



**BBC**  
**Symphony**  
**Orchestra**

Jiří Bělohlávek Chief Conductor

The Barbican's Associate Orchestra  
[bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra](http://bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra)



**008**  
**Season**

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90 – 93FM

barbican

Welcome to the BBC Symphony Orchestra's 2008–09 Barbican season. Chief Conductor Jiří Bělohlávek launches the season with Beethoven's *Missa solemnis*, joined by a stellar quartet of soloists and the superb BBC Symphony Chorus. Jiří continues his highly praised explorations of the symphonies of Bruckner and Mahler and returns to the music of his homeland for a concert staging of Martinů's glorious opera *Julietta*. We explore the music of France and Spain, with a month devoted to French music and musicians and a Spanish-themed concert featuring De Falla's *El amor brujo* (*Love, the Magician*).

In December, we celebrate the 100th birthday of Elliott Carter and early in 2009 we introduce a trio of events – our 'Total Immersion' series of Composer Days in which we delve into the extraordinary musical worlds of Karlheinz Stockhausen, Tristan Murail and Iannis Xenakis.

In addition, there is a heady mix of premieres and commissions, an exciting list of soloists including Christine Brewer, Nelson Freire, Soile Isokoski and Gil Shaham, while conductors making a welcome return to the Orchestra include Edward Gardner and Andrew Litton.

All of our concerts are broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and streamed online and, this season a number will be broadcast live. Look out for these live concerts, which will begin at 7.00pm.

I look forward to seeing you at the Barbican.

**Paul Hughes**  
General Manager



FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER  
7.00PM



## Beethoven

### *Missa solemnis*

Jiří Bělohlávek *conductor*  
Christine Brewer *soprano*  
Ekaterina Semenchuk *mezzo-soprano*  
Paul Groves *tenor*  
Stephen Milling *bass*  
BBC Symphony Chorus

'From the heart – may it go to the heart'  
Beethoven's inscription on the score of his 'Solemn Mass' stands as a profound wish for one of the greatest works of Western sacred art. The composer's visionary interpretation of divine glory and sinful mankind's insignificance, forged against a background of personal turmoil and creative uncertainty, reveals the sublime. Prepare for an unforgettable spiritual and emotional journey under the inspired care of Jiří Bělohlávek and a great solo team, led by the incomparable Christine Brewer.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Barbican Hall  
An introduction to tonight's concert.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

'This was singing of  
rare charm and  
versatility, at both  
ends of a vast  
emotional spectrum.'

**The Observer**  
on Christine Brewer

FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER  
7.30PM

## Musorgsky

**Night on the Bare Mountain**

(original version)

## Matthias Pintscher

**New work**

(BBC co-commission: world premiere)

## Tchaikovsky

**Manfred**

Kazushi Ono *conductor*

Apollo Voices

In 1884 Tchaikovsky visited a dying friend in Switzerland, carrying with him a copy of Lord Byron's 'Gothic' verse-drama *Manfred* and reading it while deep in Alpine country. The combination of poetry and natural imagery fired Tchaikovsky's imagination and fuelled tireless work on his *Manfred* symphony. 'It seems to me, that it is the best of my compositions,' he wrote. Tonight's concert includes the first performance of acclaimed young German composer Matthias Pintscher's latest score, based on his evocative music-theatre piece *L'espace dernier*.

**Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm**

**Barbican Hall**

Matthias Pintscher in conversation.

**BBC Music Intro Concert**

An introduction to concert-going for families.  
See page 28 for details.

**Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8**

FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER  
7.00PM



## Spanish Scenes

## Turina

**Danzas fantásticas**

## Benet Casablancas

**Siete escenas de Hamlet** (UK premiere)

## Ravel

**Rapsodie espagnole**

## De Falla

**El amor brujo**

Josep Pons *conductor*

**Flamenco singer to be announced**

**Actor to be announced**

Spain's musical past includes compelling meetings between high and popular culture, vividly captured in Manuel de Falla's so-called 'gypsy revel', *El amor brujo* (Love, the Magician). Delicate contrasts of sound and richly woven textures lie at the musical heart of Benet Casablancas's *Siete escenas de Hamlet* (Seven Scenes from Hamlet), written in the late 1980s. Thanks to his Basque maternal family, Ravel's connections with Iberian culture ran deep. His *Rapsodie espagnole* evokes the effervescent, exotic spirit of Spain.

**Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm**

**Barbican Hall**

An introduction to tonight's concert.

**BBC Music Intro Concert**

An introduction to concert-going for families.  
See page 28 for details.

**Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8**



Kazushi Ono

Herbie Yamaguchi

'Filled with a musical energy narrowed and pinpointed by elegant technique'

**New York Times**  
on Kazushi Ono

WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER  
7.30PM

## Bruckner

### Symphony No. 5 in B flat major

Jiří Bělohlávek *conductor*

The BBC Symphony Orchestra and its Chief Conductor, Jiří Bělohlávek, have garnered rave reviews for their Bruckner performances, drawing critical superlatives last year after a searing account of the Austrian composer's Seventh Symphony. 'My life has lost all joy and enthusiasm,' wrote Bruckner around the time he was working on the transcendent slow movement of his monumental Fifth Symphony in 1875. His testing personal and emotional circumstances, however, take second place to the expression of defiant optimism and ultimate triumph.

**Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm**

**Fountain Room**

An introduction to tonight's concert

**Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8**

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER  
7.00PM



## Carmina burana

## Svatopluk Havelka

**Hommage à Hieronymous Bosch**  
(UK premiere)

## Hindemith

**Symphonic Metamorphosis after  
Themes by Carl Maria von Weber**

## Orff

**Carmina burana**

Jakub Hrůša *conductor*

Sally Matthews *soprano*

John Graham-Hall *tenor*

William Dazeley *baritone*

Trinity Boys' Choir

BBC Symphony Chorus

Svatopluk Havelka, a central composer of the Czech 'New Wave' school of film music, now in his early eighties, attracted worldwide acclaim following the premiere of his *Hommage to Hieronymus Bosch* in 1974. The work's striking evocations of Bosch's paintings of late-medieval life, debauchery and death provide the ideal preface to Carl Orff's *Carmina burana*. Ale-swilling monks, pompous abbots, flagrant lovers and assorted gluttons here take their turn on Fortune's wheel, with Orff imparting unstoppable momentum to a score bristling with energy.

**Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm**

**Fountain Room**

An introduction to tonight's concert.

**Post-concert talk**

**Fountain Room**

Meet the BBC Symphony Chorus.

A chance to find out about life in the BBC Symphony Chorus.

**Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8**



'Sally Matthews gave the performance an extra touch of class, singing with a beauty of tone and an ability to shape phrases in a personal way that made her outstanding.'

*Financial Times*





Boyd Hagen

Gil Shaham

'Shaham's playing had a searing intensity, but it was the irrepressible energy he exuded that brought every note so vividly to life.'

*The Guardian*

MONDAY 8 DECEMBER  
7.30PM

## Focus on Gil Shaham

### Sam Hayden

#### Substratum

(BBC commission: world premiere of complete work)

### Mozart

#### Violin Concerto No. 2 in D major

### Messiaen

#### Un sourire

### Stravinsky

#### Violin Concerto

David Robertson *conductor*  
Gil Shaham *violin*

Gil Shaham's place among today's great violinists rests secure on foundations of insightful musicianship, breathtakingly beautiful sound and irresistible panache, qualities guaranteed to illuminate Mozart's joyful Second Violin Concerto and the witty elegance of Stravinsky's Violin Concerto. He joins forces with David Robertson, the BBC Symphony Orchestra's Principal Guest Conductor, for tonight's concert. The programme opens with the world premiere of the complete version of the multi-layered *Substratum*, created for the BBC SO by Sam Hayden as a constantly evolving construction of kaleidoscopic sounds and orchestral textures.

Post-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Fountain Room  
Sam Hayden in conversation.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER  
7.30PM

## Elliott Carter Centenary Concert

### Elliott Carter

#### Soundings

#### Cello Concerto

#### Sound Fields

#### Horn Concerto

#### Boston Concerto

Oliver Knussen *conductor*  
Anssi Karttunen *cello*  
Martin Owen *horn*

Elliott Carter's global influence since the 1940s – as a composer, writer and teacher – has been the result of his constant exploration of new ideas and his lucid confrontation of tired conventions. The native New Yorker, born on 11 December 1908, has long enjoyed a fruitful partnership with Oliver Knussen, and with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, which mounted a weekend-long festival of Carter's music in 2006. Tonight's celebration features four recent works – three of them written only in the past four years. Carter's concertos for horn and for cello explore the wide possibilities available to those instruments, while the inventive *Soundings* makes a feature of the interplay between a solo piano and the orchestra. Composed only last year, the brief string orchestra piece *Sound Fields* focuses on a dramatic contrast of textures, while the loudness and tone-colour remain constant.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Barbican Hall  
The Music of Elliott Carter.

Tickets  
£24 £20 £16 £12 £8

THURSDAY 8 JANUARY  
7.00PM



## Smetana

Libuše – overture

## Suk

Fantasy in G for Violin and Orchestra

## Mahler

Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen

## Dvořák

Symphony No. 9,  
'From the New World'

Jiří Bělohlávek *conductor*

Dagmar Pecková *mezzo-soprano*

Ivan Zenatý *violin*

Tonight's profusely Romantic programme celebrates the vibrancy of Czech music, the strength of which influenced the young Mahler and soared to sublime creative heights in Dvořák's 'New World' Symphony. Mahler, who grew up in a town today located within the Czech Republic, was entranced as a lad by the piquant flavour of local folk music. The *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*, performed here by the wonderful Czech mezzo-soprano Dagmar Pecková, draw deeply on the composer's memory banks of folksong, natural wonders and rural life.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm

Fountain Room

An introduction to tonight's concert.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

Concert in association with the Czech Embassy to mark the Czech Republic's Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

## Total Immersion: Three Composer Days

Stockhausen Saturday 17 January

Tristan Murail Saturday 7 February

Xenakis Saturday 7 March

Prepare to be transported to thrilling new worlds of sound and imagination in the company of three extraordinary composers. The creative artists chosen to launch the BBC Symphony Orchestra's unmissable days of Total Immersion stand for the marriage of music, thought and emotion, inventors of abundantly eloquent musical languages with the power to provoke, captivate and inspire.

