

Saffron Hall announces series of free digital performances Series continues the Hall's support for freelance musicians during the pandemic Nicola Benedetti and Aurora Orchestra are the first two confirmed

Saffron Hall has announced a series of free-to-view digital performances featuring leading musicians performing in the award-winning venue. These streamed performances continue the Hall's commitment to supporting musicians by both engaging them and also raising money for musical charities.

The series began last Friday with the release of a performance by internationally acclaimed violinist and Saffron Hall regular visitor **Nicola Benedetti** with a solo programme of Ysaÿe, Biber, Paganini and Bach recorded live at the Hall. The stream features an interview with Nicola hosted by Chief Executive of Saffron Hall, Angela Dixon, and is available on the Hall's website (www.saffronhall.com) until 1 April. The stream is free to watch with no need to book, but viewers will have the opportunity to make a donation which will be shared equally between Saffron Hall Trust, The Benedetti Foundation and The Cumnock Tryst.

The second concert in the series will be available from 19 March, when Saffron Hall presents a digital performance from principal players of **Aurora Orchestra** with violinist **Elena Urioste**, presented by Radio 3s **Tom Service**. Their programme includes works by Musgrave, Ravel, Meredith, Vaughan Williams and Dvořák, and will be available on Saffron Hall's website for 28 days. Viewers will again have the opportunity to make a donation which will be shared between Help Musicians UK and Saffron Hall Trust.

Further free digital performances will be announced in due course, with online concerts planned to continue into May.

Angela Dixon, Chief Executive of Saffron Hall, said: "We are delighted to be presenting concerts from Saffron Hall again. It is vital that we continue to support freelance musicians and production staff and we are grateful for financial assistance from the Cultural Recovery Fund to help us do that. We also have an on-going commitment to support new and existing audiences and therefore feel it is important to offer our streams at no cost."

The March digital performances have been made possible through support from the Government's Cultural Recovery Fund (1) distributed by Arts Council England.

For more information and to watch the events, please visit www.saffronhall.com

Ends

Images available to download of Nicola Benedetti and Aurora Orchestra

For further press information, please contact Tessa Deterding at Premier:

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Notes to Editors

Nicola Benedetti

Available from 7:30pm on Friday 5 March - 11:59 Thursday 1 April

Programme

Ysaÿe Sonata No. 5 in G major

Biber Passacaglia

Paganini Caprice No. 1

Caprice No.24

Bach Chaconne from Partita in D minor for solo violin (BWV 1004)

Nicola Benedetti appears courtesy of Decca Classics.

This performance is available for free, but Saffron Hall kindly requests donations which will be split between The Benedetti Foundation, The Cumnock Tryst and Saffron Hall Trust.

Principal Players of Aurora Orchestra with Elena Urioste. Presented by Tom Service

Available from 7:30pm Friday 19 March – 11:59pm Friday 16 April

Programme

Musgrave Light at the End of the Tunnel

Ravel Introduction and Allegro

Anna Meredith Music for Ravens

Vaughan Williams The Lark Ascending

Dvořák Sextet

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