The Bridgewater Hall WINTER 2024-25

Bridgewater Hall

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Welcome



As we say goodbye to the summer and start digging out the warmer jackets, we're absolutely thrilled to offer an array of musical delights this winter, with a little bit of something for everyone...

Highlights from the International Concert Series include the return of **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** with a performance of The Brandenburg Concertos and also **Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra**. **The Hallé** and **BBC Philharmonic** also continue their respective seasons with a variety of concerts over the next few months.

Also gracing the stage are big name acts from the world of rock and pop, including 80s stars **Midge Ure**, **Adam Ant** and **Lloyd Cole** and one of the country's greatest folk outfits **Bellowhead**.

With a very festive offering throughout December, including traditional carol concerts, Christmas films with orchestra and not just one but two of the most famous ballets of all time **Swan Lake** and **The Nutcracker**. It promises to be the most magical time of the year!

The year promises to end with the fabulous **New Year's Eve: Let's Groove!** Featuring some of the most iconic and soulful tunes ever written.

The Bridgewater Hall continues to offer world class entertainment, in one of the finest auditoriums in the world. We hope to see you soon.

Andrew Bolt

Chief Executive Officer The Bridgewater Hall

Box Office: 0161 907 9000 www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk

Festive Food & Drink



Enjoy our delicious seasonal food and drink throughout the festive period, including mince pies and mulled wine.

Make your Christmas night out extra special with pre-concert dining in the Charles Hallé Restaurant – book online along with your tickets, or via the Box Office on 0161 907 9000.

Booking Fees

Please note all prices featured in this brochure include a booking fee of either £3 or £4.25.

Sold Out Shows

To be added to the waiting list contact the Box Office at supervisors@bridgewater-hall.co.uk or call 0161 907 9000.

Cover Artists

From the top: The Muppet Christmas Carol, Top Gun: Maverick & Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

Capturing the Christmas magic at The Bridgewater Hall

These seasonal highlights from our winter programme are designed to get you feeling festive - right through to the new year.



Some of the most popular Christmas songs were written at the height of summer: Let it Snow and The Christmas Song were both an imaginative way for the writers to cool down on a hot day. Now, just a few bars are a reminder of what's special about the winter season, from the smell of roasting chestnuts, to children bright-eyed with excitement. If, like us, a mix of yearly traditions and special occasions are your way of getting into the Christmas spirit, then read on for our specially selected list of festive events - from carol concerts in aid of a good cause, to live soundtracks to the season's most iconic films. There's Handel's Messiah performance, and a flashback to the era of feel-good music to see you through to the new year. Book your tickets and embrace the wonder of winter with us.

Manchester & District Hospitals' Choir Carol Concert

Monday 2 & Tuesday 3 December

Singing along with this carol concert, from a mix of choirs across Greater Manchester, will be very much encouraged! Help a chorus of mainly medical staff, who've given up their time to rehearse and perform, belt out Christmas classics and raise funds for Young Lives vs Cancer. This brilliant charity supports young people and their families to face cancer – and offers the perfect way of combining a festive singalong with the giving spirit of the season.

The Hallé – Messiah Saturday 7 December

Originally written for Easter, Handel's Messiah has become a firm fixture on the Christmas calendar. From the abrupt opening strings, through to the triumphant voices in the final bars, this greatest of choral compositions is one of the best ways to experience wonder in the run up to the day itself. Several legends surround the first ever performances: that management begged women not to wear hooped dresses to make 'room for more company' at the Musick Hall in Dublin, and that King George II stood up during the opening chorus, obliging the audience to do the same – a tradition that still remains. Now, watch as conductor John Butt and the superlative Hallé Choir bring this masterpiece to life once more.

The Rat Pack at Christmas Wednesday 11 December

Although it contains no direct mention of Christmas, Dean Martin's rendition of 'Let it Snow' is right up there with the yuletide hits – and one of the classics you can enjoy from The Rat Pack's canon at this throwback to the Golden Age of Hollywood. Soak in the wistful lyrics of White Christmas and picture chestnuts roasting during The Christmas Song – performed by the original cast from the Olivier Award winning West End show. This glamorous concert channels the spirit of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr, backed by the Manhattan Swing Orchestra and Dean Martin's Golddiggers. Catch this legendary evening of festive tracks following sold out performances internationally – and in its 22nd year of touring.

The Hallé – Christmas at the Movies Friday 13 December

Home Alone, Miracle on 34th Street, It's a Wonderful Life and Frozen – even the opening bars to the music for these Christmas classics can conjure the magic of the season. See tracks from these soundtracks performed by the Hallé Ancoats Community Choir and winners of the Hallé Workplace Choir Competition in this eclectic celebration of the silver screen, with celebrated vocalist Sumudu and Stephen Bell conducting. Or, you can watch the full live-to-film scores of The Holiday, The Muppets Christmas



Carol, Love Actually and The Snowman, also on the programme at the Hall.

The Big Christmas Party...Live! Tuesday 17 December

Our Big Christmas Party does exactly what it says on the tin: come on down for a sensational festive celebration, filled with pop hits and traditional favourites performed live by the Manchester Concert Orchestra. This is our annual Christmas party, and we always go big... Featuring no fewer than four headline singers, it's the perfect occasion to get into the holiday spirit – especially if you're not working the next day.

Bryn's Christmas Thursday 19 December

Welsh bass-baritone Bryn Terfel is a man who celebrated his 50th birthday with a one-off gala at the Royal Albert Hall, presented by actor Michael Sheen and featuring Sting – so boy, does he know how to party. He also knows how to sing: for Bryn's Christmas, the Grammy, Classical Brit and Gramophone Award winner will be performing festive carols in English and Welsh, popular Christmas songs and orchestral pieces with the backing of the Welsh National Opera Orchestra. Joined by rising star soprano Pumeza Matshikiza and conducted by Paul Batemen, this programme for the evening promises to knock your socks off.

