

2018-2019 Season

CAMBRIDGE PHILHARMONIC



www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

Conductor's Introduction

Welcome to the 2018-19 season of the Cambridge Philharmonic, one of the UK's leading music societies. With a full symphony orchestra and a large chorus, the Cambridge Philharmonic presents a series of concerts in the West Road Concert Hall and Saffron Hall.

The season opens with music very close to my heart; the operas of Thomas Adès have taken me all over the world and I'm delighted that we'll be introducing Cambridge audiences to the orchestral suite from *Powder Her Face*. Music from another great opera composer, Franz Schreker, features later in the season and I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm for both these composers in pre-concert talks.

In December, we perform music from all three of Leonard Bernstein's New York-inspired musicals. A rare concert performance of *Wonderful Town* is prefaced with selections from *On the Town* and *West Side Story* as part of the world's Bernstein 100 celebrations.

This season we present two concerts for families: in January we are joined by the prodigiously talented Matthew Sharp, who is creating a brand new show especially for the Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra, and in May the Philharmonic Chorus takes centre stage for the brilliant re-working of a Roald Dahl classic.

We are sad to be saying farewell to Steve Bingham, who has led the Cambridge Philharmonic with such distinction for nearly 20 years, but we are delighted to welcome Paula Muldoon as our new leader. Both of these consummate musicians will be featured in orchestral showpieces: Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* and Richard Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben*.

As always, we look forward to working with a stellar ensemble of guest soloists, including BBC Young Musician Martin James Bartlett, TV star Rebekah Hinds, principal cello of the RPO Richard Harwood, and Cambridge Phil favourites Milan Siljanov, Rebecca Bottone, Victoria Simmonds and Peter Auty.


We also perform two of the greatest choral masterworks: Haydn's *The Seasons* (in a new translation by Paul McCreech) and the Verdi *Requiem*, for which we are delighted to be joining forces with the Saffron Walden Choral Society in the critically-acclaimed acoustic of Saffron Hall.


We look forward to welcoming you to our concerts and thank you for supporting the Cambridge Philharmonic.

Timothy Redmond, *Principal Conductor*

"The world-renowned Cambridge Philharmonic... one of Cambridge's great city institutions."

Local Secrets

 /CambridgePhil

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Season Summary

Saturday 3 November 2018

Adès *Powder Her Face Suite*
Tchaikovsky *Rococo Variations*
Rimsky-Korsakov *Scheherazade*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 8 December 2018

Bernstein *On Broadway*
Bernstein *Music from On the Town*
Choral Suite from *West Side Story*
Wonderful Town (concert performance)

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 26 January 2019

Family concert with Matthew Sharp
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 16 March 2019

Haydn *The Seasons*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 18 May 2019

Schreker *Prelude to a Drama*
Shostakovich *Piano Concerto No 2*
Strauss *Ein Heldenleben*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Sunday 19 May 2019

Family concert *The Pelicantata*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 6 July 2019

Verdi *Requiem*
Saffron Hall, Saffron Walden



Saturday 3 November 2018 at 7.30pm

Scheherazade

Adès *Powder Her Face Suite*
Tchaikovsky *Rococo Variations*
Rimsky-Korsakov *Scheherazade*

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Cello Richard Harwood
Solo Violin Steve Bingham

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra

Thomas Adès's first opera, *Powder Her Face*, has become one of the greatest success stories in British operatic history. This new suite, premiered by Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic in 2017, and here receiving its second-ever UK performance by the Cambridge Philharmonic, weaves themes from the opera into a glittering, virtuosic, single movement. Its multifarious musical influences, from tango to Mussorgsky and from Stravinsky to Strauss, shine through.

Richard Harwood, principal cello of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, joins the Cambridge Phil for Tchaikovsky's ever-popular *Rococo Variations*.

We finish with *Scheherazade*, Rimsky-Korsakov's exhilarating and evocative musical setting of the Middle Eastern folk tales, *One Thousand and One Nights*, with Steve Bingham, in his last concert as leader of the orchestra, as violin soloist.

Tickets (reserved): £12, £16, £20, £25
(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)
Box Office: 01223 357851 (Cambridge Live)
Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

"One of the finest performances I've heard."

