

GLASGOW ESCAPE INTO

BBC
Scottish
Symphony
Orchestra

PIANO HEAVEN.
DREAMS & PASSIONS.
MYTH & MELANCHOLY.
BEAUTY OF NATURE.
DAZZLING VIRTUOSITY.
FOLKTALES & MISCHIEF.
SWEEPING MELODIES.
UNRESTRAINED JOY.
ADVENTURE. PULSE-
RAISING PASSION.

MUSIC

City Halls Glasgow
Season 2023/24

Ryan Wigglesworth
Chief Conductor

RADIO **3**



Ryan Wigglesworth
Chief Conductor

Ilan Volkov
Principal Guest Conductor

Sir Donald Runnicles
Conductor Emeritus

Lucy Drever
Associate Artist

Hans Abrahamsen
Composer-in-Association

Laura Samuel
Leader



WELCOME

It's been heartening for our players and audiences alike to experience City Halls bursting with vitality and a sense of musical discovery once more.

This Season we invite you to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life and discover a myriad of musical experiences.

Together we'll explore remarkable music spanning four centuries: from a Mozart piano concerto, through much-loved Romantic masterpieces by Berlioz, Tchaikovsky and Mahler, to bold and beautiful works of the 1900s. And we double down on our commitment to championing the most brilliant and original composers of this century, including BBC commissions by Lisa Illean, Roxanna Panufnik, Michael Parsons and Jörg Widmann.

As ever, we're joined by a stellar group of world-class artists, including familiar faces such as pianists Sir Stephen Hough and Steven Osborne, mezzo-soprano Karen Cargill, and the Edinburgh Festival Chorus. There's a host of new faces too: BBC New Generation Artist, violinist Geneva Lewis teams up with conductor Gemma New, and we are thrilled to welcome Bomsori Kim as our 2023/24 Featured Artist, one of the most dynamic and exciting violinists on the international circuit. Several conductors take to our podium for the first time, including Marta Gardolińska and Tabita Berglund, and guest conductors Sir Mark Elder and Michael Sanderling return for showstoppers by Shostakovich and Dvořák.

Whether it's in the concert hall, via BBC Radio, Sounds and iPlayer, or perhaps through our projects with communities across Scotland led by Associate Artist Lucy Drever, we hope that you'll find an opportunity to enjoy our live music. Welcome to you all!

Dominic Parker

Director

A particular joy of this season – my second as Chief Conductor of the wonderful BBC SSO – is its continuation of several journeys already begun.

Our ongoing survey of Stravinsky's ballet music reaches two personal favourites – *Orpheus* and *The Fairy's Kiss*; we continue our voyage through Elgar's masterworks with the majestic First Symphony; and we welcome back many important composers of today, including Hans Abrahamsen, our Composer-in-Association. I also look forward to such epic highlights as Verdi's Requiem and Bruckner's Seventh Symphony.

Join us for the thrilling discoveries that lie ahead!

Ryan Wigglesworth

Chief Conductor

“An orchestra of enormous range”

The Herald

“Ready-for-anything poise”

The New York Times



ESCAPE INTO...

**“One of the
most stirring
and dynamic
bands around”**

The Scotsman

**“The entire
hall was
completely
spellbound”**

Bachtrack

Music has the power to transport you to another place. In a world surrounded by noise and distraction, find your moment to unwind and recharge, or be thrilled to the edge of your seat at Glasgow City Halls.

A VISION OF HEAVEN

Opening Night: Mahler 4 (P8)

DREAMS & PASSIONS

Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique (P11)

MYTH & MELANCHOLY

Stravinsky & Turnage (P11)

THE BEAUTY OF NATURE

Mahler's 'Song of the Earth' (P13)

SWEEPING MELODIES

Elgar Symphony No.1 (P13)

UNRESTRAINED JOY

The Shostakovich Piano
Concertos (P15)

FOLKTALES & MISCHIEF

Volkov Conducts 'Petrouchka' (P15)

PIANO HEAVEN

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No.2
(P17)

PULSE-RAISING PASSION

Tchaikovsky Symphony No.5 (P17)

THE ULTIMATE ROMANTICS

Bruckner Symphony No.9 (P21)

MEDITATIVE MELODIES

Barber Violin Concerto (P21)

HIGH DRAMA & EPIC EMOTIONS

Verdi Requiem (P23)

DAZZLING VIRTUOSITY

Hough plays Rachmaninov (P23)

OPTIMISM & ADVENTURE

Dvořák New World Symphony (P25)

SPELLBINDING BEAUTY

Sibelius Violin Concerto (P25)

SAVE UP TO 30%

with a Season Ticket
for our Thursday Night
Glasgow Series
(more details, P33)

Thursday
21.09.2023
7.30pm



ESCAPE INTO...

