

## Barbican announces its 2020-21 classical music season

On 24 February, the Barbican announces its 2020-21 classical music season. The season runs from September 2020 – July 2021. **Tickets** go on sale online to Barbican Members Plus from 9 March, Barbican Members on 11 March and to the general public on 16 March. The detailed **listings** can be found here:

[www.barbican.org.uk/classical2021](http://www.barbican.org.uk/classical2021)

Thousands of **discounted tickets at £5, £10 or £15** are available to 14 – 25-year-olds through the [Young Barbican](#) scheme. The scheme launched in 2014 and there are now over 70,000 members.

- **Collaborations, major artist focuses and innovative projects**
- **Thomas Adès at 50** – a season-long celebration of British composer and conductor Thomas Adès
- World-class **visiting orchestras** and some of the most exciting **soloists** of our time
- Several performances of **operas in concert** and in staged versions
- **In-depth explorations, festivals, premieres and rediscovered music**

**Huw Humphreys**, Barbican's Head of Music says:

*"This new season is a wonderful example of the kinds of partnerships and collaborations that the Barbican does best and that make its programme stand out. Together with our resident orchestra, the **London Symphony Orchestra**, and our associate orchestra and ensembles, the **BBC Symphony Orchestra**, **Britten Sinfonia** and the **Academy of Ancient Music**, as well as our International Orchestral Partner, the **Los Angeles Philharmonic** and our International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court, **Australian Chamber Orchestra** we have been able to put together series of concerts that explore many different aspects of some of the most electrifying artists of our time. We are privileged to be able to have focuses on **Thomas Adès**, **Joyce DiDonato** and **Sir Antonio Pappano**, and together we are able to commission and perform a wonderful range of new works as well as shine a light on forgotten masterpieces.*

*"I'm excited to welcome a great selection of visiting orchestras and artists to the Barbican, such as **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra** as part of its first tour since 2002, **The Cleveland Orchestra**, cellist **Sheku Kanneh-Mason** in his first Barbican Hall recital, and music theatre projects and opera by artists including **Errollyn Wallen**, **Netia Jones**, **Sarah Kirkland Snider** and **John Adams**. We continue to work closely with our neighbouring **Guildhall School of Music & Drama** on projects such as our Milton Court Artist-in-Residence: the pioneering violinist **Pekka Kuusisto**. In short: this is going to be a season to remember."*

### **Collaborations, major artist focuses and innovative projects:**

- The Barbican and its national and international family of orchestras come together for a major series to celebrate the acclaimed British composer and conductor **Thomas Adès**, who turns 50 in 2021. The *Thomas Adès at 50* series includes the world premiere of a new work, a concert performance of the ballet score to *Dante*, a concert performance of Adès' opera *The Tempest*, the *Luxury Suite* from his *Powder Her Face*, and his orchestral work *Asyla*. The concerts are performed by the **London Symphony Orchestra** and **Sir Simon Rattle**, the **BBC Symphony Orchestra** and **Sakari Oramo**, **The Cleveland Orchestra** and **Franz Welser-Möst**, **Australian Chamber Orchestra** and **Richard Tognetti**,

and **Los Angeles Philharmonic** and **Gustavo Dudamel**. Thomas Adès himself will conduct performances with the LSO, the LA Phil and **Britten Sinfonia**.