The Independent on Richard Harwood

Pre-Concert Talk
6.45pm, free
Timothy Redmond introduces the music of Thomas Adès.

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 8 December 2018 at 7.30pm

BERNSTEIN ON BROADWAY



Bernstein Music from *On the Town*
Choral Suite from *West Side Story*
Wonderful Town (concert performance)

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Eileen Emily Apps
Ruth Rebekah Hinds

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

2018 has seen the whole world celebrate the extraordinary talents of Leonard Bernstein, one of the most gifted musicians who ever lived. Between 1942 and 1957 he wrote three wildly successful Broadway shows, all of which are infused with the energy and excitement of the city they portray: New York. The orchestra sets the scene with several toe-tapping numbers from *On the Town* before the chorus takes centre stage for twenty minutes of unforgettable music from *West Side Story*.

Wonderful Town tells the all-singing, all-dancing story of Eileen and Ruth, two sisters straight off the bus from Ohio who've come to 1930s New York to seek their fame and fortune as a writer and actress. But will they make it? With a brilliant cast, led by star of stage and screen Rebekah Hinds, this rare concert performance of Bernstein's Tony-award-winning musical is not to be missed.

Tickets (reserved): £15, £20, £25, £30
(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)
Box Office: 01223 357851 (Cambridge Live)
Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

"I was blown away by the sheer energy of the piece, the spontaneity, the incredible swing"
Sir Mark Elder on *Wonderful Town*

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge



Saturday 26 January 2019 at 2.00pm & 4.00pm

The mouse who jumped

For Wolf and Orchestra

Conductor Timothy Redmond

Presenter Matthew Sharp

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra

It's Creature Carnival Day! A once-a-year festival of music and dance when frogs don't eat flies and cats don't eat mice and – as for wolves – well, we'll just have to see!

So, come all creatures, young and old, who aren't scared of wolves (or only a little). Join us for this musical adventure for adults and children, an epic journey to the very top of the Misty Mountain, following in the footsteps of *The mouse who jumped*. It's a tale of courage and kindness that will speak to your heart and have you holding your breath. It's a tale we can all be a part of!

Brought to you by award-winning composer Stephen Deazley, BAFTA-nominated writer Martin Riley and 'extraordinary cellist, virile baritone and compelling actor' Matthew Sharp (Daily Telegraph).

Family concert suitable for age 5+

Tickets (reserved): £12

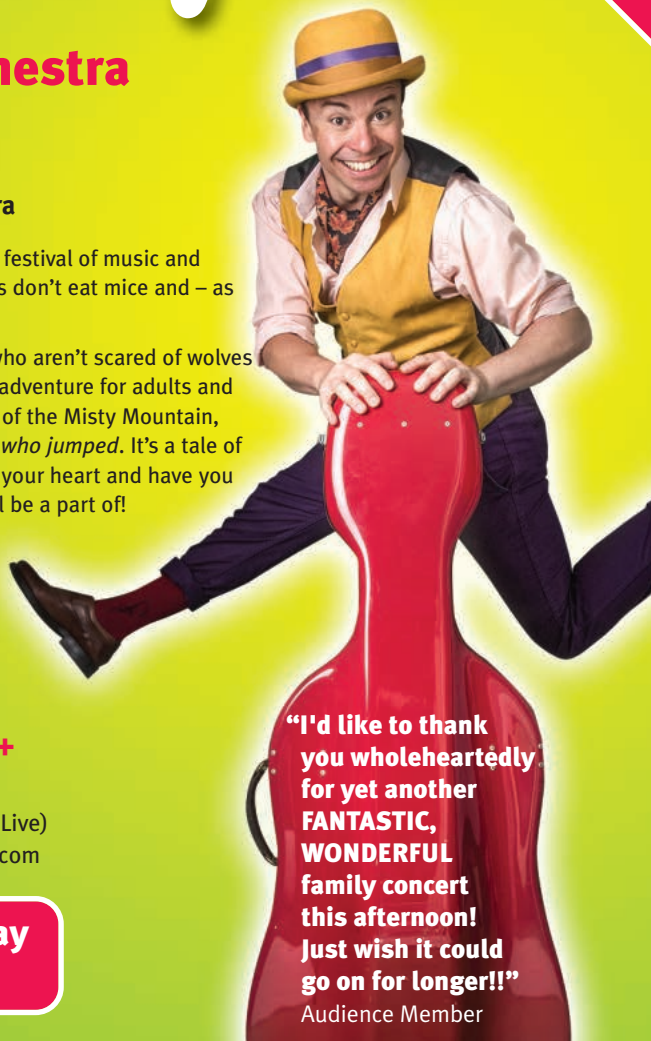
Box Office: 01223 357851 (Cambridge Live)

Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

**See our concert on 19 May
for more family fun!**

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Come dressed as
a Carnival Creature!



**"I'd like to thank
you wholeheartedly
for yet another
FANTASTIC,
WONDERFUL
family concert
this afternoon!
Just wish it could
go on for longer!!"**

Audience Member

Saturday 16 March 2019 at 7.30pm

HAYDN

The Seasons

Conductor Timothy Redmond

Soprano Rebecca Bottone

Tenor James Way

Bass Milan Siljanov

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

The years Haydn spent in London in the 1790s were incredibly profitable, both musically and financially. Entertained by royalty and acclaimed by the public and press alike, Haydn ended up writing some 250 works during his stay and professed it the happiest time of his life.

It was a grand performance in Westminster Abbey marking Handel's centenary that inspired Haydn to write his own oratorios – first *The Creation* (1799), and, almost immediately afterwards, *The Seasons* (1801). With a lifetime of experience to draw on it's perhaps no wonder that Haydn's invention was at its peak in *The Seasons*, with masterful orchestration, ingenious word-setting and even a quote from his own *Surprise* symphony. But the care he lavished on the piece took its toll on his health and it turned out to be his last major work.

A trio of outstanding young singers join the Cambridge Philharmonic for this performance, which features a new English translation by the conductor Paul McCreech.

Tickets (reserved): £12, £16, £20, £25

(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)

Box Office: 01223 357851 (Cambridge Live)

Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

**"Cambridge Philharmonic's
performances ... were
outstanding throughout."**

Cambridge News

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge



Saturday 18 May 2019 at 7.30pm

SCHREKER, SHOSTAKOVICH, STRAUSS

Schreker *Prelude to a Drama*
Shostakovich *Piano Concerto No 2*
Strauss *Ein Heldenleben*

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Piano Martin James Bartlett
Solo violin Paula Muldoon
Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra

Franz Schreker was one of the most successful opera composers of the early twentieth century, until his music was banned as 'degenerate' by the Third Reich. Today his lush, romantic scores are enjoying a deserved revival and the sumptuous *Prelude to a Drama* is a perfect introduction to his unique sound world.

Ein Heldenleben (A Hero's Life) was the last of Richard Strauss's great tone poems, written when he was at the height of his powers. As well as featuring an absolutely vast orchestra it contains one of the greatest violin solos in all the repertoire and so is the perfect piece to introduce Paula Muldoon, newly-appointed leader of the Cambridge Philharmonic.

At the centre of the programme is the work Shostakovich wrote for his son Maxim's 19th birthday. Played by 2014 BBC Young Musician of the Year Martin James Bartlett, it's a sparkling tour-de-force for orchestra and soloist alike, and is undoubtedly one of the composer's sunniest and most life-affirming scores.

Tickets (reserved): £12, £16, £20, £25
(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)
Box Office: 01223 357851 (Cambridge Live)
Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com



**"Martin James
Bartlett's playing
was thrilling."**

The Times

Pre-Concert Talk
6.45pm, free
With Timothy Redmond

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Sunday 19 May 2019 at 5.30pm

THE PELICAN TATA

Music by Peter Ash

Story by Roald Dahl adapted by Donald Sturrock

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Narrator Top secret special guest!
Cambridge Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble
Cambridge Philharmonic Chorus
Children's Chorus

The Duke of Hampshire has a problem: he just can't seem to keep the 677 windows of his mansion clean!