Müller-Herrmann
Heroic Overture (c.12 mins)

Ryan Wigglesworth
Piano Concerto (c.21 mins)

Mahler
Symphony No.4* (c.54 mins)

Opening Night

Steven Osborne
piano

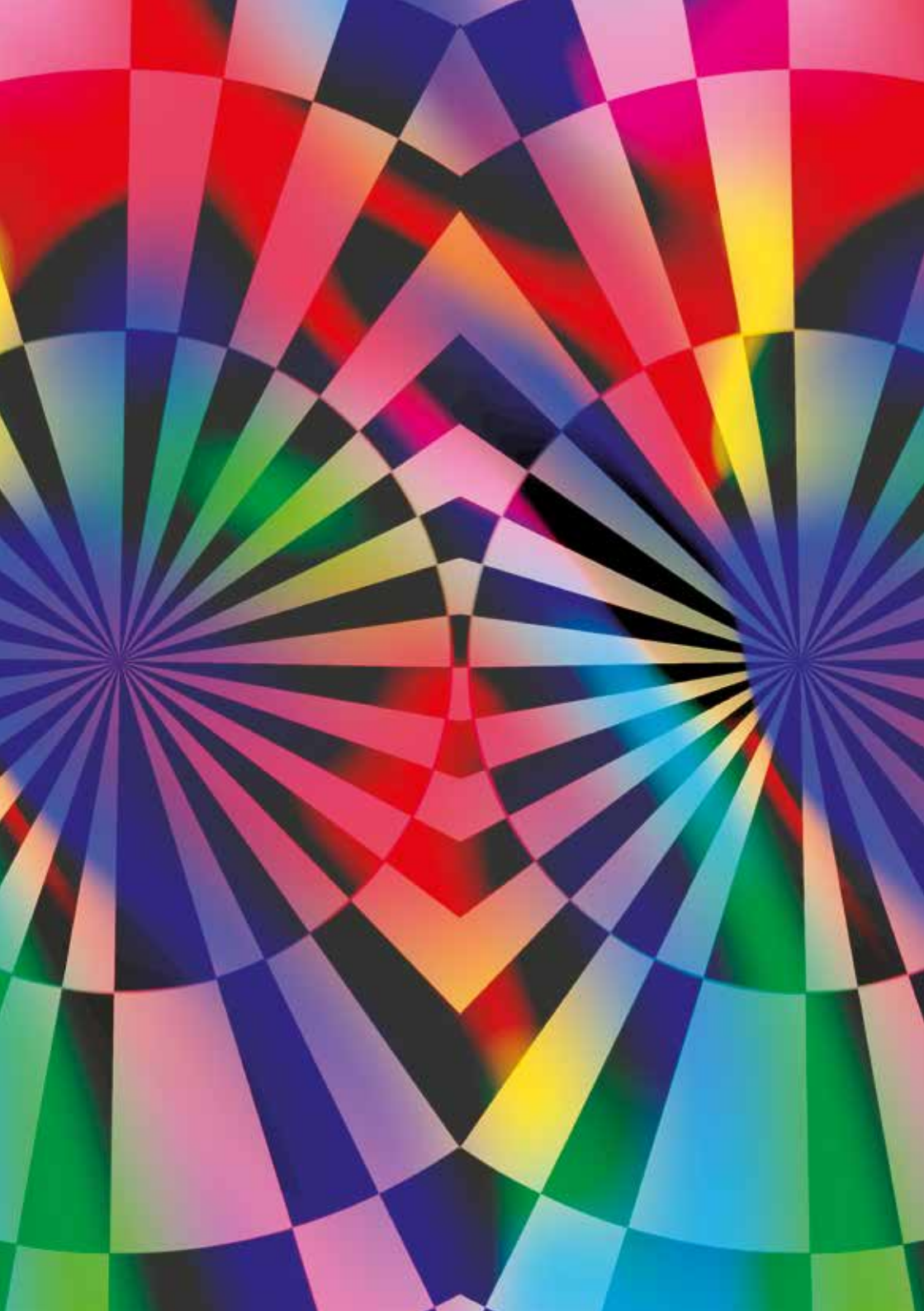
Sally Matthews
soprano*

Ryan Wigglesworth
conductor

A VISION *of* HEAVEN

It begins like a fairy tale. A jangle of sleighbells, a flurry of birdsong from the flutes – and is that a melody by Mozart? Not quite: Mahler said that he imagined pure blue skies when he composed his Fourth Symphony. But the Fourth has depths as poignant and profound as anything he ever wrote, and with soprano Sally Matthews joining our Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth, it'll make a blissful ending to this concert. Before this, there's the soaring *Heroic Overture* by Mahler's Viennese contemporary Johanna Müller-Herrmann and the great Scottish pianist, Steven Osborne, performs Ryan Wigglesworth's own, brilliantly imaginative *Piano Concerto*. A performance doesn't get more definitive than this.





