Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra 2019 – 2020 Season

Vasily Petrenko: Chief Conductor

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liverpoolphil.com

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And thank you to everyone who supports the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic through membership, patronage or donations, or by donating their time.

Welcome from Vasily Petrenko

In my 14th season with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, I think those Liverpool music-lovers who founded our organisation in 1840 would be proud of where we are today.

Liverpool is now a designated UNESCO City of Music, the only city in England to have been awarded this status. Music is part of the city's DNA and Liverpool Philharmonic has been at the heart of the city's cultural life for more than 179 years.

We're unique in the UK in being the only music organisation combining an award-winning professional symphony orchestra, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra; a premier concert venue presenting a wide-ranging programme in our Grade II*-listed 1700-seater Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, and smaller scale Music Room; and a learning programme that is recognised internationally as a leader in its field.

As you look through our 2019-20 season, you'll see all these elements combined; they are who we are, they are what we do, they are what makes Liverpool Philharmonic unique and distinctive, and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and its associated ensembles are at the heart of it all.

We all believe passionately that orchestral music is a living, contemporary and thrilling art form.

So, in this 2019-20 season, as always, we'll be presenting a diverse range of great music from the classical repertoire across the centuries; and presenting new music.

We're welcoming international guest artists to Liverpool from every music genre, we're providing opportunities to nurture the next generation of young talent for the music industry, and we're bringing the thrill of live music to people of all age groups.

Our vision is to be one of the world's great music-making organisations, deeply rooted in our city, and an ambassador for Liverpool. We could not begin to reach for such an ambition without the great support of our Principal Funders and Partners, sponsors, trusts and foundations and the magnificent generosity of many individuals.

On behalf of us all at Liverpool Philharmonic, I offer our sincere gratitude. We look forward to welcoming you to enjoy more great music with us this season. – Vasily Petrenko, Chief Conductor

Critical Acclaim for Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's Concerts and Recordings

Concert Reviews

The Telegraph

"... Sibelius Four (with Petrenko) ... a riveting way to finish a well thought through and magnificently executed concert." [5 stars]

The Guardian

"The whole concert demonstrated (if anyone doubted it) that the RLPO is one of Europe's finest orchestras." [4 stars]

The Observer

"Beyond the many symbolic or historical parallels you might draw, is the figure of Andrew Manze. The long silence, hanging heavy in the air at the end, roared agreement. This work may be flawed, but its ability to communicate is masterly." [4 stars] – Britten: **War Requiem**

CD Reviews

The Guardian

"The RLPO and Petrenko dazzle in **The Firebird.** Brilliance of detail and narrative drive have to be held in perfect balance. Petrenko and the RLPO, expert in both, achieve this here." – Stravinsky: **The Firebird**; Rimsky-Korsakov: **Le Coq d'or**

Bachtrack

"The penultimate volume in the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's superb Vaughan Williams Series conducted by Andrew Manze (Onyx), an epic, stormy and beautifully nuanced account." – Vaughan Williams Symphonies Vol. 4

Membership

Love music? Discover how rewarding it is to be a Liverpool Philharmonic member.

By making a regular gift to Liverpool Philharmonic, you support the foundation of music in the city. Your support helps us to attract the very best musicians, and continue the vital work we do with children and young people.

You will enable us to deliver In Harmony Liverpool, our ground breaking social action project in North Liverpool, present Schools' Concerts to 18,000 children every year, and develop the next generations of musicians through our Youth Company. With the regular support of our members and donors, we can use the power of music to effect real change in our community.

In thanks for your support and membership, we are delighted to enrich your concert-going experience. Enjoy Open Rehearsals, providing an insight into the workings of a professional orchestra. For Gold, Gold Plus, and 1840 Circle Members, we offer a variety of exclusive events throughout the season, designed to get you closer to the musicians and the music.

Supporters of Liverpool Philharmonic are invited to use our private 1840 Room at Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concerts, where you can enjoy a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink before each concert, and during the interval.

With your support we can achieve great things.

If you would like to become a member or make a donation, please call **0151 210 2921**, email **fundraising@liverpoolphil.com** or visit **liverpoolphil.com/support-us**.

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How we thank you for your gift ...

Silver £150+

- Invitations to up to four Open Rehearsals each season
- Access to our members-only 1840 Room with complimentary drinks at Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concerts from half an hour before the start and during the interval [Please note, the 1840 Room is also available to our valued Corporate Partners and may be closed to members on occasion. We will always keep you informed and keep closures to a minimum.]
- Invitations to exclusive events
- No booking fees and free ticket exchange
- Priority booking for performances by Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra
- Subscription to our annual Encore magazine, Review of the Year, and regular Members' News email updates
- Invitation to the Annual General Meeting and voting rights
- Invitation to our annual Season Launch

£200+

Donors of £200 or more have the option to dedicate a seat in the Auditorium or adopt a player in the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

Gold £350+

- Silver Membership benefits, plus
- Invitations to at least six Open Rehearsals each season
- Invitations to exclusive VIP events and launches
- Opportunity to adopt a player in the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Gold Plus £700+

- Gold Membership benefits, plus
- Invitation to our Annual Patrons' Dinner with Chief Conductor, musicians and Liverpool Philharmonic senior management
- Opportunities to attend learning workshops and Schools' Concerts
- Priority Booking for non-orchestral events
- Opportunity to adopt a Section Leader in the Orchestra

1840 Circle £1,000+

- Gold Plus Membership benefits, plus
- An exclusive invitation to a Pre-Season Launch where you can find out about the new season before anyone else and receive the highest level of priority booking
- Dedicated member of Fundraising Team to manage your ticket requests
- Opportunity to reserve your car parking space in advance for all Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra Concerts
- Opportunity to adopt a Guest Artist or Conductor of the Orchestra

Chief Conductor's Circle £5,000+

- 1840 Circle benefits, plus
- Invitations to London concerts with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, including BBC Proms performances, and associated VIP receptions

- Signed copies of new recordings
- Invitations to discussions with senior management of Liverpool Philharmonic on artistic planning, and our learning programme
- Opportunity to adopt an Artist in Residence or the Leaders of the Orchestra

Enjoy More, Pay Less

Save with Liverpool Philharmonic subscriptions!

Book tickets for five or more concerts and you can save up to 30%, as well as receiving a range of other benefits, including:

Better seats

As a subscriber, you can order your tickets before they go on general public sale. The earlier you book, the more choice you'll have.

If you book a Fixed Series, or for 30+ concerts per season, you also have the option to "roll over" your seat selection for each season, meaning you can guarantee your favourite seats for each concert.

Discounted Tickets: Save 10-30% depending on the number of concerts you book.

Discounted booking fees

Subscribers pay a flat charge of £6 per order, compared to standard fees of up to 8% per ticket. (No fees apply to Silver+ members).

Exchange privileges

Can't make a concert? No problem! As a subscriber, you can return your tickets up to 24 hours in advance and we'll provide you with a credit for another performance in the same season.

Free Tickets: Book tickets to eight or more concerts and you'll receive a free ticket to one of our Glyndebourne film screenings (see page 87).

First time subscriber?

If you're thinking about subscribing, here are some suggestions to help you get started.

Fixed or Flexible? Choose the package to suit you!

"Fixed Series" subscriptions are set packages of concerts from the season – usually grouped by when they take place (eg Thursday evenings/Sunday afternoons), or by the type of concert (eg Chamber Music). Alternatively, you can pick and choose your own package of concerts from throughout the season and create your own "Flexible Series", where your discount will depend on the number of concerts you want to book.

Make the most of the discounts

If you choose a Flexible Series, make sure you check the discounts available – sometimes just booking one or two more concerts can give you an even bigger discount, meaning you could get an additional concert for less than £1!

Ask our team for advice

Our Box Office team are here to help, so if you have any questions about your subscription, you can give them a call on **0151 709 3789**. We also have an in-person booking week from Monday 10-Friday 14 June, where you can come in and book your subscription with a member of our team. You'll need to book an appointment for this, by either calling the number above, or emailing **boxoffice@liverpoolphil.com**.

* * *

For full details on our subscription packages and prices, please see page 101.

Liverpool Philharmonic Starter Collection

Do you want to be inspired, relaxed, or simply entertained? Classical music is varied and can cater for every occasion. There's something for everyone, and once you find the pieces you enjoy, there is simply nothing quite like it.

We're very proud to present such an exciting season of concerts, but we know the sheer volume can be overwhelming! So if you're new to classical music and not sure where to start, then here are a few suggestions ...

Sunday Afternoon Dances Sunday 27 October 2.30 pm

See page 30

A selection of toe-tapping music from dance across the world – including a selection of dances from **West Side Story**.

Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony Sunday 26 January 2.30 pm

See page 43

Chief Conductor, Vasily Petrenko presents a beautiful concert that will transport you to a day in the countryside. **The Lark Ascending** regularly tops the Classic FM Hall of Fame chart, so if you haven't heard it performed before – this is the perfect opportunity to see why it's the nation's favourite!

Beethoven's Fifth Thursday 30 January 7.30 pm

See page 44

Da da da dumm. Picture an orchestral concert, and you probably think of the first four notes of Beethoven's fifth. It's a sensational experience and some of the most powerful music ever written.

Petrenko's Mahler II Thursday 27 February 7.30 pm Sunday 1 March 2.30 pm

See page 48

Join us for the second of Petrenko's Mahler symphonies. There are two chances to see this incredible work performed, and you won't be disappointed – choir, soloists, big orchestra, offstage orchestra and all manner of surprises. Don't miss this challenging but uplifting musical journey!

Romeo and Juliet Thursday 12 March 7.30 pm Friday 13 March 1.30 pm

See page 49

Featuring the delightful melodies of **Peer Gynt**, and a piano concerto performed by incredible pianist Stephen Hough, this is sure to be an amazing evening of music. You might even recognise parts of Prokofiev's retelling of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers from its use on BBC's **The Apprentice!**

Nobu plays Rachmaninov Thursday 14 May 7.30 pm

See page 54

Popular with audiences and critics alike, pianist Nobuyuki Tsujii is back in Liverpool by popular demand! In this evening's concert, he turns his talents to tackle Rachmaninov's "Everest of piano concertos" – sure to be simply breathtaking.

Sheku plays Saint-Saëns Thursday 4 June 7.30 pm Friday 5 June 7.30 pm

Our Young Artist in Residence, Sheku Kanneh-Mason is breaking down boundaries between classical music and popular culture – shooting to international fame after his performance at the 2018 Royal Wedding. This will be a magical concert, also featuring music you might have heard in Disney's **Fantasia!**

Pictures at an Exhibition Sunday 14 June 2.30 pm

See page 57

Join Vasily Petrenko for an evening of classical favourites, including a stroll around a musical gallery and an introduction to the full Orchestra.

* * *

Nothing is quite the same as a live performance, but if you want to have a listen to some of the pieces before you come along, you can head to our Spotify channel to find our 2019-20 Starter Collection playlist, featuring works from each of these concerts.

[Logo: Spotify] Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Artists in Residence

Sheku Kanneh-Mason: cello Young Artist in Residence

We are delighted to welcome cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason back to Liverpool for his second season as Young Artist in Residence with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

One of the most exciting young performers in the classical music world, Sheku was already making waves internationally after winning the 2016 **BBC Young Musician of the Year,** two Classic Brit awards, and topping the charts with his debut recording. When he was asked to perform at the Royal Wedding in 2018, however,

he shot to worldwide fame, showcasing his extraordinary talent and inspiring a generation of young musicians.

In February, he will perform with Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, as well as a more intimate recital with his sister Isata, as part of our Chamber Music season. In June, don't miss his performance of Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto No.1 performing with the full Orchestra, under the baton of Elim Chan. You'll also have the opportunity to ask your questions in a post-concert Q&A with both Elim and Sheku, after the concert on Thursday 4 June.

See him in:

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra with Sheku Kanneh-Mason

Sunday 16 February

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

See page 47

Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason

Sunday 16 February

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

See page 70

Sheku plays Saint-Saëns

Thursday 4 & Friday 5 June

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

See page 56

Bachtrack

"... for a very young man to tackle such a piece (Elgar's Cello Concerto) one cannot fail to admire his confidence, his command of

the stage and his formidable virtuosity. Bloch's **Abodah**, as an encore, captured and prolonged the mood with poise and dignity." [4 stars] – Concert Review: Elgar Cello Concerto 2018

Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano Artist in Residence

Award-winning mezzo-soprano, Jennifer Johnston, joins us as Artist in Residence through to the end of 2020, returning to Liverpool Philharmonic after her popularity as guest artist at our 2018 Spirit of Christmas concerts.

A former BBC New Generation Artist, and a graduate of Cambridge University and the Royal College of Music, Jennifer's dramatic performances have delighted audiences all over the world, performing in some of the most famous opera theatres and festivals, as well as internationally-acclaimed orchestral concerts and recordings.

Born in Liverpool, she will share her passion for the city, and its music and culture, through a range of exciting concerts. Opening with the album launch of her new release "A Love Letter to Liverpool", Jennifer's residency will showcase her versatility, from intimate recitals to dramatic masterpieces with the Orchestra, performing in Mahler symphonies, **Messiah** and Beethoven's **Symphony No.9.**

See her in:

Close-up concert

A Love Letter to Liverpool

Sunday 29 & Monday 30 September

Music Room

Messiah

Saturday 4 January

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

See page 40

Petrenko's Mahler II

Thursday 27 February & Sunday 1 March

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

See page 48

Jennifer Johnston: A Journeywoman's Tale

Wednesday 4 March

St George's Hall Concert Room

See page 71

Petrenko's Mahler III

Saturday 21 March

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

See page 49

Ode to Joy

Thursday 26 & Sunday 29 March

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

See page 50

Arts City Liverpool

"... a homecoming for mezzo Jennifer Johnston, now an international opera singer but once upon a time she was a teenage

member of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir. Johnston is clearly delighted – and, in the case of a deeply powerful performance of 'You'll Never Walk Alone', which won the biggest ovation of the night on Sunday – clearly moved to be back!" [4 stars] – Concert Review: **Spirit of Christmas** 2018

Mahler Symphonies

Fearless and unconventional, uncompromising and brilliant – Gustav Mahler is one of the most important composers in history, and at the heart of his incredible musical legacy are the symphonies.

Ten years on from his landmark Mahler cycle in our 2009-10 season, Vasily Petrenko will once again share his passion for these symphonies, presenting them in chronological order across 2020.

