

Saturday 14 December 2024  
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
***Nutcracker***



CAMBRIDGE  
PHILHARMONIC

**Saturday 18 January 2025** at 4pm  
**West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge**  
CB3 9DP



CAMBRIDGE  
PHILHARMONIC

Registered Charity no. 1203360

# Ode to Joy

Wolfgang Amadeus

**Mozart**

*Piano Concerto No.23*

*in A major, K488*

Ludwig van

**Beethoven**

*Symphony No. 9*

Ellie Neate *soprano*

Grace Wain *mezzo-soprano*

Nick Sharratt *tenor*

Mark Saberton *baritone*

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra

Cambridge Philharmonic Chorus

Harry Sever *conductor & piano*

Paula Muldoon *leader*

Tickets: from £15 (concessions and free carers' tickets available)

Pre-bookable programme £2

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Phone: 0333 666 3366 (fee applies)

BOOK NOW:



**Cambridge Philharmonic presents**

*The Curious Adventures of Maria and  
the Nutcracker*

By Anna Tolputt and Harry Sever

Based on the story by E.T.A. Hoffman  
and the ballet by  
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra  
Cambridge Philharmonic Chorus**

**Harry Sever** conductor

**Paula Muldoon** leader

**Anna Tolputt** narrator

# ***The Story***

## ***Chapter 1***

Preparations for a party on Christmas Eve.

## ***Chapter 2***

Godfather Drosselmeyer arrives with magical toys for everyone, including a Nutcracker for Maria.

## ***Chapter 3***

Fritz accidentally breaks Nutcracker and Maria bandages him up.

## ***Chapter 4***

Bedtime. Maria's room transforms as if by magic. A historic battle between Nutcracker and the Great Mouse Queen.

## ***Chapter 5***

Maria saves Nutcracker from the evil rodent. Forever in her debt, Nutcracker takes Maria to Confitürembourg: The Land of Sweets. They fly through the Pine Forest accompanied by dancing, singing snowflakes.

## ***Chapter 6***

Nutcracker introduces Maria to all his friends: Señor Chocolate, the Marzipan Shepherdesses, Candy & the Candycanes, and the Sugarplum Fairy. Together, they skate on the Lake of Frozen Lemonade.

## ***Chapter 7***

Nutcracker explains the Curse of the Krakatuk, and who he really is.

## ***Chapter 8***

Dawn. Maria and Nutcracker return home for Christmas Morning.

# ***The Nutcracker***

Music by Pyotr Ilych Tchaikovsky (1840 – 1893)

*On Christmas Eve in Nuremberg,  
A party's underway:  
A giant, glittering, golden feast -  
The whole town's on display!*

So starts Cambridge Philharmonic's Christmas with a brand new version of Tchaikovsky's much-loved *Nutcracker*, for young and old. It's about as different as it could be from the last sense-shattering ballet score – Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* – which the orchestra performed in November!

Actor Anna Tolputt narrates a humorous account of the story, written by herself and our conductor Harry, to accompany the orchestra's excerpts from Tchaikovsky's music, and our chorus singing the *Waltz of the Snowflakes*.

First performed at the Mariinsky theatre in Saint Petersburg in 1892, *The Nutcracker* wasn't initially a huge success. While the music itself was fairly popular, some people found its dances confusing and misguided, and the composer himself thought it inferior to his recent, highly successful *Sleeping Beauty*.

It was eventually performed in London in 1932 and gradually gained popularity, until now, for many people, it is as vital a part of the festive season as the carols from King's College, Cambridge.

Based on a short story, *The Nutcracker and The Mouse Prince* by E.T.A. Hoffman, here is a summary of the tale that has inspired today's performance.

On Christmas Eve in 1820, a family and their friends gather in the parlour to decorate the Christmas tree. There's a party, and presents are given to the children. Drosselmeyer, a magician and the godfather of Maria, one of the children, arrives with new toys which he has made. These include a wooden nutcracker doll which gets broken by Maria's brother Fritz, only to be fixed by Drosselmeyer.

During the night, when everyone is asleep, Maria comes down to check on her Nutcracker doll. As the clock strikes twelve her dream/fantasy begins, with the Nutcracker and his gingerbread army going to battle against the seven-headed Mouse Queen and her mouse army.

Just as the Mouse Queen is about to attack the wounded Nutcracker, Maria throws a slipper at her, at which point the scene dissolves. The Nutcracker becomes a handsome prince (is there any other kind in ballet?) and whisks her off to the land of the sweets, who all dance for them, until finally, the Sugar Plum Fairy ushers Maria and Nutcracker into a reindeer-drawn sleigh and they all say goodbye.

So now, settle back and luxuriate in today's enchanting performance: the beautiful music, Anna and Harry's quicksilver text, and the magic of Christmases past, present and future.

