

PRESS RELEASE  
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## Thousands of GCSE Music pupils to access Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra performances this spring thanks to digital innovations



*Pupils get inside the music from The Chinese Room's video game, Little Orpheus ©BSO*

- Video game music from [Little Orpheus](#) is one of 5 pieces offered to GCSE pupils
- The Orchestra's pop-up production studio to benefit around 3,500 Key Stage 4 pupils
- 10 regional education hubs from Cornwall to Swindon have signed up to the project

From video game music to a brand-new composition, hundreds more Key Stage 4 pupils throughout the South West will have access to specially-recorded performances by musicians from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO) to support their GCSE Music studies this spring.

The project, which is supported by the **Cornwall Music Education Hub**, is presented by **BSO Associate Musician Patrick Bailey**, who unpicks the 5 GCSE 'set works': Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A (finale); Kodály's Intermezzo from *Hary Janos*; music from [The Chinese Room's](#)

award-winning *Little Orpheus* video game; Schwartz's *Defying Gravity*; and a choice of JS Bach's Orchestral Suite No.2 (finale) or Brandenburg Concerto No.5 (finale).

The second part of the concert features a composition specially written by Patrick Bailey for the pupils and focussed on ideas schools have submitted, based on rhythm, harmony and melody.

The BSO's pop-up digital studio – which has enabled the Orchestra to livestream full symphonic concerts around the globe during lockdown – was used to record the performances for thousands of pupils throughout the South West, accessing the world-class professional ensemble from their home or classroom.

**Lucy Warren, Head of BSO Participate**, said, *“The BSO is beloved by generations of music lovers for its engaging schools concerts, so we’re thrilled to be able to continue this work with a diverse, informative and exciting programme during lockdown and reaching more young people than ever – and at a time when it’s needed more than ever before. The Orchestra’s digital transformation over the past year has enabled it to livestream symphonic music around the world; and it’s essential that we continue to reach the next generation of musicians here in our home region in the South and South West.”*

Schools and colleges will be able to access the material via their regional Music Education Hub; 10 hubs spanning the South West have signed up for the programme.

**To find out more about the work of BSO Participate visit [bsolive.com](https://bsolive.com)**

**[ENDS]**

### **Notes to Editors:**

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1. [Images available here](#)
  - 1) BSO musicians perform music from The Chinese Room's *Little Orpheus* ©BSO
  - 2) BSO musicians record GCSE works ©BSO
  - 3) Lucy Warren, Head of BSO Participate
  - 4) The BSO's livestreamed performances have reached a global audience ©Mark Allan
  - 5) BSO Associate Musician, Patrick Bailey, presents the performances ©BSO
2. 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.

3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. The BSO's Principal Broadcast Partner is BBC Radio 3.
7. The BSO is Classic FM's Orchestra in the South of England.
8. Allianz Musical Insurance is supporting partner of BSO Resound.