



Royal Liverpool Philharmonic

Review of the Year 2022

ROYAL
LIVERPOOL
PHILHARMONIC

A Message from the Chair



Dear Friends,

I've always held music – and particularly Royal Liverpool Philharmonic – close to my heart, so I'm delighted to have recently joined Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's Board of Directors as Chair. It's an honour to be able to help support this fantastic organisation and I'm proud to introduce this Annual Review, which highlights the breadth of Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's ambitious and diverse work throughout 2022.

Our Review must begin by reflecting on our long and proud association with the late HM Queen Elizabeth II. Royal Liverpool Philharmonic mourned the passing of Her Majesty, who served as our patron from 1958. Her Majesty championed classical music and attended many concerts at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall over the years, including a celebration of Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's 150th anniversary.

2022 saw the organisation once again reaching new heights in terms of programming, performances and our work within the local community.

Domingo Hindoyan finished a successful first season as Chief Conductor and commenced his second season with a magnificent concert which included Mahler's Fourth Symphony, deemed by *The Times* as a "Mahler to remember". Domingo's relationship with the Orchestra, our audiences and the wider city continues to go from strength to strength. Domingo and the Orchestra recorded and released their first

album together, a collection of works by French composers Debussy, Dukas and Roussel. The album has been critically acclaimed, and we look forward to further releases in 2023.

We are committed to inclusivity and to be truly representative of Liverpool City Region in all we do. This commitment is an ongoing journey and in this Review we set out just a few of the actions we have taken this year.

Liverpool Philharmonic's extensive lifelong learning programme is growing all the time and responding to the needs of the communities it serves. In the Autumn, we launched two new In Harmony Youth Hubs for young people aged 11 to 18 living in North Liverpool. Our Music and Health programme launched a new relationship with Improving Me, a partnership of 27 NHS organisations across Cheshire and Merseyside aiming to improve women's health and maternity experiences.

As ever, none of the work we do would be possible without the support and generosity of our audiences, sponsors, donors, and Principal Funders: Liverpool City Council and Arts Council England. Thank you all for your continued support.

I would like to welcome Camilla Mankabady and Bryan Johnson, who joined the Board of Directors in December. I'm proud to lead our diverse and expert Board which guides

Liverpool Philharmonic in fulfilling its mission to enhance and transform lives through music.

Finally, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our previous Chair of the Board of Directors, Professor Nigel Weatherill. We thank Nigel for everything he has done for Royal Liverpool Philharmonic during his tenure and for choosing to continue in post through the challenges of the pandemic.

We are proud of the achievements of the past year, particularly against the background of the last few years. Thank you to all of our hard-working colleagues for making the year so successful.

I look forward to another wonderful year for the organisation, as we continue to develop a fantastic cultural jewel in the crown that brings so much to the wonderful city of Liverpool and beyond.

Louise Shepherd CBE
Chair, Board of Directors

President The Rt Hon the Earl of Derby DL

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Board of Directors

Louise Shepherd CBE *Chair*

Vanessa Bakewell

Angela Bellingham

Michael Eakin

Sameeta Gahir

Stephen Gregory

Claire Jackson

Bryan Johnson

Camilla Mankabady

Baroness Estelle Morris of Yardley

Susanna Poole

Dr Tony Harvey FRSA *Company Secretary*



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II (1926-2022)

In September, we joined together with the nation in mourning Her Majesty The Queen, our Patron since 1958. In 1957, the Liverpool Philharmonic Society and Orchestra acquired the title 'Royal'. The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra became the first orchestra outside of London to be granted the honour of using the word 'Royal' in its title.

A year later, Her Majesty became the Orchestra's Patron – a role she retained until her death.

The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir was given Royal patronage in 1990 to celebrate the Society's 150th anniversary.

Her Majesty visited Liverpool Philharmonic Hall on a number of occasions, including Royal Gala concerts such as Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's 150th anniversary concert in 1991. Her Majesty paid a visit to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall during her visit to Liverpool in 2008.

▲ Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II visiting Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

Our Impact



In 2021/22, **107,817 participants of all ages took part** in Liverpool Philharmonic's learning and community engagement programmes.

The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra **performs over 70 concerts each year** in Liverpool.



In 2021/22, **over 140,000 people attended Liverpool Philharmonic concerts** despite the challenges of the pandemic.

Liverpool Philharmonic **employs over 290 people.**



29% of audience members for the Orchestra's concerts in Liverpool are **under 25.**

Over **4,500 people with disabilities are members of our Access Scheme**, which provides support to help them attend concerts safely and comfortably.



We provide **regular musical training to 2,000 young people** through Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company and In Harmony.



60% of our Artists in Residence over the last 3 years have been **from minority ethnic backgrounds.**

Awards

President's Award, Festival of Learning

In July, Liverpool Philharmonic's Music and Mental Health programme, delivered in partnership with Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust at The Life Rooms, won the President's Award at the national Festival of Learning awards. Organised by the Learning and Work Institute, and supported by the Department for Education, [Festival of Learning](#) is an annual campaign which celebrates the power of learning to transform lives and encourages more adults to take part. The President's Award is handpicked by the Learning and Work Institute's President and recognises an exceptional and innovative learning opportunity that makes a real difference.

We're proud that Liverpool Philharmonic's work was shortlisted for a number of awards this year.

The Orchestra was nominated for the Sky Arts Classical Music Award for its performance of Dani Howard's *Trombone Concerto*, and their recording of Zemlinsky's *Die Seejungfrau* and Schreker's *Der Geburtstag der Infantin* with Vasily Petrenko was shortlisted for the Gramophone Awards.

