

## Wagner and Sibelius

**Saturday 10th November 2012 at 7.30pm**  
**St Saviour's Church, St Albans**

*Wagner* The Valkyrie excerpts including  
Ride of the Valkyries  
Love Duet  
*Jonathan Finney, tenor*  
*Kim Myers, soprano*

*Sibelius* Symphony No.2

The Valkyrie, Richard Wagner's second opera in the Ring cycle, includes the spectacular and triumphant Ride of the Valkyries and the heartfelt love scene between Siegmund and Sieglinde, sung tonight in concert performance. Sibelius's second symphony is arguably his most popular, with tuneful early movements leading to the memorable and glorious finale.

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

## A Romantic New Year Concert

**Tuesday 1st January 2013 at 7.00pm**  
**St Albans Abbey**

*Tchaikovsky* Romeo & Juliet fantasy overture  
*Gershwin* An American in Paris  
*Borodin* In the Steppes of Central Asia  
*Delius* Walk to the Paradise Garden  
*Verdi* La Traviata prelude to Act 3  
*Shostakovich* Jazz Suite No.2  
*Mascagni* Cavalleria Rusticana intermezzo  
*Lehar* Merry Widow waltz  
*J Strauss* Die Fledermaus overture

Welcome the New Year with a concert for all the family in the glorious surroundings of St Albans Abbey and hear some of the most beautiful music ever written.

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

## Orchestral Colours

**Saturday 9th March 2013 at 7.30pm**  
**St Saviour's Church, St Albans**

*Shostakovich* Festive Overture  
*Sibelius* Swan of Tuonela  
*Beethoven* Violin Concerto  
*Magnus Johnston, violin*

*Debussy* La Mer

**Magnus Johnston** was born and brought up in Harpenden. He is a founding member of the Johnston Quartet and is the founder and leader of the Aronowitz Ensemble, with brother Guy on 'cello.

The wide range of musical colours available in the modern symphony orchestra is displayed in this concert of diverse music from across Europe. Beethoven's mastery of the classical music tradition is contrasted by Sibelius's tragic music from Finland; festive Russian music by Shostakovich; and Debussy's famous depiction of The Sea, written in Eastbourne.

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

## Beethoven's Seventh

**Saturday 27th April 2013 at 7.30pm**  
**St Saviour's Church, St Albans**

*Torke* Adjustable Wrench  
*Kodaly* Hary Janos suite  
*Schumann* Piano Concerto  
*Hanja Bantock, piano*

*Beethoven* Symphony No.7

**Hanja Bantock** was awarded a Masters Degree in Piano Accompaniment at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Based in St Albans, she has performed in a wide range of music festivals and competitions across Europe. Written during Beethoven's so called middle period, when he suffered personal crisis brought on by his recognition of encroaching deafness, the wonderfully rhythmic seventh symphony expresses heroism and artistic struggle. Robert Schumann's career as a virtuoso pianist was halted by a hand injury, following which he focussed his musical energies on composition. His piano concerto is one of the most popular in the repertoire.

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

## St Albans Festival Concert

**Saturday 8th June 2013 at 7.30pm**  
**St Albans Abbey**

*Ravel* Pavane pour une infante défunte  
*Khachaturian* Spartacus Suite No.2  
*Arutiunian* Concerto for Trumpet  
*Giovanni Re, trumpet*

*Holst* The Planets

**Giovanni Re** studied music at Palermo Conservatory before being appointed principal trumpet with Academy Orchestra of La Scala, Milan. He moved to Britain in 2008 and now plays a wide range of music, including Latina, jazz, blues, opera and symphonic.

Gustav Holst's well-known work The Planets remains an eternal favourite. Khachaturian's ballet suite Spartacus achieved wide spread fame as a television theme. Less well-known but equally rewarding is the trumpet concerto by fellow-Armenian Arutiunian, who based his work on Armenian folk music.

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

## Concerto Evening and End of Season Friends Night

**Wednesday 3rd July 2013 at 7.30pm**  
**Homewood Road 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!**

## Little Monsters!

**Sunday 21st October 2012**  
**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! Try out the instruments! Come dressed as your favourite monster or superhero!

Tickets: CHILDREN ONLY £1 Grown ups £5

## Tickets

All tickets are available from 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)



## Season Tickets

Top price seats in all venues:  
£60 6 Concerts, £54 Friends of SASO  
Second price seats in Abbey, top price elsewhere:  
£55 6 Concerts, £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 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

Bjorn Bantock was appointed Principal Conductor of St Albans Symphony Orchestra in September 2010. He has an extensive performance schedule conducting numerous ensembles and orchestras internationally. He has performed in Chile, Argentina, Brazil, China, South Africa,

Denmark, Germany, Italy, Russia, Malta and the UK. He 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 also principal conductor for the London Chamber Strings, the Europa Ensemble and the Film Score Spectacular Orchestra.

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.

Bjorn has recently accepted the role of musical executive for the Sir Granville Bantock Society and has recorded and produced CDs for the Kingsway and EM Record labels.

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

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.

# St Albans Symphony Orchestra



*Leader*  
Jennifer Wigram  
*Principal Conductor*  
Bjorn Bantock

# Concert Season 2012-13

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