

PRESS RELEASE

Thursday 12 February 2026

## LATE-NIGHT MIXTAPE EVENT COMES TO SOUTHAMPTON: BSO AFTER DARK FEATURING BABY PANNA



*Portsmouth-based artist Baby Panna among those to feature*

- A brand-new event for fans of contemporary classical music, *BSO After Dark*, comes to **Turner Sims, Southampton** on **Friday 13 March**.
- Portsmouth-based artist **Baby Panna** and **DJ Jack Pudding** are among the young creatives to mastermind the event in collaboration with musicians from **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra**.

**Turner Sims and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO) invite audiences to experience classical music like never before in *BSO After Dark*, a late-night mixtape of light, sound and discovery, co-created with Turner Sims' Assistant Producers (young creatives aged 18-25).**

This immersive concert blends iconic film scores, transcendent classical works and original spoken word from Portsmouth artist **Baby Panna**. Together, seven musicians from the Orchestra and Baby Panna create a sonic journey themed around exploration, journeys within ourselves – and journeys far beyond our planet.

Expect music that transports: from the cinematic brilliance of **Hans Zimmer**, the meditative textures of **Max Richter**, and the spiritual stillness of **Arvo Pärt**, to 'Bundle of Joy' from *Inside Out*, 'Venus, The Bringer of Peace' from **The Planets**, and the timeless anthem 'A Change is Gonna Come' by **Sam Cooke**.

With atmospheric lighting transforming the hall, *BSO After Dark* – which forms part of the the [University of Southampton Science and Engineering Festival](#) – reimagines the concert experience, where music and words weave together into a tapestry of human wonder, reflection and possibility.

The night begins early in the foyer with **The Vibe Lounge** at 6.30pm, where DJ Jack Pudding sets the tone with free live music before the performance.

**Turner Sims Assistant Producer, Carley Divish, says:**

*“I want audiences to understand a new scope of music. For fans of contemporary classical to see spoken word in a new way, and for people questioning what the concert could bring to spark a new love. I want people to see that music, no matter the genre, can spark emotion in you.”*

**Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra’s Senior Programme Manager, Jess Kirby, said:**

*“Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra exists to bring music into people’s lives – and through this new collaboration with the brilliant team at Turner Sims, we have created a format in partnership with the venue’s Assistant Producers to speak to an audience of their age. It’s been fantastic working with this group of young creatives in the development of their ideas for this special event, which promises to be a fresh and exciting classical music experience.”*

**BSO After Dark takes place on Friday 13 March at Turner Sims, Southampton. Join the adventure by booking tickets here: [turnersims.co.uk](#)**

**[ENDS]**

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

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1. Event listings – full booking at [turnersims.co.uk](#)  
**Friday 13 March**  
Turner Sims, Southampton  
*BSO After Dark*  
Programme includes music by Max Richter, Arvo Pärt, Sam Cooke and more.  
Baby Panna (spoken word artist)  
Musicians from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra  
**Vibe Lounge: 6.30pm (free) | Concert: 7.30pm £8-16**
2. **High-resolution images available here:**
  - a) Baby Panna
  - b) Turner Sims’ Assistant Producers
  - c) Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra ©Mark Allan
3. **About Baby Panna**  
Known for poetic lyricism and smooth yet skippy flows over jazz-infused sounds, Baby Panna has captivated audiences worldwide. Now stepping boldly from jazz into poetry, he performs original spoken word live with BSO musicians for the very first time in this unique collaboration.

4. [About Turner Sims Assistant Producers | turnersims.co.uk](https://turnersims.co.uk)

This event is shaped by Turner Sims' Assistant Producers, young creatives from Southampton developing careers in the music industry. Working alongside Turner Sims and BSO, they have conceived the theme, shaped the programme and brought in the guest artist, making this a concert created *with* the next generation, not just *for* them.

**Turner Sims' Assistant Producers:** Antonio Chikhungu, Maria De Lima Antunes, Carley Divish, Isabelle Chandler, Ralph Banks

5. [About Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra | bsolive.com](https://bsolive.com)

Chief Conductor – Mark Wigglesworth | Artist-in-Residence – Roderick Williams OBE

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 is resident in Bristol, Exeter, Portsmouth, Southampton, and Yeovil, and performs in towns and villages across the region. A leading arts charity, it is the largest performing organisation in the South West of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions in the UK.

The Daily Telegraph described Mark Wigglesworth's opening performance as Chief Conductor in 2024 as "*a fine, fierce debut*". Celebrated globally for his outstanding musicianship, extraordinary interpretations, and breadth of repertoire, Wigglesworth's first season has magnified 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, and Andrew Litton.

In 2025/26, the BSO welcomes baritone **Roderick Williams** OBE as Artist-in-Residence: Williams performs five times across the season, including Zemlinsky's *Lyric Symphony*, Tippett's *A Child of Our Time*, and a 24-song cycle, *An English Winterreise*. The Orchestra also introduces **Dani Howard** as its Celebrated Composer, a series that shines a spotlight on new British music. It shares seven performances of Howard's music, including the UK premiere of her *Saxophone Concerto* with **Jess Gillam**. Further highlights of the season include debut performances from organist **Anna Lapwood**, cellist **Hugo Svedberg**, guitarist **Plínio Fernandes**, viola player **Timothy Ridout**, among more. The Orchestra's celebrated **Digital Concert** series continues into its sixth year, with 19 live performances broadcast globally from Poole.

The Orchestra is celebrated for its pioneering community-based **BSO Participate** work, spanning partnerships with health and care providers to inclusive events in schools and with music education hubs. In the 2025/26 season, highlights include the expansion of its creative health programme with **Dorset County Hospital** and **Arts in Hospital** into further **Dorset HealthCare** sites, and an extension of its **Community and Wellbeing Orchestras** supporting a range of needs across the region from Bodmin, Boscombe and Bristol to Chard and Wincanton.

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. The group unites with Calleva Assistant Conductor Enyi Okpara and members of the **National Open Youth Orchestra** to share its live music in schools in 2025/26.

A National Portfolio of Arts Council England, the BSO is a registered charity and relies on generous philanthropic support from individual donors, gifts in wills, corporate partners, and charitable trusts and foundations. In 2024, the Orchestra was delighted to receive its largest ever funding pledge from a charitable trust: a grant award of £300,000 over three years (2025-27) from the **Garfield Weston Foundation** towards BSO Participate.

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

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