New Year's Eve: Let's Groove Tuesday 31 December

Harking back to the era of feel-good music, our New Year's Eve party rings in 2025 with classic hits, TV themes and iconic tunes – as well as a good smattering of glitz and glamour. There will be pre-concert entertainment in the foyer, ahead of the concert itself, and you can enhance your evening with one of our sharing platters, each of which comes with a bottle of wine.

The Nutcracker & Swan Lake Thursday 2 & Friday 3 January

When the New Year's Eve festivities have finished, but winter continues, turn to the world of fairy tale and fantasy: Tchaikovsky's classical ballet *The Nutcracker* is like diving into a beautifully decorated music box in the early days of January. Watch toys come alive and mice reign as kings in a story as sweet as icing sugar. Alternatively, be moved by the haunting score of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*, in which a woman trapped as a swan is finally freed, but only when her lover dies with her in his devotion. Both are performed here by the critically acclaimed Varna International Ballet.

For more information on these shows and more, keep readina!

By Polly Checkland Harding

November

Kenny Thomas

The Outstanding Greatest Hits Tour Friday 1 November 7.30pm

Soul legend Kenny Thomas is coming to Manchester as part of his biggest ever UK tour, teaming up with The Soul-String Collective to celebrate the greatest hits from throughout his career. This follows on from the recent release of The Very Best of Kenny Thomas, an album which featured not only his 90s hits and fan favourites, but also tracks from forgotten album *Him*, a record originally thought lost.

Tickets £36.75 to £49.25 VIP Package £93.75

BBC Philharmonic Orchestra Brahms Piano Concerto No.1 with Garrick Ohlsson John Storgårds conductor Garrick Ohlsson piano Saturday 2 November 7.30pm

Weber Oberon Overture Schumann Symphony No.3 in E flat major, 'Rhenish' Brahms Piano Concerto No.1 in D minor

Big tunes, grand vistas and deep feelings can only mean one thing – an evening in the company of some truly great Romantic composers. It's high spirits to start, with Carl Maria von Weber's curtain raiser to his opera *Oberon*. From the supernatural to the natural world, Weber shows his hand as a master of pure theatre.



Adam Ant Sunday 3 November 7.30pm

Pop icon, Adam Ant returns, performing his classic charttopping hits and personal favourites.

Tickets £44.25 to £49.25

Max Richter

Eloisa Fleur Thom and Max Baillie violin Connie Pharoah viola Max Ruisi and Zara Hudson-Kozdoj cello Monday 4 November Doors 7.00pm SOLD OUT

One of the most influential and acclaimed composers of all time, Max Richter's fusion of classical technique and electronic technology – heard across genre-defining solo albums and countless scores for film, dance, art and fashion – has won him legions of fans around the world and blazed a trail for a generation of musicians.

Tickets £39.25 to £64.25

International Concert Series Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment The Brandenburg Concertos Tuesday 5 November 7.30pm

JS Bach Brandenburg Concertos Nos.1–6

The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, one of the country's leading period instrument ensembles, brings JS Bach's sparkling box set to The Bridgewater Hall for one night only.

Tickets £18 to £40 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions available | Student tickets £8

Manchester Mid-day Concerts Society Edward Leung piano

Thursday 7 November 1.10pm

Meredith Monk Ellis Island (2015) Bach Contrapunctus IX from Die Kunst der Fugue (The Art of Fugue), BWV 1080 Shostakovich Prelude and Fugue No.9 in E major, Op.87 Liszt Polonaise mélancolique No.1 in C minor, S.223 Franck Prélude, choral et fugue

Tickets £13 | Concessions £11.50 | Students £8

The Hallé Saint-Saëns' Second Piano Concerto Nodoka Okisawa conductor Pavel Kolesnikov piano Thursday 7 November 7.30pm * Sunday 10 November 4.00pm

Ravel Le Tombeau de Couperin Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto No.2 Takemitsu Three Film Scores for String Orchestra Poulenc Sinfonietta

Pavel Kolesnikov, 'a poet of the piano' (Bachtrack), joins Nodoka Okisawa to perform Saint-Saëns' celebrated Second Piano Concerto. Saint-Saëns wrote his Second Piano Concerto in three weeks, leaving very little time to prepare for its premiere. With its dazzling stylistic changes, it has grown to become the most popular of the composer's piano concertos. Ravel's Le Tombeau de Couperin started life as a suite for solo piano but was later orchestrated by the composer and it is this arrangement that the Hallé will present. It is a delicately intimate work with each of its six movements dedicated to friends of the composer who had died in the First World War. Following the Ravel we hear Takemitsu's Three Film Scores for String Orchestra which features his music from Jose Torres (1959), Black Rain (1989) and Face of Another (1966). The programme concludes with Poulenc's rhythmic and satirical Sinfonietta.

* The Vera Clegg Memorial Concert

Tickets £17 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

Dick and Angel Forever Home (avec le nitty gritty) Saturday 9 November 7.30pm

Spend an entertaining evening with the stars of Channel 4 hit Escape to the Chateau, Dick and Angel Strawbridge, and experience the Chateau like never before. Over the past eight years, millions of viewers across the world have been enthralled by the adventures of retired Lieutenant Colonel, engineer and chef, Dick, and his entrepreneur and designer wife, Angel.

Tickets £29.25 to £46.25

Jamie Cullum Support from Billy Lockett Monday 11 November Doors 7.00pm

Vocalist and jazz-pop pianist Jamie Cullum

Tickets £39.25 to £71.75 | VIP £113.25

Jonathan Scott organ Virtuoso

Tuesday 12 November 1.10pm

Wagner arr. Lemare Tannhäuser Overture Bach Fantasia & Fugue in G Minor BWV 542 Mozart arr. Scott Symphony 25 in G Minor K.183 **Gigout** Grand Choeur Dialogué Liszt arr. Scott Liebestraum No.3 Vierne Symphony No.1 Op.14 - Final

Tickets £15.50 | Concessions £14 | Student £11.50

Tickets £18 to £23 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available The Dubliners Encore **Official Stage Show** Friday 15 November 7.30pm

The Dubliners Encore is the official stage show celebrating the greatest folk band of all time. Produced by The Dubliners' John Sheahan, renowned fiddle player and legendary Irish icon, this new show packs 50 years of songs, stories, and craic, into one unforgettable night.

