



nottingham *classics*

International Concert Season 2025-2026



**THEATRE
ROYAL**

**ROYAL
CONCERT
HALL**



nottingham classics

International Concert Season 2025-2026

We've a fabulous season in store for you, packed with great orchestras, star performers and thrilling music, from Mozart and Sibelius to Mahler and Ravel. Our concerts are informal and welcoming – many visiting performers say that Nottingham has the best audience in the country – all performed with spectacular sound because, as international opera star **Bryn Terfel** has said, the Royal Concert Hall has 'one of the finest acoustics in Europe.'

Nottingham Classics concerts also offer phenomenal value for money as your evening doesn't just begin and end with the main event. Before every concert you can enjoy FREE live performances in our Concert Prelude slot in the Level 4 Foyer and we also offer a series of pre-concert talks from a line-up of excellent speakers, including some of our performers. These are always enlightening, entertaining and FREE. Details of talks are listed with the concerts in this brochure.

Four of the concerts in the season are followed by late-night **AFTER:HOURS** performances. These feature absorbing contemporary classical works, eclectic mixes of music and convention-flouting artists. They're FREE to anyone attending the main concert and only £5 if you just fancy hearing the late-night performance. Look out for the **AFTER:HOURS** logo in the concert pages.

And don't miss...

Our ever-popular **Sunday Piano Series** continues with half a dozen hour-long performances to brighten your mornings with some brilliant artistry in an informal ambience. Performers introduce the pieces from the stage, and you get to meet and chat with them after the concert. See pages 20-21.

Enjoy the season!

Neil Bennison
Music Programme Manager

GREAT WAYS TO SAVE!

There's a huge amount to enjoy and we've made it easy to enjoy more of what's on offer and pay less with a range of generous discount packages.

You can save up to 30% by subscribing to the whole season or by coming as a group, and you get 25% off with our Spectacular Six package. Look out for the logo on the concert pages and in the booking form.

SPECTACULAR **6** ::::

See the centre pages for full details of all packages.

Orchestral Series

TUESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER, 7.30PM

THE HALLÉ

Kahchun Wong conductor
Truls Mørk cello

Shostakovich Festive Overture

Elgar Cello Concerto

Rachmaninov Symphony No. 2

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

A majestic fanfare opens our new season, as the trumpets of Shostakovich's 1954 Festive Overture herald five-minutes of joyful high spirits. Its dutiful optimism, composed in just three days in celebration of the 37th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, would no doubt have felt forced to him, having been harried by the Soviet regime for several years. But it's hard to resist the overture's blistering momentum and the soaring nobility of its big tune. The mood of Elgar's Cello Concerto could hardly be more different; his last major work is a poignant farewell to a world blown apart by the Great War. The acclaimed Norwegian cellist Truls Mørk is our soloist in this emotive dialogue between soloist and orchestra.

Rachmaninov's Second Symphony was a major personal achievement given the critical mauling his First had received, but he was in a positive mood when he wrote his Second, with a settled home life and space to think whilst on a retreat in Dresden. The most expansive of his symphonic works, it has drama and passion to match its epic span. At its heart is one of the most rapt slow movements ever heard, sharply contrasted by a wildly inventive scherzo and the exhilarating energy of the finale.

★ **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:**
David Butcher, Chief Executive of the Hallé, in conversation.

SPECTACULAR **6**...



SUNDAY PIANO SERIES

Sunday 12 October, 11am

Rachel Cheung performs Beethoven, Schumann and Liszt. See pages 20-21 for details.

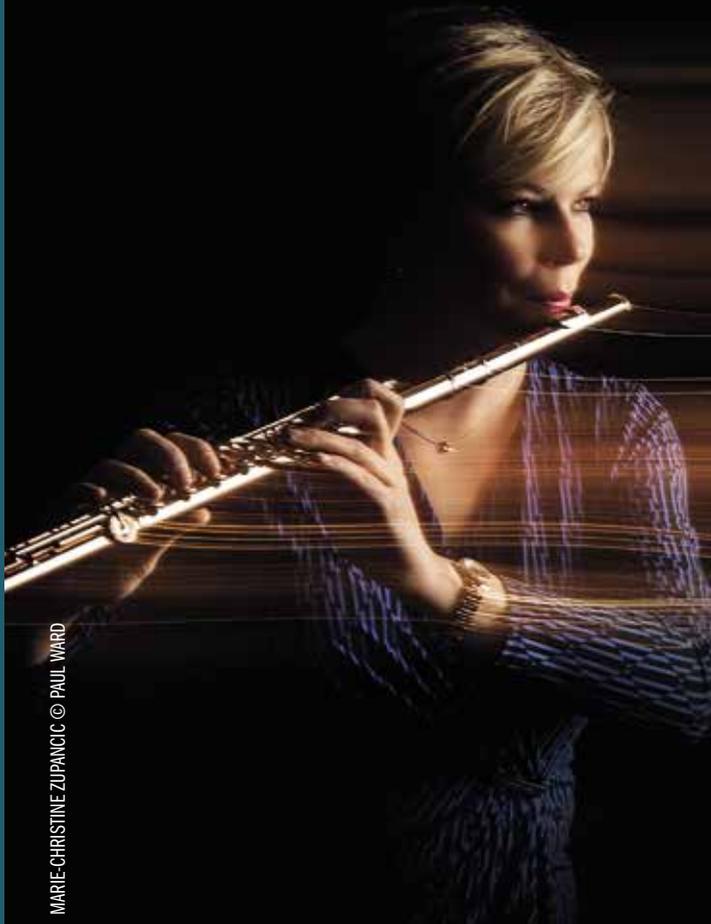
KAHCHUN WONG & THE HALLÉ © SHARYN BELLEMAKERS

Box Office: 0115 989 5555 trch.co.uk/nottinghamclassics

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03

MARIE-CHRISTINEZUPANCIC © PAUL WARD



Orchestral Series

WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER, 7.30PM

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Michael Seal conductor
Marie-Christine Zupancic flute
Katherine Thomas harp

Britten The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra
Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto
Mussorgsky (orch. Ravel) Pictures at an Exhibition

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

For a showcase of all the colours in an orchestra's palette, this CBSO concert is a great place to start. Benjamin Britten's famous orchestral guide began life in 1945 as the soundtrack to an instructional film, but its pitch perfect spotlighting of each instrument, all based around Henry Purcell's Rondeau from the play Abdelazar, has never dated. On a more intimate scale, Mozart's much-loved Flute and Harp Concerto gives two CBSO Principal players a chance to shine. Composed in 1778 for the flute-playing Duke of Guines and his harpist daughter, it wasn't exactly Mozart's most cherished commission, as he admitted to disliking both solo instruments. Nonetheless he delivered it in style, its graceful interplay showing Mozart at his most charming and lyrical.

Mussorgky's Pictures at an Exhibition began life as a finger-crunching solo piano piece, written in tribute to his artist friend Viktor Hartmann, whose memorial exhibition the composer had viewed in 1874. It became a concert hall classic in Maurice Ravel's peerless 1922 orchestration, which added lustre to Mussorgsky's gallery of vivid portraits and scenes, from a grotesque gnome and squabbling children to a lumbering ox cart and the legendary Russian witch, Baba Yaga. Finally, peeling bells and blazing brass summon a spectacular procession through the Great Gate of Kiev.