Whether you are six or ninety-six, or anything in between, we hope you have a lovely festive season and that this glittering concert gets your coming holidays off to a sparkling start.

**Jeremy Harmer**



*English National Ballet's 2024 production of Nutcracker. Photography by ASH*

## Anna Tolputt (narrator)



Anna is an actress and theatre director and currently a full-time member of Creation Theatre Rep company.

Outside Creation she has played roles at the National Theatre, Royal & Derngate, Derby Playhouse, Nottingham Playhouse, Production Exchange, Chipping Norton, Minack, Hampstead, Finborough, Polka and Theatre Royal Haymarket as well as touring internationally.

Screen work includes *A Small Light* (Disney+), *Hellraiser: Hellworld* (Miramax), *The Scar Crow*, *Two-headed*

*Creek*, *Run Fat Boy Run*, *Confetti*, *Contagion Cabaret*, *Emmerdale*, *Holby City*, *Moving Wallpaper*, *Waterloo Road*, *Teachers TV* and *From Galicia*.

As a director of new writing she has worked with writers Kit Hesketh-Harvey and Tom Morton-Smith, as well as directing productions for Human Story Theatre, Chipping Norton, Polka, Bristol School of Acting and elsewhere. She was staff director at English Touring Opera.

## Harry Sever (conductor)



BBC Music Magazine ‘Rising Star’ conductor Harry Sever studied at Oxford University and trained at the Guildhall School of Music and the Royal Academy of Music. A finalist in both the LSO’s Donatella Flick and the Athens International Conducting Competitions, recent and upcoming engagements include *Das Rheingold/Die Walküre* (Grange Park Opera), *Cavalleria Rusticana/Aleko/Carmen* and *The Big Opera Adventure* (Opera North), *Die Fledermaus* (Staatstheater Meiningen), *Die Walküre/Siegfried/The Fairy Queen* (Longborough Festival Opera), *Siegfried* (Sønderjyllands Symfoniorkester/Den Ny Opera), *Fantasio*

(Garsington), *La Traviata* (Opera Holland Park), concerts with the orchestra of Welsh National Opera and recordings with the orchestra of Opera North.

He is Music Director of the Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus, and was formerly the Ring Cycle Conducting Fellow at Longborough Festival Opera.

As an assistant conductor and member of music staff, Harry has worked with the LPO, ENO, Scottish Opera, Kammerakademie Potsdam, The Royal Danish Opera, Den Jyske Opera, Garsington, Opera Holland Park, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at the Grange Festival, and Britten Sinfonia at Sadler’s Wells.

His education work has included projects with The Royal Opera House Covent Garden, The Royal Opera Academy in Copenhagen, British Youth Opera, Birmingham Conservatoire and Trinity Laban Conservatoire.



## Paula Muldoon (leader)



Paula Muldoon is a violinist, composer, and software engineer based in Cambridge, UK. The leader of the Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra since 2017 and a Staff Software Engineer at Zopa Bank, she thrives on the intersection of music and programming.

Upcoming projects for the 2024-25 season include premieres of her two violin quartets *Ciaccona* and *Waiting*, her string trio *Fenland Miniatures*, and her string quartet, *Adventures of Clive the Martian*, as well as chamber music and orchestral concerts in Cambridge and Ely.

Paula is a former member of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and subsequently spent several years living in London and performing worldwide with ensembles including the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra, and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, with conductors such as Andris Nelsons, Sir Simon Rattle, Marin Alsop and Esa-Pekka Salonen. Highlights of her musical career include guest leading the Xi'an Symphony Orchestra in China, recordings at Abbey Road Studios, and performances at Carnegie Hall.

You can hear Paula play her own piece, *Get Outside*, on Spotify and iTunes and you can purchase her sheet music at her Etsy shop, MusicByPaula. She is a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama (MMus 2012) and the University of Michigan (B.M. 2010), and the New England Conservatory Preparatory School (Violin Certificate, 2005), studying with Detlef Hahn, Aaron Berofsky and Lynn Chang.

While at the University of Michigan, she won the Undergraduate Award for Classics Translation and was a semi-finalist in the prestigious Hopwood writing competition for her novel *The White Birds*. She is also one of WeAreTechWomen's 100 Women in Tech and was named in the Computer Weekly 'Women in Software Power List' in 2019 and 2020. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, crocheting, yoga, cryptic crosswords, gardening, Star Trek, and playing with her cockapoo.