Liverpool Philharmonic was nominated in the Resilience and Innovation category at the Liverpool City Region Tourism Awards. Our learning programme made the shortlist for the Changing Young Lives category at the Steve Morgan Foundation 20th anniversary awards and was awarded £1,000.



Stephen Evans,
Chief Executive at the Learning and
Work Institute, said: *"The Music and
Mental Health programme is a fantastic
example of the impact learning and working
together collaboratively can have on
mental health."*

*"The programme has shown how creating a
welcoming and friendly space where people
can learn and explore their creativity can help
people to improve their quality of life."*

*"We are delighted that the Music and
Mental Health Programme has been
selected as this year's President's
Award winner."*



Orchestra Highlights



Bruckner's Eighth Symphony

Back in January, Chief Conductor Domingo Hindoyan led the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra as they performed one of his favourite works, Bruckner's *Symphony No.8*. The concert garnered stellar reviews, with a critic from Bachtrack remarking upon Domingo's masterful conducting and the "unwavering freshness and punch" he and the Orchestra brought to the piece.

"This was Bruckner with all the requisite grandeur, but also an uncommon sense of freshness."

bachtrack January 2022



Bluebeard's Castle

Enhanced by evocative images and lighting throughout, our concert performance of Bartók's thrilling opera, *Bluebeard's Castle*, was an incredibly powerful evening. The Orchestra performed alongside soloists Adrienn Miksch and Károly Szemerédy, all led by Chief Conductor Domingo Hindoyan, who lists the concert as one of his favourite ever experiences with our Orchestra.

"Hindoyan's direction of Bartók's thrilling score had a convincing thrust to it, drawing a good deal of sonic terror."

The Guardian April 2022



French Classics

Also in January, Domingo and the Orchestra welcomed esteemed pianist Jean-Efflam Bavouzet to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall to perform Ravel's *Piano Concerto in G* as part of a programme of classic works by French composers. Pieces by Debussy and Roussel which were performed in this concert later featured on Domingo's debut recording, which was also released this year.

"These were focused, intelligent performances and in the Debussy, in particular, Hindoyan moved with economy and command, applying gauzy washes of atmosphere and brilliant dabs of colour."

THE SPECTATOR January 2022



Domingo Hindoyan and Sonya Yoncheva

Chief Conductor Domingo Hindoyan and his wife, renowned soprano Sonya Yoncheva, brought a stunning concert featuring the music of Martucci to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall this year.

"There was a noble serenity about [Yoncheva's] performance, with gorgeously controlled phrasing."

bachtrack May 2022



Vasily returns for first concerts as Conductor Laureate

May saw Vasily Petrenko return to the Hall in his new position – Conductor Laureate – to conduct Mahler's epic Fifth Symphony, a concert postponed for two years by the pandemic. But it was worth the wait. *The Times* gave the Orchestra's "super energised" performance four stars, and likewise Bachtrack, who praised their "electrifying" playing.



And In The End

Following on from their hugely successful 2017/18 tour, The Bootleg Beatles, the UK's premier Beatles tribute group, once again joined forces with the Orchestra for sell-out concerts in Liverpool and a national tour. Conducted by Richard Balcombe and hosted by Mark Lewisohn, the 'And In The End' concert series celebrated the 50th anniversary of two of the most iconic Beatles albums: *Abbey Road* and *Let It Be*. Across the six performances in July, we reached a total of 8,774 audience members, 5,656 of which were outside of Liverpool.



Platinum Jubilee

The Orchestra, Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze and superstar cellist Nicolas Altstaedt marked the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a concert packed with music by British composers Vaughan Williams, Elgar and Frank Bridge. As part of the celebrations, Liverpool Philharmonic also commissioned jeweller and Premier Sponsor, David M Robinson, to create a brooch to be presented to HM Queen Elizabeth II.



Partnership with Medici

Following the popularity of our On Demand series of concerts, which were available to stream online, we are proud to be partnering with Medici.tv, who are featuring three concerts in the 22/23 season on their website. Medici.tv is recognised as the world's leading classical music channel. Each year, they present over 150 exceptional live performances from top international artists and ensembles to passionate music fans worldwide.

"We have music to reflect, we have music to dance, we have music to smile, to cry, and this is a place that is open to everybody." – Domingo Hindoyan speaking to the Liverpool Echo, September 2022



▲ Ensemble 10:10 performing at the Tung Auditorium

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic

Ensemble 10:10

Liverpool Philharmonic's contemporary music group, Ensemble 10:10, performed two very well-received concerts in 2022 at its new home – the Tung Auditorium in the Yoko Ono Lennon Centre. The April concert featured the world premiere of *glider (bonne clarinette)* by Tansy Davies and the Liverpool premiere of *Brute* by Carmel Smickersgill, who won the Rushworth Composition Prize in 2018.

In October, the ensemble performed the UK premiere of Tania León's *Rítmicas*. Both concerts featured world premieres of new works by Rushworth Composition Prize winners: 2019 winner Athanasia Kontou's *Antigone: Pure in her crime*, and 2021 winner Nneka Cummins' *Metal Tapestry*.



▲ Nneka Cummins



▲ Athanasia Kontou



▲ Isata Kanneh-Mason for our Iconic Liverpool Philharmonic series

Chamber Music

Our chamber music concerts in 2022 included performances by pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason and the King's Singers at St George's Hall. Pianist Nobuyuki Tsujii performed a programme of Beethoven, Liszt, Ravel and Kapustin at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall in November.

