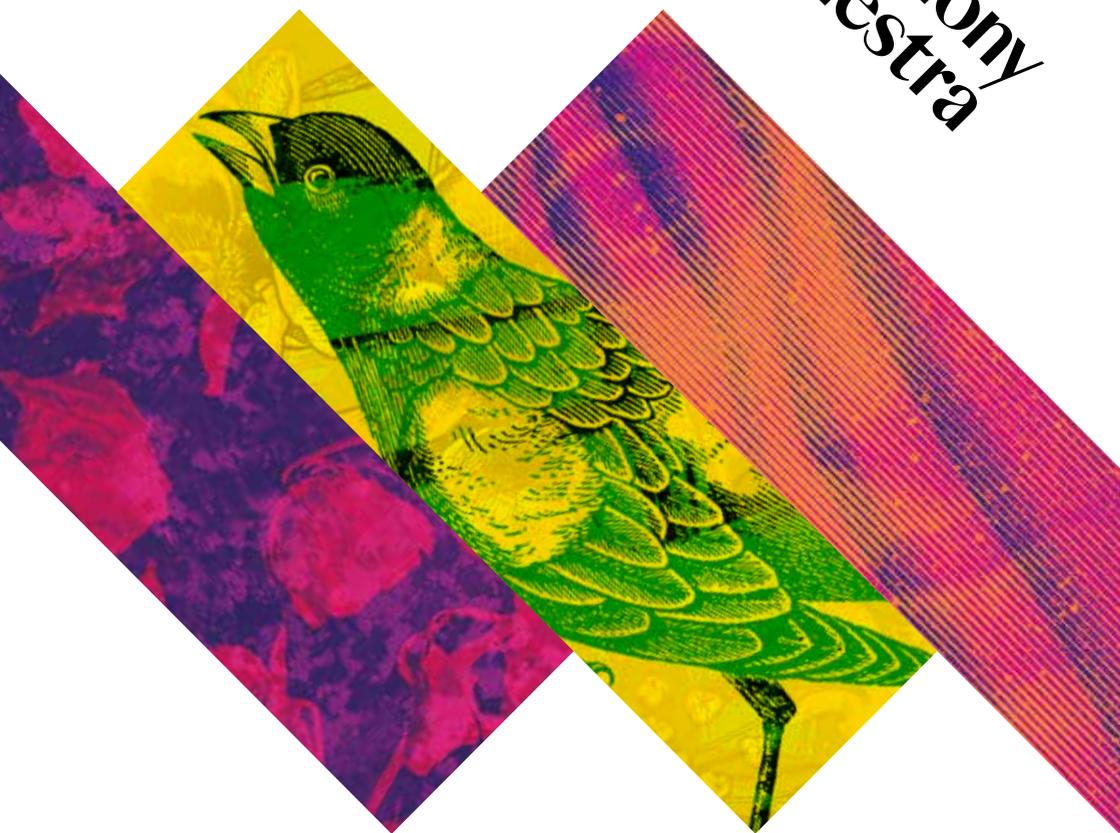


Music Hall, Aberdeen
2022\23 Season

BBC
**Scottish
Symphony
Orchestra**



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Ryan Wigglesworth
Chief Conductor

RADIO **3**

WELCOME



It gives me immense pleasure to share with you our 2022/23 Aberdeen Season, my first as Chief Conductor.

The season opens with Schumann's youthful 'Spring' Symphony, contrasted here with the wistful melancholy of Richard Strauss's late Oboe Concerto played by the wonderful Cristina Gómez Godoy. Our Associate Conductor, Alpesh Chauhan, brings Rimsky-Korsakov's thrilling and hugely popular *Scheherazade* to the Music Hall, played alongside Bloch's *Schelomo* with the outstanding Pablo Ferrández as soloist.

In February our Conductor Emeritus, Sir Donald Runnicles, brings his profound interpretative insights to Mahler's momentous Ninth Symphony. His passion for this music, as well as his deep knowledge and understanding, will surely make it an unmissable occasion.

