

2019-2020 Season



CAMBRIDGE
PHILHARMONIC

Adams • Bartók • Beethoven • Dove
Dukas • Kats-Chernin • Mahler • Mozart
Mussorgsky • Prokofiev • Rachmaninov
Verdi • Williams • Zemlinsky



www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

Conductor's Introduction

Welcome to the 2019–20 season of the Cambridge Philharmonic, one of the UK's leading music societies. With a full symphony orchestra and a large chorus, the Cambridge Philharmonic presents a series of concerts in West Road Concert Hall and Ely Cathedral.

We begin the season with an invitation – not just to be in the audience, but to be in the chorus! Our Come & Sing concerts have always been very popular and we're delighted to be offering the chance for singers of all ages and experience to join us for Carl Orff's *magnum opus*. Scores are provided (but you'll have to bring your own Old Spice...).

Jonathan Dove's music has been a regular and hugely popular part of our programming for more than a decade now. To mark his 60th birthday, we are delighted to be playing Dove's trombone concerto, *Stargazer*, with the international superstar Peter Moore as soloist. With thrilling works from Adams and Prokofiev framing the concerto, the programme overflows with an irresistible mix of heartfelt melodies and orchestral fireworks.

For our annual *opera-in-concert* we are travelling to the pyramids of Egypt for Verdi's *Aida*. From the spectacular *Triumphal March* to the impassioned aria *Celeste Aida*, it's a work packed with high emotion and dramatic tension and we are joined by an exceptional cast, led by British soprano Linda Richardson and the American tenor Michael Wade Lee.

In this year's January family concert we ask the question 'which instrument shall I play?'. With the help of the brilliant Ruth Rosales (as well as a Musical, Magical Hat) we hope to offer you an answer. In March we celebrate the 250th birthday of Beethoven, and welcome back the virtuoso pianist Martin James Bartlett, whilst in May we delve into the dark and brooding world of the romantic Russians Rachmaninov and Mussorgsky.

The season ends in the grandeur of Ely Cathedral with Mahler's unforgettable *Second Symphony* – one of the most uplifting, moving and life-affirming works in the repertoire.

We look forward to seeing you at our concerts – and thank you for supporting the Cambridge Philharmonic.

Timothy Redmond

Principal Conductor and Music Director



www.cambridgephilharmonic.com


Season Summary


**“The ever-brilliant
Cambridge
Philharmonic
Orchestra – our
city’s very own
LSO.”**

Cambridge Critique

**“The Cambridge
Philharmonic ...
one of
Cambridge’s
great city
institutions.”**

Local Secrets

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Sunday 29 September 2019

Come & Sing *Carmina Burana*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 19 October 2019

Adams *The Chairman Dances*
Prokofiev *Autumnal Sketch*
Dove *Stargazer*
Prokofiev *Symphony No.5*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 7 December 2019

Verdi *Aida* (concert performance)
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 18 January 2020

Family Concert
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 14 March 2020

Beethoven *Leonore Overture No.3*
Beethoven *Choral Fantasia*
Mozart *Piano Concerto in A K488*
Mozart *Mass in C Major ‘Coronation’ K317*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 23 May 2020

Bartók *Dance Suite*
Rachmaninov *Three Russian Songs*
Mussorgsky *Songs and Dances of Death*
Rachmaninov *The Bells*
West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 4 July 2020

Lecture recital: Mahler and Zemlinsky
Venue to be announced

Saturday 11 July 2020

Zemlinsky *Psalm 13*
Mahler *Symphony No.2 ‘Resurrection’*
Ely Cathedral



Sunday 29 September 2019 Rehearsal 3pm, Performance 7.30pm

Come & Sing **Carmina Burana** by Carl Orff

Conductor Timothy Redmond

Soprano Rebecca Bottone

Tenor Bonaventura Bottone

Baritone Jake Muffett

Choirs from Chesterton Community College, Swavesey Village College
Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

"Everything I have written to date, and which you have, unfortunately, published, can be destroyed. With *Carmina Burana* my collected works begin". So wrote Carl Orff to his publisher after the successful premiere of *Carmina Burana* in 1937. But the truth is, nothing else he wrote came even close to the extraordinary success of what turned out to be one of the most popular choral works of the past hundred years. Its mix of love songs, laments and bawdy tales of the tavern were taken from a collection of 13th century songs, discovered by Orff in an English translation entitled *Wine, Women and Song*, the first of which, *O fortuna*, is affectionately known to millions as the theme tune for Old Spice aftershave!

