



EDINBURGH  
INTERNATIONAL  
FESTIVAL

# CONCERTS & RECITALS

2015

# WELCOME

In 2015, to help with your planning and whet your appetite, we are pleased to announce our Concerts and Recitals programme in this separate brochure. Booking for all Festival performances will open following the full programme launch on Wednesday 18 March.

This year we acknowledge the remarkable contribution of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus as we celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Our Usher Hall Festival season will include performances by the San Francisco Symphony, the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Budapest Festival Orchestra alongside concerts by Mitsuko Uchida, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Lang Lang and Diana Damrau.

Each morning The Queen's Hall will play host to exceptional chamber concerts by ensembles such as Trio Zimmermann, the Zehetmair Quartet, and thrilling contributions from Daniil Trifonov, Matthias Goerne, Leonidas Kavakos and Iestyn Davies to name but a few.

Please join us this August for a summer of exceptional music-making in Edinburgh, the world's festival city.

## Booking and online

You can book tickets following the full 2015 Festival programme announcement on Wednesday 18 March. Booking for Friends and Patrons opens on Thursday 19 March and from Saturday 28 March for everyone else. See page 27 for full details.

The Festival's website – [eif.co.uk](http://eif.co.uk) – is updated regularly with film, music, information and insights into our artists and performances. Visit regularly to explore the latest playlists, interviews and podcasts on Festival 2015.



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## THE OPENING CONCERT

**Donald Runnicles conducts  
Brahms and Strauss**

**BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra**  
**Donald Runnicles** Conductor

**Edinburgh Festival Chorus**  
**Christopher Bell** Chorus Master

**Brahms** Gesang der Parzen  
**Brahms** Liebeslieder Waltzer (orch. Brahms)  
**Brahms** Schicksalslied  
**Strauss** Ein Heldenleben

*Sung in German with English surtitles*

Donald Runnicles directs Richard Strauss's powerful musical and autobiographical portrait of a hero's life, alongside richly Romantic choral music by Brahms – including the brooding *Gesang der Parzen* and a selection of the charming, lyrical *Liebeslieder Waltzer*.

**Saturday 8 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours

Tickets £46 £39 £32 £26 £20 £14  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/opening](http://eif.co.uk/opening)

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**The Morton Charitable Trust**

## CELTIC DIALOGUES

**Old, Historical and  
Modern Traditions**

**Jordi Savall** Viola da gamba / Viola  
**Martin Hayes** Violin  
**Dennis Cahill** Guitar  
**Andrew Lawrence-King**  
Irish Harp & Psaltery  
**Frank McGuire** Bodhran

A provocative intermingling of contrasting musical traditions as early music pioneer and viola da gamba virtuoso Jordi Savall joins Irish fiddle legend Martin Hayes and guitarist Dennis Cahill to explore the richness of Celtic music, including Scottish tunes *The Reel of Tullochgorum* and *The Hills of Lorne*, as well as *The Humours of Scariff* and *Sackow's Jig* from Ireland.

**Sunday 9 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours

Tickets £38 £30 £24 £20 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/celticdialogues](http://eif.co.uk/celticdialogues)

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## RAMEAU & CHARPENTIER

**William Christie conducts the  
Scottish Chamber Orchestra**

**Scottish Chamber Orchestra**  
**William Christie** Conductor

Scenes from **Charpentier's** *Médée*  
and **Rameau's** *Les Boréades*

William Christie, the great pioneer of the French Baroque revival, conducts the Scottish Chamber Orchestra in an evening of vocal and instrumental music from two of the finest early French operas: Charpentier's *Médée* and Rameau's remarkable final opera *Les Boréades*, unperformed in his own lifetime and a feast of colour, melody and spectacle.

**Monday 10 August 9pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 30 minutes  
(no interval)

Tickets £38 £30 £24 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/rameau-charpentier](http://eif.co.uk/rameau-charpentier)

## LE CONCERT SPIRITUEL

### Striggio's Mass in 40 Parts

**Hervé Niquet** Conductor

**Striggio** Mass in 40 Parts

Written to uplift and inspire, Striggio's recently rediscovered Mass in 40 Parts is one of the late Renaissance's grandest, most sumptuous choral works, performed here by leading French early music ensemble Le Concert Spirituel under founding director Hervé Niquet.

**Tuesday 11 August 9pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 25 minutes (no interval)

Tickets £38 £30 £24 £18 £12

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/spirituel](http://eif.co.uk/spirituel)

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## THE RAKE'S PROGRESS

### Sir Andrew Davis conducts Stravinsky

**Scottish Chamber Orchestra**  
**Sir Andrew Davis** Conductor

**Royal Conservatoire Voices**  
**Timothy Dean** Chorus Master

*Concert performance sung in English with surtitles*

**Emily Birsan** Anne Trulove  
**Andrew Staples** Tom Rakewell  
**Gidon Saks** Nick Shadow  
**Elizabeth DeShong** Baba the Turk  
**Catherine Wyn-Rogers** Mother Goose  
**Peter Rose** Trulove  
**Alan Oke** Sellem  
**Ashley Riches** Keeper of the madhouse

Stravinsky and W.H. Auden's darkly sparkling operatic morality tale on love, money and Faustian pacts. Renowned opera conductor Sir Andrew Davis directs a rich line-up of international soloists and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

**Wednesday 12 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours 45 minutes

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/rakes](http://eif.co.uk/rakes)

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## SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

### Sir John Eliot Gardiner conducts Berlioz

**Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique**  
**Sir John Eliot Gardiner** Conductor

**National Youth Choir of Scotland**  
**Christopher Bell** Chorus Master

**Michael Spyres** Tenor  
**Laurent Naouri** Bass

**Berlioz** Symphonie fantastique  
**Berlioz** Léo

*Sung in French and Italian with English surtitles*

Romantic passions and spurned love course through two phantasmagorical works by Berlioz – the vivid storytelling of the *Symphonie fantastique*, and its sequel, the visionary *Lélio* – conducted by period performance pioneer Sir John Eliot Gardiner with his Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique.

