

The Classical Series 2023/24

International | Orchestral | Chamber
Symphonic | Contemporary | Emerging



PORTSMOUTH
GUILDHALL

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LAUNCHING AUTUMN 2023!



Immerse yourself in the moving, invigorating and thrilling world of Classical music and explore a rich variety of works with a Classical Series Season Ticket!

This amazing value option gives you access to some of our most popular concerts and the opportunity to sample something new.

For one great set saver price you can select a number of concerts to enjoy (subject to availability).

**Spread the cost with Paypal Pay in 3!
Split the cost into 3 monthly payments and pay no interest.**

WELCOME

WELCOME TO OUR INAUGURAL THE CLASSICAL SERIES PRESENTED BY THE GUILDHALL TRUST

An exceptional series which features internationally renowned artists, ensembles and orchestras, including the internationally acclaimed Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Portsmouth Chamber Music presented by Music in the Round, and many who we are delighted to welcome to Portsmouth for the very first time.

As part of The Classical Series we are thrilled to present an exciting programme of emerging and contemporary works and also a compelling offer for schools that will introduce the next generation of classical music lovers.

Whether you are a seasoned concert goer or new to the world of classical music, join us on a voyage of discovery as we explore a rich variety of music.

From Mozart to Mendelssohn and Bruckner to Brahms, to popular classics including a Classic FM Hall of Fame and concerts which feature soundtracks written for the big screen, an introduction to the well-known classic hits of the hottest composers of the 18th Century and A Night at the Opera – there is something for all to enjoy!

Experience the full sensual glory of a live symphonic concert with a series of incredible music performed by internationally acclaimed artists.

BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
POPULAR CLASSICS



£7.75 - £27.75

SYMPHONIC SPACE

Galactic classics at their best. Join the BSO for an evening featuring some of the best space soundtracks ever written for the big screen, from John Williams' *E.T.* to Jerry Goldsmith's *Alien*... and everything in between.

Pete Harrison (conductor)

Works and composers:

- Horner, *Apollo 13*
- J Williams, *E.T. Adventures on Earth*
- Goldsmith, *Alien*
- J Williams, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*
- Goldsmith, *Star Trek: Nemesis*
- Rabin, *Armageddon*
- Philips, *Battlestar Galactica*
- Horner, *Avatar*
- Zimmer, *Interstellar*

7.30PM, SAT 4 NOV 23



£7.75 - £27.75

LAST NIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS PROMS

The ultimate musical Christmas cracker is back with a bundle of musical treats including *Jingle Bells*, *Winter Wonderland* and *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, all wrapped up with a sprinkling of magic and sparkle. You can't beat a bit of Cliff Richard, Bing Crosby or Slade! This concert will have you raising the roof and dancing in the aisles.

Tom Fetherstonhaugh (conductor)

Works and composers:

- Anderson, *Sleigh Ride*
- Marks, *Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree*
- Trad. arr. Goodwin, *The 12 Days of Christmas*
- Marks, *Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer*
- Berlin, *White Christmas*
- Slade, *Merry Christmas Everybody*
- Wood, *Oh I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday*

7.30PM, THU 21 DEC 23



£7.75 - £27.75

CLASSIC FM HALL OF FAME

Enjoy an evening featuring five of the greatest works in classical music! Rossini's overture with its flowing melodies and infectious momentum, is instantly recognisable while Grieg's Piano Concerto is loved for its melodic tunes drawn from Norwegian folk music. Witness the fire, passion and revenge in a doomed Spanish love story from Bizet's *Carmen* and bathe in the silvery light of Debussy's ode to the moon. Gershwin's vivid musical postcard portrays the impressions of Parisian life with a bluesy trumpet solo, rollicking rhythms and romantic melodies.

Tom Fetherstonhaugh (conductor),
Eric Lu (piano)

Works and composers:

- Rossini, *The Thieving Magpie Overture*
- Grieg, *Piano Concerto*
- Bizet, *Carmen Suite*
- Debussy, *Claire de Lune*
- Gershwin, *An American in Paris*

7.30PM, THU 18 APR 24



TICKETS: £7.75 - £27.75

**KIDS FOR A QUID -
UNDER 18S CAN ENJOY ANY CONCERT FOR JUST £1!**



EASTERN PROMISE

Mozart, Glière, Borodin

Borodin's Second Symphony is seen by many as a distillation of the spirit of Prince Igor, with its bardic minstrelsy and depictions of the wide-open skies of the Russian Steppe, displaying exceptional melodic charm. The concerto for Harp and Orchestra is popular for its immediacy and lyrical beauty, whilst Mozart's sparkling symphony represents the high point in his early symphonic writing, full of light-hearted charm and elegance.

