

# Liverpool Philharmonic

## What's On

### September – December 2019

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## **Contemporary Music**

### **The ELO Show**

### **A Tribute to the Music and Genius of Jeff Lynne and ELO**

Friday 13 September 8 pm

£30, £24

Brian Cummins brings his brand new show celebrating the music of Jeff Lynne and ELO with a band of amazing musicians including a string section, a stunning lightshow and 3D video screens, for a fabulous night of hit after hit.

## **Nashville Live**

Saturday 28 September 7.30 pm

£31, £25

Prepare to be taken into the heart of downtown Nashville and back through the history of country music! In the style of a live radio broadcast, Nashville Live features songs by some of the hottest country musicians of all time, including 'Folsom Prison Blues', 'Crazy', 'Jolene', 'The Gambler' and many more.

## **Lost in Music – One Night at the Disco**

Friday 11 October 7.30 pm

£34, £28, £24

Get ready to recreate the magical 70's in this musical journey straight to the heart of disco. With a sensational live band, incredibly talented cast, stunning vocals, and featuring songs such as 'Never Can Say Goodbye', 'On the Radio', 'Hot Stuff', 'Car Wash', 'Boogie Wonderland' and more, it's the feel-good show of the year!

## **From Rattlesnakes to Guesswork Tour**

### **Lloyd Cole**

Monday 14 October 7.30 pm

£51, £45, £32.50, £25

Lloyd Cole's new album Guesswork mirrors the uncertainty of the world as you enter your third act and is consistent with a record whose protagonists seem reluctant to venture confidently beyond the moment.

Guesswork might surprise those who remember Lloyd for the precocious literary pop dispatches of his 1984 debut album Rattlesnakes.

## **Liverpool Irish Festival Preview Night**

**Christy Moore**

**Selling Fast**

Wednesday 16 October 8 pm

£48.50, £42.50, £37.50

One of the most compelling and inspirational musicians Ireland has ever seen, Christy Moore has a universal fan base and still continues to entertain. His most recent album, *On The Road*, is an acclaimed collection of songs that Christy has made his own through more than 50 incredible years of touring.

**Will Young**

**Plus special guests**

**Last Few Tickets**

Thursday 17 October 7.30 pm

£55.50, £49.50, £42.50, £35

UK pop icon Will Young has released his brand new single 'All The Songs' – the first track to be heard from his long awaited seventh album *Lexicon*. An upbeat, piano-led, dancefloor-tilted heartbreak anthem, 'All The Songs' serves as the perfect introduction to an album built around the joy of pop music.

**Chris de Burgh**  
**Classic Albums Tour**  
**Limited**

Friday 18 October 7.30 pm

£66, £60, £50, £40

Chris de Burgh will perform two of his most outstanding albums in their entirety. The first is his 1986 release, *Into The Light*, which placed him fully centre stage as an international artist – thanks to 'The Lady In Red'. The second is *Moonfleet & Other Stories*, which took Chris on the most ambitious, demanding and evocative journey of his career.

**The Greatest Love of All**  
**Celebrating the Music of Whitney Houston**

Sunday 20 October 7.30 pm

£55.50, £49.50, £43.50

The Greatest Love of All is a critically acclaimed live concert honouring the talent, music and memory of Whitney Houston. Featuring the breathtaking vocals of Belinda Davids, accompanied by the sensational National Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, this is a beautifully crafted homage to one of the world's most revered singers.

**A Celebration of Paul Simon's Graceland Live**

Monday 21 October 7.30 pm

£36, £30

Celebrating 30 years since the release of Paul Simon's Grammy award-winning album *Graceland*, this incredible concert features American musician and Youtuber Josh Turner Guitar, as Paul Simon, backed by a full live band and the empowering and

evocative voices of the UK's unique and wonderfully talented South African Cultural Gospel Choir.

## **Midge Ure**

### **Vienna & Visage – The 1980 Tour**

**Sold Out**

Saturday 26 October 8 pm

£38.50, £32.50, £27.50, £24.50

At the heart of the futuristic new dawn in the late 1970s were two records – Visage's 'Fade To Grey' and Ultravox's 'Vienna'. Both records were co-written, recorded and produced by Midge Ure, and now for the very first time, Midge Ure and Band Electronica will perform the Vienna album in its entirety, plus songs from the debut Visage album.

## **Marillion with Friends from their Orchestra**

**Sold Out**

Friday 1 November 7.30 pm

£49.50, £42.50, £37.50

Marillion return to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall with an extended line up of musicians, featuring the In Praise of Folly String Quartet, plus Sam Morris on french horn and Emma Halnan on flute. Marillion will perform songs spanning their 14 album-career with Steve Hogarth, celebrating 30 years since he joined the band.

## **Squeeze**

### **The Difford and Tilbrook Songbook 2019 Tour**

**Plus special guests Heaven 17**

**Sold Out**

Saturday 2 November 7.30 pm

£125 (VIP), £65, £49.50, £36

Squeeze's brand new tour, The Difford And Tilbrook Songbook, will see the South-London legends play their extensive list of hits as well as some rare, lesser known gems from their back catalogue and solo careers. With two critically acclaimed albums in the past three years, Squeeze bring their scintillating live performances to adoring fans once more.

## **James Morrison**

### **Last Few Tickets**

Sunday 3 November 7.30 pm

£45.50, £39.50, £29.50, £22.50

James Morrison's latest album, You're Stronger Than You Know, is the album that James Morrison has always wanted to make. Vocally he's never sounded better, with his honest song-writing inspiring a voice that exudes power, tenderness and experience. Meanwhile his band balance rambunctious energy with tight musicianship.

## **Live on Mars**

### **A Tribute to David Bowie**

Tuesday 5 November 8 pm

£34.50, £30.50, £24.50

Influenced by Bowie's legendary concert performances, Live on Mars fuses sound and vision to portray the essence of Bowie, his alter egos and creative muses, with a stunning light show and state of the art visuals and animation.

Featuring electrifying vocals, with a handpicked world-class band, and covering the Bowie back-catalogue from 'Space Oddity' to 'Let's Dance' and everything in between, Live on Mars is the definitive show that all generations of Bowie fans have been waiting for.

## **Christopher Cross**

### **Take Me As I Am Tour**

Wednesday 6 November 7.30 pm

£44.50, £38.50, £35

Nearly four decades after his extraordinary emergence into the music business, five-time Grammy award-winner Christopher Cross continues his acclaimed career with his new album *Take Me As I Am*. The album is a unique offering from Cross, a hybrid of sorts – the songs are instrumentals with choruses to create the lyrical landscape.

## **Steve Hackett**

### **Genesis Revisited**

#### **Limited**

Monday 11 November 7.30 pm

£45.50, £39.50, £34.50

The irrepressible former Genesis guitarist Steve Hackett returns to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall to perform the seminal Genesis album *Selling England By The Pound* in its entirety for the first time ever. Released in 1973, the album went to No. 3 in the UK charts and has been described as 'the definitive Genesis album'.

## **Adam Ant**

Tuesday 12 November 7.30 pm

£44.50, £38.50, £35

Pop icon Adam Ant will perform his landmark solo album *Friend or Foe* live for the first time in its entirety, as well as classic chart-topping singles and personal favourites. The *Friend or Foe* album was Adam's first release as a solo artist and included three

hit singles –'Goody Two Shoes', 'Friend or Foe' and 'Desperate But Not Serious'.

## **Emeli Sandé**

### **Plus special guests**

#### **Last Few Tickets**

Saturday 16 November 7.30 pm

£71, £65, £47.50, £35

Multi-platinum, award-winning singer-songwriter Emeli Sande MBE announces the release of her much anticipated third album Real Life. With over 340 million video views and 19 million singles sold, including three number one UK singles, Emeli Sande has dominated the music industry and captured the heart of the nation.

## **Celtic Woman**

### **Ancient Land Tour**

Monday 18 November 7.30 pm

£44.50, £38.50, £35

Celtic Woman features the incredible vocal talents of Mairead Carlin, Eabha McMahon, and Megan Walsh along with the sensational Tara McNeill on fiddle. Both an accomplished recording ensemble and a world-class performing collective, Celtic Woman celebrates Ireland's rich musical and cultural heritage.

## **Calexico and Iron & Wine**

### **Plus Lisa O'Neill**

Tuesday 19 November 7.30 pm

£41, £35, £30, £25

Following their ground-breaking and critically acclaimed collaborative EP In The Reins in 2005, Calexico and Iron & Wine



are back together with a new album *Years to Burn*.  
Singer-songwriter Lisa O'Neill opens the show, mixing traditional with her own compositions, described by **The Guardian** as 'uncompromising, stunning, soul-shaking stuff.'

## **Lightning Seeds**

### **Jollification 25th Anniversary Show**

**Sold Out**

Wednesday 27 November 7.30 pm

£75 (VIP), £41, £35, £25

To celebrate its 25th anniversary, Lightning Seeds are reissuing their seminal album *Jollification*, and to coincide with the re-release of the platinum record, they will be performing the album in its entirety and in a way that it has never been performed live before.