- **Joyce DiDonato's Favourite Things** – multiple Grammy Award winner, and the winner of 2018 Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Opera, mezzo soprano **Joyce DiDonato** is an artist focus at the Barbican in 2020-21. She performs three of her signature projects across the season: in songs by Duparc (**LSO/Pappano**), Baroque arias in *My Favourite Things* with **Il Pomo d'Oro** and **Francesco Corti**, and arias from Berlioz' *Les Troyens* in a concert with **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra** and **Yannick Nézet-Séguin**.
- **Sir Simon Rattle** and Barbican Resident Orchestra, **London Symphony Orchestra** launch *Dancing on the Edge of a Volcano*, a two-year exploration of music written in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a time of political turbulence, hectic innovation and increasing danger in Europe. 'Dancing on the Edge of a Volcano' is a phrase Alban Berg and others used to describe the febrile atmosphere in Germany in the 1930s. The season includes music by Berg, Hindemith, Orff, Stravinsky, Bartók, Varèse, Webern, Weill and others.
- **Pappano and Friends** – conductor and pianist **Sir Antonio Pappano** brings together some of his closest artistic collaborators and important influences this season at the Barbican. In a series inspired by the human voice, he conducts the **LSO** and **Joyce DiDonato** in a programme of Duparc, Szymanowski, Martinů and Liszt, and the **Coro dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia** in Rossini's *Petite messe solennelle*. Pappano also appears as a pianist in recitals with tenor **Jonas Kaufmann** and with mezzo soprano **Anita Rachvelishvili**.
- In its **90th season**, Barbican Associate Orchestra, **BBC Symphony Orchestra** celebrates the 90th anniversary of its first broadcast concert on 22 October 2020, conducted by Principal Guest Conductor **Dalia Stasevska**. The season looks back at a number of major works the orchestra has introduced to the UK including work by Bartók, Copland, Janáček, Schoenberg, and Saariaho, alongside the music of today with a range of UK and world premieres from **Helen Grime**, **Betsy Jolas**, **Michael Jarrell**, **Dai Fujikura** and **Bernard Rands**.
- **Errollyn Wallen: Dido's Ghost (world premiere)** – in her new opera *Dido's Ghost*, co-commissioned by the Barbican, Dunedin Consort & Mahogany Opera and developed in partnership with Mahogany Opera, composer **Errollyn Wallen** frames Purcell's original opera within a haunting story from Ovid. Aeneas, now living with his new wife Lavinia in the kingdom he was destined to found, welcomes Dido's sister Anna as a shipwrecked refugee. But tragic events repeat themselves when Dido's ghost warns her sister of his jealous wife's murderous intentions. This world premiere performance with Dunedin Consort is staged by Frederic Wake-Walker. (5 June)
- **Pekka Kuusisto: Milton Court Artist-in-Residence** – the Finnish violinist performs several concerts across the season at Milton Court Concert Hall as part of the *Barbican Presents* 20-21 season. The programmes include a collaboration with **Nico Muhly** on the piano (featuring music by Glass, Pärt, Bach and Muhly); a date with the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra in music by Missy Mazzoli and Andrea Tarrodi; and Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* with close artistic collaborators. The Milton Court Artist-in-Residence is a joint project with Guildhall School, and offers the opportunity for Guildhall musicians to work side by side with leading international musicians.
- This season's **LSO Artist Portrait** highlights violinist **Christian Tetzlaff**

who takes on three violin concertos from the 20th century: Elgar's Violin Concerto conducted by **Robin Ticciati**; Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No 1 with **Sir Antonio Pappano**; and Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No 1 in a programme conducted by **Susanna Mälkki**. Tetzlaff also curates a series of concerts at LSO St Luke's featuring his guests Lars Vogt, Tanja Tetzlaff, Tetzlaff Quartett and Jörg Widmann. (Oct, Nov)

- ***An Anatomy of Melancholy*** is a portrait of a man engaged in a forensic examination of his own sadness. Drawing on the work of Robert Burton (*Anatomy of Melancholy*, 1628), Sigmund Freud (*Mourning and Melancholia*), as well as Darian Leader (*The New Black*) and other contemporary psychoanalysts, the project takes inspiration from the notion of **art as a consolatory and cathartic tonic**. Countertenor **Iestyn Davies**, lutenist **Thomas Dunford** and director **Netia Jones** present the **world premiere** of this immersive and intimate music theatre piece, featuring songs of melancholy by John Dowland and video design by Netia Jones. The performance examines humanity's relationship with sadness, depression, and melancholy – both the emotional and the scientific. *An Anatomy of Melancholy* is supported by Wellcome, Classical Futures Europe and the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union. Part of the Barbican's *Inside Out* season. (9-12 Sep)
- Inspired by Homer's epic poem *The Odyssey*, **Sarah Kirkland Snider's** song cycle ***Penelope*** is a meditation on memory, identity and what it means to come home. Suspended somewhere between art song, indie rock and chamber folk, the music moves from moments of elegiac strings and harp reflection to dusky post-rock textures with drums, guitars and electronics. Barbican Associate Ensemble, **Britten Sinfonia** is joined by the extraordinary vocalist **Nora Fischer**, renowned for her adventurous approach to live performance. (29 Apr)
- **The Future is Female** – pianist Sarah Cahill and co-curator Helen Wallace present a marathon day of music and talks, shining a light on female composers from the past 400 years to the present day. A pianist who has commissioned and premiered over sixty compositions for solo piano, Cahill was named a 2018 Champion of New Music, awarded by the American Composers Forum (ACF). (6 Mar)
- Barbican Associate Ensemble, **Academy of Ancient Music** (AAM) performs John Christopher Smith's oratorio setting of Milton's epic, ***Paradise Lost***, with the AAM's brand new edition of the score. First performed in 1760, *Paradise Lost* was Smith's greatest success and helped elevate him to the position of artistic director of the Covent Garden Royal Theatre. This revival performance directed by **Richard Egarr**, promises to shed greater light on the neglected masterpiece. (28 Mar)
- The BBC SO invites YouTube stars **Melodica Men** for their UK debut and a night of musical hilarity. (9 Oct)

