. The Orchestra is also loved

for its performances of film and light music, and its discography charts a number of landmark moments in 20th century music. A commissioner of new music, the Orchestra will give premiere performances of works by Azerbaijani composer Franghiz Ali-Zadeh, Shirley J. Thompson and Magnus Lindberg in its 2020/21 season.

Awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award in 2019, for its work in improving opportunities for disabled talent, the BSO continues to explore new territory with BSO Resound – the world's first professional disabled-led ensemble at the core of a major orchestra. BSO Participate works with all ages off the stage and is internationally recognised as an act to follow: over 650 community workshops and events take place each year across the Orchestra's vast region, empowering thousands of lives each year.

Following the longest break in its 127-year history, the Orchestra was one of the first ensembles in the UK to launch a series of full-symphonic performances in 2020.

#### 4. **About Investec**

[www.investecwin.co.uk](http://www.investecwin.co.uk) | **Series Sponsor** of the BSO's livestream series

Part of the Investec group, Investec Wealth & Investment offers wealth management and investment services to private individuals, charities, trusts, international clients and financial advisers. Investec Wealth & Investment has circa 1,400 staff located at its 15 offices across the UK. IW&I had c.£33.1bn of client funds under management as at 31st March 2020.

Services offered by IW&I in the UK include: Discretionary and advisory investment management; Fully comprehensive financial planning capability; Tax, pension, ISA, estate and succession planning; UK and international multi-currency investment portfolios; Onshore and offshore capabilities

In the UK, Investec Wealth & Investment is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The value of your investments can go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount invested. Your capital may be at risk

***“Investec are proud to have been sponsors of the BSO for the past eight years. At a time when the arts sector is under enormous pressure, we feel it's more important than ever to continue this support; to help ensure that future generations can enjoy the magic of the Orchestra's live performances, for many, many years to come.”***

Scott Jones, Investec

5. The BSO's Principal Broadcast Partner is **BBC Radio 3**
6. The BSO is **Classic FM's** Orchestra in the South of England.