## **The Stylistics**

### **Plus special guests Sounds of the Supremes**

**Limited**

Friday 29 November 7.30 pm

£36, £30

The Stylistics are known instantly for their many recognisable hits such as the Grammy nominated 'You Make Me Feel Brand New', plus numerous classics including 'Can't Give You Anything (But My Love)', 'Let's Put It All Together', 'Stop Look Listen', 'You are Everything', 'Betcha by Golly Wow', 'Sing Baby Sing' and more.

## **Sixties Gold**

Saturday 30 November 7.30 pm

£41, £35

Featuring Hermans Hermits, The Merseybeats, The Marmalade, Wayne Fontana And The Mindbenders and Love Affair's Steve Ellis

Sixties Gold returns in 2019 with an even stronger line-up of artists that, between them, have scored over 50 chart-topping UK hits. Re-live the magic of the 1960's with five of the biggest chart acts of the decade.

## **The Bootleg Beatles**

### **Limited**

Sunday 8 December 7.30 pm

£39.50, £35, £33.50, £29.50

Celebrating 40 years since their debut on the West End stage in Beatlemania, the world's premier Beatles band continues to draw critical acclaim with their flawless recreation of the greatest songbook of all time. Tracing the Fab Four's journey, every tiny detail is forensically observed from their authentic period costumes and instruments, to their witty stage banter and 'inflection perfect' vocals.

## **Kate Rusby at Christmas**

Thursday 19 December 7.30 pm

£34, £28

After 15 years of enchanting audiences, Kate's Christmas tour has for many, become as much a part of the festivities as Christmas pudding itself! Warm and inviting, spicy and sparkly she and her marvellous band – joined by a sublime brass quintet – embody the sounds and spirit of the best Christmas ever, putting smiles on faces and joy in our hearts.

This unmissable evening will celebrate what makes Christmas so special and fun as Kate and her fellow musicians perform fabulous songs, brimful of the goodwill and spirituality of the season.

## **Music Room**

Liverpool Philharmonic's specially designed space for more intimate live gigs.

Get closer to the acts you love, experience new artists, and enjoy high quality music in a relaxed and friendly venue. We've got a range of events, spanning the best of folk, roots, blues, world and classical music, as well as lunchtime and dementia-friendly performances.

### **Olly Chalk Trio ft. John O'Gallagher**

Saturday 24 August 8 pm

£18, £15

Olly Chalk Trio celebrate the long-awaited release of their new album *Scathed Citizens*. Olly's trio walks the high-wire between total freedom and detailed writing, juggling intricate, daring and emotive compositions with explosive improvising. The new album explores a vivid picture-book of themes: science fiction, mysticism, hope, anxiety, dystopia and growing up in the peaceful Suffolk countryside.

### **Oh Susanna**

**Plus support Matt the Electrician**

Friday 13 September 8 pm

£15, £12

Oh Susanna (Suzie Ungerleider) is celebrating the 20th anniversary of her critically acclaimed debut album *Johnstown* and in celebration, she will be performing the album in its entirety as well as other favourites. Originally released in 1999, *Johnstown* is considered a contemporary folk-noir masterpiece brimming with ghostly songs of melancholic beauty and menace.

## **Jon Robyns: Musical Direction**

Sunday 15 September 8 pm

£28, £25

Jon Robyns returns to his hometown for his first solo concert tour to celebrate the release of his new album *Musical Direction*. Jon has led West End Musicals such as *Les Miserables*, *Hamilton*, *Spamalot*, *Memphis* and *Avenue Q*, and appeared in UK tours of *Les Miserables*, *Miss Saigon*, *The Wedding Singer* and *Sister Act*.

## **Pixels Ensemble**

### **Close Up Concert**

Monday 16 September 8 pm

£20, £17

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 Madecasses*, for voice, flute, cello and piano

Anna Crookes: voice

Fiona Fulton: flute

Jonathan Aasgaard: cello

Ian Buckle: piano

Pixels Ensemble is a collective of established chamber music players with a shared passion for performing the finest repertoire, from the classical period to the present day. Vastly experienced and versatile, the group appears in a wide range of combinations and line-ups, lending itself to innovative programming and enabling huge variety within individual concerts.

## **Belinda O'Hooley**

### **Solo Piano Performance of Inversions**

Tuesday September 8 pm

£17, £14

Belinda O'Hooley is an exceptionally gifted pianist, singer, songwriter, and composer and is half of four time BBC Radio 2 Folk Award nominees O'Hooley & Tidow. Inversions, Belinda's brand new album, showcases pieces inspired by the songs her father inherited from a long line of male musicians in the hills of the West coast of rural Ireland.

## **Geoff Achison & The UK Souldiggers**

Friday 20 September 8 pm

£18, £15

Multi-award winning Australian singer/songwriter/guitarist Geoff Achison returns to the UK for his 20th Anniversary Tour, promoting a brand new album recorded with his UK Souldiggers.

From the deep south of Australia, his exciting blend of raw blues and funky grooves has created scores of devoted fans around the world. He is a versatile artist who can deliver a complete show with nothing more than his soulful voice and virtuosic acoustic guitar style.

## **Clive Carroll**

Saturday 21 September 8 pm

£15, £12

Acclaimed guitarist and composer Clive Carroll has created a sound world all his own, with a signature blend of warmth and humour that belies his dazzling technical skill. Clive's masterful compositions feature influences mined from the delicate cadences of Elizabethan lute classics, the imaginative eccentricity of Frank Zappa, visionary classical composers such as Bartok and Ligeti, and hints of jazz and Delta blues.

## **Damien O'Kane and Ron Block**

Tuesday 24 September 8 pm

£18, £15

With two bold and acclaimed recent albums to his name – the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 'Best Album' nominated *Areas of High Traffic* and last year's *Avenging and Bright* – Damien O'Kane thought it was time to join forces with a musician he had long admired – Alison Krauss & Union Station's banjo star and multiple award winner Ron Block (no less than 14 Grammy awards and six International Bluegrass Music Awards to his name for starters).

Widely regarded as two of the greatest exponents of the banjo, Damien O'Kane and Ron Block have collaborated to create what is arguably their own genre. Their spectacular debut duo album, *Banjophony* melds two different styles and approaches to the banjo to captivating effect.

'Both incredibly acclaimed musicians in their own right.' – **Mark Radcliffe, BBC Radio 2**

## **Flanagan Trio**

Wednesday 25 September 8 pm

£18, £15

Flanagan Trio consists of Mark Flanagan, Adam Double and George Double. Mark Flanagan, best known as a guitarist for Jools Holland's Rhythm and Blues Orchestra, has also made a name for himself as a solo artist with his own catalogue of songs. Performing solo, or with a small band, Mark wows his audiences with fine guitar playing and songs written from the heart.

## **Banco De Gaia**

Saturday 28 September 8 pm

£18, £15

For nearly two and a half decades, Banco de Gaia, aka Toby Marks, has been consistently redefining world electronica, with his music leaving an indelible footprint on the global scene and inspiring countless musicians.

His sound has been at the forefront of blending acoustic and electronic sounds, integrating themes and techniques from cultures and traditions the world over. Banco de Gaia's first album Maya received a Mercury Music Prize award nomination and his follow up album Last Train To Lhasa hit No.1 in numerous charts, and found a home in many DJ's selections, including the legendary Sasha.

## **Jennifer Johnston mezzo-soprano**

### **Close Up Concert**

Sunday 29 September 8 pm

Monday 30 September 8 pm

£20, £17

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

An evening of song celebrating Liverpool (the city that Jennifer calls home) and the release of her new album A Love Letter To Liverpool.

Featuring new arrangements by young composers of classic Scouse songs such as 'In My Liverpool Home', the world premiere of 'The Gateway To The Atlantic' by Roger McGough and Richard Miller, plus her version of 'You'll Never Walk Alone' with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir, which topped the classical charts in the week Liverpool Football Club won the Champions League!

Proceeds from A Love Letter To Liverpool will be donated to Alder Hey Children's Charity and Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company.

## **Martin Harley**

Friday 4 October 8 pm

£20.50, £17.50

Having created a deep impression on the acoustic blues roots and Americana scene with his last two Nashville recorded albums, Martin Harley's highly anticipated new record finds a new and exciting sound.



Taking country blues riffs to the electric bottleneck slide guitar, served with sweet vocal harmonies and the driving rhythms of co-producer and drummer Harry Harding (Yola Carter/William the Conqueror) to produce an intimate and gritty analogue album. Through his classic song-writing style, this record explores hopes and fears for fast changing times, offering gospel like comfort and consolation.

