

PRESS RELEASE

Wednesday 21 October 2026

CLOCKS TO GO BACK... BUT BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BRINGS SUNSHINE TO NOVEMBER



The BSO and Paris Smith unite ©Corin Messer

- Don't forget... the clocks go back this Sunday [25 October] but a concert of *Sunshine Symphonies* comes to **Lighthouse, Poole** on **Wednesday 4 November**, at 7.30pm.
- The event is supported by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's new Corporate Patron, **Paris Smith**, one of the largest regional full-service law firms in the south.
- Chief Conductor **Mark Wigglesworth** launched the Orchestra's 2026/27 season last month. Highlights include a landmark Beethoven series and music from Celebrated Composer Thomas Adès and Artist-in-Residence Boris Giltburg.

As clocks go back this weekend, bringing darker evenings, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO) and new Corporate Patron Paris Smith invite audiences to find sunshine through music.

On **Wednesday 4 November**, the BSO presents a concert of *Sunshine Symphonies* at **Lighthouse, Poole**. Audiences can expect an evening of music full of energy, colour and optimism, supported by the Orchestra's new Corporate Patron, **Paris Smith**.

The concert features **Beethoven's Symphony No. 2**, **Schumann's Piano Concerto** and **Prokofiev's sparkling First Symphony**: it is led by the BSO's Chief Conductor **Mark Wigglesworth** and welcomes the return of award-winning pianist **Boris Giltburg**.

At the heart of the programme is Beethoven's Second Symphony. The symphony forms part of the BSO's **Road to Joy** series, a **two-year celebration of Beethoven's music** marking the composer's enduring influence ahead of the bicentenary of his death in 2027. Written at a time when Beethoven was confronting increasingly serious hearing impairments, the work is remarkable for its vitality, humour and exuberance, with music that seems to find joy despite the difficult circumstances in which Beethoven was living.

Frank Prior, Partner in Family Law at Paris Smith, said: *"The clocks going back is always a reminder that the darker evenings are here. As a firm, we often support people and businesses through challenging periods, and we know how important it can be to have things that bring connection, positivity and perspective."*

"We are delighted to become a Corporate Patron of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and to support Sunshine Symphonies. We are particularly pleased to be able to contribute to the cultural life of the community in which our Bournemouth office is now firmly established – and what better way to bring a little sunshine to November than through live music?"

Dougie Scarfe OBE, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's Chief Executive, said: *"We are delighted to welcome Paris Smith as a new Corporate Patron of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. Corporate support helps us to bring live orchestral music to audiences across the South and South West."*

"Sunshine Symphonies feels particularly appropriate as the evenings draw in. Beethoven's Second Symphony is an extraordinary example of music full of energy and optimism; despite the profound challenges Beethoven was experiencing at the time. We're delighted to share this music with audiences in Poole and grateful to Paris Smith for supporting the concert and investing in the BSO."

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. *Sunshine Symphonies* tours to **Bristol Beacon** the following night – on Thursday 5 November – and is also available as a live broadcast **Digital Concert**.

As the clocks go back and the evenings become darker, the BSO's message is simple: there is still plenty of sunshine and joy to be found.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra performs *Sunshine Symphonies* at Lighthouse, Poole on Wednesday 4 November. Visit bsolive.com for full details.

[ENDS]

NOTES TO EDITORS

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1. Event listings – full booking at bsolive.com

Wednesday 4 November, 7.30pm

***Lighthouse, Poole**

Sunshine Symphonies

Prokofiev – Symphony No.1 ‘Classical’

Schumann – Piano Concerto

Beethoven – Symphony No.2

Mark Wigglesworth, *conductor*

Boris Giltburg, *piano*

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

**also available to watch live online as a Digital Concert*

Thursday 5 November, 7pm

Bristol Beacon

Sunshine Symphonies

Prokofiev – Symphony No.1 ‘Classical’

Schumann – Piano Concerto

Beethoven – Symphony No.2

Mark Wigglesworth, *conductor*

Boris Giltburg, *piano*

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

2. **High-resolution images available [here](#):**

a) Musicians from the BSO join Paris Smith’s Frank Prior ©Corin Messer

b) Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra ©Mark Allan

c) Boris Giltburg ©Sasha Gusov

d) Dougie Scarfe OBE ©Corin Messer

3. **About Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** | bsolive.com

Chief Conductor – Mark Wigglesworth

Celebrated Composer – Thomas Adès | Artist-in-Residence – Boris Giltburg

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 – Michal Oren

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.

Mark Wigglesworth became the Orchestra’s Chief Conductor in 2024, and his opening seasons have 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** alongside **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. The Orchestra shares eight performances, including one that Adès conducts – and local pupils will interact with his music through further events.

The Orchestra's **two-year Beethoven celebration: *Road to Joy*** runs from October 2026. Alongside symphonic performances, the series provides three immersive *Beethoven Now* weekends, delving deeper into the enduring legacy of the composer's music and humanity.

The BSO welcomes pianist **Boris Giltburg** as *Artist-in-Residence*, with five performances across the season. Further highlights include debut performances from conductor **Charlotte Corderoy**, pianists **Junyan Chen**, **Eva Gevorgyan**, **Isata Kanneh-Mason**, and violinist **Johan Delane**. The BSO's celebrated **Digital Concert series** continues into its seventh year, with 18 live performances broadcast globally from Poole – this 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 thanks to a network of partnerships spanning health, care and music education; with a unique team of dynamic **BSO Associate and Young Associate Musicians** living in the heart of communities across the South West, it delivered more than 58,000 experiences last year. Its creative health programme continues to expand, with regular sessions at **Dorset County Hospital**, **Dorset HealthCare** sites, and **Southampton Hospitals Charity**. Several **Community and Wellbeing Orchestras** support a range of needs across the region from Bodmin, Boscombe and Bristol to Chard, Exeter, Newquay 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, continues to challenge perceptions. The group joins conductors **Tom Fetherstonhaugh** and **Enyi Okpara** in 2026/27.

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.

bsolive.com

4. **About Paris Smith** | parissmith.co.uk/

Paris Smith LLP is a leading regional law firm with offices in Bournemouth, Southampton and Winchester. The firm provides legal services to businesses, individuals and organisations across the South Coast and beyond, combining specialist expertise with a long-standing commitment to its clients and local communities