Finally, when I conducted the orchestra's first post-lockdown appearance before an audience it was to Elgar's Symphony No.1 that we turned. So it feels right that we continue our exploration with the profound grandeur of his Second Symphony. The brilliant young cellist Laura van der Heijden also joins us to close the Season with Walton's Cello Concerto.

I look forward with eager anticipation to sharing these thrilling musical journeys with you all, wherever they may take us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Ryan Wigglesworth'.

Ryan Wigglesworth
Chief Conductor

Friday
30.09.2022
7.30pm

Zemlinsky
Sinfonietta (c.22 mins)

R Strauss
Oboe Concerto (c.23 mins)

Schumann
Symphony No.1 'Spring'
(c.30 mins)

Cristina Gómez Godoy oboe
Matthias Pintscher conductor

Friday
02.12.2022
7.30pm

Tchaikovsky
Hamlet: Fantasy Overture
(c.18 mins)

Bloch
Schelomo: Rhapsodie
hébraïque* (c.19 mins)

Rimsky-Korsakov
Scheherazade (c.44 mins)

Pablo Ferrández cello*
Alpesh Chauhan conductor

ELEGANT . POISED . ENERGISING

SCHUMANN 'SPRING' SYMPHONY

Schumann's elegant and dynamic 'Spring' Symphony races along with a headstrong confidence as it gambols eagerly towards a world of warmth and light. There are touches of wistful melancholy along the way but it will send you out energised and with the broadest of smiles. Our former Artist-in-Association, Matthias Pintscher, returns to conduct and to champion the music of Alexander Zemlinsky. A major musical figure in his day (he taught Schoenberg and Korngold), his *Sinfonietta* is just like a Mahler symphony in miniature, a late-Romantic work from Old Vienna that glitters like a Klimt painting. And in between, light as a soufflé and just as pleasurable, Richard Strauss's Oboe Concerto, which yearns for another era. In the hands of the outstanding Cristina Gómez Godoy, its Mozartian finesse is bound to charm your socks off.

COLOURFUL . DRAMATIC . EPIC

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV SCHEHERAZADE

Heralded by a blaze of brass, a solo violin spins a slow, languorous line to bewitch and beguile... *Scheherazade's* opening is the musical equivalent of whispering 'Once upon a time' and Rimsky-Korsakov uses all his orchestral wizardry in these dramatic scenes from the *1001 Nights*. If that violin represents the seductive voice of Scheherazade, there's a more mournful – if no less passionate – equivalent in Bloch's *Schelomo* where the cello embodies the soul of King Solomon. Pablo Ferrández is the soloist and our Associate Conductor Alpesh Chauhan conducts. The concert opens with another musical portrait: Hamlet, a dramatic and tormented rendering of the Danish prince that makes use of incidental music Tchaikovsky wrote for Shakespeare's play.



Friday
23.12.2022
7.30pm

Jamie MacDougall singer
and presenter

Roderick Dunk conductor

FESTIVE.MAGICAL.UPLIFTING

CHRISTMAS CLASSICS

If you're not in the festive mood by the Friday before Christmas, here's just the concert to add sparkle to your celebrations. Singer and presenter Jamie MacDougall is your host for an evening that's overflowing with good cheer, featuring classic Christmas music, famous songs and hymns - and a few surprises. Roderick Dunk conducts and, as ever, the concert will be broadcast on BBC Radio Scotland as part of its festive output. So be part of the audience for a concert that's guaranteed to fill your stocking and set your Christmas pudding alight!



