WIGMORE HALL

Wigmore Hall's vibrant series of late-night concerts returns this summer







(Sean Shibe © Kaupo Kikkas; Chineke! Orchestra © Eric Richmond; Amaan and Ayaan Ali Bangash © Riot Artists)

Wigmore Lates are a firm fixture in the Wigmore Hall's summer calendar and return this year with a diverse range of one-hour Friday performances, followed by live jazz and drinks in the Hall's bar.

Featuring everything from innovative electric guitar performances and traditional Indian classical music to musical theatre and world-renowned classical musicians, this line up of seven late-night shows is the perfect start to the weekend, offering discounted £5 tickets for under 35s.

The series opens with a thrilling song recital by mezzo-soprano **Anne Sofie von Otter** and regular duo partner **Bengt Forsberg** on piano. The climax of this performance is Shostakovich's powerful setting of poems by Russian and Soviet poet Marina Tsvetayeva, complemented with works by Britten, Grainger and Purcell (3 May).

Sarod virtuosos **Amaan Ali Bangash** and **Ayaan Ali Bangash** perform an eclectic programme that fuses the Indian classical and western classical traditions. The two play a range of works by their father and guru, sarod icon Amjad Ali Khan, and are joined by violinist **Jennifer Pike** for a performance of Bach's Partita No. 3 (31 May).

Violinist **Viktoria Mullova** pays homage to JS Bach, playing a breadth of the composer's works for solo violin. Mullova also performs Prokofiev's major Sonata in D and contemporary pieces such as Dai Fujikura's *line by line* and Sir George Benjamin's 3 Miniatures for solo violin (14 June).

Europe's first majority BME orchestra, **Chineke! Orchestra**, returns to the Wigmore Hall stage with a programme that is crowned by the London premiere of Errollyn Wallen's *Nnenna*, a septet written especially for the orchestra, also performing Saint-Saëns Septet in E flat and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Nonet in F minor (21 June).

Guitarist **Sean Shibe** brings the traditional acoustic together with the modern electric in a programme named after his disc, softLOUD. In a varied programme, Shibe explores everything from arrangements of 17th century Scottish lute works from Straloch and Rowallan manuscripts, to Steve Reich's minimalist *Electric Counterpoint* for electric guitar and tape (28 June).

Shibe returns to the Hall later in the series with flautist **Adam Walker** for a performance of Piazolla's most famous work *Histoire du Tango*. Walker also plays Takemitsu's *Toward the Sea*, Debussy's *Syrinx*, Poulenc's *Sarabande* and Shankar's *L'Aube enchantée* (12 July).

Leading soprano **Susan Bullock** closes the Wigmore Lates series with a recital of classics from the Great American Songbook, with pianist **Richard Sisson**. The programme, entitled 'Songs my father taught me', ranges from the earlier classics of Gershwin and Rodgers and Hammerstein to modern pieces by Burt Bacharach and Stephen Sondheim, including *My Funny Valentine*, *Someone to Watch Over Me* and *A House is not a Home* (19 July).

All concerts are at 10pm and finish at 11pm. Full details of the concerts can be found at www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/lates. Tickets cost £16, with £5 tickets available for under-35s.

For further press information, tickets and images please contact: Roberta Philip roberta.philip@premiercomms.com | 0207 292 7352

HIGH-RES IMAGES

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