Embracing cultural differences and challenging musical traditions, he created music so powerful and passionate that it still resonates with audiences today – music to be experienced, not simply heard.

Fans of his work include Leonard Bernstein, Sir Simon Rattle and Eugene Ormandy, and in 2020, Chief Conductor, Vasily Petrenko and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir will show you exactly why – performing all nine symphonies in one year.

Whether you're new to Mahler, or a lifelong fan, join us for this journey through love, nature, life, death, rebirth, light, heaven, fate and the universe.

Petrenko's Mahler I

Thursday 23 January 7.30 pm

See page 42

Petrenko's Mahler II

Thursday 27 February 7.30 pm Sunday 1 March 2.30 pm

Petrenko's Mahler III

Saturday 21 March 7.30 pm

See page 49

Petrenko's Mahler IV

Thursday 23 April 7.30 pm

See page 52

Petrenko's Mahler V

Thursday 30 April 7.30 pm

See page 53

Petrenko's Mahler VI

Thursday 21 May 7.30 pm

Petrenko's Mahler VII

Thursday 11 June 7.30 pm

See page 56

* * *

Before each concert, Vasily Petrenko will provide an introduction from stage, to help you get even more from the experience.

The remaining symphonies will be performed in Autumn/Winter 2020

The Mahler Experience

To complement the Symphony Cycle, we are delighted to present a series of special events – each offering you an insight into different aspects of Mahler's music, life and passions.

Combining guest speakers, food, drink, fun and of course, music – come and join us for one or all of these sociable and fun events. Meet fellow music lovers and immerse yourself in a world of Mahler.

Mahler with Wine

Friday 6 September 6 pm

Mahler and His Faith

Sunday 12 January 2 pm

Mahler in the Landscape

Sunday 26 April 2 pm

See page 89 for full details

Beethoven 250

Happy Birthday, Beethoven! Legendary composer, Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Germany in 1770, and to celebrate his 250th Birthday year, we will be starting 2020 with a selection of concerts featuring some of his finest works.

One of the most influential composers in classical music, Beethoven's work is beautiful, unpredictable and filled with emotion and intellect. Heralded as a master of improvisation, he published his first composition at the age of 12, and went on to produce some of the world's most famous music, despite increasing deafness in his adult years. His work has influenced music and culture far beyond the world of classical music.

Join us to celebrate, and enjoy smaller ensembles paying tribute in our Chamber Music, Close-up and Lunchtime concerts, as well as performances of some of his greatest works, with the full Orchestra.

Alandale Trio

Monday 13 January 8 pm

Beethoven's Eroica

Thursday 16 January 7.30 pm

Sunday 19 January 2.30 pm

See page 41

Pixels Ensemble

Monday 20 January 1 pm

See page 83

Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony

Sunday 26 January 2.30 pm

See page 43

Beethoven's Fifth

Thursday 30 January 7.30 pm

See page 44

Kuss Quartet

Sunday 2 February 2.30 pm

See page 69

Beethoven's Emperor Concerto

Sunday 9 February 2.30 pm

See page 45

Beethoven's Missa Solemnis

Saturday 15 February 7.30 pm

Sheku and Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra

Sunday 16 February 2.30 pm

See page 47

Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason

Sunday 16 February 7.30 pm

See page 70

Ensemble of St Luke's

Monday 17 February 1 pm

See page 84

Queyras Trio

Tuesday 10 March 7.30 pm

See page 72

Ode to Joy

Thursday 26 March 7.30 pm

Sunday 29 March 2.30 pm

See page 50

Old St Paul's Trio

Monday 30 March 1 pm

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra Concerts

Exciting, moving, surprising, inspiring ...

Experience live music at its best with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Classic FM Series/Sunday Afternoon Classics Symphonie Fantastique Thursday 19 September 7.30 pm Sunday 22 September 2.30 pm

Post-concert Question Time (Thursday 19 September): Vasily Petrenko with Dani Howard – See page 92

Dani Howard: **Coalescence** (Liverpool Philharmonic commission/World premiere)

Rachmaninov: Piano Concerto No.2

Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique

• Vasily Petrenko: conductor

Nobuyuki Tsujii: piano

Ring in the new season! In Berlioz's **Symphonie Fantastique**, the composer goes crazy with love, and dreams of festive parties, opium hallucinations and a witches' sabbath. Sounds incredible? It will do, because the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra will soon be one of the few orchestras in the world to own a complete set of full-size church bells. Join us to celebrate, and enjoy the fabulous talent of incredible pianist Nobuyuki Tsujii – returning to Liverpool for his fourth visit, as well as a new piece written especially for us by young British composer, Dani Howard.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

[Logo]: Sponsored by Hill Dickinson Lawyers

And In The End:

A Celebration of 50 Years of "Abbey Road" and "Let It Be"

Thursday 26 September 7.30 pm Friday 27 September 7.30 pm

[Limited]

Richard Balcombe: conductor

• Neil Innes: host

The Bootleg Beatles

The long and winding road: 50 years ago, the Beatles story entered its final chapter with the release of **Abbey Road**. Just a few months later came **Let It Be** – two iconic albums packed with some of their greatest songs. Experience these albums performed afresh in this special musical collaboration, when The Bootleg Beatles and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra join forces again, adding a classical twist and performing Ian Stephens' beautifully arranged versions of these timeless classics, including masterpieces such as **Here Comes The Sun, Come Together** and **The Long and Winding Road**. Hosted by 60s icon, Neil Innes, this will be a night when legends will live again.

Tickets: £70, £55, £50, £35

Thursday Series
Petrenko's Stravinsky
Thursday 3 October 7.30 pm

Classic Intro: With Stephen Johnson at 6.15 pm - See page 91

Liadov: Baba Yaga

Shostakovich: Violin Concerto No.1

Richard Strauss: **Death and Transfiguration**

Stravinsky: Symphony in Three Movements

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

• Sergey Krylov: violin

Are you sitting comfortably? Because Vasily Petrenko wants to tell you a story. There's **Baba Yaga**, the Russian witch. There's Richard Strauss, a young artist imagining the infinite, in dazzling orchestral sound. And there's Igor Stravinsky – celebrating the end of the Second World War amid the bright lights of Hollywood. Sheer entertainment, but when the superb Russian violinist Sergey Krylov makes his Liverpool debut with Shostakovich's powerful **First Violin Concerto**, expect the emotion to run deep.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Sunday Afternoon Classics Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto Sunday 6 October 2.30 pm

Liadov: Baba Yaga

Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto

Richard Strauss: **Death and Transfiguration**

Stravinsky: Symphony in Three Movements

• Vasily Petrenko: conductor

• Sergey Krylov: violin

"I can't imagine any other violinist dead or alive surpassing Krylov" was what one critic said about our soloist today and there's no better way for this astonishing young Russian star to show us exactly why than in Tchaikovsky's gloriously tuneful concerto. But the rest of the concert's pretty high-voltage too – with Liadov's brilliant musical witchcraft, Richard Strauss's dazzling vision of the infinite, and Stravinsky's chrome-plated, art deco symphony, composed in 1940s Hollywood.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

[Logo]: Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

Classic FM Series Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto Thursday 10 October 7.30 pm

Ligeti: Concert Romanesc

Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1

Mendelssohn: Symphony No.3 "Scottish"

Dalia Stasevska: conductorBehzod Abduraimov: piano

High in the mountains of Transylvania, a shepherd sounds his horn, and gypsies tune their fiddles. The young Felix Mendelssohn wanders through a twilit Edinburgh, and imagines warring clans and mist-covered Highlands. And Tchaikovsky sets a lone pianist against a full orchestra in one of the most gripping – and tuneful – piano concertos ever written. Guest conductor Dalia Stasevska knows that music can paint pictures, but tonight she takes us on a journey, too – with the phenomenal Behzod Abduraimov as our travelling companion.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Thursday Series Glorious Gershwin Thursday 24 October 7.30 pm

Classic Intro: With Joshua Weilerstein and Angela Heslop at 6.15 pm – See page 91

André Previn: Can Spring be far behind? (UK premiere)

Gershwin: Piano Concerto in F

Stravinsky: The Rite of Spring

Joshua Weilerstein: conductor

• Kirill Gerstein: piano

Tonight, we're honoured to present the UK premiere of the late André Previn's lyrical composition **Can Spring be far behind?** followed by Gershwin's **Piano Concerto**, performed Kirill Gerstein – a pianist without limits. All wrapped up with Weilerstein's exciting party piece – Stravinsky's landmark **Rite of Spring**, this will be a seriously special concert.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

[Logo]: Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

Sunday Afternoon Classics Sunday Afternoon Dances Sunday 27 October 2.30 pm

Classic Intro: With Professor Catherine Tackley at 1.15 pm – see page 91

Grazyna Bacewicz: Overture

Gershwin: Piano Concerto in F

Florence Price: Juba (3rd movement from Symphony No.3)

Ginastera: Four dances from Estancia ballet

Bernstein: Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

• Joshua Weilerstein: conductor

Kirill Gerstein: piano

Everybody dance! Tonight's programme ranges from Bernstein's famous dances for **West Side Story** to the high-kicking gauchos of Ginastera's **Estancia**. The rhythms of the Americas are impossible to resist and every note will get your feet tapping. We introduce you to another one; the **Juba** dance by pioneering African-American composer, Florence Price, and add Gershwin's fabulously jazzy

Piano Concerto – played by Kirill Gerstein, a classical star who knows how to swing.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Thursday Series
Grieg's Piano Concerto
Thursday 31 October 7.30 pm

Dvořák: The Noonday Witch

Grieg: Piano Concerto

Smetana: Vltava from Ma Vlast

Martinů: Symphony No.6 "Fantaisies Symphoniques"

• Jifi Rozen: conductor

• Alexandra Dariescu: piano

The Bohemian countryside is beautiful, but it harbours dark secrets, and at Halloween the Noonday Witch comes out to claim her prey. Czech guest conductor Jifi Rozen knows exactly how to set your hairs on end – and how to calm the nerves too, with Smetana's tuneful trip down the River Vltava, and Martinů's shimmering, dreamlike **Sixth Symphony.** Also returning to Liverpool is pianist Alexandra Dariescu, performing Grieg's hugely-popular **Piano Concerto.**

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

British Classics Saturday 9 November 7.30 pm

Elgar: Cockaigne Overture "In London Town"

Vaughan Williams: The Wasps: Overture and Suite

Britten: **Spring Symphony**

Richard Farnes: conductor

• Elizabeth Watts: soprano

Victoria Simmonds: mezzo-soprano

Allan Clayton: tenor

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir

"Shine out, and make this winter night / Our beauty's Spring, our Prince of Light!" Yes, it's November in Liverpool, but that doesn't mean we can't look forward to sunnier weather. Benjamin Britten understood the British climate, and his **Spring Symphony** is proof: a grand, rollicking shout for joy, driven by a raucous cow-horn and rising sap. With singers as good as these – plus Elgar and Vaughan Williams at their most unbuttoned – you'll leave this concert with a spring in your step.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Classic FM Series
Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony
Thursday 14 November 7.30 pm
Friday 15 November 7.30 pm

Wagner: Overture, The Mastersingers

Shostakovich: Cello Concerto No.1

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No.5
Andris Poga: conductor
Daniel Muller-Schott: cello

Tchaikovsky and Wagner didn't really get along, but they both knew that big emotions need really big tunes. This concert is positively bursting with them – whether the pageantry and splendour of Wagner's **Mastersingers** overture, or the unchained passion of Tchaikovsky's sweeping **Fifth Symphony**: a story of tragedy,

triumph and love, told in melodies that you'll never forget. Rising star Andris Poga is already big in Europe; he's joined today by cellist Daniel Muller-Schott for Shostakovich's action-packed Cold War thriller of a **Cello Concerto**.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

[Logo]: Sponsored by Rushworth Foundation

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Little Russian

Sunday 17 November 2.30 pm

William Alwyn: Festive March

Vaughan Williams: Tuba Concerto

Doreen Carwithen: Suffolk Suite

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No.2 "Little Russian"

• Simon Emery: conductor

• Robin Haggart: tuba

• Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra

"Little Russia" is the Ukraine, and Tchaikovsky loved its fabulous heritage of folk songs and dances. The result: a symphony that bursts with colour and melody, perfect for the brilliant young players of our Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. But first, discover two gloriously tuneful British rarities – and hear the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's Robin Haggart soar like a lark in Vaughan Williams's lovely **Tuba Concerto.**

Tickets: £13, £11, £8

Please note, this concert cannot be included in subscription packages.