'Harley offers the listener a masterclass in taste, style and roots blues\* – **Guitarist Magazine**

## **Keith James**

Saturday 5 October 8 pm

£18, £15

Keith James presents an honest and loving reflection of the timeless and insightful music of Yusuf – Cat Stevens. Keith will weave the story of Cat Stevens' life from his early pop career, life threatening illness and spiritual journey around a performance of his well-crafted and memorable songs.

## **Boo Hewerdine**

Sunday 6 October 8 pm

£18, £15

Boo Hewerdine will release his new album *Before* later this year. The album finds Boo focused on the art of reduction, with songs where the fragility and beauty of life are laid bare with a stark emotive honesty. For over 30 years, Boo Hewerdine has been considered one of the UK's finest singer-songwriters and has become something of a national treasure.

## **Catfish Keith**

Monday 7 October 8 pm

£17, £14

Acoustic blues pioneer Catfish Keith has established himself as one of the most exciting country blues performers and has reinvented the guitar with great power and artistry. His innovative style of foot-stomping, deep delta blues and American roots brings a rare beauty and vitality to his music and has spellbound audiences all over the world.

## **Danny Bryant**

Tuesday 8 October 8 pm

£18, £15

Riding high on the European blues scene for over 15 years, Danny has carved a name for himself the old-fashioned way. With sold out tours across Europe and major festival appearances that have seen Danny and his band perform alongside Joe Cocker, Carlos Santana, Buddy Guy and Peter Green.

## **Harvest Sun presents**

### **Lubomyr Melnyk**

Wednesday 9 October 8 pm

£20, £17

Lubomyr Melnyk is one of the most extraordinary pianists and composers of our day. He has been called 'The Prophet of the Piano' because of his life-long devotion to the instrument, and for his work in pushing the boundaries of what can be done with it. Using his extraordinary piano abilities, he is the fastest pianist ever recorded and has blazed wholly new paths in contemporary music.

## **Doug MacLeod**

Friday 11 October 8 pm

£15, £12

Doug MacLeod, Blues Music Award winner and nominee, is a singer-songwriter in the American tradition. He is a travelling artist

that writes and sings original songs that are based on his own life and experiences, and is known for his superb songwriting, guitar wizardry, warm soulful vocals, wit and unforgettable live performances.

## **Blue Drag Music presents**

### **Django's Legacy XI – Mozes Rosenberg Trio**

Saturday 12 October 8 pm

£23, £20

Blue Drag Music returns with the final concert of the 2019 season dedicated to the music of the legendary gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt – this time bringing you Mozes Rosenberg from the legendary Dutch Sinti Gypsy family, the Rosenbergs.

Learning to play guitar from his father, Mozes was only seven years old when he performed with the Rosenberg Trio in the TV program *Het vijfde uur*, and an international breakthrough came in 2005 with the project 'Ready 'n' able' and the eponymous CD of the same name.

## **Jessica Mogridge, Gareth Twigg and Richard Shaw**

### **Lunchtime Concert**

Monday 14 October 1 pm

£12, £8

André Previn: Bassoon Sonata

André Previn: Trio

Poulenc: Trio

Jessica Mogridge: oboe

Gareth Twigg: bassoon

Richard Shaw: piano

Sponsored by Maestro! Tour Management

## **Lizanne Knott**

Monday 14 October 8 pm

£15, £12

Lizanne, from Philadelphia USA, appears in Music Room during her first ever UK tour. The award-winning singer-songwriter has been captivating audiences across the pond as well as receiving accolades from radio listeners around the globe. Lizanne has an innate ability to capture those little snapshots of life with vivid imagery and understated music and, being blessed with such a warm and lovely voice, you will find yourself catching a breath, shedding a tear – and smiling like there's no tomorrow.

## **Kathryn Williams**

Wednesday 16 October 8 pm

£19, £16

Kathryn Williams has released 11 full-length albums since her debut LP Dog Leap Stairs was released in 1999. Williams is an artist that continues to listen and learn from the greats while undoubtedly becoming one herself; approaching her 20th anniversary in music with a fiery spirit and a sense of adventure that has never once wilted.

## **Mad Dog Mcrea**

Thursday 17 October 8 pm

£18, £15

Mad Dog Mcrea blend a unique mixture of folk rock, pop, gypsy jazz and bluegrass music. From self-penned songs of adventure, drinking, love and life, to traditional songs of gypsies, fairies, legless

pirates and black flies – they never fail to capture their audience with their infectious songs.

## **Hannah James and the JigDoll Ensemble**

Friday 18 October 8 pm

£17, £14

Hannah James has been an unmatched force of innovation in British folk for nearly two decades. The JigDoll Ensemble sees James joined by three masters of their instrument: percussionist Andras Des (Hungary), fiddle player Kate Young (Scotland), and bassist Marti Tarn (Estonia) to perfectly articulate James' visionary ideas for song, tune and dance.

The resulting live masterpiece debuted at 2017's English Folk Expo, gaining an awestruck standing ovation from distinguished folk industry professionals from around the globe.

## **Rising Up: Peterloo 2019**

Saturday 19 October 8 pm

£18, £15

In 1819, the concept of freedom of speech, protest and democracy were tested when armed soldiers charged at peaceful protestors. Two centuries on, these principles are still under threat. This new commission tells the personal stories of two women linked across time and through experience as they struggle to rise up and find their voice.

Rising Up boldly combines dramatic narrative and song, with text written by Debs Newbold (King Lear Retold, Through The Seasons) and songs by Sean Cooney (The Young'uns). The songs and music will be performed by Sam Carter (False Lights), Lucy Farrell (Furrow Collective) and Jim Molyneux (4Square).

## **Andy Irvine**

Sunday 20 October 8 pm

£15, £12

Andy Irvine is one of the great Irish singers, and his voice is one of a handful of truly great ones that gets to the very soul of Ireland. He is a founding member of two groups that have inspired Irish traditional music makers for a generation, Sweeney's Men and Planxty, and as a soloist, Andy fills the role of the archetypal troubadour with a show and a travelling lifestyle that reflects his lifelong influence, Woody Guthrie.

## **Jonathan Radford saxophone Ashley Fripp piano**

### **Close Up Concert**

Monday 21 October 8 pm

£20, £17

### **Featuring the Royal Over-Seas League Gold Medal winner**

Programme includes:

Debussy: Rhapsodie

Rachmaninov: Vocalise

Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue for saxophone and piano

Rudy Wiedoeft: Sax-o-phun and music by Albéniz, Carlos Vivanco, Piazzolla and Grieg

## **Liverpool Irish Festival Trad Night**

### **Liverpool Irish Festival**

Tuesday 22 October 8 pm

£18, £15

Liverpool Irish Festival hosts a night rich with Irish music with musicians from the North West and Ireland to deliver an outstanding showcase of Irish trad, involving some of the best musical talents of today and tomorrow. Don't miss an exciting night, with surprise guests, unusual instrument blending and overwhelming skills!

## **Visible Women**

### **Liverpool Irish Festival**

Wednesday October 8 pm

£20, £17

Bringing together three unique music artists, Visible Women shows off the contemporary talents of Irish singer-songwriters Maz O'Connor, Laura Duff and headliner Lisa O'Neill. Hosting the evening is a bilingual spoken-word artist, broadcaster Ciara Ni É. With two hours of music, this is set to be an evening of musical adventure and lyrical storytelling, all tied up with a beautiful Gaelic twist.

## **9Bach**

Friday 25 October 8 pm

£15, £12

9Bach will re-release a remastered recording of their album 9Bach and to celebrate, the band will perform their critically acclaimed self-titled debut live for the very first time. The album takes you through the North Wales landscape – filled with emotion as the heart and soul of each story is revealed through compelling and exquisitely sung narrative. Ethereal voices and dubby beats combine with harp, guitar harmonium and extremely smart arrangements.

## **Henry Priestman and John Reilly**

Saturday 26 October 8 pm

£18, £15

Henry Priestman (who wrote hits for The Christians in the 80's and Yachts' songs in the 70's) reinvented himself as a singer-songwriter, releasing his debut solo album Chronicles of Modern Life in 2009 to critical acclaim and BBC Radio 2 airplay.

Liverpool born singer-songwriter John Reilly has had airplay on BBC Radio 2 and radio stations around the world. He has sold 250,000 records both with his band Boy on a Dolphin and in his solo career.

## **The Pitmen Poets**

Monday 28 October 8 pm

£23, £20

From Billy Elliott to Auf Wiedersehen Pet. From When the Boat Comes In to The Likely Lads. Now be enthralled and entertained by The Pitmen Poets: Billy Mitchell, Bob Fox, Benny Graham and Jez Lowe and a night of songs and stories laced with North East humour and humanity.

## **Baked A La Ska: Skalloween**

Wednesday 30 October 8 pm

£12

A fun-loving evening with Baked A La Ska performing some scary well known tunes in a ska vibe, including 'Black Magic Woman', 'Ghostbusters' and 'I Put A Spell On You'. Maximise your Halloween fun with one of the country's most entertaining live acts as they perform their Skalloween album, plus face-painting for adults.