**Thursday 13 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours 15 minutes

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/fantastique](http://eif.co.uk/fantastique)

Supported by

**Dunard Fund**

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## MACMILLAN & SIBELIUS

**Colin Currie makes his Festival debut**

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**Royal Scottish National Orchestra**  
**Edward Gardner** Conductor

**Edinburgh Festival Chorus**  
**Christopher Bell** Chorus Master

**Colin Currie** Percussion  
**Anna Larsson** Mezzo soprano  
**Johan Reuter** Baritone

**James MacMillan**  
Percussion Concerto No 2  
**Sibelius** Kullervo

*Sung in Finnish with English surtitles*

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Scottish-born percussionist Colin Currie is the soloist in the energetic, metal-focused Second Percussion Concerto by James MacMillan, receiving its Scottish premiere alongside Sibelius's grand musical retelling of a powerful tale from Finnish folklore.

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**Friday 14 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours 15 minutes

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/macmillan-sibelius](http://eif.co.uk/macmillan-sibelius)

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## OSLO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA 01

**Vasily Petrenko conducts  
Grieg's Peer Gynt**

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**Vasily Petrenko** Conductor

**Grieg** Peer Gynt Suites No 1 and No 2  
**Rachmaninov** Symphony No 2

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Grieg's evocative musical tales of trolls and fjords, alongside Rachmaninov's symphonic melding of soaring Russian melody and surging power, from the energetic partnership of passionate Russian conductor Vasily Petrenko and the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, in the first of their two Festival concerts.

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**Saturday 15 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/opo1](http://eif.co.uk/opo1)

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## OSLO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA 02

**Nicola Benedetti  
performs Glazunov**

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**Vasily Petrenko** Conductor  
**Nicola Benedetti** Violin

**Geirr Tveitt** Selection of pieces from  
100 Folk Tunes from Hardanger  
**Glazunov** Violin Concerto  
**Sibelius** Symphony No 1

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Nicola Benedetti joins Vasily Petrenko and the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra as soloist in Glazunov's sparkling, lyrical Violin Concerto, with the expansive melody of Sibelius's powerful First Symphony closing their second Festival concert.

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**Sunday 16 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 30 minutes

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/opo2](http://eif.co.uk/opo2)

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**ESA-PEKKA SALONEN**

Photo Katja Rauhja

**“BERLIOZ FALLS OUTSIDE ALL CATEGORIES. I REALLY ENJOY THAT ASPECT OF HIS MUSIC — HE’S FREE, FREE TO INVENT EVERYTHING AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT, FREE TO REINVENT HIMSELF, AND HIS FANTASY IS ENDLESS. THE FRESHNESS THAT MANY OF HIS WORKS STILL HAVE TODAY IS ASTONISHING — AND THEY CAN STILL SOUND WEIRD. EVERY PIECE OF HIS HAS REMARKABLE MOMENTS, TRULY IMPRESSIVE, BEAUTIFUL MOMENTS.**

The Berlioz *Grande messe des morts* is a truly fabulous piece of music – and some of the invention and the dramatic decisions he makes in it are really outstanding. The practicalities of performing it, though, are hair-raising – as a conductor, you have to try and synchronise four different independent groups of performers in different spaces across the concert hall – and they make a tremendous noise, which you somehow have to balance. But it’s very exciting, and it’s also rarely performed, so for many listeners it’s a real discovery.

Stravinsky has always been at the very core of whatever I do, since I was a kid – it’s clear that he was the biggest inventor of the last century. I find *Petrushka* absolutely fascinating – it’s one of those rare works where a composer manages to write a piece that is immediately catchy. If you hear *Petrushka* for the first time in your life, you’ll walk out of the concert hall humming the tunes, and even if you’re conducting it for the 60th time, you still discover new things in it.

And Bartók’s Second Piano Concerto is one of my absolutely favourite concertos. It really takes a sensational technique to pull it off, but I think Lang Lang is the man for that kind of challenge. He’s a great guy to work with – very flexible and very open – and there are no limits to what he can do.

My best concert memories are always the ones where I felt the boundaries between the orchestra and myself and the music disappearing – almost where I feel I’ve eradicated myself out of the picture. And of course the audience feeds into that feeling, too – it becomes like a loop, where the audience and the performers inspire each other to even greater energy and intensity. It would be utterly pointless to imagine any kind of music without the listeners – they’re the key.”

*Esa-Pekka Salonen*

## MOZART'S REQUIEM

**Iván Fischer conducts the  
Budapest Festival Orchestra**

**Budapest Festival Orchestra**  
**Iván Fischer** Conductor

**Edinburgh Festival Chorus**  
**Christopher Bell** Chorus Master

**Miah Persson** Soprano  
**Barbara Kozelj** Mezzo soprano  
**Jeremy Ovenden** Tenor  
**Konstantin Wolff** Bass

**Mozart** Symphony No 38 'Prague'  
**Mozart** Requiem

Two late, visionary masterpieces by Mozart, the glowing 'Prague' Symphony with its teeming melody and the sublime Requiem performed by incisive conductor Iván Fischer and his characterful Budapest Festival Orchestra.

**Tuesday 18 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/mozartrequiem](http://eif.co.uk/mozartrequiem)

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## PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

**Lang Lang performs Bartók's  
Piano Concerto No 2**

**Esa-Pekka Salonen** Conductor  
**Lang Lang** Piano

**Bartók** Piano Concerto No 2  
**Stravinsky** Petrushka (1947)  
**Tchaikovsky** Francesca da Rimini

Flamboyant showman and global piano sensation Lang Lang is the soloist in Bartók's brilliantly rhythmic Second Piano Concerto, while the Philharmonia Orchestra and Esa-Pekka Salonen continue the programme with the sumptuous colours of Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky.

**Wednesday 19 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £46 £39 £32 £26 £20 £14  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/phil](http://eif.co.uk/phil)

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## LANG LANG IN RECITAL

**Plays Bach, Tchaikovsky  
and Chopin**

**Bach** Italian Concerto  
**Tchaikovsky** The Seasons  
**Chopin** Four Scherzos

Lang Lang returns to the Usher Hall for a solo recital showcasing the poetry and pyrotechnics of his powerful pianism, from the brisk precision of Bach to the dazzling keyboard fireworks of Chopin, by way of Tchaikovsky's gloriously lyrical *The Seasons*.

