

Programme information

Saturday 31st October to Friday 6th November 2020

WEEK 45



CLASSIC FM's PET SOUNDS with BILL TURNBULL

Thursday 5th November, 7pm to 10pm

Now in its third year, the hugely successful programme returns to Classic FM on Guy Fawkes Night. Bill Turnbull presents the first of two shows designed to help keep pets – and their owners – calm at a time of fireworks displays.

Though major firework events will not be taking place this year, domestic displays and celebrations will still happen across the UK and while they are spectacular events, for animals they can be stressful and often traumatic.

With this in mind, Bill hosts an evening of specially curated soothing music to help calm the nerves of our favourite furry (or scaly) companions, and ease the stress during the noise and bright lights. Tonight's programme contains a selection of classical pieces connected to our four-legged friends. Elgar's *Mina*, for example, was inspired by the composer's beloved terrier, and we hear a Mozart melody that the eccentric composer tried to teach his pet starling to sing.

Classic FM is available across the UK on 100-102 FM, DAB digital radio and TV, at Classic FM.com, and on the Classic FM and Global Player apps.

WEEK 45

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER

3pm to 5pm: MOIRA STUART'S HALL OF FAME CONCERT

Moira has music to mark Halloween; a recording of Saint-Saëns' *Danse Macabre*, heard in a 2018 release from the Utah Symphony Orchestra, followed by a musical trip to the stormy Hebrides thanks to the music of Mendelssohn.

The centrepiece of the afternoon is a performance of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.4, performed by Stephen Hough in a critically acclaimed recording released earlier this year. Elsewhere, we hear a nature-inspired work by Handel and Tchaikovsky's tribute to Mozart; his *Serenade for Strings*.

Camille Saint-Saëns Danse Macabre Violin: Madeline Adkins

Thierry Fischer conducts the Utah Symphony Orchestra

Felix Mendelssohn Hebrides Overture Opus 26 ('Fingal's Cave') John Eliot Gardiner conducts the London Symphony Orchestra

Ludwig van Beethoven Piano Concerto No.4 in G major Opus 58 Piano: Stephen Hough Hannu Lintu conducts the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra

George Frederic Handel
Organ Concerto in F major HWV.295
('Cuckoo and the Nightingale')
Organ: Simon Preston
Trevor Pinnock conducts The English Concert

Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings in C major Opus 48 Neeme Järvi conducts the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra

Frédéric Chopin Ballade No.1 in G minor Opus 23 Piano: Peter Donohoe

5pm to 7pm: SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES with ANDREW COLLINS

On Halloween, Andrew Collins features the spooky soundtracks that accompany favourite Halloween, thriller and horror films. Highlights include Elmer Bernstein's title theme to *Ghostbusters*, iconic tracks from the *Harry Potter* franchise by John Williams, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* by Stephen Sondheim and *Beetlejuice* by Danny Elfman.

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER

7pm to 9pm: COWAN'S CLASSICS with ROB COWAN

Rob takes us on a musical trip to Egypt this evening and demonstrates how a journey to the country influenced the music of Saint-Saens; he features the colourful second movement of the composer's Piano Concerto Number 5, performed by Alexandre Kantorow and the Tapiola Sinfonietta. Also on the programme: a recently reissued box set of recordings of the violinist Aldo Ferraresi that features a vibrant performance of the second movement of Elgar's Violin Concerto.

9pm to 10pm: BEETHOVEN: THE MAN REVEALED with JOHN SUCHET (43 / 52)

John explores how Beethoven's deteriorating health did not get in the way of his musical creativity.

After winning custody of his nephew in a long, draining court battle, the great composer becomes seriously ill and confined to bed just as he has a teenager to raise. During this period of ill health, Beethoven composed what turned out to be his final set of piano sonatas, and finished one of his grandest works, the *Missa Solemnis*.

