



**bournemouth
symphony orchestra**

Kirill Karabits Chief Conductor

**Concert Season 2023/24
Guildhall, Portsmouth**



Welcome to the 2023/24 Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Season at the Guildhall, Portsmouth

Our mission is to bring music into your lives, and we have a series full of incredible music on offer, performed by a host of internationally acclaimed artists. This season, we will celebrate Kirill's remarkable 15-year tenure as our Chief Conductor in this his final season before he takes on the mantle of Conductor Laureate, Artistic Director, Voices from the East.

Kirill continues to celebrate the culture of his homeland with performances by Ukrainian composers Thomas de Hartmann, Reinhold Glière and his father Ivan Karabits. Kirill and the BSO's collaboration with Seeta Patel Dance for a Bharatanatyam interpretation of *The Rite of Spring* is sure to be a season highlight as will be the final three weeks of the season (in Poole) in which we celebrate all that Kirill has brought to our lives over the last 15 years.

Mark Wigglesworth returns to conduct a special orchestral version of Wagner's passionate *Tristan and Isolde* and we also welcome back BSO friends Jac van Steen, Boris Giltburg, Karl-Heinz Steffens and Alina Ibragimova, and there are debut appearances from Emmanuel Ceysson, Eric Lu and Awadagin Pratt.

We really hope that you will join us for as many concerts as possible. You, the audience are as much a part of the performance as the musicians on stage – we can't do it without you. And as you know, nothing beats being there, so please tell your friends to come along and experience the full sensual glory of a live symphonic concert.

Dougie Scarfe
Chief Executive

Thursday
12 October
7.30pm

Eastern Promise

Mozart
Symphony No.29
Glière
Harp Concerto
Borodin
Symphony No.2

Borodin spent eight years composing his Second Symphony. It is seen by many as a distillation of the spirit of Prince Igor, with its bardic minstrelsy and depictions of the wide-open skies of the Great Steppe, displaying exceptional melodic charm (often with an exotic flavour, reflecting his family pedigree) and sensuous, poetic beauty. The concerto for Harp and Orchestra is typical of Glière's mature style, popular for its immediacy and lyrical beauty. Whilst almost Mozartian in its form and flow, it includes plentiful displays of eastern colour, sometimes dreamy, at other times brooding or carefree and cheerful. Mozart's sparkling symphony represents the high point in his early symphonic writing, retaining a youthful vigor and grace and with a wonderfully transparent texture, full of light-hearted charm and elegance.

Kirill Karabits
Conductor
Emmanuel Ceysson
Harp

Saturday
4 November
7.30pm

Horner
Avatar
Zimmer
Interstellar
Giacchino
Star Trek: Into Darkness
Rabin
Armageddon

Pete Harrison
Conductor

Symphonic Space

Galactic classics at their best in an evening featuring some of the best space soundtracks ever written for the big screen, from the innocent charm of John Williams' *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* to the dark terror of Jerry Goldsmith's *Alien...* and everything in between.



Thursday
7 December
7.30pm

Magic Mahler

Brahms

Double Concerto for
Violin and Cello

Mahler

Symphony No.1 'Titan'

A new symphonic universe was born in Mahler's First Symphony, one in which life and music remained virtually inseparable. Few composers have succeeded in evoking so poetically the romantic magic of nature's awakening, its birdsong, hunting horns and distant fanfares. This sound world invariably reflected his personal conflict, religious and philosophical outlook, and the current state of his psyche. The robust score bursts with the boldness and fire of youth and flirts cheekily with traditional ideas of good taste. His final symphonic work, the Double Concerto knits together Brahms' approach to chamber music with the scale of his symphonic scores. It calls for deep lyricism and virtuosic technique from its soloists to create the illusion of a single instrument. Its rich harmonies and soaring melodies glow with a warm, autumnal glow.

Kerem Hasan
Conductor

Alina Ibragimova
Violin

Jesper Svedberg
Cello



Thursday
21 December
7.30pm

Last Night of the Christmas Proms

Tom Fetherstonhaugh
Conductor

The ultimate musical Christmas cracker, the BSO's ever-popular festive concert is back with an overflowing bundle of treats, all wrapped up with a sprinkling of magic and sparkle.