★ **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:**
 Michael Seal in conversation.

SPECTACULAR **6**...



Orchestral Series

FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER, 7.30PM

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Vasily Petrenko conductor

Simon Trpčeski piano

Nielsen Maskarade Overture

Grieg Piano Concerto

Sibelius Symphony No. 2

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

Carl Nielsen's bustling overture to his 1904 opera, *Maskarade*, launches this Nordic programme from the acclaimed partnership of Vasily Petrenko and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, joined here by regular collaborator, Simon Trpčeski, for Grieg's evergreen Piano Concerto. Composed when he was just 25, it's an astonishingly accomplished blend of personal style with national musical identity, mixing Norwegian folk idioms with youthful solo writing that's both brilliant and warmly lyrical.

Sibelius's name is synonymous with starkly beautiful Nordic landscapes but he loved Italy, and it was whilst enjoying a sun-drenched stay in the seaside town of Rapallo in 1901 that he first began his Second Symphony. He struggled to complete the work and revised it several times but the finished article quickly enjoyed success in Finland and has since become his most popular symphony worldwide. His last major Romantic work, it's driven by a heroic sense of purpose, its sinewy themes and steely climaxes leading to a glorious, hymn-like conclusion.



Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:

Dr Sophie Redfern introduces Sibelius's 2nd Symphony.

Orchestral Series
FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER, 7.30PM
BBC PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Elena Schwarz conductor
Peter Moore trombone

Debussy La Mer
Dani Howard Trombone Concerto
Mahler Symphony No. 1

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

How often do you hear a trombone concerto in an orchestral programme? It's a rarity at best, but the most versatile instrument in the brass section can tingle spines and melt hearts in the hands of a great soloist, and with Peter Moore, former BBC Young Musician winner at the age of just 12, we're in the presence of trombone superstardom. For his Nottingham concerto debut he'll be playing the piece specially written for him by the brilliant young British composer Dani Howard, whose sparkling sound world has been winning legions of fans. Written during the pandemic, her concerto is a celebration of hope and humanity during the most difficult times and draws on every element of the trombone's enormous expressive range, from warm, soaring lyricism to spring-heeled, sonic gymnastics.

The rest of the brass section also gets plenty of places to shine in this concert. Mahler's epic First Symphony features seven French horns, standing to deliver in its stormy finale, whilst Debussy's Symphonic Suite, La Mer, is a memorable showpiece for trumpets, adding their brilliance to his impressionistic study in light and movement, beginning with the sea emerging at dawn and ending in a tumult of crashing waves.

***** **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:** Peter Moore in conversation.

||| SUNDAY PIANO SERIES
Sunday 16 November, 11am
Ariel Lanyi performs Beethoven and Debussy.
 See pages 20-21 for details.



AFTER:HOURS
 20 minutes after the main performance.
 Free admission to BBC Philharmonic ticket holders.
 £5 for non-ticket holders.

Multi-award-winning string duo, **Fran & Flora** perform an eclectic and electrifying mix of Klezmer, Eastern European traditional string music and experimental electronics.

Orchestral Series

TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 7.00PM (PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIME)

AURORA ORCHESTRA

Nicholas Collon conductor
Chloë Hanslip violin

Mozart Overture: Marriage of Figaro
Elgar Introduction and Allegro
Prokofiev Violin Concerto No. 2
Mendelssohn Symphony No. 4 'Italian' (performed from memory)

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

It's been twenty years since Aurora Orchestra tore up the rule book and made its name worldwide as a boundary-breaking ensemble, creating extraordinary musical experiences by incorporating drama and choreography and making even the most familiar classical works feel new-minted by performing them entirely from memory.

In this eagerly anticipated return to Nottingham, Aurora brings a quartet of contrasting classics, beginning with Mozart's zesty overture to his hit opera, *The Marriage of Figaro*, whose perceived revolutionary subtext initially got it banned in several countries. Elgar's unstoppable *Introduction and Allegro* is the perfect showcase for Aurora's fleet-footed strings and there are more violin fireworks when popular British soloist, Chloë Hanslip, walks the high wire in Prokofiev's virtuosic *Second Violin Concerto*. Finally, Mendelssohn's breezy, best-loved *Symphony*, the 'Italian', gets the Aurora treatment: an exhilarating journey, made without sheet music, joining the composer on his grand tour from Venice to Rome in 1830. Complete with Mediterranean sunshine, historic art and architecture, and traditional dances, it's a joyous excursion, hurtling to a close with a raucous, irresistible saltarello.

 **Free pre-concert talk, 6pm in the auditorium:**
Aurora's Principal Conductor, Nicholas Collon, in conversation.



SUNDAY PIANO SERIES

Sunday 14 December, 11am

Sarah Beth Briggs performs
Scarlatti, Mendelssohn, Debussy and
Tchaikovsky. See pages 20-21 for
details.

WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER, 7.30PM

THE HALLÉ CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Stephen Bell	conductor
Rodney Earl Clarke	baritone
Nigel Hess	A Christmas Overture
Franck	Panis angelicus
Mozart	Non più andrai from The Marriage of Figaro
Prokofiev	Troika
Arr. Harvey	I Wonder as I Wander
Bernstein	Lonely Town
Tchaikovsky	The Nutcracker: Suite (extracts)
Rimsky-Korsakov	Dance of the Tumblers
Rodgers and Hammerstein	Some Enchanted Evening
John Williams	Home Alone
Morricone	Se – Cinema Paradiso
Arr. Malloy	Frozen Suite
Martin/Blane	Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas
Arr. Connor	Deck The Halls
Tormé	The Christmas Song
Berlin	White Christmas
Anderson	Sleigh Ride

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

British baritone Rodney Earl Clarke captured every heart when he starred in the Halle's Christmas Concert a couple of years ago. We couldn't wait to bring him back, so here he is with a sack full of treats for the festive period, including operatic and Hollywood favourites, as well as some chestnut-roasting seasonal classics. Our master of ceremonies is genial conductor Stephen Bell, who'll be taking us through a roll call of Christmas hits from Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov and heartwarming movie music from Home Alone to Frozen. And as it's Christmas, you can enjoy some good old-fashioned audience participation, singing along with White Christmas and trying to keep up with the reindeer in Leroy Anderson's Sleigh Ride.





TUESDAY 6 JANUARY, 7.30PM

THE NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Alexandre Bloch
Inbal Segev

conductor
cello

Debussy
Karim Al-Zand
Anna Clyne
Ravel

Iberia
City Scenes
DANCE cello concerto
Rapsodie Espagnole

Tickets: £12.50 - £32.50
Under 19s: admission free

With 160 of Britain's best young musicians coming together for electrifying performances, National Youth Orchestra concerts in Nottingham are always special events, delivered with edge-of-the-seat commitment and energy.

Dance is the thread that runs through this concert, beginning with the elegant rhythmic sway of Debussy's Iberia. The composer spent no more than a few hours in Spain but his impressionist rendering of strumming guitars, sultry Andalusian nights and sun-drenched festivities leaves a lasting impression.

