

# ST ALBANS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra was founded in 1932 and comprises high-standard musicians of all ages from throughout Hertfordshire and beyond. Its members include leading amateurs, 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)

## TOM HAMMOND Conductor

Following his selection by Sir Charles Mackerras to be the first Junior Fellow in conducting at Trinity Laban Conservatoire (2006–08), Tom Hammond has developed a rich and musically diverse career that encompasses working with top-flight professionals, youth orchestras, non-professional musicians, leading education projects, producing recordings and founding a major festival.

In the 2018–19 season, Tom will make his debut conducting the *Orchestra of the Swan*, including accompanying world-famous cellist Steven Isserlis. Other prominent soloists with whom Tom has recently performed include pianist Stephen Hough, violinist Ray Chen, clarinettist Emma Johnson, flautist Daniel Pailthorpe and cellist Matthew Sharp. He has given numerous world and British premières including music by Matthew Taylor, Bernard Hughes and James Francis Brown.

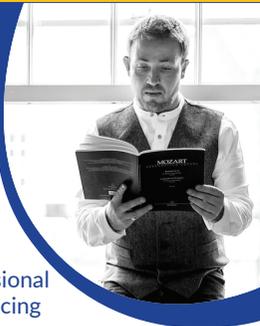
In 2011, Tom was appointed an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music in recognition of his achievements in conducting, was a prize winner at the 2009 Leeds Conductors Competition, and in 2010 was Principal Conductor at the Junior Royal Academy of Music, and Assistant Conductor at British Youth Opera.

Tom is currently Music Director of the *Essex, Hertford and St Albans Symphony Orchestras* and the award-winning *Yorkshire Young Sinfonia*. He also holds positions with the *Palestine Youth Orchestra* and *Ingenium Academy International Summer School*, and is a regular guest conductor with many groups including London orchestras *Sinfonia Tamesa* (for whom he was Music Director for a decade) and the *Ernest Read Symphony Orchestra*.

Tom is founding Artistic Director of *The Hertfordshire Festival of Music* and a recording producer for Chiaro Audio.

"... a serious contender for most promising maestro of his generation" – Musical Opinion, 2017

[www.tom-hammond.org.uk](http://www.tom-hammond.org.uk)



## TICKETS

For ticket enquiries please call:  
**01525 862097** or **07976 800445**  
visit: [www.saso.org.uk](http://www.saso.org.uk) or  
email: [tickets@saso.org.uk](mailto:tickets@saso.org.uk)

Tickets can be bought online from:  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) (booking fee applies)

Tickets for 1st January are available from:  
Cathedral Box Office: **01727 890290**  
or online: [www.stalbanscathedral.org](http://www.stalbanscathedral.org)

## BECOME A FRIEND

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

- 10% discount on Friend's own ticket
- Priority booking for the New Year Concert
- Invitations to social events
- Invitations to AGM and open rehearsals
- Listed by name in the concert programmes

Further details from:  
**Philippa MacKenzie: 01727 760661**  
email: [friends@saso.org.uk](mailto: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 **Jenny Lines: [secretary@saso.org.uk](mailto:secretary@saso.org.uk)**

Follow us:   @sasotweet  
[www.saso.org.uk](http://www.saso.org.uk)

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

Brochure details are subject to change.  
Please check concert details in advance.



# CONCERT SEASON 2018-19



**PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR**

Tom Hammond

**LEADER**

Jennifer Wigram

**PRESIDENT**

Anthony Harris

# CONCERT SEASON 2018-19

Conductor: Tom Hammond



## 7.30PM, SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2018

St Saviour's Church, St Albans

<b>Arnold Shostakovich</b>	<i>Peterloo Overture</i> Cello Concerto No.1 <b>Matthew Sharp, cello</b>
<b>Shostakovich</b>	Symphony No.5

Shostakovich's Cello Concerto is widely considered to be his finest concerto because of the way it combines powerful musical ideas with extraordinary virtuoso writing for the soloist. We are delighted to be joined by Matthew Sharp, internationally recognised as a compelling classical artist.

The premiere of Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5, written at the height of the Stalinist purges in 1937, was a huge success and received an ovation that lasted well over half an hour. The work's popularity grew rapidly and today it remains his best-known symphony.

<b>TICKET PRICES:</b>	
£16 (nave)	£1 accompanied child
£11 (aisle) unreserved	£5 students

## Children's Concerts

St Saviour's Church, St Albans

SUNDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2018

at 2.00pm and 3.30pm

Hear a full-scale symphony orchestra close up playing an exciting selection of music! Try out the instruments!