Thursday
28.09.2023
7.30pm

Cassandra Miller
Duet for Cello and
Orchestra (c.30 mins)

Berlioz
Symphonie fantastique
(c.56 mins)

Charles Curtis cello
Ilan Volkov conductor

Thursday
12.10.2023
7.30pm

Beethoven
Leonore Overture No.2
(c.14 mins)

Mark-Anthony Turnage
Your Rockaby* (c.22 mins)

Unsuk Chin
Subito con forza (c.5 mins)

Stravinsky
Orpheus (c.30 mins)

Martin Robertson soprano
saxophone*
Ryan Wigglesworth conductor

ESCAPE INTO **DREAMS & PASSIONS**

BERLIOZ SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

“Frustrated in love, a young musician of deep sensitivity and ardent imagination takes opium...” Berlioz’s *Symphonie fantastique* began as a nineteenth century tale of drugs and lust. It became... well, the name says it all, really. This is a sonic extravaganza of gothic horror, hopeless devotion and glorious excess, played by one of the biggest orchestras the world had then seen. Cassandra Miller’s Duet makes its points more quietly but no less powerfully, and when we gave its world premiere at the 2015 Tectonics Festival, one critic described it as “odd, beautiful, challenging in some ways but ultimately deeply engrossing”. In his 20th year working with the orchestra, Principal Guest Conductor Ilan Volkov is joined by cellist Charles Curtis to rediscover what *The Guardian* selected as one of the best classical music works of the 21st century.

ESCAPE INTO **MYTH & MELANCHOLY**

STRAVINSKY & TURNAGE

A tale of courage with a cross-dressing heroine. A Greek demigod, restyled on art deco lines by a genius who transcended cultures. And a jazz-fuelled night ride through the imagination of playwright Samuel Beckett. It’s all here, because there’s no story that music can’t tell in the hands of a visionary composer and performers who mean every note. Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth directs Beethoven’s *Leonore* overture and Stravinsky’s *Orpheus*, with Martin Robertson as soloist in the moody, impassioned sax concerto that Mark-Anthony Turnage wrote specially for him. There’s a bonus item too, an explosive homage to Beethoven from one of the world’s most exciting – and unpredictable – living composers, Unsuk Chin.



Thursday
16.11.2023
7.30pm

R. Strauss
Symphonic Fantasy on
Die Frau ohne Schatten
(c.20 mins)

Mahler
Das Lied von der Erde
(c.65 mins)

Karen Cargill mezzo-soprano
Brenden Gunnell tenor
Alpesh Chauhan conductor

Thursday
23.11.2023
7.30pm

Jonathan Woolgar
Canzoni et Ricercari
(New version for large ensemble)
(c.6 mins)

Mozart
Piano Concerto No.20 in
D minor K.466 (c.31 mins)

Elgar
Symphony No.1 (c.50 mins)

Martin James Bartlett piano
Ryan Wigglesworth conductor

ESCAPE INTO **THE BEAUTY OF NATURE**

MAHLER'S 'SONG OF THE EARTH'

As Gustav Mahler confronted his own mortality, he found consolation in the poetry of ancient China. *Das Lied von der Erde* is the result, a symphony like no other that distils every last drop of life's sorrow and sweetness into six soul-wrenching songs. Alpesh Chauhan is in his element in music like this: few conductors rival his skill at drawing intimate emotion from epic scores, and with soloists of the calibre of Brenden Gunnell and the great Scottish mezzo Karen Cargill this should go straight to the heart. First, though, drama and opulence from Richard Strauss – a surging hymn to life, born from the turmoil of the First World War.

ESCAPE INTO **SWEEPING MELODIES**

ELGAR SYMPHONY NO.1

British music isn't always what you expect. Edward Elgar was a shopkeeper's son from a country town, but his First Symphony spans worlds – a sweeping, multicoloured musical autobiography on a magnificent scale, burning with passion and beginning (as well as ending) with a melody you'll never forget. Jonathan Woolgar comes from West Yorkshire, but in his award-winning *Canzoni et Ricercari* he travels in time to the Renaissance, unlocking new sounds of bracing power and haunting beauty. Our Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth brings a composer's creativity to these two astonishing scores – and is joined by the BBC Young Musician 2014 finalist, Martin James Bartlett, to celebrate the brilliance, the wit and the unchained inspiration of Mozart.

Thursday
07.12.2023
7.30pm

Debussy
Ibéria (Images pour orchestre)
(c.22 mins)

Shostakovich
Piano Concerto No.2 (c.21 mins)

Debussy
Gigues and Rondes de Printemps
(Images pour orchestre)
(c.16 mins)

Shostakovich
Piano Concerto No.1 (c.22 mins)

Federico Colli piano
Matilda Lloyd trumpet
Sir Mark Elder conductor

Thursday
25.01.2024
7.30pm

Stravinsky
4 Études (c.10 mins)

Michael Parsons
LEVELS for orchestra
(BBC Commission, World Premiere)
(c.15 mins)

Howard Skempton
Piano Concerto (c.14 mins)

Stravinsky
Petrushka (1947 version)
(c.35 mins)

Joanna MacGregor piano
Ilan Volkov conductor

ESCAPE INTO **UNRESTRAINED JOY**

THE SHOSTAKOVICH PIANO CONCERTOS

“Whatever he plays, whatever he does, Federico Colli compels attention” wrote one critic about the pianist. “His beautifully light touch and lyrical grace make the music shine” said another. But you don’t have to take their word for it, because today Colli takes centre stage with one of the world’s most respected conductors to play both of Shostakovich’s Piano Concertos in one sparkling concert. The First finds Colli playing energetic musical games with a rising star, trumpeter Matilda Lloyd. The second – written for Shostakovich’s teenage son – is music of irresistible melody and exuberant wit. With Mark Elder conducting it’ll sound fresh as new, and the gorgeous musical colours of Debussy’s *Images* create a magical setting.