Tickets £28.75 to £33.75

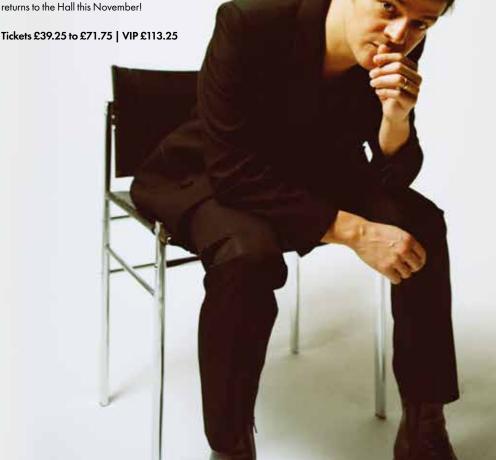
Rush Hour The Hallé – Shostakovich's Ninth Delyana Lazarova conductor Hanna Hipp mezzo-soprano Tenor from the RNCM Hallé Choir Matthew Hamilton choral director Thursday 14 November 6.00pm

Boulanger Psalm 130: De Profundis (Out Of The Depths) Shostakovich Symphony No.9

Delyana Lazarova, internationally acclaimed conductor, takes to the podium to conduct Shostakovich's triumphantly defiant Ninth Symphony, ostensibly, his tribute to Soviet victory over Nazi Germany. Under the surface, however, was a bold critique of Soviet leaders and the chaos ensuing even after the war ended. The final movement uses The Dance of the Bones (a favourite of Stalin's), a sardonic signpost to the decreasing food supplies in post-war Russia at the time. Preceding this is Lili Boulanger's ominous setting of Psalm 130, widely believed to be a reaction to the outbreak of World War One. Delyana Lazarova, winner of the inaugural Siemens Hallé International Conductor's Competition, directs the massed forces of the Hallé, Hallé Choir, a rising star from the RNCM and the stunning Hanna Hipp.

This concert is sponsored by CMS.

Pre-concert archive talk at 5pm. Post-concert foyer music.



BBC Philharmonic Orchestra A Hero's Life Alpesh Chauhan conductor Alban Gerhardt cello

Saturday 16 November 7.30pm

Anna Clyne This Moment (UK premiere) Shostakovich Cello Concerto No.2 in G major Richard Strauss Ein Heldenleben

Buddhist writings inspired the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra's Composer in Association, Anna Clyne to write *This Moment.* This UK premiere is a meditation on the words of Zen Master and peace activist Thích Nhất Hanh; 'this moment is full of wonders.'

Dmitri Shostakovich's late cello concerto looks back on a life lived through oppression. A reflective mood with a double shot of black humour, Shostakovich continually finds light amongst the dark. The story of a hero rounds off the concert. Thrilling and ardent, *Ein Heldenleben* or 'A Hero's Life' is the musical autobiography of Richard Strauss. It's the ride of his life and he's taking us all with him. 'A Hero's Life' has enough power to heat The Bridgewater Hall on a cold evening.

Tickets £16 to £35 FLEXIBLE BOOKING

Concessions and discounts available

Top Gun: Maverick In Concert

Sunday 17 November 6.00pm

Experience the Academy Award winning blockbuster on the big screen, with Lorne Balfe, Harold Faltermeyer, Lady Gaga and Hans Zimmer's epic score performed live-to-picture by the Hallé, conducted by Ben Palmer.

A Royal Albert Hall production in association with esk film.

Tickets £33 to £68 FLEXIBLE BOOKING

International Concert Series Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra Jonathan Darlington conductor Federico Colli piano

Monday 18 November 7.30pm

Weber Der Freischütz: Overture Grieg Piano Concerto Brahms Symphony No.4

Join us for a rare UK visit from this top-tier German orchestra – with a trio of Romantic masterpieces. The centrepiece of this concert needs little introduction: Grieg's Piano Concerto. To open, the radiant overture from Carl Maria von Weber's 1821 masterpiece, which launched the era of German Romantic opera. And to close, one of the greatest of all symphonies: Brahms' Fourth, a tumultuous journey capped by the magnificent passacaglia.

Tickets £23 to £45 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available | Students £8

The Hallé Adès and Sibelius Thomas Adès conductor Stephen Waarts violin Thursday 21 November 7.30pm

Sibelius Symphony No.7 Rautavaara Deux Sérénades Thomas Adès Aquifer (UK Premiere) Thomas Adès Air – Homage To Sibelius Sibelius Symphony No.5

Stephen Waarts, enjoyed by audiences globally for his 'expressive fire and tonal vitality' (Süddeutsche Zeitung), joins Hallé Artist-in-Residence Thomas Adès to perform in Rautavaara's final opus. Deux Sérénades is a delicately poignant work in two movements: the first, 'For my love', is rich with emotive, yearning melodies; the second, 'For life', is more contemplative, until a suddenly frantic finish. Thomas Adès' Aquifer is brimming with fluid motifs and rhythms that expand and withdraw as the water would in its namesake geological structure. Stephen Waarts will perform Adès' Air – Homage to Sibelius, a transformative work first premiered earlier this year. Book-ending tonight's concert are two Sibelius symphonies, his Fifth and Seventh. The latter, like Air, was composed in one single movement, yet it is no less full of rhythmic variety.

Concert sponsored by Siemens

Pre-concert event at 6.30pm

Tickets £17 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available





Homayoun Shajarian & Anoushiravan Rohani Saturday 23 November 8.00pm

Celebrated, Iranian born singer Homayoun Shajarian will be joined by distinguished guest, composer and pianist Anoushiravan Rohani, and the Siavash Orchestra.

