

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

TOM HAMMOND Principal Conductor

Tom Hammond is a London-based conductor, recording producer, and festival director. He delights in working with a diverse range of musicians from teenagers in youth orchestras through to the most experienced of professionals, and works to create opportunities for all of them to perform the music they love, to the highest possible standards.

As well as being attached to four highly successful non-professional orchestras and two youth orchestras, Tom is the co-founder and co-Artistic Director of the Hertfordshire Festival of Music, which has become a significant annual celebration of classical music following its launch in 2016.

Tom has helped to commission, and given numerous premiere performances of, music by composers such as James Francis Brown, Will Handysides, Bernard Hughes and Matthew Taylor.

He produces recordings with Chiaro Audio, many of which have been released on leading labels such as First Hand Records, Resonus Classics, and Orchid Classics. Find out more at: <http://chiaro-audio.uk/listen.html>.

After being mentored for two years by Sir Charles Mackerras in his time as Junior Fellow at Trinity Laban Conservatoire, Tom has enjoyed working across the U.K. and further afield, not least in the Middle East, where he has been a regular guest conductor for the Edward Said National Conservatory of Music, Palestine, leading to performances in Dubai, Jordan and Oman. Tom was made an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music in 2010 in recognition of his contribution to the world of conducting.

www.tom-hammond.org.uk

TICKETS

For ticket enquiries please call: 01525 862097 or 07976 800445, visit: www.saso.org.uk, or email: tickets@saso.org.uk

Tickets for 16th October, 21st November, 12th March and 2nd July can be bought online from: www.ticketsource.co.uk (booking fee applies).

Tickets for 1st January and 14th May are available from: Cathedral Box Office: 01727 890290, or online from: www.stalbanscathedral.org

BECOME A FRIEND

Become a Friend of SASO for a minimum donation of £30 single, £35 double, and receive extra benefits.

- 10% discount on Friend's own ticket
- Priority booking for the New Year's Day Concert
- Invitations to social events, AGM, open rehearsals and concerto evening
- Free concert programme and a free interval drink, from a dedicated table
- Opportunity to meet the conductor/soloist/ members of the orchestra at the interval
- Listed by name in the concert programmes

Further details from:

Philippa MacKenzie: 01727 760661
email: friends@saso.org.uk

JOIN THE ORCHESTRA

SASO has occasional vacancies for musicians of a good standard, especially strings, and opportunities to deputise or play as an extra.

Please contact: secretary@saso.org.uk

Follow us:   @sasotweet

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 2021-22



PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR

Tom Hammond

PRESIDENT

David Utting

CONCERT SEASON 2021-22



7.30PM, SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2021

St Saviour's Church, St Albans AL1 4DF

Rachmaninoff	<i>Vocalise</i>
Shostakovich	Piano Concerto No.2
	Veronika Shoot, piano
Tchaikovsky	Symphony No.4

Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Vocalise* is a hauntingly beautiful rearrangement for strings of a song the composer wrote in 1915.

Dmitri Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No.2, described as 'uncharacteristically cheerful', was written in 1957 for his son Maxim, who premiered the piece during his graduation at the Moscow Conservatory.

Tchaikovsky's dramatic and large-scale Symphony No.4 is one of the most popular symphonies of the late 19th century.

TICKET PRICES:

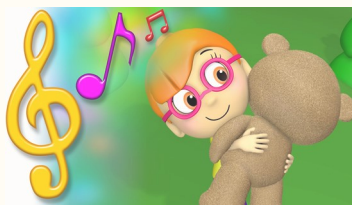
£18 (nave), £13 (aisle), £8 unreserved (restricted view), £5 students, £2 accompanied child

2.00PM & 3.30PM, SUNDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

2021 St Saviour's Church

Children's Concerts

Hear the symphony orchestra close-up playing an exciting selection of music!



Guest Conductor: **Matthew Andrews**

The main piece will be -

Hughes	<i>Isabel's Noisy Tummy</i>
	Bernard Hughes, narrator

Based on David McKee's book. Isabel's classmates think it is hilarious when Isabel's tummy rumbles in class. One day the class visits the zoo and Isabel's growling tummy saves them all from an escaping tiger. This amazing roar seems to have worn her tummy out, until one day a noise breaks the silence in class. But this time, it isn't Isabel's tummy.