Join the Cambridge Philharmonic for this exciting Come & Sing event either as an audience member or as a member of the chorus. Please see the website for details.

Tickets (unreserved): Come & Sing £15, public performance £15

Box Office: 0333 666 3366 (TicketSource)

Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

Please book Come & Sing tickets in advance to guarantee your place. Scores will be provided for singers.

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 19 October 2019 at 7.30pm

Stargazer

Adams: *The Chairman Dances*

Prokofiev: *Autumnal Sketch Op.8*

Dove: *Stargazer*

Prokofiev: *Symphony No.5 Op.100*

Conductor Timothy Redmond

Trombone Peter Moore

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra

The concert begins with what John Adams describes as an 'out-take' from his opéra *Nixon in China*. Subtitled *Foxtrot for Orchestra*, *The Chairman Dances* entertainingly imagines Chairman Mao descending from a portrait on the wall to dance at a banquet. Equally captivating is *Stargazer*, Jonathan Dove's concerto for trombone and orchestra. Dove, who celebrates his 60th birthday in 2019, wrote of the piece: "The image that started to develop in my mind was of the trombonist as a man with a telescope, a Stargazer, searching the night sky. The orchestra would represent the constellations he observed, and he would respond to what he saw." The virtuoso soloist, Peter Moore, won BBC Young Musician of the Year in 2008 at the age of 12, before being appointed co-principal trombone of the London Symphony Orchestra at just 18.

The programme is completed with two works by that master of the orchestra, Sergei Prokofiev: a charming vignette, *Autumnal Sketch* and that towering masterpiece of the twentieth century, his *Fifth Symphony*.

Tickets (reserved): £12, £16, £20, £25

(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)

Box Office: 0333 666 3366 (TicketSource)

Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

Free pre-concert talk with Timothy Redmond
The Music of Jonathan Dove 6.45pm

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge



Saturday 7 December 2019 at 7.30pm

AIDA

Verdi

Concert performance

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Aida Linda Richardson
Amneris Mirouslava Yordanova
Radamès Michael Wade Lee
Amonasro Richard Burkhard
Ramfis Stephen Richardson
King Richard Wiegold
Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

Although Verdi's *Aida* might be considered the epitome of grand opera, with the spectacle of its triumphant Grand March set amongst the pyramids of Egypt, the plot is simple, devastating and uncompromisingly raw. It is a tale of love and war, of loyalty and deception, and of the sacrifices lovers sometimes have to make for each other.

Egypt and Ethiopia are at war. The Egyptian General Radamès secretly falls in love with the Ethiopian princess Aida, who is being held captive as a handmaiden to the Egyptian princess Amneris. But Amneris loves Radamès herself and she is growing suspicious. Suddenly the conflicts of battle are replaced with ever more complicated conflicts of the heart, with devastating consequences for all concerned.

A stunning cast is led by Linda Richardson, who sang Violetta in Cambridge Philharmonic's *La Traviata* and who recently starred in the title role of *Madama Butterfly* for Welsh National Opera.

Tickets (reserved): £15, £20, £25 and £30
(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)
Box Office: 0333 666 3366 (TicketSource)
Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 18 January 2020 at 2.00pm & 4.00pm

My Musical Magical Hat

Family
Concert

Music from

John Williams
Harry Potter

Paul Dukas
The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Elena Kats-Chernin
The Witching Hour

Mussorgsky
Pictures at an Exhibition

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Presenter Ruth Rosales
Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra

How do you actually decide what to play? Do you choose the instrument...or does the *instrument* choose you?