Obituary notices for Karlheinz Stockhausen (1928–2007), following his death, spoke of the composer's lifelong devotion to innovation and his place among the greats of contemporary music. The same spirit guided the work of Iannis Xenakis (1922–2001), wartime resistance fighter, musician, architect and mathematician, an original thinker whose compositions bury deep into the listener's soul and leave lasting traces of beauty and truth. Frenchman Tristan Murail (b. 1947), now at the height of his creative powers, completes the trio of modern greats. His work has refined the techniques of spectral music, in which the raw materials of sound and silence, texture and timbre, are transformed into compositions of astonishing richness.

Get ready to enter the unique sound-worlds of Stockhausen, Xenakis and Murail for three days of concerts, films, talks and discussions, events guaranteed to engage curious minds and transport audiences far from the mundane.

## SATURDAY 17 JANUARY STOCKHAUSEN TOTAL IMMERSION

Even Wagner's mighty *Ring* cycle falls short in scale and philosophical reach of Karlheinz Stockhausen's seven-part operatic adventure, *Licht*. The project was typical of a composer nourished by the great traditions of 20th-century art and music. Stockhausen connected with the works of Schoenberg, Berg, Webern, Stravinsky and Bartók. 'At the same time,' he observed, 'I look towards the future.' His visionary ideas and fierce commitment to innovation inspired a cult following, while infuriating conservative opinion. Expect the unexpected from this avant-garde master.

# STOCKHAUSEN

### 10.30AM FILM AND TALK CINEMA 2, LEVEL 4

#### Tuning In

UK, 1980, Dir: Barrie Gavin 50mins

Barrie Gavin's documentary on the music of Karlheinz Stockhausen, placing it in its musical and social context. The film will be preceded by a short introduction to Stockhausen and his music.

Tickets £6

### 1.00PM CONCERT JERWOOD HALL, LSO ST LUKE'S

#### Stockhausen

Programme to include:

**Klavierstücke**

**Choral**

**Chöre für Doris**

**Litanei 97**

**Kontra-Punkte**

Plus works for chamber ensemble

**Guildhall New Music Ensemble**

**Conductor to be announced**

**Nicolas Hodges** *piano*

**BBC Singers**

Choral and chamber music including the amazing *Litanei 97* which instructs the singers to process on- and off-stage, stamp their feet and dress in floor-length pale blue robes and Japanese socks. BBC SO regular Nicolas Hodges will perform a selection from the *Klavierstücke*, written for the composer's first wife, who also served as inspiration for his exquisite settings of Verlaine, *Chöre für Doris*.

Tickets £10 (unreserved seating)

### 4.30PM TALK, MOZART ROOM, LEVEL 4

How our brains listen to, understand and remember music.

### 6.30PM FREE EVENT BARBICAN FREESTAGE

The culmination of a BBC SO Learning project inspired by the music of Stockhausen.

### 7.00PM CONCERT, BARBICAN HALL

#### Stockhausen

**Inori**

**BBC Symphony Orchestra**

**David Robertson** *conductor*

**Kathinka Pasveer** *singer-mime*

**Alain Louafi** *singer-mime*

Prayer-like gestures interpreted in performance by a mime and dancer, lie at *Inori's* core. 'Dance is everything that a human being is able to do musically with any part of the body,' the composer observed. *Inori* celebrates the meditative potential of expressive movements, presented in fine detail by the two soloists and mirrored in the response of two orchestral groups. *Inori* will be introduced from the stage by David Robertson.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

### 9.00PM CONCERT, BARBICAN HALL

#### Stockhausen Hymnen

With its collage techniques, synthesis of 'found' national anthems and use of electronic sound modification, Stockhausen's *Hymnen* remains a seminal work more than four decades after its completion. The two-hour tape composition, presented here in its four-track tape only version of 1966-7, has influenced everyone from German electronic group Kraftwerk to Icelandic singer Björk with its unifying ideal of universal harmony and global humanism.

Please note that this concert will end at approximately 11.30pm

Tickets £10

Save money and guarantee entry to all events with a Stockhausen Total Immersion Day Pass. There is a choice of pass, reflecting the range of ticket prices for concerts in the Barbican Hall. Available by telephone or in person only. See page 31 for details of telephone booking.

