

PRESS RELEASE

Thursday 26 January 2023

MUSICAL CHANGEMAKERS UNITE TO BRING MUSIC TO DORSET AND GATESHEAD THIS SPRING



BSO Resound and RNS Moves will perform in Poole and Gateshead ©BSO

- A unique collaboration brings together professional disabled and non-disabled musicians from **BSO Resound** and **RNS Moves** at **Lighthouse, Poole** [22 February] and **Sage Gateshead** [3 March].
- The programme includes the world premiere of *Falling* by award-winning **composer Kate Whitley**. The new piece has been co-commissioned by **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO)** and **Sage Gateshead** and offers a new world of musical colours.
- The members of BSO Resound and RNS Moves have helped ignite conversations about the representation of disabled musicians in classical music. They feature as soloists in *Falling* alongside their colleagues from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and **Royal Northern Sinfonia (RNS)**.

Audiences in Dorset and Gateshead will experience a ground-breaking collaboration this spring, as professional disabled and non-disabled musicians

unite in the world premiere of a brand-new piece of music written especially for them. Inclusive ensembles BSO Resound and RNS Moves unite to perform *Falling* by composer Kate Whitley alongside their colleagues from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra [Poole — 22 Feb] and Royal Northern Sinfonia [Gateshead – 3 March].

Both **BSO Resound**, the disabled-led ensemble at the core of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, and **RNS Moves** — an inclusive ensemble which brings together disabled and non-disabled musicians including members of Royal Northern Sinfonia — have made headlines for championing the inclusion of disabled musicians since their formation, both in 2018.

Following a series of workshops with composer Kate Whitley, the two ground-breaking groups will unite to give performances at each end of the country — at **Lighthouse, Poole** with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra [22 Feb] and at **Sage Gateshead** with the Royal Northern Sinfonia [3 Mar].

The programme features a new commission by **award-winning composer Kate Whitley**, who is also known for co-founding The Multi-Story Orchestra. Whitley's new work will feature the accessible electronic instruments used by the musicians — these instruments have not historically featured in the traditional symphony orchestra. BSO Resound features a **Linnstrument** and RNS Moves features **Headspace**; the former using touch and the latter using head movements and breath to create sound. Both are MIDI-based instruments.

BSO Assistant Conductor Tom Fetherstonhaugh conducts the Poole performance, which includes Tchaikovsky's First Symphony and Morton Gould's arrangement of Debussy's *Rêverie*. **Conductor Dinis Sousa** will conduct the Gateshead concert, in which Royal Northern Sinfonia complement Whitley's new piece with works by Ligeti, Sibelius and Kodály. Both concerts will be available to view via livestream.

Composer Kate Whitley, said: *"It's been a total pleasure working on this project — it's an incredible group of musicians and we've worked to create the piece together, which has been a really inspiring process. I'm lucky to be a part of it."*

Dougie Scarfe, Chief Executive of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, said: *"We're excited that BSO Resound and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra are uniting with the musicians of RNS Moves and Royal Northern Sinfonia this spring — and we're thrilled that Kate Whitley has devised this brilliant new work, written for the instruments and considerations of the performers."*

"Much has been achieved since the formation of both BSO Resound and RNS Moves in 2018. We hope that in setting the foundations for this kind of collaborative project — ones that profile brilliant disabled-led ensembles and performers, and commission more repertoire for them to play — we'll begin to see greater inclusivity of disabled musicians on stages across the wider sector."

James Thomas, Director, Royal Northern Sinfonia and Classical Programme, Sage Gateshead, said: *"Inclusivity is at the heart of what Royal Northern Sinfonia does, and we're really pleased to be underlining our commitment to it by this RNS Moves collaboration with our friends at BSO Resound. The two ensembles have already hugely enjoyed their creative exchange, workshoping the music together last year, and we're now very excited that this new project will be brought to the main stage at Sage Gateshead, giving audiences in the North East the chance to enjoy the music making of these ground-breaking ensembles."*

Allianz Musical Insurance (AMI) is a valued long-standing Partner helping Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra over the past five years to ensure a creative and vibrant world of inclusive music-making in communities across the South West through its support of BSO Resound, BSO Young Associates and Associate Musicians.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's 2022/23 concert season is supported by **Season Sponsor Investec**, which this year celebrates a decade-long commitment to the BSO's live music-making.