**Friday 21 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours

Tickets £46 £39 £32 £26 £20 £14  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/langlang](http://eif.co.uk/langlang)

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## BERLIOZ'S GRANDE MESSE DES MORTS

Performed by the Edinburgh Festival Chorus

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**Philharmonia Orchestra**  
**Esa-Pekka Salonen** Conductor

**Edinburgh Festival Chorus**  
**Christopher Bell** Chorus Master

**Lawrence Brownlee** Tenor

**Berlioz** Grande messe des morts

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Berlioz's monumental Requiem is one of the grandest works ever conceived, with music both elemental and touchingly poignant summoned by epic choral and orchestral forces including four sets of timpani and four brass choirs. In their second Festival concert, Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Philharmonia Orchestra are joined by the massed ranks of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus.

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**Saturday 22 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 20 minutes  
(no interval)

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/grandemesse](http://eif.co.uk/grandemesse)

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## H.M.S. PINAFORE

Gilbert & Sullivan's  
classic comic opera

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**Scottish Opera**  
**Richard Egarr** Conductor

*Concert performance sung  
in English with surtitles*

**John Mark Ainsley** Rt. Hon.

Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B.

**Andrew Foster-Williams** Captain Corcoran

**Toby Spence** Ralph Rackstraw

**Elizabeth Watts** Josephine

**Hilary Summers** Little Buttercup

**Kitty Whately** Hebe

**Neal Davies** Dick Deadeye

**Gavan Ring** Bill Bobstay

**Barnaby Rea** Bob Becket

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A special concert performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's sparkling nautical comic opera. Scottish Opera brings together a fine cast of British singers, conducted by Richard Egarr.

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**Sunday 23 August 5pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 30 minutes  
(no interval)

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/pinafore](http://eif.co.uk/pinafore)

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## MITSUKO UCHIDA IN RECITAL

Plays Schubert  
and Beethoven

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**Schubert** Impromptus D899  
**Beethoven** 33 Variations  
on a Waltz by Diabelli

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Combining sensitivity with searing insights, Mitsuko Uchida tackles one of the cornerstones of the keyboard repertoire – Beethoven's epic, all-encompassing Diabelli Variations – alongside the poetry of Schubert's melodious Impromptus, D899.

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**Monday 24 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £38 £30 £24 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/uchida](http://eif.co.uk/uchida)

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**NICOLA BENEDETTI**

**“ THE GLAZUNOV CONCERTO WAS ONE OF THE EARLIEST CONCERTOS I LEARNT – I MUST HAVE BEEN 16 OR 17. I DID SOME OF MY FIRST INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES WITH THAT PIECE, IN FACT I TRAPPED MY FINGER IN A DOOR JUST BEFORE MY VERY FIRST MAJOR PERFORMANCE OF IT, SO I HAD TO FIGURE OUT A WAY OF PLAYING IT WITH A THIRD FINGER THAT WASN’T WORKING PROPERLY!**

The interesting thing about the Concerto is its deep Romanticism – I think Glazunov was one of the last composers to freely and unashamedly write in that style, or with such innocence. One of the beauties of it is Glazunov’s use of the violin’s lower register, how he manages to get a deep, rich tone out of the violin, which to me is reminiscent of some of the great Russian singers. It’s actually an incredibly difficult Concerto to play – I know lots of violinists who avoid it. But in all those moments where he’s introducing yet another gorgeous melody, it enables you to sing through your instrument, and that feels like pure enjoyment.

Ideally in any concerto, you start the first note with a deep sense of the story you’re about to tell. It’s a huge part of the challenge of being a classical musician – these stories are long, they’re very varied, they’re complicated, and they’ll inevitably take you through just about every emotion that life has. Much of that work is about bringing listeners with you, ensuring that you really are playing to people and bringing them on what you understand that journey to be.

I have such enormously varied experiences on stage, but I’ve had to learn to deal with whatever comes my way and actually embrace it. My ideal state of mind is to be as unthinking as possible, as though something has taken over my whole being. The hours of practice and the thought that’s gone into what you’re about to play – just to execute and repeat that isn’t good enough for a performance. I want to hear someone who’s feeling everything that’s going on around them and improvising on their thoughts as they’re experiencing them.”

*Nicola Benedetti*

## NOSEDA CONDUCTS MAHLER

**Diana Damrau and  
Nicolas Testé sing Verdi**

**European Union Youth Orchestra**  
**Gianandrea Noseda** Conductor

**Diana Damrau** Soprano  
**Nicolas Testé** Baritone

**Verdi** Arias  
**Mahler** Symphony No 5

*Sung in Italian with English surtitles*

World-renowned soprano Diana Damrau, winner of numerous accolades including the International Opera Awards 2014 female singer of the year, joins acclaimed baritone Nicolas Testé and the vibrant players of the EUYO for dramatic arias and duets from Verdi's *Luisa Miller* and *I Masnadieri*, followed by Mahler's searing Fifth Symphony.

**Tuesday 25 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours 15 minutes

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/mahler5](http://eif.co.uk/mahler5)

Supported by

**The Italian Cultural Institute, Edinburgh**

The appearance of Diana Damrau supported by

**John-Paul and Joanna Temperley**

## VIVALDI'S THE FOUR SEASONS

**Anne-Sophie Mutter  
plays Bach and Vivaldi**

**Mutter's Virtuosi**  
**Anne-Sophie Mutter** Director / Violin

**Bach** Concerto for Two Violins  
**André Previn** Nonet (World premiere)  
**Vivaldi** The Four Seasons

One of the world's pre-eminent violinists joins her hand-picked ensemble of emerging soloists for fresh perspectives on two of the Baroque repertoire's best-loved works, alongside a brand new piece written specially for them by André Previn.

**Wednesday 26 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/fourseasons](http://eif.co.uk/fourseasons)

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CLASSIC *f*M

## SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY 01

**Michael Tilson Thomas  
conducts Mahler**

**Michael Tilson Thomas** Conductor

**St. Lawrence String Quartet**

**Schoenberg** Theme and Variations Op 43b  
**John Adams** Absolute Jest  
**Mahler** Symphony No 1

Mahler's powerful First Symphony sits alongside John Adams's witty rethinking of Beethoven in the first of the San Francisco Symphony's two Festival concerts under renowned Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas.