Fortunately, Roald Dahl's trio of enterprising characters have the answer! *The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me* has been brought to life in inimitable musical fashion by Dahl's biographer, Donald Sturrock, and the brilliantly imaginative composer Peter Ash.

Join the Cambridge Phil and a very special guest for an hour of musical fun – and, if you like, come to the concert dressed as your favourite Roald Dahl character!



Tickets (reserved): £15
Box Office: 01223 357851 (Cambridge Live)
Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com



West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge



Saturday 6 July 2019 at 7.30pm

VERDI REQUIEM

Verdi's monumental *Requiem* started out in 1868 as a memorial to another master of Italian opera, Rossini. However, that particular project (which involved thirteen different composers) quickly fell by the wayside, and the *Libera Me* that Verdi had written was set aside. Five years later, in 1873, the great Italian poet and novelist Alessandro Manzoni died. Verdi, who had long admired the writer, was deeply affected and felt moved to compose a requiem in his memory. Starting with a remodelling of the movement originally planned for Rossini, Verdi composed what would turn out to be one of the greatest choral works in all history.

Verdi drew unashamedly on all the power of his theatrical experience to create a piece described by one commentator as "opera in church vestments". From the hushed opening to the dramatic bass drum blows and blazing trumpets of the *Dies Irae*, this promises to be a thrilling Philharmonic debut at Saffron Hall.

Tickets (reserved): £10, £15, £25, £30
(Under 18s £5, £7.50, £12.50, £15; Students £10 on the door)
Box Office: 0845 548 7650 (Saffron Hall)
Online: www.saffronhall.com

Conductor
Timothy Redmond

Soprano
Anush Hovhannisyan

Mezzo Soprano
Victoria Simmonds

Tenor
Peter Auty

Bass
Martin Snell

**Cambridge Philharmonic
Orchestra & Chorus**

**Saffron Walden
Choral Society**

**"The choir and orchestra
gave their very best in a
performance of
outstanding fervour,
intensity and technical
command"**
Cambridge News

Cambridge Philharmonic Supporters Scheme

The Cambridge Philharmonic is a charitable organisation and has to be fully self-supporting. Our main sources of revenue are ticket sales, membership fees and the generosity of Cambridge Philharmonic Supporters, who include businesses, trusts and individuals who share our vision, and whose support we gratefully acknowledge.

The Cambridge Philharmonic Supporters Scheme (CPSS) is open to all and is intended to give music lovers an opportunity to become more closely involved with the Cambridge Philharmonic and its objectives. We cater for various levels of support and in return offer a range of benefits. These include an advance copy of our season brochure allowing preferential booking, acknowledgement on the Cambridge Philharmonic website and in newsletters, invitations to open rehearsals and the opportunity to sponsor a concert.

The funding we receive through the Supporters Scheme is vitally important. It allows us to be more ambitious with our programmes, to engage leading musicians to work alongside our largely non-professional membership, and to continue to attract the enviable roster of world class soloists who perform with the Cambridge Philharmonic every season.

For information on becoming a Cambridge Philharmonic Supporter or for information about concert sponsorship write to:
chairman@cam-phil.org.uk

 /CambridgePhil

 @Cambridge_Phil

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Saffron Hall, Saffron Walden



How to book

Tickets for all concerts (except Saffron Hall) are available:

Online: via www.cambridgelivetrust.co.uk/tickets
or visit www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

By telephone: Cambridge Live 01223 357851
Mon - Sat 10.00am to 6.00pm

In person: at the Cambridge Live Box Office, 2 Wheeler Street, Cambridge CB2 3QB
From 12 noon - 6.00pm.

Saffron Hall concert (Saturday 6th July 2019)

Box Office: (Saffron Hall) 0845 548 7650

Online: www.saffronhall.com

Tickets will also be available on the door for all concerts, unless sold out.

West Road Concert Hall tickets & prices



Further information

To join the Cambridge Philharmonic as a performer please email:

chorus@cam-phil.org.uk or
orchestra@cam-phil.org.uk

For all other enquiries, please email:
secretary@cam-phil.org.uk



www.cambridgephilharmonic.com