

What's On at Liverpool Philharmonic *October – December 2020*



 LIVERPOOL
PHILHARMONIC

Box Office 0151 709 3789
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At Last – Live Music returns to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

Live music returns to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall this Autumn, in a series of exciting concerts by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and associated ensembles and recitalists!

The 5* review in *The Daily Telegraph* called our opening concert on 1 October 'a marvellous relaunch of Liverpool's concert life... This was a superb evening of live music-making.'

Audiences commented:

"It was so brilliant to be back in the Phil, to hear brilliant musicians playing wonderfully, and all the staff we encountered were fantastic in their welcome and their care...it fed our souls."

"As we were leaving I heard several people say - from a social distance of course- how much they had enjoyed returning to the Phil. I felt extremely safe in the building - and my hands have never been so clean! Everything was very well organised."

Don't miss performances featuring Chief Conductor **Vasily Petrenko** (page 5), Chief Conductor Designate **Domingo Hindoyan** (page 4/12), and pianist and Young Artist in Residence **Isata Kanneh-Mason** (page 6).

We mark the 40th anniversary of John Lennon's death in December with three performances of **John Lennon: A Life in Music** (page 10).

And for Christmas, we welcome the whole family to enjoy **The Snowman with Live Orchestra** (page 13) and **The Nutcracker - Reimagined** (page 14) when the Orchestra's brass and percussion join in the fun.

We're also delighted to welcome back Music Room regulars, **Connie Lush** and **Perfectly Frank** for performances in our Main Hall this December (page 11/15)

All concerts are approximately one-hour long with no interval. Seating is socially distanced with a capacity of c. 350 seats.

Musicians from the Royal Liverpool
Philharmonic Orchestra

Liverpool Wind Collective

Saturday 24 October 7.30pm

Julian Joseph

Othello 21 (world premiere)

Zemlinsky

Humoreske

Barber

Summer Music

Jim Parker

Mississippi Five

Helen Wilson *flute*

Ruth Davies *oboe*

Ausiàs Garrigós Morant *clarinet*

Gareth Twigg *bassoon*

Stephen Nicholls *horn*

Julian Joseph, who wowed audiences on his last visit to Liverpool, returns as composer to introduce the world premiere of his *Othello 21* for wind ensemble. Barber's *Summer Music* was commissioned in 1956 for the principal wind players of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and in it you can hear influences from Gershwin and Stravinsky. Jim Parker's *Mississippi Five* is an inventive 1920s-style suite, featuring tributes to the likes of King Oliver and Bessie Smith.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Julian Joseph

Musicians from the Royal Liverpool
Philharmonic Orchestra

Liverpool Philharmonic Brass and Percussion Ensemble

Sunday 25 October 2.30pm

Selling Fast

Dukas

Fanfare, 'La Perle'

Gabrieli

Sonata Pian e Forte

Britten

Russian Funeral

Warlock (arr. Mowat)

Capriol Suite

Jim Parker

Suite, A Londoner in New York (Echoes of Harlem, Chrysler Building, Grand Central)

Mussorgsky arr. Mowat

Baba-Yaga and The Great Gate of Kiev

Members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's Brass and Percussion sections join together for this celebration of all things brass and percussion, led by John Iveson, formerly principal trombone with the internationally renowned Phillip Jones Brass Ensemble and Orchestra of the Royal Opera House.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Simon Cowen © Mark McNulty

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday 29 October 4pm
Thursday 29 October 7.30pm

Limited

Sold Out

Beethoven

Piano Concerto No.5 'Emperor'

Bartok

Divertimento

Domingo Hindoyan conductor

Stephen Hough piano

Our Chief Conductor Designate joins us for his first concert of the season, in a programme featuring the mighty 'Emperor Concerto' with Liverpool favourite, Stephen Hough at the keyboard. Bartok's *Divertimento* for Strings was composed just weeks before the onset of World War 2, which eventually forced him to leave fascist Europe for the life of an exile in New York City.