ESCAPE INTO **FOLKTALES & MISCHIEF**

VOLKOV CONDUCTS ‘PETRUSHKA’

On a spring day in an imaginary Russia, an excited crowd gathers for a puppet show. Petrushka loves the Ballerina. She prefers another. Tragedy looms, but don’t worry: puppets don’t have souls...do they? Stravinsky’s *Petrushka* paints Russian tradition in colours as bright as a piece of folk art – and as sinister as the 20th century. It’s a wonderfully bold finale for a concert that opens with Stravinsky at his most startling, and which unites two dauntless musical explorers – pianist Joanna MacGregor and our Principal Guest Conductor Ilan Volkov – in the haunting, utterly original *Piano Concerto* by Howard Skempton. A striking new work by one of British music’s true radicals completes an evening of music that fascinates and thrills.





Thursday
15.02.2024
7.30pm

Puccini
Preludio sinfonico (c.10 mins)

Tchaikovskys
Francesca da Rimini (c.24 mins)

**Roxanna Panufnik/
Alma Mahler**
5 Lieder (BBC Commission,
UK Premiere) (c.10 mins)

Rachmaninov
Piano Concerto No.2
(c.35 mins)

Boris Giltburg piano
Valentina Peleggi conductor

Thursday
22.02.2024
7.30pm

Geirr Tveitt
Velkomne med Æra, Op.151
(Welcome with Honour)
(c.4 mins)

Dvořák
Cello Concerto (c.41 mins)

Tchaikovsky
Symphony No.5 (c.48 mins)

Truls Mørk cello
Tabita Berglund conductor

ESCAPE INTO **PIANO HEAVEN**

RACHMANINOV PIANO CONCERTO NO.2

A piano plays a chord in the silence, and a chain of sound grows, swells, and breaks into passionate, endless song. No question, the great Romantic composers knew how to unleash emotion: whether it's Tchaikovsky diving into the whirlwind of a doomed love or Puccini creating melodies to melt the heart. Or, indeed, Rachmaninov uniting a glittering piano and a sumptuous orchestra in a concerto that could have been written for our soloist, Boris Giltburg. "Every note pulses with life and warmth" was how one critic described his playing, and the same could be said when guest conductor Valentina Peleggi shares Roxanna Panufnik's vivid new versions of Alma Mahler's neglected love songs.

ESCAPE INTO **PULSE-RAISING PASSION**

TCHAIKOVSKY SYMPHONY NO.5

No composer does emotion quite like Tchaikovsky. "With desire and passion", he wrote on the score of his Fifth Symphony, and it begins in melancholy and ends in roof-raising celebration. No wonder it's one of the most popular symphonies ever composed; conductor Tabita Berglund will bring out its raw power as well as all those unforgettable tunes. It's a stirring climax to a concert that begins with a haunting folksong from the fjords of Norway, and stars the great Truls Mørk in Dvořák's Cello Concerto: music of heartfelt tenderness and fearless beauty. Some say it was inspired when the composer saw Niagara Falls – but decide for yourself today.



Images: Steven Osborne by Ben Ealovega, Sally Matthews by Charl Marais, Charles Curtis, Ilan Volkov by Alan Peebles, Martin Robertson, Karen Cargill by Nadine Boyd, Brendon Gunnell by Cameron Becker, Alpesh Chauhan by Martin Shields, Martin James Bartlett by Paul Marc Mitchell, Federico Colli by Ben Ealovega, Matilda Lloyd by Benjamin Ealovega, Sir Mark Elder by Benjamin Ealovega.

Images: Joanna MacGregor by Pal Hansen, Boris Giltburg by Sasha Gusov, Valentina Peleggi by Natália Kikuchi, Truls Mørk by Johs Boe, Tabita Berglund by Nikolaj Lund, Geneva Lewis by Motti Fang-Bentov, Gemma New by Roy Cox, Miah Persson by Reka Choy, Alice Coote by Jiyang Chen, Leonardo Capalbo by Adam Ulrich, William Thomas by Thomas Gimson, Edinburgh Festival Chorus by Gaele-Beri, Stephen Hough by Sim Canetty-Clarke, Ethan David Loch by Dan Prince, Michael Sanderling by Nikolaj Lund, Bomsori Kim by Kyutai Shim.



