

Daniel Hogan Artistic Director

Described as a 'musician of sincerity, integrity and a maturity well beyond his years', Daniel Hogan is a young British conductor recognised for his enormous potential; a reputation for musical knowledge and musicianship, combined with an empathetic and personable leadership style.



The 2025/26 season saw Daniel conduct the London Symphony Orchestra in the Donatella Flick Conducting Competition. Following on from the competition, he featured in the documentary 'Making a Maestro' on Sky Arts. Daniel returned to the St Endellion Easter Festival Orchestra and the University of London Symphony Orchestra, following acclaimed debuts.

Past highlights include conducting the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in an Emerging Conductors Showcase concert, conducting the London Philharmonic Orchestra, and working as Assistant Conductor for Opera North's production of *My Fair Lady* in Leeds. Daniel has previously assisted Andrew Gourlay with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, and Christopher Warren-Green with the Philharmonia for a performance of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* in the Royal Albert Hall.

Daniel founded the Sinfonia Perdita, a young professional orchestra dedicated to performing neglected repertoire. Their first studio recording has recently been released: Schumann's *Violin Concerto*.

He was engaged as Rehearsal Conductor for the Ulster Youth Orchestra for their 2023 Summer Tour, and was recently a guest conductor for the Hertfordshire County Youth Orchestra.

Daniel recently received a Distinction for his Professional Diploma in Orchestral Conducting at the Royal Academy of Music, studying with Sian Edwards. He previously received a First Class Honours for his Masters in Orchestral Conducting at the Royal College of Music. He has studied at the Järvi Conducting Academy, with Paavo, Neeme and Kristian Järvi, and benefitted from tuition and masterclasses with Martyn Brabbins, Sakari Oramo, Vasily Petrenko, Edward Gardner, Rafael Payare, Sir Mark Elder, Jac van Steen, Tomáš Netopil and Sir Antonio Pappano.

danielhoganconductor.com

ABOUT THE ORCHESTRA

SASO is one of the UK's leading non-professional ensembles. Founded in 1932 the orchestra has performed ever since, including during the Second World War when many amateur orchestras ceased playing. SASO comprises musicians of all ages, from Hertfordshire and beyond; they include amateurs, professionally-trained musicians, teachers and music college students.

SASO is proud of its record in building new audiences, especially at its popular annual Family Concerts.

SASO has occasional vacancies for high-standard musicians, and opportunities to deputise or play as an extra. Please contact chair@saso.org.uk to register an interest.

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



BECOME A FRIEND OF SASO

Become a Friend of SASO for a minimum donation of £30 single, £35 double, and receive the following benefits -

- 10% Discount on the Friend's own ticket;
- Priority booking, including for the New Year's Day concert;
- Invitations to social events, AGM, and open rehearsals;
- Free concert programme and a free interval drink, from our Friends table;
- Friends are listed by name in the programmes.

Please contact Philippa MacKenzie on 07878 529210, or email friends@saso.org.uk if interested.

Leaflet details may alter by concert dates, so please check details at saso.org.uk/concerts before booking.



2026-27 CONCERT SEASON



7:30PM, SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER 2026

St Saviour's Church, Sandpit Lane, St Albans AL1 4DF
Conductor: Daniel Hogan

'Destiny'

Liszt *Les Préludes*
Schumann *Cello Concerto*, soloist: Tim Gill
Berlioz *Romeo et Juliette* - Romeo Alone;
Festivities at Capulet's

Tchaikovsky *Francesca da Rimini*

Les Préludes ('Preludes' or 'The Beginnings') is the third of Franz Liszt's thirteen symphonic poems.

Schumann's *Cello Concerto* in A minor, Op. 129 was completed in a period of only two weeks, in October 1850, but never played in his lifetime.

Though Berlioz' *Romeo et Juliette* is a choral symphony, the movement we will play is purely orchestral.

The tragic tale of *Francesca da Rimini*, originally immortalised in Dante's *Divine Comedy*, is portrayed in this symphonic interpretation.

Tickets: £18, £13, £5 students, £2 accompanied children.
Please book at www.ticketsource.co.uk. To reserve tickets email tickets@saso.org.uk or call 07976 800445.

Family Concert 'Fairy Tales'

2:30PM and 4PM, SUNDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2026

St Saviour's Church, Sandpit Lane, AL1 4DF

Guest Conductor: Lucia Švecová



Ticket prices: **£2** for Children, **£8** Adults, under 2s **FREE**.
www.ticketsource.co.uk. To reserve tickets email tickets@saso.org.uk or call 07976 800445.

Fancy Dress is invited - both for audience and orchestra!

