



Scottish
Chamber
Orchestra

The Complete Schumann Symphonies

“For me, the Schumann symphonies have everything in them that defines Romanticism.”

Robin Ticciati
SCO Principal Conductor



Thur 21 November, 7.30pm • Thur 28 November, 7.30pm • **Edinburgh Usher Hall**
Fri 22 November, 7.30pm • Fri 29 November, 7.30pm • **Glasgow City Halls**





Robert Schumann: the quintessential romantic

For many, Robert Schumann is the embodiment of the Romantic artist. His tragic life was a struggle against adversity and illness, yet his four intensely personal symphonies contain some of the most spontaneously joyful music ever written, shot through with shining lyricism and moving emotional power. It's as if the composer was celebrating the triumph of

the human spirit in these four compelling pieces.

Schumann dashed off the glowingly romantic First Symphony in just a few days in a blaze of creativity, elated at his recent marriage to his beloved Clara Wieck. His Second Symphony is a moving self-portrait, its uplifting music written to celebrate Schumann's return to health following a period of mysterious illness.

The River Rhine flows nobly through Schumann's heroic Third Symphony, the 'Rhenish', whose songful beauty combines the influence of Beethoven and an almost spiritual wonder at the natural world. And his Fourth Symphony is a daring work that melds the four traditional symphonic movements into a single span, brimming over with melodies both stirring and touching.

Paul Lewis looks forward to performing Mozart's grand Piano Concerto No 25

"Mozart concertos are really like big pieces of chamber music – and that's especially true of his Piano Concerto No 25. In the opening, it also shows us his big symphonic style, and there's a great sense of the operatic – along with quite a bit of humour in the last movement. But if you haven't heard the piece before, just listen – I wouldn't want to colour your view of the music."



Paul Lewis
Piano

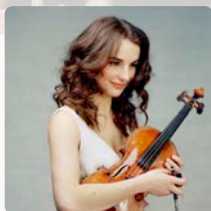
Robin Ticciati reveals his passion for the Schumann symphonies



“For me, the Schumann symphonies have everything in them that defines Romanticism. Struggle, love, suicide, drinking, prostitutes, fragrance, flowers, poetry, ecstasy, passion – in two weeks you’ll hear everything, and I hope you love it.

“His brilliant orchestral writing is about texture, sinew, febrile energies clashing against each other. It’s about a very inward kind of Romanticism. When you have a huge orchestra making a plush, modern sound, I think you can lose the immediacy of the music. We can give something special to this music because of our size, and because of the way, the intimate way, that the SCO looks at the Romantic era.

“We want to immerse everyone in Schumann’s language, Romanticism and life – I urge people to come and listen to the Schumann cycle because it’s rare to hear all four symphonies played by a chamber orchestra.”



Alina Pogostkina
Violin

Violinist Alina Pogostkina explains why the Brahms Violin Concerto is special to her

“I feel Brahms’ music so strongly – but in his Violin Concerto he’s not using the violin simply in a virtuoso way. He’s really expressing the emotions of the music with it – although of course it’s still very hard to play. It’s such a lyrical piece, and Brahms was inspired by nature when he was composing it. I try to reflect that lyricism in my interpretation. It was a wonderful experience to play the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra last year, and I can’t wait to come back with the Brahms. I’m really excited.”

SCHUMANN SYMPHONY CYCLE: I

Thursday 21 November, 7.30pm

EDINBURGH USHER HALL

Friday 22 November, 7.30pm

GLASGOW CITY HALLS

SCHUMANN Symphony No 1 in B-flat 'Spring'

MOZART Piano Concerto No 25 in C K503

SCHUMANN Symphony No 4 in D minor

ROBIN TICCIATI Conductor • PAUL LEWIS Piano

SCHUMANN SYMPHONY CYCLE: II

Thursday 28 November, 7.30pm

EDINBURGH USHER HALL *Sponsored by Virgin Money*

Friday 29 November, 7.30pm

GLASGOW CITY HALLS

SCHUMANN Symphony No 2 in C

BRAHMS Violin Concerto

SCHUMANN Symphony No 3 in E-flat 'Rhenish'

ROBIN TICCIATI Conductor • ALINA POGOSTKINA Violin

How to Book

EDINBURGH • 0131 228 1155 • TICKETS £30 / £26 / £20 / £15 / £10

Online booking: www.usherhall.co.uk

Usher Hall Box Office, Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2EA

Telephone and online bookings carry a £1 transaction fee. Please note: The Usher Hall Box Office sells an allocation of tickets for SCO concerts. Tickets also available from the Queen's Hall Box Office.

GLASGOW • 0141 353 8000 • TICKETS £28 / £24 / £19 / £14

Online booking: www.glasgowconcerthalls.com

City Halls Box Office, Candleriggs, Glasgow G1 1NQ

Glasgow Royal Concert Hall Box Office, 2 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow G2 3NY

Online transaction charge of £1. Postal and phone booking transaction charge of £1.50. Postage charge of 75p where applicable.

TICKET DISCOUNTS

Senior Citizens – £2 off standard prices • **U26s, students and unemployed people** – £5 for any ticket.

Under 16s – Free if accompanied by a paying adult. Maximum of 2 free children's tickets per adult ticket. Additional children £5 each.

People with a disability – 50% off standard ticket prices for people with a disability and a carer.

Group discounts – Groups of 6 or more save 20% off standard ticket prices.

School groups – Teachers and/or accompanying adults go free when bringing a school group. For more information, contact SCO Connect on 0131 478 8353 or connect@sco.org.uk.

Please note: All discounts are subject to availability. We regret that tickets are non-refundable. Every effort is made to ensure that all information is correct at time of going to press. The SCO does, however, reserve the right to change dates, artists or programmes if necessary.

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The SCO gratefully acknowledges generous financial support from:



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