Day Passes £40 £37 £34 £30 £27



SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY  
**TRISTAN MURAIL TOTAL IMMERSION**

Born in Le Havre in 1947, Tristan Murail came to composition relatively late, as a mature student in Oliver Messiaen's legendary Paris Conservatoire class. Searching intellect, creative energy and an acute sensibility for sound swiftly secured Murail's place in the front rank of French composers. His international reputation soared thanks to a series of experimental scores for orchestra and electronics, the unmissable *Gondwana* seminal among them. Sound's beauty, diverse complexity and infinite nuances continue to provide the compelling substance of Murail's work.

11.00AM FILM AND TALK, CINEMA 2, LEVEL 4

Tristan Murail talks about his life and work, followed by a film to be announced.

Tickets £6

2.00PM CONCERT  
JERWOOD HALL, LSO ST LUKE'S

**Tristan Murail**

**Winter Fragments**

**Territoires de l'oubli**

**Hommage à Charles Nègre**

**Treize couleurs du soleil couchant**

**Pour adoucir le cours du temps**  
(UK premiere)

Guildhall Ensemble  
Conductor to be announced  
Rolf Hind *piano*

Murail's pioneering explorations of sound and its perception can be traced through this essential programme of 'spectral' music, from the early breakthrough work, *Treize couleurs du soleil couchant*, to *Pour adoucir le cours du temps*, written in 2005 for 18 instruments, MIDI keyboard and computer.

Tickets £10 (unreserved seating)

# TRISTAN MURAIL

5.00PM TALK  
MOZART ROOM, LEVEL 4

Music and Acoustics – Tristan Murail  
in conversation.

7.00PM FREE EVENT  
BARBICAN FOYER

The culmination of a BBC SO  
Learning project inspired by the  
music of Tristan Murail.

7.30PM CONCERT, BARBICAN HALL

**Tristan Murail**  
**Gondwana**

**Time and Again**

**... amaribus et dulcis aquis ...**

**Terre d'ombre**

BBC Symphony Orchestra  
Pascal Rophé *conductor*  
BBC Singers

*Gondwana's* complex blend of acoustic and electronic sounds opens ears to fresh, unimagined sonorities. Elemental energy explodes from the depths of *Time and Again*, another Murail masterpiece of sonic invention and striking originality. Total immersion in Murail's art draws to an awe-inspiring close with his *Terre d'ombre*, a monumental score for orchestra and electronics completed in 2005.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

Save money and guarantee entry to all events with a Tristan Murail Total Immersion Day Pass. There is a choice of pass, reflecting the range of ticket prices for concerts in the Barbican Hall. Available by telephone or in person only. See page 31 for details of telephone booking.

Day Passes £32 £29 £26 £22 £19

Part of the BBC SO's month featuring  
French music and musicians.



## SATURDAY 7 MARCH XENAKIS TOTAL IMMERSION

In 1942 the British Ministry of Information released a photograph of proud civilians captioned 'Greece undaunted and defiant!' Iannis Xenakis was among those pictured in the front row, marching in protest at his nation's occupation by Axis forces. The handsome young engineering student faced death as a resistance activist, while his post-war idealism was strengthened as an assistant to the famous architect Le Corbusier. As a composer he never ceased to experiment, working tirelessly to construct extraordinary, often exquisitely beautiful new sound-worlds.

# XENAKIS

Marion Katter/Lebrecht

10.30AM FILM  
CINEMA 2, LEVEL 4

### Something Rich and Strange: The Life and Music of Iannis Xenakis

UK, 1991, Dir. Mark Kidel 50mins

A BBC documentary profile of Iannis Xenakis, his music and influences.

### Building Sights Europe: Iannis Xenakis

UK, 1992, Dir. Kim Flitcroft 10mins

Iannis Xenakis returns to the Dominican monastery Le Couvent Sainte Marie de La Tourette near Lyon, on which he collaborated with Le Corbusier.

The films will be preceded by a talk on the music of Iannis Xenakis.

Tickets £6

### 2.30PM TALK MOZART ROOM, LEVEL 4

Music and Architecture

1.00PM CONCERT, BARBICAN HALL

### Xenakis Rebonds

Okho

Persephassa

Guildhall New Music Ensemble  
Richard Benjafield *director*

*Persephassa*, first performed at the historic Iranian desert site of Persepolis in 1969, vividly evokes the life-changing power of the goddess Persephone. Six percussionists bring Xenakis's miraculous score to life from separate positions among the audience. *Rebonds* and *Okho* illuminate the composer's insatiable quest for new sounds, propelled by a pulsating mix of African instruments and breathtaking rhythmic patterns.

Tickets £10 (unreserved seating)

4.00PM FILM, CINEMA 2, LEVEL 4

### Charisma X

Greece, 2008–09, Dir. Efi Xirou 60–90 mins (to be confirmed)

A brand-new documentary from the Greek Film Center including interviews with the composer's widow and daughter, Françoise and Makhi Xenakis, long-time friend Sharon Kanach, composer Curtis Roads and others.

Tickets £6

6.30PM FREE EVENT, BARBICAN FOYER

The culmination of a BBC SO Learning project inspired by the music of Iannis Xenakis.

