

PRESS RELEASE

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Double-bill of violin music featuring renowned soloist visits Weymouth and Barnstaple



Tamsin Waley-Cohen © Nada Navaee

- Acclaimed violinist **Tamsin Waley-Cohen** joins Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra [BSO] for double-bill of violin music in venues in Dorset and Devon.
- Concerts take place on **Thurs 10 Sep [Weymouth Pavillion]** and **Mon 14 Sep [Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple]**.
- The orchestra of the South West, the BSO toured 80% of its events beyond its home at Lighthouse, Poole last year.

Acclaimed violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen joins musicians from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in Weymouth and Barnstaple to chart musical journey from darkness to light.

Recipient of the UK ECHO Rising Stars award, and Artistic Director of the annual Devon-based classical music celebration The Two Moors Festival, Tamsin Waley-Cohen performs two violin solos with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra; Mendelssohn's beloved Violin Concerto and Massenet's short but perfectly formed *Meditation from Thaïs*. The programme entitled 'Darkness to Light' charts a journey of spiritual awakening; from darkness to light.

Conducted by the BSO's incoming Calleva Assistant Conductor, and one of Classic FM's Rising Stars of 2026, Michal Oren, the concerts visit two venues in Dorset and Devon; Weymouth Pavillion [10 Sep] and Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple [14 Sep].

Music also includes Vaughan-Williams' *Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus*, an achingly nostalgic piece built around variants of English folk tunes, as well as Bizet's Symphony in C – youthful, euphoric and written when the composer was just seventeen!

For parents wishing to introduce youngsters to the magic of live music, Queen's Theatre in Barnstaple offers, 'Kids for a £1' tickets, where a child's ticket is purchasable for just £1 with a paying adult.

The BSO's Chief Executive, Dougie Scarfe OBE DL said, *"This special concert really showcases the beauty of the violin and we're looking forward to sharing this programme of enduringly popular music, featuring Tamsin Waley-Cohen and Michel Oren, when we visit Barnstaple and Weymouth this September."*

A registered charity, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is the largest performing organisation in the South West of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions in the UK.

See bsolive.com for full details.

[ENDS]

NOTES TO EDITORS

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1. Event listings – full booking at bsolive.com

Thursday 10 September, 7.30pm

Weymouth Pavilion

Vaughan Williams	Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus
Mendelssohn	Violin Concerto
Massenet	Meditation from Thaïs
Bizet	Symphony in C
Tamsin Waley-Cohen (violin)	
Michal Oren (conductor)	
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	

Monday 14 September, 7.30pm

Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple

Vaughan Williams	Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus
Mendelssohn	Violin Concerto
Massenet	Meditation from Thaïs
Bizet	Symphony in C
Tamsin Waley-Cohen (violin)	
Michal Oren (conductor)	
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	

2. **High-resolution images available [here](#):**
a) Tamsin Waley-Cohen © Nada Navaee

b) Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra © Mark Allan
c) Conductor Michal Oren © Olivia da Costa

3. **One of the UK's best-loved orchestras, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO) 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 registered 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.**

Chief Conductor **Mark Wigglesworth's** opening seasons have magnified the BSO's reputation for the highest quality music-making and the Orchestra boasts an enviable list of named conductors, including Principal Guest **Conductor Chloé Van Soeterstède, Marin Alsop, David Hill MBE, Kirill Karabits, Andrew Litton** and new Calleva Assistant Conductor, **Michal Oren**.

In 2026/27, the BSO welcomes **Thomas Adès** as its Celebrated Composer, in a series that shines a spotlight on new British music. It launches a two-year **Beethoven celebration: Road to Joy** and welcomes pianist **Boris Giltburg** as Artist-in-Residence. Its live broadcast series continues into its seventh year, supported by **Digital Concert Sponsor, Lark Music**.

Celebrated for its pioneering community-based **BSO Participate** work, the Orchestra brings music into people's lives beyond the concert hall – last year creating more than 58,000 experiences, from hospitals and schools to community centres and care homes.

A National Portfolio of Arts Council England, the BSO 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.

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