

Welcome to the 2024/25 Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Season of concerts at Portsmouth Guildhall, the exciting new Fareham Live and Chichester Cathedral

Our mission is to bring music into your lives, and we have a series of incredible music on offer, performed by a host of internationally acclaimed artists.

Highlights include our great friend Karl-Heinz Steffens opening the season with Holst's *The Planets* and David Hill leads a celebration of the 150th anniversary of Holst's birth with an enchanting programme including his *Cotswolds Symphony* – premiered in 1902 by the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra! I am delighted that our new Chief Conductor, Mark Wigglesworth, will be bringing two Brahms symphonies as well as a seasonal treat with Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. Other Christmas treats include our super Last Night of the Christmas Proms – this year hosted by pianist and singer extraordinaire Joe Stilgoe and our glittering New Year Viennese Gala. I am delighted that violinist, Alena Baeva will be our Artist-in-Residence this season and also to introduce our new Calleva Assistant Conductor, Enyi Okpara.

We will again broadcast 17 of our Poole concerts as BSO Digital Concerts so you can also watch concerts live from Poole, and programmes we are unable to bring to Portsmouth. They are all listed in the handy concert calendar. You can easily buy tickets for concerts across our different venues on the BSO website, and get great discounts the more concerts you book.

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.

I look forward to welcoming you personally to a season of musical masterpieces with your great Orchestra – see you soon!

Dougie Scarfe OBEChief Executive

Portsmouth Guildhall

Friday **4 October**7pm

The Planets

Vaughan Williams
In the Fen Country
Beethoven
Piano Concerto No.3
Holst
The Planets

The Planets remains by far Holst's most popular work; one of the 20th century's great colouristic showpieces. Its conception has a boldness, excitement and epic sweep that remain immediately impressive after a hundred hearings. Vaughan Williams once said that the work was "the perfect equilibrium" of Holst's nature – the melodic, precise and structured, combined with the mystic and unexplainable. Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.3 came straight from the heart of its creator and was a showcase for his own amazing pianistic talents. Revolutionary in its scale, drama and intensity, it is a masterful partnership between soloist and orchestra, opening with an unprecedented sense of power, purpose and potential. Vaughan Williams' symphonic impression is a beautifully written masterpiece. Like the fenland landscape, the music doesn't impose itself, evoking the wide-open skies over the flat countryside, dark clouds pierced by shafts of sunlight.

Karl-Heinz Steffens Conductor Paul Lewis Piano





Thursday **24 October**7.30pm

Chichester Cathedral

Holst

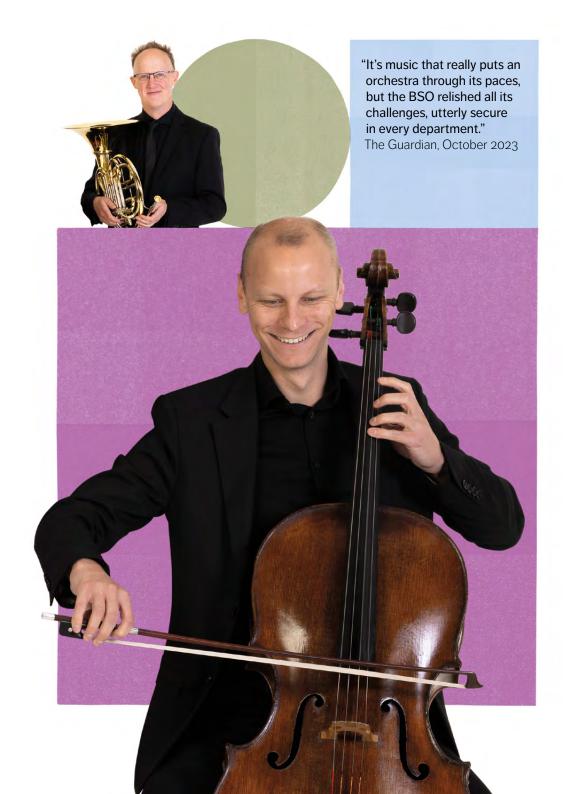
Symphony in F 'The Cotswolds' Mars, the Bringer of War Invocation

Elgar

Enigma Variations

David Hill Conductor Jesper Svedberg Cello At once pastoral and romantic, Holst's Cotswolds Symphony fully expresses his affection for the landscape. It is also a gentle tribute to the great designer and Socialist visionary, William Morris, who was one of Holst's great heroes, evoking Morris' vision of the English countryside as a Heaven on Earth. It is a joyful work with hints of the greatness to come, and his masterpiece The Planets, with its iconic opening Mars, the Bringer of War. Invocation, a hauntingly contemplative work for cello and orchestra, has a shimmering, mystical quality that is curiously evocative - exotic, and yet somehow, unmistakably English. Written during the build up to the Second World War, The Variations on an Original Theme is a brilliantly varied portrait gallery of Elgar's friends, family and neighbours. The musical caricatures contain some of the most charming and deeply felt music Elgar ever penned.

