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London Philharmonic Orchestra to become Resident Orchestra at Saffron Hall from 2019/20 season

LPO joins Britten Sinfonia as a Resident Orchestra, creating an exceptional offering for music lovers in the Eastern region

Saffron Hall and the **London Philharmonic Orchestra** today announce a new partnership between the two organisations. The London Philharmonic Orchestra takes up a brand-new residency at Saffron Hall – the world-class concert hall in the heart of a state secondary school in Essex – beginning in the 2019/20 season. It joins **Britten Sinfonia**, which has been Resident Orchestra at the Hall since the 16/17 season.

The LPO will be a significant addition to the cultural life of the region, providing top-quality symphonic music and becoming increasingly involved in Saffron Hall's ground-breaking model of world-class performing arts and educational provision at the heart of its community.

Having performed at the venue numerous times since its opening five years ago, the LPO continues its commitment to bringing outstanding musical performances to a wide range of audiences with this residency. Each year the Orchestra will bring four concerts to Saffron Hall including one of their popular 'FUNharmonics' concerts for families, providing diverse programmes for a range of concert-goers.

Conductors involved in the first season of the Saffron Hall residency include **Vladimir Jurowski**, the LPO's Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor, **Marin Alsop** and **Sir Antonio Pappano**.

Both organisations share a passionate commitment to education and community work and will continue to uphold this by developing additional projects together alongside the main concerts. In the first season, the LPO will involve Saffron Walden County High School students in the LPO's Soundworks project – a creative platform for teenage musicians to collaborate with young people from other artforms and learn from industry specialists. Musicians from the London Philharmonic Orchestra will give masterclasses to students at the County High School and coach young people at the Saffron Centre for Young Musicians, a specialist Saturday school offering high quality musical training to students aged 4-18 through a partnership between the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Saffron Hall, Essex Music Education Hub and Saffron Walden County High School. The LPO will also work and perform with local community music groups.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra, whose London home is the Royal Festival Hall, will continue its longstanding residencies at Glyndebourne Festival Opera and in Eastbourne and Brighton. The new

residency at Saffron Hall enables it to share its work with audiences in the East of England regularly for the first time.

Angela Dixon, Chief Executive of Saffron Hall, said:

'The London Philharmonic Orchestra and Vladimir Jurowski performed the very first concert of my first ever season at Saffron Hall, and it remains one of the highlights of my time here. I am absolutely delighted that we are formalising the excellent relationship that exists between the LPO, Saffron Hall and our audience by announcing this residency alongside the excellent programme already offered by Britten Sinfonia. With the LPO and Britten Sinfonia as our Resident Orchestras, we have an exceptional offering for music lovers in the Eastern region'.

Timothy Walker, Chief Executive and Artistic Director of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, said:

'With this exciting new partnership, we are greatly looking forward to not only bringing more top-level artists and music making to the region, but to working with Angela Dixon and the team to fully involve ourselves in the visionary Schools and Communities programme there. We are delighted to have this opportunity to share our work with audiences in the East of England regularly for the first time.'

Booking for all the partnered events will be available on the [Saffron Hall website](#) from May 2019.

-Ends-

**For further press information or images please contact Victoria Bevan at Premier:
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Notes to Editors

About Saffron Hall

Saffron Hall is an award-winning 740-seat performance space built in the grounds of Saffron Walden County High School, just minutes away from Saffron Walden's historic town centre.

The hall's critically acclaimed acoustic and state-of-the-art facilities surpass many of the world's more established venues and since the hall opened in November 2013, artists including the London Symphony Orchestra, Czech National Philharmonic Orchestra, Sir Antonio Pappano, Hugh Masekela, Marin Alsop, Nicola Benedetti, Sir András Schiff, Madeleine Peyroux and The Sixteen have performed on its stage.

Saffron Hall is a vibrant cultural centre for the region, offering outstanding artistic encounters in an expanding programme that weaves international artists together with local performance groups and learning & participation activities. The Hall's location within the County High allows it to be deeply involved in the life of the school, and to work closely both with its students and children from the surrounding schools.

Major visiting artists more than ever offer not just world-class performances but crucial opportunities for the people of the region to get involved in their work.

About the London Philharmonic Orchestra

One of the finest orchestras on the international stage, the London Philharmonic Orchestra was founded in 1932 by Sir Thomas Beecham. Since then, its Principal Conductors have included Sir Adrian Boult, Bernard Haitink, Sir Georg Solti, Klaus Tennstedt and Kurt Masur. In 2007 Vladimir Jurowski became the Orchestra's current Principal Conductor.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra has been performing at Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall since it opened in 1951, becoming Resident Orchestra in 1992. It also has residencies in Brighton and Eastbourne, and performs regularly around the UK, including over 50 years as resident orchestra at Glyndebourne Festival Opera. The London Philharmonic Orchestra continues to be in demand around the world and gives around 35 concerts each year overseas. It has recently returned from major tours to Japan and China and has forthcoming tours to Spain, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, North America and Asia.

The Orchestra broadcasts regularly on television and radio and has recorded soundtracks for numerous films including *The Lord of the Rings*. In 2005 it began releasing live, studio and archive recordings on its own CD label.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra is committed to inspiring the next generation of musicians. In 2017/18 the LPO celebrated its 30th anniversary of their Education and Community department, whose work over three decades has introduced so many people of all ages to orchestral music and created opportunities for people of all backgrounds to fulfil their creative potential. Highlights include the BrightSparks schools' concerts and FUNharmonics family concerts; the LPO Young Composers programme; the Foyle Future Firsts orchestral training programme; and the LPO Junior Artists scheme for talented young musicians from communities and backgrounds currently under-represented in professional UK orchestras.

Saffron Hall: saffronhall.com
London Philharmonic Orchestra: lpo.org.uk

Twitter: @SaffronHallSW / @LPOrchestra