

## Mendelssohn Elijah in St Albans Abbey

**Saturday 22nd October 2011 at 7.30pm  
St Albans Abbey**

**Biennial Concert of the St Albans St Cecilia Festival Society**  
Conductor Rufus Frowde

The Hardyng Choir, Radlett Choral Society and St Albans Chamber Choir join St Albans Symphony Orchestra.

*Elijah* displays Mendelssohn's genius as an early Romantic composer, especially in its lyricism and use of orchestral and choral colour. Commissioned by the Birmingham Festival in 1846, it was premiered in the English version.

**Tickets** £25, £20, £15 (reserved Nave)  
£8 unreserved (Aisle)  
£1 18s and under (accompanied)  
from 01582 763113

## Festival of Britain Family Concert

**Monday 2nd Jan 2012 at 7.00pm  
St Albans Abbey**

*Vaughan Williams* The Lark Ascending  
Jennifer Wigram, violin

*Britten* The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra

*Elgar* Pomp & Circumstance March No.1

*Walton* Crown Imperial March

*Binge* Elizabethan Serenade

*Butterworth* The Banks of Green Willow

*Coates* Dambusters March

*Vangelis* Chariots of Fire

**Jennifer Wigram** studied music at Bristol University and postgraduate violin at the Royal College of Music. She leads Amadeus Chamber Orchestra as well as SASO, often taking a solo role. She gives recitals both as soloist and in chamber music groups, teaches violin and viola, and conducts junior orchestras.

The year 2012 brings celebrations of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the London Olympics and the Orchestra's 80th birthday. Here is a celebration in music of all that is Great about Britain.

**Tickets** £20, £16, £12 reserved (Nave)  
£8 unreserved (Aisle)  
£1 18s and under (accompanied)  
£5 students

## Verdi Requiem in St Albans Abbey

**Saturday 10th March 2012 at 7.30pm  
St Albans Abbey**

With Watford Philharmonic Society Conductor Bjorn Bantock  
Verdi's Requiem brings the world of opera into the cathedral in epic style – vast choral forces, massed trumpets, ethereal beauty – creating a work of unique and majestic power.

**Tickets** £20, £16, £12 reserved (Nave)  
£8 unreserved (Aisle)  
£1 18s and under (accompanied)  
£5 students

## Verdi Requiem in Watford Colosseum

**Saturday 17th March 2012 at 7.30pm  
Watford Colosseum**

With Watford Philharmonic Society Conductor Terry Edwards  
Another opportunity to hear this mighty work in the renowned acoustics of the newly refurbished Colosseum.

**Tickets** Tickets £15, £13.50  
£1 18s and under (accompanied)  
From 07546 112 321 or online:  
watfordcolosseum.co.uk

## 80th Anniversary Concert

**Saturday 28th April 2012 at 7.30pm  
St Saviour's Church, St Albans**

*Adams* A Short Ride in a Fast Machine

*Rachmaninov* Piano Concerto No.2  
Alissa Firsova, piano

*Beethoven* Symphony No.6 "Pastoral"

**Alissa Firsova** was born in Moscow into a family of composers. In 1991 she and her family moved to England where she studied piano and composition at the Purcell School before taking her degree at the Royal Academy of Music. Alissa lives and works in St Albans as composer and concert pianist.

St Albans Orchestral Society (as the Orchestra was then known) gave its first concert on 19th April 1932 in the Victoria Hall, St Albans, with two symphonies, three overtures and a piano concerto! Tonight's programme is slightly shorter, presenting outstanding works from across three centuries - encompassing the rhythmic modernism of Adams, the lyrical romanticism of Rachmaninov and the musical perfection of Beethoven.

**Tickets** £14 (Nave), £10 (Aisle) unreserved  
£1 18s and under (accompanied)  
£5 students

## St Albans Festival Concert

**Saturday 23rd June 2012 at 7.30pm  
St Saviour's Church, St Albans**

*Honegger* Pacific 231  
*Shostakovich* Piano Concerto No.2  
Lynn Carter, piano  
*Brahms* Symphony No.4

**Lynn Carter** was born in St Albans and read music at Cambridge University and the Royal Academy of Music. She gives performances in Hertfordshire, across the UK and internationally. Lynn is Staff Accompanist at the Royal Academy of Music Junior Department and Head of Piano at Warwick School.

In this concert given as part of the St Albans Festival, Honegger's evocative sound-picture of a mighty steam locomotive is in sharp contrast to Shostakovich's piano concerto with its intensely beautiful slow movement. Brahms' fourth and final symphony fully displays the composer's mastery of symphonic forces, a worthy successor in the tradition of Mozart and Beethoven.

**Tickets** £14 (Nave), £10 (Aisle) unreserved  
£1 18s and under (accompanied)  
£5 students

## Concerto Evening and End of Season Friends Night

**Wednesday 4th July 2012 at 7.30pm  
St Saviour's Church, St Albans**

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

**Free Admission!**

## Little Monsters! Concerts for Children

**Sunday 20th November 2011  
at 2.00pm and 3.30pm (two concerts)  
St Saviour's Church, St Albans**

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! Dress as your favourite monster!

**Tickets** CHILDREN ONLY £1  
Grown ups £5

## Tickets

All tickets, except 22<sup>nd</sup> October and 17<sup>th</sup> March, 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 22<sup>nd</sup> October tickets please call 01582 763113

For 17<sup>th</sup> March tickets please call 07546 112321  
online: watfordcolosseum.co.uk

## 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

We regret that season tickets cannot be used at the March 17<sup>th</sup> concert.

## 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 McQuirk 01727 834326, email: chairman@saso.org.uk

## St Albans Symphony Orchestra

was founded in 1932, and comprises high-standard 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](http://www.saso.org.uk)

## Bjorn Bantock



was appointed as Principal Conductor of St Albans Symphony Orchestra in 2010 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 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. His musical leadership and ambitious programming are enabling the Orchestra to build further on its established strong reputation.

[www.bjornbantock.com](http://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, the RVW Trust and 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

2011-12

[www.saso.org.uk](http://www.saso.org.uk)