Thursday Series Bruch Violin Concerto Thursday 21 November 7.30 pm

Haydn: Symphony No.80

Bruch: Violin Concerto No.1

Dvořák: Symphony No.7
Nuno Coelho: conductor
Simone Lamsma: violin

Some pieces are classics for a reason, and from its brooding opening to its final joyous gypsy dance, Max Bruch's **First Violin Concerto** is one of those pieces that you simply can't hear often enough – especially when it's played by a violinist as charismatic as Simone Lamsma. Conductor Nuno Coelho, meanwhile, wowed the judges at the Cadaques Competition (where Vasily Petrenko got his big break), so we can't wait to hear him in a real Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra favourite – Dvořák's tempestuous **Seventh Symphony.**

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Elton John – 50 Years of Your Song Saturday 23 November 7.30 pm

• Richard Balcombe: conductor

· Singers from the West End

My gift is my song, and this one's for you. Some hits are forever, and 50 years after Elton John released **Your Song**, it's become a solid gold classic – and just one of the songs with which Sir Elton has written the soundtrack to our lives, from **Rocket Man** and **Candle in the Wind**, to **Circle of Life** and many, many more. Celebrate half a century of his iconic music with the Royal Liverpool

Philharmonic Orchestra, in this stunning symphonic tribute with singers from the West End to some of his finest work.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

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Thursday Series Sinfonia Concertante Thursday 28 November 7.30 pm

Penderecki: Double Concerto for violin and viola*

Mozart: Sinfonia Concertante for violin and viola

Brahms: Symphony No.1

• Julian Rachlin: conductor/violin/viola

Alexander Joel: *conductor

Sarah McElravy: violin

Mozart loved to direct his music while he played it – and that's exactly what Julian Rachlin will be doing today, as together with Sarah McElravy he performs what might be the finest concerto Mozart ever wrote. Then he conducts Brahms's epic **First Symphony**, a stirring musical drama of tragedy and ultimate triumph. And although Rachlin doesn't compose his own music, we've got the next best thing: a double concerto written specially for him by Poland's foremost living composer.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Sunday Afternoon Classics Bach's Double Concerto Sunday 1 December 2.30 pm

Bach: Concerto for two violins

Mozart: Sinfonia Concertante for violin and viola

Mozart: Symphony No.40

• Julian Rachlin: conductor/violin/viola

Sarah McElravy: violin

Violinist Julian Rachlin always brings the house down here in Liverpool, so this year he's doubling up. It takes two equally great players to do justice to the timeless beauty of Bach's **Double Concerto**, to say nothing of Mozart's magnificent **Sinfonia Concertante** – and Rachlin and Sarah McElravy are sure to deliver. Then experience the sorrow, the sweetness and the sheer wonder of Mozart's **40th Symphony** – some say it's his greatest.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Classic FM Series
Blue Danube
Thursday 5 December 7.30 pm
Friday 6 December 1.30 pm

Programme includes:

Johann Strauss II: Tritsch-Tratsch Polka, Vienna Blood Waltz, Thunder and Lightning Polka, At the Hunt Polka, By the Beautiful Blue Danube Waltz

Tchaikovsky: Polonaise from Eugene Onegin, Trepak and Waltz of the Flowers from The Nutcracker, Panorama and Waltz from Sleeping Beauty

Kreisler: Lovely Rosemary, Miniature Viennese March, Love's Sorrow, Love's Joy

Glinka: Overture from Ruslan and Ludmila

Josef Strauss: Without a Care Polka

Godowsky: Old Vienna

• Julian Rachlin: conductor/violin

In the 19th century, whether you were in the cafés of old Vienna or the glittering palaces of Imperial Russia, one thing was for sure – you could dance to some of the most fabulous tunes ever written. Tonight, the waltzes of Johann Strauss meet the fairy-tale world of Tchaikovsky's **Nutcracker** as we whirl from the banks of the Blue Danube to the snows of St Petersburg.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Clare Teal with Guy Barker – In the Christmas Mood Wednesday 11 December 7.30 pm

• Guy Barker: conductor

Clare Teal: singer

Swing into Christmas with Clare Teal, in this glittering salute to the unforgettable songs that define the holiday season. Clare, joined by jazz royalty Guy Barker, will perform **The Christmas Song, All I Want for Christmas is You, Merry Christmas Baby** and many, many more – all sung with Clare's inimitable style and supported by the luxurious sound of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. Because whatever the weather, at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall you'll always have a **White Christmas**.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Spirit of Christmas
Saturday 14 December 7.30 pm
Tuesday 17 December 7.30 pm
Wednesday 18 December 7.30 pm
Friday 20 December 7.30 pm
Saturday 21 December 7.30 pm
Sunday 22 December 2.30 pm

lan Tracey: conductor John Suchet: presenter

Pavel Sporcl: violin

Simon Emery: Artistic Director, Youth Ensembles

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

• Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir

It wouldn't be December without our annual Spirit of Christmas concerts – they're a Liverpool tradition. That means a glorious selection of Yuletide music, with classic carols and Christmas cheer from conductor Ian Tracey, our superb choirs, and a very special guest, superstar violinist Pavel Sporcl, alongside seasonal readings from our host – Classic FM's John Suchet. Come into Liverpool Philharmonic Hall for a warm festive welcome, and of course, get ready to join in some carols too!

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

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"A unique and magical musical selection box; sensitive and sweeping, majestic and merry. Glorious – Five (Sparkling) Stars." [5 stars] – **WirralGlobe**

Ghostbusters: Film with Live Orchestra (cert PG) Saturday 28 December 7.30 pm Sunday 29 December 7.30 pm

Dirk Brossé: conductor

We ain't afraid of no ghost! Grab your proton pack and join New York's original paranormal investigation and elimination team for an adventure where anything could happen – and does. Starring Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Sigourney Weaver, a 100-foot marshmallow man and a whole lot of ectoplasm, **Ghostbusters** is a wisecracking, dimension-crossing caper, and for this special festive screening, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra plays Elmer Bernstein's brilliant score live with the movie. All together now: who ya gonna call?

Tickets: £55, £50, £40, £30, £25 (£15 under 26's – limited availability)

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Ghostbusters © 1984 Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Columbia Pictures: a Sony company

New Year's Eve: James Bond Tuesday 31 December 7.30 pm

- Alfonso Casado Trigo: conductor
- Singers from West End International: Jenna Lee-James, Rachael Wooding, Jon Boydon, Nadim Naaman

Licensed to thrill: and as you begin your countdown to midnight, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra pours itself a martini and adjusts its black tie for an evening with Britain's greatest secret agent. That means gadgets, supervillains and some of the most iconic signature tunes in cinematic history, delivered tonight by stars from West End International. They say that **Diamonds are**

Forever, but these tunes are every bit as enduring – and as brilliant. Nobody does it better: with 007, you're guaranteed to end 2019 on an all-time high.

Tickets include a glass of fizz on arrival, to help get the celebrations started!

Tickets: £52, £43, £38, £30, £24

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Messiah

Saturday 4 January 7 pm (please note start time) Artist in Residence

Handel: Messiah

• Sofi Jeannin: conductor

• Jeanine De Bique: soprano

• Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano

Oliver Johnston: tenorWilliam Thomas: bass

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

Hallelujah! When King George II first heard Handel's **Messiah**, he leapt to his feet in excitement. You don't have to do that, but we reckon you'll recognise the music anyway, because from **Ev'ry Valley** to the **Hallelujah** chorus itself, **Messiah** contains some of the most uplifting music ever written, and it's become a seasonal tradition. With the inspirational Sofi Jeannin conducting, and Artist in Residence, Jennifer Johnston leading a world-class cast, you'll experience all the freshness, inspiration and joy of a truly timeless classic.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

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Thursday Series Sound the Trumpet Thursday 9 January 7.30 pm

Richard Strauss: Don Juan

Arturo Marquez: **Trumpet Concerto** (UK premiere)

Roberto Sierra: Trumpet Concerto (Liverpool Philharmonic

commission/UK premiere)

Stravinsky: Suite, The Firebird (1919)

• Domingo Hindoyan: conductor

• Pacho Flores: trumpet

Some critics have suggested that Pacho Flores is the best trumpet player in the world. We know that this incredible Venezuelan player is an inspiration, and we're delighted to welcome him back to play not one, but two, brand new trumpet concertos (one of them by Classic FM favourite Arturo Marquez). Conducted by Domingo Hindoyan, Strauss's swashbuckling **Don Juan** and Stravinsky's glittering **Firebird** suite frame a night of music-making to light up the sky.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Classic FM Series/Sunday Afternoon Classics Beethoven's Eroica Thursday 16 January 7.30 pm Sunday 19 January 2.30 pm Beethoven 250

Post-concert Question Time (Thursday 16 January): Andrew Manze – See page 92

Beethoven: Prometheus (excerpts)

Mozart: Bassoon Concerto

Beethoven: Symphony No.3 "Eroica"

• Andrew Manze: conductor

Nina Ashton: bassoon

"If I understood war as well as I understand music, I would conquer him!" Beethoven admired Napoleon's ideals, but he hated his politics. Instead, with his explosive **Eroica** symphony, he blew the world of classical music wide open. Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze pairs it with the heaven-storming **Prometheus**, and teams up with the Orchestra's own Nina Ashton for something completely different – the playful **Bassoon Concerto** by the teenage Mozart.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Petrenko's Mahler I Thursday 23 January 7.30 pm Mahler Symphonies

Mahler Symphonies: Introduced by Vasily Petrenko

Webern: Im Sommerwind

Schubert: **Songs:**

- Die Forelle (The Trout) arr. Britten
- Du bist die Ruh' arr. Webern
- Geheimes arr. Brahms
- Am Tage aller Seelen arr. Reger
- Erlkönig arr. Berlioz

Mahler: Symphony No.1

• Vasily Petrenko: conductor

• Benjamin Appl: baritone

Vasily Petrenko starts his year-long voyage through Gustav Mahler's symphonies at the beginning, with a first symphony that opens with the dawn of time itself and ends by practically blowing the roof off! Meanwhile, Mahler's disciple Anton Webern evokes the sweetest of dreams in the blissful **Im Sommerwind.** In between, Vasily Petrenko welcomes back Benjamin Appl – unforgettable in Britten's **War Requiem** last season – to explore the tender, deeply romantic songs of Franz Schubert.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

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Sunday Afternoon Classics
Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony
Sunday 26 January 2.30 pm
Beethoven 250

Rossini: Overture, William Tell

Vaughan Williams: The Lark Ascending

Schubert: Songs including Die Forelle, Du bist die Ruh', Geheimes, Am Tage aller Seelen and Erlkönig

Beethoven: Symphony No.6 "Pastoral"

Vasily Petrenko: conductorBenjamin Appl: baritone

Beethoven titled the first movement of his **Pastoral Symphony** "Awakening of happy emotions upon arriving in the countryside" — and everyone knows that feeling! So this afternoon, it's time to escape to the country. Shepherds sing on Beethoven's sun-kissed hillsides, Vaughan Williams's Lark soars ever higher into the blue Cotswold skies, and Rossini unleashes a refreshing summer storm. We also welcome back one of Europe's hottest young baritones to perform the songs of Schubert — each one a little universe of emotion.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Thursday Series
Beethoven's Fifth
Thursday 30 January 7.30 pm
Beethoven 250

Post-concert Question Time: Vasily Petrenko, Clare Hammond and Kenneth Hesketh – see page 92

Prokofiev: Suite, The Love for Three Oranges

Kenneth Hesketh: **Uncoiling the River** (English premiere, Joint Liverpool Philharmonic commission with BBC National Orchestra of Wales)

Beethoven: Symphony No.5
Vasily Petrenko: conductor
Clare Hammond: piano

Billy Joel called it "the biggest hit of all time". Everyone knows the first four notes of Beethoven's **Fifth Symphony**, and that sensational opening is just the start of one of the most thrilling adventures in all of western music. We couldn't celebrate Beethoven's anniversary year without it, but Vasily Petrenko is starting the concert the way Beethoven would have wanted – with something bold and new by Liverpool's own Kenneth Hesketh, specially created for pianist Clare Hammond.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Thursday Series
Bruckner's "Romantic" Symphony
Thursday 6 February 7.30 pm

Classic Intro: With Stephen Johnson at 6.15 pm - See page 91

Haydn: Symphony No.90

Bruckner: Symphony No.4 "Romantic"

Andrew Manze: conductor

Could this be the loveliest opening to any symphony ever? The air shimmers, a horn calls softly from the mists, and Anton Bruckner's **Fourth Symphony** opens the door onto an enchanting new world. No wonder they call it "The Romantic", but there's thunder amongst the mountain peaks too, and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze is the perfect guide to Bruckner's epic musical landscape. Haydn's **Symphony No.90** gets the journey started in a sunburst of energy and wit.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Sunday Afternoon Classics
Beethoven's Emperor Concerto
Sunday 9 February 2.30 pm
Beethoven 250

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No.5 "Emperor"

Bruckner: Symphony No.4 "Romantic"

• Andrew Manze: conductor

• Yeol Eum Son: piano

Beethoven never actually named his fifth piano concerto "The Emperor", but the name given to it by his English publisher just seemed to fit. The Orchestra lays down the challenge; the piano takes no prisoners – this is a musical duel on the grandest possible scale, and as the award-winning Korean pianist Yeol Eum Son makes her Liverpool debut, you won't have heard anything quite like it. Then we're off into the misty mountains and fairy-tale forests of Bruckner's huge "Romantic" symphony: conductor Andrew Manze knows the scenic route!

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Songs from the Musicals for Valentine's Day Friday 14 February 7.30 pm

• Anthony Gabriele: conductor

• Matt Ford: vocalist

• Singers from the West End

Classic Broadway songs of love and romance including: Younger Than Springtime, Falling In Love With Love, My Funny Valentine, Some Enchanted Evening, If I Loved You, I Won't Send Roses, One Hand, One Heart ... and many more.

This Valentine's night, treat yourself or give your special someone an unforgettable gift – a bouquet of the greatest theatrical love songs of all time, wrapped in the luxurious sound of our Orchestra, delivered with passion by maestro Anthony Gabriele. Vocalist Matt Ford returns to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, joined by a line-up of celebrated soloists and West End singers. Music is very definitely the food of love and with songs by George Gershwin, Stephen Sondheim, Leonard Bernstein, Rodgers and Hammerstein and Jerry Herman, this will certainly be one enchanted evening.

Tickets include a glass of fizz on arrival, to help make your evening extra special.

Tickets: £52, £43, £38, £30, £24

Beethoven's Missa Solemnis Saturday 15 February 7.30 pm Beethoven 250

Beethoven: Symphony No.4

Beethoven: Missa SolemnisAndrew Manze: conductorSarah Wegener: soprano

• Marianne Beate Kielland: mezzo-soprano

Steve Davislim: tenor

• Christopher Purves: bass

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

"From the heart – may it go straight to the heart". Beethoven believed that his **Missa Solemnis** was the greatest piece he ever composed, and he might just have been right. This is Beethoven at the absolute top of his game, throwing all his genius at the biggest questions in human existence, and the result is staggeringly beautiful. Today's performance is a labour of love for Andrew Manze, plus four sensational solo singers and our wonderful Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra with Sheku Kanneh-Mason

Sunday 16 February 2.30 pm Young Artist in Residence Beethoven 250

Beethoven: Symphony No.1*

Mahler: Totenfeier

Fauré: Élégie for cello and orchestra

Copland: **Danzón Cubano**

Andrew Manze: *conductor

• Simon Emery: conductor

Sheku Kanneh-Mason: cello

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra

What could be more exciting than hearing the young musicians of Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra unleashed upon the epic drama and raw emotion of Gustav Mahler? Maybe the chance to hear them playing with Sheku Kanneh-Mason, the teenage cello

phenomenon who took the pop charts by storm? Or to see them perform Beethoven's explosive **First Symphony** with our charismatic Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze? One thing's for sure: you'll leave this concert smiling.

Tickets: £13, £11, £8

Please note, this concert cannot be included in subscription packages.