Baked A La Ska are the 'heavy heavy sound' of Manchester and have been serving up the sweetest of good party vibes, vintage ska sounds and an eccentric platter of covers, since 2008.

**This is a standing event.**

## **Neil Campbell's Ghost Stories**

Thursday 31 October 8.30 pm

£18, £15

Neil Campbell: classical guitar

Anne Taft: soprano (Ghost Stories)

Shaun Taft: visuals (Ghost Stories)

Liverpool composer and multi-instrumentalist Neil Campbell's work traverses minimalism, progressive rock, world music and jazz. Ghost Stories started life as a number of short sketches for classical guitar enhanced through the use of electronics. The music is delicate, shadowy, slow, atmospheric and elegiac and performed along with the visuals, the composition becomes a meditation on memories of people, spaces, emotions and objects.

Neil will perform an exciting up-tempo opening set of original music for solo. In the second half of the concert he will be joined by soprano Anne Taft for a complete performance of Ghost Stories.

## **James Grant**

Friday 1 November 8 pm

£19, £16

James Grant is one of the most renowned and respected performers Scotland has ever produced. Drawing from a broad palette of pop, folk, soul, country and blues influences, and

interweaving his solo compositions with favourites by his band, Love and Money.

Classics from the 80's through the 00's will be performed with customary wit, style and dexterity. Music to fill the heart and stir the soul.

## **Talisk**

Saturday 2 November 8 pm

£16, £13

In their five years, Scottish firebrands Talisk have stacked up several major awards for their explosively energetic yet artfully woven sound, including 2017's 'Folk Band of the Year' at the BBC Alba Scots Trad Music Awards, and a BBC Radio 2 Folk Award.

The release of their hotly anticipated second album, *Beyond*, was met with a five-star 'Top of the World' review in **Songlines**, praising the band as 'incredibly infectious and endearing ... fresh, invigorating, accomplished and playfully frisky.'

## **Rainford and Ormskirk Vocal Academy**

Sunday 3 November 11 am

£15, £12

Rainford Vocal Academy was established by experienced vocal coach Katie Ellen in 2014. Her aim was to create an academy in the centre of the community that would give students a chance to develop in confidence whilst gaining recognised qualifications. Since then, Rainford Vocal Academy has developed and a second location added in Ormskirk, opening the doors to another community.

## **Nicholas McCarthy piano**

### **Close Up Concert**

Sunday 3 November 8 pm

£20, £17

Scriabin: Prelude and Nocturne, Op.9

Felix Blumenfeld: Etude in A flat major

Richard Strauss (arr. J. Mann): Morgen!

Carl Reinecke: Sonata in C minor, Op.179

Bach (arr. Brahms): Chaconne in D minor

Bellini (arr. Fumagalli): Casta Diva

Nigel Hess: Nocturne

Bartók: Etude for Left Hand

Rachmaninov (arr. McCarthy): Prelude in G minor

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.

## **Winter Warmer**

### **Dementia Friendly Concert**

Tuesday 5 November 12.30 pm & 2.30 pm

£12.50

Programme includes:

Purcell: Rondeau from Abdelazer

Tchaikovsky: Waltz from Sleeping Beauty

Joseph Kosma: Autumn Leaves

Claire Henry: presenter

Musicians from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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

A relaxed and intimate concert for people living with dementia, their friends, family and carers. Doors open 45 minutes before the concert, and the concert will last approximately one hour. All tickets include a complimentary cup of tea or coffee on arrival.

## **The Local Honeys**

Wednesday 6 November 8 pm

£15, £12

The first women to graduate from Morehead University's degree programme in traditional 'hillbilly' music, The Local Honeys have been taking their socially conscious and environmentally aware bluegrass across the world and are back in the UK to support their new record *The Gospel*, a follow up to 2017's *Little Girls Actin' Like Men*.

## **Charlie Cunningham**

Sunday 10 November 8 pm

£18, £15

Charlie Cunningham has announced his return with the release of a brand new single 'Permanent Way' – the first new material from the British guitarist since the release of debut album *Lines*. The album brought together his unique combination of deft nylon stringed

guitar playing with dramatic dynamics, creating distinctive, spectral melodies.

'Permanent Way' finds Charlie embellishing his sound with subtly arranged synths and an upbeat tempo, whilst still allowing enough space within the arrangement for his distinctive vocals to echo and captivate.

## **Róisín Walters, Jonathan Aasgaard and Jamie Kenny**

### **Lunchtime Concert**

Monday 11 November 1 pm

£12, £8

JS Bach: Two Three-Part Inventions

Kodaly: Duo for violin and cello, Op.7

Mark O'Connor: Appalachian Journey

Martinu: Duo for violin and cello No.2

Róisín Walters: violin

Jonathan Aasgaard: cello

Jamie Kenny: double bass

Sponsored by Maestro! Tour Management

## **Kim Richey**

Monday 11 November 8 pm

£15, £12

Two-time Grammy-nominated Kim Richey is a storyteller; a weaver of emotions and a tugger of heartstrings.

Tender, poetic and aching with life's truths, Kim's songs transport you to her world, where words paint pictures and melodies touch the soul. And then there's her voice. Pure, arresting and honest, it makes you take notice.

## **Joshua Burnside**

Wednesday 13 November 8 pm

£13, £10

Northern Irish experimental folk songwriter and producer Joshua Burnside is something of a regional anomaly. With a brooding, powerful sound, his enthralling craft defies local comparison in striving towards an aesthetic as visual as it is sonic.

Burnside blends alt-folk and elements of the Irish folk song tradition with South American rhythms and Eastern European influences, whilst introducing synthetic and found-sounds, synths loops and crunching beats to create a stormy world that shifts and swirls perspective.

## **Kathryn Tickell & The Darkening**

Thursday 14 November 8 pm

£25, £22

Kathryn Tickell: Northumbrian smallpipes, fiddle, voice

Joe Truswell: drums

Kate Young: fiddle, voice

Amy Thatcher: accordion, synths, voice, clog dancing

Heather Ferrier: accordion, clog dancing

Kieran Szifris: octave mandolin

Kathryn Tickell & The Darkening invoke the dark, powerful, sounds of ancient Northumbria and broadcast them to the modern world. Their inspiration comes from the wild, dramatic, weather-beaten countryside along Hadrian's Wall, but the band embrace a global perspective, bringing some of the oldest Northumbrian tunes and songs to life intermingled with new material and contemporary resonance and attitude.

## **Ian Siegal Unplugged**

Friday 15 November, 8 pm

£19, £16

In 2018, the UK's favourite contemporary bluesman and renegade Americana man, Ian Siegel, scooped Best Male Vocalist and Best Acoustic Artist in the UK Blues Awards, adding to a long list of accolades in the UK, Europe and USA.

This year he is touring a solo unplugged presentation of songs from his latest album All The Rage including a beautifully adapted acoustic version of the soul stunner, 'Sweet Souvenir'.

## **Elles Bailey**

### **The Road I Call Home Tour**

Saturday 16 November 8 pm

£15, £12

Elles Bailey follows her debut hit album Wildfire with her brand new album Road I Call Home. Wildfire broke down barriers to win rapturous praise right across the music landscape. The debut album charted at No. 2 in the iTunes Blues charts, reached No. 1 in the Independent Blues Broadcasters charts, and has over 2.5 million streams on Spotify.

'Wildfire was written over five years ... Road I Call Home was written over one. It tells the story of touring Wildfire, and how my life has changed since. I feel it delves deeper, and deals with loss, love,

anger, determination and life on the road, with more than 200 gigs under my belt and many miles travelled.' – Elles Bailey

## **Mairearad Green & Anna Massie**

Sunday 17 November 8 pm

£15, £12

Two of Scotland's most revered multi-instrumentalists, Mairearad Green (accordion and bagpipes) and Anna Massie (guitar, banjo, and fiddle) are a truly captivating duo, providing a highly energetic performance with an instantly warm and friendly stage presence. Having played alongside each other for over ten years, they revel in an intuitive approach to each other's musical ideas and interpretations, and an 'almost telepathic communication' on stage (Hi-Arts).

## **Blazin' Fiddles**

Tuesday 19 November 8 pm

£21, £18

Blazin' Fiddles are one of the world's most prolific fiddle groups. Celebrating their 21st year in 2019 – now with nine albums and many thousands of miles and behind them, yet a passion that burns brighter than ever – no other band has quite managed to capture the excitement, sensitivity and raw fire of Scottish music all at once. Whatever the venue, be it in a remote Highland village or London's Royal Albert Hall, this legendary, multi award-winning act never fails to set the hearts of their audiences alight.

## **AKA Trio**

### **A Theatr Mwldan Production**

Wednesday 20 November 8 pm

£21, £18



AKA Trio is an international musical summit meeting of three world-renowned virtuosos – Antonio Forcione (guitar), Seckou Keita (kora) and Adriano Adewale (percussion).

