



Edinburgh's Usher Hall to welcome the world's finest orchestras this Autumn

- The world's leading orchestras will play at Edinburgh's Usher Hall this Autumn as part of the Sunday Classics season, including the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra, the Flanders Symphony Orchestra and the Prague Symphony Orchestra.
- The Royal Scottish National Orchestra and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra are key players in the Usher Hall's continuing celebration of the success of classical music here in Scotland.
- Tickets are available at www.usherhall.co.uk



(From top-left clockwise: Nicola Benedetti, Thomas Søndergård, Thomas Dausgaard & Vadym Kholodenko)

Scotland's home of classical music, the Usher Hall, once again welcomes some of the industry's biggest names as it begins its Autumn season.

2019 at the Usher Hall sees the return of its **Sunday Classics** season, a highlight in the classical music calendar every year. The venue will host orchestras from all over the world as part of the concert series, kicking off in October with the **Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra**, conducted by **Yuri Simonov** and featuring soloist **Alexandra Dariescu** on



piano. Global superstar guitarist **Miloš Karadaglić** is set to headline with the **Flanders Symphony Orchestra** in what promises to be a kaleidoscopic concert conjuring the rich colours and intoxicating perfumes of Spain.

The final Sunday Classics concert of 2019 sees the **Prague Symphony Orchestra** with soloist **Ester Pavlů**. They will perform Mahler's *Symphony No.3*, a gargantuan celebration of the natural world set to round off the season's 2019 offerings in style.

Several of Scotland's leading orchestras also take to the Usher Hall stage this Autumn for some very special concerts. **Thomas Søndergård** will conduct an ear-tingling, heart pounding opening to the **RSNO** season featuring Mahler's *Symphony No.1* and Strauss' *Don Juan*. This year sees Søndergård's second season leading the RSNO and after the success of last year it will be one not to be missed.

Ukrainian virtuoso **Vadym Kholodenko** performs his take on the 'Everest of piano concertos' in October as he performs Rachmaninov's *Piano Concerto No.3*, sure to be a standout performance. This December, the RSNO also presents the first performance of *The Nutcracker* and *the Mouse King*, featuring **Alan Cumming**. This all-new concert version of *The Nutcracker* combines Tchaikovsky's music and the words of the great German storyteller ETA Hoffmann to bring the adventure magically to life.

Edinburgh's very own **Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO)** also have a big presence in the Hall's Autumn season. The SCO season begins with the 2019 International Classical Music Awards 'Artist of the Year' **Javier Perianes**, who is performing Brahms' *First Piano Concerto*, one of the great romantic pillars of classical music, conducted by **François Leleux**. In October the SCO present a full programme of Mozart, including his iconic *Requiem*, a celebration of the life and work of Mozart, up to the profound symphony left unfinished at the time of his death. This will certainly be a concert to remember for years to come. They will also present the iconic Beethoven's *Symphonies No. 2,4 and 5*, conducted by **Andrew Manze**.

Thomas Dausgaard commands the opening performance of the **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra's** (BBCSSO) 2019 season here at the Usher Hall. The orchestra will perform Mahler's classic *Symphony No. 5*.

As always, the Usher Hall supports up and coming talent with our **Emerging Artists** concerts, in collaboration with the Live Music Now. In December Christmas comes to the Usher Hall early as **New Antonine Brass** join us for a programme with a hint of festivities and whole lot of talent.

On 30th September and 9th December, join City Organist **John Kitchen** for his popular lunchtime concerts on the world-renowned Usher Hall organ with its magnificent sound. Whether performing organ classics, adapting classical and other music or playing audience requests, John's inimitable performances and conversation will delight.

The Usher Hall, opened in 1914, is Scotland's only 5 Star concert hall and is well loved by performers and audiences all over the world due to its magnificent acoustics. It's the city's key venue for visiting national and international orchestras and has been the main venue for the Edinburgh International Festival since 1947, hosting legendary artists such as composers Benjamin Britten and Dmitri Shostakovich, contralto singer Kathleen Ferrier and cellist Jacqueline Du Pre to name but a few.