Holst 150



Fareham Live

Portsmouth Guildhall

Thursday **5 December**7pm

Rossini

The Italian Girl in Algiers Overture

Rachmaninov

Piano Concerto No.2

Mascagni

Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana

Mendelssohn

Symphony No.4 'Italian'

Enyi Okpara Conductor

Alim Beisembayev Piano

Passionate Rachmaninov

Rachmaninov's most enduring masterpiece is his Second Piano Concerto. Rising out of mysterious depths of bell-like tolls, he quickly lets loose the first of many striking themes that litter the work. Its incessant energy and yearning passion never fail to stir the emotions. Overcoming his writer's block, Rachmaninov found a new voice as a composer – one with a perfect knack for unforgettable tunes, dazzling pianistic effects, an effortless flow of ideas, and a very suave sense of style. Mendelssohn's Fourth Symphony is extroverted from the outset, conjuring up the sunny skies and landscapes of the Italian countryside in a virtually flawless assembly of airy and fiery dances, never letting the excitement lapse for a moment. Rossini's sparkling overture begins slowly but soon builds a head of steam, getting faster and louder in true Rossini style, whilst Mascagni's passionate intermezzo never fails to pull at the heart strings.

Nutcracker Magic

Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto begins with a brief murmuring from the orchestra and the simplest of introductions of the main theme from the piano. A mood of dark, impassioned lyricism prevails throughout which builds with urgent expressiveness before reaching an almost delirious close. With its massive chords, cascading and leaping octaves, high-speed runs and wide-spaced, busily embellished textures, it demands a pianist with strength, dexterity, control, and stamina – and big hands! Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* has charmed audiences over the years with its range of gorgeous music and romantic imagery. There is a wonderfully vivid, pictorial quality to his colourful music. From the elegant *Waltz of the Flowers* to the witty *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*

and the Dance of the Reed Flutes, the score is a feast of

a lost music box - enchanting for young and old alike.

wonderful melodies. The music tinkles in the memory like

Rachmaninov
Piano Concerto No.3
Tchaikovsky
The Nutcracker, Act II

Mark Wigglesworth Conductor Boris Giltburg Piano





Last Night of the Christmas Proms

Enyi Okpara Conductor Joe Stilgoe Piano/Singer Christmas just isn't Christmas without the BSO's Last Night of the Christmas Proms concert! This year we are thrilled to welcome the talents of pianist and singer extraordinaire, Joe Stilgoe, who will be showcasing his musical talents with a hamper full of Christmas musical goodies alongside all your favourite orchestral treats.



New Year Viennese Gala

Viennese Whirls

J Strauss II The Blue Danube Berg Violin Concerto **Brahms** Symphony No.2

Mark Wigglesworth

Conductor

Violin

Alena Baeva

Tom Fetherstonhaugh Conductor Soraya Mafi Soprano

Return to the gaiety and glamour of the 19th century dance halls of Vienna with this sparkling gala concert of famous waltzes, polkas and marches by the 'Waltz King' Johann Strauss. You'll be swept along by the exhilarating melodies of favourites such as On The Beautiful Blue Danube, Tritsch-Tratsch Polka, The Emperor Waltz, Music of the Spheres Waltz, and many others. This is Strauss played by full orchestra, as it should be!

Brahms finished his Second Symphony directly on the heels of his First, but it would be hard to find two more different works. Occasionally referred to as his 'Pastoral' symphony, it is of a much happier and lighter nature, and it was immediately taken to the hearts of Viennese audiences, with its sunny themes and numerous dancelike melodies – gentle and lyrical. In their simple beauty the themes give the impression of having been written down in inspired spontaneity. Berg was not a musician of revolutionary temperament. On the contrary, he had great reverence for musical tradition, demonstrated in his Violin Concerto which draws substance from, and pays homage to, the musical past. Throughout the work Berg uses the Lutheran chorale It is Enough to form repeated phrases

> perhaps explains Berg's dedication the elegance of the Viennese

before ending in peaceful reverence. This "to the memory of an angel." Johann Strauss' sweeping waltz conjures dancehalls.