Thursday
25 January
7.30pm

My Country

Smetana
Ma Vlast (complete)

Jac van Steen
Conductor

Má Vlast is considered a paragon of Czech nationalism – celebrating its culture and history, the countryside, and its people. Though usually performed as independent pieces, only as a six-work cycle is Smetana's grand conception fully realised. *Vyšehrad* depicts a high castle overlooking Prague, the famous *Vltava* traces the journey of Czechia's longest river from source to sea passing festivities along the way, whilst *Šárka* tells a bloody tale of revenge and slaughter. *From the meadows and woods of Bohemia* is a colourful landscape painting that illustrates the beauties of Bohemia; the poetry of its woods and its fruitful fields. *Tábor* and *Blaník* both celebrate a past, glorious era; *Tábor* is the capital of the Hussite empire in the early 1400s and *Blaník* is the mountain where legend said that the great army of St. Wenceslas slept, ready to wake during time of need.

Thursday
22 February
7.30pm

Brahms

Piano Concerto No.2

Vaughan Williams

A London Symphony
(Symphony No.2)

Karl-Heinz Steffens
Conductor

Boris Giltburg
Piano

London Town

Vaughan Williams' Second Symphony has been described as the musical equivalent of Monet's paintings of the sun rising over a foggy Thames. Actual London sounds fleetingly emerge from an exquisitely woven musical tapestry - the chimes of Big Ben, the cry of a lavender-seller. Central to the symphony's success is the wonderful limpid scoring, which Vaughan Williams felt in later life that he had never bettered. All of Brahms' four instrumental concertos were milestones in his compositional development. The Second Piano Concerto was written shortly after the Second Symphony and is itself symphonic in scale and form, comprising four movements. It makes great demands on the performer's technique, with its wide octave spans and quickly alternating rapid scale and chordal passages.



Thursday
14 March
7.30pm

Mozart
Piano Concerto No.23
Bruckner
Symphony No.5

Kirill Karabits
Conductor
Awadagin Pratt
Piano

Counterpoint Counterparts

In just four years Mozart wrote sixteen glorious piano concertos. No.23 (K.488) was an immediate success, remaining popular probably as much for its wistfulness as for melodies verging on the sublime. It does not open with fanfare – rather it begins with a gentle melody, setting the stage for a unique blend of moods from quiet serenity to flashes of aural radiance. The spirited finale perhaps reminds us that this was the product of one of the most exhilarating periods in his tragically brief life. In his Fifth Symphony, Bruckner built on the Austro-German symphonic tradition of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, taking it to a monumental scale infused with rich, progressive harmonies and a stunning mastery of counterpoint, containing his most complex and innovative musical thoughts, set out like a huge mathematical puzzle.

Thursday
18 April
7.30pm

Classic FM Hall of Fame

Enjoy an evening featuring five of the greatest works in classical music! Rossini's evocative overture with its flowing melodies and infectious momentum, is instantly recognisable while Grieg's Piano Concerto is loved for its lyrical and melodic tunes, drawn from Norwegian folk music. Witness the fire, passion and revenge in a doomed Spanish love story in the orchestral suite from Bizet's *Carmen* and bathe in the silvery light of Debussy's ode to the moon. Finally, Gershwin's vivid musical postcard portrays the impressions of Parisian life – the American tourist brought to life in a bluesy trumpet solo, rollicking syncopated rhythms, and sweeping, romantic melodies.

Rossini
The Thieving Magpie
Overture
Grieg
Piano Concerto
Bizet
Carmen Suite
Debussy
Clair de Lune
Gershwin
An American in Paris

Tom Fetherstonhaugh
Conductor
Eric Lu
Piano

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We 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, membership or by volunteering their time.

Get closer to the music through membership



As a charity, the BSO relies on more than ticket sales alone to bring world-class music to audiences across our region and beyond. Like many cultural organisations, we receive vital funding from Arts Council England, but the truth is, we couldn't exist without the extra commitment made by our members and supporters.

By joining our membership community, you will be going even further to support the BSO while getting closer to the music you love through special insights and regular updates. From just £5 a month, you will be helping to ensure a bright future for the Orchestra and keep our music alive.

"Being a member
is the difference
between listening to
a great orchestra and
becoming part of it."

Geoffrey, BSO Member

To find out more about becoming
a member and to sign up online,
please visit bsolive.com/join

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Concert Season 2023/24 at Lighthouse, Poole

Why not make a visit to Poole and enjoy a concert that isn't coming to Portsmouth? Here is a list of the Poole season, which also shows which of the concerts are being livestreamed. Stay at the Holiday Inn (just across the road from Lighthouse) and get a 15% discount as a BSO customer.