Tickets £63.25 to £233.25

Music of the Movies: Lord of the Rings, Game of Thrones, The Hobbit, Avatar and Beyond Toby Purser conductor Kantos Chamber Choir Manchester Concert Orchestra Sunday 24 November 3.00pm

Experience epic and inspirational music from Lord of the Rings, The Hobbit, Game of Thrones, Dragonheart, The Chronicles of Narnia, How To Train Your Dragon, Star Wars, Avatar and beyond as the worlds of TV, film and fantasy are brought to life by a full symphony orchestra and stunning choir, in this unmissable concert. Bellowhead Support from The Longest Johns Monday 25 November Doors 7.00pm SOLD OUT

Following a brief hiatus – and prompted by a recordbreaking streamed performance during the pandemic – the band reunited for a sold-out tour in 2022, reaffirming their status as one of the UK's biggest and most in demand folk acts. 2024 marks the 20th anniversary of not only the band's formation but also the release of their debut EP, plus ten years since their record *Revival* entered the UK Top 20, featuring future fan favourites such as *Roll Alabama* and *Gosport Nancy*.

Tickets £31.75 to £49.25

Manchester Mid-day Concerts Society Roza Herwig mezzo-soprano Craig White piano Thursday 28 November 1.10pm

Programme to include songs by Vivaldi, Schubert, Mahler, Offenbach, Debussy, and Weill

Tickets £13 | Concessions £11.50 | Students £8

The Hallé Beethoven's Seventh Symphony Kahchun Wong conductor Colin Currie percussion Thursday 28 November 7.30pm

Arnold Four Scottish Dances James Macmillan Veni, Veni Emmanuel (Percussion Concerto) Beethoven Symphony No.7

Sunday 1 December 4.00pm

Composed at the end of the Napoleonic Wars, Beethoven's Seventh Symphony possesses a triumphant, bordering on boisterous, sense of 'a return to life'. It is filled with stirring dance rhythms; the score calls for the first recorded use of fff (fortississimo: louder than fortissimo, as loud as possible). It has also been featured extensively in popular culture: for example, its second movement provides the background music to King George VI's stirring World War speech in *The King's Speech*. Preceding the symphony, Kahchun Wong will conduct Arnold's *Four Scottish Dances*, evocative of traditional Scottish folk tunes. Colin Currie will join the platform to play in James MacMillan's celebrated Veni, Veni Emmanuel, a percussion concerto that proved to be the composer's breakthrough work.

Pre-concert foyer performances one hour before concerts

Tickets £17 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

Home Alone In Concert Friday 29 November 7.30pm

A true Christmas favourite, beloved comedy classic Home Alone features renowned composer John Williams' charming and delightful score performed live to picture by the International Film Orchestra. Macaulay Culkin stars as Kevin McCallister, an 8-year-old boy who's accidentally left behind when his family leaves for Christmas vacation, and who must defend his home against two bungling thieves. Nominated for two Academy Awards for Best Original Score and Best Original Song (Somewhere in My Memory), Home Alone is hilarious, heart-warming festive fun for the entire family!

BBC Philharmonic Orchestra Cracking Elgar's Enigma Code

John Storgårds conductor Roberto Giaccaglia bassoon Roderick Williams baritone Saturday 30 November 7.30pm

Arvo Pärt Swansong Geoffrey Gordon Anima Mia (BBC Commission: world premiere) Martin Six Monologues from 'Everyman' Elgar 'Enigma' Variations

'Nimrod', one of music's most endearing tributes, lies at the heart of the *Enigma Variations*, and there are many more touching portraits to unveil here. Each movement dedicated to in his own words 'his friends pictured within'. Edward Elgar loved cryptic codes and he hid one in his most famous work – it is still to be cracked even to this day.

In Swansong, Arvo Pärt creates a mesmerising anthem to the 19th century priest and scholar, Cardinal Newman. The music of Frank Martin, operatic in scope is brought to the concert platform by world renowned baritone Roderick Williams. And then a bold hybrid, inspired by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra's very own Principal Bassoon, Roberto Giaccaglia along with the works of Swiss artist HR Giger, Anima Mia promises to be an extraordinary animal. Alien vs. Bassoon.

Tickets £16 to £35 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

Decembe

The Hallé Christmas Family Concert – The Adventures Of Pippa The Christmas Bat

Euan Shields conductor Lucy Tuck actor Jon James producer Halle Youth Training Choir - Matthew Roughley director Sunday 1 December 11.30am

A festive adventure for all the family. Not many people know that Santa has a special team of highly trained bats that guide him and his reindeers through the night sky on Christmas Eve. Can you help Pippa the new, nervous bat, pass the test in front of Santa and make it onto the Special Bat Service? Join the Hallé for this family show packed with festive classics, singing, bat-flying, waltzing and even some cartwheels, guaranteed to get you in the Christmas spirit!

This concert is sponsored by The Edwardian

Tickets: Family £70 | Adults £28 Children (17 and under) £18

Concessions and discounts available

Manchester & District Hospitals' Choir Carol Concert In Aid of Young Lives vs Cancer Monday 2 December 7.30pm Tuesday 3 December 7.30pm

The annual Carol Concert in aid of Young Lives vs Cancer returns, a mix of choirs from around the Greater Manchester area – consisting mainly of medical and nursing staff who have given up their time to rehearse and perform – celebrating the start of the festive season with a host of Christmas classics, audience participation very much encouraged!

Under the direction of Stuart Overington and accompanied, on the organ by George Herbert, and the Greater Manchester Police Band Fanfare Team, they will be joined for this performance by Aspull Church Primary School, Wigan and St Andrew's Primary School, Boothstwon, the principal purpose of the evening being to raise essential funds for Young Lives vs Cancer. We hope we can count on your continued support!

Tickets £18 to £23

Manchester Mid-day Concerts Society The Easy Rollers Tuesday 3 December 1.10pm

Taking you back to the golden age of jazz, The Easy Rollers are a roaring seven-piece jazz outfit performing hits from the The Jazz Age (1920-1933) and The Swing

Era (1933–1947). Originally established in Manchester, and all award-winning musicians, they have been offering audiences an authentic underground speakeasy experience since 2016.