John also discovers a little song proving that Beethoven had retained his sense of humour; it translates as 'Just because your name is Hope doesn't mean you're always hopeful'. And as the composer is told that the probable subject of his famous 'Immortal beloved' letter has died, John plays a second – more intense – setting of a poem that Beethoven had originally set to music for her: *An Die Hoffnung.*

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

3pm to 5pm: JOHN HUMPHRYS

John marks the birthday of the legendary Spanish soprano, Victoria de Los Angeles, with a classic recording from Bizet's *Carmen* and, on the anniversary of a huge honour being bestowed upon American composer Aaron Copland, John plays the fanfare that became one of his most famous musical moments.

He delivers new music too; a stunning, recent recording of Debussy's *Prelude a l'apres-midi d'un faune*, from the London Symphony Orchestra.

5pm to 7pm: DAVID MELLOR

David begins the first of two programmes with a nostalgic theme at their core. At a time when many are looking back at more positive times, these programmes promise to feature music to, hopefully, bring back happy memories

David includes some of Mario Lanza's most iconic recordings, including 'Be My Love', and we hear Maurice Jarre's stirring score to *Dr Zhivago*.

7pm to 9pm: SMOOTH CLASSICS AT SEVEN with CHARLOTTE HAWKINS

Charlotte presents a selection of laidback music, specially selected to provide a moment of calm and relaxation at the end of the weekend.

Last Sunday, we heard from the cellist and violinist Camille Berthollet, and tonight it's the turn of her sister, 23-year-old violinist and violist Julie Berthollet who's Charlotte's Young Classical Star.

The pair have made their mark in classical music with their collaboration albums, including Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* on Warner Classics, they have won a number of international competitions, and became the youngest duo ever selected for the finals of the Tournoi International de Musique Competition.

9pm to 10pm: CHI-CHI'S CLASSICAL CHAMPIONS (5 / 6)

Chi-chi Nwanoku OBE, the renowned double-bass player and founder of the Chineke! Foundation, continues her series on Classic FM, shining the spotlight on Black, Asian and ethnically diverse composers and performers. Chi-chi shares the stories behind composers yet to receive recognition, and celebrates the careers of champions in their field, from the 16th century to the present day.

This evening Chi-chi highlights the music of George Walker, who was the first black student to graduate from the Curtis Institute of Music, and the first black pianist to perform with many major American orchestras. We hear his choral work *Lilacs*, which won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1996.

Elsewhere, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Violin Concerto, and a jazz-infused symphony by William Grant Still feature.

MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

8pm to 10pm: THE CLASSIC FM CONCERT with JOHN SUCHET: PRODIGIOUS TALENT – PART 1

This week, John celebrates young talent in classical music, including established superstars who broke through at an early age and big names destined for great futures.

Tonight's programme features what was one of the world's finest youth orchestras, before it dropped the 'youth' from it's name, the Simón Bolivar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela; it performs Tchaikovsky's Symphony No.5 under the direction of the charismatic Gustavo Dudamel.

Elsewhere, we hear two performances of Vivaldi's music: first from one half of a talented sibling duo, and later from Julia Lezhneva as she sings a sacred motet. To conclude the programme, Daniil Trifonov takes to the stage in Rachmaminov's Piano Concerto No.4.

Antonio Vivaldi

Four Seasons Opus 8 - Concerto No.1

('Spring')

Violin: Camille Berthollet

Benjamin Levy conducts the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse

Peter Ilich Tchaikovsky

Symphony No.5 in E minor Opus 64

Gustavo Dudamel conducts the Simón Bolivar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela

Antonin Dvorak

Romance in F minor Opus 11

Violin: Jan Mráček

James Judd conducts the Czech National Symphony Orchestra

Antonio Vivaldi

'Nulla in Mundo Pax Sincera'

Soprano: Julia Lezhneva

Diego Fasolis conducts I Barocchist and the Choir of Swiss Radio &

Television

Sergei Rachmaninov

Piano Concerto No.4 in G minor Opus 40

Piano: Daniil Trifonov

Vasily Petrenko conducts the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

8pm to 10pm: THE CLASSIC FM CONCERT with JOHN SUCHET: PRODIGIOUS TALENT – PART 2

To continue the celebration of great young musical talent, John begins tonight's concert with an award winning recording: Benjamin Grosvenor performs Chopin's Piano Concerto No.1 with Elim Chan and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, from an album that won 'Best Concerto' at the 2020 Gramophone Awards.

