

## Concert Season Autumn 2021 Portsmouth Guildhall

It is with immense pleasure that I can announce the BSO's return to Portsmouth Guildhall and two stunning concerts with our great friend Sunwook Kim and conductor Mark Wigglesworth, as well as our traditional Christmas get together; concerts in which we renew that special bond between orchestra and audience. The shared experience of live music, where performers can respond to the excited anticipation of a concert hall of people who love music, is something we have all missed.

Working closely with our colleagues at the Guildhall, we will continue to offer the safest possible experience when you attend a concert, and have decided to continue with a socially distanced seating plan in order to help build audience confidence. This will be reviewed for our planned concerts in the second half of our 2021/22 Season from January to April which we will announce later in the autumn.

Music has a unique ability to reach into us and provide moments of great solace, joy, and excitement; that power of music has never been more important than during the pandemic. I am so proud of the Herculean efforts of everyone at the BSO to keep the music playing and I would also thank you for your continued support during this challenging time.

I look forward to welcoming you personally to a concert soon!

**Dougie Scarfe** Chief Executive



Thursday  
**21 October**  
7.30pm

## Beethoven with Sunwook

**Beethoven**  
Piano Concerto No.5 'Emperor'

**Beethoven**  
Symphony No.7

Sunwook Kim  
Conductor/Piano

The "Emperor" is the largest in scale of all Beethoven's concertos; an epic tour de force, pitching soloist and orchestra in a musical argument of unprecedented breadth and scale. A spirit of heroism infuses the music, whilst the sublime slow movement is one of his most profound. Beethoven's Seventh Symphony was first performed at a mammoth concert in 1813 which was one of his greatest public successes. Described by Wagner as "the apotheosis of the dance", with boundless energy and rhythmic impetus the music rages forward, almost demonically, with climax after climax, right to the brilliant final notes and one of the most thrilling endings in all music.

Thursday  
**11 November**  
7.30pm

## Wigglesworth Conducts

**Mahler** (orch Matthews)  
Nicht zu schnell

**Shostakovich**  
Piano Concerto No.2

**Sibelius**  
Symphony No.1

Mark Wigglesworth  
Conductor  
Steven Osborne  
Piano

Colin Matthews' reworking of the first movement of Mahler's Piano Quartet transformed it into a full-blooded Mahlerian orchestral work with savagely seething climaxes. Shostakovich's Second Piano Concerto stands miles apart from many of his other works in its sense of freedom and abandon – an unrestrained delight from start to finish, particularly in the famous, soulful adagio, which ensures the work's enduring popularity. Sibelius' dramatic and austere First Symphony is significant in that never before had a work of such stature emerged from Northern Europe, unveiling the previously unheard character of Nordic music, sounding both 'old' and 'new' at the same time.

Wednesday  
**22 December**  
7.30pm

## BSO Christmas Crackers

Pete Harrison  
Conductor

Experience the warmth and joy of Christmas with a concert devoted to the best of seasonal favourites old and new. This convivial evening is the perfect way to start the Christmas holiday in the company of family and friends, heaped with a huge helping of festive fun and frolics served up with a generous spoonful of kitsch Christmas classics.

## BSO Autumn Season 2021 Live from Portsmouth Guildhall

bsolive.com

**In person tickets**  
£31 £26 £21 £16

Tickets can be purchased online via the BSO website or by telephone on **01202 669925**. Tickets will be available to buy in person from Portsmouth Guildhall from the beginning of September.

In order to help build confidence for audiences returning to the concert hall, we are operating a socially distanced seating plan in the stalls whilst maintaining full capacity in the gallery, allowing customers the choice depending on individual concerns. Ticket holders will be advised of any current guidance when attending Portsmouth Guildhall in person.

**Pre-concert talks**  
Free video talks for all concerts will be available to watch in advance. These will be posted on the concert info page on the BSO website so that you can find out more about the music being performed.

Artists and programmes are subject to change should external restrictions dictate. The BSO will endeavour to present an alternative concert if necessary and if a concert is cancelled in its entirety, customers will receive a credit or refund.

**BSO Livestreams from Poole**  
All 11 autumn season concerts are being livestreamed every Wednesday so why not buy a digital ticket too.

£10 per concert  
£100 season ticket  
(all 11 concerts)

Each concert will be simultaneously streamed live via the BSO website with presentation beginning at 7.20pm. The performances will then be available to watch on demand for 30 days. Details on how to view will be sent to ticket holders.

**Concert programmes**  
Both in person and digital tickets include access to a free pdf concert programme which will be available to download prior to each concert.

The BSO would like to thank our Patrons and Performance Champions, those who have chosen to remember the BSO in their Will, and everyone who supports us through donations and membership.



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