Our informal Lunchtime and Close Up concerts held in the Music Room have included performances by many Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra ensembles, such as Equilibrium and Liverpool String Quartet.

"Superb to visit St George's Hall Concert Room for some wonderful collaborative music making by Isata Kanneh-Mason and members of the Orchestra." – Audience Member

Family Concerts

Our family concerts, presented by Alasdair Malloy, continue to be popular with the young and young at heart. Nearly 3,000 people experienced the Orchestra bring music to life in the fun and relaxed settings of our Halloween-themed *Spooktacular!*, *Symphonic Safari on Hope Street* and *Summon the Superheroes* concerts.

"I can see the Spooktacular concert becoming an annual tradition for us! So much fun for the children, parents and grandparents alike!" – Audience Member



▲ Children enjoying one of our Under 5s concerts



▲ Presenter Claire Henry

Under-5s Concerts

Designed especially for our youngest audiences, these concerts are the perfect way to introduce under-5s to the sights and sounds of an orchestra. Over 360 adults and children experienced the under-5s concerts in 2022, with presenter Claire Henry conducting musical experiments at the *Mad Professor* concert and creating a masterpiece with musical paint at the *Seeing Sounds* concert.

"Thank you for thinking of the under 5s. It is really important to introduce young children to classical music and include them." – Audience Member



▲ Chief Conductor, Domingo Hindoyan

Radio Broadcasts

In 2022, *BBC Radio 3* broadcast four concerts by the Orchestra conducted by Chief Conductor Domingo Hindoyan. They featured soloists including pianists Jean-Efflam Bavouzet and Stephen Hough. The Orchestra's rousing season opening concert of Mahler and Janáček was broadcast in October and a programme including Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, performed with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir, was broadcast in December.

Organ Restoration

Under the esteemed advice of organist Ian Tracey, the organ at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall was extensively refurbished at the beginning of the year. The instrument was cleaned, repaired and revamped, and the restored organ made its official debut at a concert by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra earlier this year.

The organ restoration was supported by the Rushworth Foundation, a long-standing supporter of Liverpool Philharmonic which promotes the legacy of the Rushworth family music business and its support for music and the arts for over a century.

"Having known the Liverpool Philharmonic organ for most of my professional life, it has been a particular joy for me to have steered its recent restoration." – Ian Tracey



Anniversaries

A number of our musicians and staff celebrated significant anniversaries during the past year.



Jane Grimes,

Choir Member,
celebrated 25 years
in June 2022



Christopher Morley,

Principal Horn,
celebrated 30
years in July 2022



Ian Bracken,

Principal Cello,
celebrated 30
years in July
2022



Ronan McClafferty,

Head of Systems,
celebrated 25 years
in July 2022



Nigel Dufty,

Sub Principal
Double Bass,
celebrated 30 years
in September 2022



Steve Bragger,

Building and
Maintenance
Manager,
celebrated 25 years
in November 2022

Our Musicians

Domingo Hindoyan Chief Conductor

Since being appointed as Chief Conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Domingo Hindoyan has been a dynamic and endearing ambassador for the organisation.

Domingo's first season included triumphant performances of Bruckner's *Symphony No. 8* and Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle*. He has brought us new works including the UK premiere of Edmund Finnis' *Acts of Waves*, and Grace-Evangeline Mason's *The Imagined Forest*, a work co-commissioned by Liverpool Philharmonic and first performed at the 2021 *BBC Proms* at the Royal Albert Hall.

His second season has been equally successful, with highlights including a critically acclaimed Mahler's *Symphony No. 4* in September, and Puccini's beautiful *Messa di Gloria* in November with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir.

From working with young people in the In Harmony Liverpool programme, to working with our Emerging Musicians Fellows, Domingo has shown his commitment to encouraging new talent and inspiring the next generation of musicians.

"The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's new concert season — the second with Domingo Hindoyan as chief conductor — couldn't have got off to a more rousing start... All in all, the Sinfonietta, so vigorous, jagged and bright, took us far away from our mundane lives, echoing one of the remarks in the season booklet's bouquet of enthusiastic blurbs: 'When Hindoyan conducts the orchestra, every concert feels like a holiday.'"

THE  TIMES

September 2022

Andrew Manze Principal Guest Conductor

Andrew Manze led the Orchestra in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Vaughan Williams in 2022. Sopranos and Altos from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir joined the Orchestra and soprano Katie Coventry for a film screening of *Scott of the Antarctic*, playing Vaughan Williams' dramatic film score and the beautiful *The Lark Ascending*. The Orchestra and Andrew celebrated the Platinum Jubilee in May with a concert featuring Frank Bridge's *Dance Rhapsody*, cellist Nicholas Alstaedt performing Elgar's *Cello Concerto*, and ending with Vaughan Williams' *Job: A Masque for Dancing*. A special digital-only release of *Job: A Masque for Dancing* was released later in the year, with an album of Vaughan Williams' work to be released on the Onyx label in 2023.