Find out in this brand new, interactive concert, featuring the Cambridge Phil, conductor Tim Redmond and the brilliant bassoon-playing amateur Ruth Rosales! With a song to sing, the chance to hear all the instruments of the orchestra, and even a concerto for EIGHT double basses this is another unmissable treat for music-lovers of all ages!

Family concert suitable for age 5+

Tickets (reserved): £12

Box Office: 0333 666 3366 (TicketSource)

Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com



West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge



Saturday 14 March 2020 at 7.30pm

Beethoven & Mozart

**“Beethoven can
write music,
thank God,
but he can do
nothing else
on earth”**

Beethoven

Beethoven *Leonore Overture No.3 Op.72b*
Choral Fantasia Op.80

Mozart *Piano Concerto in A K488*
‘Coronation’ Mass in C K317

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Piano Martin James Bartlett
Soprano Anna Mengel
Mezzo-soprano Julia Martinez
Tenor Ryan Williams
Bass Michael Ronan

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

In 1808 Beethoven put on an extraordinary concert at which he not only premiered the fifth and sixth symphonies and the fourth piano concerto, but also performed parts of his *Mass in C*. To conclude the concert he wrote the *Choral Fantasia*, designed to involve all the myriad performers who were taking part and with Beethoven himself playing the concertante piano part, which he improvised in the performance. Mozart's *A major Concerto*, which was also premiered with its composer at the keyboard, was one of three concerti he wrote in the spring of 1786 whilst working on *The Marriage of Figaro*. Soloist for both is former BBC Young Musician of the Year, Martin James Bartlett, whose performance of Shostakovich's concerto was a highlight of the Phil's last season.

The concert begins with *Leonore No. 3*, one of the four different overtures that Beethoven wrote for his opera *Fidelio*; it concludes with Mozart's glorious *Coronation Mass*.

Tickets (reserved): £12, £16, £20, £25
(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)
Box Office: 0333 666 3366 (TicketSource)
Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

In association with



www.beethoven2020.co.uk

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge

Saturday 23 May 2020 at 7.30pm

THE BELLS

Bartók *Dance Suite Sz.77*
Rachmaninov *Three Russian Songs Op.41*
Mussorgsky
arr. Shostakovich *Songs & Dances of Death*
Rachmaninov *The Bells Op.35*

Conductor Timothy Redmond
Soprano Anna Gorbachyova
Tenor Alexander James Edwards
Bass-baritone Vassily Savenko
Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

“I worked on this composition with feverish ardour,” Rachmaninov wrote, “and it remains, of all my work, the one I like best.” Inspired by the poetry of Edgar Allen Poe, Rachmaninov described *The Bells* as a ‘choral symphony’. Sleigh bells, wedding bells, alarm bells and funeral bells ring out throughout this stunning symphonic picture, marking birth, marriage, terror and death. For Mussorgsky, only 36 when he began his four *Songs and Dances of Death*, the spectre of death was a constant presence. Brooding, dark and irresistible, the *Songs* remain some of the most important works of Russian musical literature. Bartók’s *Dance Suite* and Rachmaninov’s *Russian Songs* both have at their core the unmistakable sound of folk music and they overflow with everything from infectious, toe-tapping rhythms to soulful, melancholic melodies.

Tickets (reserved): £12, £16, £20, £25
(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)
Box Office: 0333 666 3366 (TicketSource)
Online: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

“The sound of church bells dominated all the cities of the Russia I used to know... and no composer could escape their influence.”