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



Symphonic Dances

Sibelius
Valse Triste
Shostakovich
Violin Concerto No.1
Rachmaninov
Symphonic Dances

The Symphonic Dances is an exhilarating summary of Rachmaninov's life's work - rhythmically animated and truly symphonic, nostalgic and sarcastic. He creates a wondrous kaleidoscope of instrumental colours, from the mellow crooning of an alto saxophone to the dry-bones clatter of a xylophone, and with its incisive dance rhythms inspired by folk and jazz the work finally explodes with visceral energy. More akin to a symphony, Shostakovich's First Violin Concerto is a real tour de force of a piece, calling on everything in the violinist's technical arsenal as well as vast physical and emotional stamina. The wide emotional range of its four-movement structure encompasses brooding, elegiac melancholy with savage, mocking sarcasm before it gives itself up totally to a rhythmic energy and brilliance of colour. Sibelius' gem of a miniature masterpiece, Valse Triste, portrays a dance of death between a woman and the Grim Reaper, and is both haunting and poignant.

Adam Hickox Conductor Rosanne Philippens Violin



Heroes and Superheroes

Pete Harrison Conductor

CLASSIC $f_{\rm M}$

Heroes both historical and fictitious as well as the superheroes of the Marvel and DC comics remain a fertile mine of inspiration for Hollywood and some of the best big screen adventures ever. Scores include the classics of *Robin Hood* and *The Magnificent Seven* by Eric Korngold and Elmer Bernstein, as well as those by John Williams and James Horner from films depicting real-life heroics of wartime sacrifice and space exploration in *Saving Private Ryan* and *Apollo 13*. Superheroes are represented by *Superman, Batman* and the *X-Men*.

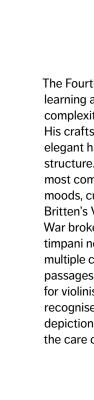


The Essence of Brahms

Wagner Lohengrin Prelude Britten Violin Concerto Brahms Symphony No.4

The Fourth Symphony is at once a summation of Brahms' learning and technique, and a work of art that for all its complexities cuts as close to the heart as music can. His craftsmanship is evident in its thematic economy, elegant harmonic designs and command over musical structure. Of all Brahms' works, it displays his essence most completely - a cosmos of textures, tempos and moods, culminating in music of unsurpassed grandeur. Britten's Violin Concerto was written as the Second World War broke out and there are dark portents in the opening timpani notes. Dark, yet dazzling, with haunting melodies. multiple crescendo finales and superbly energised virtuoso passages, it remains one of the most challenging works for violinists. Lohengrin was Wagner's first internationally recognised masterpiece. The Act I Prelude is a musical depiction of the Holy Grail as it descends to the Earth in the care of an Angelic host.

Mark Wigglesworth Conductor Clara-Jumi Kang Violin



"People who don't go to many concerts sometimes gripe that all modern orchestras sound the same. They should get down to Dorset, and educate themselves."

The Spectator, May 2023



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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.



Be part of the BSO's future with a gift in your Will

Now, more than ever, we depend on the generosity of our supporters to help preserve the Orchestra for future generations. Every donation makes a difference, and gifts in Wills are a particularly special way of making a lasting impact. By remembering the BSO in your Will, you become part of our future. Your commitment today will protect the Orchestra for others to enjoy tomorrow and help to ensure our music continues to thrive for years to come.

"I want my grandchildren to sit in the concert hall and fall in love with the BSO, like I have."

Teresa, BSO supporter

For more information visit bsolive.com/gifts-in-wills, call Faith Bayley on 01202 644711 or email fbayley@bsorchestra.co.uk

Wednesday 2 October

The Planets

Vaughan Williams

In the Fen Country

Beethoven

Piano Concerto No.3

Holst

The Planets

Karl-Heinz Steffens, Paul Lewis

Wednesday 9 October

Firebird

Beethoven

Symphony No.6 'Pastoral'

Shostakovich

Piano Concerto No.1

Stravinsky

The Firebird (1919)