The music of Canadian-American composer Karim Al-Zand has been praised as 'strong and startlingly lovely' (Boston Globe), drawing on film, jazz, and world music, and his City Scenes evoke the alluring tumult of urban life in three bustling dances. Anna Clyne wrote her cello concerto for Israeli-American cellist Inbal Segev, and its five movements sing and soar in response to lines from the 13th-century Persian Poet, Rumi. Finally, Ravel's Rapsodie Espagnole – his first published piece – mirrors Debussy in creating an intoxicating vision of Spain, in this case through four sensuous and colourful movements referencing familiar native dances, including the malaguena and habanera.



Orchestral Series

SATURDAY 10 JANUARY, 7.30PM

SINFONIA VIVA

Jonathan Bloxham conductor
Braimah Kanneh-Mason violin
Sheku Kanneh-Mason cello
Isata Kanneh-Mason piano
Nottingham Harmonic Choir

Mozart Overture: The Magic Flute
Beethoven Concerto for Violin, Cello, and Piano
Emilie Mayer Overture in D Minor
Brahms Schicksalslied
Vaughan Williams Toward the Unknown Region

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

Members of Nottingham's famous Kanneh-Mason family have appeared several times in previous Nottingham Classics seasons, but this performance of Beethoven's 'Triple Concerto' is the first time that three of them will have appeared together on our stage. Written around the time of the Eroica Symphony it's an adventurous musical hybrid, playfully combining elements of the piano trio with the concerto and presenting the soloists as a collective force against the grandeur of the orchestra.

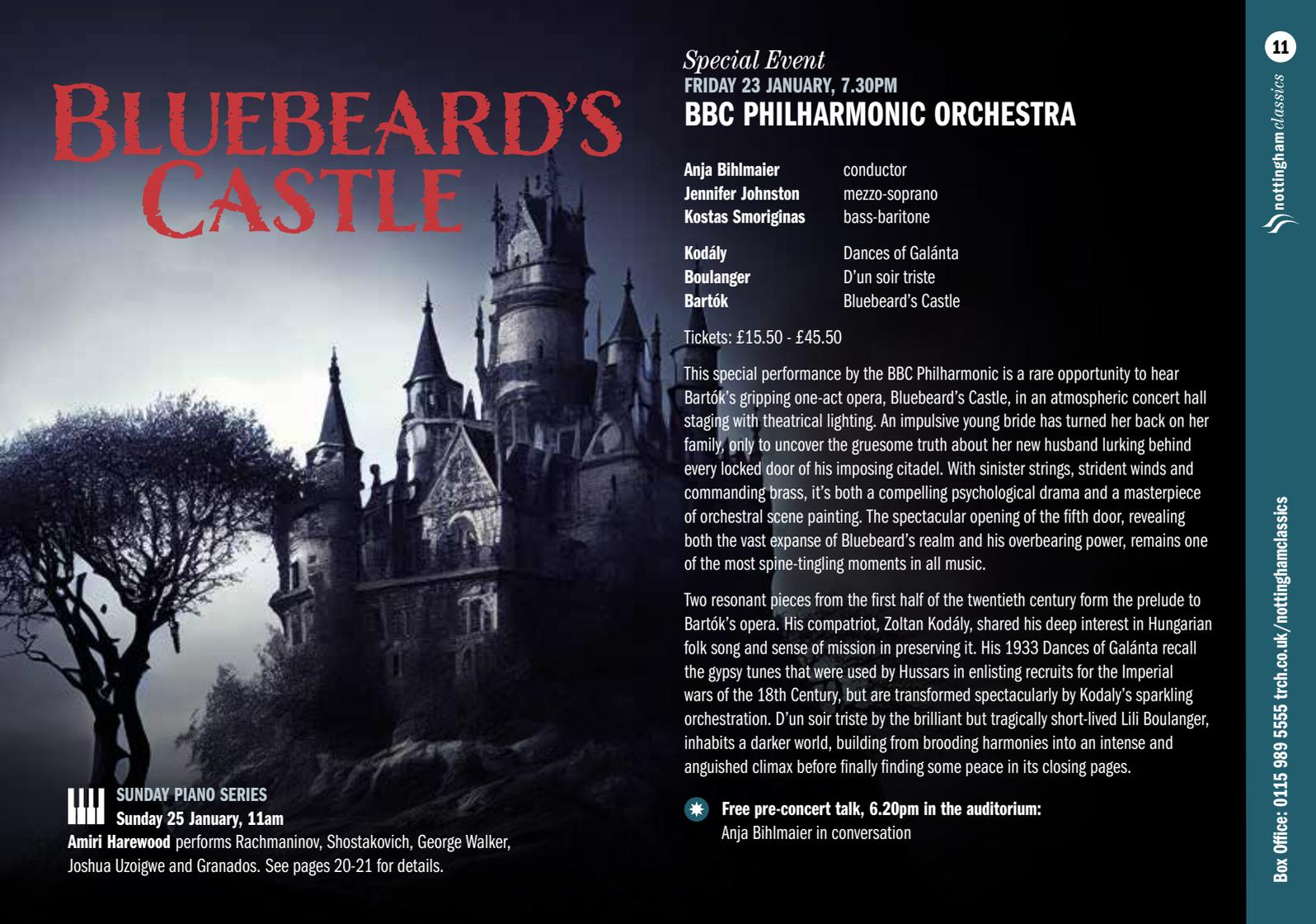
The rest of the programme is a feast of Germanic and British orchestral and choral music. Mozart's Magic Flute Overture launches the concert with both the Masonic solemnity and the comedic high spirits of his opera, whilst the pioneering Emilie Mayer's Overture in D Minor is an example of her taut and dramatic writing at its best. The two choral items form a fascinating contrast: Brahms's dramatic cantata Schicksalslied ('Song of Fate') was inspired by Friedrich Hölderlin's poem concerning the Greek mythical titan Hyperion, and the contrast it makes between the blissful lives of the Immortals and the restless existence of human beings, buffeted by fate. There's a more optimistic mood embraced by Vaughan Williams' Toward the Unknown Region, as you might expect from a work reflecting the composer's admiration for Walt Whitman's transcendent poetry. The spirit of adventure reigns throughout, Whitman's visionary words unleashing wave after wave of musical elation.



Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:

Braimah, Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason in conversation.

BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE



Special Event

FRIDAY 23 JANUARY, 7.30PM

BBC PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Anja Bihlmaier conductor
Jennifer Johnston mezzo-soprano
Kostas Smoriginas bass-baritone

Kodály Dances of Galánta
Boulanger D'un soir triste
Bartók Bluebeard's Castle

Tickets: £15.50 - £45.50

This special performance by the BBC Philharmonic is a rare opportunity to hear Bartók's gripping one-act opera, *Bluebeard's Castle*, in an atmospheric concert hall staging with theatrical lighting. An impulsive young bride has turned her back on her family, only to uncover the gruesome truth about her new husband lurking behind every locked door of his imposing citadel. With sinister strings, strident winds and commanding brass, it's both a compelling psychological drama and a masterpiece of orchestral scene painting. The spectacular opening of the fifth door, revealing both the vast expanse of Bluebeard's realm and his overbearing power, remains one of the most spine-tingling moments in all music.