Elsewhere, a moving recording of Stanford's *The Blue Bird* from 13 year-old Welsh treble Cai Thomas, and Spohr's Clarinet Concerto No.1 is performed by international star Andreas Ottensamer, who was appointed principal clarinettist of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra at the age of just 21.

The evening ends with a full recording of Sibelius' Symphony No.2 from one of the country's youngest and brightest ensembles: the Chineke! Orchestra.

Frédéric Chopin Piano Concerto No.1 in E minor Opus 11 Piano: Benjamin Grosvenor Elim Chan conducts the Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Charles Villiers Stanford
The Blue Bird
Treble: Cai Thomas
Robert Lewis conducts Pegasus

Louis Spohr Clarinet Concerto No.1 in C minor Opus 26 Clarinet: Andreas Ottensamer Nézet-Séguin conducts the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra

Jean Sibelius Symphony No.2 in D major Opus 43 Roderick Cox conducts the Chineke! Orchestra

WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

8pm to 10pm: THE CLASSIC FM CONCERT with JOHN SUCHET: PRODIGIOUS TALENT – PART 3

John Suchet continues his survey of fine young classical musical talent.

The main event this evening is an exclusive first full play of a brand-new recording of Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals* from the extraordinarily talented Kanneh-Mason siblings – all seven of them. Released on Friday 6th November, the suite includes new poems written by Michael Morpurgo and read by Olivia Coleman.

Elsewhere there's a performance of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto from skilled musician and instrument designer Julian Bliss, and Daniel Barenboim's protégée Kian Soltani is the soloist in Dvořák's Cello Concerto.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Clarinet Concerto in A major K.622 Clarinet: Julian Bliss Mario Vengazo conducts the Royal Northern Sinfonia

Camille Saint-Saëns & Michael Morpurgo Carnival of the Animals Narrator: Olivia Coleman The Kanneh-Masons

Anon

(arr. Rebecca Dale)
The Lost Songs of St Kilda: Soay
James MacMillan conducts the Scottish Festival Orchestra

Antonín Dvořák Cello Concerto in B minor Opus 104 Cello: Kian Soltani Daniel Barenboim conducts the Staatskapelle Berlin

Johann Sebastian Bach Lute Suite No.1 in E minor BWV.996 – Allemande Guitar: Sean Shibe

THURSDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

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FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

8pm to 10pm: THE CLASSIC FM CONCERT with JOHN SUCHET: PRODIGIOUS TALENT – PART 4

John concludes his showcase of young musical talent with a showstopper from the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Youth Chorus under Edward Gardner: they perform Holst's masterpiece *The Planets*, which had its public premiere 100 years ago this month.

Other highlights include Bruch's Violin Concerto No.1 performed by young violinist Ray Chen, and two very different brass arrangements of famous French works.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Adagio in E major K.261 Violin: Noa Wildschut Gordan Nikolitch conducts the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra

Gustav Holst

The Planets Opus 32

Edward Gardner conducts the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Youth Chorus

Gabriel Fauré Après un rêve Opus 7 No.1 Trombone: Peter Moore Piano: James Baillieu

Max Bruch

Violin Concerto No.1 in G minor Opus 26

Violin: Ray Chen

Robert Trevino conducts the London Philharmonic Orchestra

Jacques Offenbach
Barcarolle
Trumpet: Lucienne Renaudin Vary

Robert Rizzi Brignoli conducts the Lille National Orchestra

Frédéric Chopin Ballade No.4 in F minor Opus 52 Piano: Lucas Debargue