Vasily Petrenko Conductor Laureate

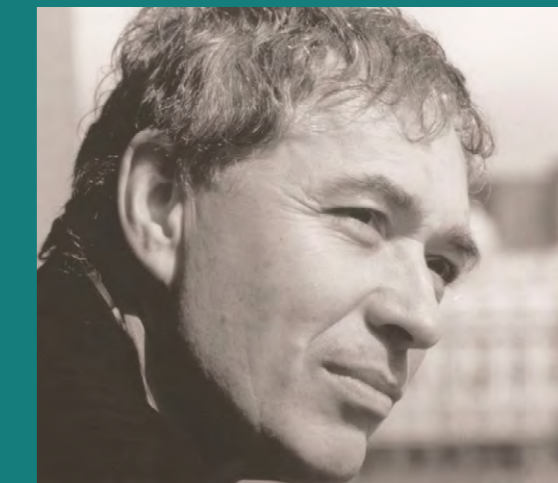
Vasily Petrenko assumed the role of Conductor Laureate in September 2021. He returned to Liverpool in his new position throughout the year, bringing show-stopping concerts along with him. Particular highlights have included performances of Mahler's *Symphony No. 5*, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* (in concerts also featuring Shostakovich's *Violin Concerto No. 1* performed by acclaimed violinist Simone Lamsma) and Tchaikovsky's epic *Manfred Symphony*, which was preceded by cellist Alban Gerhardt performing cello concertos by Haydn and Rubinstein. In 2022, Vasily also released the last in his series of recordings of Beethoven's piano concertos – an album featuring Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 5*, with soloist Boris Giltburg.

"Now he's the orchestra's conductor laureate, and the players seemed pleased to see him; the audience too."

THE  TIMES May 2022

"The agnostic Vaughan Williams certainly conveyed a spirituality in this symphony. What Manze evoked was something deeper, a transcendence, elevating his "old friend" to a plane beyond human comprehension. There were members of the audience so moved they were in tears by the sheer depth of emotion in the performance."

bachtrack October 2022



Libor Pešek KBE (1933-2022)

It was with great sadness that we learned that Libor [Pešek KBE](#) died in Prague in October. Libor was Principal Conductor and Music Director of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra from 1987 until 1997. He continued as our Conductor Laureate until his death. Sandra Parr, Artistic Planning Director (Orchestra and Ensembles), said: *"Without doubt he lifted the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra to international heights whilst principal conductor for ten seasons from 1987. I remember clearly my first tour with the Orchestra in October 1988, when he took the Orchestra to Prague and to quote him, "to show off his new love" to his home city. Taking an orchestra pre-Velvet Revolution was no easy task but his determination won, and it was a great success. From there the happy relationship between Libor and Liverpool grew."*



Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir

After 38 amazing seasons, Ian Tracey will retire as Chorusmaster of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir at the end of the current season in Summer 2023. This will make him the longest-serving Chorusmaster in the history of the Choir. Ian is very much part of the musical history of Liverpool, not only having conducted our Choir in hundreds of performances but also serving as organist for both Liverpool Cathedral and St. George's Hall, and holding the position of Organist to the City of Liverpool. We're extremely grateful to Ian for all he has achieved with the Choir over the years and we wish him well for the future.

The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir delivered spectacular concerts this year, with members taking part in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *St John Passion*, Grace-Evangeline Mason's *Mahler's Letters*, and the soundtrack of *Scott of the Antarctic* by Vaughan Williams. The full choir performed Puccini's beautiful and rarely-heard *Messa di Gloria* in November.

A recruitment drive was held to find new members ahead of the 22/23 season. Following the audition process, we were delighted to welcome 44 new members to the Choir.

▲ Members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir in rehearsal, November 2022

Artists in Residence



Pacho Flores Artist in Residence 2022/23

Following his performances with our Chief Conductor, and fellow Venezuelan, Domingo Hindoyan, trumpeter Pacho Flores has become a firm favourite at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and we were delighted to welcome him as our Artist in Residence for the 2022/23 season. He joined the Orchestra, Choir, Youth Choir and new presenter Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason for the much-loved Spirit of Christmas concert series in December. Pacho will be performing with the Orchestra in 2023, including a programme of mostly South American pieces, and Roberto Sierra's *Salseando for trumpet and orchestra*, which proved a hit with Liverpool Philharmonic audiences at its world premiere in 2020.

Roderick Williams Artist in Residence 2021/22

Award-winning baritone Roderick Williams finished his season as Artist in Residence with several outstanding performances, including Mahler's song cycle *Rückert-Lieder* in March and a unique dramatized performance of Bach's *St John Passion*, conducted by Jeanette Sorrell, in April.

"Williams' stage presence was winning and one felt one was being led by the hand and taken on a meticulously planned musical journey, making this the highlight of the concert."

bachtrack March 2022



Isata Kanneh-Mason Young Artist in Residence

Pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason continued as our Young Artist in Residence. Isata started the year with a concert at St George's Hall accompanied by Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musicians, presenting a programme featuring works by Ravel and Rachmaninov. In November she performed Dohnányi's playful *Variations on a Nursery Tune* with the Orchestra at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and at Nottingham Royal Concert Hall.

New Recordings



Chief Conductor Domingo Hindoyan released his debut recording - and his first with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

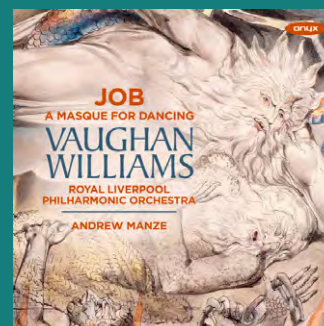
The album, released on *Onyx Classics*, is an exciting celebration of French symphonic works, featuring Debussy's *Jeux* and *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*, Roussel's *Bacchus et Ariane Suite No.2*, and *La Peri: Fanfare et Poème dansé* by Paul Dukas. In December 2022, the album was named 'Debut Recording of the Year' by the Presto Music Awards.