Thursday
29.02.2024
7.30pm

Puccini

Intermezzi from *Madama Butterfly* and *Manon Lescaut*
(c.15 mins)

Tchaikovsky

Fatum (c.17 mins)

Bruckner

Symphony No.9 (c.60 mins)

Alpesh Chauhan conductor

Thursday
07.03.2024
7.30pm

Sarah Gibson

warp & weft (c.14 mins)

Barber

Violin Concerto (c.25 mins)

Brahms

Symphony No.4 (c.39 mins)

Geneva Lewis violin

Gemma New conductor

Image opposite:

Geneva Lewis by Matthew Holler.

ESCAPE INTO **ULTIMATE ROMANTICS**

BRUCKNER SYMPHONY NO.9

Bruckner never finished his Ninth Symphony. At the end of a lifetime's spiritual striving, he poured both his unquenchable faith and his agonising doubts into one mighty final testament "to my beloved God" – and then fell at the final hurdle. But it doesn't feel that way, and the music that he did complete is among the most majestic (and moving) experiences in all of Romantic art. Conductor Alpesh Chauhan loves this music profoundly, and he pairs it with equally uninhibited music by two near-contemporaries of Bruckner who wore their hearts (and their knack with a great tune) proudly upon their sleeves, Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky and Giacomo Puccini.

ESCAPE INTO **MEDITATIVE MELODIES**

BARBER VIOLIN CONCERTO

Great artists can draw strength from tradition. When Brahms wrote his final symphony, he reached back across the centuries to find courage and strength as he strode forward into the storm. It's as moving as it is powerful. In jazz-age America, Samuel Barber reinvented the romantic violin concerto with streamlined melodies and all-American verve; BBC New Generation Artist Geneva Lewis is the soloist today, and you're about to hear why Musical America described her as "one to watch". And Sarah Gibson takes handloom weaving as her inspiration: *warp & weft* is a vibrant, evocative modern celebration of female creativity, woven from sounds that glow in the ear. Gemma New conducts a concert of rich colours and luminous emotions.



Thursday
21.03.2024
7.30pm

Verdi

Requiem (c.85 mins)

Miah Persson soprano

Alice Coote mezzo-soprano

Leonardo Capalbo tenor

William Thomas bass

Edinburgh Festival Chorus

Ryan Wigglesworth conductor

Thursday
18.04.2024
7.30pm

Hans Abrahamsen

Suite from *The Snow Queen*
(c.12 mins)

Rachmaninov

Rhapsody on a Theme of
Paganini (c.26 mins)

Stravinsky

The Fairy's Kiss (c.44 mins)

Sir Stephen Hough piano

Ryan Wigglesworth conductor

ESCAPE INTO **DRAMA & EPIC EMOTIONS**


VERDI REQUIEM

Judgement Day: drums roar, trumpets blast, and hundreds of voices cry to heaven. Arguably no composer had a deeper understanding of the human heart, or a more potent sense of drama, than Giuseppe Verdi. Blazing with emotion and conceived on the grandest possible scale, Verdi's *Requiem* has been described as the greatest opera he never wrote. It's raw sonic theatre, and 150 years after its first performance, our Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth has assembled the Edinburgh Festival Chorus, the BBC SSO and a stellar team of solo singers – all ready to storm the ramparts of death itself.

ESCAPE INTO **DAZZLING VIRTUOSITY**

HOUGH PLAYS RACHMANINOV

"My heartfelt homage to Tchaikovsky's wonderful talent". Audiences in the 1920s were astonished when the modernist firebrand Stravinsky started adapting Tchaikovsky. In fact, Stravinsky adored Tchaikovsky's music, and his ballet *The Fairy's Kiss* puts Tchaikovsky's music under a very modern – but utterly captivating – spell. But then, under the baton of our Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth, there's wonder in every note of this ravishing concert. You'd expect no less, when the phenomenal pianist Stephen Hough works his very personal alchemy on Rachmaninov's hugely-popular *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*. But the music of Hans Abrahamsen's fairy-tale opera *The Snow Queen* might be a little less familiar. Believe us – it's pure enchantment.



Thursday
16.05.2024
7.30pm

Copland
Fanfare for the Common Man
(c.3 mins)

Chopin
Piano Concerto No.2 (c.33 mins)

Dvořák
Symphony No.9
'From the New World' (c.45 mins)

Ethan David Loch piano
Michael Sanderling conductor

Closing Night
Thursday
23.05.2024
7.30pm

Sibelius
Violin Concerto (c.31 mins)

Bruckner
Symphony No.7 (c.68 mins)

Bomsori Kim violin
Ryan Wigglesworth conductor

ESCAPE INTO **OPTIMISM & ADVENTURE**

DVOŘÁK NEW WORLD SYMPHONY

Big sounds and tender feelings. Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man* is one of those pieces that you know without realising you know it – pure optimism from wartime America, wrought from great shining beams of brass and percussion. The young Chopin wasn't short of confidence either, and his gloriously dreamy Second Piano Concerto has to be one of the most exquisite love letters ever penned by a young genius to his sweetheart. BBC Young Musician 2022 finalist Ethan David Loch is the soloist this evening; his energy and imagination make him the perfect partner for guest conductor Michael Sanderling. Expect freshness, fire – and a few surprises too – when Sanderling conducts Dvořák's much-loved symphony "from the New World".

