

Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra

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Autumn Concert



St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne BN21 4UT

7pm Sunday 20 October 2019

Mendelssohn

Mozart

Sibelius

Ruy Blas Overture

Symphony No 41 Jupiter

Violin Concerto

Soloist Lucilla Rose Mariotti

(winner of ESO Young Soloist Competition 2019)

Conductor Graham Jones • Leader Lisa Wigmore



Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra

Dates for your Diary

More information from www.eso.org.uk
Email: concertmanager@eso.org.uk
or phone 07780 993801

2020 Fortieth Season

ESO 33rd Young Soloist Competition

Birley Centre

Round One

Saturday (*from 2pm) and Sunday (*from 12noon) 4 and 5 January 2020

*exact timings to be decided

Final

Sunday 26 January 2020 2-6pm

Established in 1988 as a result of the 11th Duke of Devonshire's generosity, this competition gives the winner the opportunity of performing a concerto with the ESO. In the first round, competitors present a 15-minute performance of a contrasting programme of their own choice. In the final, competitors present a 20-minute performance of two contrasting concerto movements.

An audience is welcome at both the first round (no advanced booking; £4 donation on the day; come and go as you wish between competitors) and the final (£10 entry on the door; tea is provided while the judges decide).

Spring Concert

Haydn's Creation

7.30pm Sunday 26 April 2020

St Saviour's Church

Summer Concert

7pm Sunday 14 June 2020

St Saviour's Church

Torino String Quartet

Leader Lisa Wigmore

Music for weddings, parties or any other special event

Emailto: torinostringquartet@gmail.com

or contact Katie:

07814 002942

Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra

www.eso.org.uk

The Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra, founded in 1979, is celebrating its 39th season. We extend a very warm welcome to you all and thank you for your support. This is our 143rd concert (details of all concerts are on the website where we are also archiving photographs, programmes, reviews and so on).

Financially self-supporting, the ESO registered as a charity in 1987 and, with quality players from Eastbourne and the surrounding areas, performs a number of concerts a year. These have included biennial music-from-the-movies concerts (with film clips), concerts for children, an ESO annual young soloist competition winner's concert, and an annual choral concert.

A much appreciated annual event is the ESO Young Soloist Competition which was established in 1988 as a result of the 11th Duke of Devonshire's financial generosity, and offers young soloists the opportunity to perform with an orchestra.

For more than 30 years, the competition has created increasing interest throughout the country and abroad, and attracts very high standard musicians. This year's winner, violinist Lucilla Rose Mariotti, is our soloist this evening.

We are indebted to our increasing number of sponsors and donors, as well as to the ever-growing group of Friends of the ESO.

If you are interested in becoming a donor, a sponsor, an ESO Friend, a singer or a player, or would like to help the Music Working Group, then please contact concertmanager@eso.org.uk or 07780 993801.

Our thanks go to the PCC of St Saviour's Church who have allowed us to hire this venue.

We anticipate that the 15-minute interval will start at about 7.45pm, and that the concert will finish at about 8.40pm.

If you are thinking of going on holiday, please consider booking through Riviera Travel to help the ESO finances. The ESO receives ten per cent for each holiday booked through Riviera Travel. Please mention the ESO when you book (the dedicated code is ESO) though this link automatically registers your connection with the ESO: www.esoriviera.co.uk (their phone number is 01283 523493).

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Graham Jones (ESO Musical Director, Conductor)



Graham attended Durham University where he was an organ scholar of Hatfield College, with responsibility for the chapel choir and college musical events.

He was still at school when he first conducted an orchestra, gaining further experience at university in workshops with Sir David Willcocks and Roger Norrington. Having been appointed assistant director of music at Eastbourne College in 1976, he became director of music in 1991 and retired from the College in 2012. During his time in Eastbourne he

has been responsible for the Eastbourne Tudor Singers (1978-1988) and co-founded the Eastbourne Sinfonia (1979), now the Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra.

As musical director of the ESO (then called the Eastbourne Sinfonia) from its inception and first concert in January 1980, Graham has conducted the majority of the orchestra's concerts. He has also been responsible for many of the orchestra's initiatives including the now nationally recognised annual young soloist competition (the 33rd competition takes place in January). Though his own particular interest lies in the romantic field, ESO programmes have included the standard orchestral repertoire as well as some works commissioned especially for the orchestra.