Listen on Spotify



"As an introduction to the new Liverpool partnership, it could hardly be more impressive."

The Guardian October 2022



A digital-only version of Vaughan Williams' *Job: A Masque for Dancing*, conducted by Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze, was released in October.

Listen on Spotify



New Sounds

The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra is one of the most committed orchestras in the UK in commissioning and premiering new music from contemporary composers.

17 February 2022

Vivian Fung *String Sinfonietta* (UK premiere)

Rebecca Tong conductor



21 April 2022

Tansy Davies *glider (bonne clarinette)* (World premiere, co-commissioned with Helen and David Thomas and University of Liverpool)

Athanasia Kontou *Antigone: Pure in her crime* (World premiere, Rushworth Composition Prize winner)

Clark Rundell conductor

Rosie Middleton vocalist

Performed by Ensemble 10:10

30 June 2022

Katherine Balch *Like a broken clock* (UK premiere)

Gemma New conductor



26 October 2022

Tania León *Rítmicas* (UK premiere)

Nneka Cummins *Metal Tapestry* (World premiere, Rushworth Composition Prize Winner)

Geoffrey Paterson conductor

Performed by Ensemble 10:10

March 2022 - Key Stage 2 & 3 concerts

Ian Stephens & Mandy Ross *Songs of Home in Hope Street* (World premiere)

Melvin Tay conductor

3 March 2022

Edmund Finnis *Acts of Waves* (World premiere, co-commission with Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra)

Domingo Hindoyan conductor

8 March 2022

Carmel Smickersgill *Ornament for String Quartet* (World premiere)

Performed by Equilibrium



8 May 2022

Grace-Evangeline Mason *Mahler's Letters* (World premiere)

Ellie Slorach conductor

Members from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Choir



16 July 2022

Grace-Evangeline Mason *In Her Own Valley* (World premiere)

Simon Emery conductor

Performed by Liverpool Philharmonic Youth and Children's Choirs



10 November 2022

Mihkel Kerem *Divertimento* (UK premiere)

Emilia Hoving conductor



▲ Dur-Dur Band in concert at the Music Room, June 2022

Inclusivity and Relevance

Inclusivity and Relevance are fundamental to how we see ourselves as a music organisation. We are profoundly connected with communities and individuals across our city, unlocking their creativity and placing music – whether making or experiencing it – at the centre of their lives. And we are a national and international leader in innovating and reinventing what it means to be a professional music organisation with an orchestra at its heart in the 21st century. We are nothing if we are not relevant.

We have created a detailed Inclusivity and Relevance Plan which is delivering outcomes in a range of areas:



▲ N3rdistan performing at the Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and Music Room

We welcomed a diverse array of artists to the Hall and Music Room this year, bringing a wide variety of genres and events to Liverpool.

We were fortunate to be one of only three venues to welcome the visionary Brazilian singer-songwriter **Gilberto Gil** during his UK tour this summer. Legendary Grammy Award-winning singer **Dionne Warwick** visited us in June on her acclaimed farewell tour. Innovative dance troupe **Diversity** wowed audiences for two nights in April, while **Will Young** brought the house down in October performing his back catalogue of pop hits. In November, the folk act **Bellowhead** thrilled audiences with a characteristically raucous party atmosphere. Other Hall highlights included **Texas, Squeeze, Kim Wilde, The Proclaimers, Suzanne Vega, Don McLean, Ronan Keating, Steve Hackett** and many more.

Comedians including **Stewart Lee, Al Murray** and **Sara Pascoe** graced the stage, and we were delighted to welcome a number of notable guest speakers to the Hall this year, including actor **Richard E Grant**, astronaut **Tim Peake** and writer **Fran Leibowitz**.

The Music Room has hosted a range of innovative artists from around the world. We saw exciting performances from Somalian disco-funk group **Dur-Dur Band**, modern Arabic duo **N3rdistan** and Korean rock band **Dongyang Gozupa**. Veteran broadcaster, songwriter and LGBT rights activist **Tom Robinson** brought his 'Glad To Be Back' tour to a packed-out Music Room in May. Poetry legend **Linton Kwesi Johnson** held an exclusive Black History Month event with Writing on the Wall, a creative arts organisation supporting writing in Liverpool. In April we welcomed neo-jazz singer-songwriter **Ni Maxine**, who joined us again later in the year to collaborate with Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Session Orchestra and **Tomorrow's Warriors** in a performance in the Hall.

Gender Diversity

In 2019, Liverpool Philharmonic signed up to the PRS Foundation's Keychange 50/50 gender balance pledge. We are committed to increasing the number of female and gender minority composers, conductors and artists that we present and support.

We continued to welcome more women and gender diverse artists and conductors to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and the Music Room. In the 2022/23 financial year, 50% of premieres presented by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and ensembles are works composed by women and gender diverse composers.

Artistic Partnerships

Liverpool Philharmonic works with numerous cultural organisations across Liverpool. In partnership with Africa Oyé, the Music Room hosted a Hip Hop Showcase exploring the eclecticism and depth of the genre, in collaboration with local musicians. The Music Room also welcomed the launch of Liverpool Arab Arts Festival in July, featuring N3rdistan.

Earlier in 2022, the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Session Orchestra made its debut at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall alongside four artists from LIMF Academy, showcasing a range of new music written by LIMF Academy artists. LIMF Academy is the Liverpool International Music Festival's talent development initiative aimed at emerging artists, bands, producers and DJs between the ages of 13 and 25 from across Merseyside.