**Thursday 27 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours

Tickets £46 £39 £32 £26 £20 £14  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/sfs1](http://eif.co.uk/sfs1)

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## SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY 02

**Performs Tchaikovsky Symphony No 5**

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**Michael Tilson Thomas** Conductor

**Yuja Wang** Piano

**Ives** 'Decoration Day' from New England Holidays

**Beethoven** Piano Concerto No 4

**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No 5

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Chinese piano sensation Yuja Wang performs Beethoven's touchingly lyrical Fourth Piano Concerto in the San Francisco Symphony's second Festival concert, which closes with the triumph over tragedy of Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony.

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**Friday 28 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours

Tickets £46 £39 £32 £26 £20 £14

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/sfs2](http://eif.co.uk/sfs2)

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## BEETHOVEN'S MISSA SOLEMNIS

**Robin Ticciati conducts the Scottish Chamber Orchestra**

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**Scottish Chamber Orchestra**  
**Robin Ticciati** Conductor

**Edinburgh Festival Chorus**  
**Christopher Bell** Chorus Master

**Genia Kühmeier** Soprano

**Alice Coote** Mezzo soprano

**Michael Schade** Tenor

**Georg Zeppenfeld** Bass

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**Beethoven** Missa solemnis

Beethoven's grand and tumultuous spiritual journey is one of the greatest choral works ever composed, and it is performed by an international line-up of soloists and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra under perceptive Principal Conductor Robin Ticciati.

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**Saturday 29 August 8pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 20 minutes (no interval)

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/missa](http://eif.co.uk/missa)

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## STRAVINSKY'S THE RITE OF SPRING

**Valery Gergiev conducts the London Symphony Orchestra**

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**London Symphony Orchestra**  
**Valery Gergiev** Conductor

**Yefim Bronfman** Piano

**Bartók** The Miraculous Mandarin

**Bartók** Piano Concerto No 3

**Stravinsky** The Rite of Spring

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Conducting powerhouse Valery Gergiev and the magnificent London Symphony Orchestra bring the Festival's Usher Hall concerts to a close with music by two of the 20th century's most dazzling, vibrant composers.

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**Sunday 30 August 7.30pm, Usher Hall**

Running time approx. 2 hours

Tickets £44 £36 £27 £25 £18 £12

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/riteofspring](http://eif.co.uk/riteofspring)

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Supported by

**Susie Thomson**

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## NASH ENSEMBLE

**Vaughan Williams** Piano Quintet in C minor  
**Schubert** Octet

One of Britain's most revered chamber groups performs Schubert's gloriously tuneful Octet, alongside the Brahms-influenced early Piano Quintet by Vaughan Williams.

**Saturday 8 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 50 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/nash](http://eif.co.uk/nash)

This concert will be broadcast on  
Thursday 13 August on BBC Radio 3

Supported by

**The Peter Diamand Trust**

## TALLIS SCHOLARS

Music by **Tallis**, **Sheppard** and **Pärt**

Radiant choral works both ancient and modern from the sublime voices of one of the UK's most accomplished vocal ensembles, under founding Director Peter Phillips. They contrast the rich Tudor polyphony of Thomas Tallis's *Sancte deus* and John Sheppard's *Media vita* and *Gaude, gaude, gaude* with the exquisite sparseness of Arvo Pärt's *Nunc dimittis* and *Triodion*.

**Monday 10 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/tallis](http://eif.co.uk/tallis)

This concert will be broadcast  
live on BBC Radio 3

## MODIGLIANI QUARTET

**Beethoven** String Quartet  
in C minor Op 18 No 4  
**Ravel** String Quartet in F  
**Dohnányi** String Quartet No 3 in A minor

One of the most exciting of today's younger quartets brings together dramatic Beethoven, sophisticated Ravel and Dohnányi at his most richly expressive.

**Tuesday 11 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/modigliani](http://eif.co.uk/modigliani)

This concert will be broadcast  
live on BBC Radio 3

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## VALENTINA NAFORNIȚA ROGER VIGNOLES

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**Valentina Nafornita** Soprano  
**Roger Vignoles** Piano

Lieder and songs by **Fauré, Liszt, Bartók, Rachmaninov, Tchaikovsky** and **Dvořák**.

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Richly romantic songs – including colourful gypsy melodies by Dvořák and Fauré's evocative *Chanson d'amour* and *Le secret* – in a recital showcasing the vibrant, sensual vocal talents of acclaimed Moldovan soprano Valentina Nafornita, winner of 2011's BBC Cardiff Singer of the World, partnered by one of today's most distinguished accompanists.

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**Wednesday 12 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/naornita-vignoles](http://eif.co.uk/naornita-vignoles)

This concert will be broadcast  
live on BBC Radio 3

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Supported by

**Frank Hitchman**

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## ANGELA HEWITT

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**Angela Hewitt** Piano

Works by **Domenico Scarlatti, Granados, Albéniz** and **de Falla**.

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Famed for her immaculate, sensitive pianism, Angela Hewitt contrasts sparkling sonatas by Scarlatti with lush Iberian fantasies including Granados's *Danzas españolas* and Falla's sparkling, evocative *Fantasia baetica*.

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**Thursday 13 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/hewitt](http://eif.co.uk/hewitt)

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Supported by

**Joscelyn Fox**

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## BUDAPEST FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA SOLOISTS

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**Prokofiev** Overture on Hebrew Themes  
**Poulenc** Sextet  
**Bartok** Piano Quintet

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Three colourful chamber works performed by respected solo players from the acclaimed Budapest Festival Orchestra: the earthy exoticism of Prokofiev's Overture on Hebrew Themes, Poulenc's effervescent Sextet for piano and wind, and the distinctive Hungarian flavours of Bartók's youthful, Brahms-inspired Piano Quintet.