*Pirates Aarrh-hoy!* A salty selection of family-friendly classics animated by Annette Holland and David Bevan from Best Theatre Arts

<b>TICKET PRICES:</b>	
CHILDREN only £1	
Grown ups £8	
Under 2s FREE	



## 7PM, TUESDAY 1ST JANUARY 2019

St Albans Cathedral

<b>PART 1: 'STRICTLY DANCING'</b>	
<b>Strauss</b>	<i>The Gypsy Baron Overture</i>
<b>Prokofiev</b>	Excerpts from <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
<b>Massenet</b>	Ballet Music from <i>Le Cid</i>
<b>Marquez</b>	<i>Conga del Fuego</i>

<b>PART 2: 'MOSTLY MOVIES'</b>	
<b>Arnold Williams</b>	<i>The Bridge on the River Kwai</i> <i>Raiders of the Lost Ark</i>
<b>Herrmann</b>	<i>North by Northwest</i>
<b>Morricone</b>	<i>The Good, the Bad and the Ugly</i>
<b>Morricone</b>	<i>Gabriel's Oboe</i>
<b>Strauss II</b>	<i>The Blue Danube Waltz</i> , from 2001: <i>A Space Odyssey</i>

Welcome the New Year with a concert of favourite dance and film music in the glorious surroundings of St Albans Cathedral.

<b>TICKET PRICES:</b>	
£28, £22, £16 reserved	£1 accompanied child
£8 unreserved (restricted view)	£5 students
Cathedral Box Office: 01727 890290	
or online: <a href="http://www.stalbanscathedral.org">www.stalbanscathedral.org</a>	

## 7.30PM, SATURDAY 9TH MARCH 2019

St Saviour's Church, St Albans

<b>Taylor</b>	<i>Storr</i>
<b>Brahms</b>	Violin Concerto <b>Clare Howick, violin</b>
<b>Schubert</b>	Symphony D.944, C major, <i>The Great</i>

Matthew Taylor composed *Storr* in 2011, and is a symphonic poem inspired by The Old Man of Storr, a rock formation on the Isle of Skye.

Brahms's Violin Concerto is a formidable, technically challenging masterpiece that brings together tender lyricism, grand romanticism and soulful Hungarian melodies. Clare Howick is gaining increasing prominence among violinists based in the UK thanks to highly praised performances that include recent recordings of concertos by British composers.

Schubert's Symphony No.9 is subtitled *The Great* as a reference to its majesty. The composer never got to hear the work performed as it was premiered after his death.

<b>TICKET PRICES:</b>	
£16 (nave)	£1 accompanied child
£11 (aisle) unreserved	£5 students

## 7.30PM, SATURDAY 11TH MAY 2019

St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Guest conductor: William Carslake

<b>Vaughan Williams</b>	<i>The Wasps Overture</i>
<b>Vaughan Williams</b>	<i>Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis</i>
<b>Elgar</b>	Symphony No.1

*The Wasps* was Vaughan Williams's foray into incidental music, written for a performance of a satirical production at Cambridge University. *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis* is a work for string orchestra based on an original composition by Tallis written in 1567.

Elgar had been planning to write a symphony for 10 years and, when premiered, his Symphony No.1 was acclaimed as 'an immediate and phenomenal success' and 'perhaps the finest masterpiece of its type that ever came from the pen of an English composer'.

<b>TICKET PRICES:</b>	
£16 (nave)	£1 accompanied child
£11 (aisle) unreserved	£5 students

## 7.30PM, SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2019

St Saviour's Church, St Albans

<b>Verdi</b>	<i>La Forza del Destino Overture</i>
<b>Grieg</b>	Piano Concerto <b>Veronika Shoot, piano</b>
<b>Nielsen</b>	Symphony No.4, <i>The Inextinguishable</i>

Grieg was the first composer from Norway to achieve major international recognition, and it was his Piano Concerto that brought him his first great success. Devon-based pianist Veronika Shoot is a former pupil of the Yehudi Menuhin School and Hertfordshire's Purcell School who has gone on to win international acclaim.

Nielsen composed his Symphony No.4 in 1916 against the backdrop of the First World War. It is subtitled *The Inextinguishable* because he wanted it to be a manifesto for what he thought of as the fundamental life force of music.

<b>TICKET PRICES:</b>	
£16 (nave)	£1 accompanied child
£11 (aisle) unreserved	£5 students