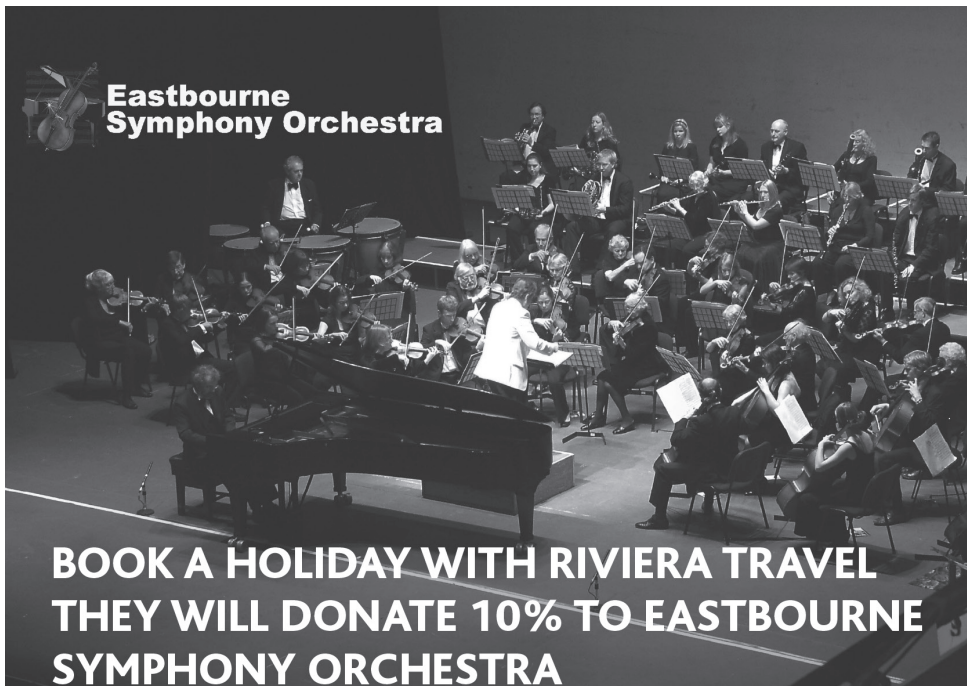
He has worked with some of the country's leading soloists including Sarah Connolly, Simon Deller, Simon Hewitt Jones, Neil Jenkins, Freddie Kempf, Mark Le Brocq, Anthony Marwood, Martin Roscoe, Patricia Rozario and John York, one of the orchestra's patrons, as well as, for example, the Barbican Piano Trio. Graham is always keen to find opportunities which encourage appreciation of music within the community and this has led to initiatives like the biennial music-from-the-movies concert (with film clips) (working with Adam Faith, Hubert Gregg, Robin Gregory and Brian Murphy). Johnny Morris narrated one of the orchestra's first children's concerts and Denis Quilley was the narrator in the Mari Markus Gomori series of concerts for children, which also featured percussionist Alisdair Molloy.

Lisa Wigmore (Leader)

Lisa Wigmore is the leader of the ESO and is also a member of the adjudication panel for the annual competition. At 15 she was awarded a junior exhibition to the Royal College of Music and continued her studies there under Jack Steadman in the senior department, where she gained her ARCM and GRSM. Since leaving the RCM she has studied under Tina Gruenberg.

Lisa is a well-known violin teacher in Sussex, teaching privately as well as working in the strings department at Eastbourne College. Many of her pupils have been successful in gaining entry to the National Children's Orchestra and some of the major music colleges. She also took part in a masterclass with Yfrah Neaman on behalf of the European String Teachers Association (ESTA).





Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra

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Lucilla Rose Mariotti (Soloist)

Lucilla is an 18-year-old violinist. She has performed in Italy, Europe and New York in many concerts with piano, chamber ensembles and orchestras such as Bohuslav Martinů Philharmonic Orchestra, Czech Philharmonic Orchestra Pardubice, Francigena Chamber Orchestra, Florence Symphonietta Orchestra, Note Future Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Classica of Alessandria and others.

Recently she has performed in the White Hall of Pitti Palace in Florence, thanks to Musica con le Ali Association, at the Italian Institute of Culture in Budapest, and at Villa Lante al Gianicolo in Rome, thanks to Musicaimmagine Association in collaboration with Institutum Romanum Finlandiae. She also performed in Milan at Brera Museum during Expo 2015, and at Museum Piaggio Foundation in collaboration with Fonè Music Label.

Some of her performances have been broadcast by the Vatican Radio, the Czech Radio, and by Venice Classic Radio. She also took part in the TV show 'Prodigi 2017: La Musica è Vita' on RAI1 sponsored by Unicef Italia.

She has also won many national and international awards in Italy and abroad. In 2019, she won the first prize and the St Cecilia Bequest Award for the best performance under 18 in the Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra's 32nd Young Soloist Competition and, in 2018, at the same competition, she won the Duke of Devonshire Award for the best performance under 18 and the Cox Memorial Prize.