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**Friday 14 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/bfo](http://eif.co.uk/bfo)

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This concert will be broadcast  
live on BBC Radio 3

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Supported by



AUDITORIUM



**MITSUKO UCHIDA**



**“ BEETHOVEN’S DIABELLI VARIATIONS ARE VERY SPECIAL — ONE OF THE GREATEST PIANO PIECES EVER WRITTEN — BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO? SHOULD I JUMP IN FRONT OF A TRAIN BECAUSE THEY’RE SO IMPORTANT AND GIGANTIC? MY RESPONSIBILITY TO THIS GREAT MUSIC IS THERE, BUT I HAVE TO PLAY, AND I HAVE TO TAKE THE RISK.**

It lasts about an hour, and Beethoven invents so much in that time. He uses every possible device he can think of to articulate his intellectual and emotional responses to Diabelli’s banal little waltz – stretching it, shrinking it, putting it back to front, upside down. You name it, and Beethoven does it. But at the very end, after all of this madness, Beethoven finishes in hope. That shows his amazing humanity and, for me, that’s Beethoven’s genius.

While you are playing, you are discovering the music anew all the time. If I stopped doing that, I would probably stop playing. It’s what performing is all about. You’re on stage sharing these discoveries with everybody. Your entire existence is heightened – you notice things better than otherwise. It’s quite dangerous, but you have to take that risk, because otherwise you’d just be repeating what you did yesterday. I’ve seen so many musicians do that, either because they are performing too much, or because they want to play perfectly and avoid mistakes. But if you just want to play safely, you might as well just make recordings.

All I ask for is the audience’s concentration – that the people are there with me, and with the music. You can hear the concentration in the air. But I’m not playing in order to please an audience, and least of all to please a critic! I’m inside the music, I’m listening, and I want people to listen and to be with me – that’s all. You try to make honest music, what you believe in, and you risk your life for it.”

*Mitsuko Uchida*

## TRIO ZIMMERMANN

**Schubert** String Trio in B flat D581  
**Hindemith** String Trio No 2  
**Beethoven** String Trio in E flat Op 3

The all-star Trio Zimmermann – Frank Peter Zimmermann, Antoine Tamestit and Christian Poltéra – has been credited with reinvigorating the string trio, and performs youthful Schubert, bracing Hindemith and Beethoven at his most classically elegant.

**Saturday 15 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50

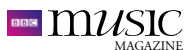
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/zimmermann](http://eif.co.uk/zimmermann)

Supported by

**Donald and Louise MacDonald**

Supported by



## SARAH CONNOLLY MALCOLM MARTINEAU

**Sarah Connolly** Mezzo soprano  
**Malcolm Martineau** Piano

Songs and Lieder by **Schoenberg, Zemlinsky, Debussy, Poulenc, Korngold, Strauss** and **Eisler**.

One of Britain's finest singers, mezzo soprano Sarah Connolly matches a richly expressive voice with a keen sense of drama. She brings together a recital of vivid, opulent songs, from Strauss's lush *Sehnsucht* to the sensual *Chansons de Bilitis* by Debussy, with acclaimed Edinburgh-born pianist Malcolm Martineau.

**Monday 17 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/connolly-martineau](http://eif.co.uk/connolly-martineau)

This concert will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3

Supported by

**Jim and Isobel Stretton**

## RICHARD EGARR

**Richard Egarr** Harpsichord

**Bach** English Suite No 3 in G minor  
 French Suite No 6 in E  
 French Suite No 5 in G  
 English Suite No 6 in D minor

One of Britain's most respected Baroque specialists, harpsichordist Richard Egarr contrasts the dances and drama of four of Bach's captivating English and French suites.

**Tuesday 18 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/egarr](http://eif.co.uk/egarr)

This concert will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3

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## LESTYN DAVIES & ENSEMBLE GUADAGNI

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**Iestyn Davies** Countertenor

**Richard Egarr** Harpsichord

**Pamela Thorby & Tabea Debus** Recorders

**Bojan Čičić & Sophie Gent** Violins

**Huw Daniel** Violin / Viola

**Alison McGillivray** Viola da gamba

**William Carter** Theorbo / Baroque guitar

Orpheus Britannicus:  
The Music of **Henry Purcell**

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Praised for performances both sensual and sublime, Iestyn Davies has rapidly established himself as one of the world's pre-eminent countertenors. He's joined by early music expert Richard Egarr and friends for a recital of exquisite music from the English Baroque.

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**Wednesday 19 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/davies-guadagni](http://eif.co.uk/davies-guadagni)

This concert will be broadcast  
live on BBC Radio 3

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Supported by

**Mr Hedley G Wright**

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## JAMES GILCHRIST

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**James Gilchrist** Tenor

**Craig Ogden** Guitar

**Anna Tilbrook** Piano

**Berkeley** Five Chinese Songs Op 78

**Britten** Nocturnal after John Dowland Op 70

**Britten** Songs from the Chinese Op 58

**Sally Beamish** Four Songs from Hafez

Plus songs by **Dowland**  
and Lieder by **Schubert**

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British tenor James Gilchrist brings together Eastern-inspired works by Lennox Berkeley, Britten and Sally Beamish in his wide-ranging Festival recital. He completes the programme with songs by Dowland including the moving *In darkness let me dwell*, and two groups of Schubert Lieder, one performed with guitarist Craig Ogden, the other with pianist Anna Tilbrook, including *Schwanengesang's* yearning 'Ständchen'.

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**Thursday 20 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/gilchrist](http://eif.co.uk/gilchrist)

This concert will be broadcast live  
on BBC Radio 3

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## COLIN CURRIE & FRIENDS

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**Colin Currie** Percussion

**Sam Walton** Percussion

**Simon Crawford-Phillips** Piano

**Philip Moore** Piano

**John Adams** Hallelujah Junction

**Steve Reich** Quartet for Two

Vibraphones and Two Pianos

**Rolf Wallin** Realismos mágicos

**Bartók** Sonata for Two Pianos  
and Percussion

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Exhilarating music for two pianists and two percussionists – from Steve Reich's graceful Quartet for Two Vibraphones and Two Pianos, recently premiered, to Bartók's classic score of bracing virtuosity – performed by renowned Scottish-born percussionist Colin Currie and colleagues.