Please note the socially-distanced stage arrangement for this concert will mean the audience will be unable to see the keyboard.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Domingo Hindoyan © Victor Santiago

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Saturday 31 October 7.30pm
Sunday 1 November 11am
Sunday 1 November 2.30pm

Sold Out

Limited

Last Few Tickets

Vaughan Williams

The Lark Ascending

Ravel

Tzigane for Violin and Orchestra

Mozart

Symphony No 40

Domingo Hindoyan conductor

Tasmin Little violin

Violinist Tasmin Little, in her farewell performances in Liverpool, brings fire and passion to Ravel – inspired by a gypsy violinist and his Basque heritage. And Vaughan Williams...well, enchanted by George Meredith's poem about the skylark's song, he gives us a vision of an idyllic English countryside. The concert ends with Mozart's Symphony No 40, one of the composer's most popular works.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Tasmin Little © Benjamin Eshovega

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday 5 November 7.30pm
Sunday 8 November 2.30pm

Arensky

Variations on a Theme by Tchaikovsky

Weber

Clarinet Concerto No.2

Haydn

Symphony No.94 in G major 'Surprise'

Vasily Petrenko *conductor*

Julian Bliss *clarinet*

Arensky was so taken by the melody of Tchaikovsky's song 'Legend' that he spun seven variations from it as a tribute to the composer. In the finale of his second clarinet concerto, Carl Maria von Weber took the inflections of the Polonaise dance to weave virtuosic runs and jumps into the solo clarinet line. But the rest of the concerto sparkles with brilliance too and Julian Bliss will make it sing and dance effortlessly. Joseph Haydn had a wicked sense of humour which he often took the liberty of exploiting to catch audiences out – be prepared!

Tickets

£32, £28, £24

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra On Demand

The concert on 5 November will be released for viewing online on 25 November for 30 days. Tickets £10 – details at liverpoolphil.com/ondemand.



Julian Bliss © Comp-Schiner

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday 12 November 7.30pm
Sunday 15 November 2.30pm

Stravinsky

Suite No.1

Shostakovich

Hamlet (Concert Suite from incidental music)

Schreker

The Birthday of the Infanta Suite

Vasily Petrenko *conductor*

The world of the theatre dominates tonight with Vasily Petrenko bringing music from one of his signature composers (Shostakovich) and introducing us to a younger contemporary of his beloved Mahler (Schreker). Shostakovich's thrilling score runs the gamut of styles and emotions as he mirrors the twists and turns of Shakespeare's famous tragedy. Franz Schreker's sumptuous and brilliant score to a theatrical pantomime based on a novella by Oscar Wilde, marked him out as a potential successor to Mahler and Strauss. A cheeky opener by Stravinsky sets the scene for the dramas.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Vasily Petrenko © Mark McNulty

Isata Kanneh-Mason *piano*

Wednesday 4 November 7.30pm
Tuesday 17 November 7.30pm

Sold Out

Extra Date

YOUNG ARTIST
IN RESIDENCE

Beethoven

Sonata in A major, Op.2, No.2

Chopin

Nocturne No.13 in C Minor Op.48 No.1

Poulenc

*Nocturnes No.5 (Phalènes) and No.7
(Assez allant)*

Barber

Nocturne, Op.33

Gershwin

Three Preludes

Barber

Piano Sonata in E flat minor, Op.26

According to one critic, Isata Kanneh-Mason's recent solo disc *Romance* 'ranks among the most charming and engaging debuts I can recall'. But there's more to this charismatic young pianist than just an intense sensitivity. In this imaginative solo recital she presents a colourful palette of Nocturnes by various composers, tackles landmark works by Beethoven and Gershwin, rounding off the evening with Samuel Barber's towering, ferociously difficult *Piano Sonata*.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Isata Kanneh-Mason © Robin Clewley

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday 19 November 7.30pm
Sunday 22 November 2.30pm

Fauré

Masques et Bergamasques

Britten

Nocturne

Mozart

Eine Kleine Nachtmusik

Stephanie Childress conductor

Peter Hoare tenor

Tenor Peter Hoare returns to Liverpool with Benjamin Britten's serene song cycle based on themes of sleep and the night with texts by British poets (Shelley, Tennyson, and Shakespeare amongst them). Stephanie Childress, in her debut as conductor with the orchestra after having just won second place at La Maestra conducting competition in Paris, continues the nocturnal theme with the evening frolics of Fauré's *commedia dell'arte* characters and the most popular night time serenade ever from Mozart.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Stephanie Childress © Karpo Kiklas

Discover: Beethoven String Quartets

Saturday 21 November 11am

Beethoven

String Quartet Op.18, No.1

Building on the success of *Discover the Classics*, this season we're delighted to present **Discover: Beethoven String Quartets** featuring cellist **Gethyn Jones** and the **Ensemble of St Luke's**, made up of members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

Combining a full performance of this quartet with Jones' affable, informed and often humorous lectures about Beethoven, his world, his life and his music, this concert is a great way to get closer to the music and musicians who perform it.