#### World-class visiting orchestras:

- Barbican International Orchestral Partner, the **Los Angeles Philharmonic** and its Music & Artistic Director **Gustavo Dudamel**, return for their regular Barbican residency in May 2021. Highlights include two European premieres: Icelandic composer **Dániel Bjarnason's new piano concerto**, performed by Icelandic pianist **Víkingur Ólafsson**; as well as American composer **Gabriella Smith's *Tumblebird Contrails***. The orchestra also performs Thomas Adès' *Dante* ballet music, inspired by Dante's *Divine Comedy*, and brings its acclaimed contemporary-classical *Green Umbrella* series to London for a free late-night concert, in which Adès conducts the Los Angeles Philharmonic New Music Group. (May)
- **Australian Chamber Orchestra** and **Richard Tognetti** are the Barbican's

International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court and return for their regular residency in October 2020. The programmes include a concert of sacred music by Bach and Pärt, featuring the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir; and an *Indies & Idols* concert which includes music by Lutosławski, Bryce Dessner, Jonny Greenwood, Penderecki and Szymanowski. The concert will be performed side-by-side with **Guildhall School musicians**. The ACO also participates in the *Thomas Adès at 50* series with the world premiere of a new work, complemented by Beethoven's *Kreutzer* sonata and Janáček's String Quartet No 1 "Kreutzer Sonata", arranged by Richard Tognetti. (19-21 Oct)

- **The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra** from New York begins its first tour since 2002 with a concert at the Barbican, performing an all-Berlioz programme conducted by Music Director **Yannick Nézet-Séguin** and featuring mezzo-soprano **Joyce DiDonato**. (29 Jun)
- **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra** and music director **Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla** perform a concert of Ravel and Stravinsky, plus Sibelius' Violin Concerto featuring **Nicola Benedetti** as soloist. (21 Sep)
- **The Cleveland Orchestra** and music director **Franz Welser-Möst** make a rare UK visit and participate in the *Thomas Adès at 50* series with his *Angel Symphony*. They also perform Scriabin's Symphony No 2 and Mozart's Piano Concerto No 9 with soloist **Igor Levit**. (12 Oct)
- **Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra** is conducted by **Zubin Mehta** in a programme of Wagner's *Rienzi* Overture, Stravinsky's Symphony in Three Movements and Dvořák's Symphony No 7. (25 Jan)
- **Czech Philharmonic** and music director **Semyon Bychkov** perform the haunting *Mystery of Time* by 20<sup>th</sup> century Czech composer Miloslav Kabeláč, and Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos featuring **Katia and Marielle Labèque**. On the programme is also Dvořák's 9<sup>th</sup> symphony, the same work that Dvořák himself conducted as part of the orchestra's first concert in January 1896 – 125 years ago. (13 Feb)
- **Laurence Equilbey** brings her **Insula orchestra** and **accentus** choir to the Barbican for a performance of Mozart's *Requiem*. (13 Oct)
- **Le Concert Spirituel** and **Hervé Niquet** return to the Barbican for a performance of Handel's Coronation Anthems. (15 Jun)