Thursday Series/Sunday Afternoon Classics
Petrenko's Mahler II
Thursday 27 February 7.30 pm
Sunday 1 March 2.30 pm
Artist in Residence
Mahler Symphonies

Mahler Symphonies: Introduced by Vasily Petrenko

Mahler: Songs

Mahler: Symphony No.2 "Resurrection"

• Vasily Petrenko: conductor

• Miah Persson: soprano

Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-sopranoRoyal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

Broken by grief, a man stands by the grave of a friend – but that's just the start of an incredible journey. Mahler's epic "Resurrection" symphony sweeps through storms, love songs, tragedy and transcendence, to the end of the world itself – and beyond. Vasily Petrenko, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and the Choir are joined by Miah Persson and Artist in Residence, Jennifer Johnston, for a concert that begins with Mahler at his most magical – songs which inspired the Symphony – and ends with him embracing the universe.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

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Classic FM Series
Romeo and Juliet
Thursday 12 March 7.30 pm
Friday 13 March 1.30 pm

Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite No.1

Liszt: Piano Concerto No.1

Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet, Suite

• Diego Matheuz: conductor

• Stephen Hough: piano

"What light through yonder window breaks?" In 1930s Russia, Prokofiev retold the story of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers with melodies of steel and a heart of pure gold. If you've seen **The Apprentice**, you'll already know one of the tunes – but nothing prepares you for the playing of piano phenomenon Stephen Hough. Today, he teams up with Venezuelan powerhouse maestro Diego Matheuz for the demonic **First Concerto** by Franz Liszt.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Petrenko's Mahler III
Saturday 21 March 7.30 pm
Artist in Residence
Mahler Symphonies

Mahler Symphonies: Introduced by Vasily Petrenko

Mahler: Symphony No.3

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-sopranoRoyal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir

Gustav Mahler always thought big, but even by his standards, his **Third Symphony** is extraordinary. One of the biggest symphonies ever written, it's a concert in its own right, teeming with distant trumpets, children's songs, glittering marches and lofty mountain-top meditations. Mahler throws them all into the mix before ending with a ravishing hymn to love. It's less a symphony, more an all-embracing emotional odyssey – and with Vasily Petrenko conducting Artist in Residence Jennifer Johnston, this should be something exhilarating.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

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Classic FM Series/Sunday Afternoon Classics Ode to Joy

Thursday 26 March 7.30 pm Sunday 29 March 2.30 pm Artist in Residence Beethoven 250

Brahms: Nänie

Wagner: Act I Prelude from Parsifal

Beethoven: Symphony No.9 "Choral"

• Nathalie Stutzmann: conductor

• Ekaterina Siurina: soprano

• Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano

• Bror Magnus Todenes: tenor

• Leon Kosavic: baritone

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

"Oh you millions, I embrace you – here's a kiss for all the world!" Every performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony is a special

event, and from tragic opening to the uplifting final **Ode to Joy** it's one of those pieces that you absolutely have to hear performed live. Nathalie Stutzmann conducts this climax to our Beethoven anniversary celebrations; and it all begins with quiet reflections by Brahms and Wagner – each, in its own way, a homage to Beethoven.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Classic FM Series Sibelius Fifth Symphony Thursday 2 April 7.30 pm

Classic Intro: With Dr Kenneth Forkert-Smith at 6.15 pm - see

page 91

Beethoven: Overture, Egmont

Chopin: Piano Concerto No.2

Caroline Shaw: Entr'acte for strings

Sibelius: **Symphony No.5**

• Joshua Weilerstein: conductor

• Pavel Kolesnikov: piano

One evening in the forests of Finland, Sibelius saw a flight of sixteen swans. "God, what beauty!" he exclaimed – and he transformed that natural wonder into the melody that crowns his **Fifth Symphony,** a tune so good that you feel like you've known it your whole life. Tonight's concert unites the heroism of Beethoven, the poetry of Chopin (played by Russian star Pavel Kolesnikov) and a Liverpool first: the haunting and beautiful **Entr'acte** by Pulitzer Prize-winner Caroline Shaw.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Wizard of Oz: Film with Live Orchestra (cert U) Saturday 18 April 2.30 pm & 7.30 pm

Classic Intro: With Anthony Gabriele and Angela Heslop at 6.15 pm

See page 92

Anthony Gabriele: conductor

Everyone remembers the moment in **The Wizard of Oz** when black and white transforms into colour. Now imagine **Somewhere over the Rainbow**, **Follow the Yellow Brick Road** and the whole of the score bursting out into full orchestral technicolour. Today, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra plays the soundtrack live with the movie – and whether you're introducing children or grandchildren to **The Wizard of Oz**, or you know every line and still can't get enough of it, it'll sound every bit as magical as it looks.

A Symphonic Night at the Movies is a production of PGM Productions, Inc. (New York) and appears by arrangement with IMG Artists.

Tickets: £55, £50, £40, £30, £25 (£15 under 26s – limited availability)

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Classic FM Series
Petrenko's Mahler IV
Thursday 23 April 7.30 pm
Mahler Symphonies

Classic Intro: With Dr Lee Tsang at 6.15 pm – See page 92

Beethoven: Ah! Perfido

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No.4

Mahler: Symphony No.4

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

• Boris Giltburg: piano

• Susanne Bernhard: soprano

Not all Mahler symphonies are massive. His **Fourth Symphony** opens with a jingling of sleigh bells, a flurry of birdsong and a melody straight out of Mozart. But it's not all sweetness and light, and Vasily Petrenko is sure to find both laughter and tears on the way to Mahler's final vision of heaven, with Susanne Bernhard returning to Liverpool after the success of the Britten **War Requiem** last season. It's an enchanting way to end a concert that opens with Beethoven at his most operatic, and his most poetic – as the mesmerising Boris Giltburg plays the enigmatic **Fourth Piano Concerto.**

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

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Thursday Series
Petrenko's Mahler V
Thursday 30 April 7.30 pm
Mahler Symphonies

Mahler Symphonies introduced by Vasily Petrenko

Victoria Borisova-Ollas: Remember Me Giselle: cello concerto (UK premiere, co-commission with RSO Stockholm)

Mahler: Symphony No.5

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

• Truls Mork: cello

A trumpet sounds in the darkness, and Vasily Petrenko's year-long Mahler cycle plunges into the terror, the glory and the soaring romance of Mahler's Fifth Symphony. There are horn calls and funeral marches, hymns of triumph and Viennese waltzes – and above all, the heart-rending Adagietto – Mahler's unforgettable

musical love-letter to his young wife. This is music that's larger than life, so we've paired it with the atmospheric **Remember Me Giselle** by Victoria Borisova-Ollas – a composer from Vladivostok with a flair for drama.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Thursday Series
Nobu Plays Rachmaninov
Thursday 14 May 7.30 pm

Rachmaninov: Piano Concerto No.3

Falla: The Three-Cornered HatVasily Petrenko: conductor

• Nobuyuki Tsujii: piano

Liverpool knows and loves Nobuyuki Tsujii – the Japanese pianist, whose artistry and charisma leaves audiences cheering and critics lost for words. "Player and music seem one" wrote **The Observer**. Now witness Nobu scaling the so-called "Everest of piano concertos" – Rachmaninov's colossal Third, with a conductor – Vasily Petrenko – who has this music in his blood. How to follow that? By heading for the Mediterranean, and Manuel de Falla's lush, flamenco-inspired ballet of love and lust beneath the scorching Spanish sun.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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Sunday Afternoon Classics Flamenco Spirit Sunday 17 May 2.30 pm

Juan Manuel Cañizares: Concierto Al-Andalus

Falla: The Three-Cornered Hat

- Vasily Petrenko: conductor
- Juan Manuel Cañizares guitar

The true spirit of flamenco is wild, strange, and driven by a passion – a fire – that can't be extinguished. And in Spain, there's one name that says it all: Juan Manuel Cañizares, a guitarist born into the flamenco tradition who's also one of the supreme classical virtuosos of our time. Today, with his fabulous palmeros (the flamenco performers who clap rhythmically) he performs his **Concierto Al-Andalus** – before Vasily Petrenko and the Orchestra throw themselves into the sultry, warm-blooded world of Manuel de Falla's **The Three-Cornered Hat.**

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Thursday Series
Petrenko's Mahler VI
Thursday 21 May 7.30 pm
Mahler Symphonies

Mahler Symphonies: Introduced by Vasily Petrenko

Wagner: Siegfried Idyll

Mahler: Symphony No.6

• Vasily Petrenko: conductor

Wagner's beautiful and tender **Siegfried Idyll**, written as a surprise birthday present for his beloved wife, is a delicate love letter, first performed on the staircase of their family home. In contrast, Mahler imagined his mighty **Sixth Symphony** as a great musical tragedy – the tale of a hero destroyed by fate. He never expected it to happen to him, and he filled every bar of this immense symphony with his most heartfelt and intimate emotions. Both pieces give a musical experience that leaves no listener unmoved, and in the hands of Vasily Petrenko, expect to be stirred to the very depths of your soul.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Classic FM Series
Sheku Plays Saint-Saëns
Thursday 4 June 7.30 pm
Friday 5 June 7.30 pm
Young Artist in Residence

Post-concert Question Time (Thursday 4 June): Elim Chan and Sheku Kanneh-Mason – See page 92

Dukas: The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Saint-Saëns: Cello Concerto No.1

Rachmaninov: Symphonic Dances

• Elim Chan: conductor

Sheku Kanneh-Mason: cello

When cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason released his debut album, it shot straight into the charts – the pop charts. Then he played at the 2018 Royal Wedding and became an international star. And quite right too, because few cellists play with more beauty or joy than our Young Artist in Residence. Saint-Saëns's **First Cello Concerto** is one of his personal favourites; conductor Elim Chan follows it with Rachmaninov's exciting suite of three symphonic dances, and begins with a piece made famous in Disney's **Fantasia**. Pure magic, from first note to last.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Petrenko's Mahler VII Thursday 11 June 7.30 pm Mahler Symphonies

Mahler Symphonies: Introduced by Vasily Petrenko

Post-concert Question Time: Vasily Petrenko and

Grace-Evangeline Mason – see page 92

Grace-Evangeline Mason: **Mahler's Letters for a cappella choir** (world premiere)*

Mahler: Symphony No.7

Vasily Petrenko: conductor
 Ellie Slorach: conductor*

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

Mahler called it his "song of the night", and his **Seventh Symphony** begins in a boat on an Alpine lake and ends with trumpets raised and cowbells jangling. Along the way there are distant bugles, moonlit serenades and spine-chilling terrors: Vasily Petrenko will bring out all its fabulous colours, as well as its black humour. But first, join the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir and the young British composer and 2017 Christopher Brooks prizewinner Grace-Evangeline Mason for a brand new tribute to the composer inspired by the letter writing of Gustav Mahler.

Tickets: £49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Sunday Afternoon Classics Pictures at an Exhibition Sunday 14 June 2.30 pm

Britten: The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra

Glazunov: Violin Concerto

Mussorgsky (orch. Ravel): Pictures at an Exhibition

• Vasily Petrenko: conductor

• Esther Yoo: violin

Experience Mussorgsky's musical "gallery crawl" past whimsical drawings on display in his glittering **Pictures at an Exhibition** — from the eerie Parisian **Catacombs** to **The Great Gate of Kiev's** tumultuous pealing of bells in a thunderous finale. It's a spectacular way to follow Glazunov's tuneful **Violin Concerto**, played by the masterly Esther Yoo. As for Britten's **Young Person's Guide** — well,

there's no livelier way to get to know the full Orchestra, whatever your age!

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

[Logo]: Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

American Songbook with Gary Williams Saturday 4 July 7.30 pm

An evening of Las Vegas classics and jazz standards.

• Anthony Weeden: conductor

Gary Williams: singer

Star of the West End's "Rat Pack", Gary Williams returns to Liverpool to join Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and celebrate music with all the glamour and glitz of the Las Vegas Strip. On Independence Day, join us for a night with swagger, featuring the hits of Bobby Darin, Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Andy Williams, Dean Martin, Nat "King" Cole and many more.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Thursday Series Tchaikovsky's Pathétique Thursday 9 July 7.30 pm

Walton: Overture, Scapino: A Comedy Overture

Brahms: Violin Concerto

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No.6 "Pathétique"

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

Tasmin Little: violin

This final Tchaikovsky symphony pulls the emotions out of the listener and performer alike and with Vasily at the helm this will be an unmissable season closing. Joining the Orchestra before that, is long-time friend, Tasmin Little, who made her first recordings here

in Liverpool over thirty years ago. This summer sees Tasmin hanging up her concert gowns in a farewell tour which includes this return visit to one of her favourite concert halls in the world. Based on the commedia dell'arte character, **Scapino** has been described as a rogue, a scoundrel and a rascal – all of which Walton weaves into the lively opener.

Tickets: £46, £36, £27, £22, £15

[Logo]: Sponsored by LSCA 1870-2020; ICAEW

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Mothership

Sunday 26 July 2.30 pm

Grieg: Triumphal March from Sigurd Jorsalfar

Aaron Jay Kernis: New Era Dance

Ginastera: Dances from Estancia

Mason Bates: MothershipSimon Emery: conductor

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra

There's nothing like a tour to get an orchestra excited, and when Simon Emery and the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra get ready for their upcoming adventure, they should be on fire. There's majesty from Grieg, high-kicking Latin rhythms from Ginastera, and finally the spectacular descent of Mason Bates's **Mothership:** a neon-lit, genre-bending musical close encounter of the third kind, with an electrifying beat. Come and give our young stars a great send-off, and feel the energy for yourself.

Tickets: £13, £11, £8

Please note, this concert cannot be included in subscription packages.

Dementia-friendly Concerts

These relaxing and intimate concerts are suitable for people living with dementia, their friends, family and carers.

Doors open 45 minutes before each performance, and the concert will last approximately an hour. All tickets include a complimentary cup of tea or coffee on arrival.

Tickets: £12.50

Winter Warmer

Tuesday 5 November 12.30 pm & 2.30 pm

Music Room

Come in from the cold and warm up in the cosy Music Room, with an ensemble of musicians from Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

Postcards from Around the World Saturday 20 June 12.30 pm & 2.30 pm Music Room

Join Ensemble of St Luke's for a selection of international music to take us on a musical journey. Repertoire will include Dvořák's "American" Quartet, Grieg's Wedding Day at Troldhaugen and songs to join in with.

Family Concerts

Bring your whole family together and experience a full symphony orchestra performing live music!

Concerts last around one hour, fidgeting is not a problem and fancy dress is positively encouraged – so come and give it a try!

Children are invited to have a go on a variety of instruments at our Instrument Petting Zoo in the Grand Foyer – available half an hour before most concerts.