Two resonant pieces from the first half of the twentieth century form the prelude to Bartók's opera. His compatriot, Zoltan Kodály, shared his deep interest in Hungarian folk song and sense of mission in preserving it. His 1933 *Dances of Galánta* recall the gypsy tunes that were used by Hussars in enlisting recruits for the Imperial wars of the 18th Century, but are transformed spectacularly by Kodály's sparkling orchestration. *D'un soir triste* by the brilliant but tragically short-lived Lili Boulanger, inhabits a darker world, building from brooding harmonies into an intense and anguished climax before finally finding some peace in its closing pages.

* **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:**
Anja Bihlmaier in conversation



SUNDAY PIANO SERIES

Sunday 25 January, 11am

Amiri Harewood performs Rachmaninov, Shostakovich, George Walker, Joshua Uzoigwe and Granados. See pages 20-21 for details.

Orchestral Series

TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 7.30PM

THE HALLÉ

Kahchun Wong conductor
Jan Vogler cello

Sibelius Andante Festivo

Shostakovich Cello Concerto No. 1

Beethoven Symphony No. 3 'Eroica'

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

Three contrasting moods frame this Hallé concert, beginning with the hushed solemnity of Sibelius's Andante Festivo, originally written to mark the 25th anniversary of the Saynatsalo plywood mill but later a mainstay of dignified Finnish state occasions, including the composer's own funeral. Steely defiance defines Shostakovich's First Cello Concerto, performed here by leading German cellist Jan Vogler. Although he wrote it during the Soviet thaw under Kruschev, Shostakovich drew deeply on his memories of years of harassment suffered during the Stalin years, filling it with searing energy and keening melodies.

Beethoven's Third Symphony confounded the expectations of its first listeners, many of whom were perplexed by its unprecedented length and emotional extremes. But its epic narrative of heroic struggle, as Beethoven broke away decisively from Haydn and Mozart to herald the beginning of the Romantic age, has lost none of its potency over two centuries later.

★ **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:**

Jan Vogler in conversation.

**SUNDAY PIANO SERIES**

Sunday 22 February, 11am

Daniel Lebhardt performs Beethoven, Schumann and Brahms. See pages 20-21 for details.



JAN VOGLER © MARCO GROB

AFTER:HOURS

20 minutes after the main performance.
 Free admission to Hallé ticket holders.
 £5 for non-ticket holders.

Dr László Rózsa, Assistant Professor of Performance & Director of Performance, University of Nottingham performs music for recorder and electronics.

HEAR MORE AND PAY LESS!

Season Tickets (12 concerts) give you the biggest discount (30% on all your purchases) and give you priority booking. If you are already a Season Ticket buyer (12 concerts) our box office will contact you to give you the option of renewing your package for the 2025-2026 season. If you are booking a season ticket for the first time, you can either book online (select your seats for each concert and the discount will be applied at checkout), call the box office or fill in the postal booking form on Page 3A.

Multibuy Packages (3-11 concerts) let you choose freely from all the concerts. Discounts start at just three concerts, saving you from 10% to 25%. Use the form on page 3A. If booking online just select your seats for your chosen events and the discount will automatically be applied at the checkout.

SPECTACULAR 6 offers an easy way to book the six biggest and loudest concerts, saving 25% on all tickets. You must book all six concerts to claim the discount, which applies to all seats apart from those in Band F and Bargain seats. Spectacular Six Concerts are marked clearly in the concert pages and the booking form on page 3A.

Book as a group

Make it a big night out and get bigger discounts by booking as a group. Save 20% for parties of 10 - 19 and 30% for parties of 20 or more, with a wide choice of seats for each member of your party. For more information about group bookings please email group.sales@nottinghamcity.gov.uk.

Catch a Concert Coach for easy travel to performances

We run seven Concert Coaches, from Loughborough, Sleaford/Grantham, Southwell, Worksop/Retford, Ashbourne/Derby, Bakewell/Matlock and Lincoln/Newark. These offer affordable, stress-free return coach travel, picking up at convenient stops on the way and dropping off/picking up at the Royal Concert Hall doors. For details email group.sales@nottinghamcity.gov.uk.

Under 26s and full-time students

Under 26s and students in full time education can book seats in any area of the hall for £5 each. Just select the Under 26 price from the drop-down list when selecting a seat. **Please note:** you may be asked to show proof of age or student status when you enter the auditorium.

Bargain Seats

These are available in the choir stalls at £9.50 for orchestral series concerts only and can be purchased from 12pm on the day of the concert online, by phone on 0115 989 5555, or at the box office counter. Please note that these seats are subject to availability.

WHEN TO BOOK

From 10 June: Season Ticket booking

From 17 June: 3-11 concert Multibuy booking, Spectacular Six Packages and Concert Coaches

From 23 June: General booking for individuals and groups

Send in your booking form as soon as you wish to the Royal & Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Square, Nottingham NG1 5ND and the box office will process it at the right time. If you bring in your booking form in person, please note that it will not be processed at the box office counter.

ROYAL CONCERT HALL SEATING PLAN

For full details, including a numbered seating plan, visit www.trch.co.uk/nottinghamclassics/hear-more

Price Band	Orchestral Series, Hallé Christmas Concert and BBC Concert Orchestra	BBC Philharmonic: Bluebeard's Castle	National Youth Orchestra	The Hallé - Vive La France	Christmas with Tenebrae	Sunday Piano Series	Sinfonia Viva: Bach and Piazzolla
A ●	£42.50	£45.50	£32.50 (Stalls and Tier 1 only)	£42.50	£29.50 (Stalls & Tier 1 only)	All seats £11 (stalls only)	All seats £16 (Stalls only)
B ●	£36.50	£39.50	£27.50	£36.50	£26.50		
C ●	£31.50	£33.50	£22.50	£31.50	£23.50		
D ●	£26.50	£27.50	£17.50	£26.50	£20.50		
E ●	£21.50	£21.50	£12.50	£21.50	£16.50		
F* ●	£12.50	£15.50		£15.50			

* Please note that subscription discounts do not apply to seats in Price Band F.

Season Ticket and Multibuy Package Discounts

Book for 12 Concerts - save 30% off all orchestral series and also the Hallé Christmas Concert (17 Dec), National Youth Orchestra (6 Jan), Bluebeard's Castle (23 Jan) and The Hallé's Vive La France concert (27 Mar). You also get a free programme voucher for each ticket you buy.

Book for 10-11 Concerts - save 25% off all orchestral series tickets. You also get a free programme voucher for each ticket you buy.

Book for 7-9 Concerts - save 20% off all orchestral series tickets.

Book for 5-6 Concerts - save 15% off all orchestral series tickets.

Book for 3-4 Concerts - save 10% off all orchestral series tickets.

Please note that most Nottingham Classics concerts will use a 1-metre stage extension, resulting in all of Stalls Row A and some of Row B not being available. For Sinfonia Viva (10 Jan) and the BBC Concert Orchestra (25 Mar), a 4-metre extension is used to accommodate large choirs, so the first 5 rows of Stalls seats will not be available. Please call our box office on 0115 989 555 for more details.

SPECTACULAR 6...

Save 25% on the six most spectacular concerts in the orchestral series - each of these concerts is marked in the brochure and in the booking form on page 3A.

- | | |
|-----|-----|
| A ● | D ● |
| B ● | E ● |
| C ● | F ● |



POSTAL BOOKING FORM

Use this form if you are booking a season ticket or choosing 3 concerts or more from the orchestral series and wish to book by post.