#### Exceptional soloists:

- Cellist **Sheku Kanneh-Mason** makes his Barbican Hall recital debut, performing Beethoven, Britten and Bridge together with his sister, pianist **Isata Kanneh-Mason**. (25 Mar)
- In a veritable supertrio, pianist **Yuja Wang**, cellist **Gautier Capuçon** and clarinetist **Andreas Ottensamer** perform clarinet trios by Brahms and Zemlinsky. (12 May)
- Pianist **Krystian Zimerman** performs all Beethoven piano concertos with the LSO and Sir Simon Rattle, culminating on an extended evening concert on 17 December, Beethoven's christening day. Pianist **Alice Sara Ott** performs Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto No 2 with the LSO (13 Jun) and Principal Guest Conductor Gianandrea Noseda, and **Peter Donohoe** joins the LSO for Tippett's Piano Concerto in the season opening concert conducted by Sir Simon Rattle (13 Sep).
- Further **pianists** in the season include **Khatia Buniatishvili** in recital (10 Feb), **Isata Kanneh-Mason** in recital at Milton Court (3 Nov), **Jean-Yves Thibaudet** performing Debussy's complete preludes (23 Nov), **Behzod Abduraimov** in recital (22 Mar), and **Piotr Anderszewski** performing a selection from Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier Book 2 (7 Apr).
- Violinist **Maxim Vengerov** returns for a recital with music by Mozart, Medelssohn, Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky (26 Apr), and violinist **Janine**

- Jansen** joins the LSO for Britten's Violin Concerto (25 & 28 Feb).
- Three LSO co-commissioned violin concertos will have their world premieres this season: **Unsuik Chin**'s second violin concerto performed by **Leonidas Kavakos** (7 Jan), a new violin concerto for **Patricia Kopatchinskaja** by **Francisco Coll** (11 Mar), and a violin concerto by **Mark Simpson** to be played by **Nicola Benedetti** (11 Apr).
  - Violinist **Rachel Podger** joins the AAM for a programme that pays homage to composers who liberated and transformed the violin's stature, including Handel, Corelli and Vivaldi (3 Mar).
  - Tenor **Mark Padmore** and pianist **Jonathan Biss** perform Schumann's *Liederkreis* (8 Dec), and countertenor **Iestyn Davies** journeys through works by Vivaldi, Handel and Purcell with the AAM (20 Nov).
  - Soprano **Barbara Hannigan** joins the LSO and Rattle for a performance of Dutilleux's *Correspondances* (21 Mar), and contralto **Nathalie Stutzmann** presents an evening of song dedicated to *The Power of Love*, featuring music by Schubert, Fauré, Chausson and Debussy (11 May).

Several **operatic** performances with stellar casts:

- The BBC SO welcomes back **John Adams** to conduct the **UK Premiere** of his opera *Girls of the Golden West*. The concert staging boasts a star-studded cast led by **Julia Bullock**, **Davóne Tines** and **Paul Appelby**. (17 Jan)
- **Sir Simon Rattle** conducts two concert performances of Berg's opera *Wozzeck* featuring **Christian Gerhaher** in the title role and **Anja Kampe** as Marie (15 & 17 Sep). In other programmes, Rattle conducts the LSO in Wagner's Prelude to *Lohengrin*, Wagner's Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan and Isolde* (23 Sep), as well as two concert performances of the second Act of *Tristan and Isolde* with **Stuart Skelton** as Tristan and **Nina Stemme** as Isolde (29 Nov & 1 Dec).
- **The English Concert** and music director **Harry Bicket** perform *Tamerlano*, the darkest of Handel's operas and a tale of defeat, love, and betrayal, set against the backdrop of conflict between the Tartars and the Ottoman Empire. The stellar cast includes **Bejun Mehta**, **Michael Spyres**, **Avery Amereau**, **Jakub Józef Orliński** and **Sophie Bevan**. (12 Apr)
- The *Thomas Adès at 50* series culminates in his second opera *The Tempest*, inspired by Shakespeare's play of the same name. The composer himself conducts **Britten Sinfonia** in this concert performance. (28 Jun)

**In-depth explorations:**

- The BBC SO presents two **Total Immersion** days in the 2020-21 season: *Totally Tanglewood* is based on the iconic festival (12 Dec 2020). *Sibelius the Storyteller* (13 Mar 2021) is a day of discovery of the stories that inspired Sibelius to write some of his tone poems, songs and orchestral work; from the *Kalevala* and beyond. Both days include concerts with Guildhall School musicians.
- Harpsichordist **Mahan Esfahani**, pianist **Angela Hewitt** and fortepiano specialist **Aline Zylberajch** explore the music by Domenico Scarlatti, looking at his Spanish-influenced compositions from three contrasting perspectives and on three different instruments. (31 Jan)
- The BBC SO continues its survey into **Mahler's symphonies** with chief conductor **Sakari Oramo** opening the season with Symphony No 6 (3 Oct); **Semyon Bychkov** conducting Symphony No 9 (26 Feb); and **Sir Andrew Davis** presenting his final Symphony No 10 (18 Nov).
- Throughout the season, the BBC SO explores **Stravinsky's neoclassical world** with his filmic Symphony in Three Movements, and two works the

orchestra premiered in the Symphony in C and *Perséphone*.

- Britten Sinfonia's **Brahms Symphony Cycle** in partnership with **Sir Mark Elder** continues with Symphony No 3. By using a smaller, more specialist string ensemble group they allow the woodwind and brass textures to emerge from Brahms's rich sound-world. (7 Nov)
- Tenor **Ian Bostridge** and violinist **Jacqueline Shave** join forces with Britten Sinfonia for a musical journey across Europe, **exploring folk-inspired chamber music** from Scotland, Ireland, Romania and Denmark. The concert features folk songs arranged by Benjamin Britten, and also the **world premiere** of Sir James MacMillan's *Three Scottish Songs*. (18 Feb)
- In ***Eight Seasons***, Britten Sinfonia juxtaposes the ferocious energy of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* with Piazzolla's tango-inspired *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* and, in between, performs John Cage's enigmatic String Quartet, also divided into Seasons. **Thomas Gould** directs from the violin, taking the soloist's role in both Vivaldi and Piazzolla. (3 Dec)
- The AAM embarks on an exploration of musical lineage with music of the **Elder and Younger Mozart**, performed by one of the world's leading Mozart specialists, **Robert Levin**. A frequent collaborator with AAM and featured artist with Christopher Hogwood on the celebrated early-instrument accounts of Mozart's piano concertos, here Levin joins the Academy of Ancient Music to both perform and direct from the keyboard. (29 Oct)
- **Sound Unbound**, the Barbican's free weekend-long, boundary-blurring festival that presents different musical styles from across the ages, takes place 17-18 April 2021.
- **Darbar Festival** (26 Sep-4 Oct), the UK's leading festival of Indian Classical Music returns to the Barbican in September 2020. In addition to the concert offering, there will be an Indian Music Appreciation Course and yoga classes accompanied by live music.

Further **premieres** and **rediscovered** music:

- The LSO opens its season on 13 September with **Mark-Anthony Turnage's** tribute to Oliver Knussen, *Last Song for Olly*. Further premieres in the season include two works commissioned through the Panufnik Composers Scheme by **Joel Järventausta** (27 May) and **George Stevenson** (8 Nov).
- The AAM and Music Director Richard Egarr continue their ***From Her Pen*** project, revealing the work of female composers of the baroque and classical eras
- In a season built on works the BBC SO brought to UK audiences for the first time (Bartók, Prokofiev, Schoenberg), the orchestra also gives the **world premiere** of Lior Rosner's *Metamorphosis* – Rosner is best known for creating the theme for The Ellen DeGeneres Show – and **10 UK premieres** by composers including Helen Grime, Dai Fujikura and Betsy Jolas. The UK premiere of *Shadow Walker* marks Mark-Anthony Turnage's 60th birthday this year.
- The **ECHO** (European Concert Hall Organisation) **Rising Stars** series returns to the Barbican's programme this spring, presenting emerging young talent tipped for stardom by the directors of Europe's premier concert halls. Each performance will feature a new short work commissioned by ECHO from a range of international composers.

Please contact the Barbican communications team if you would like to receive a digital or physical copy of the **2020-21 season brochure**.

## ENDS

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### **About the Barbican**

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](http://www.barbican.org.uk) pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over a million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 [staff](#) work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas 1, 2 and 3, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, public spaces, a library, the Lakeside Terrace, [a glasshouse conservatory](#), conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra, [London Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Orchestra, [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Ensembles the [Academy of Ancient Music](#) and [Britten Sinfonia](#), Associate Producer [Serious](#), and Artistic Partner [Create](#). Our Artistic Associates include [Boy Blue](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](#) and [Michael Clark Company](#). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court, and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble.



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### **About the London Symphony Orchestra**

The LSO was established in 1904 and has a unique ethos. As a musical collective, it is built on artistic ownership and partnership. With an inimitable signature sound, the LSO's mission is to bring the greatest music to the greatest number of people. The LSO has been the only Resident Orchestra at the Barbican Centre in the City of London since it opened in 1982, giving 70 symphonic concerts there every year. The Orchestra works with a family of artists that includes some of the world's greatest conductors – Sir Simon Rattle as Music Director, Gianandrea Noseda and François-Xavier Roth as Principal Guest Conductors, and Michael Tilson Thomas as Conductor Laureate. Through LSO Discovery, it is a pioneer of music education, offering musical experiences to 60,000 people every year and over 100 live events at its music education centre LSO St Luke's on Old Street. With the formation of its own record label LSO Live in 1999 the LSO pioneered a revolution in recording live orchestral music. The LSO strives to embrace new digital technologies – having successfully moved into digital film, Blu-Ray Audio, downloads, streaming and virtual reality – and it continues to innovate with platforms such as LSO Play, a web-based video player that allows people to observe the Orchestra from different angles. The LSO is also a highly successful creative enterprise, with 80% of all funding self-generated. [www.lso.co.uk](http://www.lso.co.uk)

### **About the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus**

At the heart of British music for 90 years, the BBC Symphony Orchestra performs an exciting, distinctive and wide-ranging season of concerts at the Barbican in its role as Associate Orchestra, offering everything from works at the heart of classical music to world premieres from today's finest composers. The BBC SO provides the backbone of the BBC Proms, performing around a dozen concerts each year, including the First and Last Nights, and is often flanked by the BBC Symphony Chorus - one of the finest amateur choruses in the country. The BBC SO performs throughout the world, and works regularly with its Chief Conductor Sakari Oramo, Principal Guest conductor Dalia Stasevska, Semyon Bychkov, its Günter Wand Conducting Chair, Conductor Laureate Sir Andrew Davis and its new Creative Artist-in-Association, Jules Buckley. Strongly committed to twentieth-century and contemporary music, it has given recent premieres of works by Harrison Birtwistle, Betsy Jolas, George Walker and Raymond Yiu. Central to its life are recordings made for BBC Radio 3 during sessions at its studios in Maida Vale, London, some of which are free for the public to attend. The vast majority of its concerts are broadcast on BBC Radio 3, streamed live online, and a number are televised, giving it the highest broadcast profile of any UK orchestra. [www.bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra](http://www.bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra)

### **About the Academy of Ancient Music**

The Academy of Ancient Music is an orchestra with a worldwide reputation for excellence in baroque and classical music. It takes inspiration directly from the music's composers, using historically informed techniques, period-specific instruments and original sources to bring music to life in committed, vibrant performances. Founded by Christopher Hogwood in 1973, the ensemble remains at the forefront of the early music scene more than four decades on; Richard Egarr became its Music Director in 2006. The Academy of Ancient Music has always been a pioneer. It was established to make the first British recordings of orchestral works using instruments from the baroque and classical periods and has released more than 300 discs, many of which are still considered definitive performances (among its countless accolades for recording are Classic BRIT, Gramophone and Edison awards). It has now established its own record label,



AAM Records, and is proud to be the most listened-to orchestra of its kind online, with over one million monthly listeners on Spotify. The AAM is based in Cambridge and is Orchestra-in-Residence at the city's university. Its London home is the Barbican Centre, where it is Associate Ensemble, and it is also Orchestra-in- Residence at the Grange Festival, Music at Oxford, the Apex, Bury St. Edmunds and VOCES8 Milton Abbey International Summer Music Festival. [www.aam.co.uk](http://www.aam.co.uk)

### **About Britten Sinfonia**

In 1992 Britten Sinfonia was established as a bold reimagining of the conventional image of a chamber orchestra. A flexible ensemble of some of the UK's leading soloists and chamber musicians came together with a unique vision: to collapse the boundaries between old and new music, to collaborate with composers, performers and guest artists across artforms and genres; and to create involving, intelligent music events that both audiences and performers experience with an unusual intensity.

Britten Sinfonia is an Associate Ensemble at the Barbican in London and Resident Orchestra at Saffron Hall, has residencies in Norwich and Cambridge and performs a chamber music series at Wigmore Hall. The orchestra has a busy international touring schedule, appearing throughout Europe, the USA and Asia and its recent performance with The Sixteen at the Sistine Chapel reached more than a million people worldwide.

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