[Logo]: Get Creative Family Arts Festival: HIGHLY COMMENDED Family Event

The Gruffalo and The Gruffalo's Child: Film with Live Orchestra (cert U)

Saturday 14 September 4 pm

Terry Davies: conductor

Silly old Fox! Doesn't he know, There's no such thing as a Gruffalo?

Terry Davies conducts the Orchestra performing Rene Aubry's inspired scores for this wonderful animated double-bill, based on the much-loved children's books written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Axel Scheffler.

Join Mouse on a daring adventure through the deep dark wood, where he is confronted by three hungry animals who each thinks that the mouse looks good! And the magic doesn't stop there, as The Gruffalo's Child ignores her father's warnings one wild and windy night, going in search of the Big Bad Mouse ...

Concert lasts around 90 minutes with interval

Tickets: £22, £15, £12 (adult); £13, £10, £8 (child)

Summon the Superheroes Sunday 13 October 2.30 pm

Stephen Bell: conductorAlasdair Malloy: presenter

Calling all Supermen and Superwomen! Put on your superhero suits, capes and masks and fly on down to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall for a fantastically super-powerful afternoon of sensational sounds for caped crusaders, masked men and wonder women.

The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra will be using their super-ability to play incredible music from **Batman**, **Spiderman**,

The Incredibles, Moana ... and many more! There will be some superheroes in the foyer before the concert, so you might just get a picture with your favourite!

Tickets: £22, £15, £12 (adult) £13, £10, £8 (child)

Sing-along with Santa Saturday 14 December 11.30 am & 2.30 pm Sunday 15 December 11.30 am & 2.30 pm

Michael Seal: conductorAlasdair Malloy: presenter

Liverpool Philharmonic Children's Choirs

He's making a list, he's checking it twice – and now he's asking you to sing along! That's right, Santa himself is leading the musical fun today, and he's going to take you on a trip to some of the places he likes to visit on Christmas Eve! You'll need to bring your best singing voices – and that goes for the whole family – but don't worry, the Liverpool Philharmonic Children's Choirs are here to help, and this is a musical Christmas treat filled with seasonal songs that everyone will know and love. A treat for all the family – whether you've been naughty or nice!

Tickets: £29, £18, £15 (adult); £16, £12, £10 (child)

Relaxed Concert: Global Explorers Saturday 7 March 2.30 pm

Michael Seal: conductorAlasdair Malloy: presenter

Join Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and presenter Alasdair Malloy for a global adventure travelling through deserts, jungles, the plains of Africa and under the sea! Interactive and entertaining, the concert will feature a range of music including **Anitra's Dance** from **Peer Gynt, Bare Necessities** from **Jungle Book** and a medley from **The Lion King.**

Our relaxed concerts are fun and accessible for the whole family, with an emphasis on providing brilliant music in a safe and enjoyable environment. We offer support for audiences with a range of needs, including communication difficulties, physical disabilities and learning disabilities.

We will be providing resources to help you prepare for the event, including music playlists, venue orientation sessions and video guides. We will also have easy-read programme materials, BSL interpretation and quiet spaces on the day.

Suitable for age 6-12 years but all are welcome

Please note there will not be an instrument petting zoo at this concert

Tickets: £12 (adult), £8 (child)

Liverpool Philharmonic is proud to be a "Liverpool Autism Champions" venue.

Bugs!!

Sunday 5 April 2.30 pm

Rebecca Tong: conductorAlasdair Malloy: presenter

A creepy-crawly concert for all the family, featuring those insects we either love or loathe! Music includes **The Wasps Overture**, **The Ugly Bug Ball** and a **Tarantella for Tarantulas** as well as a unique and unforgettable version of **The Flight of the Bumble Bee.** You might even meet some of our bugs in the foyer before the concert!

Tickets: £22, £15, £12 (adult); £13, £10, £8 (child)

Family Film Classics

Sunday 21 June 2.30 pm

Nick Davies: conductor

Alasdair Malloy: presenter

Join Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra for this fabulous family concert featuring music from the best loved family films of all time! From **Star Wars** to **Harry Potter, Mary Poppins** to **Frozen,** we'll be bringing the best of family film music from Hollywood to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall – we might even get you to sing along! So, pop on your fancy dress and come join us – there'll be more film characters for you to meet in the foyer!

Tickets: £22, £15, £12 (adult) £13, £10, £8 (child)

Under 5s Concerts

Designed especially for our youngest audiences, these concerts are the perfect way to introduce your little ones to the sights and sounds of an orchestra.

Wriggling, dancing and exploring are all part of the 45 minute experience! Come and enjoy music through storytelling, in the informal surroundings of Music Room.

Easy to access, with plenty of space for prams and a baby-changing area. Book early to avoid disappointment!

A Summer Fair

Wednesday 6 November 1 pm & 2.45 pm

Clare Henry and musicians from Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra invite you to enjoy all the fun of the fair with this sunny, summery concert! It might be cold outside, but it's always a warm welcome in Music Room, and the whole audience will be getting involved in the music and games!

Tickets: £12 (adults), £8 (children)

Blast Off!

Sunday 31 May 1 pm & 2.45 pm

Help astronaut Claire Henry and musicians from Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra to power the rocket and blast off into space!

We'll be listening to exciting space music during the concert and the audience will be very busy helping to make the launch a success!

Tickets: £12 (adults), £8 (children)

Chamber Music

Come and see some of the world's greatest artists and ensembles in Liverpool Philharmonic's Chamber Music series. Most concerts take place in the stunning surroundings of St George's Hall Concert Room, with a couple in Liverpool Philharmonic Hall.

Don't miss our award-winning contemporary music group, Ensemble 10/10 – bringing new and exciting music to Liverpool as part of this series.

[Logo]: Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

Elias String Quartet

Zoltán Fejérvári: piano

Saturday 21 September 7.30 pm

St George's Hall Concert Room

Haydn: String Quartet in G major, Op.33 No.5

Sally Beamish: Reed Stanzas

Schumann: Piano Quintet

"They make a beautiful sound, burnished yet translucent, and play with vigour and subtlety ... the Schumann is a delight." – **The Sunday Times**

The Elias Quartet is a chamber group with an international reputation, and a way of making the music of the Romantic era sound as fresh as if it was written yesterday. They're perfect for Schumann's ardent Piano Quintet – paired with a playful mini-masterpiece by Haydn and Sally Beamish's haunting, Hebrides-inspired **Reed Stanzas**.

Tickets: £25

La Serenissima Tuesday 15 October 7.30 pm St George's Hall Concert Room

The Godfather

A feast of instrumental colour with oboes, bassoons, trumpets, timpani, strings and continuo by the finest composers of the baroque

Telemann: Concerto in D

Johann Georg Pisendel: Concerto movement in E flat

Giuseppe Antonio Brescianello: Concerto in B flat

J S Bach: Concerto movement in D, BWV1045

Johann Georg Pisendel: Concerto movement in A

Vivaldi: Concerto in A, RV158

Johann Friedrich Fasch: Concerto in D

• Adrian Chandler: violin/director

"Most serene" is what they called Venice, but there's nothing staid about this explosion of 18th-century colour, melody and instrumental razzle-dazzle, performed by an award-winning period instrument ensemble under its founder, Wirral born Adrian Chandler, and featuring gloriously extravagant concertos by Vivaldi, Bach, and "the Godfather" himself: Telemann.

Tickets: £25

[Logos]: With support from Rodewald Concert Society; Arts Council England: Lottery Funded: Supported using public funding by Arts Council England

[Logo]: Investec Wealth & Investment

Ensemble 10/10 Wednesday 6 November 7.30 pm St George's Hall Concert Room

Thomas Adès: Living Toys

Dobrinka Tabakova: Bell Tower in the Clouds

Carmel Smickersgill: Charcoal (world premiere – 2018 Christopher

Brooks Prizewinner)

Steve Martland: Tiger Dancing for strings

Tansy Davies: Iris for solo saxophone and ensemble

• Clark Rundell: conductor

• Robert Buckland: saxophone

Winner of the 2018 Christopher Brooks Composition Prize, Carmel Smickersgill provides her first piece for Ensemble 10/10. Then Clark Rundell with the aid of the ABO/PRS Resonate fund brings some of the most outstanding pieces of the past 25 years, including Tansy Davies' jazz-tinged concerto, **Iris** for saxophone, and Thomas Adès' breakthrough piece **Living Toys**.

The performance of **Tiger Dancing** for strings and **Iris** for solo saxophone and ensemble is supported by Resonate, a PRS Foundation initiative in partnership with Association of British Orchestras, BBC Radio 3 and Boltini Trust.

Tickets: £20

[Logo]: Resonate PRS Foundation

Mariam Batsashvili: piano Tuesday 19 November 7.30 pm St George's Hall Concert Room

J S Bach: Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue in D minor, BWV 903

Mozart: Piano Sonata No.9 in D major K311

Ravel: Sonatine

Liszt: Sonata in B minor

"Natural and poignant interpretations, charismatic appearance and a tone quality rarely heard among virtuosos" – **The Pianist**

Mariam Batsashvili became the first female pianist ever to win the International Franz Liszt Piano Competition in 2014. But she didn't need an award to prove that she's an artist of compelling insight, as well as having "a tone quality rarely heard among virtuosos" (International Piano Magazine). Now she's a BBC New Generation Artist, and no keyboard aficionado will want to miss her interpretation of Liszt's towering B minor Sonata.

Tickets: £25

[Logo]: BBC Radio 3 new generation artists

[Logo]: Investec Wealth & Investment

Christmas with Septura
Thursday 12 December 7.30 pm
St George's Hall Concert Room

Schütz: Das Wort ward Fleisch

J S Bach: Christmas Suite

Praetorius: Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Brahms: Chorale Prelude: Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Handel: Messiah: highlights

Tchaikovsky: **Nutcracker Suite***• *Tom Redmond: **Narrator**

"The playing is simply superb." - Brass Band World

A brass septet with a dazzling difference, made up of some of the UK's most virtuosic players, Septura can play practically anything – and they do, with results that have been described by **BBC Music Magazine** as "brilliantly articulated, audaciously coloured, technically flawless". In short, they're a sensation – and this Christmas spectacular features everything from medieval hymns to the **Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy.** Hearing is believing!

Tickets: £28

Kuss Quartet
Sunday 2 February 2.30 pm
St George's Hall Concert Room
Beethoven 250

Beethoven: String Quartet in D, Op.18 No.3

György Kurtag: Officium breve

Beethoven: String Quartet in A minor, Op.131

"An ensemble to pay attention to." - Gramophone

Berlin-based Kuss Quartet are ranked among the world's best ensembles. Internationally renowned for their unique and creative approach to music-making, their fresh interpretations showcase their passion for experimentation whilst revealing a deep understanding of the music. This is displayed in their interpretation of Beethoven's quartets, fresh from their recent project performing the complete Beethoven quartets in Japan.

Tickets: £25

With support from Rodewald Concert Society

Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason Sunday 16 February 7.30 pm Liverpool Philharmonic Hall Young Artist in Residence Beethoven 250

Beethoven: Cello Sonata No.4 in C major, Op.102 No.1

Lutosławski: Grave

Barber: Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op.6

Rachmaninov: Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op.19

"A superstar who's also a true artist in the making." – **The Daily Telegraph**

Back by popular demand after their recital last season, award-winning siblings, Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason return to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall to treat us to another amazing performance. Rachmaninov's sweeping Cello Sonata, with the most beautiful serene slow movement, is the climax of a recital that also includes Samuel Barber's rarely-heard sonata, and opens with Beethoven's C major sonata – a perfect vehicle for the Kanneh-Mason's to display what **The Independent** called his "dignified playfulness".

Tickets: £28

Ensemble 10/10
Thursday 20 February 7.30 pm
St George's Hall Concert Room
Artist in Residence

Samantha Fernando: Formations

Brett Dean: Pastoral Symphony

Duncan Ward: Greenhurst Way

Darius Milhaud: La Creation du monde

Webern: **Symphony**

• Duncan Ward: conductor

Ensemble 10/10 is all about new worlds and Duncan Ward's programme takes us further – through the cycles of life and death. Milhaud relates the creation of a world, whereas Samantha Fernando deals with imminent motherhood. Duncan Ward's own piece, a reflection of his late Grandad's love of the unspoilt nature of the Lancashire moors contrasts Brett Dean's warning of urbanisation. And Anton Webern? Also a lover of nature, his Symphony distills elemental forces into crystalline purity.

Tickets: £20

Jennifer Johnston: A Journeywoman's Tale Wednesday 4 March 7.30 pm St George's Hall Concert Room

Head: Sweet chance that led my steps abroad

Gurney: In Flanders

Ireland: Earth's Call

Ives: Tom Sails Away

Britten: O Waly Waly

Warlock: My Own Country

Vaughan Williams: Songs of Travel

Wolf: Kennst du Das Land

Wolf: Mignon Lieder

Schumann: Maria Stuart Lieder

Mahler: Lieder Eines Fahrenden Gesellen

Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano

• Joseph Middleton: piano

Artist in Residence, mezzo-soprano Jennifer Johnston and pianist Joseph Middleton present a voyage through some of the world's greatest songs focusing on migration, travel and the concept of "home", especially relevant in this port of Liverpool, where many thousands have begun journeys to far away shores, including songs by Mahler and Wolf.

Tickets: £25

Daniel Sepec: violin, Tabea Zimmermann: viola,

Jean-Guihen Queyras: cello

Tuesday 10 March 7.30 pm

St George's Hall Concert Room

Beethoven 250

Beethoven: String Trios Op.9, Nos.1, 2 and 3

"Freshness, close rapport, finesse, and a blend of eloquence and vitality" – **The Daily Telegraph**

Imagine a young genius testing the outermost limits of his inspiration; and then imagine three of the world's great string

players grappling with the wit, energy and limitless imagination that's unleashed when Ludwig van Beethoven tries to cram all his creative power into the space of a humble string trio. The results are delightful: and this all-star trio will enjoy it as much as you will.

Tickets: £25

Nobuyuki Tsujii piano Sunday 10 May 7.30 pm Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

Programme to include:

Schubert: Impromptus

Scriabin: Piano Sonata No.5

Chopin: Ballades

"The definition of virtuosity"' - The Observer

"His performance had the power of a healing service. It was truly divine". That's how the American piano legend Van Cliburn described Nobuyuki Tsujii – and every time he plays with the Orchestra, he brings the house down. But this is Nobu's first ever solo recital in Liverpool, and he's diving deep into the romantic world of Schubert and Chopin, as well as Scriabin's blazing **Fifth Sonata**: music to make the imagination take flight.