BSO Resound and RNS Moves unite to perform Kate Whitley's new work *Falling* — alongside Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra [Lighthouse, Poole — 22 February] and Royal Northern Sinfonia [Sage Gateshead — 3 March]. For more details see bsolive.com or sagegateshead.com

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Notes to Editors:

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1. Images available [here](#)
 - a) Musicians of BSO Resound and RNS Moves in rehearsal ©BSO
 - b) BSO Resound ©BSO
 - c) RNS Moves ©Amelia Read ©RNS
 - d) Composer Kate Whitley
 - e) BSO Chief Executive Dougie Scarfe ©BSO
2. **Concert listings** | tickets and full details at bsolive.com and sagegateshead.com

Wednesday 22 February 2023 (Poole, Lighthouse)

BSO Resound, RNS Moves

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

Tom Fetherstonhaugh *conductor*

Kate Whitley — *Falling* (world premiere)

Debussy (arr.Gould) — *Rêverie*

Tchaikovsky — Symphony No.1 'Winter Daydreams

Friday 3 March 2023 (Sage Gateshead)

BSO Resound, RNS Moves

Royal Northern Sinfonia

Dinis Sousa *conductor*

Gyorgy Ligeti — Concert Românesc

Kate Whitley — *Falling*

Jean Sibelius — The Tempest, Suite No. 2

Zoltán Kodály — Dances of Galanta

3. About Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

www.bsolive.com | @BSOrchestra

Chief Conductor – Kirill Karabits | *Artist-in-Residence* – Felix Klieser

Principal Guest Conductor – Mark Wigglesworth | *Associate Guest Conductor* – David Hill

Conductor Emeritus – Marin Alsop | *Conductor Laureate* – Andrew Litton

Assistant Conductor – Tom Fetherstonhaugh | *Composer-in-Residence* – Anna Korsun

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, Poole, Portsmouth and Yeovil, it is the largest cultural provider in the South West of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions in the UK.

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 livestreamed broadcasts have cemented its reputation for presenting live symphonic music of the highest quality and remain popular around the globe following its inaugural season in 2020.

In 2022/23, the series features artists Dame Sarah Connolly, James Ehnes, Laura van der Heijden, and a host of the UK's leading music broadcasters. Described by *The Times* as "one of the most inspiring figures on the concert scene today", **Horn player Felix Klieser also returns — as the Orchestra's Artist-in-Residence** — following a memorable UK concerto debut with the BSO in 2021.

Committed to new music, the BSO has presented premiere performances of works by Carmen Ho, Franghiz Ali-Zadeh, Magnus Lindberg, Elizabeth Ogonek and Shirley J. Thompson OBE in recent years. It celebrates the work of composer Anna Korsun, who becomes its *Composer-in-Residence*, in 2023.

The Orchestra also marks a landmark moment when inclusive ensembles BSO Resound and RNS Moves join forces for a new commission by Kate Whitley, with performances in Poole and Gateshead in early 2023.

Winner of the 2019 Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award, 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 barriers 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, and in 2022, the Orchestra welcomed its first community-based Young Associate musicians.

The BSO's Principal Broadcast Partner is **BBC Radio 3**

The BSO is **Classic FM**'s Orchestra in the South of England.

4. About Royal Northern Sinfonia

<https://sagegateshead.com/royal-northern-sinfonia/> | @RNSinfonia

Dinis Sousa — Principal Conductor

Thomas Zehetmair — Conductor Laureate

Julian Rachlin — Principal Artistic Partner

Royal Northern Sinfonia, orchestra of Sage Gateshead, is the UK's only full-time chamber orchestra. Founded in 1958, RNS has built a worldwide reputation for the North East through the quality of its music-making and the immediacy of the connections the musicians make with audiences.

The orchestra regularly flies the flag for the region at major festivals, including the BBC Proms, most recently performing in the BBC Proms at Sage Gateshead: Folk Connections – the first evening Prom performed outside of London. They appear frequently at venues and festivals in Europe, including La folle journée in Nantes. In recent seasons they have toured to Vienna, Budapest, Istanbul and Tokyo.

RNS has worked with many international conductors and soloists including Christian Tetzlaff, Sir Roger Norrington, Paul McCreech, Jess Gillam, Nicholas McGegan, Mahan Esfahani, Viktoria Mullova and Jessica Cottis, and also collaborated with leading popular voices such as Sting, Ben Folds, John Grant, Mercury Rev, Field Music and Maximo Park.

RNS has commissioned new music by David Lang, John Casken, Tansy Davies, Errollyn Wallen and James Weeks amongst others, and runs an annual Young Composers Competition.

In order to engage with the widest possible range of artists and audience, in 2018 RNS founded its inclusive ensemble RNS Moves, and also increasingly programmes accessible and relaxed performances throughout the season.

RNS has always been actively involved in local communities and in education. This season the orchestra will perform across the region in Kendal, Middlesbrough, Carlisle, Berwick and Sunderland, and will once again take their Christmas by Candlelight tour to regional churches. Musicians support young people learning musical instruments through Sage Gateshead's Centre for Advance Training and through In Harmony Newcastle.

Royal Northern Sinfonia is **Classic FM**'s Orchestra in North-East England and at Sage Gateshead, and the orchestra also regular collaborates with **BBC Radio 3**.