Rachmaninov

West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge



Saturday 11 July 2020 at 7.30pm

MAHLER 2

Zemlinsky *Psalm 13 Op.24*

Mahler *Symphony No. 2 'Resurrection'*

Conductor Timothy Redmond

Assistant Conductor Tess Jackson

Soprano Katherine Broderick

Mezzo-soprano Yvonne Howard

Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorus

Belfast Philharmonic Choir

While Mahler's *First Symphony* ends in a blaze of glory that depicts the life of its eponymous hero, *The Titan*, the *Second* begins starkly at the hero's graveside. When Mahler played this dramatic first movement to Hans von Bülow, his mentor, the latter sat with his hands over his ears and declared that it made Wagner's *Tristan* sound like a Haydn symphony. Little wonder then that Mahler struggled with knowing how to continue. With no little irony, it was at von Bülow's funeral three years later that Mahler heard the inspiration he needed. A setting of Klopstock's *Resurrection Ode (Die Auferstehung)* gave Mahler both the text and the title to complete what was to become his greatest and most successful work. Awe-inspiring, and epic beyond belief, with choirs, soloists and a vast orchestra, Mahler's *Second Symphony* is a celebration of life itself. Zemlinsky's *Psalm 13*, which begins the concert, is a choral symphony in miniature, taking us from dark to light in an opulent and lush sound world.

Tickets (reserved): £15, £20, £25, £30
(Students and under-18s £10 on the door)

Box Office: 01353 660349 (Ely Cathedral)

Online: tickets.elycathedral.org

Saturday 4 July

Mahler and Zemlinsky

A lecture recital with Cambridge Philharmonic Leader Paula Muldoon, Music Director Timothy Redmond and special guests.

For details see

www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

Ely Cathedral

Join our Friends and Supporters

The Cambridge Philharmonic is renowned for giving innovative and inspiring concerts, and it's thanks to the generosity of our Friends and Donors that we are able to do this.

Please visit www.cambridgephilharmonic.com to learn more about the benefits that our Friends receive and to find out how you can help us continue to bring world-class music-making to the city.

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How to book

Tickets for all concerts (except Ely Cathedral) are available:

Online via: www.cambridgephilharmonic.com

By telephone: TicketSource 0333 666 3366

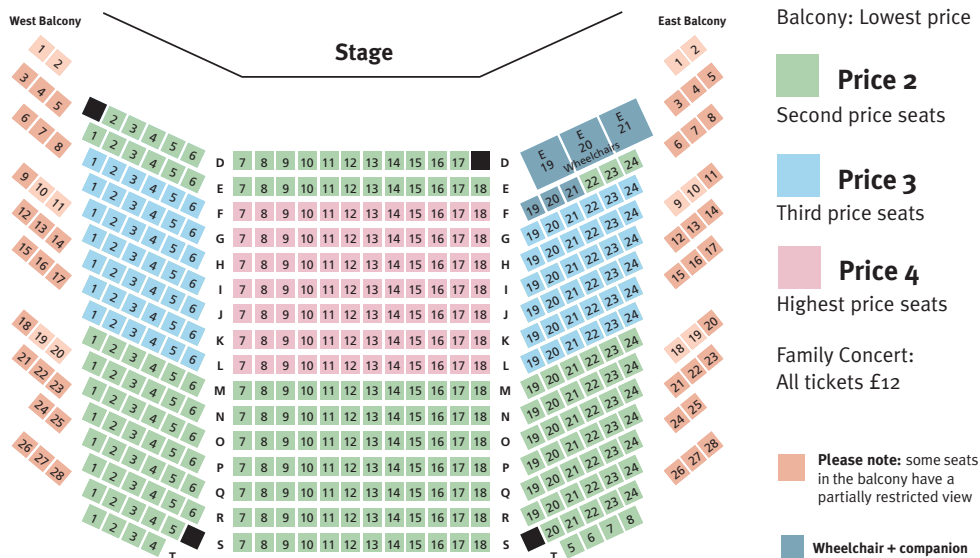
Ely Cathedral concert (Saturday 11th July 2020)

Box Office: (Ely Cathedral) 01353 660349

Online: tickets.elycathedral.org

Tickets will also be available on the door for all concerts, unless sold out.

West Road Concert Hall tickets & prices



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Further information

To join the Cambridge Philharmonic as a performer please email:

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orchestra@cam-phil.org.uk

For all other enquiries, please email:

secretary@cam-phil.org.uk



www.cambridgephilharmonic.com