The quartet featured in this concert, from Beethoven's early period, represents Beethoven at a turning point. We hear Beethoven the student, absorbing and imitating Haydn's wit and capacity for surprise; Beethoven the classicist, handling classical structures with elegance and showcasing his gift for melody; and Beethoven the self-determining artist, seeking to stamp his own voice ever more strongly on his compositions.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Ensemble of St Luke's © Mark McNulty

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra: String Ensembles

Saturday 21 November 7.30pm

Programme to include:

Elgar

Serenade for Strings

Rebecca Tong conductor

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra kicks off its 2020/21 season with a concert showcasing fantastic young string players, conducted by Rebecca Tong, winner of the 2020 La Maestra conducting competition. Elgar's *Serenade for Strings* first public UK performance was close to home, in New Brighton. Our musicians from across the North West bring the work back across the Mersey to perform at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall.

Tickets

£15



© Mark McNulty

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra: Brass and Wind

Sunday 22 November 7.30pm

Programme to include:

Copland

Fanfare for the Common Man

Simon Emery conductor

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra continues a weekend of brilliant music making, handing over to musicians from our brass and wind sections. Alongside other woodwind and brass repertoire, the Youth Orchestra present Copland's ever popular *Fanfare for the Common Man* – a piece which, in the hands of our young musicians, can't fail to lift your spirits.

Tickets

£15



Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday 26 November 7.30pm

Sunday 29 November 2.30pm

BEETHOVEN

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Dvořák

Czech Suite

Beethoven

Symphony No.7

Kahchun Wong conductor

As the 'Beethoven 250' year draws to an end, Kahchun Wong conducts the composer's exhilarating Seventh Symphony. Wagner referred to this symphony as the 'apotheosis of the dance'. There is no doubt what influenced the Bohemian composer Anton Dvořák in his *Czech Suite* – his love of the dance rhythms and folk tunes of his native country pour out from the music.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Equilibrium

Saturday 28 November 7.30pm

Amy Beach

Quartet in one movement, Op.89

Carmel Smickersgill

Ornament for String Quartet (world premiere)

Elizabeth Maconchy

Theme and Variations: duo for violin and cello

Grace-Evangeline Mason

Into the abyss I throw roses: string trio

Imogen Holst

Phantasy Quartet

Kate Richardson violin

Kate Marsden violin

Rachel Jones viola

Hilary Browning cello

Equilibrium, composed of musicians from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, is an ensemble with a mission to introduce works by hitherto neglected female composers and exciting new works by women of today. This programme features works by former Christopher Brooks Composition Prize winners Carmel Smickersgill (also shortlisted for the Ivors' Rising Star Award) and Grace-Evangeline Mason.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Rachel Jones © Mark McNulty

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Thursday 3 December 7.30pm

Sunday 6 December 2.30pm

ARTIST IN
RESIDENCE

Ginastera

Variaciones concertantes

Respighi

Il Tramonto

Bizet (arr. Shchedrin)

Carmen for percussion and strings

Vasily Petrenko conductor

Jennifer Johnston mezzo-soprano

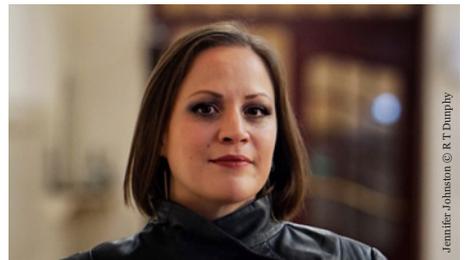
Concluding her time as Artist-in-Residence, Jennifer Johnston brings us the hauntingly beautiful *Il Tramonto* (*The Sunset*) based on words by Shelley. Respighi's music depicts a young love cut off in its prime, an operatic drama in miniature. *Carmen* is one of opera's most vibrant characters and in this version of the music, arranged by Shchedrin, the percussion team of the Orchestra have all the fun. Ginastera gives the rest of the orchestra a virtuosic workout to start.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra On Demand

The concert on 3 December will be released for viewing online from 9 December for 30 days. Tickets £10 – details at liverpoolphil.com/ondemand.



Jennifer Johnston © R.T. Dumphy

Beethoven's Kreutzer Sonata

Saturday 5 December 7.30pm

Martin Harris *actor*
Mihkel Kerem *violin/director*
Concettina Del Vecchio *violin*
Alex Mitchell *viola*
Jonathan Aasgaard *cello*

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra violinist Mihkel Kerem presents an evening of drama and music exploring Tolstoy's novel *The Kreutzer Sonata* (read by actor Martin Harris) and Janáček's First String Quartet as well as works by Beethoven.