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**Friday 21 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/currie](http://eif.co.uk/currie)

This concert will be broadcast live  
on BBC Radio 3

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**IVÁN FISCHER**

“ MOZART’S ‘PRAGUE’ SYMPHONY IS EXTREMELY RICH IN EXPRESSION, AND I HEAR MANY OPERATIC CHARACTERS IN THIS ORCHESTRAL WORK. WE KNOW THAT MOZART LOVED PRAGUE AND THAT HE ALWAYS HAD THE FEELING THAT IN PRAGUE HE WAS AMONG FRIENDS WHO UNDERSTOOD HIS MUSIC. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WHATEVER HE COMPOSED FOR THIS CITY WAS SPECIALLY INSPIRED MUSIC.

His Requiem is very different, however. It’s deeply personal and emotional – especially if we compare it with his earlier church music, the masses and vespers he composed for more conventional occasions. I don’t think it’s an exaggeration to say that Mozart wrote the Requiem for himself.

As an opera composer, Mozart never takes sides. He prefers to understand everybody’s motivations. As a result, his characters are all likeable, and Mozart generally resolves their conflicts. In *The Marriage of Figaro*, the Countess forgives her unfaithful husband. Tito even pardons his assassin in *La clemenza di Tito*. There is a wisdom and a general optimism in Mozart’s characters that I feel very close to. He always maintains the ability to laugh about anything, even himself.

I know that some colleagues find conducting tiring – and standing on the same spot with your arms lifted for two hours probably could be tiring. But I don’t – the music entertains me and keeps my mind occupied, so I forget I’ve been standing there for so long. I never feel that conducting is work.

Audiences differ in every country, but I’m not interested in those differences in behaviour. What interest me are the listeners’ deeper feelings, which are exactly the same all over the world. Sometimes I call it the listener’s inner child, which feels strong emotions like joy, fear, hope or surprise. I always try to reach this inner child and I notice when it’s working by the audience’s silence.”

*Iván Fischer*

## CHRISTINE BREWER ROGER VIGNOLES

**Christine Brewer** Soprano  
**Roger Vignoles** Piano

Includes Lieder by **Schubert, Clara Schumann** and **Strauss**, and a selection of 20th-century American songs

With a voice combining power, grace and intimacy, Christine Brewer is one of the most respected singers of her generation. Her Festival recital brings together Romantic Lieder by Schubert, Clara Schumann and Strauss, as well as a selection of her favourite 20th-century American songs.

**Saturday 22 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/brewer-vignoles](http://eif.co.uk/brewer-vignoles)

This concert will be broadcast on Friday 28 August on BBC Radio 3

Supported by

**Donald and Louise MacDonald**

## SOL GABETTA BERTRAND CHAMAYOU

**Sol Gabetta** Cello  
**Bertrand Chamayou** Piano

**Beethoven** Variations in E flat on 'Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen'  
**Mendelssohn** Cello Sonata No 2 in D  
**Chopin** Cello Sonata in G minor  
**Chopin** Grand Duo concertant sur des thèmes de Robert le diable

Sensuous yet full of searing insights, Argentinian cellist Sol Gabetta's playing has been widely admired. With French pianist Bertrand Chamayou, she gives a captivating programme contrasting Beethoven's lyrical Variations on 'Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen' with passionate cello sonatas by Mendelssohn and Chopin.

**Monday 24 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/gabetta-chamayou](http://eif.co.uk/gabetta-chamayou)

This concert will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3

Sponsored by

**TURCAN CONNELL**

## ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET

**Oswaldo Golijov** *Qohelet*  
**John Adams** String Quartet  
**Saint-Saëns** String Quartet No 1

US composer John Adams wrote his String Quartet expressly for the St. Lawrence String Quartet, and its surging textures make an ideal match for the foursome's mix of finesse and fiery power. They complement it with Osvaldo Golijov's lyrical, searching *Qohelet* and Saint-Saëns's mellifluous First Quartet.

**Tuesday 25 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/lawrence](http://eif.co.uk/lawrence)

This concert will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3

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## LEONIDAS KAVAKOS YUJA WANG

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**Leonidas Kavakos** Violin  
**Yuja Wang** Piano

**Brahms** Violin Sonata No 1 in G  
**Brahms** Violin Sonata No 2 in A  
**Brahms** Violin Sonata No 3 in D minor

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Powerful Greek violinist Leonidas Kavakos and inspirational Chinese pianist Yuja Wang come together to tackle the deeply thoughtful, noble music of Brahms's three rich, masterful violin sonatas.

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**Wednesday 26 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/kavakos-wang](http://eif.co.uk/kavakos-wang)

This concert will be broadcast live  
on BBC Radio 3

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## ZEHETMAIR QUARTET

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**Haydn** String Quartet in F,  
Op 3 No 5 'Serenade'  
**Hindemith** String Quartet No 5  
**Haydn** String Quartet in C,  
Op 76 No 3 'Emperor'

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Violinist Thomas Zehetmair leads his exceptional foursome, acclaimed for its vivid, questing performances, in music by two Germanic giants: pioneering quartets from Haydn's youth and maturity, and mischievous fun from Hindemith.

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**Thursday 27 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/zehetmair](http://eif.co.uk/zehetmair)

This concert will be broadcast live  
on BBC Radio 3

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Supported by

**Niall and Carol Lothian**

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## ARCANTO QUARTET

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**Purcell** Fantasias  
**Britten** String Quartet No 3  
**Schubert** String Quartet in G

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Each a soloist in their own right, the four members of the exceptional Arcanto Quartet – Antje Weithaas (violin), Daniel Sepec (violin), Tabea Zimmermann (viola), Jean-Guihen Queyras (cello) – bring together Schubert's grand G major Quartet and Britten's touchingly lyrical, Venice-inspired Third Quartet.

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**Friday 28 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/arcanto](http://eif.co.uk/arcanto)

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## THE QUEEN'S HALL

# MATTHIAS GOERNE DANIIL TRIFONOV

**Matthias Goerne** Baritone  
**Daniil Trifonov** Piano

**Berg** Four Lieder Op 2  
**Schumann** Dichterliebe  
**Wolf** Michelangelo Lieder  
**Shostakovich** Suite on Verses  
of Michelangelo Buonarroti (selection)  
**Brahms** Four Serious Songs

Both renowned soloists in their own right, two of the world's most powerful musicians come together for a special Festival recital of intensely expressive song, including Brahms's deeply personal *Four Serious Songs* and the poignant Romanticism of Schumann's touching *Dichterliebe*.