7.30PM, THU 12 OCT 23



MAGIC MAHLER

Brahms, Mahler

A new symphonic universe was born in Mahler's First Symphony, one in which life and music remained virtually inseparable. The robust score bursts with the boldness and fire of youth and flirts cheekily with traditional ideas of good taste. Brahms' final symphonic work, the Double Concerto, knits together his approach to chamber music with the scale of his symphonic scores. Its rich harmonies and soaring melodies exude a warm, autumnal glow.

7.30PM, THU 7 DEC 23



MY COUNTRY

Smetana

Má Vlast is considered a paragon of Czech nationalism – celebrating its culture and history, the countryside, and its people. Though usually performed as independent pieces, only as a six-work cycle is Smetana's grand conception fully realised - Vyšehrad, Vltava, Šárka, Bohemia, Tábor and Blaník.

7.30PM, THU 25 JAN 24



LONDON TOWN

Brahms, Vaughan Williams

Vaughan Williams' Second Symphony has been described as the musical equivalent of Monet's paintings of the sun rising over a foggy Thames. Actual London sounds fleetingly emerge from an exquisitely woven musical tapestry – the chimes of Big Ben, the cry of a lavender-seller. Central to the symphony's success is the wonderful limpid scoring, which Vaughan Williams felt in later life that he had never bettered. All of Brahms' four instrumental concertos were milestones in his compositional development. The Second Piano Concerto was written shortly after the Second Symphony and is itself symphonic in scale and form, comprising four movements.

7.30PM, THU 22 FEB 2024



COUNTERPOINT COUNTERPARTS

Mozart, Bruckner

In just 4 years Mozart wrote sixteen glorious piano concertos. No.23 (K.488) was an immediate success, remaining popular probably as much for its wistfulness as for melodies verging on the sublime. It begins with a gentle melody, setting the stage for a unique blend of moods from quiet serenity to aural radiance. The finale reminds us that this was the product of one of the most exhilarating periods in his tragically brief life. In his Fifth Symphony, Bruckner built on the Austro-German symphonic tradition of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, taking it to a monumental scale infused with rich harmonies and a stunning mastery of counterpoint, containing his most complex and innovative musical thoughts.

7.30PM, THU 14 MAR 2024

**“Our mission is to bring music into your lives! You, the audience are as much a part of the performance as the musicians on stage”
- Dougie Scarfe, BSO Chief Executive**

PORTSMOUTH CHAMBER MUSIC



PRESENTED BY:



The Finest Music Performed by World-Class musicians, just metres away! With a post-show Q&A with the artists and Classical Music Consultant, Colin Jagger, at every concert.

TICKETS: £18 - £20 | UNDER 25S - £10
20% DISCOUNT IF YOU BOOK 6 CONCERTS OR MORE



SCHUBERT, JANÁČEK & BRAHMS

Leonkoro Quartet

SCHUBERT – String Quartet No.9 in G minor D173 (23')

JANÁČEK – String Quartet No.1 'Kreutzer Sonata' (19')

BRAHMS – String Quartet No.1 in C minor, Op.51 No.1 (32')

A dramatic and graceful programme performed by the multi award-winning Leonkoro Quartet.

7.30PM, MON 16 OCT 23



RACHMANINOFF 150

Ensemble 360

RACHMANINOFF – Trio élégiaque No.1 in G minor (14')

PROKOFIEV – Quintet in G minor (21') & Overture on Hebrew Themes (9')

TCHAIKOVSKY – String Quartet No.2 in F Op.22 (36')

The world-class musicians from Ensemble 360 return with a blistering programme of Russian music to celebrate the 150th birthday of Sergei Rachmaninoff.

7:30PM, MON 20 NOV 23



HAYDN, SCHUMANN & MORE

Trio Gaspard

HAYDN – Piano Trio in A Hob.XV:9 (13')

SCHUMANN – Piano Trio No 2 in F Op.80 (27')

HAYDN – Piano Trio in E flat minor Hob XV:31 (13')

BEAMISH – Piano Trio written for Trio Gaspard's 'Haydn Project' (c.10')

LISZT – Hungarian Rhapsody No.9 'Carnival in Pest' (10')

Trio Gaspard has earned an international reputation for refreshing interpretations of core piano trio repertoire and championing new music. This eclectic programme does just that, juxtaposing two trios by Haydn, the father of the form, and a short work commissioned from Sally Beamish celebrating this ever-evolving tradition. Liszt's colourful and virtuosic Hungarian Rhapsody provides a spirited and celebratory finale.