Tickets: £28

The King's Singers: Finding Harmony Tuesday 19 May 7.30 pm St George's Hall Concert Room

Programme to include:

Harry Dixon Loes (arr. Stacey V. Gibbs): This Little Light of Mine

William Byrd: Ne irascaris, Domine

Thomas Tallis: God grant with grace

Ariana Grande (arr. Richard Wilberforce): One Last Time

A stunning programme from the ever-versatile King's Singers, bringing new and original arrangements that explore how song unites people in times of social upheaval. From the folksongs of Scotland through to the religious music of Thomas Tallis, from the tribal songs of Africa to the pop songs of today – people have always united in song. **Finding Harmony** celebrates the use of voice to articulate our innermost feelings – uplifting and inspiring.

Tickets: £28

Ensemble 10/10
Thursday 28 May 7.30 pm
St George's Hall Concert Room

Luciano Berio: Naturale for viola, tape and percussion

Thomas Larcher: Still for viola, piano and strings

Timothy Jackson: New piece for viola, strings (world premiere)

Michael Tippett: Fantasia Concertante on a theme of Corelli

• Lawrence Power: director/viola/violin

Lawrence Power is a string wizard. Joining Ensemble 10/10 for the first time as soloist and director, he'll weave musical spells from the music of our own time and classic pieces from the twentieth century. Michael Tippett and Luciano Berio provide the earlier classics, Thomas Larcher a classic from this century, and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's own Timothy Jackson writes something brand new for Power to weave his magic.

Tickets: £20

[Logo]: Investec Wealth & Investment

Close Up Concerts

Join Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra ensembles and guest artists for intimate performances in the informal surroundings of our smaller venue, Music Room.

Seating is unreserved, and you can secure seats closest to the stage by booking into the Premium seating area. Premium tickets are limited and seats within the space are unallocated.

Please note, these concerts cannot be included in subscription packages

Pixels Ensemble

Monday 16 September 8 pm

Hildegard of Bingen: O viridissima virgo and O virgo ac diadema, for voice

Dani Howard: Two and a half minutes to midnight, for piccolo

George Crumb: Vox Balaenae (Voice of the Whale), for flute, cello and piano

Luciano Berio: Sequenza III, for voice

Dani Howard: The Earl of St Vincent for solo piano

Maurice Ravel: Chansons Madécasses, for voice, flute, cello and piano

Anna Crookes: voiceFiona Fulton: flute

• Jonathan Aasgaard: cello

• Ian Buckle: piano

Tickets: £20, £17

Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano Sunday 29 September 8 pm Monday 30 September 8 pm Artist in Residence

A Love Letter to Liverpool

An evening of song celebrating Jennifer's home town of Liverpool, including:

Pete McGovern (arr. Carmel Smickersgill): In My Liverpool Home

Richard Miller (McGough): The Gateway To The Atlantic

Stan Kelly (arr. Bethan Morgan-Williams): Liverpool Lullaby

- Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano
- Alisdair Hogarth: piano

Launching her residency at Liverpool Philharmonic, mezzo-soprano Jennifer Johnston, accompanied by Alisdair Hogarth on the piano, will present **A Love Letter to Liverpool**, a programme of song dedicated to the city of her birth, and which remains her home.

These concerts will also launch the release of Jennifer's new album A Love Letter to Liverpool.

Tickets: £20, £17

Jonathan Radford: saxophone, Ashley Fripp: piano Monday 21 October 8 pm

Royal Over-Seas League Gold Medal winner

Programme to include:

Debussy: Rapsodie

Rachmaninov: Vocalise

Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue for saxophone and piano

Rudy Wiedoeft: Sax-o-phun

and music by Albéniz, Carlos Vivanco, Piazzolla and Grieg

Tickets: £20, £17

Nicholas McCarthy: piano Sunday 3 November 8 pm

Scriabin: Prelude and Nocturne, Op.9

Felix Blumenfeld: Étude in A flat major, Op.36

Richard Strauss (arr. J. Mann): Morgen! Op.27 No.4

Carl Reinecke: Sonata in C minor, Op.179

Bach (arr. Brahms): Chaconne in D minor

Bellini (arr. Fumagalli): Casta Diva

Nigel Hess: Nocturne

Bartok: Étude for Left Hand

Rachmaninov (arr. McCarthy): Prelude in G minor, Op.23 No.5

An inspiring and dynamic performer who was born without his right hand, Nicholas McCarthy was the first one handed pianist to graduate from the Royal College of Music and is a champion of the exciting world of left hand alone repertoire. This unique performance will showcase a range of dazzling and poetic pieces from Scriabin, Bach/Brahms and Rachmaninov.

Tickets: £20, £17

Riot Ensemble

Monday 25 November 8 pm

Kaija Saariaho: Oi Kuu for bass clarinet and cello

Lee Hyla: We Speak Etruscan for bass clarinet and baritone saxophone

Bernhard Gander: "O" for Quintet

Marc Mellits: Black for bass clarinet and baritone saxophone

Matthias Pintscher: Duo for viola and cello

- Ausias Garrigos Morant: bass clarinet
- Amy Green: baritone saxophone
- Stephen Upshaw: viola
- Louise McMonagle: cello
- Kate Walter: bass flute
- Krassimir Sterev: accordion
- Aaron Holloway-Nahum: conductor

Tickets: £20, £17

Alandale Trio Monday 13 January 8 pm Beethoven 250

Schubert: String Trio in B flat, D471

Kodály: Intermezzo

Ernö Dohnanyi: Serenade in C major

Beethoven: String Trio in E flat, Op.3

Andrew Harvey: violinAlex Mitchell: viola

• Alex Holladay: cello

Tickets: £20, £17

Equilibrium

Monday 10 February 8 pm

Fanny Mendelssohn: String Quartet in E flat

Dani Howard: Symmetry

Rebecca Clarke: Lullaby and Grotesque

Bethan Morgan-Williams: Double Double

Caroline Bordignon: Incandescence for string quartet and live

painting* (world premiere)Kate Richardson: violin

Kate Marsden: violin
Rachel Jones: viola

Hilary Browning: cello

Equilibrium is a new group with a mission to introduce works by hitherto neglected women composers and exciting new works by women of today.

* Caroline Bordignon, composer and fine artist, will be live painting during this premiere performance of her Triptych for string quartet.

Tickets: £20, £17

Supported by The Women's Organisation

Liverpool String Quartet Monday 23 March 8 pm

Bruch: String Quintet in E flat

Schoenberg: Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night)

lan Stephens: A Wailing on the Wind for storyteller and string quartet

Róisín Walters: violin
Kate Marsden: violin
Sarah Hill: violin/viola
Daniel Sanxis: viola
Nick Byrne: cello
Alex Holladay: cello

• Angela Mounsey: narrator

Verklärte Nacht, Schoenberg's seminal late-Romantic masterpiece for string sextet, follows a wistful late **Quintet** by Max Bruch. **A Wailing on the Wind**, with text by Northern Ireland storyteller Liz Weir, is a moving tapespagetry of music and words which portrays the relationship between a teenage boy and his great-grandmother, exploring their own fractured family history through retellings of Irish folk tales.

Tickets: £20, £17

Beethoven Septet Monday 20 April 8 pm

Beethoven: Septet in E flat
Timothy Lines: clarinet
Nina Ashton: bassoon
Timothy Jackson: horn
Thelma Handy: violin
Alex Mitchell: viola
Ian Bracken: cello

• Anthony Williams: double bass

The first half of this concert will be a fantastic opportunity to learn a piece from both a player's and composer's perspective. There will be demonstrations of period instruments, looking at the developments over the centuries, exploring the impact of that evolution on sound and on the challenges and joys of music-making. We'll also take the **Septet** apart and show the inner workings of this absolute masterpiece. The evening will conclude with a complete performance of the Beethoven **Septet**.

Tickets: £20, £17

Jonathan Aasgaard: cello Monday 1 June 8 pm

Henri Dutilleux: Trois strophes sur le nom de Sacher

Steve Reich: Counterpoints with tape

Ben Hackbarth: new work for cello and live electronics

Giovanni Sollima: Hell 1 for cello and tape

Kaija Saariaho: Petals for cello and live electronics

Manuela Blackburn: Come Closer for cello and electronics

Pierre Boulez: Messagesquisse for multiple cellos with film

For this concert, Jonathan Aasgaard explores music written for the cello in his lifetime, including a number of works featuring versatile ways to work with electronics.

Tickets: £20, £17

Klezmer-ish: Dusty Road Monday 29 June 8 pm Tuesday 30 June 8 pm

• Thomas Verity: clarinet

• Concettina Del Vecchio: piano accordion/violin

• Marcel Becker: double bass

• Robert Shepley: guitar/violin

Klezmer-ish come home to the Music Room for their fourth consecutive season. In their travelling suitcase will be tunes from their new album "Dusty Road" alongside brand new music taking you on a journey from the origins of Klezmer, gypsy jazz, tangos and bluegrass, to the present day.

Tickets: £20, £17

Lunchtime Concerts

Join us in Music Room for a one-hour musical interlude to your day, featuring Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musicians.

Seating is unreserved, and you can secure seats closest to the stage by booking into the Premium seating area. Premium tickets are limited and seats within the space are unallocated.

Series Sponsored by Maestro! Tour Management

Please note, these concerts cannot be included in subscription packages

Jessica Mogridge: oboe, Gareth Twigg: bassoon,

Richard Shaw: piano

Monday 14 October 1 pm

André Previn: Bassoon Sonata

André Previn: Trio

Poulenc: Trio

Tickets: £12, £8

Róisín Walters: violin, Jonathan Aasgaard: cello, Jamie

Kenny: double bass

Monday 11 November 1 pm

JS Bach: Two Three-Part Inventions

Kodály: Duo for violin and cello, Op.7

Mark O'Connor: Appalachian Journey

Martinů: Duo for violin and cello No.2

Tickets: £12, £8

The Bassline
Monday 9 December 1 pm
Snow White and the Four Basses

Toot Suite from "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang"

"Harry Lime" theme

As Time Goes By

Alexander's Ragtime Band

Dorothy's Basses from the "Wizard of Oz"

A 70's Christmas Medley

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra Basses: Marcel Becker, Jamie Kenny, Ashley Frampton, Nigel Dufty, Anthony Williams, Laura Murphy

Tickets: £12, £8

Pixels Ensemble
Monday 20 January 1 pm
Beethoven 250

Beethoven: Piano Sonata in F minor, Op.2 No.1

Beethoven: Piano Trio in E flat, Op.1 No.1

• Sophie Rosa: violin

• Jonathan Aasgaard: cello

• Ian Buckle: piano

Tickets: £12, £8

Ensemble of St Luke's

Monday 17 February 1 pm

Beethoven 250

Beethoven: String Quartet in F, Op.59 No.1 "Razumovsky"

Puccini: Crisantemi

• Alexander Marks: violin

Elizabeth Lamberton: violin

Robert Shepley: violaGethyn Jones: cello

Tickets: £12, £8

Old St Paul's Trio Monday 30 March 1 pm Beethoven 250

Beethoven: Clarinet Trio in B flat, Op.11

Bruch: Eight Pieces, Op.83

• Calum Robertson: clarinet

• John Kitchen: piano

Jamie Kenny: double bass

Tickets: £12, £8

Emilia Quartet

Monday 27 April 1 pm

Mahler: Piano Quartet

Elgar: String Quintet

• Sarah Brandwood-Spencer: violin

• Lukas Hank: violin

• Gwendolyn Cawdron: viola

lan Bracken: cello lan Buckle: piano

Tickets: £12, £8

A4 Brass Quartet Monday 15 June 1 pm

Royal Over-Seas League Ensemble Prize Winner

Bernstein: Overture to Candide

Bartók: Romanian Folk Dances

Percy Grainger, Edward Gregson ... and more!

Tickets: £12, £8

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company

Don't miss your chance to see the next generation of musical talent! Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company will be presenting an exciting programme of concerts and recitals this season, showcasing their skills and passion for music-making and live performance.

We also have a range of opportunities for young musicians to get involved throughout the year, from workshops to career days.

For Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra concerts this season, See pages 33, 47 and 59.

Music Industry Careers Fest Saturday 1 February 10.30 am Music Room

For young people interested in learning more about careers in music this day long conference offers interactive and informative sessions on the range of options available, including performance, composition, conducting, production, management, technology, education and business. Tickets: £5 (adults), £3 (under 25's/students), Free (Liverpool

Philharmonic Youth Company members)

Rushworth New Music Concert Thursday 12 March 6 pm Music Room

Rushworth Young Composers have their new compositions performed by members of Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company.

The Rushworth Young Composers scheme offers young composers the chance to develop their skills, work with mentors to develop their creative and musical voice, and write music for players and singers from Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and Choir.

Tickets: Free, must be booked in advance

[Logo]: Supported by Rushworth Foundation

Youth Company Session Band Thursday 30 April 6 pm Music Room

Enjoy contemporary music from rock and pop, to film and video game music with the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company Session Band. Led by Andy Stott, Musical Director for the ever-popular RNCM Session Orchestra, musicians will be focusing on developing the skills needed for the modern portfolio career musician. Showcasing the versatility and talent of the Youth Company musicians, this concert is sure to have something for everyone to enjoy!

Tickets: Free, must be booked in advance

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choirs Sunday 12 July 2.30 pm

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

This concert includes the world premiere of a staged oratorio inspired by the life and work of Hannah Lightbody, the Liverpool-born 18th century campaigner for the welfare and education of working-class children, featuring all three Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choirs – Melody Makers, Children's Choir and our Youth Choir. Music by Grace-Evangeline Mason, words by Lila Palmer.

Tickets: £13, £11, £8

Glyndebourne Film Screenings

Enjoy opera at its finest in Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, on the unique Walturdaw screen.

All our screenings will include a glass of fizz on arrival and a one hour interval, where you can enjoy a picnic, for the full Glyndebourne experience.

Picnics must be purchased in advance (£20 per person).

Don Giovanni Sunday 1 September 2 pm

Mozart: Don Giovanni

Not many comic operas begin with a cold-blooded murder and end with the hero's consignment to hell – but **Don Giovanni** swings restlessly between comedy and tragedy to startling effect. Mozart's irresistible music follows suit, its famous highlights ranging from Don Giovanni's sparkling Champagne aria to the seductive duet "Là ci darem la mano". Jonathan Kent's sleek and suspenseful production captures this duality brilliantly.