**Saturday 29 August 11am,  
The Queen's Hall**

Running time approx. 1 hour 45 minutes

Tickets £30 £27 £22 £19 £11 £8.50  
Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

[eif.co.uk/goerne-trifonov](http://eif.co.uk/goerne-trifonov)

Supported by

**The Inches Carr Trust**

## PLAYFAIR LIBRARY HALL

# RUDOLF BUCHBINDER

## Plays the complete Beethoven Piano Sonatas

Celebrated Austrian pianist Rudolf Buchbinder has been performing complete cycles of the Beethoven piano sonatas since the 1970s, and has been widely acclaimed for his remarkable technical abilities, his exquisite taste and his astonishing, sometimes provocative insights into what form one of the greatest bodies of music ever composed.

Beethoven's 32 sonatas chart the composer's life and musical insights from the elegant Classicism of his youth through to the spiritual profundity of his searching, questing final sonatas, written just a few years before his death. From the rippling nocturnal evocations of the 'Moonlight' Sonata to the spacious grandeur of the 'Waldstein' or the stormy turbulence of the 'Appassionata', they contain music of extraordinary intensity and radical vision.

For the 2015 Festival, Rudolf Buchbinder performs Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas across nine concerts, amid the neoclassical splendour of Edinburgh's sumptuous yet elegant Playfair Library Hall.

Supported by

  
SINFINI  
MUSIC  
[SINFINIMUSIC.COM](http://SINFINIMUSIC.COM)

Supported by

**Claire and Mark Urquhart**

**Playfair Library Hall 5.00pm,  
except Concert 9 which starts  
at 2.30pm on 26 August**

Tickets £25

Fees apply. See page 27 for details.

Special Offer – buy tickets for all 9 concerts  
and only pay for 7 (saving over 20%)

All concerts approx. 1 hour 20 minutes

[eif.co.uk/buchbinder](http://eif.co.uk/buchbinder)



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# BEETHOVEN SONATAS CYCLE

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## CONCERT 1

Sonata in F minor Op 2 No 1  
Sonata in F sharp Op 78  
Sonata in D minor Op 31 No 2 'Tempest'  
Sonata in E flat Op 31 No 3

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**Saturday 8 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven1](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven1)

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## CONCERT 4

Sonata in E flat Op 7  
Sonata in D Op 10 No 3  
Sonata in E flat Op 81a 'Les adieux'

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**Wednesday 12 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven4](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven4)

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## CONCERT 7

Sonata in A Op 2 No 2  
Sonata in G Op 31 No 1  
Sonata in C Op 53 'Waldstein'

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**Tuesday 18 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven7](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven7)

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## CONCERT 2

Sonata in C Op 2 No 3  
Sonata in C minor Op 10 No 1  
Sonata in G Op 79  
Sonata in C sharp minor  
Op 27 No 2 'Moonlight'

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**Sunday 9 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven2](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven2)

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## CONCERT 5

Sonata in E Op 14 No 1  
Sonata in F Op 54  
Sonata in D Op 28 'Pastoral'  
Sonata in A Op 101

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**Thursday 13 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven5](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven5)

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## CONCERT 8

Sonata in G minor Op 49 No 1  
Sonata in G Op 49 No 2  
Sonata in B flat Op 22  
Sonata in F minor Op 57 'Appassionata'

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**Tuesday 25 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven8](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven8)

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## CONCERT 3

Sonata in F Op 10 No 2  
Sonata in E minor Op 90  
Sonata in B flat Op 106 'Hammerklavier'

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**Monday 10 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven3](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven3)

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## CONCERT 6

Sonata in G Op 14 No 2  
Sonata in A flat Op 26  
Sonata in E flat Op 27 No 1  
Sonata in C minor Op 13 'Pathétique'

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**Monday 17 August**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven6](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven6)

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## CONCERT 9

Sonata in E Op 109  
Sonata in A flat Op 110  
Sonata in C minor Op 111

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**Wednesday 26 August, 2.30pm**

[eif.co.uk/beethoven9](http://eif.co.uk/beethoven9)

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DIANA DAMRAU

**“ MY LOVE OF OPERA STARTED WITH VERDI ESPECIALLY ‘LA TRAVIATA’. HIS MUSIC TOUCHES ME VERY DEEPLY – IT’S SO BEAUTIFUL, AND FROM A SINGER’S POINT OF VIEW, IT ALLOWS YOU TO DO ANYTHING THAT’S POSSIBLE WITH THE VOICE. ‘I MASNADIERI’, WHICH I’LL BE SINGING FROM, HAS SOME VERY SPECIAL MUSIC – ONE ARIA IS LIKE DANCING IN A BALLET SLIPPER, TIPTOEING IN HEAVEN!**

Coming from the coloratura side, it’s wonderful to sing these characters – usually they’re women who are a little more adult than ones I’m used to singing.

I love singing in concert too. You can cherry pick the pieces and make a programme you really want to sing, with dramatic arias, lyrical, soft pieces and even a funny song as well. Whether I’m on the opera stage or in concert, though, I always try to perform in role, so that it’s not Diana singing an aria but the specific opera character. I can always feel the audience – I know the effect the music is having, and I can play with that. When I see people out in the audience and when I have them with me, I can play with the length of notes – within the musical style, of course – and I can take them along with me, which is very exciting.

Once at a concert in Toulouse, I saw one woman in the audience enjoying the music as you’d enjoy a massage. She was completely relaxed and completely absorbed in the music, and it gave me such joy to see that. I wanted to sing even more beautifully and soothingly – it’s an amazing feeling. You can’t focus on one person for too long, of course, and if you start searching for individual people, like a friend who might be in row 17, then you can’t concentrate on the music. But seeing the audience and their reactions can really inspire me.”

*Diana Damrau*

## BOOKING TICKETS

### When can I book my tickets?

You can book tickets for all Festival 2015 Concerts and Recitals following the announcement of the full Festival programme on 18 March. Key dates for your diary are as follows

#### Wednesday 18 March

Full Festival 2015 programme announced.