Coming from three different continents – Europe, Africa and South America – Antonio, Seckou and Adriano grew up in three different landscapes, speaking three different languages, and were formed by three different cultures and musical traditions. These differences have converged in AKA Trio, and together they create a joyful, uplifting and life-affirming musical collaboration.

## **Tommy Sands**

Thursday November 8 pm

£15, £12

Tommy Sands is a folk singer, songwriter, radio broadcaster and political activist. From a family of singers and performers, Tommy is best known for his iconic song, 'There Were Roses' – described as one of the best songs ever written about the troubles in Ireland, and since recorded by Joan Baez, Kathy Mattea, Dolores Keane, Sean Keane, Frank Patterson, Paddy Reilly, Dick Gaughan, The Dubliners, Cara Dillon, Lisa McHugh and many others.

## **Thea Gilmore**

Saturday 23 November 8 pm

£23, £20

Thea Gilmore has released her brand new album *Small World Turning*, following on from 2017's *The Counterweight*, her third successive top 40 album.

An artist of enduring international acclaim and a justly revered lyricist, Gilmore's musical settings have taken many ingenious detours in recent years. *Small World Turning* is an album with an unashamed folk flavor and features contributions from Cara Dillon, Seth and Sam Lakeman, Katriona Gilmore, Jamie Roberts and BBC

Radio 2 Young Folk Award winner Ciaran Algar. Acoustic guitars are back to the fore, and a quintessentially rootsy array of instruments frame them –fiddles, whistles, mandolins, tenor banjos are all in abundance.

A gifted and exceptional artist at the peak of her powers, Thea Gilmore has delivered a vibrant and deeply resonant album, rooted in folk music but completely transcending any genre related limitations.

## **Rab Noakes & Brooks Williams**

Sunday 24 November 8 pm

£17, £14

Folk legends Rab Noakes and Brooks Williams come together for a Scotland-USA transatlantic collaboration, fuelled by a shared passion for acoustic roots rock, hook-laden songwriter pop, and folky Americana.

A rootsy songwriter, Williams is ranked in the top 100 acoustic guitarists and his voice is one 'you just melt into' (**Americana UK**). He has collaborated with the likes of Hans Theessink, Boo Hewerdine, Sally Barker, Chris Difford, Dave Kelly and Paul Jones.

Rab Noakes is a force to be reckoned with in the world of music. A songwriter performer from Fife, after more than 50 years and 20 albums, Rab's songs reflect his lifelong interest in 'popular songs' and 'roots songs', combining melodic hooks and Americana-styled narratives.

## **Riot Ensemble**

### **Close Up Concert**

Monday 25 November 8 pm

£20, £17

Kaija Saariaho: Oi Kuu for bass clarinet and cello

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

Bernhard Gander: 'Ö' for Quintet

Marc Mellits: Black for bass clarinet and baritone saxophone

Matthias Pintscher: Duo for viola and cello

Rebecca Saunders: Flesh (UK Premiere)

Ausiàs Garrigós Morant: bass clarinet

Amy Green: baritone saxophone

Stephen Upshaw: viola

Louise McMonagle: cello

Kate Walter: bass flute

Krassimir Sterev: accordion

Aaron Holloway-Nahum: conductor

## **Belshazzar's Feast**

Thursday 28 November 8 pm

£18, £15

Mixing traditional folk music and seasonal material, stirring in classical, pop and music hall, and topped off with audience participation and lashings of wry humour, Paul Sartin (Bellowhead/Faustus) and Paul Hutchinson (Hoover The Dog) together wow audiences across the UK, USA and Australia with their eclectic and eccentric mix of tunes and between songs chat, always sending audiences home with smiles on their faces.

## **Jo Harman Trio**

Friday 29 November 8 pm

£15, £12

Widely regarded as one of Europe's finest ever soul and blues fuelled voices, Jo Harman is an international touring and recording artist who remains a genre-defying, independently minded artist of rare credibility. Rag 'N' Bone Man recently took to social media to proclaim her 'one of this country's finest talents' and soul super star Michael McDonald advised 'hearing her cover one of my songs was a spiritual experience'.

## **Chris Difford**

Saturday 30 November 8 pm

£23, £20

Grammy nominated and double Ivor Novello Award winning lyricist, Chris Difford and his collaborator Squeeze co-founder Glenn Tilbrook have written some of the most enduring and best-loved songs of our time such as 'Up The Junction', 'Cool For Cats' and 'Labelled With Love', 'Tempted' and many others. Chris brings his 'stand up sit down' book & music tour to Music Room, telling stories and singing songs.

## **An Audience with Connie Lush**

### **Plus support Satin Beige Chousmer**

Friday December 8 pm

£20, £17

An Audience with Connie Lush will feature the inaugural performance of Connie's solo album Blue on Blue along with stories and laughter of life on and off stage. A Q&A session will follow giving you the opportunity to get even more from the experience.

In her own incomparable style, Connie will perform some of her favourite classic tracks alongside a selection of self-penned material from her previous albums, accompanied by a grand piano, acoustic guitar and a trumpet.

## **Connie Lush**

### **Plus special guest Thomas Lang**

Saturday 7 December 8 pm

£15

The enigmatic Connie Lush returns to the Music Room with her full band; Terry Harris on bass, Steve Wright on Guitar and Roy Martin on Drums. Special guest Thomas Lang will perform an acoustic set of original material.

**This is a standing event.**

## **Connie Lush**

### **Plus support Satin Beige Chousmer**

Sunday 8 December 8 pm

£20, £17

Connie Lush brings her legendary Christmas concert with her full band; Terry Harris on bass, Steve Wright on Guitar and Roy Martin on Drums. The wonderfully funky Satin Beige Chousmer will provide this evening's support on cello and vocals.

Connie's Christmas concerts in the Music Room have sold out for the past five years so get your tickets early!

## **The Bassline**

### **Lunchtime Concert**

Monday 9 December 1 pm

£12, £8

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

Sponsored by Maestro! Tour Management

**FARA**

**Christmas Tour**

Tuesday 10 December 8 pm

£15, £12

FARA will present a unique night of Christmas cheer in December. A medley of Christmas music, some original song and tunes with a Christmas twist will provide audiences with a lot to celebrate this coming festival season.

'Torch bearers of a freshly reinvigorated tradition' – **AllMusic**

'Superb and sensitive musicianship, and charming vocal harmonies. A delight.' – **Songlines** \*\*\*\*

## **Awake Arise – A Christmas Show for Our Times** **Featuring Lady Maisery, Jimmy Aldridge and Sid Goldsmith**

Monday 16 December 8 pm

£19, £16

In an unmissable one-off collaboration, five of the English folk scene's most inventive artists bring you *Awake Arise – A Christmas Show for Our Times*; celebrating the riches of our varied winter traditions and reflecting upon the hope and resilience in music and song that can bring joy to us all in the darkest season.

## **Baked A La Ska: Ska of Wonder**

Monday 23 December 8 pm

£12

Get into the festive spirit with Baked A La Ska as they celebrate Christmas with their Ska of Wonder show. They'll be delivering seasonal ska treats such as 'When You Wish Upon A Ska', 'Walking In The Air', 'We Three Kings', 'Harmonica for Christmas' and many more.

Baked A La Ska are the 'heavy heavy sound' of Manchester and have been serving up the sweetest of good party vibes, vintage ska sounds and an eccentric platter of covers, since 2008.

This is a standing event.

## **Family & Variety**

### **League of Welldoers**

Monday 9 September 2 pm

£15, £12

The League of Welldoers presents a variety benefit concert featuring your compere Tony Ravel plus eight other well-known Liverpool entertainers.

A three hour benefit concert for all the family so don't delay, book early to avoid disappointment and help support one of Liverpool's oldest independent charities.

### **Family Concert**

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

Saturday 14 September 4 pm

£22, £15, £12 (adults)

£13, £10, £8 (children)

Terry Davies: conductor

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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 an interval.

The Gruffalo © Orange Eyes Ltd. 2009

The Gruffalo's Child © Orange Eyes Ltd. 2011

## **And In The End**

**Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra**

**Sold Out**

Thursday 26 September 7.30 pm

Friday 27 September 7.30 pm

£70, £55, £50, £35

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and The Bootleg Beatles

Neil Innes: host

Richard Balcombe: conductor

Arrangements by Ian Stephens

## **A Celebration of 50 Years of Abbey Road and Let It Be**

Experience two of the Beatles' most iconic albums performed afresh in this special musical collaboration, adding a classical twist and performing beautifully arranged symphonic versions of these timeless classics.

The tour marks 50 years since the release of these final two albums – Abbey Road (released 26 September 1969) and Let It Be (released 8 May 1970), and will explore the journey to the end of

The Beatles – celebrating the music of this era and the legacy that endures to this day.