Friday
10.02.2023
7.30pm

Mahler
Symphony No.9 (c.85 mins)

Donald Runnicles conductor

EMOTIONAL.GRIPPING.UNIVERSAL

MAHLER SYMPHONY NO.9

Each performance of Mahler's Ninth is something of an occasion, and that goes double when our distinguished Conductor Emeritus Sir Donald Runnicles returns to the podium. Gustav Mahler was convinced he'd never get past his Ninth Symphony – and for some listeners, the very first notes seem to echo the word “farewell”. But this is a symphony of life, not death, and through distant fanfares, haunted waltzes and deep dark wells of terror and sorrow, it tells a tale of bittersweet memories, enduring love, and a creative spirit that acknowledges no limits. Unmissable.



Images:

Clockwise from top left: Pablo Ferrández by Igor Studio, Cristina Gómez Godoy by Felix Broede, Matthias Pintscher by Felix Broede, Laura van der Heijden by Stephane Crayton, Sir Donald Runnicles by John Wood, Jamie MacDougall c/o BBC, Alpesh Chauhan by Martin Shields.

Friday
19.05.2023
7.30pm

BOLD.PASSIONATE.MOVING

ELGAR SYMPHONY NO.2

Walton

Cello Concerto (c.44 mins)

Elgar

Symphony No.2 (c.55 mins)

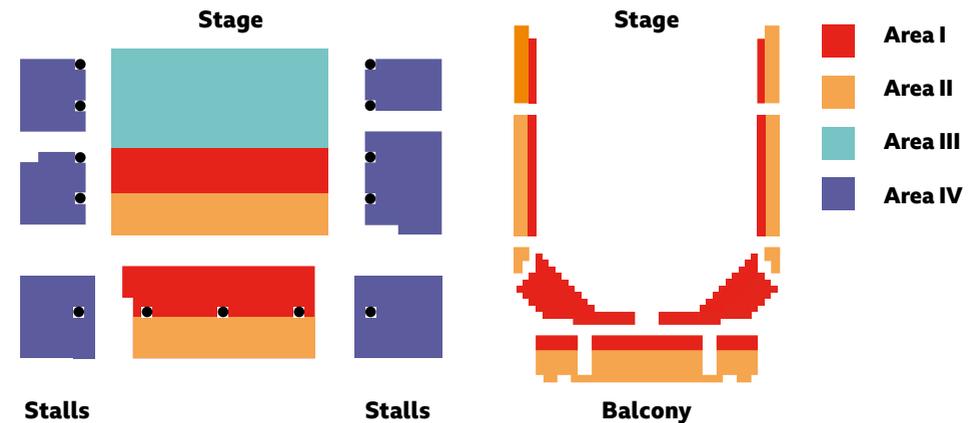
Laura van der Heijden cello
Ryan Wigglesworth conductor

Elgar called his Second Symphony 'the passionate pilgrimage of a soul' and some people think it's his greatest, the composer at his most vulnerable and revealing, as its bouncing swagger gives way to music of haunting beauty and deep emotion. Our Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth closes the season with this huge work which just bursts with feeling and orchestral colour. But before then, let 2012's BBC Young Musician, Laura van der Heijden, delight you with Walton's vigorous and heartfelt Cello Concerto. The youthful energy and virtuosity of her playing surely makes her the perfect soloist for this work, thought by the composer's wife to be a portrait of their marriage.

Image: Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth with the BBC SSO by Gordon Burnistoun.



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Music Hall

Union Street

Aberdeen AB10 1QS

All concerts in this series are promoted in association with Aberdeen Performing Arts.



Box Office opening hours:

Tuesday–Saturday, 9.30am–6pm
(and until 30 minutes after the performance starts on concert nights)

A large print, text-only version of this brochure is available, for a copy please telephone: 0141 552 0909

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-  Full access for wheelchair users.
-  Guide dogs are welcome.
-  An infra-red sound enhancement system is fitted for people with hearing difficulties.

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BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

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The majority of listed concerts will be recorded for future broadcast by BBC Radio 3. After broadcast, concerts will be available for 30 days via BBC Sounds.

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of publishing. The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra reserves the right to amend artists and programmes for any of the listed concerts if necessary.