#### Thursday 19 March

Priority booking opens for all Festival events, including Concerts and Recitals programme. Bookings by post and online only.  
[eif.co.uk/join-us](http://eif.co.uk/join-us)

#### Saturday 28 March

Public booking opens for all Festival events, including Concerts and Recitals programme.

### Ways to book your tickets

Online [eif.co.uk](http://eif.co.uk)  
Telephone **0131 473 2000**,  
from overseas **+44 (0)131 473 2000**  
In person **Hub Tickets, The Hub,  
Castlehill, Edinburgh EH1 2NE**

#### Ticket collection

Tickets can be collected from Hub Tickets, posted out to your address, printed at home or picked up at the venue on the day from an hour before the performance. Simply select your preferred option when you make your booking.

### Transaction and postage fees

If you choose to receive your tickets in the post, you will be charged 80p for postage. A small transaction fee of £1 is added to all bookings.

#### Hub Tickets opening hours

Saturday 28 March – Saturday 11 July  
Monday to Saturday 10.00am–5.00pm

Monday 13 July – Sunday 26 July  
Monday to Sunday 10.00am–6.00pm

Monday 27 July – Sunday 30 August  
Monday to Saturday 9.00am–7.30pm,  
Sunday 10.00am–7.30pm

Monday 31 August  
10.00am–8.00pm

## TICKET DISCOUNTS AND SPECIAL OFFERS

### Under 18s, Students and Young Scot cardholders – Half Price

Under 18s, students in full-time education and Young Scot cardholders can buy any ticket at 50% off on selected performances when booking opens on Saturday 28 March.

### Half Price from Wednesday 29 July

50% off all tickets for selected performances for senior citizens, unemployed people, Equity and MU card holders.

### Are you 26 or under?

#### Tickets for only £8 on the day

Everyone aged 26 and under can pay only £8 on the day for selected performances. Proof of age is required and tickets must be purchased in person from Hub Tickets or at the venues.

### Young Musician's Passport

Our Young Musician's Passport scheme offers young people from Edinburgh and the Lothians a great opportunity to experience live music and see the world's greatest artists right here in Edinburgh. If you're aged 18 or under on 28 March 2015 and play a musical instrument, or are part of a choral group or receive music tuition then join up today and you can get 1 free ticket and up to 2 half-price tickets for over 35 concerts during this year's Festival. To find out more and join visit [eif.co.uk/ympassport](http://eif.co.uk/ympassport). In association with City of Edinburgh Council.

### Rudolf Buchbinder

#### Beethoven Sonatas Cycle

Buy tickets for all 9 concerts and only pay for 7, saving over 20%. See pages 23–24 for details.

### Group bookings

We are delighted to offer great benefits for bookings of 10 or more tickets

- 10% discount on all full-price Festival tickets for selected performances
- The opportunity to make flexible ticket reservations
- Dedicated Group Sales Staff to assist you

Please call +44 (0)131 473 2089 or email [groupbookings@eif.co.uk](mailto:groupbookings@eif.co.uk)

**All ticket offers must be booked in the same transaction, and all offers and discounts are subject to availability.**

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## VENUE ACCESS AND INFORMATION

If you are a wheelchair user, have mobility difficulties or have visual or hearing impairments you can buy seats/spaces in the area of the venue most appropriate to your needs for the lowest (unrestricted view) ticket prices for that performance. Plus, you can have a ticket for a companion for free.

For more information or to claim an access discount please call the Access line **+44 (0)131 473 2089** or email **access@eif.co.uk**. Textphone users prefix our number with 18001. To enable us to determine your requirements and assist you fully we are unable to offer this service online.

**Braille, audio** and **large-text** versions of this Concerts and Recitals 2015 guide are available on request. Simply call **+44 (0)131 473 2089**, sign up to our mailing list at **eif.co.uk/signup** or go to **eif.co.uk/access** for digitally accessible versions.

**Artlink** offers an escort service to help people with disability to enjoy the arts. For more information contact them direct at **artlinkedinburgh.co.uk** or **+44 (0)131 229 3555**.

**Assistance animals** are welcome at all our venues.

### Venue Access

#### **The Queen's Hall 85–89 Clerk Street EH8 9JG**

- Ramped access
- Wheelchair spaces on ground floor
- Induction loop in stalls
- Accessible toilet on ground floor
- Cafe/bar on ground floor serving tea, coffee, drinks and snacks
- Gallery only accessible by stairs
- Single yellow line parking on side streets after 6.30pm

#### **Playfair Library Hall Old College, South Bridge, University of Edinburgh EH8 9YL**

- Ramped access at South Bridge entrance
- Lift to all levels via mail room door, on left just inside South Bridge entrance
- Steep ramp and stone steps to front entrance
- Accessible toilet on first floor near box office and meeting point
- Parking at NCP at Quartermile, 1 Lauriston Place, EH3 9AU

#### **Usher Hall Lothian Road EH1 2EA**

- Level access from Grindlay Street
- Lift to all levels
- Wheelchair spaces and accessible toilets in stalls and grand circle
- Lift to grand circle and upper circle bar
- Disabled badge spaces on Grindlay Street and Cambridge Street.  
NCP on Castle Terrace, EH1 2EW

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## BECOME A FRIEND OR PATRON AND GET PRIORITY BOOKING

The Festival is a state-of-the-art, world class cultural event bringing unparalleled performances and artists to audiences from Edinburgh and around the world.

As a registered charity, your support is vital in helping us to continue to make the Festival a bold and unique celebration of artistic excellence, accessible to the widest possible audience.

Join now to get Priority booking for Festival 2015 and ensure you don't miss out on those must-see shows. Visit **eif.co.uk/join-us** or call **0131 473 2065** to find out more.

## FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS

# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FESTIVAL 2015 SUPPORTERS

The core investment that the Edinburgh International Festival receives from the City of Edinburgh Council and Creative Scotland plays a critical role in ensuring our stability and success.

Crucial support from other public sector bodies, charitable funds, the corporate sector, international partners and agencies, trusts and foundations and our individual benefactors, patrons and friends is also vitally important in enabling us to maintain the Festival's scale and quality. We are grateful to all these organisations and individuals, who make the Festival possible.

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ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

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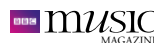
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Thank you to the following  
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