Hosted by writer, comedian and musician Neil Innes (Monty Python, Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band, The Rutles), this unique live staging will be an unmissable event for Beatles fans of all ages!

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, The Bootleg Beatles and Neil Innes are taking the And In The End concert on tour to Manchester, Birmingham, London, Basingstoke, Northampton, Nottingham, Gateshead, Edinburgh and Glasgow. To find out more, visit [liverpoolphil.com/on-tour](http://liverpoolphil.com/on-tour).

## **Rip It Up the 70s**

Wednesday 9 October 7.30 pm

£45.50, £39.50, £35, £32, £22.50

From the producers of Rip it Up the 50s and 60s comes the greatest music decade ever. Join Olympic champion Louis Smith, Rachel Stevens (S Club 7), Melody Thornton (Pussycat Dolls) and Lee Ryan (Blue) for a groovy evening of singing and dancing.

## **Summon the Superheroes**

### **Family Concert**

Sunday 13 October 2.30 pm

£22, £15, £12 (adults)

£13, £10, £8 (children)

Stephen Bell: conductor

Alasdair 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!

The concert will last around one hour, and children are invited to have a go on a variety of instruments at our Instrument Petting Zoo in the Grand Foyer before the concert.

## **A Summer Fair**

### **Family Concert Especially for Under 5s**

Wednesday 6 November 1 pm & 2.45 pm

£12 (adults), £8 (children)

Clare Henry: presenter

Musicians from Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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!

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.

### **Elton John – 50 Years of Your Song**

Saturday 23 November 7.30 pm

£49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Richard Balcombe: conductor

Graham Bickley: vocals

Stuart Matthew Price, Patrick Smyth, Abbie Osmon: singers from the West End

George King: featured pianist

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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. 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.

GRB Concerts

Sponsored by Liverpool John Moores University

## **Clare Teal with Guy Barker – In the Christmas Mood**

Wednesday 11 December 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Guy Barker: conductor

Clare Teal: singer

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Sing-along with Santa**

### **Family Concert**

Saturday 14 December 11.30 am & 2.30 pm

Sunday 15 December 11.30 am & 2.30 pm

£29, £18, £15 (adults)

£16, £12, £10 (children)

Michael Seal: conductor

Alasdair Malloy: presenter

Liverpool Philharmonic Children's Choirs

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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!

The concert will last around one hour, and children are invited to have a go on a variety of instruments at our Instrument Petting Zoo in the Grand Foyer before the concert.

## **New Year's Eve: James Bond**

Tuesday 31 December 7.30 pm

£52, £43, £38, £30, £24

Featuring classic Bond songs, including:

- The World is Not Enough
- Goldeneye
- Live & Let Die
- Diamonds Are Forever
- We Have All the Time in the World
- Goldfinger
- Skyfall
- The Man with the Golden Gun

Alfonso Casado Trigo: conductor

Jenna Lee-James, Rachael Wooding, Jon Boydon, Nadim Naaman:  
singers from West End International

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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.

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

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Children's Workshops**

£8 (including accompanying adult)

£8 per additional adults

Music Room

Our music workshops are a great way to introduce children aged 0-5 years old to music. The whole family can get involved – carers, parents and grandparents are encouraged to join in!

Led by Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musicians, the workshops involve singing, creative music-making and the opportunity to have a go on a range of musical instruments.

Due to space limitations, the number of additional adults is limited for each workshop.

Doors open 15 minutes before the workshop starts, and sessions last 45 minutes.

### **Baby Voices**

Thursday 31 October 10 am

Friday 1 November 10 am

The perfect introduction to making music with your baby, these 45 minute workshops will involve songs, movement, and active listening. Word sheets and suggestions on how to make music at home with your baby will also be provided.

Suggested age: 0-18 months

### **Toddler Tunes**

Friday 1 November 11.45 am

Songs and games to help your child develop their musicianship and creativity, including ways to 'tune in' to your child using child-led

music making. Word sheets and suggestions on how to make music at home with your child will also be provided.

Suggested age: 18-36 months

### **Little Notes**

Thursday 31 October 11.45 am

Your child will explore pitch and rhythm through songs and activities, develop their creativity through exploration and performance with percussion instruments, and learn more about instruments of the Orchestra.

Suggested age: 3-5 years

## **Talks, Tours & Talking Part**

### **Discover the Classics**

£15 per session (£10 per session students/claimants)

Music Room

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 Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's season.

### **Tim Lihoreau with composer Dani Howard**

Saturday 14 September 11 am

Tim Lihoreau joins composer Dani Howard to discuss our opening concert *Symphonie Fantastique* – see page 60 for concert details.



## **Gethyn Jones with Julian Rachlin and Sarah McElravy**

Saturday 30 November 11 am

Gethyn Jones is joined by conductor/violinist Julian Rachlin and violinist Sarah McElravy to discuss the Sinfonia Concertante and Bach's Double Concerto concerts – see pages 74-75 for concert details.

## **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? The 'Liverpool Philharmonic Experience' is just the ticket ...

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

### **Discover**

Thursday 3 October 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

£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

demonstration by a Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musician. Tours last about 2 hours.

### **Play (For Families)**

Saturday 9 November 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+.

### **Classic Introductions**

Our pre-concert talks and interviews with visiting artists are a great way to get more out of the performance. Talks are held in Music Room and are free to all ticket holders.

### **Petrenko's Stravinsky**

Thursday 3 October 6.15 pm

Stephen Johnson, classical music writer, composer and broadcaster, talks about Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No.1 – see page 62 for concert details.

### **Glorious Gershwin**

Thursday 24 October 6.15 pm

Conductor Joshua Weilerstein discusses the Glorious Gershwin programme in conversation with BBC Radio Merseyside's Angela Heslop – see page 66 for concert details.

### **Sunday Afternoon Dances**

Sunday 27 October 1.15 pm

Professor Catherine Tackley, Head of Music at University of Liverpool, talks about the influence of jazz on the Sunday Afternoon Dances programme – see page 67 for concert details.

## **Post-concert Question Time**

Free to ticket holders, our post-concert Q&As start 15 minutes after the end of the concert in the Music Room, and last around 30 minutes.

## **Symphonie Fantastique**

Thursday 19 September 9.30 pm (approx.)

Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko and composer Dani Howard will answer your questions about the Symphonie Fantastique concert – see page 60 for concert details.

## **Special Events**

### **Mahler with Wine**

Friday 6 September 6 pm

Music Room

£25

'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!

## **Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko in Conversation**

Tuesday 1 October 7 pm Music Room

£25

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

## **Classical Music**

Did you know that under 25s and students can get tickets for selected Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra concerts\* for just £8?

With so many exciting and varied concerts to choose from, we've selected a handful of upcoming highlights to inspire you.

£8 tickets can be purchased from Box Office in person or by phone on 0151 709 3789.

\*Subject to availability and you will be required to show proof of eligibility.

## **Symphonie Fantastique**

### **Classic fM**

Thursday 19 September 7.30 pm

Sunday 22 September 2.30 pm

£49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Post Concert Question Time (Thursday concert only)

See page 59 for details

Dani Howard: Coalescence (World Premiere)

Rachmaninov: Piano Concerto No.2

Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

Nobuyuki Tsujii: piano

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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, as well as a new piece written especially for us by young British composer, Dani Howard.

Sponsored by Hill Dickinson Lawyers

**Elias String Quartet Zoltán Fejérvári piano**

**Chamber Music**

Saturday 21 September 7.30 pm

St George's Hall Concert Room

£25

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

Sally Beamish: Reed Stanzas

Schumann: Piano Quintet

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.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Petrenko's Stravinsky**

Thursday 3 October 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

### **Classic Intro**

See page 58 for details

Liadov: Baba Yaga

Shostakovich: Violin Concerto No.1

Richard Strauss: Death and Transfiguration

Stravinsky: Symphony in Three Movements

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

Sergey Krylov: violin

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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.

## **Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto**

Sunday 6 October 2.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Liadov Baba: Yaga

Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto

Richard Strauss: Death and Transfiguration

Stravinsky: Symphony in Three Movements

Vasily Petrenko: conductor

Sergey Krylov: violin

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

'I can't imagine any other violinist dead or alive surpassing Krylov' was what one critic said about Sergey Krylov 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.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto**

### **Classic fM**

Thursday 10 October 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Ligeti: Concert Romanesc

Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No.1

Mendelssohn: Symphony No.3 'Scottish'

Dalia Stasevska: conductor

Behzod Abduraimov: piano

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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 one of the most gripping – and tuneful – piano concertos ever written.

## **Aled Jones and Russell Watson**

### **In Harmony Tour**

#### **Selling Fast**

Saturday 12 October 7.30 pm

£119 (VIP), £61, £55, £39.50, £29.50

Aled Jones and Russell Watson take to the stage together for their first joint tour. Having received countless prestigious awards, record-breaking sales and chart successes, Aled and Russell are two of the world's greatest classical voices, and their instant



camaraderie and professional mutual admiration makes for the perfect pairing.

## **La Serenissima Chamber Music**

Tuesday 15 October 7.30 pm

St George's Hall Concert Room

£25

### **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.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

With support from Rodewald Concert Society; Lottery Funded Arts Council England, supported using public funding by Arts Council England

## **Glorious Gershwin**

Thursday 24 October 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

### **Classic Intro**

See page 58 for details

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

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

We're honoured to present the UK premiere of the late Andre 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.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Sunday Afternoon Dances**

Sunday 27 October 2.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

### **Classic Intro**

See page 58 for details

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

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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.

BBC Ten Pieces Trailblazers

## **Ludovico Einaudi**

**Sold Out**

Monday 28 October 8 pm

£65.50, £59.50, £49.50, £35

Ludovico Einaudi returns to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall three and a half years after the release of *Elements* and a sensational world tour – this time with his new project *Seven Days Walking*. *Seven Days Walking* is divided into seven episodes, focusing on several main themes which vary each time.

## **Grieg's Piano Concerto**

Thursday 31 October 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Dvorák: *The Noonday Witch*

Grieg: *Piano Concerto*

Smetana: *Vltava* from *Ma Vlast*

Martinu: *Symphony No.6 'Fantaisies Symphoniques'*

Jirí Rozen: conductor

Alexandra Dariescu: piano

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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 Jirí 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 Martinu's shimmering, dreamlike *Sixth Symphony*. Also returning to Liverpool is pianist

Alexandra Dariescu, performing Grieg's hugely-popular Piano Concerto.

## **Ensemble 10/10**

### **Chamber Music**

Wednesday 6 November 7.30 pm

St George's Hall Concert Room

£20

Thomas Ades: 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 brings some of the most outstanding pieces of the past 25 years, including Tansy Davies' jazz-tinged concerto, Iris for saxophone, and Thomas Ades' 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.

Resonate PRS Foundation

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **British Classics**

Saturday 9 November 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

'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.

Sponsored by Liverpool John Moores University

## **Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony**

### **Classic fM**

Thursday 14 November 7.30 pm

Friday 15 November 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Wagner: Overture, The Mastersingers

Shostakovich: Cello Concerto No.1

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No.5

Andris Poga: conductor

Daniel Müller-Schott: cello

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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.

Sponsored by Rushworth foundation

## **Little Russian**

### **Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company**

Sunday 17 November 2.30 pm

£13, £11, £8

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' lovely Tuba Concerto.

This concert is supported by The William Alwyn Foundation.

**Mariam Batsashvili piano**

**Chamber Music**

Tuesday 19 November 7.30 pm

St George's Hall Concert Room

£25

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.

BBC Radio 3

new generation artists

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Bruch Violin Concerto**

Thursday 21 November 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Haydn: Symphony No.80

Bruch: Violin Concerto No.1

Dvorák: Symphony No.7

Nuno Coelho: conductor

Simone Lamsma: violin

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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, and we can't wait to hear him in a real Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra favourite – Dvorák's tempestuous Seventh Symphony.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Sinfonia Concertante**

Thursday 28 November 7.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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.

## **Bach's Double Concerto**

Sunday 1 December 2.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

Bach: Concerto for two violins

Mozart: Sinfonia Concertante for violin and viola

Mozart: Symphony No.40

Julian Rachlin: conductor/violin/viola

Sarah McElravy: violin

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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.

## **Blue Danube**

### **Classic fM**

Thursday 5 December 7.30 pm

Friday 6 December 1.30 pm

£46, £36, £27, £22, £15

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

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

In the 19th century, whether you were in the cafes 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.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **Christmas with Septura**

### **Chamber Music**

Thursday 12 December 7.30 pm

St George's Hall Concert Room

£28

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\*

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.

Sponsored by Investec Wealth & Investment

## **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

£49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Ian Tracey: conductor

John Suchet: presenter

Pavel Šporcl: violin

Simon Emery: Artistic Director, Youth Ensembles

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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 Šporcl, 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!

Sponsored by DMR David M Robinson Jewellery & Watches

## **A Welsh Choral Christmas**

### **Liverpool Welsh Choral**

Monday 16 December 7.30 pm

£28, £24, £22, £18, £13

Liverpool Welsh Choral is delighted to welcome Aled Jones as their presenter for A Welsh Choral Christmas when the choir will be joined by the award winning, dazzling Northop Silver Band.

As a popular singer and broadcaster Aled brings his unique brand of charisma, humour and musical knowledge to an evening of special Christmas favourites.

Come and enjoy carols old and new!

**Raymond Gubbay presents**

**Carols by Candlelight**

Monday 23 December 7.30 pm

£46.50, £39.50, £32.50, £24.50, £22.50, £17.50

Cullen: Joy to the World

Handel: Christmas Sequence including Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah

Bach: Air on the G String

Handel: Zadok the Priest

Ledger: Sussex Carol

Darke: In the Bleak Midwinter

Michael Bawtree: conductor

Gemma Summerfield: soprano

Canzonetta: choir

Mozart Festival Orchestra in full period costume

Plus your favourite carols including Good King Wenceslas, Once in Royal David's City, While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks, O Come, All Ye Faithful, and Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.

A sublime concert of carols and seasonal classics, staged in full 18th Century costume in an evocative candle-lit style setting.

## **Messiah**

Saturday 4 January 7 pm (please note start time)

£49, £40, £35, £27, £21

Artist in Residence

Handel: Messiah

Sofi Jeannin: conductor

Jeanine De Bique: soprano

Jennifer Johnston: mezzo-soprano

Oliver Johnston: tenor

William 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.

Sponsored by Liverpool John Moores University



## Film

The antidote to the multiplex, watching a film at Liverpool Philharmonic is a unique experience. Enjoy fantastic films on the world's last remaining working Walthamstow cinema screen, with organ accompaniment from resident organist Dave Nicholas.

### **Don Giovanni (cert pg)**

### **Glyndebourne Film Screening**

Sunday 1 September 2 pm

£25, £16

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 'La ci darem la mano'. Jonathan Kent's sleek and suspenseful production captures this duality brilliantly.

Filmed in 2010.

This screening 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 (£20 per person) can be purchased online when booking your tickets. Picnics must be purchased in advance, and will be available for collection on the day. Vegetarian picnic bags are also available.

Glyndebourne

## **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone™ In Concert (cert PG)**

Thursday 12 September 7.30 pm

£85 (VIP), £55, £49.50, £39.50, £29.50

Relive the magic of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone in high-definition while the Czech National Symphony Orchestra perform John Williams' unforgettable score live.

In Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, Harry Potter learns on his 11th birthday that he is the orphaned son of two wizards and possesses magical powers of his own. At Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, he learns the high-flying sport of Quidditch and plays a thrilling 'live' chess game en route to facing a Dark Wizard bent on destroying him.

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## **Yesterday (cert 12A)**

Tuesday 17 September 7.30 pm

£12, £10, £8

Director: Danny Boyle

Starring: Himesh Patel, Lily James, Ana de Armas, Kate McKinnon, Ed Sheeran

'No one's ever written this many great songs!'

Yesterday, everyone knew The Beatles. Today, only Jack remembers their songs. He's about to become a very big deal. From Academy Award-winning director Danny Boyle and Oscar-nominated screenwriter Richard Curtis, comes a rock-n-roll

comedy about music, dreams, friendship, and the long and winding road that leads to the love of your life.

## **Downton Abbey (cert TBC)**

Wednesday 30 October 7.30 pm

£12, £10, £8

Director: Michael Engler

Starring: Maggie Smith, Hugh Bonneville, Imelda Staunton

'Your Majesties, welcome to Downton Abbey.'

At Downton Abbey, they live like royalty – but are they ready for the real thing? The Crawley family are back with a feature-length film, where we join the residents of Downton as they prepare for a Royal visit from King George V and Queen Mary. Join all your favourite characters as we find out what they have been up to –and what still lies in store for them.

## **Judy (cert 12A)**

Wednesday 13 November 7.30 pm

£12, £10, £8

Director: Rupert Goold

Starring: Renée Zellweger, Jessie Buckley, Rufus Sewell, Michael

Gambon

'And the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true ...'

Winter 1968 and showbiz legend Judy Garland arrives in Swinging London to perform in a sell-out run at The Talk of the Town, 30 years since she shot to global stardom in The Wizard Of Oz. As she prepares for the show, battles with management, charms

musicians, and reminisces with friends and adoring fans, her wit and warmth shine through. And yet Judy is fragile. Exhausted and haunted by memories of a childhood lost to Hollywood, will she have the strength to go on?

Featuring some of her best-known songs, including the timeless classic 'Over the Rainbow', Judy celebrates the voice, the capacity for love and the sheer pizzazz of 'the world's greatest entertainer'.

