

Concert Season

2008-2009



Saturday 18th October 2008 at 7.30pm St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Sibelius	Finlandia
Crawley	Aspects of Eden (first complete performance)
Shostakovich	Symphony No.5

Finlandia and Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony are works of protest - against Tsarist oppression in Finland, and against Stalin's Great Terror respectively, yet these messages were hidden - Shostakovich called his work 'a Soviet artist's reply to just criticism'.

In contrast, Aspects of Eden - composed by SASO's principal horn Chris Crawley and inspired by Cornwall's Eden Project - receives its first complete performance.

Tickets*

£12 unreserved (Nave) £8 unreserved (Aisle) £1 accompanied children £5 students

American	New [\]	ear	Concert	
ín St Al	bans Ab	bey		

Thursday 1st January 2009 at 7.00pm St Albans Abbey

Copland	Fanfare for the Common Man
Adams	The Chairman Dances: Foxtrot for Orchestra
Gershwin	Rhapsody in Blue
Bernstein	Symphonic Dances: West Side Story
J. Strauss	Farewell to America Waltz

Tickets* £18, £15 reserved (Nave) £10 unreserved (South Pews) £5 unreserved (Aisles/North Pews) £1 accompanied children, £5 students



Saturday 14th March 2009 at 7.30pm St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Nielsen	Overture: Helios
Sibelius	Violin Concerto
Elgar	Symphony No.1

The concert opens with Nielsen's spectacular Helios Overture, complementing the dark mood and astonishing virtuosity of Sibelius' Violin Concerto. Elgar's First Symphony was acclaimed by its first conductor, Hans Richter, as 'the greatest symphony of modern times' and was played over 100 times within a year of its first performance in 1908.

Tickets*	£12 (Nave), £8 (Aisle) unreserved
	£1 accompanied children, £5 students

Haydn Symphony Concert

Saturday 25th April 2009 at 7.30pm Methodist Church, High Street, Harpenden

Stravinsky	Concerto in E-flat: Dumbarton Oaks
Mozart	Sinfonia Concertante for Winds
Haydn	Symphony No.101 "Clock"

Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante for Winds features four SASO soloists; Haydn's Clock Symphony is one of his final works, written in 1794 for his second tour to London. Its nickname comes from the slow movement's persistent 'tick-tock' accompaniment, passed ingeniously around the orchestra.

Tickets* £10 unreserved £1 accompanied children £5 students



Brahms Symphony Concert

Saturday 27th June 2009 at 7.30pm St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Hindemith	Symphonic Metamorphosis of Themes by Weber
Mozart	Clarinet Concerto
Brahms	Symphony No.2

Clarinet soloist **Koren Wilmer** *trained at the The Guildhall School of Music and Drama and holds a post-graduate diploma in Music Therapy. Koren is principal clarinetist with the Orchestra.*

Symphonic Metamorphosis is both a tribute to the past, especially the music of Weber, and a dazzling twentieth-century orchestral showpiece, especially for the brass. Mozart's Clarinet Concerto remains one of the most popular pieces of music ever written. Brahms' Second is his most idyllic and exuberant Symphony.

Tickets^{*}

£12 (Nave), £8 (Aisle) unreserved £1 accompanied children, £5 students

Heroes & Villains Noisy Kids! Children's Concert

Sunday 12th July 2009 at 3.30pm St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Music to include:

Roald Dahl and Paul Patterson Little Red Riding Hood

Hear a full-scale symphony orchestra close up playing an exciting selection of music with the theme of Heroes & Villains! Try out the instruments in the interval! Come dressed as your favourite Hero or Villain!

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



Wednesday 15th July 2009 at 7.30pm Homewood Road URC 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!

Tickets

Concerts are priced individually. All tickets available from the SASO Ticket Secretary:

Frances Rotchell 53 Abbey Avenue, St Albans, AL3 4BA. 01727 857422 email: tickets@saso.org.uk



Season tickets are available from the SASO Ticket Secretary.

£50	5 Concerts
£45	5 Concerts, Friends

We regret that season tickets cannot be used at the July 12th concert.



Become a friend of SASO for a minimum donation of £20 single; £25 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



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: membership@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 and is associated with the City of London Sinfonia, which provides regular specialist coaching, funded by the Arts Council, Eastern Orchestral Board and St Albans City and District Council.

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

James Ross started his musical training as a



violinist. He was a scholar at Harrow School and at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated in Modern History, before taking a master's in Music and a doctorate in French opera which was awarded the Sir Donald Tovey Prize. He was a finalist in the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra's 1998 Conducting Competition and since then, he has conducted over 700 works in 15 countries across Europe.

North America and Asia. This is his seventh season as conductor of the St Albans Symphony Orchestra. www.james-ross.com

St. Albans Symphony Orchestra is a registered charity, number 1038283



Tax-Free Donations and St Albans Sponsorship: The orchestra is Symphony pleased to discuss a wide variety of sponsorship opportunities from Orchestra programme advertising to acting as principal sponsor of a whole

event or project. SASO is eligible for Gift Aid.

Enquiries are also welcome about accompanying choral societies and performing at private functions.

For more details, contact: David Stott, 01992 461490, treasurer@saso.org.uk





St Albans Symphony Orchestra

Leader

Jennifer Wigram

Conductor

James Ross