Tick here if you booked last season and wish to keep your seats, if available.* Please also give your **Seating Area** (Stalls/Tier 1/Tier 2) _____ and **Seat Number(s)** _____

* Please note that we cannot guarantee availability of specific seats. If your preferred seats are unavailable our box office staff will contact you to discuss the best alternatives.

	Orchestral Series	Date	Price Band (A-E)	Seating Area	Number of Seats	Price per Ticket	Total
SPECTACULAR 6	The Hallé	30/09/2025					
SPECTACULAR 6	City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra	15/10/2025					
	Royal Philharmonic Orchestra	24/10/2025					
SPECTACULAR 6	BBC Philharmonic Orchestra	07/11/2025					
	Aurora Orchestra	25/11/2025					
	Sinfonia Viva	10/01/2026					
	The Hallé	10/02/2026					
SPECTACULAR 6	The Hallé	13/03/2026					
SPECTACULAR 6	Spanish Galicia Symphony Orchestra	16/04/2026					
	Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra	23/04/2026					
	Warsaw Philharmonic	20/05/2026					
SPECTACULAR 6	The Hallé	04/06/2026					
							SUBTOTAL 1

Other Events (multibuy discount does not apply to these)

Christmas with Tenebrae	01/12/2025						
The Hallé Christmas Concert	17/12/2025						
National Youth Orchestra	06/01/2026						
BBC Philharmonic Orchestra - Bluebeard's Castle	23/01/2026						
Sinfonia Viva	22/02/2026						
BBC Concert Orchestra/University Choirs - Verdi's Requiem	25/03/2026						
The Hallé - Vive La France	27/03/2026						
							SUBTOTAL 2

Sunday Piano Series

Rachel Cheung	12/10/2025	All tickets £11 each, with a discount of 20% if you book for all 6 concerts.	Stalls only (unreserved)			
Ariel Lanyi	16/11/2025					
Sarah Beth Briggs	14/12/2025					
Amiri Harewood	25/01/2026					
Daniel Lehardt	22/02/2026					
Anna Tsybuleva	22/03/2026					

SUBTOTAL 3

FINAL TOTAL

Now fill in your payment details on Page 4A and return the form to:
Box Office, Theatre Royal & Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Square, Nottingham NG1 5ND.

PAYMENT DETAILS

Title _____ First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone (daytime) _____ Telephone (evening) _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Please ensure that you have included your telephone number **and** email address, if you have one. We need this information in case there is a query with your booking.

I would like to pay by credit or debit card and would like to have a member of the Box Office team call me for payment of £ _____

I enclose a cheque made payable to The Royal Concert Hall to the amount of £ _____

TICKET DETAILS

Ticket Delivery

We are now using e-ticketing for our events. E-tickets are stored safely on your smartphone and are easy to find and use. To ensure that we can send you your tickets, please include your email address in your details above. When your booking is complete, we will send you an email with your tickets attached as a PDF. This will include a QR code, which contains the same information as a paper ticket. When you arrive, open the PDF on your smartphone and one of our Front of House team will scan your e-ticket. Or you can print your e-ticket at home and bring it with you to be scanned on arrival. For more information visit trch.co.uk/faq/

If you are not able to receive e-tickets please tick here

Ticket Exchanges and Refunds

Tickets may be exchanged for another performance in the 25/26 Nottingham Classics season. Ticket exchange is FREE to all Season Ticket holders and Multibuy bookers. For individual concert bookers, tickets may be exchanged at a cost of £2 per ticket. If you have tickets for a performance that is cancelled or rescheduled, we will guarantee you a refund or exchange. Also, if you are not able to come to the concert due to illness, we will exchange or refund your tickets up to 24 hours prior to a performance.

NB: Dates, times, prices, artists and programmes are correct at time of going to press but may be subject to later alteration.

Contact Information

By post or in person: Box Office, Theatre Royal & Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Square, Nottingham NG1 5ND

By telephone: 0115 989 5555

Online: www.trch.co.uk/nottinghamclassics

Opening hours: **Phones:** Mon to Sat, 10am-8pm. **Box Office counter:** Wed to Sat, 11am-1pm and one hour prior to a performance.

STAY INFORMED

Please let us know how you would like to hear from us, and we will update your customer record.

- Nottingham Classics emails
- Nottingham Classics brochures
- TRCH emails about shows
- TRCH brochures

Orchestral Series

FRIDAY 13 MARCH, 7.30PM

THE HALLÉ

Alpesh Chauhan conductor
Denis Kozhukhin piano

Britten Courty Dances from Gloriana

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 3

Walton Symphony No. 1

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

Commissioned for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, Gloriana attracted controversy in exploring the hidden romantic life of the monarch's namesake and predecessor. Britten's music, though, brilliantly captures the spirit of Elizabethan dances and lute songs, whilst giving them an ironic 20th-century distance. The seven Courty Dances that open this concert are an immediately appealing example.

Rachmaninov performed his Third Piano Concerto as part of his first tour of the United States in 1909, and the first concerts in New York set it on the road to becoming an essential part of the repertoire. Loved by millions for its waves of epic melody and exhilarating shifts of gear, it also tests the mettle of every concert pianist with its daunting technical demands. Facing the music in this performance is Belgian pianist Denis Kozhukhin, an artist with a great gift for performing big Russian repertoire. Now regarded by many as the finest British symphony ever, Walton's First Symphony was written when he was just 30 and his turbulent relationships with two women - Imma von Doernberg and Alice Wimborne - drive its edge-of-the-seat emotions and partly explain why it took him five years to finish. Nevertheless it shows the young Walton at his ambitious best, his unbridled energy and impish wit running riot.

 **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:**
William Ruff introduces Walton's First Symphony.

SPECTACULAR **6**...

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nottingham classics



AFTER:HOURS

20 minutes after the main performance.
Free admission to Hallé ticket holders.
£5 for non-ticket holders.

The all-female **Laiton Trumpet Quartet** performs an eclectic mix of original compositions and brass arrangements.



SUNDAY PIANO SERIES

Sunday 22 March, 11am

Anna Tsybuleva performs Chopin and Ravel. See pages 20-21 for details.



The Universities for Nottingham Concert
WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH, 7.30PM
BBC CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Anna-Maria Helsing conductor

Soloists to be announced

**Choirs of Nottingham Trent University and
 the University of Nottingham**

Verdi Requiem

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

The Requiem of 1874 is the only large-scale work that Verdi didn't compose for the stage, but this dramatic choral classic wouldn't sound out of place at La Scala; indeed, the conductor Hans von Bülow memorably described it as 'Verdi's latest opera, in church vestments.' Whatever its credentials as a devotional work, there's no denying its sheer emotional power which deals in extremes of scale, from the outright terror of the Dies Irae - all doom-thundering bass drum and fire-spitting trumpets - to the intimacy of a pleading, unaccompanied duet in the Agnus Dei. Verdi gives his enormous chorus plenty of chance to shine, too, as in the scurrying virtuosity of the double-fugue Sanctus. Given its capacity for shock and awe, it's not surprising that the Requiem has supercharged the soundtracks for countless movies, including Django Unchained and Mad Max: Fury Road. Heard live in the concert hall it's an unforgettably vivid and visceral experience.

