

PRESS RELEASE
Friday 22 October

FELIX KLIESER MAKES UK CONCERTO DEBUT AND BEGINS TWO-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Horn player Felix Klieser ©Maike Helbig

- Horn player Felix Klieser makes his **UK concerto debut with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO)**, marking the start of a two-year tenure as the Orchestra's Artist-in-Residence.
- Klieser performs Mozart's Horn Concerto No.4, K.495, in **Poole (17 Nov)** and **Exeter (19 Nov)** with the BSO and conductor Kirill Karabits.
- He will also deliver a talk as a guest speaker at the **University of Exeter's Festival of Compassion (18 Nov)**.

Horn player Felix Klieser makes his UK concerto debut with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and conductor Kirill Karabits this November. The performances mark the start of a two-year partnership between the German musician and the BSO.

Audiences will experience Klieser's playing at Lighthouse, Poole (Wed 17 Nov) and Exeter's Great Hall (Fri 19 Nov), as part of the BSO's return to symphonic touring this autumn.

The Poole performance (Wed 17 Nov) will also be **livestreamed to a global audience**, presented by broadcaster Tom Service. The concert will be **available to view online for 30 days**.

Known for his phenomenal drive to become one of the world's finest horn players, Klieser has achieved great acclaim throughout Europe. He's performed with a range of artists from Sir Simon Rattle to Sting, and has provided inspiration to a new generation of performers.

On starting the two-year partnership, Klieser will become the first German horn player to have a residency with a major British orchestra.

During his first UK symphonic tour **he will deliver a talk as part of the University of Exeter's Festival of Compassion** (Thurs 18 Nov). Klieser will discuss his journey to become one of the leading musicians of his generation.

Felix Klieser said: *"I can't wait to begin my tenure as the BSO's Artist-in-Residence, working closely with the Orchestra's musicians through concerto and chamber music performances and outreach activity together. As we re-emerge from the global pandemic, celebrating live music and human connection, it'll be wonderful to be embedded within such a creative community."*

"I'm looking forward to playing for the BSO's loyal audiences in Poole and Exeter as the Orchestra returns to touring this autumn, and to sharing my story as part of the Festival of Compassion at Exeter University."

Dougie Scarfe, Chief Executive of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra said, *"Felix is a phenomenal musician, his energy and drive is utterly captivating and I cannot wait for our audiences to witness his music-making. It's the first time that the BSO has contracted a two-year residency, and I'm proud that Felix has agreed to come to the South West to join our creative community at such an important time in our history as we resume symphonic touring."*

The BSO continues to broadcast its main season each Wednesday night from Poole —following its inaugural year of livestreamed broadcasts — and resumes its symphonic touring this autumn, with concerts in Basingstoke, Exeter, and Portsmouth.

The Orchestra's Autumn Series of symphonic concerts is supported by Season Sponsor Investec.

Felix Klieser will perform Mozart's Horn Concerto No.4, K.495 with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Kirill Karabits at Lighthouse, Poole (Wed 17 Nov) and University Great Hall, Exeter (Fri 19 Nov). The livestreamed concert will be available for 30 days. For details visit www.bsolive.com

Klieser will give a talk at the University of Exeter's Festival of Compassion (Thurs 18 Nov). For details see exeter.ac.uk/staff/festivalofcompassion

[ENDS]

Notes to Editors:

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1. Images available [here](#):
 - a) Horn player Felix Kieser ©Gregor Hohenberg
 - b) Chief Executive of the BSO, Dougie Scarfe ©Mark Allan
 - c) Conductor Kirill Karabits ©Mark Allan
 - d) Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra ©Mark Allan

2. Event listings:

Wed 17 Nov, 7.30pm (Poole, Lighthouse)

Fri 19 Nov, 7.30pm (Exeter, University Great Hall)

Kirill Karabits *conductor*

Felix Klieser *horn (UK concerto debut)*

Mozart — Divertimento in D major, K.136

Mozart — Horn Concerto No.4 K.495

Bruckner — Symphony in D minor 'Nullte'

Tickets: bsolive.com

Available as digital livestream

Thurs 18 Nov

University of Exeter's Festival of Compassion

Felix Klieser discusses his life in music

Tickets: exeter.ac.uk/staff/festivalofcompassion

3. **About Felix Klieser**

<https://felixklieser.de/en/>

Felix Klieser is an exceptional artist whose performances have been described as “simply perfect” (Süddeutsche Zeitung).

Known for his ability to produce a variety of colours and beautiful tones, he is a former winner of the prestigious Leonard Bernstein Award of the Schleswig-Holstein Festival. Klieser was also recipient of the ECHO Klassik Young Artist of the Year award, in 2014.

Klieser has performed with artists from Sting to Sir Simon Rattle and in many of the world's leading venues, from the Berlin Philharmonie, Beethovenhalle Bonn, and Köln Philharmonie, to tours across Europe and South Africa. In February 2022, he will make his US debut touring with Kammerorchester Basel, one of Europe's finest chamber orchestras.

His recordings for Berlin Classics have been met with critical acclaim: his debut album 'Reveries' was released in 2013, before a second recording with Christiane Karg and Malcolm Martineau. A third recording — of Mozart and Haydn concertos — also received praise, for his rare ability to play 'deep' and 'high' Horn pieces. His latest recording 'Beyond Words', featuring Baroque arias together with Chaarts Chamber Artists, had a long run in the German classical charts.

Having expressed a wish to play the horn at the age of four, Klieser studied at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater, Hannover with Markus Maskuniitty, and he is a former member of the National Youth Orchestra of Germany. In 2014, a book about Klieser's extraordinary life was published. In addition to his solo career, Klieser has his own horn class at the Music University of Münster.

In 2021 he becomes Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's Artist-in-Residence, a two-year partnership that encompasses concert hall performances and outreach work across the Orchestra's large region in the south-west of England.

4. **About Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra**

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 championing the role of culture in people's lives**. With residencies in Bournemouth, Bristol, Exeter, Portsmouth and Poole, it is the largest cultural provider in the South West of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions.

The Orchestra, under its Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits, is known for pushing artistic boundaries, and its ongoing series of music from former Soviet states, *Voices from the East*, continues to gain praise. Boasting an enviable list of principal conductors, including Marin Alsop, the first female principal conductor of a major UK orchestra, the BSO has given memorable performances worldwide and with regular live broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM.

The Orchestra's inaugural livestreamed series, which featured Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Benjamin Grosvenor and Alina Ibragimova, was widely praised by audiences and critics alike, with **the BSO making history as one of the first British orchestras to return to the stage in 2020**. Horn player Felix Klieser makes his UK concerto debut as the Orchestra's Artist-in-Residence, as **the BSO resumes symphonic touring in 2021**.

Committed to new music, the Orchestra celebrates a triptych of contemporary works written by women in its forthcoming season, with premiere performances of works by Carmen Ho, Franghiz Ali-Zadeh and Elizabeth Ogonek. During the pandemic, the BSO also gave premieres by composers Shirley J. Thompson OBE and Magnus Lindberg.

The BSO received the **Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award** in 2019 for its work in improving opportunities for disabled musicians, and **BSO Resound – the world's first professional disabled-led ensemble at the core of a major orchestra** – continues to receive international attention for igniting change. Challenging access to high-quality music for all, the BSO leads hundreds of events each year, from award-winning work in health and care settings to partnerships with schools and music education hubs.

5. **About University of Exeter's Festival of Compassion**

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/staff/festivalofcompassion/>

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