Tickets
 £32, £28, £24



Concettina Del Vecchio © Mark McNulty

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Wednesday 9 December 7.30pm
 Thursday 10 December 7.30pm
 Friday 11 December 7.30pm

John Lennon: A Life in Music

Richard Balcombe *conductor*
Adam Hastings *singer and presenter*
Louise Dearman *singer*

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of John Lennon's death on 8 December 1980, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra revives this special concert to tell the story of John Lennon's life through his music.

Join us for an evening of songs, accompanied by the full symphony Orchestra, hear classics such as 'Imagine', 'Julia', 'Norwegian Wood', 'Come Together', 'The Two of Us', 'A Day in the Life', 'Strawberry Fields' and many more, with images to accompany the music. Adam Hastings has sung the role of John Lennon many times and will be joined by conductor Richard Balcombe and British musical theatre actress Louise Dearman.

This will be an unforgettable event and homage to a true musical legend.

Tickets
 £50

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Adam Hastings

Katona Twins guitars

Sunday 13 December 2.30pm
Tuesday 15 December 7.30pm

Vivaldi (arr. Katona Twins)

Trio Sonata

Peter Katona

Alhambra Inspiration (Tarrega for Two)

J.S.Bach (arr. Katona Twins)

Sinfonia from Cantata BWV29

Agustín Barrios Mangoré

Vals

Peter Katona

The Scandal (from the Karamazov Suite)

Handel (arr. Katona)

Chaconne

Agustín Barrios Mangoré

Julia Florida

de Falla (arr. Katona)

El amor brujo (Excerpts)

‘Their performances could hardly be bettered for charm, zest, wit and colouristic flair.’

The Daily Telegraph

An hour of musical magic conjured up by a pair of guitars? If you’ve heard the Katona Twins before you’ll know that the impossible comes as standard in their wonderfully entertaining recitals. Peter and Zoltán Katona were born in Hungary, but they have a special place in their hearts for Liverpool.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24



Katona Twins © C. Peter Goodbody

Connie Lush

Sunday 13 December 8pm

Connie Lush brings her legendary Christmas concert with her full band; Terry Harris on bass, Steve Wright on guitar and Roy Martin on drums.

Connie has been recognised as one of the finest Blues singers in the UK today. The winner of ‘Best Female Vocalist UK’, no less than five times, has earned her a place in the Gallery of Greats, alongside Alexis Corner and Eric Clapton to name just two.

Her incredible stage presence and powerful vocal have also been recognised overseas as she was twice voted ‘European Blues Vocalist of the Year’ by the Blues Trophies Awards, and nominated for ‘Best British Female Blues Vocalist’ and ‘Best British Blues Album’ in the British Blues Awards 2016.

‘A voice like 3am whiskey...enough electricity to power the national grid.’ – *The Times*

Tickets

£28, £22, £20



Connie Lush

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Wednesday 16 December 7.30pm

Friday 18 December 7.30pm

Saturday 19 December 7.30pm

Debussy (arr. Caplet)

Children's Corner Suite

Ravel

Mother Goose (Ma Mère l'Oye) Suite

Prokofiev

Symphony No.1 'Classical'

Domingo Hindoyan conductor

Chief Conductor Designate Domingo Hindoyan conducts a programme of French music celebrating childhood and Prokofiev's fiery 'Classical' symphony, written in 1917, the year of the Russian Revolution. Debussy's daughter Chouchou, was only two years old, when her father dedicated to her his evocative *Children's Corner* (heard here in an orchestral arrangement). Ravel said of his *Mother Goose Suite* "It was my intention to awaken the poetry of childhood in these pieces" which he does through radiant orchestral arrangements. A perfect antidote to cold December nights in the lead up to Christmas!

Tickets

£32, £28, £24

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Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir: Christmas Carols

Thursday 17 December 7.30pm

Monday 21 December 7.30pm

Wednesday 23 December 7.30pm

Ian Tracey conductor

Enjoy listening to Christmas carols and other seasonal favourites as our Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir shines in this a *cappella* concert with around 30 of our choir members.

The programme will include 'Ding Dong Merrily on High', 'The Little Drummer Boy', 'The Holly and the Ivy', 'Carol of the Bells', 'In the Bleak Midwinter', 'Silent Night', 'Deck the Hall' and more...

Please note current government guidelines mean that audiences will be unable to sing along, unfortunately!

Tickets

£32, £28, £24

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The Snowman: Family Concert

Saturday 19 December 11.30am

Saturday 19 December 2.30pm

Sunday 20 December 11.30am

Sunday 20 December 2.30pm

Alasdair Malloy presenter
Ben Palmer conductor
Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

© Snowman Enterprises Limited

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We're walking in the air... it isn't Christmas until a little boy has built a new friend in a snowy garden, the Northern Lights are flickering in the sky, and *The Snowman* has whisked us off into the frosty night. If you didn't think the classic film could get any more enchanting, you're in for a wonderful surprise – because this seasonal screening is accompanied live by the Orchestra, who'll also be sharing a whole stocking full of musical treats, including music from the film *Frozen*.