Tickets £13 | Concessions £11.50 | Students £8

The Hallé Nitin Sawhney In Concert Thursday 5 December 8.00pm

Nitin Sawhney guitar and keyboard Chris Cameron conductor Aref Durvesh tabla Eos Counsell violin Shapla Salique and YVA vocalists

A special evening lies ahead when the internationally renowned composer, musician and producer, Nitin Sawhney CBE, makes his Hallé debut. Mercury Prize nominee and recipient of the Ivor Novello Lifetime Achievement award, Sawhney is inspired by music from around the Globe as he responds to themes of multiculturalism, politics and spirituality. He has released over 20 albums and written around 70 film and TV scores including Netflix's Mowgli and the BBC's award-winning Human Planet series. Together with the Hallé and guest artists, with whom Sawhney regularly collaborates, this multi-talented artist will perform tracks from his forthcoming album Identity, as well as exploring the concept behind it.

This concert is sponsored by Siemens



The Holiday In Concert

Friday 6 December 7.30pm SOLD OUT Monday 23 December 7.30pm

Beloved Christmas romcom *The Holiday* will to be presented live in concert this festive season, the film's score played live-to-film by a complete concert orchestra.

The score for The Holiday was written by world renowned, highly celebrated and multiple Academy Award and Golden Globe winning composer Hans Zimmer and written, directed and produced by Nancy Meyers.

Tickets £36.75 to £69.75

The Hallé – Messiah John Butt conductor Jessica Niles soprano Alexander Chance counter-tenor Toby Spence tenor Roderick Williams baritone Hallé Choir Matthew Hamilton choral director Saturday 7 December 6.00pm

Handel Messiah

Under the masterful baton of John Butt, a cast of stellar soloists and the Hallé Choir combine in this timeless musical representation of the life and death of Christ.

The legend goes that during the London premiere of Handel's Messiah in 1743, King George II stood up at the opening of the 'Hallelujah' chorus, thus obligating the rest of the audience to do the same. Whether he was emotionally moved, needed to stretch his legs (or, in fact, was even in attendance at all), is debated to this day, but the tradition of standing remains. This annual performance of the work features a quartet of celebrated international soloists, flanked by the forces of the Hallé Choir.

This concert is sponsored by Siemens

Tickets £17 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

Disney's The Muppet Christmas Carol in Concert Live to Film

Sunday 8 December 2.30pm Sunday 8 December 7.00pm

Disney's The Muppet Christmas Carol in Concert Live to Film returns this winter, the film screened in full as the musical score is performed live to picture on stage.

Tickets £35.75 to £70.75

Midge Ure Catalogue: The Hits Tour Monday 9 December 7.30pm

Experience a spectacular musical journey with Midge Ure's Catalogue: The Hits Tour – a celebration of the singer and musician's remarkable 50-year career, from his beginnings in Slik to monumental achievements with Ultravox and pivotal roles in Band Aid and Live Aid.

Tickets £35.25 to £42.75

The Bootleg Beatles

Tuesday 10 December 7.30pm

Regarded the world over as the gold standard of tribute, The Bootleg Beatles return this Christmas for another nostalgic trip through the sixties! With fastidious attention to detail, the band spectacularly recreate both the look and sound of the Fab Four through each iconic phase of their career with uncanny authenticity.

Tickets £37.75 to £46.75 | VIP Package £79.25

The Rat Pack at Christmas Wednesday 11 December 7.30pm

The Definitive Rat Pack brings you an evening of festive classics, including White Christmas, Baby It's Cold Outside, The Christmas Song and Let It Snow, plus alltime favourites including Mack the Knife, That's Amore, Mr Bojangles and New York, New York. What better way to get into the festive spirit!

BBC Philharmonic Orchestra From the Canyons to the Stars Ludovic Morlot conductor

Martin Owen horn Steven Osborne piano Thursday 12 December 7.30pm

Messiaen Des canyons aux étoiles...

Monumental mysticism radiates in Olivier Messiaen's Des canyons aux étoiles... Commissioned to write a work which commemorated the bicentenary of the American Declaration of Independence, the French composer visited the United States looking for inspiration. He found it amongst the National Parks of Utah. Messiaen faithfully replicates the songs of birds – God's musicians, he called them – in virtuosic writing for the orchestra.

Pianist Steven Osborne is a huge champion of Messiaen's music. Tonight, he joins the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra's Associate Artist Ludovic Morlot and horn player Martin Owen for a rare chance to hear this luminous work by one of the most distinctive voices of the 20th century.

Tickets £16 to £35 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

The Hallé – Christmas at the Movies Stephen Bell conductor Sumudu vocalist Winners of the Hallé Workplace Choir Competition Hallé Ancoats Community Choir Friday 13 December 7.30pm

Step into a world of cinematic magic this Christmas. Join Stephen Bell and star vocalist Sumudu, along with the Hallé Ancoats Community Choir and the winners of the Hallé Corporate Choir Competition, for a festive celebration of all your favourite Christmas movies. From Frozen to The Nightmare Before Christmas, It's a Wonderful Life to Meet Me In St Louis this concert is guaranteed to fill your heart with the spirit of Christmas.

This concert is sponsored by Brother

Tickets £27 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available



The Hallé – Carol Concerts

Stephen Bell conductor Hallé Choir Matthew Hamilton director Hallé Youth Choir Stuart Overington director Hallé Children's Choir Shirley Court director Saturday 14 December 3.00pm Sunday 15 December 7.30pm

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without the Hallé's annual Carol Concerts! The traditional and much-loved Christmas celebration for orchestra, choirs and audience including the Hallelujah Chorus, O Holy Night, O Come All Ye Faithful, music from Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker, Once in Royal David's City and In Dulci Jubilo and more. The Hallé Children's Choir will steal the show again, this year performing I Want a Hippopotamus For Christmas.