Filmed in 2010

Tickets: £25, £16

Don Pasquale Sunday 12 January 2 pm

Donizetti: Don Pasquale

Don Pasquale is a tuneful tale of a romantically deluded old bachelor and the young lovers who scheme to outwit him. This fast and funny comedy is a wonderfully accessible piece perfect for audiences of all ages, especially if you're considering a family outing.

Filmed in 2013

Sung in Italian with English supertitles.

Tickets: £25, £16

Meistersinger von Nürnberg Monday 13 April 2 pm

Wagner: Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg

Singing and songwriting take centre-stage in Wagner's joyous comedy. The world of the Mastersingers, a group of poets and musicians, is turned upside down when the free-thinking Walther von Stolzing enters their singing competition to win his beloved Eva. But can this inspired rule-breaker win the hand of the woman he loves?

Filmed in 2011

Tickets: £25, £16

Talks, Tours & Taking Part

There are so many ways for you to get involved with Liverpool Philharmonic this season. As well as our hugely popular tours and workshops, we'll also have a selection of special events, pre and post-concert talks and Q&As, giving you the chance to get closer to the artists and music you love.

All our activities are fun and informative, and everyone is welcome, whether you're a seasoned attender, or brand new to classical music.

Special Events

The Mahler Experience Mahler Symphonies

Alongside the performance of Mahler's complete symphonies in 2020, we present three unique events designed to provide insight into different aspects of his work and life. All events take place in the intimate surroundings of our Music Room.

Mahler with Wine

Friday 6 September 6 pm- 8 pm

"A full cup of wine at the right time is worth more than all the kingdoms of this earth!" – Gustav Mahler

Conductor Clark Rundell will pick a selection of extracts from his favourite Mahler symphonies to listen to in the Music Room (it has fantastic acoustics!). Clark will discuss the works and then we'll sample wines and cheeses chosen for each piece by Clark and Kevin Rooney from Enotria & Coe wine importers. Join us for a feast for all the senses!

Tickets: £25*

^{*} Book all three together for just £60 (20% discount).

Mahler and his Faith Sunday 12 January 2 pm-4 pm

"God can only be comprehended as Love." - Gustav Mahler

Norman Lebrecht, prominent cultural commentator and author of **Why Mahler? How One Man and Ten Symphonies Changed Our World** presents a one-hour talk on Mahler's faith and how it influenced his work. Mahler was raised in a traditional Jewish family, converted to Christianity to become head of the Vienna Opera, married a non-Jewish wife and was buried by a Catholic priest.

The talk is followed by a buffet of Austro-Hungarian pastries (macaroons, babka, mandelbread, lemon poppy sponge and rugelach) tea, coffee and hot chocolate "mit Schlag" (whipped cream).

Tickets: £25*

Mahler in the Landscape Sunday 26 April 2 pm-4 pm

"But it's peculiar, as soon as I am in the midst of nature and by myself, everything that is base and trivial vanishes without trace. On such days nothing scares me; and this helps me again and again."

– Gustav Mahler

Stephen Johnson, classical music writer, composer and broadcaster, and author of **Mahler: His Life and Music,** explores Mahler's relationship with nature and the environment and how it affected the way he worked and the music he wrote.

The one-hour talk is followed by a picnic buffet with charcuterie, cheese and smoked fish platters, German onion tart, and a selection of salads (including Gurkensalat, Bavarian Radish Salad and Creamy German Potato Salad).

Tickets: £25*

Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko in Conversation Tuesday 1 October 7 pm

Vasily Petrenko reflects on the past 13 seasons with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, the upcoming season, and the life of a 21st century conductor, with Classic FM's Tim Lihoreau.

Tickets: £25

Classic Intros

Join us for our free pre-concert talks and interviews with visiting artists – a great way to get more out of each concert! Talks are held in Music Room and start at 6.15 pm.

Free to all ticket-holders.

Thursday 3 October

Stephen Johnson, classical music writer, composer and broadcaster, talks about Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No.1

Thursday 24 October

Conductor Joshua Weilerstein discusses tonight's programme in conversation with BBC Radio Merseyside's Angela Heslop

Sunday 27 October (1.15 pm)

Professor Catherine Tackley, Head of Music at University of Liverpool, talks about the influence of jazz on this afternoon's programme

Thursday 6 February

Stephen Johnson, classical music writer, composer and broadcaster talks about Bruckner's **Symphony No.4** "Romantic"

Thursday 2 April

University of Liverpool's Senior Lecturer in Music, Dr Kenneth Forkert-Smith, talks about Sibelius's **Symphony No.5**

Saturday 18 April

Conductor Anthony Gabriele in conversation with BBC Radio Merseyside's Angela Heslop, discussing **The Wizard of Oz**

Thursday 23 April

University of Liverpool's Dr Lee Tsang talks about Dutch conductor Willem Mengelberg, famous for his performances of Mahler with the Concertgebouw Orchestra, and Mahler's **Symphony No.4**

Post-Concert Question Time

If you have ever left a concert with questions, this is your chance to ask the artists! Grab a drink from the bar and join conductors and soloists for an informal 30 minute question and answer session starting about 15 minutes after the concert ends in Music Room.

Free to all ticket-holders.

Thursday 19 September

Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko and composer Dani Howard

Thursday 16 January

Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze

Thursday 30 January

Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko, pianist Clare Hammond and composer Kenneth Hesketh

Thursday 4 June

Conductor Elim Chan and Young Artist in Residence, cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason

Thursday 11 June

Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko, and Christopher Brooks 2017 Prizewinner, Grace-Evangeline Mason

Discover the Classics

£15 per session, £10 (students/claimants) or £48 for all four sessions

Saturdays 11 am-1 pm (see listings for specific dates)

Music Room

The perfect start to your weekend – all you need is a passion for music, and we'll provide the rest!

Hosted by Classic FM Creative Director and Breakfast Show host, Tim Lihoreau, and Orchestra cellist, Gethyn Jones, join us to discover the musical, social and historical stories behind some of the music, composers and artists in the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's 2019-20 season. We will also be joined by Orchestra musicians, conductors and guest artists, to give added insight.

Each session will discuss elements of the repertoire and will link to one of our amazing concerts – a great opportunity to get more out of the season, learn something new and join in the fun, lively debate with other music enthusiasts!

Tim Lihoreau with composer Dani Howard Saturday 14 September

Linked to **Symphonie Fantastique** concerts on Thursday 19 & Sunday 22 September (see page 26 for concert details)

Gethyn Jones with conductor/violinist Julian Rachlin and violinist Sarah McElravy

Saturday 30 November

Linked to **Sinfonia Concertante** concert on Thursday 28 November and Bach's **Double Concerto** concert on Sunday 1 December (see page 35 for concert details)

Gethyn Jones with Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze Saturday 8 February

Linked to Beethoven's **Missa Solemnis** concert on Saturday 15 February (see page 46 for concert details)

Tim Lihoreau with Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko and pianist Esther Yoo

Saturday 13 June

Linked to **Pictures at an Exhibition** concert on Sunday 14 June (see page 57 for concert details)

* * *

Please note that sessions will discuss parts of the repertoire, but may not cover the full concert programme.

Liverpool Philharmonic Experience Tours

Have you ever wondered what happens backstage, wanted to see the dressing rooms, been curious about the workings of the UK's oldest continuing professional symphony orchestra, or wanted to learn more about the heritage of our glorious Art Deco building?

Our tours are just the ticket – simply pick your "Liverpool Philharmonic Experience" ...

Discover Thursday 3 October 11 am Thursday 30 April 11 am £15

Learn about Liverpool Philharmonic's rich heritage, explore some of the "secret spaces", and enjoy a musical surprise by a Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musician. Tours last about 2 hours.

Delve Deep Thursday 3 October 12.30 pm Thursday 30 April 12.30 pm £15

With historical material from the archives, delve into the Orchestra's history and workings, hear some of the intriguing stories, gain a better understanding of a musician's life, and experience a live performance by a Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musician. Tours last about 2 hours.

Play (for families) Saturday 9 November 11 am Sunday 2 February 11 am £12 (adults), £8 (children)

A super-engaging tour for the whole family, you'll experience what it's like to play an instrument centre-stage, hold the conductor's baton and enjoy a live demonstration by a Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musician. Tours last about 90 minutes and are suitable for children aged 5+.

* * *

Our tours are accessible – if you have access requirements, please call us to make your booking, so we can accommodate your requirements.

Plan Your Visit

How to book tickets and get to an event, plus subscription packages and seating plans.

Visit **liverpoolphil.com** for more information and FAQs, or call our Box Office on **0151 709 3789.**

How to Find Us

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

Hope Street, Liverpool, L1 9BP

Music Room

Entrance is on Sugnall Street, to the rear of Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

St George's Hall

In the city centre, opposite Lime Street Station – use postcode L1 1JJ for navigation.

The Concert Room is accessed via the North Entrance on William Brown Street.

Parking

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

We offer pre-reserved parking for most Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concerts at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral car park (L3 5TQ).

Located on Mount Pleasant, it is a five minute walk down Hope Street from Liverpool Philharmonic Hall. The car park is available from 6-11 pm and is charged at £4.50.

To book, call Box Office on 0151 709 3789, or book online with your tickets.

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall Caledonia Street

There is limited parking available at this car park, especially on Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concert nights. The charge is £8, or £16 overnight parking and can be paid for at the pay and display machine in the car park, or using the smartphone app.

Blue Badge Holders

Spaces for Blue Badge holders can be reserved in our Caledonia Street car park for most Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concerts. Please call 0151 709 3789 at least three days prior to the concert, to reserve your space. Subject to availability.

Access

We strive to be as accessible as possible to everyone, and joining our free Access Scheme is the best way to help us provide you with the appropriate support you need to enjoy your visit, as well as offering a variety of benefits, including complimentary tickets for carers, access to wheelchair and transfer seating etc.

For more information about the Access Scheme and accessibility at Liverpool Philharmonic, or if you need any assistance or advice in planning your visit, please visit **liverpoolphil.com/access**, or get in touch:

access@liverpoolphil.com

0151 709 3789

Booking Information

Liverpool Philharmonic subscribers, members and group bookers have an exclusive booking period. Dates are detailed below.

Thursday 9 May

Postal booking opens for renewing subscribers, members and groups. We have forms available online at **liverpoolphil.com/subscriptions**, and you can also submit these via email to **boxoffice@liverpoolphil.com**.

Monday 10-Friday 14 June

In person booking (by appointment only) – if you would like to come in and book your subscription with a member of our Box Office team in person, you can come in to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall this week. Please call **0151 709 3789** or email **boxoffice@liverpoolphil.com** to book your appointment.

Monday 17 June

Telephone booking opens for new and renewing subscribers, members and groups.

Monday 24 June

All tickets go on general sale!

Box Office

Online

liverpoolphil.com

In person/Postal

Box Office, Liverpool Philharmonic Hall Hope Street, Liverpool, L1 9BP

Telephone 0151 709 3789

Subscriptions can be booked by telephone, in person, by post or email. Please note, your credit card is charged when the order is received. Direct debits will be processed on the date specified on your form. Subscription tickets will be sent out mid June.

Opening Hours

Telephone

Monday-Saturday 9.30 am-5.30 pm

Sunday 12-5 pm

In person

- Monday-Saturday: 10 am-15mins after concert begins (concert days), 10 am-5.30 pm (non-concert days)
- Sunday: 12 pm-15mins after concert begins (concert days)
- Closed (non-concert days)

Booking Fees

Online/Phone orders

8% booking fee applies

In person

No fees

Group tickets (15+)

75p per ticket (15-50 tickets per show)

25p per ticket (51+ tickets)

Save on booking fees by becoming a member!

Silver+ members don't pay booking fees – just one of the many benefits!

See page 10 for more information.

Discounted Tickets

Concessions

Under 25s, students and those in receipt of Universal Credit or Jobseekers' Allowance can purchase tickets for just £8 [You may be required to provide proof of eligibility], subject to availability.

Discounted tickets can be purchased in person or by phone (not available online).

Concession tickets do not apply to Music Room Concerts, Family Concerts, Film with Live Orchestra, New Year's Eve or **Messiah**, and may be limited for other concerts.

Standby Tickets

On the day of a concert, Senior Citizens (aged 65+ at the time of booking) may purchase tickets with 25% off the top two price bands in person from Liverpool Philharmonic Box Office (not available for phone/online booking).

Limited to two per person, and subject to availability. May not be available for certain concerts or if there is not capacity.

Group discounts

Generous group discounts are available for most concerts:

Groups of 15-29: 10% off

Groups of 30-59: 15% off

Groups of 60+: 20% off

For more details, email **groupbookings@liverpoolphil.com**, or call **0151 709 3789**

Subscription Pricing & Seating Plan

Fixed Series

Choosing a fixed Series is a great way to enjoy regular concert-going. You can request the same seats for every performance and carry these over the year.

If you don't want to miss a single concert, then you can select the Marathon Series, which includes a ticket to every Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concert *1 in the season, with a massive 30% discount!

[Series]	Α	В	С	D	E
Marathon	£539.00	£742.00	£932.40	£1,171.80	£1,463.00
Series *2:					
44 concerts					
(save 30%)	04.40.00	0400 75	00.40.00	0040.00	0000.05
Classic FM	£142.80	£199.75	£249.90	£316.20	£398.65
Series:					
10 concerts					
(save 15%)					
Thursday	£216.75	£301.75	£378.25	£476.00	£599.25
Series:					
15 concerts					
(save 15%)					
Sunday	£150.45	£214.20	£266.05	£343.40	£435.20
Afternoon					
Classics:					
11 concerts					
(save 15%)					
Chamber	£273.70	£273.70	£273.70	£273.70	£273.70
Music					
Concerts:					
13 concerts					
(save 15%)					

*1 Excluding And In The End: A Celebration of 50 Years of Abbey Road and Let It Be

*2 Where there are repeated concerts, your Marathon subscription includes the Thursday evening concerts as standard. These can be swapped for the other date on request when booking.

