

London Philharmonic Orchestra launches a package of free digital activities to connect people through music in coming months

Opening event sees Anne-Sophie Mutter digitally joining three LPO musicians to perform an excerpt from Beethoven's 'Harp' Quartet today at 7.30pm

www.lpo.org.uk/lponline

The London Philharmonic Orchestra is offering audiences a package of free interactive digital initiatives through **LPOonline – Connecting through music** that will connect them to the exceptional power of music through four strands of activity:

Performance: newly created live or 'as live' music making will be presented on the Orchestra's [website](http://www.lpo.org.uk) and in some cases on its social media channels. These will include short performances or ensemble pieces brought together by digital means and involving individual players from the Orchestra and members of both the LPO's Foyle Future Firsts Development Programme and the LPO Junior Artists.

The first event TODAY [Thursday 26th March at 7.30pm] features violin superstar **Anne-Sophie Mutter** who comes together digitally with three LPO soloists – Pieter Schoeman (violin), Richard Waters (viola) and Kristina Blaumane (cello) – to perform an excerpt from the slow movement of Beethoven's 'Harp' Quartet, a work they were set to perform this week at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall. All four musicians recorded their parts in their respective homes.

The Season: The LPO's planned London season will be mirrored by playlists of the repertoire that was to be performed at that time at the Royal Festival Hall, offering audiences a chance to come together at www.lpo.org.uk. Conductors and LPO musicians will introduce each 'concert' giving their personal take on the repertoire and what it means to them. Audiences will then be able to interact with LPO musicians and staff on the LPO's social media channels.

On Saturday 28th March at 7.30pm, **Edward Gardner**, the LPO's Principal Conductor Designate, will introduce the first concert in this series.

Learn and Take Part: The LPO's acclaimed Education & Community department continues to innovate with a range of resources and activities for diverse audiences, supported by LPO musicians. Strand content will support instrumental and creative music learning, offer additional resources for schools, families and disability settings and provide opportunities for live interactions with the Orchestra.

Insight: Using the wealth of specialist knowledge and experience of the LPO's musicians, audiences will go further than ever behind the scenes at the Orchestra with features that lift the lid on performance technique, practice, orchestral instruments and how musicians are responding and reacting to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through a series of carefully crafted playlists the Orchestra will use its music to offer comfort, solace, and escape from daily realities, as well as a welcoming touchpoint for those turning to classical music for the first time.

A daily diary and a light-hearted stream of social media activity will be complemented by a thoughtful series developed by the LPO in partnership with leading wellbeing writer and social entrepreneur **Hollie de Cruz** to explore the unique power of orchestral music to help people of all ages and backgrounds find a sense of wellbeing during these unsettling times.

David Burke, Chief Executive Designate of the LPO, said:

"Music cuts through language and background to touch all of us, to take us out of our immediate concerns and give us access to myriad emotions that can be invaluable in extraordinary times. Everyone at the LPO wants to continue to provide these experiences to people of all ages, backgrounds and musical knowledge in order to help them find their own way through the current moment of crisis."

Anne-Sophie Mutter said:

"It is very special for me to play this little excerpt of the slow movement of Beethoven's beautiful masterpiece, the 'Harp' Quartet, with Pieter Schoeman, Richard Waters and Kristina Blaumane. We hope to play it for you in the not too distant future, live and in person! We miss you all terribly and sharing the gift of music with you all is the greatest present for us as artists. Stay safe, healthy and for the ones recovering... do so prestissimo!"

-ENDS-

**For further information, please contact
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Please find images of London Philharmonic Orchestra, Vladimir Jurowski and Anne-Sophie Mutter [HERE](#)

Notes to Editors

LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

One of the finest orchestras on the international stage, the London Philharmonic Orchestra balances a long and distinguished history with its reputation as one of the UK's most forward-looking ensembles. As well as its concert performances, the Orchestra also records film soundtracks, releases CDs and downloads on its own label, and reaches thousands of people every year through activities for families, schools and local communities.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra was founded by Sir Thomas Beecham in 1932, and has since been headed by many great conductors including Sir Adrian Boult, Bernard Haitink, Sir Georg Solti, Klaus Tennstedt and Kurt Masur. In 2017 Vladimir Jurowski celebrated his tenth

anniversary as the Orchestra's Principal Conductor. Edward Gardner is currently Principal Conductor Designate, and will take up the position when Jurowski's tenure concludes in September 2021.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra has performed at Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall since it opened in 1951, becoming Resident Orchestra in 1992. As well as its London home, it also has flourishing residencies in Brighton, Eastbourne and Saffron Walden, and each summer plays for Glyndebourne Festival Opera, where it has been Resident Symphony Orchestra for over 50 years. The Orchestra also tours internationally, performing to sell-out audiences worldwide.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra broadcasts regularly on television and radio. It also works with the Hollywood and UK film industries, recording soundtracks for blockbusters including the Oscar-winning score for *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. In 2005 it established its own record label, which now numbers over 100 releases all available on CD and to stream or download.

In summer 2012 the London Philharmonic Orchestra performed as part of The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Pageant on the River Thames, and was also chosen to record all the world's national anthems for the London 2012 Olympics. In 2013 it was the winner of the RPS Music Award for Ensemble.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra's dynamic Education & Community programme provides first musical experiences to children and families; offers creative projects and professional development opportunities for schools and teachers; inspires talented teenage instrumentalists to progress their skills; and develops the next generation of professional musicians.

The Orchestra's work at the forefront of digital technology has enabled it to reach millions of people worldwide: all its recordings are available to download and stream and, as well as a YouTube channel, the Orchestra has a lively presence on social media.

www.lpo.org.uk

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