7:30PM, MON 29 JAN 24



MENDELSSOHN STRING QUARTETS

Consone Quartet

HAYDN – String Quartet in D Op.64, No.5 'Lark' (20')

FANNY MENDELSSOHN – String Quartet in E flat (22')

FELIX MENDELSSOHN – String Quartet in E minor Op.44, No.2 (32')

The electrifying Consone Quartet, recent BBC New Generation Artists, comprises four sensitive and spirited musicians who have formed a dynamic ensemble prized for expressive interpretations of classical and romantic repertoire through historically informed performance.

One of Haydn's most popular quartets opens this concert followed by the contrasting music of both Mendelssohn siblings: Fanny's raw, passionate and tempestuous quartet and Felix's stately, lyrical and deftly crafted E minor quartet.

7:30PM, MON 26 FEB 24



Supported by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



STRAVINSKY, COLERIDGE-TAYLOR, SCHUBERT

Ensemble 360

STRAVINSKY – *Three Pieces for String Quartet (7')*

COLERIDGE-TAYLOR – *Clarinet Quintet (31')*

SCHUBERT – *String Quartet No.14 'Death and the Maiden' (40')*

A concert of contrasts, showcasing the versatility of the world-class musicians from Ensemble 360. Schubert's deeply personal and beloved 'Death and the Maiden' string quartet is set alongside two lesser-known pieces written within a century but which could hardly be more different: Stravinsky's compelling fragments for string quartet and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's exquisite clarinet quintet. The latter is arguably the greatest achievement in Coleridge-Taylor's chamber music, by turns lyrical and muscular. It bears the unmistakable hallmarks of Dvořák's profound influence on this tumultuous period of music.

7.30PM, MON 22 APR 24



MARSCHNER, BRAHMS, DVOŘÁK

Gould Piano Trio

MARSCHNER – *Piano Trio No.2 in G minor, Op.111 (32')*

BRAHMS – *Piano Trio No.3 in C minor, Op.101 (21')*

DVOŘÁK – *Piano Trio No.4 in E minor, Op.90 'Dumky' (32')*

The Gould Piano Trio returns to Portsmouth after a warmly received collaboration with violist Gary Pomeroy in 2021. At the heart of this concert is Dvořák's most celebrated chamber work, the 'Dumky' trio which takes its name from a bohemian lament. This earthy and emotionally rich work is full of contrasts, folk tunes and invention. Paired with a rarely performed trio from a celebrated opera composer and Brahms's lush, dramatic third piano trio, this promises to be an evening of high drama and the finest musicianship.

7:30PM, MON 20 MAY 24

PORTSMOUTH CHAMBER MUSIC SOUNDS OF NOW

SOUNDS OF NOW

**TICKETS: £8 - £10
UNDER 25S - £5**



A new platform for musicians creating and exploring the most exciting artistic ideas today. Nurturing talent, inspiring new thinking, provoking debate.



VOICE(LESS)

**Rosie Middleton (mezzo-soprano),
Angharad Davies (Violin)**

7.30PM, THU 5 OCT 23



ROTATIONS

**Tabea Debus (recorder), Samuele
Telari (accordion)**

7.30PM, FRI 8 MAR 24



ANNA MEREDITH STRING QUARTETS WITH LIGETI QUARTET

7.30PM, THU 21 MAR 24



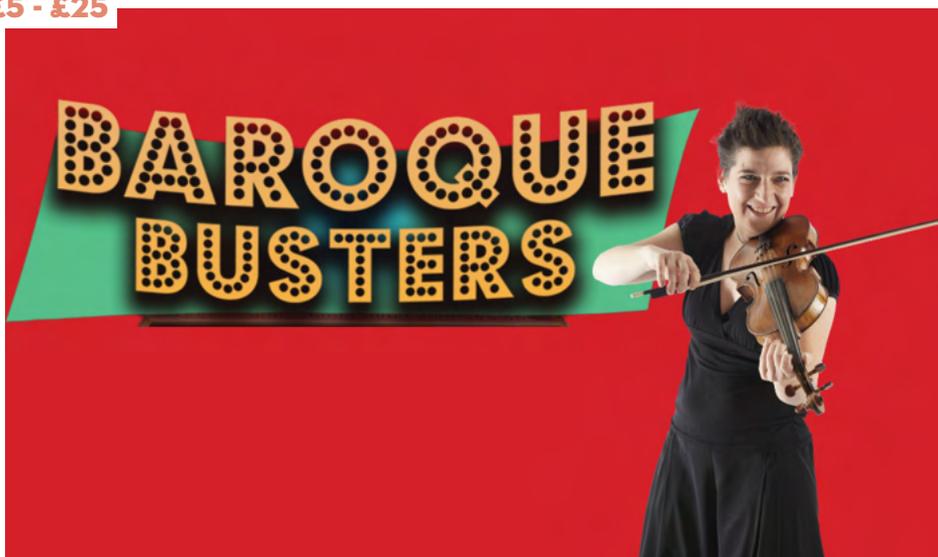
LULLABY WITH MANASAMITRA

**Supriya Nagarajan (vocals), Duncan
Chapman (field recordings &
electronics), Lucy Nolan (harp)**

7.30PM, WED 1 MAY 24

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT: BAROQUEBUSTERS

£5 - £25



Classic hits from the hottest composers of the 18th Century. Find out more about some of the stories behind the best-loved pieces of the era.