Classic FM Series

Thursday 19 September, Thursday 10 October, Thursday 14 November, Thursday 5 December, Thursday 16 January, Thursday 12 March, Thursday 26 March, Thursday 2 April, Thursday 4 June

Thursday Series

Thursday 3 October, Thursday 24 October, Thursday 31 October, Thursday 21 November, Thursday 28 November, Thursday 9 January, Thursday 23 January, Thursday 30 January, Thursday 6 February, Thursday 27 February, Thursday 30 April, Thursday 14 May, Thursday 21 May, Thursday 11 June, Thursday 9 July

Sunday Afternoon Classics

Sunday 22 September, Sunday 6 October, Sunday 27 October, Sunday 1 December, Sunday 19 January, Sunday 26 January, Sunday 9 February, Sunday 1 March, Sunday 29 March, Sunday 17 May, Sunday 14 June

Flexible Series

Pick and mix your own Series to save! You can choose any concerts from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra season in this brochure to add to your package.

Book 5-8 concerts: Save 10%

Book 9-15 concerts: Save 15%

Book 16-25 concerts: Save 20%

Book 26 or more concerts: Save 25%

Book 30+ concerts and you can "roll over" your seats to next season, keeping your favourite seats for each performance.

Book tickets to 8+ concerts and you are entitled to a free ticket to one of the Glyndebourne film screenings this season (see page 87).

See page 13 for more information on the benefits of subscribing.

[Seating Plan]

Print shows a diagram of the seating plan. The seats are priced according to which area they are in

Key to the Areas

Area A: Rows L-O in the Rear Circle

Area B: Rows G-K in the **Rear Circle**, and Rows A-D on the outer wings of the **Stalls**

Area C: Rows A-D in the two centre sections of the **Stalls**, and Rows E-P on the outer wings of the **Stalls**

Area D: Rows E-P in the two centre sections of the **Stalls**, Rows S-X on the outer wings of the **Grand Circle**, and all of the **Upper Circle**

Area E: All of the 22 Boxes, and the two centre sections of the Grand Circle

Note: There are Wheelchair spaces and Transfer seats (armrest on aisle lifts for ease of transfer from wheelchair or walker)

Diary

Key [to Codes]

- [LPH] Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra
- [FC] Family Concerts
- [CM] Chamber Music
- [DFC] Dementia-Friendly Concerts
- [CUC] Close Up Concerts
- [LC] Lunchtime Concerts
- [LPYC] Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company
- [TTT] Talks, Tours & Taking Part

September 2019

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Fri	6	6 pm	Mahler with Wine	89	[TTT]
Sat	14	11 am	Discover the Classics: Tim Lihoreau with Dani Howard	92	[TTT]
Sat	14	4 pm	The Gruffalo and the Gruffalo's Child: Film with Live Orchestra	61	[FC]
Mon	16	8 pm	Pixels Ensemble	75	[CUC]
Thu	19	7.30 pm	Symphonie Fantastique	26	[LPH]
Thu	19	•	Post-Concert Question Time	92	[TTT]
Sat	21	7.30 pm	Elias String Quartet	65	[CM]
Sun	22	2.30 pm	Symphonie Fantastique	26	[LPH]
Thu	26	7.30 pm	And In The End	27	[LPH]
Fri	27	7.30 pm	And In The End	27	[LPH]
Sun	29	8 pm	Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano	76	[CUC]
Mon	30	8 pm	Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano	76	[CUC]

October 2019

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Tue	1	7 pm	Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko in Conversation	91	[TTT]
Thu	3	11am	Experience Tour: Discover	94	[TTT]
Thu	3	12.30 pm	Experience Tour: Delve Deep	95	[TTT]
Thu	3	6.15 pm	Classic Intro	91	[TTT]
Thu	3	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Stravinsky	27	[LPH]
Sun	6	2.30 pm	Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto	28	[LPH]
Thu	10	7.30 pm	Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto	29	[LPH]
Sun	13	2.30 pm	Summon the Superheroes	61	[FC]
Mon	14	1 pm	Jessica Mogridge: oboe, Gareth Twigg: bassoon, Richard Shaw: piano	82	[LC]
Tue	15	7.30 pm	La Serenissima	66	[CM]
Mon	21	8 pm	Jonathan Radford: saxophone, Ashley Fripp: piano	76	[CUC]
Thu	24	6.15 pm	Classic Intro	91	[TTT]
Thu	24	7.30 pm	Glorious Gershwin	29	[LPH]
Sun	27	1.15 pm	Classic Intro	91	[TTT]
Sun	27	2.30 pm	Sunday Afternoon Dances	30	[LPH]
Thu	31	7.30 pm	Grieg's Piano Concerto	31	[LPH]

November 2019

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Sun	3	8 pm	Nicholas McCarthy: piano	77	[CUC]
Tue	5	12.30 pm	Winter Warmer	60	[DFC]
Tue	5	2.30 pm	Winter Warmer	60	[DFC]
Wed	6	1 pm	A Summer Fair	64	[FC]
Wed	6	2.45 pm	A Summer Fair	64	[FC]
Wed	6	7.30 pm	Ensemble 10/10	67	[CM]
Sat	9	11 am	Experience Tour: Play (for families)	95	[TTT]
Sat	9	7.30 pm	British Classics	31	[LPH]
Mon	11	1 pm	Róisín Walters: violin, Jonathan Aasgaard: cello,	82	[LC]
			Jamie Kenny: double bass		
Thu	14	7.30 pm	Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony	32	[LPH]
Fri	15	7.30 pm	Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony	32	[LPH]
Sun	17	2.30 pm	Little Russian	33	[LPH]
Tue	19	7.30 pm	Mariam Batsashvili	68	[CM]
Thu	21	7.30 pm	Bruch Violin Concerto	34	[LPH]
Sat	23	7.30 pm	Elton John – 50 Years of Your Song	34	[LPH]
Mon	25	8 pm	Riot Ensemble	78	[CM]
Thu	28	7.30 pm	Sinfonia Concertante	35	[LPH]
Sat	30	11 am	Discover the Classics: Gethyn Jones with Julian Rachlin and Sarah McElravy	93	[TTT]

December 2019

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Sun	1	2.30 pm	Bach's Double Concerto	35	[LPH]
Thu	5	7.30 pm	Blue Danube	36	[LPH]
Fri	6	1.30 pm	Blue Danube	36	[LPH]
Mon	9	1 pm	The Bassline	83	[LC]
Wed	11	7.30 pm	Clare Teal with Guy Barker: In the Christmas Mood	37	[LPH]
Thu	12	7.30 pm	Christmas with Septura	68	[CM]
Sat	14	11.30 am	Sing-along with Santa	62	[FC]
Sat	14	2.30 pm	Sing-along with Santa	62	[FC]
Sat	14	7.30 pm	Spirit of Christmas	38	[LPH]
Sun	15	11.30 am	Sing-along with Santa	62	[FC]
Sun	15	2.30 pm	Sing-along with Santa	62	[FC]
Tue	17	7.30 pm	Spirit of Christmas	38	[LPH]
Wed	18	7.30 pm	Spirit of Christmas	38	[LPH]
Fri	20	7.30 pm	Spirit of Christmas	38	[LPH]
Sat	21	7.30 pm	Spirit of Christmas	38	[LPH]
Sun	22	2.30 pm	Spirit of Christmas	38	[LPH]
Sat	28	7.30 pm	Ghostbusters: Film with Live Orchestra	39	[LPH]
Sun	29	7.30 pm	Ghostbusters: Film with Live Orchestra	39	[LPH]
Tue	31	7.30 pm	New Years Eve: James Bond	39	[LPH]

January 2020

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Sat	4	7.00 pm	Messiah	40	[LPH]
Thu	9	7.30 pm	Sound the Trumpet	41	[LPH]
Sun	12	2 pm	Mahler and his Faith	90	[TTT]
Mon	13	8 pm	Alandale Trio	78	[CUC]
Thu	16	7.30 pm	Beethoven's Eroica	41	[LPH]
Thu	16	•	Post-Concert Question Time	92	[TTT]
Sun	19	2.30 pm	Beethoven's Eroica	41	[LPH]
Mon	20	1 pm	Pixels Ensemble	83	[LC]
Thu	23	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler I	42	[LPH]
Sun	26	2.30 pm	Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony	43	[LPH]
Thu	30	7.30 pm	Beethoven's Fifth	44	[LPH]
Thu	30	-	Post-Concert Question Time	92	[TTT]

February 2020

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Sat	1	10.30	Music Industry Careers Fest	85	[LPYC]
		am			
Sun	2	11 am	Experience Tour: Play (for families)	95	[TTT]
Sun	2	2.30 pm	Kuss Quartet	69	[CM]
Thu	6	6.15 pm	Classic Intro	91	[TTT]
Thu	6	7.30 pm	Bruckner's "Romantic" Symphony	44	[LPH]
Sat	8	11 am	Discover the Classics: Gethyn Jones with Andrew Manze	94	[TTT]
Sun	9	2.30 pm	Beethoven's Emperor Concerto	45	[LPH]
Mon	10	8 pm	Equilibrium	79	[CUC]
Fri	14	7.30 pm	Songs from the Musicals for Valentine's Day	46	[LPH]
Sat	15	7.30 pm	Beethoven's Missa Solemnis	46	[LPH]
Sun	16	2.30 pm	Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra with Sheku	47	[LPYC]
			Kanneh-Mason		
Sun	16	7.30 pm	Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason	70	[CM]
Mon	17	1 pm	Ensemble of St Luke's	84	[LC]
Thu	20	7.30 pm	Ensemble 10/10	71	[CM]
Thu	27	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler II	48	[LPH]

March 2020

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Sun	1	2.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler II	48	[LPH]
Wed	4	7.30 pm	Jennifer Johnston: A Journeywoman's Tale	71	[CM]
Sat	7	2.30 pm	Relaxed Concert: Global Explorers	62	[FC]
Tue	10	7.30 pm	Queyras Trio	72	[CM]
Thu	12	6 pm	Rushworth New Work Concert	86	[LPYC]
Thu	12	7.30 pm	Romeo and Juliet	49	[LPH]
Fri	13	1.30 pm	Romeo and Juliet	49	[LPH]
Sat	21	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler III	49	[LPH]
Mon	23	8 pm	Liverpool String Quartet	79	[CUC]
Thu	26	7.30 pm	Ode to Joy	50	[LPH]
Sun	29	2.30 pm	Ode to Joy	50	[LPH]
Mon	30	1 pm	Old St Paul's Trio	84	[LC]

April 2020

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Thu	2	6.15 pm	Classic Intro	91	[TTT]
Thu	2	7.30 pm	Sibelius Fifth Symphony	51	[LPH]
Sun	5	2.30 pm	Bugs!!	63	[FC]
Sat	18	2.30 pm	Wizard of Oz: Film with Live Orchestra	52	[LPH]
Sat	18	6.15 pm	Classic Intro	92	[TTT]
Sat	18	7.30 pm	Wizard of Oz: Film with Live Orchestra	52	[LPH]
Mon	20	8 pm	Beethoven Septet	80	[CUC]
Thu	23	6.15 pm	Classic Intro	92	[TTT]
Thu	23	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler IV	52	[LPH]
Sun	26	2 pm	Mahler in the Landscape	89	[TTT]
Mon	27	1 pm	Emilia Quartet	84	[LC]
Thu	30	11 am	Experience Tour: Discover	94	[TTT]
Thu	30	12.30 pm	Experience Tour: Delve Deep	95	[TTT]
Thu	30	6 pm	Youth Company Session Band	86	[LPYC]
Thu	30	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler V	53	[LPH]

May 2020

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Sun	10	7.30 pm	Nobuyuki Tsujii	73	[CM]
Thu	14	7.30 pm	Nobu plays Rachmaninov	54	[LPH]
Sun	17	2.30 pm	Flamenco Spirit	54	[LPH]
Tue	19	7.30 pm	The King's Singers: Finding Harmony	73	[CM]
Thu	21	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler VI	55	[LPH]
Thu	28	7.30 pm	Ensemble 10/10	74	[CM]
Sun	31	1 pm	Blast Off!	64	[FC]
Sun	31	2.45 pm	Blast Off!	64	[FC]

June 2020

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Mon	1	8 pm	Jonathan Aasgaard: cello	81	[CUC]
Thu	4	7.30 pm	Sheku plays Saint-Saëns	56	[LPH]
Thu	4	-	Post-Concert Question Time	92	[TTT]
Fri	5	7.30 pm	Sheku plays Saint-Saëns	56	[LPH]
Thu	11	7.30 pm	Petrenko's Mahler VII	56	[LPH]
Thu	11	-	Post-Concert Question Time	92	[TTT]
Sat	13	11 am	Discover the Classics: Tim Lihoreau with Vasily Petrenko and	93	[TTT]
			Esther Yoo		
Sun	14	2.30 pm	Pictures at an Exhibition	57	[LPH]
Mon	15	1 pm	A4 Brass Quartet	85	[LC]
Sat	20	12.30 pm	Postcards from Around the World	60	[DFC]
Sat	20	2.30 pm	Postcards from Around the World	60	[DFC]
Sun	21	2.30 pm	Family Film Classics	63	[FC]
Mon	29	8 pm	Klezmer-ish: Dusty Road	81	[CUC]
Tue	30	8 pm	Klezmer-ish: Dusty Road	81	[CUC]

July 2020

Day	Date	Time	Concert	Page	Code
Sat	4	7.30 pm	American Songbook with Gary Williams	58	[LPH]
Thu	9	7.30 pm	Tchaikovsky's Pathétique	58	[LPH]
Sun	12	2.30 pm	Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choirs	87	[LPYC]
Sun	26	2.30 pm	Mothership	59	[LPYC]

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LJMU is intrinsically linked to the City of Liverpool, its people, its traditions and its history, and we are making vital and varied contributions to the future success of the region. We are immensely proud of our partnership with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, which we believe represents everything that is great about the city; it is ground-breaking, challenging and, most importantly, it fuels Liverpool's love of music and creativity.

Both LJMU and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic can trace their roots back to the early 19th century and the start of a movement that continues unabated to this day to make both learning and culture more accessible to the people of Liverpool. As a modern civic university, we believe that everyone should have equal access to a rich cultural education. Thanks to our partnerships with theatres, arts and music organisations we are able to realise this vision, enabling students to experience the transformative effect of art and culture in all its forms, alongside receiving a world-class education. It also enables us to deliver real benefits to the wider community.

Our partnership with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic has enabled thousands of our students to engage with orchestral music. We are also working to channel our combined expertise to engage with young people from all backgrounds, inspiring them to realise that learning and culture are vital to their personal development. We look forward to further extending our partnership and establishing new and mutually beneficial ways of working together.

* * *

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