Listings Information

SCO: Leleux conducts Brahms and Dvořák

Tickets: £37 | £30 | £24.50 | £18 and £12.50

7.30pm, Thursday 26th September 2019

Beethoven Overture, Egmont (9')

Dvořák Symphony No 7 (35')

Brahms Piano Concerto No 1 (44')

Francois Leleux – Conductor

Javier Perianes – Piano

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra: Mahler Symphony No. 5

3pm, Sunday 29th September 2019

Tickets: £30.00 | £25.00 | £20.00 | £15.00

Toshio Hosokawa - Preludio

Bruch - Violin Concerto No.1

Mahler - Symphony No.5

Thomas Dausgaard – Conductor

Emerging Artists - Barbara Cole Walton and Alina Mészöly-Horváth

11am, Monday 30th September 2019

Tickets: £3

Alina Meszoly-Horvath

Barbara Cole Walton

RSNO Season Opener: Strauss & Mahler One

7.30pm, Friday 4th October 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Conductor - Thomas Søndergård

Mezzo-Soprano - Karen Cargill

R Strauss - Don Juan

Berg - Seven Early Songs



Mahler - Symphony No1 Titan

SCO: Mozart's Requiem

7.30pm, Thursday 10th October 2019

Tickets: £37 | £30 | £24.50 | £18 and £12.50

Mozart - Symphony No 1 in E-flat, K16 (13')

Mozart - Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K546 (9')

Mozart - Masonic Funeral Music, K477 (6')

Mozart - Requiem in D minor, K626 (Süssmayr Edition) (55')

Conductor - Klaus Mäkelä

Soprano - Simone Kermes

Mezzo-Soprano - Hanna Hipp

Tenor - Markus Brutscher

Tass - Markus Suihkonen

RSNO Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No3

7.30pm, Friday 11th October 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Conductor - Thomas Søndergård

Piano - Vadym Kholodenko

Bax - In the Faery Hills

Shostakovich - Symphony No9

Rachmaninov - Piano Concerto No3

Sunday Classics: Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra

3pm, Sunday 13th October 2019

Tickets: £35 | £29 | £24 | £18 | £13.50

Tchaikovsky – Romeo & Juliet

Rachmaninov – Piano Concerto No. 2

Shostakovich – Symphony No. 10

Conductor - Yuri Simonov



Soloists - Alexandra Dariescu (piano)

RSNO Shostakovich Ten

7.30pm, Friday 18th October 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Elim Chan - Conductor

Martin Grubinger - Percussion

Kalevi Aho - Siedi (Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra)

Shostakovich - Symphony No.10

Sunday Classics: Flanders Symphony Orchestra

7.30pm, Sunday 27th October 2019

Tickets: £35 | £29 | £24 | £18 | £13.50

Rossini – Barber of Seville Overture

Rodrigo – Guitar Concerto Aranjuez

Villa Lobos – 3 preludes for solo guitar

De Falla – El Amor Brujo Ballet Suite

Bizet – Carmen Suite

Conductor - Jose Luis Gomez

Soloist - Milos Karadaglic (guitar)

Ludovico Einaudi

8pm, Tuesday 29th October 2019

Tickets: £65.45, £54.45 and £38.50

RSNO Saint Saëns' Organ Symphony

7.30pm, Friday 1st November 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Neeme Järvi - Conductor

Sarah Connolly - Mezzo-Soprano

Reger - Serenade



Reger - An die Hoffnung

Saint-Saëns' - Symphony No2 Organ

RSNO The Lark Ascending

7.30pm, Friday 8th November 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Conductor - Martin Yates

Violin - Sharon Roffman

Soprano - Ilona Domnich

RSNO Chorus

Director, RSNO Chorus - Gregory Batsleer

Vaughan Williams - Overture to The Wasps

Vaughan Williams - The Lark Ascending

Stavinsky - Firebird Suite

Ravel - Pavane pour une infant défunte

Vaughan Williams - The Future World Premiere

Sunday Classics: Prague Symphony Orchestra

3pm, Sunday 10th November 2019

Tickets: £35 | £29 | £24 | £18 | £13.50

Mahler – Symphony No. 3

Conductor - Pietari Inkinen

Soloist - Ester Pavlů (alto)

SCO: Beethoven Symphonies Nos 1 and 3 'Eroica'

7.30pm, Thursday 21st November 2019

Tickets: £37 | £30 | £24.50 | £18 and £12.50

Beethoven Symphony No 1 (26')