Tickets £27 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

The Hallé Youth Orchestra Euan Shields conductor Saturday 14 December 8.00pm

Berlioz Roman Carnival Overture **Sibelius** Symphony No.1

This dazzling programme showcases the flourishing relationship between the next generation of talented musicians and Euan Shields, the Hallé's Assistant Conductor, as he enters his second year in post.

The programme opens with Berlioz's exuberant Roman Carnival Overture, a work that incorporates vibrant themes from his opera Benvenuto Cellini. Sibelius's First Symphony, Romantically-influenced and imbued with melodic freshness, announced the arrival of one of the the all-time great symphonists.

This concert is sponsored by Espirit, the Oglesby Charitable Trust and the Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition.

Tickets £13

Concessions £10.50 | Students and under 18s £6

Manchester Inspirational Voices Joy! A Christmas Celebration Monday 16 December 7.30pm

Manchester Inspirational Voices, united by a love of music, performance and faith, bring their brand of

exciting gospel music to The Bridgewater Hall. Gavin Adams, Xantoné Blaq, Ejiro Melkam, Róise McHugh, Valley Aloud & The Royal Northern College of Music Gospel Choir will bring an eclectic variety of seasonal songs with a twist of gospel, jazz and musical theatre.

Tickets £28 | Child/Concession £18 Family Ticket £73

The Big Christmas Party John Rigby conductor Manchester Concert Orchestra Tuesday 17 December 7.30pm

One More Sleep; Christmas (Baby Please Come Home); Last Christmas; All I Want for Christmas; Driving Home For Christmas; Winter Wonderland; Merry Christmas Everyone; Let It Snow; Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer; Rockin Around The Christmas Tree; Underneath The Tree

The Big Christmas Party... live! boasts a spectacular blend of festive pop hits and traditional favourites, featuring a dazzling live ensemble band, four headline singers and incredible live music featuring hit after hit after hit. No matter what Christmas means to you The Big Christmas Party has it all. Unwrap the sound of Christmas with this unforgettable aift that will stay with you forever.

Tickets £29.25 to £52.25

Love Actually In Concert Wednesday 18 December 7.30pm

This Christmas, the star-studded Love Actually, perhaps one of the most quotable and adored Christmas films around, will be presented live in concert, with a full orchestra playing the score live-to-film. Love Actually In Concert has become an annual festive tradition for many, gathering numerous sold out audiences in previous years

Tickets £36.75 to £76.75

Bryn's Christmas Thursday 19 December 7.30pm

Welsh bass-baritone Bryn Terfel will be bringing his very special Christmas show, Bryn's Christmas – featuring festive carols in English and Welsh, as well as popular Christmas songs and orchestral pieces –joined by special guest soprano Pumeza Matshikiza and the Welsh National Opera Orchestra, conducted by Paul Bateman.

Tickets £34.25 to £64.25

The Hallé – The Snowman with Mimi & the Mountain Dragon Olivia Clarke conductor Members of the Hallé Choir and Hallé Youth Training Choir

Saturday 21 December 4.00pm Sunday 22 December 11.00am Sunday 22 December 1.30pm

Experience the captivating blend of music and storytelling on the Hallé's big screen, perfect for audiences of all ages. Under the guidance of Olivia Clarke, prepare to be transported to a world of fantasy and adventure. In the first half, join Mimi on a perilous journey to return a baby dragon to its mother in *Mimi* and the Mountain Dragon. Watch the story unfold on the Hallé big screen accompanied by members of the Hallé Choir and Hallé Youth Training Choir. The second half will have you *Walking in the Air* as Raymond Briggs' timeless tale, *The Snowman* is brought to life with Howard Blake's wonderful score.

These concerts are sponsored by PZ Cussons

Tickets: Family £70 | Adults £28 Children (17 and under) £18 Concessions and discounts available

Christmas Carol Singalong Louise Dearman & Jonathan Cohen Manchester Chorale Manchester Concert Orchestra Tuesday 24 December 3.00pm

Hear all the classics, including; White Christmas; Jingle Bells; Merry Christmas Everyone; Sleigh Ride; Santa Claus is Coming to Town; Frosty the Snowman; Good King Wenceslas; O come, all ye Faithful; O Little Town of Bethlehem; Once in Royal David's City; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Sing your way into Christmas as Jonathan Cohen leads you through the very best Christmas songs and seasonal classics in one irresistibly family friendly extravaganza!

Tickets £25.75 to £48.25

The Music of Zimmer Vs Williams Friday 27 December 7.30pm

A festive favourite returns as the Manchester Concert Orchestra celebrate two of the greatest film composers of all time – Hans Zimmer and John Williams – performing epic scores from the likes of Star Wars, Jurassic Park, Harry Potter, Pirates of the Caribbean, E.T., Batman, The Dark Knight and more.

Tickets £29.25 to £50.75

Glenn Miller Orchestra Saturday 28 December 3.00pm

The UK's most renowned big band return to The Bridgewater Hall, swinging you back in time as they play Glenn Miller's own arrangements of favourite hits from the forties, including It's Almost Like Being In Love, Moonlight Serenade, Somewhere Over the Rainbow and many more.

Tickets £23.25 to £39.25

The Hallé The Music of Queen Stephen Bell conductor Nicole Raquel Dennis, Alice Fearn, Rob Houchen & Trevor Dion Nicholas vocalists Sunday 29 December 7.30pm

Don't stop us now, we're having such a good time, we're having a ball! The perfect start to your New Year celebrations, this concert features all your favourite Queen songs performed by the Hallé and four star vocalists. From We are the Champions to Radio Gaga, Killer Queen to Bohemian Rhapsody, this spectacular party is a must for any Queen fan. We WILL rock you.

This concert is sponsored by Siemens

Tickets £27 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available



Tuesday 31 December 2024

West End vocalists Miranda Wilford & Damien Edwards The Bridgewater Hall Concert Orchestra

> Music from Earth, Wind & Fire David Bowie Chaka Khan Prince Bill Medley & Jennifer Warnes Stevie Wonder

Tickets £40.25 to £60.25

New Year's Dining Options Charles Hallé Restaurant – sold out

Platters – charcuterie, fish or vegetarian options including a bottle of house wine | £70 per platter

Book dining online along with your tickets, or via the Box Office on 0161 907 9000.