This concert continues a programme of activities supported by the Universities for Nottingham partnership with the BBC Concert Orchestra and the orchestra's residency at the Theatre Royal & Royal Concert Hall. The partnership aims to inspire the next generation, reach new audiences and improve quality of life, health and wellbeing across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

Special Event

FRIDAY 27 MARCH, 7.30PM

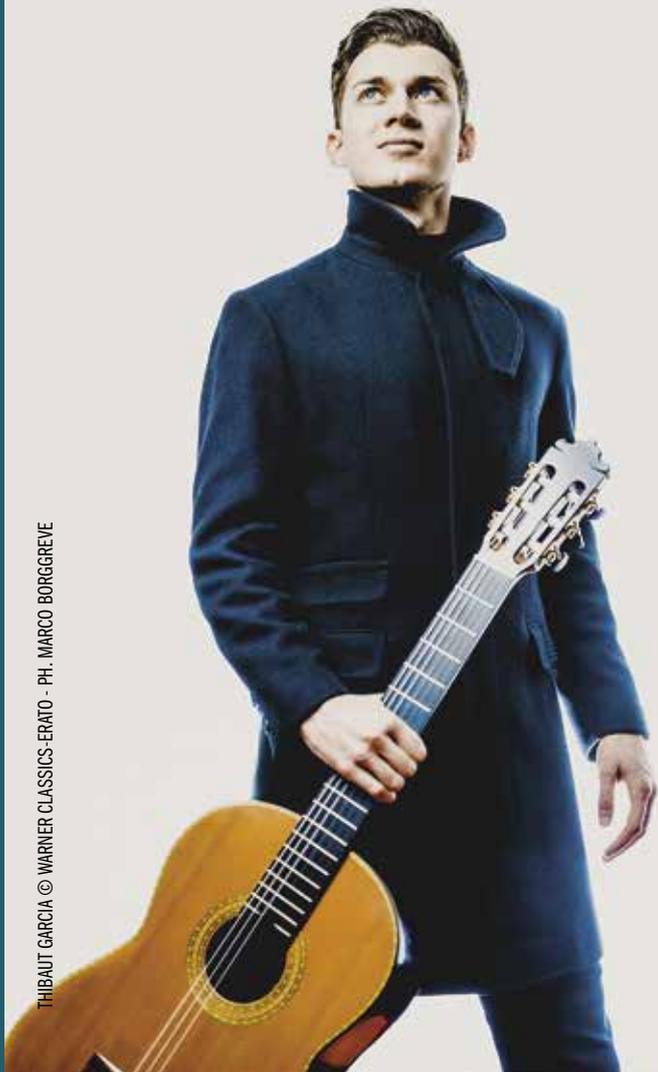
The Hallé	
Stephen Bell	conductor
Rebecca Bottone	soprano
De Lisle	La Marseillaise
Berlioz	Overture: Le Corsaire
Fauré	Pavane
Gounod	Je Veux Vivre
Giacchino	Suite from Ratatouille
Piaf	La Vie En Rose
Catalani	La Wally: Ebben? Ne andrò lontana (from the movie Diva)
Bizet	The Toreador Song from Carmen Suite
Dukas	The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Saint-Saëns	Bacchanale from Samson & Delilah
Debussy	Clair de Lune
Rachel Portman	Chocolat
Offenbach	Doll Song from The Tales of Hoffmann
Delerue	The Last Metro
Canteloube	Baïlèro from Songs of the Auvergne
Ravel	La Valse
Offenbach	Can Can

Tickets: £15.50 - £42.50

From great romance to revolutionary fervour, France doesn't do things by halves. Passion and flair pulse through every corner of French cultural life, whether in the cool sophistication of its cinema, the rich flavours of its cuisine or the vibrant sounds of its music.

This concert takes us on a fantastique tour of French musical highlights, taking in spectacular orchestral favourites, grand opera, popular song and evocative film scores. Conductor Stephen Bell is joined by leading British soprano, Rebecca Bottone, who'll be performing classical favourites from Gounod, Canteloube and Offenbach and the thrilling Catalani aria that's central to the plot of the cult 'Cinema du Look' movie, Diva, by Jean-Jacques Beineix. The power behind the passion comes from the Hallé, whose 80 musicians will be treating us to orchestral favourites including Dukas's magical tale, The Sorcerer's Apprentice and Ravel's whirling vision of decadence, La Valse. Completing the line-up is a trio of transatlantic cinematic gems from Michael Giacchino, Rachel Portman and Georges Delerue.





Orchestral Series

THURSDAY 16 APRIL, 7.30PM

SPANISH GALICIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Roberto González-Monjas

conductor

Thibaut Garcia

guitar

Falla

Three Dances from The Three-Cornered Hat

Rodrigo

Concierto de Aranjuez

Ravel

Ma mère l'Oye (Suite)

Turina

Sinfonía sevillana

Ravel

Boléro

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

Our first visit from a Spanish orchestra in many a year brings this exciting young ensemble from the port city of A Coruña. They're joined by Thibaut Garcia, who's been hailed as 'the new face of classical guitar' after winning every major international guitar competition within the space of just a few months. His performance of Rodrigo's evergreen Concierto de Aranjuez – so popular that it's been recorded over a hundred times – is the centrepiece of a richly varied programme from Spain and France.

Manuel de Falla gets things started with three catchy dances from his big-hearted pantomime of 1919, a tongue-in-cheek tale of amorous rivals. More magical stories make up Ravel's captivating Ma mère l'Oye (Mother Goose), his peerless orchestration breathing new life into famous fairy tale characters. Joaquín Turina's evocative Sinfonía sevillana dates from 1920 and won him the Gran Casino de San Sebastián prize. Its impressionistic three movements offer colourful views of Andalusia: a scene-setting panorama, the river Guadalquivir, and a joyous fiesta in San Juan de Aznalfarache. Ravel's famous Boléro ensures a suitably spectacular ending. Starting out as a commission for ballerina Ida Rubinstein, it became a concert hall classic whose appeal lies in its daring simplicity: two hummable tunes weaving together over a relentless snare drum rhythm into a glorious musical procession.



Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:

Dr Sophie Redfern introduces the programme.

Orchestral Series

THURSDAY 23 APRIL, 7.30PM

ROYAL LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Domingo Hindoyan conductor
Alim Beisembayev piano

Rimsky-Korsakov Russian Easter Festival Overture

Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 2

Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

Kazakh pianist Alim Beisembayev shot to international fame when winning the Leeds International Piano Competition in 2021, and also taking home the medici.tv Audience Prize. Not long after, he won worldwide acclaim by making his BBC Proms debut with only two days' notice. He's an artist who thrives on big repertoire, and they don't come much bigger than Prokofiev's 2nd Piano Concerto, the centrepiece of this Royal Liverpool Philharmonic programme. Premiered in 1913, Prokofiev's Concerto vividly embodies the energy of the machine age: one commentator described it moving 'with the relentless force and fluidity of a speeding locomotive.' The soloist is continually pushed to the limit, whether in its lush and expansive theme or its finger-crunching cadenza.