Liverpool Philharmonic Family Concerts are a great way for children and adults to come together to experience a full symphony orchestra performing music live. Concerts last about one hour. Fidgeting is allowed, and the whole family is welcome, so come along and give it a try!

Tickets

£32, £28, £24 (adult)

£19 (child)



© Snowman Enterprises Ltd www.dheshowman.com

The Nutcracker – Reimagined

Wednesday 30 December 2pm

Wednesday 30 December 7.30pm

Thursday 31 December 2pm



Alexandra Dariescu *piano and producer*
Lucy Drever *narrator*
Jenna Lee *choreographer*
Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Brass and Percussion Ensemble

A Christmas party, an unexpected gift and a kingdom full of sweets... everyone knows the story of *The Nutcracker*. Pianist Alexandra Dariescu and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Brass and Percussion Ensemble each perform different parts of Tchaikovsky's wonderful music. Joined by a narrator and two ballet dancers, all come together to retell this seasonal classic like it's never been told before. A musical treat for all ages.

Tickets

£32, £28, £24 (adult)

£19 (child)



Perfectly Frank on New Year's Eve

Thursday 31 December 8pm

Bringing the swing of Sinatra alive, *Perfectly Frank* by David Knopov, as seen on BBC's *The One and Only*, is a tribute to the legendary Frank Sinatra and is without a doubt one of the most successful Frank Sinatra tributes around.

David has been performing *Perfectly Frank* to a global audience for over 25 years and has even performed to Her Majesty The Queen, senior members of the British, Greek, Spanish and Norwegian royal families and a host of celebrities, including Sir David Frost.

Close your eyes and you will swear it's ol' blue eyes himself!

'David has the timing, phrasing and the swagger of Sinatra...he's the best.' – Bill Nighy on *Perfectly Frank*

Tickets

£40, £28, £24



© Rüdiger Kunth Photography

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra on Demand

If you are unable to join us for live concerts, enjoy concerts in the comfort of your home with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra On Demand. We'll bring the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra to your living room with an innovative new online experience featuring not only concerts, but musicians and conductors, from around the world talking about the works they love.

The 4* *Times* review of our first 'on demand' performance praised '**a performance of dancing colours, crisp beauty and punch... Petrenko's forces played with heart, soul and all the other necessities in a performance strong enough to overwhelm even a home listener alone with a laptop.**'

On the date of broadcast, the concert is preceded by a live preconcert talk on Zoom with *BBC Radio 3* broadcaster and author Stephen Johnson, and a post-concert q and a session with musicians, conductors and composers in a sort of 'post match analysis', where you can ask questions and participate. Tickets are £10 – details at liverpoolphil.com/ondemand

Booking information

Tickets

Tickets are on sale now – call 0151 709 3789 (Monday – Friday 9.30am – 5.30pm) or visit liverpoolphil.com. 8% per ticket administrative fee applies on all tickets.

Please note that current government guidance in Liverpool means that you can only attend concerts with other members of your household or social bubble.

If possible, please present your tickets on your phone rather than requesting printed tickets. Please note the capacity of the Hall is c. 350 and seating will be done on a socially distanced basis.

The box office at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall will be closed apart from 60 minutes prior to each performance.

Refreshments

Please note that our Grand Foyer Bar will be open an hour prior to each concert, offering drinks, ice creams and cakes. You'll be seated at tables where your order will be taken. Alternatively, drinks can now be pre-ordered with your tickets for enjoying inside the auditorium at your seat.

For your safety and comfort

We've implemented enhanced cleaning regimes in the Hall (including regular fogging of the building), one-way systems where possible, and socially distanced seating to ensure the comfort and safety of staff and audiences. Hand-sanitizer stations will be available throughout the building. We'll also open up additional entrances to the hall to avoid congestion. If you require assistance on arrival please enter via the accessible entrance on Hope Street. Toilets will be open from 1 hour before each concert. Our cloakroom will be closed until further notice.

The law requires that you wear a face covering during your visit unless exempt – all our staff will also be wearing face coverings.

Book with confidence

If you are unable to attend a concert due to illness or self-isolation, please let us know at least 24 hours in advance of the concert and we'll exchange your tickets for another performance or credit. If a concert is cancelled, you will be eligible for a full refund or credit towards future ticket purchases.



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