



Wagner's Mastersingers in Saffron Walden

Sunday 14th September 2014 at 2.00pm
Saffron Hall, Saffron Walden

Wagner's rip-roaring comedy romance in a complete concert performance with the Saffron Opera Group and a cast of soloists from opera houses at home and abroad.

Wagner The Mastersingers of Nuremberg
Michael Thorne, conductor

Box Office: 0845 548 7650 www.saffronhall.com



Sibelius's First

Saturday 22nd November 2014 at 7.30pm
St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Wagner The Mastersingers of Nuremberg Overture
Delius The Walk to the Paradise Garden
Korngold Violin Concerto *Adelia Myslov, violin*
Sibelius Symphony No.1

Adelia Myslov's performance is kindly supported by Making Music's Philip & Dorothy Green Award for Young Concert Artists scheme.

Korngold is considered one of the founders of film music. Sibelius was a scrupulous craftsman. In his first Symphony he spanned both Romantic and Modern musical styles.

Tickets £14 (nave), £10 (aisle) unreserved
£1 accompanied child
£5 students



New Year Family Concert in St Albans Abbey

Thursday 1st January 2015 at 7.00pm
St Albans Abbey

Welcome the New Year with a concert for all the family in the glorious surroundings of St Albans Abbey, where we will be performing a variety of works including Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite* and Rachmaninov's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* with Alissa Firsova at the piano.

Tickets £25, £20, £15 reserved
£8 unreserved (restricted view)
£1 accompanied child
£5 students



Beethoven's Ninth in St Albans Abbey

Saturday 7th March 2015 at 7.30pm
St Albans Abbey

Beethoven Piano Concerto No.4
Mark Nixon, piano
Beethoven Symphony No.9
Soprano, Erica Eloff
Mezzo, Helen Shermann
Tenor, Mark Chaundy
Bass, Njabulo Madlala

Symphony No.9 (sometimes known simply as 'The Choral') was Beethoven's final complete symphony. It is almost universally considered to be among Beethoven's greatest works, and is considered by some to be the greatest piece of music ever written.

Beethoven first performed his Piano Concerto No.4 in December 1808. In the same concert, he conducted the premiere performances of his Symphony No.5 and No.6!

Tickets £25, £20, £15 reserved
£8 unreserved (restricted view)
£1 accompanied child
£5 students



Orchestral Colours

Saturday 9th May 2015 at 7.30pm
St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Sibelius Karelia Suite
Grieg Piano Concerto
Jamie Matthew, piano
Nielsen Symphony No.3

The wide range of musical colours available in the modern symphony orchestra is displayed in this concert of music by Scandinavian composers. Sibelius's influence from Finnish folk songs is easy to hear and Grieg's Piano Concerto provides evidence of his interest in Norwegian folk music. Nielsen loved the music and folk-culture of his native Denmark and did what he could to enrich it.

Tickets £14 (nave), £10 (aisle) unreserved
£1 accompanied child
£5 students



A Great British Concert

Saturday 27th June 2015 at 7.30pm
St Saviour's Church, St Albans

Walton Battle of Britain Suite
Coates Rhapsody for Saxophone and Orchestra
David Wigram, saxophone
Vaughan Williams *The Lark Ascending*
Jennifer Wigram, violin
Elgar Enigma Variations

Celebrate all things British with a concert featuring music from iconic composers who have reflected and shaped the musical culture of the British Isles. The Lark Ascending is one of the most popular pieces in the classical repertoire and currently at the top of Classic FM's Hall of Fame.

In *Enigma Variations*, Elgar composed a series of 14 short musical portraits, the subjects of these portraits being the composer's friends and family.

Tickets £14 (nave), £10 (aisle) unreserved
£1 accompanied child
£5 students



Concerto Evening and End of Season Friends Night

Wednesday 8th July 2015 at 7.30pm
Homewood Road Church, St Albans

Join us and hear leading players from the Orchestra play their favourite concertos accompanied by the Orchestra.

Free Admission!



Little Monsters! Concerts for Children

Sunday 12th October 2014
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, except 14th September, 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)

Tickets for 14th September available from Saffron Hall Box Office: 0845 548 7650 www.saffronhall.com



Season Tickets

Season tickets are available from the SASO Ticket Secretary with a choice of Abbey seat pricing. Season tickets do not include 14th September 2014.

Top price seats in all venues:

£70 for six Concerts, £63 Friends of SASO

Second price seats in Abbey, top price elsewhere:

£60 for six Concerts, £54 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 Gillian Stansfield: 01727 867045 grstansfield@gmail.com

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



Bjorn Bantock

Bjorn Bantock was appointed Principal Conductor of St Albans Symphony Orchestra in 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, Ireland 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. Bjorn has this year been appointed Head of Strings for Bedford School, following in the footsteps of Martin Hughes, the former Head of Strings for the Royal Scottish Academy of Music.

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 is musical executive for the Sir Granville Bantock Society and has recorded and produced CDs for the Kingsway and EM Record labels.

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.



Leader

Jennifer Wigram

Principal Conductor

Bjorn Bantock

Concert Season 2014-15

www.saso.org.uk