

From the Old World to the New

Saturday 16th October 2010 at 7.30pm
St Saviour's Church, St Albans

<i>Smetana</i>	Vltava (Moldau) from Ma Vlast
<i>Prokofiev</i>	Romeo & Juliet Suite
<i>Debussy</i>	Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune
<i>Dvořák</i>	Symphony No.9 'From the New World'

In his first concert as Principal Conductor, Bjorn Bantock takes the orchestra and audience on a journey across the old world of Europe and into America, culminating with perhaps the most famous work to be written in the new world. We travel from the summer peace of Debussy to the tragedy and passion of Prokofiev, from Smetana's tranquil Bohemian landscape to Dvořák's New York masterpiece.

Tickets* £14 (Nave), £10 (Aisle) unreserved
£1 accompanied children
£5 students

A New Year Celebration in St Albans Abbey

Saturday 1st January 2011 at 7.00pm
St Albans Abbey

<i>Bruch</i>	Violin Concerto No.1 (Ellie Fagg, violin)
<i>Copland</i>	Danzon Cubana
<i>Borodin</i>	Polovtsian Dances from Prince Igor
<i>de Falla</i>	Dances from Three Cornered Hat
<i>Satie</i>	Gymnopédies
<i>Lehar</i>	Gold & Silver Waltz
<i>Strauss</i>	Pizzicato Polka
<i>Tchaikovsky</i>	1812 overture

Ellie Fagg was a foundation scholar at the Royal College of Music from where she graduated in 2005 with First Class Honours. Ellie plays with the LSO and, as a soloist, has performed in venues across the UK and abroad. She grew up and still lives in St Albans.

A feast of favourites to welcome in the New Year, from Bruch's famous Violin Concerto to Tchaikovsky's mighty 1812 Overture complete with church bells and cannon.

Tickets* £20, £16, £12 reserved (Nave)
£10 unreserved
£1 accompanied children
£5 students

Beethoven's Fifth

Saturday 5th March 2011 at 7.30pm
St Saviour's Church, St Albans

<i>Brahms</i>	Academic Festival Overture
<i>Beethoven</i>	Piano Concerto No.5 'Emperor' (Alissa Firsova, piano)
<i>Beethoven</i>	Symphony No.5

Alissa Firsova was born in 1986 in Moscow into a family of composers. In 1991 she and her family moved to England, and at the age of 8 she began studying piano. In 1999 Alissa gained a full scholarship at the Purcell School where she continued studying piano and composition before taking her degree at the Royal Academy of Music. Alissa lives and works in St Albans.

Brahms's famous overture was written to celebrate the University of Breslau's award of an honorary degree to Brahms in 1879 and is a potpourri of German student songs celebrating the less intellectual aspects of college life: wenching, wining, and freshman initiation! Order and dignity are restored in two of Beethoven's most celebrated works – indeed two of the most famous works ever written.

Tickets* £14 (Nave), £10 (Aisle) unreserved
£1 accompanied children
£5 students

The Sea, The Sea in St Albans Abbey

Saturday 30th April 2011 at 7.30pm
St Albans Abbey

Conductors *Stefan Merkelbach & John Gibbons*

<i>Rawsthorne</i>	The Cruel Sea
<i>Brahms</i>	Song of Destiny
<i>Vaughan Williams</i>	Symphony No.1 'A Sea Symphony'

The Orchestra joins St Albans Chamber Choir and twin-town counterpart Wormser Kantorei in A Sea Symphony, one of the greatest works for choir and orchestra. This masterpiece is complemented by Brahms's short and powerful Song of Destiny and Alan Rawsthorne's suite for the 1953 film of Nicholas Montserrat's wartime novel The Cruel Sea.

Tickets* £20, £16, £12 reserved (Nave)
£12, £5 unreserved
£1 accompanied children
£5 students

St Albans Festival Concert in St Albans Abbey

Saturday 25th June 2011 at 7.30pm
St Albans Abbey

<i>Liadov</i>	The Enchanted Lake
<i>Mussorgsky</i>	Pictures at an Exhibition
<i>Rachmaninov</i>	Symphony No.2

In this closing concert of the St Albans Festival, Liadov's peaceful and beautiful tone poem is followed by Mussorgsky's famous and atmospheric depiction of scenes from an exhibition of paintings in St Petersburg, originally written for piano and brilliantly orchestrated by Ravel. Rachmaninov wrote his gloriously romantic second symphony in 1908, thus securing his position as Russia's leading young composer.