Bookending Prokofiev's concerto are two Romantic Russian classics. Rimsky-Korsakov's Russian Easter Festival Overture shares the sweeping melodies and glorious orchestration of his Scheherazade, painting a vivid picture, in the composer's words, of 'the unbridled pagan-religious merry-making of the morn of Easter Sunday.' Considered to be very progressive when first performed – dangerously so in the opinion of some critics – Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony continues Tchaikovsky's preoccupation with fate and deploys his peerless melodic gifts to stunning effect in a heartfelt slow movement, one of his greatest waltzes and an unstoppable marching finale.



Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:

Dr Joanne Cormac, University of Nottingham, introduces the programme.

DOMINGO HINDOYAN © CHRIS CHRISTOLOUDOU

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Orchestral Series

WEDNESDAY 20 MAY, 7.30PM

WARSAW PHILHARMONIC

Krzysztof Urbański	conductor
Alexandra Dariescu	piano
Bacewicz	Scherzo
Lutosławski	Little Suite
Chopin	Piano Concerto No. 2
Beethoven	Symphony No. 7

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

The progressive 20th-century Polish Composer Witold Lutoslawski was admired for his avant-garde works but he was also capable of creating immediately appealing music. His Little Suite of 1950, with its infectious energy and folk-inspired themes, has since become a popular concert opener. A century earlier, Lutoslawski's compatriot Chopin was considered a radical in his own Romantic fashion and his youthful Second Piano Concerto is an unashamed showpiece for the soloist who's centre stage at all times to dazzle the audience with light-fingered lyricism. The effervescent Romanian pianist Alexandra Dariescu takes up the challenge.

The rest of this Warsaw Philharmonic programme brings a welcome opportunity to experience the exhilarating Scherzo by the prolific Polish composer/violinist Grażyna Bacewicz. Infectiously jaunty, it's a fitting entrée to Beethoven's Seventh Symphony which, whose sheer physical energy shocked some of its first listeners enough to question his sanity. However, the symphony's winning mix of unstoppable momentum and unforgettable tunes ultimately made it one of his most instantly recognisable and popular works. Heard by millions through its use in several movies and TV shows, from The King's Speech to Seinfeld, it's an edge-of-the-seat experience when heard live.

- ★ **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:**
Alexandra Dariescu in conversation.

**AFTER:HOURS**

20 minutes after the main performance.
Free admission to Hallé ticket holders.
£5 for non-ticket holders.

Pianist **Dale Storr** takes inspiration from Richard Addinsell's famous Warsaw Concerto in a classically-infused set of blues piano arrangements and original compositions.



Orchestral Series
THURSDAY 4 JUNE, 7.30PM
THE HALLÉ

Euan Shields	conductor
Simone Lamsma	violin
Janáček	Taras Bulba
Tchaikovsky	Violin Concerto
Dvořák	Symphony No. 8

Tickets: £12.50 - £42.50

The prodigiously gifted Euan Shields signs off his tour of duty as the Hallé's Assistant Conductor with this red-blooded Slavic programme, beginning with Janáček's atmospheric rhapsody for orchestra, *Taras Bulba*. Inspired by Gogol's novella, this gritty portrait of the Cossack leader and his ill-fated sons vividly captures their battle-scarred lives and loves. Dutch violinist Simone Lamsma, whose dazzling artistry blew us all away last season, makes a welcome return with Tchaikovsky's ardent Violin Concerto. It was written amidst the wreckage of his ill-advised marriage, but the composer found inspiration in his friendship with violinist Yosif Kotek and completed the score in less than a month. The result was a triumph; unashamedly virtuosic yet fresh and lyrical, with a heartfelt slow movement and a whirling gypsy finale.

We wrap up our season with Dvořák's colourful Eighth Symphony, written at the height of his popularity in 1889. One of his most joyful works, it radiates all the energy and charm of his Bohemian homeland. Sounds of the countryside and village life are vividly evoked, from birdsong to brass bands, and it's packed with glorious, feelgood tunes, all the way to its roof-raising conclusion.

★ **Free pre-concert talk, 6.20pm in the auditorium:**
 Euan Shields in conversation.

SPECTACULAR **6**...



SUNDAY PIANO SERIES

Enjoy an hour of great music in the company of some of the most exciting stars of the piano. Our Sunday Piano Series offers a rich mix of classic works and rare gems, from Scarlatti to Schubert. The performances are informal and introduced from the stage, and you can chat with the pianists in the bar after the concert and still have time to get back home for Sunday Lunch!



RACHEL CHEUNG



ARIEL LANYI



SARAH BETH BRIGGS

SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER, 11AM

RACHEL CHEUNG

- Beethoven** Sonata No. 14, Op. 27, No. 2 'Moonlight'
Schumann Fantasiestücke, Op. 12
Liszt Waltz from Gounod's Opera Faust

Rachel Cheung opens our new Sunday Piano Series with a programme of imagination, dramatic contrasts and virtuosity. The opening of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata is probably the most famous single movement he ever wrote, and the sonata itself is a masterpiece, described by Beethoven as 'like a fantasy', with the contrasting movements ending in a fast and furious presto. Schumann's eight characterful pieces alternate between his vying personas, the dreamy and romantic Florestan and the active and passionate Eusebius. Finally, Liszt's showpiece was based on Gounod's famous opera and combines his fascination with the Faust legend with a way to include the latest operatic news in his flamboyant recitals.

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER, 11AM

ARIEL LANYI

- Beethoven** Sonata No. 16, Op. 31, No. 1
Debussy Préludes, Book II

Prize-winner at the 2021 Leeds Piano Competition, Ariel's first visit to Nottingham in 2023 saw him praised as an 'adventurous intellect' with a 'calm maturity'. The two pieces he brings with him on this visit explore the development and experimentation of their progression. The first of Beethoven's Op. 31 sonatas this season showcases the composer's growing confidence and originality, blending humour and lyricism with delightful results. The second book of Debussy's Préludes were not as well received as the first during his lifetime, but the more advanced harmonies and style are paired with a sensuous beauty as Debussy takes us from autumn leaves and mists, through Spain, Egypt, to Peter Pan and Dickens, and finally to the fireworks in Paris.

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER, 11AM

SARAH BETH BRIGGS

- Scarlatti** Sonata in C, K. 513
Mendelssohn Four Christmas pieces
Debussy Suite Bergamasque
Tchaikovsky The Seasons: November & December
Mendelssohn Variations Serieuses

The celebrated Yorkshire pianist, Sarah Beth Briggs, makes her fourth visit to the Series with another festive programme of simple and sparkling pieces. She begins with Scarlatti's 'Pastorale' sonata, whose melody comes from an old Neapolitan Christmas song, and four of Mendelssohn's charming song-like Christmas pieces. Debussy's famous Suite looks back to the courtly dances of the French Baroque and includes the stunning Clair de Lune. Tchaikovsky portrays a jovial Troika ride in November and the pure joy of Christmas, before Sarah's programme ends with one of Mendelssohn's finest piano works: 17 variations, full of energy and passion.