The Nutcracker Varna International Ballet Varna International Ballet Orchestra Thursday 2 January 2.30pm Thursday 2 January 7.00pm

This most famous of fantasy ballets for all the family begins as night falls on Christmas Eve. As snowflakes fall outside, the warm glow of the open fire sends flickering shadows across the boughs of the Christmas tree and all the presents beneath. When midnight strikes, we are swept away to a fairy-tale world where nothing is quite as it seems, toy dolls spring to life, the Mouse-king and his mouse-army battle with the Nutcracker Prince and we travel through the Land of Snow to an enchanted place where the magic really begins...

Matinee tickets £27.75 to £47.75 Evening tickets £37.75 to £54.25 Swan Lake Varna International Ballet Varna International Ballet Orchestra Friday 3 January 2.30pm Friday 3 January 7.00pm

The greatest romantic ballet of all time is brought to life by Tchaikovsky's haunting and unforgettable score. From the impressive splendour of the Palace ballroom to the moon-lit lake where swans glide in perfect formation, this compelling tale of tragic romance has it all. From Odile, the temptress in black tulle as she seduces the Prince by spinning with captivating precision to the spellbound purity of the swan queen, Odette as she flutters with emotional intensity, the dual role of Odette/Odile is one of ballet's most unmissable technical challenges.

Matinee tickets £27.75 to £47.75 Evening tickets £37.75 to £54.25 The Hallé Viennese New Year Eduardo Strausser conductor Alexandra Lowe soprano Saturday 4 January 3.00pm

Welcome in the New Year with an afternoon of joyous music full of Viennese charm. Conductor Eduardo Strausser and the Hallé are joined by enchanting soprano Alexandra Lowe for a whirl around the ballrooms of Vienna in this traditional New Year concert. Featuring the lively overture to *Die Fledermaus*, the playful rhythms of *Tritsch-Tratsch Polka* and the romantic strains of Lehar's Vilja, this concert is the perfect way to spend a January afternoon.

Tickets £17 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

Live Forever – The Rise of Oasis Friday 10 January 7.30pm

The first ever production of its kind, *Live Forever* celebrates the story of the greatest rock 'n' roll band the UK has ever seen...Oasis! You'll be transported back to the 90s where audiences will follow the band's meteoric rise to fame; from their humble beginnings on a Manchester council estate, to playing to more than a quarter of a million fans at their now legendary Knebworth concerts. *Live Forever* is an electric must see for all Oasis fans and children of the 90s.

Tickets £19.75 to £34.75

Manchester Mid-day Concerts Society Domonkos Csabay piano Monday 13 January 1.10pm

Chopin Prelude Op.28 No.1 in C major Nadia Boulanger Vers la vie nouvelle Schubert Impromptu Op.90 No.1 in C minor D.899 Bach/Busoni Choral Prelude, Komm Gott, Schöpfer Liszt Hungarian Rhapsodies Nos. 12 & 6 Britten Night Piece (Notturno)

Tickets £13 | Concessions £11.50 | Students £8

The Hallé Mahler's Resurrection Symphony Kahchun Wong conductor Masabane Cecilia Rangwanasha soprano Dame Sarah Connolly mezzo-soprano Hallé Choir Matthew Hamilton choral director Hallé Youth Choir Stuart Overington director Thursday 16 January 7.30pm

Mahler Symphony No.2, 'Resurrection'

Dame Sarah Connolly DBE and Masabane Cecilia Rangwanasha, 2021's BBC Cardiff Singer of the World, lend their voices to this performance of Mahler's 'Resurrection' Symphony. One of his most successful works during his lifetime. Inspired in part by the death of his colleague and friend Hans von Bülow, the symphony is the composer's tribute to his life-long ideals of the beauty of resurrection and the afterlife. It was at Bülow's funeral that Mahler heard the Friedrich Gottlieb Klopstock hymn Die Auferstehung (The Resurrection), the refrain of which is 'Rise again, yes, you shall rise again my dust'. These words, combined with Mahler's own verses, provide the text for the symphony's fifth and final movement, written for soloists and chorus combined, and probably the greatest depictions of redemption and renewal in all music. Under the baton of Kahchun Wong, this promises to be a truly memorable experience.

This concert is sponsored by Siemens and CMS

Pre-concert event at 6.30pm

Tickets £17 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available International Concert Series German National Orchestra Wayne Marshall conductor & piano German-British-Choir Academy Friday 17 January 7.30pm

Britten The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra Gershwin orch. Grofé Rhapsody in Blue Holst The Planets

The remarkable Wayne Marshall performs double duty as conductor and pianist in the work that invented American classical music: George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*.

From the opening clarinet wail to the rousing climax, Gershwin's timeless Rhapsody is one of the few truly iconic works in the canon. The composer himself played the piano part at its 1924 premiere – and tonight, Wayne Marshall serves as both soloist and conductor for this Jazz Age masterwork.

The German National Orchestra completes the programme with two much-loved works from our side of the Atlantic. Benjamin Britten takes a little-known Purcell melody and takes it on a journey through the orchestra in his delightful Young Person's Guide. Then, to close, Gustav Holst leads us on an interstellar voyage through the solar system, from magnificent Mars to mystical Neptune.

Tickets £18 to £40 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions available | Student tickets £8

The Drifters

Saturday 18 January 7.30pm

Listed among the Greatest Artists of All Time by Rolling Stone magazine, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees and legendary doo-wop group The Drifters return to The Bridgewater Hall in 2025, ready to dazzle audiences with classic hits including Saturday Night at the Movies, You're More Than A Number, Kissin' In The Back Row, Come On Over To My Place, Under The Boardwalk and many more!