There will be an interval, when audience members are invited to mingle with the players, and (with their permission) try-out the instruments.

7PM, FRIDAY 1st JANUARY 2027

St Albans Cathedral AL1 1BY, Conductor: Daniel Hogan

New Year's Day Celebratory Concert - 'Encore'

Saint-Saens *Danse Bacchanale*
Gershwin *Piano Concerto in F*, soloist: Michael McHale
Smetana *Dance of the Comedians*
Berlioz *The Damnation of Faust*: Hungarian March
De Falla *La Vida Breve*: Danza Espanol no 1
Josef Strauss *Die Libelle*
Delius *La Calinda*
Elgar *Chanson de Nuit*
Elgar *The Wand of Youth*: The Wild Bears (Suite 2)
Tchaikovsky *The Nutcracker*: Pas de deux (Suite 2)
Marquez *Conga del Fuego*

Space constraints prevent individual commentaries here, but expect some informative introductions to both lively and thoughtful music on the night.

Tickets, priced at £30, £24, £18, £10 (sides), £5 (students and children) will be available from www.stalbanscathedral.org, 01727 890290, or the box-office desk in the Cathedral's Visitor Centre.

7:30PM, SATURDAY 6th MARCH 2027

St Paul's Church, Blandford Road, St Albans AL1 4JP

Guest Conductor: Alex Mackinder

'English'

Bax *Tintagel*
Britten *Violin Concerto*, soloist: Fenella Humphreys
Smyth *The Wreckers*: Overture
Elgar *Enigma Variations*

Tintagel is a symphonic poem inspired by a visit to Tintagel Castle in Cornwall. It is widely considered Bax's best-known work, giving a vivid musical impression of the castle ruins and the Atlantic Ocean on a summer day.

Britten's *Violin Concerto* was composed between 1938 and 1939; deeply influenced by the political turmoil of the era, particularly the Spanish Civil War, it reflects Britten's pacifist views.

Ethel Smyth's *The Wreckers* is a monumental three-act opera composed between 1902 and 1904, widely considered her masterpiece, and one of the most significant English operas of the 20th century.

The Enigma Variations, dedicated to 'my friends pictured within' consists of an original theme followed by 14 variations, each a musical portrait of a significant person in Elgar's life.

Tickets: £18, £13, £5 students, £2 accompanied children.
Please book at www.ticketsource.co.uk. Email tickets@saso.org.uk or call 07976 800445 to reserve tickets.

7:30PM, SATURDAY 8th MAY 2027

St Saviour's Church, Sandpit Lane, St Albans AL1 4DF

Conductor: Daniel Hogan

'Arrivals'

Tchaikovsky *Romeo and Juliet*
Prokofiev *Piano Concerto No.1*, soloist: Thomas Kelly
Sibelius *Symphony No.1*

Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet* is a Fantasy Overture based on Shakespeare's tragedy. It features three primary musical motifs: a sombre Friar Laurence introduction, a brutal feuding theme representing the Montagues and Capulets, and a lush, sweeping love theme for the main characters.

Prokofiev's *Piano Concerto No. 1* is a compact, single-movement work. It was premiered in Moscow with Prokofiev as the soloist, receiving a polarised critical reception ranging from praise for its "wit" to accusations of "primitive cacophony."

Sibelius's *Symphony No. 1* is a four-movement work characterised by its lush Romanticism, featuring prominent string and woodwind solos, and showing clear stylistic affinities with Tchaikovsky and the Finnish folk tradition of Karelia.

Tickets: £18, £13, £5 students, £2 accompanied children.
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7:30PM, SATURDAY 3rd JULY 2027

St Saviour's Church, Sandpit Lane, St Albans AL1 4DF

Conductor: Daniel Hogan

'Nature'

Dvorak *In Nature's Realm*
Martinu *Oboe Concerto*, soloist: Henrietta Cook
Mahler *Symphony No.1*

The concert overture *In Nature's Realm* is the first part of the "Nature, Life, and Love" trilogy of overtures. The other two are the *Carnival Overture* "Life", and *Othello*, "Love".

Martinu's *Oboe Concerto*, his only concerto for a solo woodwind instrument, remains one of the most popular pieces in the oboe repertoire.

Mahler's *Symphony No.1* underwent a complex evolution, originally having five movements and titled a "Symphonic Poem." Mahler discarded the second movement, "Blumine", and removed programmatic descriptions before the work reached its definitive four-movement form in 1896.

Tickets: £18, £13, £5 students, £2 accompanied children.
Please book at www.ticketsource.co.uk. To reserve tickets email tickets@saso.org.uk or call 07976 800445.