Elena Schwarz, Martin James Bartlett, Paul Bosworth

Wednesday 16 October 💮

Tchaikovsky Six

Liadov

The Enchanted Lake

Dvořák

Cello Concerto

Tchaikovsky

Symphony No.6 'Pathétique' Jac van Steen. Edgar Moreau

Wednesday 23 October

Holst 150

Holst

Cotswolds Symphony Mars

Invocation

Vaughan Williams

Dona Nobis Pacem

David Hill. Anna Devin

Andrew Foster-Williams Jesper Svedberg, BS Chorus

Wednesday 30 October 🛛

Beethoven's Emperor

Beethoven

Piano Concerto No.5 'Emperor' Prokofiev

Symphony No.5

Kevin John Edusei. Nelson Goerner

Saturday 8 November

Symphonic BeeGees

Richard Balcombe, Graham Bickley, Patrick Smyth, Stuart Matthew Price, Abbie Osmon

Wednesday 13 November \infty

Clarinet Bliss

Rossini

String Sonata No.6

Mozart

Clarinet Concerto

Mascagni

Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana

Mendelssohn

Symphony No.4 'Italian'

Enyi Okpara, Julian Bliss

Wednesday 20 November ∞

Wigglesworth **Conducts Walton**

Wagner

The Mastersingers of Nuremburg Overture

Ravel

Piano Concerto for the Left Hand

Walton

Symphony No.1

Mark Wigglesworth Nicholas McCarthy

Wednesday 27 November 🗪

Mad Over Mendelssohn

Schumann

Overture, Scherzo & Finale

Mendelssohn

Violin Concerto

Brahms

Symphony No.1

Chloé van Soeterstède Alena Baeva

Wednesday 4 December 🔘

Nutcracker Magic

Rachmaninov

Piano Concerto No.3

Tchaikovsky The Nutcracker (Act II)

Mark Wigglesworth, Boris Giltburg

Wednesday 11 December

Messiah

Handel

Messiah

Nicholas McGegan, BS Chorus

Saturday 14 December

The Snowman

Teresa Barlow, BSO Voices

Saturday 21 December

Christmas Proms

Envi Okpara, Joe Stilgoe

Monday 23 December

Celebration of **Christmas Carols**

Gavin Carr, BS Chorus

Wednesday 1 January

New Year's Day Viennese Gala

Tom Fetherstonhaugh Soraya Mafi

Wednesday 15 January

Tales of Passion

Vaughan Williams

Fantasia on a

Theme of Thomas Tallis

Tchaikovsky

Violin Concerto

Rimsky-Korsakov

Scheherazade

Valentina Peleggi Simone Lamsma

Wednesday 22 January

Viennese Whirls

J Strauss

The Blue Danube Berg

Violin Concerto **Brahms**

Symphony No.2

Mark Wigglesworth, Alena Baeva

Wednesday 29 January

Petrushka

Shostakovich

Chamber Symphony Op.110a

Mozart

Piano Concerto No.9

Stravinsky

Petrushka (1947)

Tianyi Lu, Elisabeth Brauss

Saturday 8 February

African Rhapsodies

Fiona Monbet, Seckou Keita

Wednesday 12 February 000

Cello Elegy

Beethoven

Symphony No.1

Elgar

Cello Concerto

R Strauss

Death and Transfiguration

Alexander Soddy

Laura van der Heijden Saturday 15 February

Valentine Classics

Enyi Okpara, Milly Forrest

Wednesday 19 February

Northern Lights

Vasks

Musica Serena

Griea

Piano Concerto

Sibelius

Symphony No.1

Gergely Madaras, Louis Schwizgebel

Wednesday 26 February 🔾 **Notes of Nostalgia**

Brahms

Symphony No.3

Hough

Piano Concerto

(The World of Yesterday)

Elgar

Enigma Variations

Mark Wigglesworth, Stephen Hough

Wednesday 5 March

Symphonic Dances

Sibelius

Valse Triste

Shostakovich

Violin Concerto No.1

Rachmaninov

Symphonic Dances Adam Hickox, Rosanne Philippens

Wednesday 12 March

Looking Forward

Brahms

and Back **Tragic Overture**

Beethoven

Piano Concerto No.4 Schumann

Symphony No.2 Chloé van Soeterstède

Pavel Kolesnikov

Saturday 15 March **Heroes & Superheroes**

Pete Harrison

Wednesday 26 March

Fairy Tales & Folklore

Mozart

The Magic Flute Overture

de Hartmann

Fairy Tales

Troian Fairy Tales

(Accordion Concerto)