[www.paulamuldoon.com](http://www.paulamuldoon.com)

# Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra

## **Violin 1**

Paula Muldoon (leader)  
Kate Clow (co leader)  
Robert McFall  
Manon Couvignou  
Roz Chalmers  
Stuart Holder  
Anne McAleer  
Nichola Roe  
Sarah Ridley  
Ariane Stoop

## **Violin 2**

Hilary Crooks  
Sebastian Bechmann  
Naomi Hilton  
Christen Lee  
Tabitha Smith  
John Richards  
Abigail Tan  
Anne Hewitt  
Emma Lawrence

## **Viola**

Ruth Donnelly  
Mari O'Neill  
Anne-Cecile Dingwall  
Emma McCaughan  
David Yadin  
Edna Murphy  
Lucy Prichard

## **Cello**

Daniel Coldridge  
Linda Hindmarsh  
Angela Bennett  
Jess Llewellyn  
Isabel Groves  
Clare Gilmour  
Helen Davies  
Helen Hills

## **Double Bass**

Sarah Sharrock  
Tony Scholl  
Susan Sparrow

## **Flute**

Sarah Blazeby  
Alison Townend  
Samantha Martin

## **Piccolo**

Samantha Martin

## **Oboe**

Charlotte Ewins  
Rachael Dunlop

## **Cor Anglais**

Tom Gillam

## **Clarinet**

Graham Dolby  
Jane Ansell

## **Bass Clarinet**

Sue Pettitt

## **Bassoon**

Neil Greenham  
Jenny Warburton

## **Horn**

Tony Hawkins  
James Riehl  
Gareth Edwards  
Chris Wykes

## **Trumpets**

Alex McLean  
Laureen Hodge

## **Trombone**

Denise Hayles  
Georgia Orwell

## **Bass Trombones**

Gary Davison

## **Tuba**

Edwin McClarty

## **Timpani**

Dave Ellis

## **Percussion**

Lizzie Brightwell  
Eva Laverty

## **Harp**

Elizabeth Green

## **Celeste**

Jill Morton



## Cambridge Philharmonic Chorus

### **Soprano**

Cathy Ashbee  
Rose Drury  
Susan Earnshaw  
Agnes Heydtmann  
Susie Jones  
Penny Mullock  
Susan Randall  
Mary Richards  
Sheila Rushton  
Anne Sales  
Pat Sartori  
Laura Simmons  
Pip Smith  
Svitlana Stefanenko

Wren Stella  
Linda Stollwerck Boulton  
Diana Sutton  
Keren Turton  
Catharine Warren

### **Alto**

Helen Black  
Jane Bower  
Caroline Courtney  
Elisabeth Crowe  
Catherine Dixon  
Denise Emery  
Jane Fleming  
Elaine Fulton

Steph Gray  
Hilary Jackson  
Elaine Kinsella  
Masako Narito  
Alistar Pearman  
Sue Purseglove  
Chris Strachan  
Sarah Upjohn  
Alison Vinnicombe  
Helen Wheatley  
Anne Willitts  
Kate Wootton



Saturday 21st December 2024, 7:30pm  
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

# Bach

## *Christmas*

### *Oratorio* *Parts* *1,2&3*

Collegium  
Laureatum  
Ian Cobb, conductor

soloists:  
Henna Mun  
Angelina Dorlin-  
Barlow  
Francis Melville  
Daniel Barrett



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We rehearse weekly during term time (orchestra on Mondays, chorus on Tuesdays) and perform in the best venues in and around Cambridge. Once you have sung or played with us for a few weeks, you'll be asked to audition. Members pay an annual subscription (discounted rates for those under 35).

As well as pushing ourselves to perform at the highest standard, we enjoy the social side of making music together too – and we'd love to meet you!

Please visit [cambridgephilharmonic.com/join-us](http://cambridgephilharmonic.com/join-us) to find out more.

FIND OUT MORE:



## Thank you

We are very grateful to **The Pye Foundation** and the **Garfield Weston Foundation** for their generous support this season.

We also warmly thank the following Friends and Supporters:

**Christine Halstead, Nick McCave, Sophie Prett, Caroline Shepherd, Helen Wylie, Trinity College, Fellows of Selwyn College, Churchill College, Pembroke College** and other donors who wish to remain anonymous.

For details of ways to support Cambridge Philharmonic see:

[www.cambridgephilharmonic.com/support-us](http://www.cambridgephilharmonic.com/support-us)

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**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

<https://cambridgephilharmonic.com/support-us/>



# Cambridge Philharmonic Forthcoming Concerts

**Saturday 18 January 2025**

**Beethoven *Symphony No 9*  
Mozart *Piano Concerto No 23*  
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge**

**Saturday 1 March 2025**

**Elgar *The Dream of Gerontius*  
Saffron Hall, Saffron Walden**

**Saturday 15 March 2025**

***Family Concerts: Lucy's Race to Space!*  
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge**

**Saturday 24 May 2025**


**Bartók *Concerto for Orchestra*  
Dove *Odyssey*  
Parsa *Concerto for Kamancheh  
and Orchestra* (world premiere)  
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge**

**Saturday 5 July 2025**

**Britten *Peter Grimes*  
Saffron Hall, Saffron Walden**

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