7.00PM CONCERT  
BARBICAN HALL

### Xenakis Tracées

Anastenaria

Sea-Nymphs

Mists

Nuits

Troorkh

Antikhthon

BBC Symphony Orchestra  
Martyn Brabbins *conductor*  
Christian Lindberg *trombone*  
Rolf Hind *piano*  
BBC Singers

Described by Olivier Messiaen as 'a hero unlike any other', Iannis Xenakis produced works of extraordinary originality, spun from his questing imagination to form complex structures of rhythmic patterns, polyphonic melodies and remarkable instrumental and vocal textures. The composer's tireless search for new expressive means, which drew on his training as an architect and his work as assistant to Le Corbusier, led to such coruscatingly beautiful pieces as *Nuits*, in which voices explore the phonetic sounds of Sumerian and ancient Persian.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

Save money and guarantee entry to all events with a Xenakis Total Immersion Day Pass. There is a choice of pass, reflecting the range of ticket prices for concerts in the Barbican Hall. Available by telephone or in person only. See page 31 for details of telephone booking.

Day Passes £37 £34 £30 £27 £24

'To hear the ravishing Finnish soprano Soile Isokoski singing Strauss's *Four Last Songs* made one glad to be alive.'

*The Daily Telegraph*

WEDNESDAY 28 JANUARY  
7.00PM



## Isokoski sings Strauss

### Vic Hoyland

**Phoenix**

(BBC commission: world premiere)

### R. Strauss

**Drei Hymnen**

### R. Strauss

**Ein Heldenleben**

Andrew Litton *conductor*  
Soile Isokoski *soprano*

Finnish soprano Soile Isokoski's quintessentially Romantic Richard Strauss interpretations are always characterful and heartfelt. She turns here to Strauss's rarely heard 1921 settings of Friedrich Hölderlin's exultant love lyrics, grouped collectively as *Drei Hymnen* – lyrical outpourings dating from a time of civil strife in Germany. Tonight's concert opens with *Phoenix*, the final part of an orchestral triptych specially commissioned from Yorkshire-born composer Vic Hoyland. Andrew Litton crowns his return to the BBC Symphony Orchestra with Strauss's immense tone-poem, *Ein Heldenleben*.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Fountain Room  
Vic Hoyland in conversation.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY  
7.00PM



## Poulenc Stabat Mater

### Poulenc

**Stabat Mater**

### Guillaume Connesson

**Supernova**

### Debussy

**Danse sacrée et danse profane**

### Ravel

**Daphnis et Chloé – Suite No. 2**

Stéphane Denève *conductor*

Annick Massis *soprano*

Sioned Williams *harp*

BBC Symphony Chorus

After total immersion in the work of Tristan Murail, the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Stéphane Denève pursue the French connection in a month of French-influenced concerts with a spellbinding programme of works spanning the 20th century. Debussy's *Danse sacrée et danse profane* and the Second Suite from Ravel's ballet score *Daphnis et Chloé*, evoke the seductive decadence of early 1900s Paris. Conceived in 1997 to accompany a classic silent film by F.W. Murnau, Guillaume Connesson's *Supernova* has since gained independence as a pulsating concert piece.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Fountain Room  
An introduction to tonight's concert.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

'Annick Massis, the audience favourite, is simply dazzling.'

*The Times*

Part of the BBC SO's month featuring French music and musicians.



Annick Massis



Soile Isokoski

Heikki Tuuli

FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY  
6.30PM

Jerwood Hall, LSO St Luke's

## Mark-Anthony Turnage

*Calmo*

## Bernat Vivancos

*Messe aux sons des cloches*

## Debussy

*Images, Book 2 – Cloches à travers les feuilles*

*Préludes, Book 1 – La cathédrale engloutie*

*Masques*

## Ravel

*Miroirs – La vallée des cloches*

## Poulenc

*Figure humaine*

Stephen Jackson *conductor*

Cédric Tiberghien *piano*

BBC Symphony Chorus

A concert in LSO St Luke's featuring the BBC Symphony Chorus and young French pianist Cédric Tiberghien. *Figure humaine*, with its tender, heartfelt hymn to freedom, explores mankind's ability to overcome oppressive adversity, qualities ideally reflected in Poulenc's exquisite cantata of 1944. Wartime destruction and loss are central to Turnage's *Calmo*, a moving response to the Iraq War. Turnage conveys his despair through the words 'Dona nobis pacem' – 'Grant us peace'. Catalan composer Bernat Vivancos's unique blend of women's voices and percussion is another 'must hear', as bells resound from the balcony of St Luke's. The sound of bells can also be heard in music for solo piano by Debussy and Ravel, performed by Cédric Tiberghien.

Tickets £9 (unreserved seating),  
or £5 to ticket-holders for the 8.00pm concert  
in the Barbican Hall.

Part of the BBC SO's month featuring French music and musicians.

FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY  
8.00PM

Please note start time

Barbican Hall

## R. Strauss

*Salome –*

*Dance of the Seven Veils*

## Chopin

*Piano Concerto No. 2 in F minor*

## Ravel

*La valse*

## Schmitt

*La tragédie de Salomé – suite*

Lionel Bringuier *conductor*

Nelson Freire *piano*

French symbolism and the writings of Stéphane Mallarmé heavily influence Oscar Wilde's lyric drama, *Salomé*. Strauss's operatic setting, complete with its provocative 'Dance of the Seven Veils', dodged the censor to make headway in the opera house long before Wilde's play was permitted on stage. The 'Salome craze', which swept like wildfire across *fin-de-siècle* Europe, inspired everything from Isadora Duncan's erotic dancing to Florent Schmitt's ballet *La tragédie de Salomé*, a resounding pre-echo of Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*.

**BBC Music Intro Concert**

An introduction to concert-going for families.

See page 28 for details.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8



Nelson Freire

'Freire played with a master's touch, drawing from the piano a dazzling palette of orchestral colours, the subtle variations reflecting his boundless musical imagination.'

*The Guardian*

Part of the BBC SO's month featuring French music and musicians.



FRIDAY 13 MARCH  
7.00PM



## Bartók

Four Orchestral Pieces

## Ligeti

Violin Concerto

## Tchaikovsky

Symphony No. 4 in F minor

Edward Gardner *conductor*  
Alina Ibragimova *violin*

Tchaikovsky likened the process of creating his Fourth Symphony to 'the musical confession of a soul in which many things have welled up'. Fate, melancholy, recollections of things past and unrestrained joy permeate Tchaikovsky's score, providing fertile ground for regular BBC Symphony Orchestra guest conductor Edward Gardner's interpretation. Alina Ibragimova takes centre stage in Ligeti's five-movement Violin Concerto, an astonishing work that slips the chains of expectation in hot pursuit of new sounds and expressive gestures.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Fountain Room

An introduction to tonight's concert.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

SATURDAY 21 MARCH  
7.30PM

## Tan Dun's The Map

## Tan Dun

The Map: Concerto for  
Cello, Video and Orchestra

Tan Dun *conductor*  
Anssi Karttunen *cello*

Tan Dun's ten-movement, 55-minute concerto for cello, video and orchestra created a compelling new genre, blending live instrumental music with onscreen images. *The Map*, first performed in 2002, connects traditional Chinese singing and dance with the rituals and gestures of the solo concerto, uniting different cultures by their shared passion and spontaneity. Anssi Karttunen's long collaboration with Tan Dun continues with their latest exploration of the composer-conductor's multimedia masterpiece.

Part of the Barbican's  
*Beyond the Wall* Festival.  
[barbican.org.uk/beyondthewall](http://barbican.org.uk/beyondthewall)

Tickets £35 £28 £22.50 £17 £13 £9

FRIDAY 27 MARCH  
7.00PM

Please note start time

## Martinů

Julietta

Jiří Bělohlávek *conductor*  
Cast to include:  
Michèle Lagrange *soprano*  
Magdalena Kozena *mezzo-soprano*  
William Burden *tenor*  
Andreas Jäggi *tenor*  
BBC Singers

Another unmissable evening at the opera with Jiří Bělohlávek and the BBC Symphony Orchestra! Their performance last year of Janáček's *The Excursions of Mr Brouček* seized its audience and scored an instant critical hit. Expect the same for Martinů's *Julietta*. The Czech composer's compelling work, subtitled 'The Book of Dreams', has not been heard in London for over 30 years. Its Surrealist libretto, ever-shifting action and dreamscapes are subtly etched in a score packed with fantasy and psychological insight. *Concert staging. Sung in French with English surtitles.*

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Barbican Hall  
Martinů's opera *Julietta*.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8



Magdalena Kozena

Sheila Red/Deutsche Grammophon





Sefan Bremer

Kari Kriikku

FRIDAY 3 APRIL  
7.30PM

## Magnus Lindberg

**Ottoni** (UK premiere)

## Britten

**Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge**

## Jukka Tiensuu

**Missa, Clarinet Concerto No. 2**  
(London premiere)

## Walton

**Partita for Orchestra**

John Storgårds *conductor*  
Kari Kriikku *clarinet*

Finnish and English creative minds meet in a programme of scintillating contrasts. Magnus Lindberg's enduring relationship with the BBC Symphony Orchestra continues with the UK premiere of his *Ottoni*, a musical and emotional tour de force for orchestral brass. Lindberg's older colleague, Jukka Tiensuu, has observed that, 'In our time every emerging work must have its own special reason for emerging'. His Second Clarinet Concerto emerged fully formed in 2007 thanks to Kari Kriikku's jaw-dropping virtuosity and massive musical personality.

'Kari Kriikku is one of the great clarinetists of today.'

**The Guardian**

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm

Mozart Room

An introduction to tonight's concert.