## **Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence (cert 15)**

Sunday 17 November 7 pm

£12, £10, £8

Director: Nagisa Oshima

Starring: David Bowie, Tom Conti, Ryuichi Sakamoto, Takeshi Kitano, Jack Thompson

The 1983 film, based on the experiences of Sir Laurens van der Post, stars David Bowie and Tom Conti as Second World War British prisoners of war Major Celliers and Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence. The film deals with their tense and complex relationship with the Japanese camp commandant, Captain Yonoi (played by Ryuichi Sakamoto, who also wrote the music score) and the mercurial, brutal Sergeant Hara (Takeshi Kitano).

Hosted by BBC Radio Merseyside's Roger Phillips, this event is part of a full programme of activities for The Secret Art of Survival exhibition at the Victoria Gallery & Museum. The exhibition highlights artwork created secretly by British servicemen during Far East captivity. A chamber choir from Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company will perform Dvorak's Largo in four-part harmony.

University of Liverpool

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine Since 1898

Heritage Fund

## **Love Actually In Concert (cert 15)**

Sunday 24 November 7.30 pm

£65, £49.50, £39.50

A full, live orchestra will perform Craig Armstrong's evocative score, with the film being projected onto a huge screen. With the film becoming a Christmas tradition for many, audiences attending the Love Actually in Concert will be treated to a unique way to watch the film that gets so many into the holiday spirit.

## **Elf (cert PG)**

Tuesday 10 December 7.30 pm

£15, £12, £10

Director: Jon Favreau

Starring: Will Ferrell, Zooey Deschanel, James Caan, Mary Steenburgen

Santaaaa! Oh my God! Santa – here? I know him!

Buddy (Ferrell) was accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler and raised to adulthood among Santa's elves. Unable to shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, the adult Buddy travels to New York, in full elf uniform, in search of his real father. As it happens, this is Walter Hobbs (Caan), a cynical businessman. After a DNA test proves this, Walter reluctantly attempts to start a relationship with Buddy ... with increasingly chaotic results.

Head to our bars before the film for festive drinks and snacks –you might even be able to get the 'World's Best Cup of Coffee'!

## **It's A Wonderful Life (cert U)**

Tuesday 24 December 11 am & 2 pm

£17, £13, £10

Director: Frank Capra

Starring: James Stewart, Donna Reed, Henry Travers

Capra's perennial festive favourite, starring James Stewart as a desperate man offered salvation by an impish guardian angel. Beautifully crafted and acted, its humour and gentleness imbued at times with an almost Dickensian darkness, the film is now a cult classic, one of the most popular and enduring of all Christmas traditions.

We'll have festive refreshments and snacks available from our bars before each showing, to really help you get into the Christmas spirit!

## **Ghostbusters: Film with Live Orchestra (cert PG)**

Saturday 28 December 7.30 pm

Sunday 29 December 7.30 pm

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

Dirk Brossé: conductor

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

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?

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Columbia Pictures a Sony Company

Sponsored by Liverpool John Moores University

## **Comedy & Spoken Word**

### **Mythos: A Trilogy by Stephen Fry**

Wednesday 4 September 7.30 pm

Thursday 5 September 7.30 pm

Friday 6 September 7.30 pm

£65.50, £59.50, £52.50, £45

Written by and starring Stephen Fry

Originally Produced by The Shaw Festival

Directed by Tim Carroll

Set designed by Douglas Paraschuk

Lighting designed by Kevin Lamotte

Projections designed by Nick Bottomley

Original music by Paul Sportelli

One of the world's greatest storytellers, telling the world's greatest stories. In this trilogy of plays, Stephen Fry takes to the stage in the company of the Greek gods, heroes and men whose gripping tales

still echo today. Laugh-out loud funny, mind-blowing and often personal, Mythos is a once-in-a-lifetime experience with the icon himself.

Fry divides his gripping tales of love and war, debauchery and revenge into three full-length shows. Book for two shows and get a 10% discount or book for all three shows and get a 15% discount!

### **Wednesday 4 September – Gods**

Gods takes us from primordial chaos to the creation of the dazzling Greek pantheon.

### **Thursday 5 September – Heroes**

Heroes recounts the escapades of Perseus, Heracles and Theseus.

### **Friday 6 September – Men**

Men plunges us into the heat of the Trojan War – and Odysseus' treacherous journey back home.

Creative by Key Gordon. Courtesy of the Shaw Festival.

## **Ant Middleton**

### **Mind over Muscle Tour**

#### **Last Few Tickets**

Sunday 15 September 2 pm & 7.30 pm

£85 (vip), £41, £35, £27.50

Ant Middleton, best known as the Chief Instructor for Channel 4's hit shows, SAS: Who Dares Wins, Mutiny and Escape brings the 'elements' through lighting, sound and set, and will recreate what mental strength it took behind the scenes for Ant to complete his recent SAS series and his Mount Everest challenge.



## **Out of the Ashes**

### **An Evening with Boycott & Aggers**

Wednesday 18 September 8 pm

£33.50, £27.50

No Ashes year would be complete without an evening with Boycott and Aggers and there's nothing like a battle with the old enemy to bring out the belligerent best in Geoffrey Boycott! The boys will be watching every ball and win, lose or draw, Geoffrey will tell Jonathan exactly what he thinks about the players, their performance and many other subjects in this brilliant, brand new show.

The event will be raising money which will go to The Professional Cricketers' Trust.

## **Dave Gorman**

### **With Great Powerpoint Comes Great ResponsibilityPoint**

#### **Plus support Nick Doody**

Wednesday 2 October 8 pm

£33.50, £27.50

Dave Gorman, the man behind Dave<sup>7</sup>'s hit show Modern Life Is Goodish, Are You Dave Gorman? and Googlehack Adventure, is back on the road with a brand new live show – With Great PowerPoint Comes Great ResponsibilityPoint.

As the title suggests, he's bringing his laptop and projector screen so expect the 'King of Powerpoint comedy' (**The Guardian**) to have more detailed analysis of those parts of life you've never stopped to think about before.

**Jonathan Pie**  
**The Fake News Tour**  
**Last Few Tickets**

Sunday 13 October 7.30 pm

£30.50, £24.50, £17.50

Jonathan Pie is the exasperated News Reporter whose videos have been seen across the world. Jonathan Pie returns to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall once more to berate the people in power – and the journalists apparently holding them to account. If no news is good news then good news is fake news.

**Ben Elton**

Tuesday 15 October 7.30 pm

£35.50, £29.50

More than 30 years ago, Ben Elton exploded into the national consciousness hosting Channel 4's ground breaking Saturday Live. Now, after a 15 year absence, the Godfather of modern stand-up returns to the medium he did so much to define. In this new stand-up show, Ben promises to try and make sense of a world which appears to have gone stark raving mad.

**How to Book**

Online: [liverpoolphil.com](http://liverpoolphil.com)

Telephone: 0151 709 3789

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

In Person: Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, L1  
9BP

For opening times, visit [liverpoolphil.com/get-tickets](http://liverpoolphil.com/get-tickets)

## **Booking Fees**

Online & Phone: 8% per ticket administrative fee, including postage.

In person: No charges.

## **Plan Your Visit**

For directions, public transport and parking details, as well as information on refreshments, access and FAQs, visit [liverpoolphil.com/plan-your-visit](http://liverpoolphil.com/plan-your-visit).

## **Accessibility**

Joining our free Access Scheme is the best way to help us provide you with the support you need, and to access a variety of information and benefits, including complimentary tickets for carers, access to wheelchair and transfer seating, etc.

For more information, and to join the scheme, visit [liverpoolphil.com/access](http://liverpoolphil.com/access)

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Sign up for as little £10 a month – [liverpoolphil.com/priority](http://liverpoolphil.com/priority)

Join now and get two free tickets to an upcoming film of your choice!

Liverpool Philharmonic

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Our individually designed seat plaques are the perfect gift for music-lovers and concertgoers, and as a lasting dedication to honour a loved one's passion for music.

For a donation of £200, dedicate a seat in the auditorium, and receive membership benefits such as attending open rehearsals and receptions to meet members of our Orchestra.

Learn more at [liverpoolphil.com/seat](http://liverpoolphil.com/seat)

Liverpool Philharmonic

## **A Welsh Choral Christmas**

Liverpool Welsh Choral

Simply Dynamic

Conductors: Keith Orrell and John Doyle with the Northop Silver Band  
Accompanist: Stephen Hargreaves

Liverpool Philharmonic

Monday 16 December 2019, 7.30 pm

Presented by Aled Jones

Tickets £13, £18, £22, £24, boxes £28 (concession available) from Mavis Owens, Tel: 0151 652 6374; email: [lwctickets@gmail.com](mailto:lwctickets@gmail.com) or Box Office, Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street, L1 9BP.

Tel: 0151 709 3789 or on [www.liverpoolphil.com](http://www.liverpoolphil.com)

[www.lwcu.co.uk](http://www.lwcu.co.uk)