Youth Session Orchestra were also joined in July by Tomorrow's Warriors, an innovative talent development agency, committed to increasing diversity across the arts through jazz.

Milap, Britain's leading Indian arts development trust, held two nights of Carnatic (South Indian) music as part of its iconic *Music for the Mind & Soul* concert series.



▲ Ni Maxine performing with Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Session Orchestra

Leap Into Live Music programme

Leap into Live Music! is Liverpool Philharmonic's flagship audience development programme. Since 2013, it has worked to build meaningful and sustainable relationships with hard to reach audiences across Merseyside.

The programme is designed to give people who have never attended a concert or event at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and who might not normally be able to, the chance to enjoy live music without worrying about the cost.

Since 2013, we have:

- Worked in partnership with over 90 community groups, charities, housing associations and large local employers
- Reached over 2,500 households
- Distributed almost 20,000 free and discounted tickets

This year we have continued to strengthen our links in the community, serve as the first point of contact for members, and provide a personalised welcome and practical assistance at events.

Since January 2022, we have:

- Established 20 new community partnerships
- Distributed 1847 free and discounted tickets across Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Hall and Music Room events
- Reached 328 households who have never attended an event at Liverpool Philharmonic
- Welcomed 122 refugees and asylum seekers to events

"Wow, what amazing concerts I have recently attended at the Philharmonic. I would never have attended previously as I presumed it was for a certain class of people but now I see it is certainly my thing."

"Thank you for the music on Sunday. Bolero was amazing. My husband has never been to a classical concert before, I don't think that it will be his last."



▲ Leap into Live Music Event in the Music Room

Recruitment

In 2022, Liverpool Philharmonic developed a guaranteed interview scheme with [Transform Lives Company](#) (TLC). TLC provides support to people who may have been out of the workplace for a wide variety of reasons to find work, access work experience and gain confidence and skills. The guaranteed interview scheme also applies to applicants via [Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust](#), the Prince's Trust, and [Micah Liverpool](#), a social justice charity set up by Liverpool Cathedral.

As well as attending a number of community job fairs in Liverpool, Liverpool Philharmonic held successful open days at [Liverpool Lighthouse](#) for stewards and bar staff. Over half of stewards employed at Liverpool Philharmonic were employed through an open day, as well as 30% of bar staff.

We hosted the PIPA (Parents & Carers in Performing Arts) research event on 4 October. This research has looked into opportunities for musicians who are also parents/carers for children/older people.

Alongside Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Royal Northern Sinfonia and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, we partnered with Black Lives in Music on its 'Recruiting Classical' programme. This initiative involved holding extra work auditions in Autumn 2022, and welcomed string players from the global majority (musicians from Black, Asian and ethnically traditionally underrepresented groups) to apply for a place on the extra work lists of the participating orchestras.

▲ Member of the Liverpool Philharmonic front of house

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic

Nurturing Talent

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company has had a wonderful year, packed with exciting activity.

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra have worked with some prestigious guest conductors, and this will continue over the 2022/23 season, as they welcome Robin Wallington and Andrew Manze.

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Academy Orchestra has doubled in size in the past year. 60 young musicians, including five In Harmony talent development participants, now attend rehearsals under the artistic direction and leadership of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's own Gethyn Jones and Alexandra Dunn, Deputy Artistic Director of In Harmony Liverpool.

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Session Orchestra has established itself as a permanent ensemble within Youth Company. The group has performed twice on the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall stage in collaborative performances with LIMF Academy in February, and with Tomorrow's Warriors in July. The Orchestra have worked with Head of Popular Music from the Royal Northern College of Music, Andy Stott, and performed in the Tung Auditorium in December.

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Brass Band have also become a permanent ensemble within Youth Company in the last year. They were invited to perform at the Annual Donors' Dinner at the Royal Liver Building in June 2022.

Over 200 young choristers attend our Youth Company choirs on a weekly basis, with Liverpool Philharmonic Melody Makers and Children's Choir at full capacity. Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir continued to grow, and our Cambiata Choir now consists of nearly 20 young male vocalists. The Cambiata Choir gave its solo debut on the Philharmonic Hall stage in July 2022, receiving an extremely enthusiastic response from the audience. All four Youth Company choirs premiered Grace-Evangeline Mason's *In Her Own Valley* in July, a work commissioned for the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choirs, with libretto by Lila Palmer.

We continued to offer inspiring masterclasses and workshops to Youth Company participants. The hugely acclaimed Jess Gillam delivered a saxophone masterclass to three of our talented Youth Company saxophonists and our partnership with Tomorrow's Warriors continued to develop, with the group delivering a workshop on playing in the style of Charles Mingus to 30 Youth Company instrumentalists.

Youth Company continued to focus on the performance health and wellbeing of its young musicians. Dr Sarah Upjohn (BAPAM Physiotherapist) delivered a workshop on injury prevention to some of our young players in November, and she will continue to work with them in the coming months. The string players of the Youth Orchestra also worked with Sophie Till, founder of the Till Project for String Players, who delivered a workshop on playing as a section and avoiding injury.



▲ Members of Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company with Jess Gillam



▲ Members of Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company



▲ Youth Company members during rehearsal

Rushworth Young Composers

The Rushworth Young Composers scheme offers composers and Youth Company members aged 14 to 18 the chance to develop their composing skills. Participants work with mentors to develop their creative and musical voice, writing for an ensemble from the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and hearing their music performed in Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room.