ESCAPE INTO **SPELLBINDING BEAUTY**

SIBELIUS VIOLIN CONCERTO

The air shimmers, and out of the depths, the orchestra unfurls a melody – a tune that sighs, sings and reaches upwards towards heaven itself. Anton Bruckner said that the opening of his Seventh Symphony came to him in a dream, and you can believe it. But it's just the start of a truly epic journey, and tonight our Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth takes the orchestra through peaks of joy and depths of sorrow before climbing the final, shining summit. This is music – and imagination – on the grandest possible scale. So what better way to start than in another vast, beautiful landscape, as our 2023/24 Featured Artist, the phenomenal Bomsori Kim, explores the elemental grandeur of Sibelius's Violin Concerto?

AFTERNOON PERFORMANCES

Don't fancy a trip out in the evening?

Experience world-class artists and exhilarating music – both familiar and overlooked – at our daytime concerts at City Halls. In a concert celebrating Polish music, you'll be dazzled by the Scottish debut of our 2023/24 Featured Artist, violinist **Bomsori Kim**, one of the most dynamic and exciting soloists on the international circuit. The multi-talented composer/conductor **Jörg Widmann** explores the music of Beethoven, and Chief Conductor **Ryan Wigglesworth** teams up with Japanese virtuoso **Dai Miyata** for Elgar's Cello Concerto. Plus, Scottish guitar sensation **Sean Shibe** treats us to Rodrigo's famous *Concierto de Aranjuez*.

Tickets: £15.00 if bought in advance.

£16.50 if bought on the day of performance.

£6.00 tickets for students, Under 26s and Registered Unemployed (proof of status required). Unreserved Seating. Booking fees may apply.

Thursday
26.10.2023
2.00pm

Jörg Widmann
Con brio (c.12 mins)

Jörg Widmann
Dubairische Tänze (c.18 mins)

Jörg Widmann
Danse macabre
(BBC Co-Commission, UK premiere)
(c.16 mins)

Beethoven
Symphony No.7 (c.38 mins)

Jörg Widmann conductor

Thursday
14.12.2023
2.00pm

Bacewicz
Concerto for String Orchestra
(c.15 mins)

Szymanowski
Violin Concerto No.1
(c.26 mins)

Lutosławski
Concerto for Orchestra
(c.29 mins)

Bomsori Kim violin
Marta Gardolińska conductor

BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY NO.7

"Wild and beautiful, terrible and final" is how Jörg Widmann describes his new orchestral work, *Danse macabre* – in which he imagines himself dancing with Death. "His pull and his power must be stronger than we know from any earthly dance – no easy task for a composer, but a fascinating one", he says. Still, if any living musician can do the impossible, it's him. "Any Widmann performance brings whatever he plays kicking and screaming into the present day" says *The Guardian*, and today he takes Beethoven's Seventh Symphony, breaks it into little pieces and throws it together again – *Con brio* – before giving us that whole symphony in his own electrifying interpretation. Hear it and believe it.

MUZYKA POLSKA!

There's a special kinship between Scotland and Poland – two nations with stirring histories and dauntless spirits. Grażyna Bacewicz stood her own ground in a time of tyranny, writing music as characterful as it is defiant. Karol Szymanowski imagined new realms of musical sensuality, and the dazzling young South Korean violinist Bomsori Kim is passionate about his silken, shimmering First Violin Concerto. Then, to finish, Witold Lutosławski launches fabulous musical fireworks into the grey skies of communist Poland. Fiery, playful, and utterly original his *Concerto for Orchestra* is one of postwar music's true showstoppers, and it's a special favourite of guest conductor Marta Gardolińska. She won't hold back today.



Images: Jörg Widmann by Marco Borggreve, Marta Gardolińska by Bart Barczyk, Bomsori Kim by Kyutai Shim, Sean Shibe by Iga Gozdowska, Dai Miyata, Ryan Wigglesworth by Gordon Burnistoun, Delyana Lazarova by Marco Borggreve.

Thursday
01.02.2024
 2.00pm

Lisa Illean
 New Work (BBC Commission,
 World Premiere) (c.20 mins)

Elgar
 Cello Concerto (c.32 mins)

Brahms
 Symphony No.3 (c.39 mins)

Dai Miyata cello
Ryan Wigglesworth conductor

ELGAR CELLO CONCERTO

“Free but happy” is the motto that Brahms gave to his Third Symphony, and it opens with all the freshness of a summer storm. What comes next is a musical landscape of rolling clouds, tender lullabies, and radiant sunsets: a haunting finish to a concert that’s all about light, shade, and deep feelings. If you thought Elgar’s popular Cello Concerto was merely the sound of green fields and rolling hills, think again, as cellist Dai Miyata – praised by critics for his “sublime beauty of tone” – joins Ryan Wigglesworth to uncover its troubled soul. And explore a new world of sound from the imagination of Lisa Illean, who creates music (it’s been said) from “exquisitely quiet shadows”.