Wednesday 4 October ∞

Rachmaninov's Rhapsody

de Hartmann
The Scarlet Flower Suite
Rachmaninov
Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini
Brahms
Symphony No.4
Kirill Karabits, Alexander Malofeev

Wednesday 11 October

Eastern Promise

Mozart
Symphony No.29
Glière
Harp Concerto
Borodin
Symphony No.2
Kirill Karabits, Emmanuel Ceysson

Wednesday 18 October ∞

Violin Fireworks

Puccini
Preludio Sinfonico
Barber
Violin Concerto
Tchaikovsky
Symphony No.4
Tianyi Lu, Alena Baeva

Saturday 21 October

The Two of Us: Lennon & McCartney

David Brophy, Mark McGann
Joe Stilgoe, Claire Martin

Wednesday 25 October ∞

Love and Death

Brahms
Violin Concerto
Wagner (arr. de Vlieger)
Tristan and Isolde
Mark Wigglesworth
Tobias Feldmann

Wednesday 8 November ∞

Alexander Malofeev Recital

Bach-Feinberg
Concerto for solo organ No.2 (after Vivaldi), BWV 593
Scriabin
Prelude & Nocturne for the Left Hand, Op. 9
Wagner-Liszt
Tannhäuser Overture
Rachmaninov
Piano Sonata No.2
Alexander Malofeev

Wednesday 15 November

Seeta's Rite

Nurymov
The Fate of Sukhovey
Tchaikovsky
The Sleeping Beauty Suite
Stravinsky
The Rite of Spring
Kirill Karabits
Seeta Patel Dance

Wednesday 29 November ∞

1001 Tales

Glinka
Ruslan and Ludmilla Overture
Tchaikovsky
Pas de deux from The Nutcracker
Mozart
Piano Concerto No.27
Rimsky-Korsakov
Scheherazade
Tom Fetherstonhaugh
Steven Osborne

Wednesday 6 December ∞

Magic Mahler

Brahms
Double Concerto for Violin and Cello
Mahler
Symphony No.1 'Titan'
Kerem Hasan, Alina Ibragimova
Jesper Svedberg

Wednesday 13 December

Messiah

Handel
Messiah
Rob Howarth
Bournemouth Symphony Chorus

Saturday 23 December

Celebration of Christmas Carols

Gavin Carr
Bournemouth Symphony Chorus and Youth Chorus

Monday 1 January

New Year's Day Viennese Gala

Kirill Karabits

Wednesday 10 January ∞

Dazzling Liszt

Elgar
In the South
Liszt
Piano Concerto No.2
Brahms
Symphony No.2
Alpesh Chauhan
Pavel Kolesnikov

Wednesday 17 January ∞

Darkness into Light

Beethoven
Coriolan Overture
Sibelius
Violin Concerto
Tchaikovsky
Symphony No.5
Sunwook Kim, Clara-Jumi Kang

∞ = livestreamed

Wednesday 24 January ∞

My Country

Smetana
Ma Vlast (complete)
Jac van Steen

Wednesday 31 January

Musical Puzzles

Mozart
Wind Serenade in C minor
Vasks
Violin Concerto 'Distant Light'
Shostakovich
Symphony No.15
Kirill Karabits, Vadim Gluzman

Wednesday 7 February ∞

Mendelssohn's Masterpiece

Boyle
A Sea Poem
Mendelssohn
Violin Concerto
Wagner
Das Rheingold: Entry of the Gods
Debussy
La Mer
Thierry Fischer, Veronika Eberle

Saturday 10 February

Valentine Classics

Steiner
Gone With the Wind Overture
Shostakovich
Romance from The Gadfly
Williams
Sayuri's Theme
Puccini
Nessun Dorma
Tchaikovsky
Swan Lake Suite
Tom Fetherstonhaugh

Wednesday 14 February ∞

Romeo and Juliet

Saariaho
Ciel d'Hiver
Beethoven
Violin Concerto
Prokofiev
Romeo and Juliet
Emilia Hoving, Ning Feng

Wednesday 21 February ∞

London Town

Brahms
Piano Concerto No.2
Vaughan Williams
A London Symphony (Symphony No.2)
Karl-Heinz Steffens
Boris Giltburg

Wednesday 28 February

Verdi's Requiem

Verdi
Requiem
David Hill
Bournemouth Symphony Chorus

Wednesday 13 March ∞

Counterpoint Counterparts

Mozart
Piano Concerto No.23
Bruckner
Symphony No.5
Kirill Karabits, Awadagin Pratt

Wednesday 20 March ∞

Beethoven's Fifth

Verdi
The Force of Destiny Overture
Chopin
Piano Concerto No.2
Beethoven
Symphony No.5
Mark Wigglesworth, Ethan Loch