The 2021/22 Rushworth Young Composers were four members of Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Youth Choir and Youth Session Orchestra. In 2022/23 we invited songwriters to take part, making this the Rushworth Young Composers and Songwriters programme. We are delighted to be welcoming seven Youth Company participants to take part this year.

Music Industry Careers

In February, we held our annual Careers Fest, curated in partnership with [LIMF Academy](#). The event offers young people the chance to learn more about careers in music, network with leading industry professionals and meet other like-minded young creatives. This year's Careers Fest featured speakers from LIMF Academy, Meta (Facebook and Instagram), Ivors Academy, PRS For Music, and 3 Beat, and included interactive and informative sessions, with live music at lunchtime followed by a hands-on lighting and tech workshop in the auditorium.

▼ Music Industry Careers Fest



▲ Resonate Music Hub iSing event

Music Hub Partnerships

Liverpool Philharmonic continued to be a Hub Partner of [Resonate Music Education Hub](#), delivering partnership activities including:

- Resonate Youth Philharmonic
- An online schools' concert reaching thousands of school children locally
- Composition workshops and mentoring for A-level Music students

We also partner with [SKY \(Sefton & Knowsley\) Music Education Hub](#), and [St Helens Music Education Hub](#), where musicians have supported Gifted and Talented students, as well as attending meetings and activities for primary and secondary school teachers.



Emerging Musicians Fellowship

The Emerging Musicians Fellowship is a programme that aims to attract and train a diverse range of outstanding early career orchestral musicians, helping to remove barriers and empower new talent and potential from all backgrounds.

Four musicians are selected each year and are immersed in every aspect of professional orchestral life – through rehearsals, performances with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, mentoring from Orchestra musicians, work with our Youth Company, and engagement with In Harmony Liverpool and our NHS partnerships. We are delighted to announce the appointment of our first four musicians – Angus Bain (Violin), Rachael Watson (Flute), Cameron Chin-See (Trumpet) and Matthew Brett (Percussion and Timpani).

"I've thoroughly enjoyed my experience of the Fellowship so far. Having the opportunity to perform with such an incredible orchestra of musicians was a very valuable and special experience for me, and all of the staff and members of the Orchestra made such an effort to make me feel welcome and included. I can't wait to go back again for my next patch!" – Rachael Watson, 2022/23 Fellow

▲ Emerging Musicians Fellowship



▲ 2022 Rushworth Composition Prize Winner Christopher Cook

Rushworth Composition Prize

The 2022 Rushworth Composition Prize, supported by the Rushworth Foundation, was awarded to Christopher Cook. Christopher is a Manchester-based composer currently studying for a postgraduate diploma in composition at the Royal Northern College of Music.

The Prize will give Christopher a unique, year-long experience to develop his talent at Liverpool Philharmonic. He will participate in a programme of masterclasses, workshops and mentoring sessions delivered by conductors, composers, performers and other professionals associated with Liverpool Philharmonic. There will also be additional opportunities to create new works for Liverpool Philharmonic ensembles. Christopher will write a new work to be performed by Ensemble 10:10, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's contemporary music group, in Autumn 2023.

MA Classical Music Industry

As part of our Learning and Teaching partnership with the University of Liverpool, we co-lead the [Classical Music Industry MA](#). The MA includes a significant work experience dimension with Liverpool Philharmonic, as well as lectures led by our Executive and Leadership Teams.

We are grateful to the Rushworth Foundation for sponsoring the Rushworth Scholarships for Classical Music Industry MA.

▼ Members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra



▲ PhD student Céleste Rousseau

Liverpool John Moores University and Help Musicians UK

Céleste Rousseau was granted her PhD in Injury Prevention in Orchestral Musicians, focusing on common and significant injuries experienced by orchestral musicians. The PhD formed part of a partnership launched in 2019 between Liverpool Philharmonic, Help Musicians UK and Liverpool John Moores University Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Science.

Lifelong Learning

Schools' Concerts

Our much-loved schools' concerts made a welcome return to Liverpool Philharmonic Hall in 2022. 17,726 children and teachers from 176 different schools across the region visited us this year across 13 enjoyable and educational concerts.



▲ Liverpool Philharmonic Schools' Concerts 2022

In Harmony Liverpool

In Harmony Liverpool, Liverpool Philharmonic's flagship community programme, uses orchestral music making to improve the life chances of children and their families in North Liverpool, by increasing confidence, wellbeing, skills and resilience. This is enhanced by opportunities to travel, learn, perform and collaborate with professional musicians, international artists and other young people.

In Harmony Liverpool celebrated its 13th birthday in 2022 and to mark the occasion, 260 Year 5 and 6 children from Everton and Anfield took part in a performance at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall in April. This sensational birthday concert finished with Chief Conductor Domingo Hindoyan leading a new, heart-warming song written by pupils from All Saints Catholic Primary School.

Provision for young people aged 11+ expanded in late 2022 through the opening of [two Youth Hubs](#) in Everton at North Liverpool Academy and Anfield at Liverpool Lighthouse. The launch of the two new Youth Hubs was made possible through a generous grant awarded by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation of £300,000 over four years.

Four members of the In Harmony Chamber Stars, our ensemble for advanced level secondary-age children, are now regular members of the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Academy Orchestra. One member continues to perform with the Under 13 National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain, having received a full bursary for the 21/22 season. Two In Harmony students attended their first [National Orchestra for All](#) residential course in Birmingham in April 2022.

