

**PRESS RELEASE**  
Friday 19 March 2021

## **‘Explore the Orchestra’ this spring: BSO invites all ages to the stage**



*Meet the sections of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra ©Mark Allan*

- ***Explore the Orchestra*: a 5-part digital series of free programmes for schools and families**
  - **Composer James Redwood shares works showcasing each section of the orchestra**
  - **Interactive concerts feature body percussion, analysis and a newly-commissioned work**

All ages are invited to ‘*Explore the Orchestra*’ this spring, as Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra shares a brand new 5-part series introducing the instruments of the orchestra.

Each week, **from Saturday 24 April**, a work showcasing the orchestral family is introduced and performed under the baton of Frank Zielhorst: Brass (Britten’s *Sea Interludes: Sunday Morning* – Sat 24 April); Wind (Carwithen’s *Suffolk Morris* – Sat 1 May); Strings (Coleridge-Taylor’s *Willow Song* – Sat 8 May); and Percussion (Copland’s *Appalachian Spring Mvt 7* – Sat 15 May).

During each session the audience will learn a new body percussion pattern inspired by the pieces through a **newly-commissioned work: James Redwood's *Explore the Orchestra***, which has been written for the series.

**Presented in partnership with the University of Exeter**, and supported by generous individuals, the series culminates in a performance of the *Finale* from Redwood's new orchestral piece, which brings together elements of the four works and a chance for the audience to join in.

**Lucy Warren, Head of BSO Participate**, said, "*The BSO has stayed connected with audiences during the past six months through its livestreamed symphonic performances, and we're thrilled that its digital pop-up studio has enabled us to develop and launch this series for all ages, inviting even more people to Explore the Orchestra!*"

**Composer James Redwood** said, "*There are plenty of ways to get inside the BSO's music-making, from learning body percussion to meeting each instrument, and I can't wait to share it with you. I also can't wait to unveil my new work 'Explore the Orchestra', which has been specially written for the series.*"

The Orchestra also announced an initiative for **GCSE Music pupils** last week, with almost 3,500 pupils throughout the South West accessing new performances of set works through an online portal to help their exam studies.

***Explore the Orchestra* will be available to view on the BSO's website from Saturday 24 April. Visit [bsolive.com](https://bsolive.com) to book a free place.**

**#ExploretheOrchestra**

[ENDS]

### **Notes to Editors:**

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1. [Images available here](#)
  - 1) Explore the Orchestra with the BSO ©Mark Allan
  - 2) Composer James Redwood ©Chris Webb
  - 3) Lucy Warren, Head of BSO Participate
2. To book *Explore the Orchestra*: <https://bsolive.com/events/explore-the-orchestra/>
3. One of the UK's best-loved orchestras, **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** is a professional ensemble known for igniting change both on and off the stage. With residencies in Bournemouth,

Bristol, Exeter, Poole and Portsmouth it is also the largest cultural provider in the South West of England serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions.

4. Awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award in 2019, for its work in improving opportunities for disabled talent, the BSO continues to explore new territory with BSO Resound – the world's first professional disabled-led ensemble at the core of a major orchestra. **BSO Participate** works with all ages off the stage and is internationally recognised as an act to follow: over 650 community workshops and events take place each year across the Orchestra's vast region, empowering thousands of lives each year.
5. Following the longest break in its 127-year history, the Orchestra was one of the first ensembles in the UK to launch a series of full-symphonic performances in 2020. Investec is a proud partner and series sponsor of the BSO.
6. As a registered arts charity the BSO is increasingly reliant on the support of individuals, charitable trusts and companies. The income earned from ticket sales, commercial activity and grants from public funding sources help the Orchestra greatly and is increasingly invaluable in supporting BSO's on-going mission to enrich and inspire the cultural lives of many.
7. **The University of Exeter is series partner of BSO's *Explore the Orchestra*.**
8. The BSO's Principal Broadcast Partner is BBC Radio 3.
9. The BSO is Classic FM's Orchestra in the South of England.
10. Allianz Musical Insurance is supporting partner of BSO Resound.