



**bournemouth  
symphony orchestra**

Kirill Karabits Chief Conductor

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



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

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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

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## Eastern Promise

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.

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

Kirill Karabits  
Conductor  
Emmanuel Ceysson  
Harp

With thanks to all our  
BSO Members and Supporters

Saturday  
**4 November**  
7.30pm

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**Horner**

Avatar

**Zimmer**

Interstellar

**Giacchino**

Star Trek: Into Darkness

**Rabin**

Armageddon

Pete Harrison

Conductor

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## 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.



Supported by  
Roger Keyworth

Thursday  
**7 December**  
7.30pm

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## Magic Mahler

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**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

Supported by  
David & Julie Edyvean



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  
Má 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

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**Brahms**

Piano Concerto No.2

**Vaughan Williams**

A London Symphony  
(Symphony No.2)

Karl-Heinz Steffens

Conductor

Boris Giltburg

Piano

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## 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.

With thanks to all those who have  
remembered the BSO in their Will



Thursday  
**14 March**  
7.30pm

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**Mozart**  
Piano Concerto No.23  
**Bruckner**  
Symphony No.5

Kirill Karabits  
Conductor  
Awadagin Pratt  
Piano

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## 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

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## 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.

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**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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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 behind-the-scenes 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](https://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  
**Giàre**  
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  
Amar Muchhala

**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 Fairy'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

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This season we will be  
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more about the music  
being performed.

## Tickets

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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  
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There are numerous City  
Centre bus services which  
stop within walking distance  
of Guildhall Square, including  
routes 1, 2, 2A, 7, 7A, 13, 14,  
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Portsmouth and Southsea  
rail station is a 175m walk  
from the Guildhall.

**Parking**  
There are a number of City  
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convenient to use is Isambard  
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which is situated 200 metres  
from the Guildhall in Alec  
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As a concert-goer you can  
buy a parking ticket in  
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valid from 6pm until midnight.  
Purchase online or from the  
Guildhall box office in person.  
There is limited on-street  
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**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.

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