Among other competitions which she has won are the 59th Kocian International Violin Competition in Ústí nad Orlicí, and another two competitions in the Czech Republic in which she received the prize for the best performance of the contemporary Czech piece Dža More by Sylvia Bodorova.

As a prizewinner of the competition organised by the New York International Artists Association, she performed in the Weill Recital Hall of the Carnegie Hall in New York. In 2013 she received a special mention by Sony Classical Talent Scout in the category 'classical kids'. In 2015, she won the prize 'Renzo Mantero', receiving a scholarship for the best performance of a romantic concert at Città di Castel San Giovanni Competition. In 2016 at the 23rd International Violin Competition Andrea Postacchini in Fermo, she received a scholarship and, in the same year, she won the Violin Competition Pellegrino da Montechiaro in the category without limit of age, receiving the special prize of the public.

Lucilla Rose Mariotti began her violin studies when she was five years old. She is now studying with Marco Fornaciari, Mark Messenger and Maurizio Sciarretta.



Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra

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In order to maintain our varied musical programme and the high quality of our performances, the Orchestra needs continuing financial support.

An essential source of income is provided by the ESO Friends, our donors and our sponsors, for whose generosity we are very grateful.

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This is reduced by half for the first year if you join after June.

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Overture Ruy Blas Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Mendelssohn was commissioned to write this overture in 1839 for a production of Victor Hugo's play Ruy Blas staged in Leipzig. Mendelssohn thought the play (a stormy social drama about a peasant who dares to fall in love with the Queen of Spain) was weak and procrastinated with the music but, when the commissioners implied that his failure to deliver was due to his inability to produce a work of sufficient quality, he set to work in a frenzy of annoyance and completed it in three days. Both the melodramatic nature of the plot and the composer's apparent irritation are evident in the stormy quality of the score which, despite being well received, Mendelssohn banned from publication during his lifetime.

ESO performed this in June 2011 (St Saviour's Church).

Symphony No 41 in C K551 (The Jupiter) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Allegro Vivace

Andante Cantabile

Menuetto: Allegro - Trio

Molto Allegro

In any age, great art is achieved when technical mastery is total; the message, a meaningful reflection of that time or individual. Incredibly, Mozart's last three symphonies, each varied in its approach, were written in the space of 46 days between June and August in 1788. Though K551 (subtitled The Jupiter, we know not why or by whom) is the most 'classical' of the three. There are signs of an undercurrent of unrest: outbursts of minor keys in the first movement, syncopations in the second, and the falling chromatic phrase that forms the subject of the minuet. On investigation, the scholar may also distinguish a prophetic linking of themes between the movements. Yet, despite all this, the order, balance and contrast (perhaps best seen in the opening subject whose ideas unite some 20 bars into the movement) are the main principles of the work. Particular emphasis is placed on the finale in this symphony, where technical mastery is indeed of a high order as, in the spirit of the Baroque, Mozart works five themes contrapuntally within a sonata form.

Graham Jones 2000

ESO performed this in May 1984 (Winter Gardens) and June 2000 (Congress Theatre).

Violin Concerto in C Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

Allegro moderato

Adagio di molto

Allegro, ma non tanto

By the time Sibelius composed his violin concerto in 1903, he had written two symphonies and several of the smaller scale works that established his reputation as a composer of vividly descriptive music reflecting the wild scenery of Scandinavia and the rich mythological heritage of the region. The concerto is regarded as the work that culminates this first period of his output. It is truly symphonic in concept, thoroughly Romantic in spirit, and rhapsodic in nature if not in design.

The characteristic orchestration conjures up a typically dark Sibelian atmosphere of (in the words of Olin Downes, one of Sibelius's earliest and most energetic champions) 'bardic songs heard against a background of torches or pagan fires in some wild Northern night'. The piece offers considerable technical challenges to the performer (Sibelius was himself a virtuoso violinist in his youth), not least in the blistering last movement, described by the composer as a danse macabre and, famously, by the analyst Donald Tovey as 'a Polonaise for polar bears'.

ESO performed this in June 2008 (St Saviour's Church). The soloist was Michal Ćwiżewicz who was the 2008 winner of the ESO's 21st Young Soloist Competition. A British-Polish violinist, he has given concerts across Europe, the Middle-East and USA and his playing has been broadcast on BBC television and radio and Polish national television. He performs frequently in the violin duo Ćwiżewicz Brothers, the acclaimed Minerva Piano Trio, and is also concertmaster and co-director of the Górecki Chamber Orchestra and director of the Ognisko Chamber Ensemble. Also fanatical about all things that fly, in 2007 he received his masters degree in aeronautical engineering from Imperial College London.

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