BBC Music Intro Concert

An introduction to concert-going for families.  
See page 28 for details.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

THURSDAY 30 APRIL  
7.00PM



## Bruckner Mass in F minor

## Wagner

**Parsifal – Prelude to Act I and Good Friday Music**

## Bruckner

**Mass No. 3 in F minor**

Jiří Bělohlávek *conductor*  
Katherine Broderick *soprano*  
Karen Cargill *mezzo-soprano*  
Robert Murray *tenor*  
Matthew Rose *bass*

'It isn't just her flawless diction or the silvery timbre of her gleaming soprano. What impresses most about this 24-year-old is her uncommon maturity of expression.'

**The Times of Katherine Broderick, in 2007**



Katherine Broderick

Chris Christodoulou

Jiří Bělohlávek's standout interpretation of *Tristan und Isolde* for Glyndebourne Festival underlined the great Czech conductor's sheer class both as a Wagnerian and as an artist committed to exploring the spiritual depths of the German composer's music. Tonight's programme opens with two orchestral pieces from *Parsifal*, mystical and contemplative in mood. Bruckner's exultant Third Mass, completed in 1868, gradually unfolds from a state of gentle meditation to project an ecstatic outpouring of faith and sense of comfort in eternal salvation.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm

Fountain Room

An introduction to tonight's concert.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8

SATURDAY 16 MAY  
7.30PM

## Haydn Cello Concertos I

### Brian Elias

**New work**

(BBC commission:  
world premiere)

### Haydn

**Cello Concerto in C major**

### Tchaikovsky

**Symphony No. 6 in B minor,  
'Pathétique'**

Jiří Bělohlávek *conductor*  
Jean-Guihen Queyras *cello*

Rising star French cellist Jean-Guihen Queyras's partnership with Jiří Bělohlávek has already delivered sensational results in their critically acclaimed recording of Dvořák's Cello Concerto. They turn here to Haydn's Cello Concerto in C major, written for Prince Esterházy's court orchestra and its virtuoso principal cellist, composition lost for two centuries until its rediscovery in 1961. This irresistibly tuneful work is prefaced by a new composition from Brian Elias, a master of orchestral colour and expressive lyricism. Jean-Guihen Queyras performs Haydn's Cello Concerto in D major on Saturday 23 May.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Barbican Hall  
An introduction to tonight's concert.

BBC Music Intro Concert  
An introduction to concert-going for families.  
See page 28 for details.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8



'a musician of rare  
subtlety and radiance'

*The Daily Telegraph*  
on Jean-Guihen Queyras

SATURDAY 23 MAY  
7.30PM

## Haydn Cello Concertos II

### Haydn

**Cello Concerto in D major**

### Mahler

**Symphony No. 5 in C sharp minor**

Jiří Bělohlávek *conductor*  
Jean-Guihen Queyras *cello*

In the two centuries since Haydn's death, music-making has moved from a largely private affair to the public sphere. As in so many areas, the Austrian composer helped pioneer the change. His second Cello Concerto, another sparkling product of the composer's years at the Esterházy court. Haydn's graceful Classicism is worlds apart from the searing emotions, vivid contrasts of mood and passages of transcendent beauty harnessed by Mahler in his Fifth Symphony. 'Everything is said in purely musical terms,' observed the composer about his life-enhancing score.

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm  
Fountain Room  
An introduction to tonight's concert.

Tickets £24 £20 £16 £12 £8



## BBC SO Learning

The BBC Symphony Orchestra is committed to adventurous and innovative education work. With an ongoing series of local, national and international activities, we aim to open up the Orchestra, and the distinctive music it plays, to the broadest range of participants. BBC SO Learning activities across London and the South East fall into four categories:

- Young People
- Fostering Talent
- Access and Participation
- International Collaboration

### EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR INCLUDE:

#### BBC MUSIC INTRO

Experience the best of live classical music for only £5 a ticket. Involve the whole family and bring them to a classical music concert at the Barbican performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Each event starts at 6.00pm with a Meet the Musicians Family Event in the Fountain Room to which everyone is invited to bring their own musical instruments if they have them, and try things out for themselves before the main concert. Come along and find out for yourselves, but be quick! Tickets are limited and sell out fast!

To apply for Music Intro tickets, at least one member of your group must be aged 16 or under.

**Friday 10 October, Friday 24 October, Friday 27 February, Friday 3 April, Saturday 16 May**

#### BBC SO FAMILY ORCHESTRA

Rapidly becoming BBC SO Learning's flagship project, the BBC SO Family Orchestra invites the entire family to make music together! Families of all shapes and sizes are welcome, and no previous experience is necessary. The BBC SO Family Orchestra has performed at Maida Vale Studios and the Barbican, as well as on BBC Radio 3. Many more Family Orchestra projects are coming up – the first one during the BBC SO's Diverse Orchestras week in November 2008, where the orchestra will take on a distinctly Turkish theme.

Simon Joy Price



BBC SO Family Orchestra

## STUDENT ZONE

Join the BBC Student Zone and keep up to date with student offers for our Barbican concerts. Visit [bbc.co.uk/learning](http://bbc.co.uk/learning) to find out more.