Thursday
28.03.2024
 2.00pm

Rimsky-Korsakov
 Capriccio Espagnole (c.15 mins)

Francisco Coll
 Turia: new version for guitar
 & large orchestra* (UK Premiere)
 (c.18 mins)

Rodrigo
 Concierto de Aranjuez* (c.24 mins)

Stravinsky
 Firebird Suite (1919) (c.23 mins)

Sean Shibe guitar*
Delyana Lazarova conductor

RODRIGO GUITAR CONCERTO

“Performers should not be afraid of playing good music” says Sean Shibe – the visionary, multi-award-winning Scottish guitarist who’s single-handedly redefining the way the 21st century thinks of his instrument. “And listeners should try not to be scared of listening to it”. No worries on that score, as Shibe pairs the world’s favourite guitar concerto with the first hearing (in this form, anyway) of a flickering, fantastical modern classic by the innovative Spanish composer Francisco Coll. The passion rises like heat-haze; no wonder, then, that guest conductor Delyana Lazarova has framed it with visions of wonder: Rimsky-Korsakov’s very Russian postcard from Spain, and the sorcery, secrets and ear-tingling sensations of a real BBC SSO favourite, Stravinsky’s ‘Firebird’.



DAVID FENNESSY'S CONQUEST OF THE USELESS (UK Premiere)

Saturday
04.11.2023
from 5.30pm

Preceded by a screening of *Burden of Dreams* (1982)

In the early 1980s the German film director Werner Herzog kept a diary of his struggle to make his film *Fitzcarraldo* in the Amazon. Entitled *Conquest of the Useless*, its descriptions of nature and Herzog's day-to-day battle inspired composer David Fennessy to create an epic three-part work that touches on madness, ambition, Verdi, belief, Enrico Caruso, musical Romanticism and the teeming, chaotic brutality of the jungle.

Fennessy's *Conquest of the Useless* moves from an orchestral depiction of Herzog's original vision – "a large steamship scaling a hill under its own steam" – though a four-part choir made up of samples from Caruso's recordings, to a finale once described by the composer as "Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* put through a blender."

Part-premiered by the BBC SSO at Glasgow's first Tectonics festival in 2013, the completed work returns to City Halls for a performance preceded by a discussion with the composer and a screening of Les Blank's 1982 documentary of the *Fitzcarraldo* shoot, *Burden of Dreams* (Cert. 15).

Brian Ferguson
actor

Jennifer Johnston
mezzo soprano

David Fennessy
electric guitar

Peter Dowling
electronics

Jack Sheen
conductor

5.30pm Screening of *Burden of Dreams*

7.15pm *Herzog's legacy* – A panel discussion,
including David Fennessy

8.00pm *Conquest of the Useless*

Tickets: £12.00 (admittance to film and concert)

£6.00 tickets for students and Under 26s

Unreserved Seating. Booking fees apply.

Performance ends at approx. 9.15pm



CHRISTMAS AT THE MOVIES

Can you imagine Christmas without a classic film (or two) to enjoy with a cheeky sherry (or three)? Well some sensible folks can't even imagine a Christmas without our annual festive feast of movie music. And if you're 8 or 80 there's something for you. Expect the sumptuous sounds of Hollywood's Golden Age, John Williams blockbusters, Disney favourites and the occasional surprise. Singer and presenter Jamie MacDougall is once again in the director's chair for this fabulous matinee performance. Lights! Camera! Music!

This concert is not available as part of the Glasgow Series subscription package.

Sunday
17.12.2023
3.00pm

Jamie MacDougall
singer and presenter

Roderick Dunk
conductor

Tickets:
£33.00, £28.00,
£23.00, £18.00

Under 16s
Half price

SAVE UP TO 30% WITH A SEASON TICKET

Book now at
bbc.co.uk/ssosubscriptions

The more concerts you book in our **Thursday Night Series**, the more you will save!

SAVE MONEY Add 4 or more concerts to your online basket and your subscription discount will be applied automatically at the checkout. You can save up to 30% across the Thursday Night Series.

PRIORITY BOOKING Secure the seats you want in advance, guaranteeing you the best seats at the best price if you book before Friday 5 May 2023.

EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO REHEARSALS AND RECORDINGS

Season Ticket holders receive exclusive invitations to events throughout the Season. Past invitations have included: open rehearsals and an opportunity to meet orchestra members; a studio recording session for BBC Radio 3; a commercial recording session and pre-/post-concert events.

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR OVER 60s

Seniors are entitled to a further 5% off Season Ticket prices for the Glasgow Series. Please see page 35.

bbc.co.uk/bbcso

Box Office: 0141 353 8000

Booking opens for Season Tickets only on
Monday 17 April 2023
 General booking opens
Friday 5 May 2023

Book between 4 and 15 concerts in our
Thursday Night Series and save up to 30%.
 Seniors are entitled to an extra 5% off.
 Your discount will be applied automatically
 at the online checkout.

£6 tickets for Under 26s, Students, and Unemployed

Under 26s, Students (those in full-time education), and Registered Unemployed are entitled to a £6 ticket for themselves (subject to availability). Proof of status is required. Excludes *Christmas at the Movies*.

50% Discount for Registered Disabled Patrons with a disability, and a carer where required, will receive a 50% discount on any single full price ticket.

Groups

Bring a group of 10 and get one extra ticket free (that's two free tickets for a group of 20, etc.). For more details please call the Box Office on 0141 353 8000.

School Groups

We welcome school parties to City Halls for BBC SSO concerts. If you are a teacher interested in bringing a group, please email: bbcso@bbc.co.uk

Box Office Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday, 10am–5pm.
 You can book online any time at:
glasgowconcerthalls.com

Tickets can be bought in person from:
 Glasgow Royal Concert Hall Box Office
 2 Sauchiehall Street
 Glasgow G2 3NY

The City Halls Box Office will be open on concert days 1 hour before the start of the performance.

Box Office Charges

Please note that the Box office charges a fee of £1.75 on all telephone bookings, and £1.50 for online bookings. There is a £1.95 charge if you wish tickets to be posted to you. E-tickets will be sent free of charge.

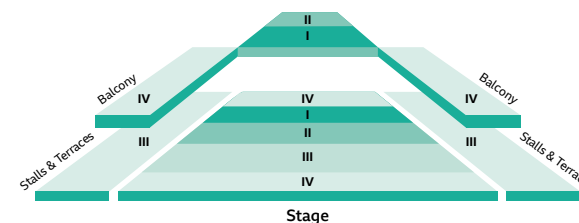
Exchange your Ticket

If you find yourself unable to attend a concert we will exchange your ticket for a similar BBC SSO event (subject to availability). Please notify the box office within 24hrs of the concert to arrange this. A £1.00 administration fee applies (and a 50p reprint charge, where appropriate).

Book Online



Book Online and Save up to 30% this Season at bbc.co.uk/ssosubscriptions



Single Ticket Prices

Area I: £30.00
 Area II: £25.00
 Area III: £20.00
 Area IV: £15.00

(venue booking fees may apply)

The more concerts you book in our **Thursday Night Series**, the more you will save!

Glasgow Season 2023/24 Subscription Package Prices*

Seating Area	% Saving		I	II	III	IV
4 concerts	10	Standard	£108.00	£90.00	£72.00	£54.00
	15	Concession	£102.00	£85.00	£68.00	£51.00
5 concerts	10	Standard	£135.00	£112.50	£90.00	£67.50
	15	Concession	£127.50	£106.50	£85.00	£63.75
6 concerts	15	Standard	£153.00	£127.50	£102.00	£76.50
	20	Concession	£144.00	£120.00	£96.00	£72.00
7 concerts	15	Standard	£178.50	£148.75	£119.00	£89.25
	20	Concession	£168.00	£140.00	£112.00	£84.00
8 concerts	20	Standard	£192.00	£160.00	£128.00	£96.00
	25	Concession	£180.00	£150.00	£120.00	£90.00
9 concerts	20	Standard	£216.00	£180.00	£144.00	£108.00
	25	Concession	£202.50	£168.75	£135.00	£101.25
10 concerts	20	Standard	£240.00	£200.00	£160.00	£120.00
	25	Concession	£225.00	£187.50	£150.00	£112.50
11 concerts	25	Standard	£247.50	£206.25	£165.00	£123.75
	30	Concession	£231.00	£192.50	£154.00	£115.50
12 concerts	25	Standard	£270.00	£225.00	£180.00	£135.00
	30	Concession	£252.00	£210.00	£168.00	£126.00
13 concerts	25	Standard	£292.50	£243.75	£195.00	£146.25
	30	Concession	£273.00	£227.50	£182.00	£136.50
14 concerts	30	Standard	£294.00	£245.00	£196.00	£147.00
	35	Concession	£273.00	£227.50	£182.00	£136.50
15 concerts	30	Standard	£315.00	£262.50	£210.00	£157.50
	35	Concession	£292.50	£243.75	£195.00	£146.25

*Subscription packages are subject to a £3.00 Box Office charge.

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

BBC Scotland

City Halls, Candlerriggs

Glasgow G1 1NQ

Email: bbcsso@bbc.co.uk

bbc.co.uk/bbcsso

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B B C
SOUNDS

The majority of listed concerts will be recorded for future broadcast by BBC Radio 3. After broadcast, concerts will be available for 30 days via BBC Sounds, where you can also discover a world of amazing music, radio and podcasts from the BBC by downloading the free app.



The information in this brochure was correct at the time of publishing. The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra reserves the right to amend artists and programmes for any of the listed concerts if necessary.