Beethoven Symphony No 3 'Eroica' (47')

Conductor – Emmanuel Krivine



RSNO Tchaikovsky's Pathétique

7.30pm, Friday 22nd November 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Conductor - Thomas Søndergård

Piano - Steven Osborne

Schreker - Nachtstück from Der ferne Klang

Mozart - Piano Concerto No27 K595

Tchaikovsky - Symphony No6 Pathétique

Worbey and Farrell – Masquerade

7.30pm, Thursday 28th November 2019

Tickets: £27 | £21 | £17

RSNO at the Movies: Danny Elfman Gala

7.30pm, Friday 29th November 2019

Tickets: £49 | £42 | £35 | £27 | £19

Conductor - John Mauceri

Violin - Sandy Cameron

RSNO Chorus

Director, RSNO Chorus - Gregory Batsleer

RSNO The Nutcracker and the Mouse King

7.30pm, Friday 6th December 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Conductor - John Mauceri

Narrator - Alan Cumming

Tchaikovsky - Dance of the Tumblers from The Snow Maiden

Tchaikovsky (arr Mauceri) - Suite from The Sleeping Beauty

Prokofiev - Extracts from Cinderella

Tchaikovsky/Mauceri - The Nutcracker and the Mouse King World Premiere



Emerging Artists - New Antonine Brass

11am, Monday 9th December 2019

Tickets: £3

SCO: Beethoven Symphonies Nos 2, 4 and 5

7.30pm, Thursday 12th December 2019

Tickets: £37 | £30 | £24.50 | £18 and £12.50

Beethoven - Symphony No 2 (32')

Beethoven - Symphony No 4 (34')

Beethoven - Symphony No 5 (31')

Conductor – Andrew Manze

RSNO Nicola Benedetti in Concert

7.30pm, Friday 13th December 2019

Tickets: £42 | £32.50 | £24.50 | £19 | £13

Conductor - Christian Reif

Violin - Nicola Benedetti

Shostakovich - Festive Overture

Bartók - Violin Concerto No2

Mussorgsky (orch Ravel) - Pictures at an Exhibition

USHER HALL

The Usher Hall is Scotland's only five-star concert hall hosting a range of concerts from rock, pop, classical, jazz, world and folk music. The venue has hosted concerts and events since it opened way back in 1914! A beautiful Edwardian building with a modern twist, which is well loved by performers and audiences all over the world due to its magnificent acoustics.

It is said that Andrew Usher sparked the idea of a 'concert hall for Edinburgh' whilst chatting away over the counter of his jewellers in Rose Street. His 'desire and intention' was that this Hall 'should become and remain a centre and attraction to musical artistes and performers and to the citizens of Edinburgh and others who may desire to hear good music...'

On 23 June 1896 it was formally announced that Andrew Usher had gifted £100,000 to The City of Edinburgh. The purpose of the money was to provide a City Hall, to be used for concerts, recitals, or other entertainments or performances of a musical nature, and for civic



functions, or such other performances as the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council saw fit. Above all it was to be about the music. Edinburgh was very much lacking a hall for such musical and civic purposes, as stated in the Scotsman the following day; ‘The necessity for a great hall in Edinburgh under city management has been pressed upon the attention of the public for many years.’ Sadly Andrew Usher died before his dream was realised.

Today

Today, **the much-praised acoustics make it one of the best concert halls in Europe with many of the world's finest musicians performing here.** The Usher Hall is the city's key venue for visiting national and international orchestras and has been the main venue for the Edinburgh International Festival since 1947, hosting legendary artists such as composers Benjamin Britten and Dmitri Shostakovich, contralto singer Kathleen Ferrier and cellist Jacqueline Du Pre to name but a few.

The venue is a centre of excellence embracing the widest range of music and events, including rock, pop, jazz, world and blues. It is Edinburgh's go-to venue for today's mid-large scale rock and pop acts, with the likes of Queens of the Stone Age, The National, Radiohead's Thom Yorke, George Ezra and Echo & the Bunnymen having performed on its stage in the last year. Usher Hall also hosts a broad spectrum of comedy, talks, school concerts, conferences, sponsorship events, ceremonies, lectures and recording sessions.