TICKET PRICES:

CHILDREN only £2, Grown ups £8, Under 2s FREE

7PM, SATURDAY 1ST JANUARY 2022

St Albans Cathedral AL1 1BY

Holst	<i>The Planets</i>
	Gloriana Choir
	Musical Director: Deborah Miles-Johnson
Andrew Parnell	<i>Angel Voices</i>
Williams	'Flying Theme' from <i>E.T.</i>
Strauss	<i>On the Beautiful Blue Danube</i>
J. Strauss Jr.	<i>Thunder and Lightning Polka</i>

Welcome the New Year in the glorious surroundings of St Albans Cathedral.

Holst's *The Planets* is an enduringly popular English classic that sketches the astrological character of seven planets.

John Williams' *Flying Theme*, and the Strauss waltzes, are probably even more well-loved than the Holst!

TICKET PRICES:

£30, £24, £18 reserved, £5 accompanied child
£8 unreserved (restricted view) £5 students
Cathedral box office: 01727 890290,
or online at www.stalbanscathedral.org

7.30PM, SATURDAY 12TH MARCH 2022

St Saviour's Church, St Albans AL1 4DF

Arnold	Symphony No.5
Arnold	Clarinet Concerto No.2
	Mark van de Wiel, clarinet
Brahms	Symphony No.3

2021 was Malcolm Arnold's centenary, but, as with so much, the pandemic delayed the celebration of his contribution to 20th century music. His *Symphony No.5* is a remembrance of four of Arnold's friends who died too young.

The *Clarinet Concerto No.2* was written in 1974 for Benny Goodman, celebrating Arnold's love of jazz, most evident in the exuberant final movement.

Johannes Brahms is held to be Beethoven's successor in the development of the symphony; his magnificent 3rd symphony comprises four movements, linked by a common motto theme.

SASO thanks The Malcolm Arnold Trust for its generous support of tonight's concert.



TICKET PRICES:

£18 (nave), £13 (aisle), £8 unreserved (restricted view), £5 students, £2 accompanied child

7.30PM, SATURDAY 14TH MAY 2022

St Albans Cathedral AL1 1BY

Poulenc	<i>Ave verum corpus</i>
	Gloriana choir, Musical Director: Deborah Miles-Johnson
Debussy	<i>Nocturnes</i>
Canteloube	<i>Chants d'Auvergne</i>
	Jessica Cale, soprano
Faurè	<i>Cantique de Jean Racine</i>
Saint-Saëns	Symphony No.3, <i>Organ Symphony</i>
	Andrew Parnell, organ

Ave verum corpus is a short Eucharistic chant that has been set to music by many composers.

Debussy's *Nocturnes* paints 'sound portraits', of clouds, festivals, and sirens with a wordless chorus of 16 female voices.

Chants d'Auvergne is a collection of folk songs from the Auvergne region of France arranged for soprano voice and orchestra.

Cantique de Jean Racine is Faurè's Op. 11, for mixed choir and piano or organ; it won the 19-year-old composer first prize in a composition competition in 1865.

Saint-Saëns' *Symphony No.3* features the mighty Cathedral organ in two of its four movements.

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7.30PM, SATURDAY 2ND JULY 2022

St Saviour's Church, St Albans AL1 4DF

Holst	<i>The Perfect Fool</i>
Barber	Violin Concerto
	David Le Page, violin
Dvořák	Symphony No.9, <i>From the New World</i>

The Perfect Fool is a one-act opera, a parody of more serious operatic works (by composers such as Verdi, Wagner and Debussy).

The orchestra welcomes David Le Page, returning to perform Samuel Barber's dazzling Violin Concerto.

We anticipate the USA's Independence Day with one of classical music's best loved works, Dvořák's *Symphony No.9*.

TICKET PRICES:

£18 (nave), £13 (aisle), £8 unreserved (restricted view), £5 students, £2 accompanied child.