## DIVERSE ORCHESTRAS: TURKEY 2008

Once a year, the BBC SO clears its schedule to explore and celebrate the music of a different culture. This year the Orchestra turns to the music of Turkey – a country where East really does meet West. Join the BBC SO for a week of free events, concerts, workshops, open rehearsals and collaborations and discover more about the diversity of Turkish culture.

**17–21 November 2008**

## COMPOSER DAYS: TOTAL IMMERSION

BBC SO Learning will be at the forefront of the BBC SO's three Composer Days with innovative, creative and collaborative performances at the Barbican.

**Saturday 17 January, Saturday 7 February, Saturday 7 March**

[bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra/learning](http://bbc.co.uk/symphonyorchestra/learning)  
Contact BBC SO Learning at  
[bbcsolearning@bbc.co.uk](mailto:bbcsolearning@bbc.co.uk)  
or 020 7765 2956



Simon Joy Price



## PRE-CONCERT TALKS

Most of our concerts are preceded by a pre-concert talk offering an introduction to the music you will hear in that evening's concert, sometimes including an interview with the composer.

Talks are free to ticket-holders for the evening concert. Please note that the capacity of the Fountain and Mozart Rooms is limited though, so please arrive early for talks in these venues in order to avoid disappointment.

## STUDIO CONCERTS AT MAIDA VALE

The BBC Symphony Orchestra has a long tradition of free studio recordings open to the public. Concerts take place at the Orchestra's home, the BBC's Maida Vale Studios in West London, and programmes include a fascinating mixture of contemporary and rarely heard works alongside music at the heart of the concert repertoire, often performed by BBC New Generation Artists, the stars of tomorrow.

Full details of Studio Concerts are available six weeks in advance of the concert on the BBC SO's website and at [bbc.co.uk/tickets](http://bbc.co.uk/tickets). Free tickets are available online from [bbc.co.uk/tickets](http://bbc.co.uk/tickets) or by phone on **0870 901 1227\***

\*Calls from a BT landline cost up to 8p per minute (mobile and other providers' charges may vary) and may be recorded for training purposes

## HOW TO BOOK

### ONLINE BOOKING

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

Secure online booking 24 hours a day. Choose your exact seating location and benefit from a reduced booking fee of £1.50 per transaction.

### BY PHONE

**0845 120 7596\*** Open 9am–8pm Monday–Saturday, 11am–8pm Sunday, booking fee of £2.50 per transaction applies. Calls may be monitored or recorded for training purposes.

\* Calls to 0845 numbers from a BT landline are charged at local rate. Mobile and other providers' charges may vary.

### Minicom (for deaf patrons)

**020 7928 7297**

### SMS Textphone

**020 7256 9577**

### BY POST

Send a cheque payable to 'Barbican Centre' or your credit card details. Please enclose an SAE, or add 50p to the total amount to cover postage, and send to: Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS.

### IN PERSON

Advance ticket desk at Silk Street entrance open 9am–9pm Monday–Saturday, 12pm–9pm Sunday and Bank Holidays.

### MULTI-BUY DISCOUNTS

Book the same number of seats for 3 or more concerts in the Barbican Hall at the same time and save money.  
6 or more concerts 20% discount  
3-5 concerts 15% discount

### FAMILIES

Tickets are half price for people aged 16 and under. See page 28 for details of BBC Music Intro discounts.

### GROUP DISCOUNTS

Groups of 10 or more save 20% on selected concerts. Call 020 7382 7211 10am–5pm Monday–Friday. Tickets for BBC Symphony Orchestra concerts at the Barbican are sold in the following order: stalls, circle, balcony. Please note that discounts are subject to availability and cannot be combined

### DISABLED VISITORS

Disabled visitors who have joined our Access Membership scheme may purchase one half price ticket. If a companion is required their ticket is also half price. As all discounted tickets are limited in number and subject to availability, you are advised to book early. Full details will be sent with your membership information.

To join the scheme, visit [www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk) for instant membership. If you wish to submit your application by post you can download a form online by visiting [www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk) or call the Box Office to ask for an application form to be posted to you.

### TICKET EXCHANGE

Tickets can be exchanged for another BBC Symphony Orchestra concert (subject to availability) or for a credit voucher valid for six months, provided they are returned 24 hours before the performance. There is an administration fee of £2 per ticket.

The BBC Symphony Orchestra reserves the right to make changes to advertised programmes and artists. All details were correct at time of going to press.

### DIRECTIONS TO LSO ST LUKE'S

161 Old Street, London, EC1V 9NG

From the Barbican: Turn left out of the Silk Street entrance and continue ahead into Whitecross Street. At the far end of Whitecross Street you will see LSO St Luke's on the other side of Old Street.

From Old Street Underground Station: Leave the station by Exit 7 and walk straight ahead along Old Street, LSO St Luke's is 400m on the right.



**Chief Conductor**

Jiří Bělohlávek

**Principal Guest Conductor**

David Robertson

**Conductor Laureate**

Sir Andrew Davis

**Artist-in-Association**

John Adams

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