Wednesday 10 April ∞

Let's Dance

Stravinsky
Divertimento from The Fary's Kiss
Saint-Saëns
Piano Concerto No.5
Ravel
Valses nobles et sentimentales
Ravel
La Valse
Andrew Litton, Simon Trpčeski

Wednesday 24 April ∞

Elgar's Enigma

Sibelius
Symphony No.7
Schumann
Cello Concerto
Ives
The Unanswered Question
Elgar
Enigma Variations
Tom Fetherstonhaugh
István Várdai

Wednesday 1 May ∞

Voices from the East

Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No.1
Ivan Karabits
Concerto for Orchestra No.3
Kancheli
Styx
Balakirev
Islamey
Kirill Karabits, Alexander Malofeev, Valeriy Sokolov
Bournemouth Symphony Chorus

Wednesday 8 May

Iolanta

Tchaikovsky
Iolanta
Kirill Karabits, Olga Kulchynska

Wednesday 15 May ∞

Shostakovich Five

Bartók
The Miraculous Mandarin Suite
Prokofiev
Piano Concerto No.3
Shostakovich
Symphony No.5
Kirill Karabits
Alexander Gavrylyuk

02393 870200

Tickets can be purchased in person by card (no cash) from Portsmouth Guildhall

(Mon–Fri 9am–5pm. Booking fees and a £2.25 Recovery Fund levy will apply.)

Tickets

£26 £21 £16 £11 £6

A 4% commission is applicable on all ticket prices. Tickets are available as e-tickets you can print at home or show on a mobile device. An additional charge of £2 is payable for tickets sent by post.

BSO@Home Digital tickets

This season we will be livestreaming 18 Wednesday main series concerts with the recordings then available to watch on demand for 30 days.

£10 per concert
£160 season ticket
(all 18 concerts)

Pre-concert talks

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.

Multibuy discounts

any 5+ concerts **10% off**
any 3-4 concerts **5% off**

Book all 8 main series concerts and receive a 30% discount on tickets!

Discounts apply for bookings for BSO concerts at other venues on sale through the BSO Box Office including all our concerts in Poole. The more concerts you book in a season, the more you save.

15+ concerts **20% off**
10–14 concerts **15% off**

Concessions

The BSO offers the following concessions to most concerts. Please note that only one concession applies per ticket and that concessions are not available retrospectively. Proof of status is required at the time of collection. All concessions and discounts are subject to availability.

Student Standby

£5 per ticket
(available one hour before concert)

BSO Kids for a Quid

Under 18s: £1 per ticket
(some exclusions apply in which case a 50% discount is applicable)

50% discount for

Students, patrons on job seekers allowance, employment and support allowance, universal credit and personal assistants.

Group booking discounts

10 or more tickets **10% off**
20 or more tickets **20% off**
30 or more tickets **30% off**

Group discounts are applicable for tickets purchased for the same concert. Tickets must be paid in full one month in advance of the concert date, otherwise they will be released for resale.



Portsmouth Guildhall
Guildhall Square
Portsmouth
PO1 2AB

Getting There

Portsmouth Guildhall is situated at the heart of Portsmouth City Centre. Take the M275 into the City and follow the A3 following signs to the Guildhall. SATNAV use postcode PO1 2AB

There are numerous City Centre bus services which stop within walking distance of Guildhall Square, including routes 1, 2, 2A, 7, 7A, 13, 14, 21, 700 and Hov.

Portsmouth and Southsea rail station is a 175m walk from the Guildhall.

Parking

There are a number of City Centre car parks. The most convenient to use is Isambard Brunel multi-storey car park which is situated 200 metres from the Guildhall in Alec Rose Lane (PO1 2BX).

As a concert-goer you can buy a parking ticket in advance for £4.50 which is valid from 6pm until midnight. Purchase online or from the Guildhall box office in person. There is limited on-street parking adjacent to the Guildhall.

Access

There is gentle ramp access into the main foyer with level access to the stalls, cafe and lifts to all other floors. Accessible toilets are situated on the basement level. Assistance dogs are welcome. A portable loop sound enhancement system is available in the concert hall. Please contact Portsmouth Guildhall for details.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra,
2 Seldown Lane, Poole, BH15 1UF
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All information is correct at the time of going to press – however artists are subject to availability and the BSO reserves the right to make any necessary changes from the advertised programmes.

This brochure is available in large print and electronic formats.
Call 01202 669925 or email hello@bsorchestra.co.uk

bsolive.com

