

BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2024/25

Championing the role of culture in people's lives

Chief Conductor – **Mark Wigglesworth** | Artist-in-Residence – **Alena Baeva**
Principal Guest Conductor – **Chloé van Soeterstède** | Associate Guest Conductor – **David Hill MBE**
Conductor Laureate & Artistic Director, *Voices from the East* – **Kirill Karabits OBE**
Conductor Emeritus – **Marin Alsop** | Conductor Laureate – **Andrew Litton**
Calleva Assistant Conductor – **Enyi Okpara**

One of the UK's best-loved orchestras, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is known for championing the role of culture in people's lives. Based at Lighthouse, Poole, the Orchestra has residencies in Bristol, Exeter, Portsmouth, Southampton, and Yeovil, and performs in towns and villages across the region. It is the largest cultural provider in the Southwest of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions in the UK.

Celebrated globally for his outstanding musicianship, extraordinary interpretations, and breadth of repertoire, **Mark Wigglesworth's** appointment as Chief Conductor builds on the BSO's reputation for the highest quality music-making. The Orchestra boasts an enviable list of named conductors, including Principal Guest Conductor **Chloé van Soeterstède**, **Marin Alsop**, **David Hill MBE**, **Kirill Karabits OBE**, and **Andrew Litton**.

Highlights of the season include concerto and chamber performances from Artist-in-Residence, the violinist **Alena Baeva**, and collaborations with Calleva Assistant Conductor, **Enyi Okpara**, who performs a broad mix of repertoire across the year. Guest artists include conductors **Adam Hickox** and **Kevin John Edusei**; pianist **Nicholas McCarthy**; and accordionist **Ksenija Sidorova** – and the Orchestra's celebrated **Digital Concert series** continues into its fifth year, with 17 live performances broadcast globally from Poole.

Committed to new music, the BSO has presented premiere performances of works by Franghiz Ali-Zadeh, Jonathan Dove, Magnus Lindberg, Anna Korsun, Elizabeth Ogonek, Shirley J. Thompson OBE, Mark-Anthony Turnage and Kate Whitley in recent years – and its **Voices from the East** series has been recognised for unearthing lost symphonic works from eastern Europe and central Asia.

The BSO is known for championing access to high-quality music for all and leads hundreds of community-based events each year, from its award-winning work in health and care settings to partnerships with schools and music education hubs. In the 2024/25 season, it deepens its reach into local communities, including: a new residency in **partnership with NHS Dorset**; an expansion of its creative health work; and the extension of the **BSO Young Associates community music** training scheme. Following international attention for igniting change, **BSO Resound** – the world's first professional disabled-led ensemble at the core of a major orchestra, and winner of the 2019 Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award – continues to challenge perceptions.

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