These are tunes you almost certainly know and love. From the radio, in adverts or soundtracks, remixed as pop songs or from hearing them live. Presented from the stage by the musicians of the OAE, this concert explores why these composers and pieces became popular in the first place and why they remain so today.

Music to be performed includes The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba by Handel, Air on a G String, Well-Tempered Clavier, 'Jesu, Joy of Man's desiring' and Brandenburg Concerto No 3 by JS Bach, Spring from The Four Seasons by Vivaldi, Pachelbel's Canon, plus music by Albinoni, Lully and Rameau.

The OAE is a trail-blazing ensemble that does things a little differently. They play on 'period instruments' so you hear the music as the composers might have imagined it.

7PM, THU 19 OCT 23

Time Shown Is The Start Time

£25



THE MASSED BANDS OF HM ROYAL MARINES - A CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

The versatility and talent of these world class musicians will be clear for all to see, with an evening featuring all the usual festive fun and enjoyment, alongside the traditional music from one of the finest military bands in the world.

7:30PM, WED 13 DEC 23

£48.35 - £56.35



THE ROCK ORCHESTRA BY CANDLELIGHT

In ethereal candlelit settings, this band of 14 classical musicians unleash effortlessly enchanting melodies alongside powerful walls of distortion. Witness the unexpected union of Classical music and Metal. Performing the music of Nirvana, Metallica, AC/DC, and many more.

7:30PM, MON 12 FEB 24

All Show Prices Include Booking Fee & Levy

£26



A CELEBRATION OF OPERA WITH LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA

Celebrate the world of opera in the company of Mozart, Verdi, Bizet, Puccini, Offenbach, Gilbert & Sullivan and more, in a feast of some of the greatest music ever written.

LFO has a considerable reputation and features distinguished singers from the Royal Opera, English National Opera and Glyndebourne with outstanding young artists. The company has performed throughout the UK and across Europe, including in one of the world's greatest opera houses, La Fenice in Venice.

A programme of passion, drama and humour! Superb singing, instrumental chamber ensemble accompaniment, sumptuous costumes and an elegant set combine to make this a performance not to be missed for all opera lovers and newcomers alike. An ideal first visit to the opera!

7:30PM, THU 9 MAY 24

THE SPECTACULAR MUSIC OF HARRY POTTER

£25.25 - £45.95



Grab your cloak and your wand and join us for a spellbinding concert featuring the spectacular music from the magnificent Harry Potter films, performed by the sensational International Film Orchestra.

Coming to Portsmouth Guildhall for the very first time, the International Film Orchestra founded by renowned conductor, Matthew Hopkins, consists of some of the finest players from across the UK and Europe to bring a wealth of experience to the concert stage, promising an unforgettable experience of the highest standard.

This concert will feature the magical music from all eight of the Harry Potter Films, written by John Williams, Patrick Doyle, Nicholas Hooper and Alexandre Desplat.

A truly fabulous concert for all the family – not to be missed!

3:30PM, SUN 4 FEB 24

Time Shown Is The Start Time

LONDON SINFONIETTA

£25



From experimental beginnings in the loft spaces and galleries of New York, Minimalism is now a mainstay of contemporary music, its influences spreading far beyond into the worlds of film, dance, and literature.

This concert explores iconic pieces from across the pond, including the exciting dancing textures created by pioneering multi-layered tape pieces such as Steve Reich's Violin Phase and Vermont Counterpoint. Richly complex patterns create compelling listening in Philip Glass' 1+1 and Michael Nyman's In C Interlude, while the weaving melodies hypnotise in Anna Clyne's Just as they are, Julius Eastman's Joy Boy, modern New York icon Julia Wolfe's East Broadway, and Gavin Bryars' meditative classic Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me Yet.

7:30PM, WED 15 MAY 24

All Show Prices Include Booking Fee & Levy

The Classical Series 2023/24



Featuring
bournemouth
symphony orchestra
Kiri Kawato, Chief Conductor

MUSIC
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