Tickets £37.25 to £41.25

The Hallé Tchaikovsky's Fateful Fourth Roderick Cox conductor Giorgi Gigashvili piano Thursday 23 January 7.30pm

Sunday 26 January 4.00pm

Christopher Cerrone The Insects Became Magnetic Mozart Piano Concerto No.21 Tchaikovsky Symphony No.4

Roderick Cox – a 'trailblazer – a conductor who will be amongst the vanguard' (Minnesota Star Tribune) conducts Tchaikovsky's fateful Fourth Symphony. After Christopher Cerrone's *The Insects Became Magnetic* – a piece first prompted by the noise of computer speaker feedback and the idea that something beautiful could come from an otherwise uncomfortable sound – Roderick Cox is joined by the 2024–25 Terence Judd-Hallé Award winner, Giorgi Gigashvili for Mozart's Piano Concerto No.21, which was completed a mere four weeks after his Piano Concerto No.20. Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony, ranked as one of his best, provides an emotive and impassioned finale.

Tickets £17 to £50 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions and discounts available

Lloyd Cole Friday 24 January 7.30pm

Lloyd Cole's decade's long career has seen him explore multiple genres; from alt-rock and folk to recent experiments with electronica, all whilst staying true to his lush songcraft and lyrical wit. For this special show he is joined by The Commotions bandmates Blair Cowan & Neil Clark, journeying through Cole's illustrious back-catalogue.

Tickets £39.25 to £69.25

Manchester Mid-day Concerts Society Kryštof Kohout violin Thursday 30 January 1.10pm

Programme to include works by Bartók

Tickets £13 | Concessions £11.50 | Students £8.00

International Concert Series Pierre-Laurent Aimard The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book II Thursday 30 January 7.30pm

JS Bach The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book II (complete)

Pierre-Laurent Aimard, one of the world's greatest living pianists, climbs the Everest of solo keyboard repertoire: Book II of Johann Sebastian Bach's towering tour de force.

Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier consists of two sets of 24 preludes and fugues in every key, an epic journey made one semi-tone at a time. Put like that, 'The 48' sounds like a mere academic exercise. But this is music of vivid brilliance and staggering imagination – and there's no better guide than French master Pierre-Laurent Aimard. Bach neither intended nor expected The *Well-Tempered Clavier* to be played as a single work, and every concert performance is a landmark event. Aimard has lived with this music for a lifetime – and a decade on from his recording of Book I, he's now bringing Book II to The Bridgewater Hall. Unmissable.

Tickets £18 to £40 FLEXIBLE BOOKING Concessions available | Student tickets £8

The Magic of Motown Friday 31 January 7.30pm

The Magic of Motown is a celebration of the sound of a generation, recounting the enduring classics that went on to define the era, including iconic hits from the likes of Marvin Gaye, Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder, The Supremes, Martha Reeves, Smokey Robinson and more.

Tickets £42.25 to £44.25

Coming Soon to The Bridgewater Hall

Pretty Vacant Thursday 6 February 2025

Prague Symphony Orchestra Tomáš Brauner conductor Alexander Sitkovetsky violin Friday 14 February 2025

Neighbours The 40th Anniversary Tour Tuesday 18 February 2025

James Martin Live Friday 28 February 2025

Booking: 0161 907 9000 www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk

Alexander Sitkovets

The Bridgewater Hall pipe dream? Well not anymore! See our website for more details to be announced in coming weeks

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Booking Information

Getting Here

Booking Online

Visit **www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk** where you have the option to select your own seat or choose the best available. You can also add dining and parking vouchers to your order.

Booking By Phone

0161 907 9000

Booking In Person

Box Office, The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3WS

Booking By Post

To the Box Office at the address above

Box Office Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 10.00am—5.00pm Saturday & Sunday (concert nights only) 2.00—5.00pm Counter service until 8.00pm on concert nights

As at September 2024. Please phone the Box Office or visit **www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk** to check for changes in opening times.

Digital Tickets

We are currently in the process of being able to offer digital ticketing. For the time being the delivery method 'Email' will be available on applicable events only.

Forms of Payment Accepted

Payment can be made by cash, cheque, Mastercard, Visa or debit card. If paying by cheque, please make your cheque payable to 'The Bridgewater Hall'.

Booking Fees

Prices shown in this brochure include booking fees. A booking fee of \pounds 3 or \pounds 4.25 per ticket applies to telephone and online transactions. No fee applies to tickets bought in person or purchased as part of a fixed or flexible subscription.

For details of ticket exchange, group discounts, concessionary and standby tickets, please visit **www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk** or call the Box Office.

Flexible Booking

Save 15% on the full ticket price when you book 5 or more concerts featuring **FLEXIBLE BOOKING**

Please note you cannot apply more than one discount to a booking.

Accessibility

The Bridgewater Hall is fully accessible for disabled patrons. For full information on facilities please visit **www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk** or call the Box Office on 0161 907 9000. The Hall is in the centre of Manchester, easily accessible by public transport and by road.

Metrolink tram passengers should alight at St Peter's Square or Deansgate-Castlefield.

The nearest bus stops for major routes into the city centre are St Peter's Square/Portland Street or Deansgate.

The nearest rail stations are Deansgate and Oxford Road.

Coaches can drop off and pick up outside the main entrance on Lower Mosley Street.

The nearest car parks are Q-Park First Street, NCP Manchester Central, NCP Great Northern or NCP Oxford Street. If travelling by car, please allow plenty of time for your journey.

The Bridgewater Hall Lower Mosley Street Manchester M2 3WS

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Published by The Bridgewater Hall. Information correct at time of press. The Bridgewater Hall is managed by SMG Europe Holdings Limited (ASM Global). The construction of The Bridgewater Hall was funded in partnership by Manchester City Council and Manchester Development Corporation with assistance from the European Regional Development Fund. The ongoing operation of the Hall is now the responsibility of an independent charitable trust, Manchester hConcert Hall Limited (MCHL).

E-News

Keep up-to-date with what's on at The Bridgewater Hall by registering online to receive our monthly e-newsletter.

The Bridgewater Hall Lower Mosley Street Manchester M2 3WS Box Office: 0161 907 9000 www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk