

2023/24

RSNO
SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

SCOTTISH
CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

Aberdeen Concert Series



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Welcome to the 2023/24 Aberdeen Concert Series



Inspirational
music-making
from two
outstanding
orchestras

Welcome to the Aberdeen Concert Series 2023/24, presented in partnership by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO). We're delighted to bring nine outstanding concerts to Aberdeen Music Hall, featuring some of the very best musicians from Scotland and around the world.

2023/24 marks the 50th Anniversary of the SCO and the Orchestra is joined by Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev for a celebratory opening to the Aberdeen Concert Series. Beethoven's mighty 'Eroica' sits alongside Bruch's Double Concerto and the world premiere of Jay Capperault's *The Origin of Colour*. Later in October the SCO are back, this time for a Saturday matinee directed by cellist Nicolas Altstaedt featuring Haydn and Mozart.

In November, the RSNO and Music Director Thomas Søndergård are joined by virtuoso violinist Ray Chen for Sibelius' Violin Concerto. Dvořák's sun-filled Sixth Symphony completes this stunning concert. Later in the month the SCO are back, and this time they're joined by Benjamin Grosvenor for Mendelssohn's First Piano Concerto.

As the nights draw in, the festivities begin – the RSNO kick things off with their ever-popular Christmas Concert featuring 'The Snowman' while the SCO ring in 2024 with their toe-tapping Viennese New Year concert.

Romance is in the air in February as the RSNO perform selections from Prokofiev's delightfully bittersweet ballet, *Romeo and Juliet* alongside Saint-Saëns' Second Piano Concerto performed by their Artist in Residence Simon Trpčeski.

In March the SCO are joined by long-time collaborator, Pekka Kuusisto, for Vivaldi's enduringly popular *The Four Seasons*. But this time Vivaldi's most famous work is interspersed with Nordic folk tunes played by Pekka Kuusisto, with Ale Carr on cittern.

And what better way to close the season than with Scottish violin superstar Nicola Benedetti, who joins the RSNO for the Scottish premiere of Mark Simpson's Violin Concerto. To close the concert the Orchestra perform probably Shostakovich's most famous work – the heroic Fifth Symphony.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Music Hall very soon.

Alistair Mackie Chief Executive, RSNO
Gavin Reid Chief Executive, SCO



Subscribe to the 2023/24 Aberdeen Concert Series

- 7 wonderful concerts to choose from
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How to book

Online	aberdeenperformingarts.com
Phone	01224 641122 (10am–6pm, Tuesday – Saturday)
Post	Aberdeen Concert Series Subscriptions, Union St, Aberdeen AB10 1QS (use the form at the back of the brochure)



Maxim's 'Eroica'

A Grand Tour of Scotland

Saturday 7 October 2023, 7.30pm

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

JAY CAPPERAULD *The Origin of Colour World Premiere, SCO Commission*

BRUCH *Concerto for Clarinet and Viola*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No.3 'Eroica'*

Maxim Emelyanychev conductor

Maximiliano Martín clarinet

Max Mandel viola

Join the birthday celebrations! Maxim Emelyanychev sets out for an unforgettable evening of joy and passion as he brings the Scottish Chamber Orchestra to Aberdeen as part of a very special 50th anniversary tour of the nation – in some of the biggest-hearted, most compelling music around.

Beethoven's majestic 'Eroica' Symphony provides a rousing, soul-lifting climax to the festivities, while SCO Associate Composer Jay Capperauld – one of Scotland's most exciting and original voices – unveils a brilliantly coloured new piece written specially for the occasion.

In between, SCO Principal Clarinet Maximiliano Martín joins Principal Viola Max Mandel in Max Bruch's tender, intimate Double Concerto, written for his clarinetist son, and every bit as richly Romantic as the composer's famed Violin Concerto No.1.



Mozart and Haydn

with Nicolas Altstaedt

Saturday 28 October 2023, 2pm

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

Matinee Performance

HAYDN Cello Concerto in C

KODÁLY Dances of Galanta

VERESS Transylvanian Dances

MOZART Symphony No.38 in D Major 'Prague'

Nicolas Altstaedt director / cello

Inspirational French/German cellist and director Nicolas Altstaedt is one of Europe's most charismatic and compelling musicians. He leads a rich programme that looks eastwards to the vibrant music of Hungary and Bohemia.

Zoltán Kodály brought an orchestral sophistication to colourful dances from his Hungarian homeland, while Sándor Veress looked further east into what's now Romania for the raw, whirling energy of his Transylvanian Dances.

In between, Altstaedt brings the spirit of Esterházy to Haydn's captivating Cello Concerto, while the sonic spectacle of Mozart's Symphony No.38 was designed specifically to impress discerning Bohemian listeners.

Please note: This is a matinee performance starting at 2pm





Chen Plays Sibelius Violin Concerto

Thursday 2 November 2023, 7.30pm
Royal Scottish National Orchestra

LOTTA WENNÄKOSKI Om fotspår och ljus
(Of Footprints and Light)

SIBELIUS Violin Concerto

DVOŘÁK Symphony No.6

Thomas Søndergård conductor

Ray Chen violin

RECOMMENDED BY
CLASSIC *f*M



‘Colours dance, moods swing and Chen’s artistry blazes,’ says *The Times*, but you don’t need to take their word for it – come and hear for yourself as we welcome dynamic young superstar of the violin, Ray Chen, back to Scotland. Together with RSNO Music Director Thomas Søndergård, he braves the fire and ice of Sibelius’ Violin Concerto. First, though, there’s a surprise performance from the young musicians of Big Noise Torry and afterwards the songs, dances and Czech sunshine of Dvořák’s joyous Sixth Symphony.

Mendelssohn Piano Concerto

with Benjamin Grosvenor

Saturday 25 November 2023, 7.30pm
Scottish Chamber Orchestra

BRAHMS Tragic Overture
MENDELSSOHN Piano Concerto No.1
SCHUMANN Symphony No.4

Maxim Emelyanychev conductor
Benjamin Grosvenor piano

Championed by Franz Liszt, and inspired by unrequited love, Mendelssohn's sparkling First Piano Concerto is something of an overlooked masterpiece – but the electrifying British pianist Benjamin Grosvenor is just the musician to reveal its fiery virtuosity as well as its delicate, Chopin-like beauty.

Maxim Emelyanychev contrasts Mendelssohn's brilliance with the turbulent drama and high emotions of Brahms gripping Tragic Overture, as well as Schumann's most original Symphony. Celebrating his longed-for marriage to his beloved Clara Wieck, No.4 plunges you into deep drama and stormy emotions before exhilarating you with its joyful conclusion.





RSNO Christmas Concert featuring 'The Snowman'

Thursday 21 Dec 2023, 6.30pm
Royal Scottish National Orchestra

HOWARD BLAKE The Snowman

Neil Ferris conductor

Sponsored by



The RSNO's magical Christmas Concert returns! Don't miss this family friendly event packed full of your favourite festive melodies, singalong carols and Raymond Briggs' enchanting film *The Snowman*. Shown on the big screen, the film will be narrated by our special star guest and accompanied by the Orchestra, featuring the wonderful *Walking in the Air*. So, gather friends and family together and join the RSNO for this special feast of Christmas cheer!

Film on screen with live orchestra

Please note:

This concert is not part of the Aberdeen Concert Series Subscription offer. Tickets are priced at £38, £32, £27, £21, £16. Under 26s, mature students, disabled and unemployed 50% off.

Viennese New Year

Wednesday 3 January 2024, 7.30pm
Scottish Chamber Orchestra

Programme to include:

DVOŘÁK Prague Waltzes (selection)
J STRAUSS II Voices of Spring
LEHÁR Vilja Lied (The Merry Widow)*
SIECZYŃSKI Vienna, City of My Dreams
SUPPÉ Overture, Light Cavalry
R STRAUSS Amor*
J STRAUSS II The Blue Danube

Jiří Rožeň conductor

Jennifer France soprano*

Celebrate a New Year of musical adventures with the SCO and vibrant young Prague-born conductor Jiří Rožeň.

Our New Year Gala Concert offers a tempting selection of musical confections to enthrall and delight – from the rich musical flavours of Rožeň's homeland, in the form of Dvořák's delicious dance-hall Prague Waltzes, to exquisite titbits from Hungary and Germany. Brilliant British soprano Jennifer France brings her silvery vocal sparkle to showpieces by Lehár and Zeller, as well as Richard Strauss's touching love song *Amor*.

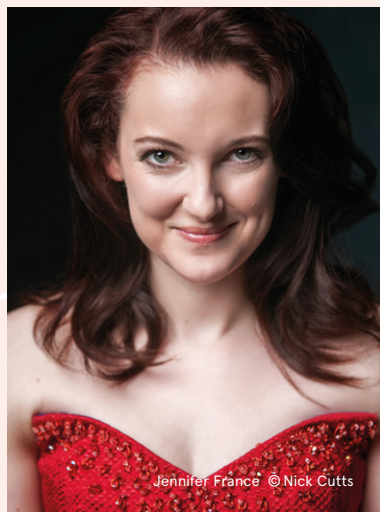
Your captivating trip concludes with the opulence of the Strauss family's Vienna – where else? – amid the timeless beauty of *The Blue Danube*.

Collection in aid of



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Jennifer France © Nick Cutts



Romantic Valentine's: Romeo and Juliet

Thursday 15 February 2024, 7.30pm
Royal Scottish National Orchestra

RECOMMENDED BY
CLASSIC *f*M

SZYMANOWSKI Suite from *King Roger*
SAINT-SAËNS Piano Concerto No.2
PROKOFIEV Selection from *Romeo and Juliet*

Thomas Søndergård conductor
Simon Trpčeski piano

'But, soft! What light through yonder window breaks?' Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers have inspired some truly glorious music, and if you only know Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* from *The Apprentice*, you're in for a wonderful surprise. In the week of Valentine's Day, Thomas Søndergård and the RSNO will sweep you off your feet, while powerhouse pianist Simon Trpčeski brings the house down every time he plays. Saint-Saëns' Second Piano Concerto has some serious sparkle: it just got even brighter.



Vivaldi's The Four Seasons

Saturday 9 March 2024, 7.30pm
Scottish Chamber Orchestra

RESPIGHI Gli ucelli (The Birds)

TARRODI Birds of Paradise

VIVALDI The Four Seasons, interspersed with traditional Nordic folk tunes played by Pekka Kuusisto and Ale Carr

Pekka Kuusisto violin / director

Ale Carr cittern

Ruby Hughes soprano

Experience a fresh new perspective on Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*, in a personal interpretation from inspirational Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto, set alongside a collection of rustic Nordic folk tunes from cittern virtuoso Ale Carr.

The cuckoos, doves and finches in Vivaldi's sparkling violin concertos find avian friends in the hens and nightingales of Respighi's brightly coloured depictions, and also in the exotic visitors depicted so brilliantly in the glittering, captivating *Birds of Paradise*.





Benedetti Plays Simpson

Thursday 21 March 2024, 7.30pm
Royal Scottish National Orchestra

MARK SIMPSON Violin Concerto *Scottish Premiere, RSNO Co-commission*
SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No.5

David Afkham conductor
Nicola Benedetti violin

Trumpets ring out, crowds cheer, and soldiers march. It's all there in Shostakovich's electrifying Fifth Symphony – a work on which the composer's very life depended. A resounding success from its first performance, it continues to thrill audiences today. All this and Nicola Benedetti too. Tonight, the nation's favourite violinist has something brand new to share: a luscious, flamboyant concerto written specially for her by Liverpooldlian composer Mark Simpson.

Sir Alexander & Lady Veronica Gibson Memorial Concert

Aberdeen Box Office

Aberdeen Box Office, Music Hall
Union Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1QS
Telephone 01224 641122
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Opening Times

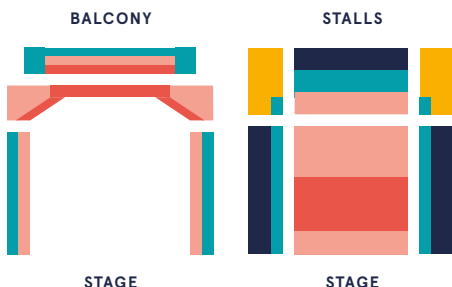
10am–6pm Tuesday to Saturday
On performance days the Box Office will also open one hour before the concert starts.

On Sale Dates

Aberdeen Concert Series subscriptions (3 or more concerts) are available to purchase from 24 April 2023. Tickets for individual concerts go on sale from 5 June 2023.

Ticket Prices

PREMIUM	I	II	III	IV
£32.00	£27	£23.50	£18.00	£14.00



Booking fees of £2.50 apply for all Aberdeen Concert Series concerts. This booking fee helps to ensure Aberdeen Performing Arts is a sustainable business.

Ticket Discounts

Free Tickets for Under 18s

Under 18s go free to the Aberdeen Concert Series. Under 16s must be accompanied by a paying adult with a maximum of two free child tickets per adult ticket. Additional children are charged at £6 each.

Under 26s, Students and Unemployed

£6 tickets are available in price areas III and IV for patrons aged 26 and under, mature students and patrons in receipt of unemployment benefit.

Patrons with a disability

Patrons who are registered disabled are entitled to 50% off standard ticket prices. Carer goes free.

Group Discounts




Groups of 6 or more save 20% off standard price tickets. Groups of 11 or more save 30% off standard price tickets.

School Groups

We welcome school and youth groups to all Aberdeen Concert Series concerts. Tickets for schools and school-age youth groups are £6.

Please note: All discounts are subject to availability. We regret that tickets to the Aberdeen Concert Series are non-refundable.

Access

-  Full access for wheelchair users.
-  Guide dogs are welcome.
-  An infra-red sound enhancement system is fitted for people with hearing difficulties.

Please notify the Box Office when booking if you have any specific access requirements which require assistance.

Become a subscriber and save!

Book 3 or more series concerts in this brochure and you can save money! The more concerts you book the more you can save – up to 30% for all 7 concerts!

Book Online

Visit www.aberdeenperformingarts.com, choose your concerts, pick your seats and your subscription discount will be worked out automatically once you have more than 3 concerts in your basket.

Book by Phone

Simply call the Aberdeen Box Office on 01224 641122 (open Tuesday to Saturday from 10am – 6.00pm) and let them know which concerts you would like to attend. Have your credit or debit card ready to make your payment.

Book by Post

- Select the concerts you wish to attend on the booking form
- Count the number of concerts and tell us how many people will be attending
- Check the seating plans and tell us in which price area (Premium – IV) you would like to sit
- Using the pricing table calculate the cost of your series ticket and enter the total onto the booking form (see next page)
- Tell us how you would like to pay and enclose your cheque or payment details (cheques payable to 'Aberdeen Performing Arts')
- Return your completed booking form to:
Aberdeen Concert Series Subscriptions,
Union Street, Aberdeen AB10 1QS

Subscription Prices

Concerts	Premium	I	II	III	IV	Discount
3	£86.40	£72.90	£63.45	£48.60	£37.80	10%
4	£108.80	£91.80	£79.90	£61.20	£47.60	15%
5	£128	£108	£94	£72	£56	20%
6	£144	£121.50	£105.75	£81	£63	25%
7	£156.80	£132.30	£115.15	£88.20	£68.60	30%

Privacy Summary

The Aberdeen Concert Series is a joint promotion between the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra in collaboration with Aberdeen Performing Arts. When you purchase tickets to our concerts your personal details will be processed by these organisations in order to provide you with relevant information about our activities as Arts Charities. These include keeping you up-to-date on the events you have booked as well as sending you information about similar events and opportunities to support our work. More information about how we process your data can be found within the Privacy Statements on the websites of the SCO, the RSNO and Aberdeen Performing Arts. If you wish for your data not to be used in these ways, please tell us at the point of purchase or contact us each directly.

Booking Form

1. Your details

Title	Forename	Surname	
Address			Postcode
Telephone		Email	

2. Please tick the boxes below to indicate your choice of concerts:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday 7 October 2023, 7.30pm – Maxim’s ‘Eroica’, A Grand Tour of Scotland
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday 28 October 2023, 2pm – Mozart and Haydn with Nicolas Altstaedt
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday 2 November 2023, 7.30pm – Chen Plays Sibelius Violin Concerto
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday 25 November 2023, 7.30pm – Mendelssohn Piano Concerto with Benjamin Grosvenor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday 15 February 2024, 7.30pm – Romantic Valentine’s: Romeo and Juliet
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday 9 March 2024, 7.30pm – Vivaldi’s <i>The Four Seasons</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday 21 March 2024, 7.30pm – Benedetti Plays Simpson

3. Count the number of concerts, attendees, tell us where you’d like to sit and the total price:

No. of concerts	No. of people	Price area	Seating area e.g. Stalls	Booking fee £2.50	Total cost of Series tickets
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4. I would like to add the RSNO’s Christmas Concert featuring *The Snowman* to my booking.
Tickets are priced at £38, £32, £27, £21, £16. Under 26s, mature students, disabled, unemployed 50% off.

No. of concerts	No. of people	Price area	Seating area e.g. Stalls	Total to pay
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5. I would like to add the SCO’s Viennese New Year Concert to my booking. Tickets are priced at £32, £27, £23.50, £18, £14. Under 18s Go Free – Under 16s must be accompanied by a paying adult. Under 26s and students £6. People with disabilities 50% off, carer goes free.

No. of concerts	No. of people	Price area	Seating area e.g. Stalls	Total to pay
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7. Payment details:

<input type="checkbox"/> I enclose a cheque payable to ‘Aberdeen Performing Arts’	<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to pay by card. Please include your email address and phone number, so that the Box Office can send you details of how to make payment once your subscription has been processed:
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8. Please return this form to:

Aberdeen Performing Arts Box Office, Music Hall, Union Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1QS	Telephone
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£6 tickets for Under 26s & Mature Students

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Book online today at aberdeenperformingarts.com

* Seating restrictions may apply. Subject to availability. Excludes RSNO Snowman and SCO Viennese concerts – Under 26s/Mature students are 50% off.



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*The RSNO and SCO are both deeply grateful for the generosity of their
individual supporters and Aberdeen-based trusts and foundations.*

Concert Calendar

Saturday
7 October 2023
7.30pm

Maxim's 'Eroica',
A Grand Tour
of Scotland
SCO

Saturday
28 October 2023
2pm

Mozart and Haydn
with Nicolas
Altstaedt
SCO

Thursday
2 November 2023
7.30pm

Chen Plays Sibelius
Violin Concerto
RSNO

Saturday
25 November 2023
7.30pm

Mendelssohn Piano
Concerto with
Benjamin Grosvenor
SCO

Thursday
21 December 2023
6.30pm

RSNO Christmas
Concert featuring
'The Snowman'
RSNO

Wednesday
3 January 2024
7.30pm

Viennese New Year
SCO

Thursday
15 February 2024
7.30pm

Romantic Valentine's:
Romeo and Juliet
RSNO

Saturday
9 March 2024
7.30pm

Vivaldi's
The Four Seasons
SCO

Thursday
21 March 2024
7.30pm

Benedetti Plays
Simpson
RSNO

Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Her Late Majesty The Queen *Patron*
Thomas Søndergård *Music Director*

19 Killermont Street, Glasgow G2 3NX
Tel. 0141 226 3868, email: info@rsno.org.uk
www.rsno.org.uk

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The SCO and RSNO reserve the right to change
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without prior notification.

Scottish Chamber Orchestra

The Former Duke of Rothesay *Patron*
Maxim Emelyanychev *Principal Conductor*

4 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5AB
Tel. 0131 557 6800, email: info@sco.org.uk
www.sco.org.uk

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Aberdeen Concert Series

2023/24



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