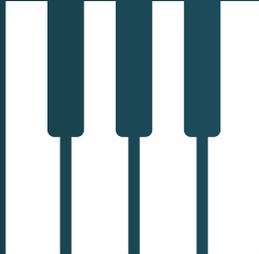
AMIRI HAREWOOD © KAUPU KIKKAS



DANIEL LEBHARDT



ANNA TSYBULEVA



Each concert lasts an hour.
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 Under 26s: £5

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SUNDAY 25 JANUARY, 11AM

AMIRI HAREWOOD

- Rachmaninov** Prelude Op. 23, No. 5
- Shostakovich** Prelude and Fugues, Op. 87, Nos. 1 and 7
- Rachmaninov** Prelude Op. 32 No. 11
- George Walker** Piano Sonata No. 5
- Joshua Uzoigwe** Talking Drums: Egwu Amala
- Granados** Valses Poeticos

Young British rising-star pianist Amiri Harewood made his concerto debut as a teenager, and his sweeping programme features pieces from around the world. There are Russian preludes from Rachmaninov, including the famous Alla Marcia, and from Shostakovich including a stately sarabande and glistening fugue. From America, George Walker's fifth sonata from 2003 condenses the form into a dense five-minute burst. From Nigeria, Joshua Uzoigwe's rhythmic piece is inspired by a traditional dance to a river deity. Finally, Granados's seven waltzes capture the essence of Spanish dance in dazzling, rich colours.

SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY, 11AM

DANIEL LEBHARDT

- Beethoven** Sonata No. 17, Op. 31, No. 2, 'The Tempest'
- Schumann** Gesänge der Frühe
- Brahms** Four Klavierstücke, Op.119

Daniel Lehardt first appeared in our series in his early twenties, having won awards and released his first album on Decca. He's now enjoying a busy international career, and his recital demonstrates the progression of three great composers. The second of Beethoven's Op. 31 sonatas, The Tempest, is full of anger and despair, perhaps reflecting Beethoven's increasing deafness, and is one of his most moving pieces. Schumann's Dawn Songs were his last coherent piano pieces written before his fatal breakdown, described by Clara as unsettling, yet touching and beautiful. Also written in the final years of his life, Brahms's four pieces are melancholic, yet shot through with warmth and playfulness, increasing in spirit, and ending in defiance.

SUNDAY 22 MARCH, 11AM

ANNA TSYBULEVA

- Chopin** Nocturnes (selection)
- Ravel** Gaspard de La Nuit

Described as one of the finest pianists of her generation, the 2015 Leeds Piano Competition winner Anna Tsybuleva returns with a dream-like recital of melodic exploration. Chopin's 21 Nocturnes are generally considered among the finest short solo works for the piano and hold an important place in contemporary concert repertoire. Anna's selection from the Op. 9, Op. 27 and Op. 48 pieces bear witness to the song-like melodies, and the dreamy, languid character of the form. Ravel aimed to write the most technically difficult work in the repertoire and succeeded with the fantasy of Gaspard de la Nuit. A showpiece in three parts, we hear the water nymph, Ondine, the morbid spectre of the gallows and finally the devilish evil spirit, Scarbo.

Other Events

MONDAY 1 DECEMBER, 7PM

CHRISTMAS WITH TENEBRAE: IN WINTER'S HOUSE

Begin your journey into Advent with the passion and precision of Tenebrae, as they sing a stunning programme ranging from Gregorian chant to a spirited version of much-loved traditional The Twelve Days of Christmas. The centrepiece of the evening is Britten's iconic A Ceremony of Carols for upper voices and harp - a series of captivating miniatures in which Britten sets haunting melodies alongside moments of joyous declamation. The programme also features the Tenebrae commission In Winter's House by English composer Joanna Marsh, and traditional carols such as In the Bleak Midwinter and Silent Night to welcome in the festive season.

Tickets: £16.50 - £29.50



TENEBRAE © SIM CANETTY-CLARKE

SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY, 4PM

SINFONIA VIVA

Sophie Rosa

violin/director

Peter Liang

violin

JS Bach

Brandenburg Concerto No. 3

JS Bach

Concerto for Two Violins

Piazzolla

The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires

Part of a set of six concertos presented by Bach to the Margrave of Brandenburg-Schwedt in 1721, The Third Brandenburg Concerto achieved widespread popularity and later became known to millions through its use as the theme tune for the BBC's Antiques Roadshow for many years. Equally admired, his Concerto for Two Violins weaves expressive lines between the two soloists in a captivating dialogue with the orchestra. The finale is a brilliantly imaginative response to Vivaldi's Four Seasons from Argentina's king of tango nuevo, Astor Piazzolla.

Tickets: £16



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When visiting the Royal Concert Hall, there is level access from South Sherwood Street through the push-button activated doors at the main entrance. During performances, ramped access is available from Burton Street leading directly to the Stalls foyer level. Upper levels are accessible by lift but there are stairs to be negotiated in order to reach seating.

Wheelchair user positions are located in the Stalls and Tier 1 of the Royal Concert Hall. Scooters and large wheelchairs may require two standard size wheelchair spaces (please advise us of your needs at the time of booking). For those wishing to transfer from their wheelchair into an auditorium seat, we recommend booking in the Stalls. Our staff will look after your wheelchair once you have transferred to your seat.

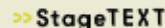
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Assistance dogs are welcome in all areas of the building and bowls of water are offered freely upon arrival. We offer a dog-sitting or walking service during the performance. Please contact the Box Office on trch.access@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or 0115 989 5555 if you wish to book this service.



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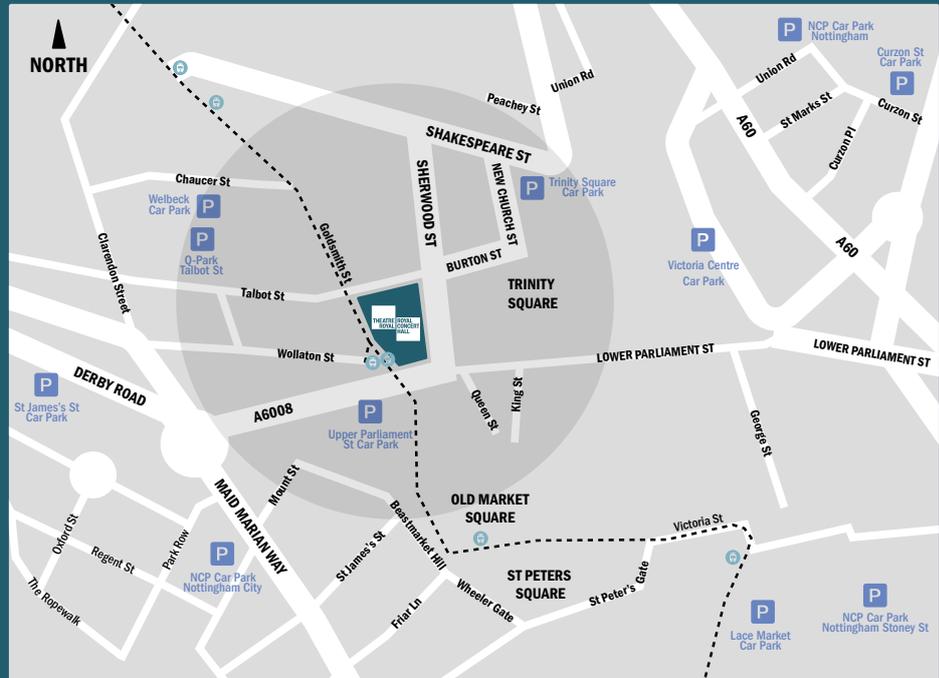
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