

London **Philharmonic** Orchestra

London Philharmonic Orchestra launches 'Summer Sessions', a four-part series of online concerts available worldwide for free

15 July to 26 August 2020



The London Philharmonic Orchestra launches 'Summer Sessions', four hour-long chamber concerts performed by LPO musicians at the Orchestra's rehearsal venue, Henry Wood Hall in south London. Each concert will be streamed for free on the Orchestra's YouTube channel every second Wednesday evening beginning on Wednesday 15 July at 7.30pm. These concerts mark the first time LPO musicians will have performed together since mid-March when, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all of the Orchestra's remaining performances of the season were cancelled. These four concerts feature musicians from all the sections of the Orchestra, with strict social distancing rules in place to ensure the health and safety of the players and staff.

Starting off the series on 15 July is an all-string programme featuring 24 LPO string players led by Pieter Schoeman, performing works by Corelli, Elgar and Grieg. The second concert, broadcast on 29 July, showcases the Orchestra's wind section who will perform Rossini's Sonata for Wind Quartet No. 1, Mozart's Serenade in E flat and Janáček's sextet *Mládí*. 12 August features the brass and percussion sections – maintaining a 3-metre distance between players – performing chamber works by past and present LPO members including Richard Bissill and Simon Carrington. The final concert in the series (broadcast on 26 August) is an all-Beethoven programme to celebrate the composer's 250th anniversary. This final concert features LPO players alongside four musicians from the Orchestra's Foyle Future Firsts Development Programme. The Foyle Future Firsts (FFF) programme offers an annual opportunity for 17 aspiring orchestral musicians to develop their talent and core professional skills. As part of the scheme, the FFF members rehearse, study and perform with LPO members in addition to receiving individual advice and mentoring from their LPO Principal.

David Burke, LPO Chief Executive, commented:

"We are very excited to be taking these next steps back to live performances after one of the longest enforced breaks in our history. The Summer Sessions offer a special opportunity to get to know the sections

of the Orchestra and its players through some of their favourite chamber music, clearly sharing the beauty of musicians making music together.”

Since lockdown began, the London Philharmonic Orchestra has continued to innovate and reach new audiences with a range of initiatives. LPOonline provides a series of free digital performances and insight videos; playlists reflecting the repertoire of cancelled concerts; and ‘Lean in and Listen’, a new series focussing on our national wellbeing that has engaged with hundreds of thousands of people. The Orchestra has partnered with prominent figures from the world of entertainment, such as Russell Brand, Jameela Jamil and Dermot O’Leary, to reach new audiences during these difficult times, encouraging listeners to take a few minutes to connect and reflect with their emotions through classical music. The LPO has also continued to deliver many of its extensive Education and Community programmes through digital platforms. As Resident Orchestra of the Southbank Centre, the LPO remains in continuous dialogue about bringing music back to audiences as soon as possible.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

CONCERT 1 – 15 July

CORELLI Concerto Grosso in D, Op.6, No. 1

ELGAR Serenade for Strings

GRIEG Holberg Suite

VIOLIN I

Pieter Schoeman

Kate Oswin

Minn Majoe

Martin Höhmann

Katalin Varnagy

Thomas Eisner

Yang Zhang

Catherine Craig

VIOLIN II

Helena Smart

Fiona Higham

Joseph Maher

Eriko Nagayama

Nynke Hijlkema

Ashley Stevens

VIOLAS

Richard Waters

Ben Pollani

Ting-Ru Lai

Susanne Martens

CELLI

Pei-Jee Ng

Francis Bucknall

Laura Donoghue

David Lale

BASSES

Kevin Rundell

Sebastian Pennar

CONCERT 2 – 29 July

ROSSINI Sonata for Wind Quartet No.1 in F major

MOZART Serenade in E flat, K375

JANÁČEK Mládí

Flute: Juliette Bausor

Oboes: Ian Hardwick, Alice Munday

Clarinets: Benjamin Mellefont, Thomas Watmough, Paul Richards

Bassoons: Jonathan Davies, Simon Estell

Horns: John Ryan, Martin Hobbs

CONCERT 3 – 12 August

Programme to include:

RICHARD BISSILL Three Piece Suite for Four Horns (excerpts)

STANLEY WOODS John Peel

STANLEY WOODS Alexander takes a swing

LEONARD SALZEDO Concerto for Percussion, Op. 74 (excerpts)

SIMON CARRINGTON Hampden Celebration

MALCOLM ARNOLD Four Fanfares

LEONARD SALZEDO Divertimento, Op. 49

Horns: John Ryan, Martin Hobbs, Mark Vines, Gareth Mollison

Trumpets: Paul Beniston, James Fountain, Anne McAneney

Trombones: Mark Templeton, David Whitehouse, Lyndon Meredith

Tuba: Lee Tsarmaklis

Percussion: Andrew Barclay, Henry Baldwin, Keith Millar, Simon Carrington

CONCERT 4 – 26 August

BEETHOVEN Trio for piano, flute and bassoon in G major

BEETHOVEN Septet in E flat, Op. 20

BEETHOVEN Quintet for piano and wind instruments in E flat major, Op. 16

Piano: Catherine Edwards

Flute: Juliette Bausor

Oboe: Ian Hardwick

Clarinet: Benjamin Mellefont

Bassoon: Jonathan Davies

Horn: John Ryan

Clarinet for Septet: Holly Isherwood (FFF)

Bassoon for Septet: Patrick Bolton (FFF)

Horn for Septet: Joel Roberts (FFF)

Violin: Pieter Schoeman

Viola: Richard Waters

Cello: Tamaki Sugimoto (FFF)

Double bass: Sebastian Pennar

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 Principal Conductor and he will be succeeded by Edward Gardner in September 2021.

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.

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.

www.lpo.org.uk