Tickets* £20, £16, £12 reserved (Nave)
£10 unreserved
£1 accompanied children, £5 students

Noisy Kids! Children's Concerts

Sunday 22nd May 2011 at 2.30pm & 4.30pm

Please visit www.saso.org.uk for details
or call 01727 857422

Hear a full-scale symphony orchestra close up playing an exciting selection of music from around the world. Meet the musicians! Try out the instruments!

Tickets* CHILDREN ONLY £1
Grown ups £10, Students £5

Concerto Evening and End of Season Friends Night

Wednesday 6th July 2011 at 7.30pm
St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Come and join us for this special event, and hear leading players from SASO play their favourite concertos accompanied by the orchestra.

Free Admission!

***Special Offer!**

Accompanied children under 18 pay **£1**
Students, **£5**

Tickets

All tickets, except 30th April, available from the SASO Ticket Secretary:

Frances Rotchell
53 Abbey Avenue, St Albans, AL3 4BA.
enquiries: 01727 857422
email: tickets@saso.org.uk
online: www.saso.org.uk (booking fee applies)

For 30th April tickets please call 0845 658 8982
email: tickets@stalbachamberchoir.org.uk
online: www.stalbachamberchoir.org.uk (booking fee applies)

Season Tickets

Season tickets are available from the SASO Ticket Secretary with a choice of Abbey seat pricing.

Top price seats in all venues:

£65 6 Concerts, **£58.50** Friends of SASO

Second price seats in Abbey, top price elsewhere:

£55 6 Concerts, **£49.50** Friends of SASO

Become a Friend

Become a Friend of SASO for a minimum donation of £25 single; £30 double, and receive extra benefits:

- 10% discount on all tickets and season tickets
- Priority booking
- Reserved seats in the front rows of the Abbey for the New Year's Concert
- Social events and After Concert Parties
- Invitation to AGM and open rehearsals
- Listed by name in the concert programmes

Further details from Christine Drury: 01727 858963,
email: friends@saso.org.uk

Join the Orchestra

SASO has occasional vacancies for high-standard musicians, especially strings, and opportunities to deputise or play as an 'extra'.

Information from Kieran McGuirk 01727 834326, email: chairman@saso.org.uk

St Albans Symphony Orchestra

was founded in 1932, and comprises high-standard amateur musicians of all ages from throughout Hertfordshire and beyond.

Its members include professionally-trained musicians, teachers and music college students. The Orchestra is developing into one of the UK's leading non-professional ensembles.

For news and up-to-date information, visit us on the web at **www.saso.org.uk**

Bjorn Bantock



is appointed Principal Conductor of St Albans Symphony Orchestra for 2010-11 following the Orchestra's very successful period under the baton of James Ross. Bjorn has an extensive performance schedule conducting numerous ensembles and orchestras in the United Kingdom and the rest of the world including recent engagements in Cape Town, Naples, Denmark and Malta. He also has conducted the Northern Sinfonia, Watford

Philharmonic Orchestra, Hertfordshire Philharmonia, Philharmonisches Kammerorchester Berlin, Orchestra of the Royal Conservatoire of Music in Copenhagen and the Moscow Philharmonic. He is principal conductor for the London Chamber Strings and the Europa Ensemble. After training as a professional 'cellist, Bjorn studied conducting with Colin Metters, Head of Conducting at the Royal Academy of Music. He is looking forward to bringing his experience to St Albans Symphony Orchestra to build further on the Orchestra's established strong reputation.

www.bjornbantock.com



**St Albans
Symphony
Orchestra**

St Albans Symphony Orchestra is a registered charity number 1038283 and is affiliated to Making Music.

The Orchestra gratefully acknowledges financial assistance from The Brook Trust and from St Albans City and District Council. Brochure details are subject to change. Please check concert details in advance.



St Albans Symphony Orchestra



Leader

Jennifer Wigram

Principal Conductor

Bjorn Bantock

Concert Season

2010-11

www.saso.org.uk