Tchaikovsky

Francesca da Rimini Kirill Karabits Ksenija Sidorova

Wednesday 2 April

Romantic Rhapsody R Strauss

Don Juan

Rachmaninov Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini

Beethoven

Symphony No.3 'Eroica' Kerem Hasan, Alexei Volodin

Wednesday 9 April

Orchestral Pictures

Debussy

Prélude a l'après-midi d'un faune

Berlioz

Harold In Italy

Mussorgsky

Pictures at an Exhibition Alexandre Bloch, Lise Berthaud

Wednesday 30 April

Alena Baeva Recital

Schumann

Märchenbilder Op.113 Schubert

 ∞

Violin Fantasy Op.159

R Strauss Violin Sonata Op.18

Stravinsky

The Fairy's Kiss (extracts) Alena Baeva, Vadym Kholodenko

Wednesday 7 May

The Essence of Brahms

Wagner

Lohengrin Prelude Britten

Violin Concerto

Brahms Symphony No.4

Mark Wigglesworth Clara-Jumi Kana

Wednesday 14 May

Belshazzar's Feast

Bernstein West Side Story:

Symphonic Dances Gershwin

Rhapsody in Blue Walton

Belshazzar's Feast David Hill. Steven Osborne Andrew Hamilton, BS Chorus

Saturday 17 May

The Best of Bond

David Arnold, Jacinta Whyte

bsolive.com 01202 669925

Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm A 5% 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.

Tickets

Portsmouth Guildhall £31 £27 £23 £19

Fareham Live and Chichester Cathedral £34 £26 £20

BSO Digital Concerts

This season we will be livestreaming 17 Wednesday main series concerts with the recordings then available to watch on demand for 30 days.

£10 per concert £150 season ticket (all 17 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

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

Discounts apply for bookings for any combination of 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.

23+ concerts 30% off 20-22 concerts 20% off 15-19 concerts 15% off 5-14 concerts 10% off

Accumulative discounting is not retrospective; only new bookings will get the higher discount as the threshold is reached.

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 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.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, 2 Seldown Lane, Poole, BH15 1UF A registered charity no.208520 and a registered company limited by guarantee no.538351 in England.

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



Guildhall Square Portsmouth PO1 2AB

02393 870200

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Tickets can be purchased in person by card (no cash) (Booking fees and a £2.25 Recovery Fund levy will apply.)

Getting There

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

The most convenient to use is Isambard Brunel multi-storey car park in Alec Rose Lane (PO1 2BX).

As a concert-goer you can buy a discounted parking ticket in advance which is valid from 6pm until midnight. Purchase online or from the Guildhall box office in person.

Access

There is gentle ramp access into the main foyer with level access to hall and cafe, with lifts to all other floors. A portable loop sound enhancement system is available. Assistance dogs are welcome.

FAREHAMLIVE TRAFALGAR TICKETS TRAFALGAR TICKETS

Osborn Road Fareham PO16 7DB

0343 310 0022

(A £3.95 fee per order applies)

Chichester Cathedral

West Street Chichester PO19 1PX

Getting There

Fareham Live is situated in the heart of Fareham close to the Civic Centre and main shopping centre.

Most local bus routes stop in close proximity and the train station is about a mile away.

Parking

Fareham Live car park is situated opposite the venue on Osborn Road. Other nearby car parks include Fareham Shopping Centre (PO16 7DB) and Civic Way (PO16 7AD)

Access

All areas of Fareham Live, both backstage and front of house, are totally wheelchair accessible to both patrons and staff. The main hall is equipped with a Sennheiser infra-red hearing loop system. Assistance dogs are welcome.

Getting There

Follow signs from the City Centre; the Cathedral is in the heart of Chichester close to the Market Cross.

Most bus services stop just outside the Cathedral and the rail station is located about half a mile away. Leaving the station on foot, turn left into Southgate. Walk straight ahead into South Street and follow the road to the pedestrianised crossroads at the top. Turn left into West Street and the Cathedral is on your left.

Parking

There are several nearby public car parks including Orchard Street (PO19 1DD), South Pallant (PO19 1SU) and Little London (PO19 1PL)

Access

Level access into the Cathedral is available through the South West Door. Within the Cathedral and the Cathedral precincts there are ramps for easy level access. Assistance dogs are welcome. Toilets are located in the North Transept.

bsolive.com

"The BSO players were on exemplary form; rarely have I heard so many solo passages delivered with such flair. What a class act!" Bachtrack, January 2024