One In Harmony participant (a viola player, age 13) attended the [Sistema Europe Youth Orchestra](#) residential course in Madrid, which culminated in a high-profile concert featuring over 140 young musicians from across Europe. 12 In Harmony children were entered for a total of 13 graded music exams between Grade 1-6. All achieved a pass or higher, with two gaining distinctions.



▲ Members of In Harmony at Youth Hub, October 2022

“These sessions have been a godsend – not long ago I couldn’t even listen to music.” - Music and Health programme participant



“I feel above the clouds after that, when before I arrived, I felt like I was under them.” – Music and Health programme participant

▲ Music and Health programme, Life Rooms Sharing Session

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic

Music and Health Programme

Liverpool Philharmonic and [Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust](#) have been working in partnership since 2008, delivering programmes in Mersey Care in-patient settings and the local community, targeted at service users, their families, carers and Trust staff. Our additional NHS partners include [The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust](#), [Improving Me](#), [Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust](#), and we welcome social prescribing referrals from GPs, Link Workers and mental health charities.

At the end of 2021, we launched a music partnership programme with The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust. The year-long collaboration between the two organisations was set up to improve the health and wellbeing of people with cancer, providing interactive music-making sessions and exclusive performances on site and online for patients and staff at the cancer centre’s three hospitals throughout Merseyside.

Later in 2022, we announced a year-long partnership with Improving Me, the women’s health and maternity programme for Cheshire and Merseyside ICB. Through a series of informal music sessions, the partnership aims to build connections between mothers and their babies, improving the health and wellbeing of women and children. Activities include exploring music from different cultures, singing, creating and moving to music and playing simple percussion instruments.

We would like to thank our NHS partners for their continued support and collaboration.



Environmental Sustainability

Liverpool Philharmonic is committed to minimising its impact on the environment. Each year we create an Environmental Action Plan to reach the highest standard of environmental sustainability through our operations. A team comprised of colleagues across the organisation have worked on a variety of activities and initiatives this year, including:

- Continuing to deliver Carbon Literacy training to all staff, with the majority of Administration staff having completed the course.
- Protocols regarding lighting and use of electrical equipment have been implemented, to ensure that we are not using electrical goods or lights when they are not needed.
- Daily heating protocols have been implemented to ensure we are minimising energy use.
- For Liverpool Philharmonic promotions, a ‘green rider’ is suggested for artists, including advice around food (to minimise waste and where possible to provide vegan/vegetarian food), and water (using reusable bottles/jugs to minimise the use of single-use plastic).
- The refurbishment of the Friary included the use of eco-friendly paints and carpet.



▲ Members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, October 2022

In Memory

We are grateful to all those who have made charitable bequests to Liverpool Philharmonic over the years. They help to ensure that we can continue delivering outstanding artistic output and award-winning community work for generations to come.

We are proud to honour these benefactors and also thank those who have given anonymously.

With special thanks to supporters who left us an exceptional gift:

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We are grateful to Arts Council England and Liverpool City Council for their invaluable contribution to our work across the organisation.

Premier Sponsors



Investec Wealth & Investment

Investec Wealth & Investment have been a long-standing supporter of Liverpool Philharmonic and have been a Premier Sponsor since the 2020-21 season.

Investec Wealth & Investment sponsored Musical Landscapes (Thursday 24 February), Inextinguishable (Thursday 3 March), Beethoven's Emperor (Thursday 20 October) and Variations (Thursday 17 November).



David M Robinson

David M Robinson became a Premier Sponsor in 2021 and has been a long-term supporter for many years. In early 2022 we commissioned David M Robinson to create a unique piece of jewellery to be presented to HM Queen Elizabeth II, then-Patron of Liverpool Philharmonic, in celebration of her Platinum Jubilee. Designers at David M Robinson created the brooch from platinum as a nod to The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and its shape drew inspiration from Liverpool Philharmonic Hall's streamline art deco style. The piece featured round, brilliant-cut diamonds arranged in the position of the opening notes of 'God Save The Queen' in sheet music and was finished with a large white pearl as an ode to the Queen's personal style.

David M Robinson sponsored the Spirit of Christmas concerts.

Our Sponsors



In addition to support from our Premier Sponsors, we were grateful for support from Weightmans, The Rushworth Foundation, Maestro! Touring, and, in the 2021/22 season, the Royal College of Pathologists and Liverpool Ocular Oncology Research Group.

Liverpool Philharmonic was delighted to welcome Weightmans as a corporate sponsor for the 2022/23 season. Weightmans, an award-winning national law firm, was established in Liverpool in 1827 and remains headquartered in the city. The firm is particularly interested in Liverpool Philharmonic's Music and Health programme, which is now in its 14th year. Weightmans sponsored Liverpool Philharmonic's first Dementia-Friendly concert of the 2022/23 season, titled 'A Walk in the Country'.

The Rushworth Foundation sponsored the Organ Symphony concert (Saturday 5 February), Puccini's Mass (Thursday 24 November), and supported the restoration of Liverpool Philharmonic's organ. The Rushworth Foundation also supports the Rushworth Composition Prize, Rushworth Young Composers, and the Rushworth Scholarships for MA Classical Music Industry.

Maestro! Touring supports Liverpool Philharmonic lunchtime concerts. The Royal College of Pathologists & Liverpool Ocular Oncology Research Group sponsored the Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto concert (Saturday 28 May). Many thanks to our corporate members: MgMa Architecture Studio, RS Clare & Co and Towergate Insurance Brokers.

On Air



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In Harmony Liverpool



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