



# **CHRISTMAS CONCERTS 2018**



**Wednesday 5 & Thursday 6 December, 7.00pm**

# Amey Theatre

## PROGRAMME NOTES

**Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto no 2**, composed between the autumn of 1900 and April 1901, is one of the composer's most enduringly popular pieces; it established Rachmaninov's fame as a concerto composer and confirmed his recovery from clinical depression and writer's block caused by the deriding by critics of his now acclaimed first symphony (1897). His mental illness was cured only by courses of hypnotherapy and psychotherapy and help and support from his family and friends. The concerto was dedicated to Nicolai Dahl, the physician who had done much to restore Rachmaninov's self-confidence.

The opening movement begins with a series of chromatic bell-like tolls on the piano that build tension, eventually climaxing in the introduction of the main theme. In this first section, the orchestra carries the romantic melody, while the piano provides an accompanimental role, consisting of rapid oscillating arpeggios between both hands. After the statement of the long first theme, a quick and virtuosic "*piu mosso*" leads after a transition into the lyrical second theme in the relative major key. The second theme is first stated by the solo piano, with light accompaniment coming from the upper wind instruments.

After an agitated and unstable development a new musical idea is slowly formed. The piece reaches a climax with the piano playing dissonant fortissimo chords, and with the horns and trumpets providing the syncopated melody. With the orchestra restating the first theme, the piano now plays the march theme. Eventually the first theme leads into a descending chromatic passage to a pianissimo chord and the second theme is heard played with a horn solo. The entrance of the piano reverts the key back into C minor, with triplet passages played over a mysterious theme played by the orchestra. Briefly, the piece transitions to a C Major glissando in the piano, and is placid until drawn into the agitated closing section in which the movement ends in a fortissimo C minor.

**Didier Delgorge**, our piano soloist tonight, was educated in Tokyo, starting piano lessons with his mother at age 7, before moving first to Sydney and then to Abingdon School in 2013. He has studied the piano with Elizabeth Jacobs, Lynette Stulting, Hiroko Tsukagoshi and is currently studying with Dr. Stephen Savage. As a pianist, 17-year-old Didier has won several competitions in Tokyo, Sydney, Oxford, and Abingdon. He has also given several performances of Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No.1 in G minor, both on tour in Germany with the school's orchestra and with the local Wantage Orchestra. Didier will be taking his A-levels next year and is planning to read Chemistry at University.

**Elgar's Pomp And Circumstance March No. 1 In D**, the best known of the six marches, had its premiere on 19 October 1901, with its dedicatee and Elgar's friend, Alfred Rodewald, conducting the Liverpool Orchestral Society. Elgar and his wife attended, and it was a "frantic" success. Both marches were played two days later at a London Promenade Concert, conducted by Henry Wood, the founder of these concerts. Wood remembered that the audience "...rose and yelled... the one and only time in the history of the Promenade concerts that an orchestral item was accorded a double encore." The march is the epitome of the confidence of the British Colonialism of the Edwardian period.

The March's Trio contains the tune known as Land of Hope and Glory, later to be used in the Coronation Ode for King Edward VII. **The audience is warmly invited to sing along with the orchestra when the tune returns for the second and third times.**

Land of hope and glory, mother of the free  
How shall we extol thee, who are born of thee?  
Wider still and wider shall thy bounds be set  
God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet  
God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet (twice)

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | <b>First Year Choir</b>                              | <b>Directed by Adam Treadaway</b>                           |
|    | <i>Believe</i>                                       | Lynne Marsh   |
|    | <i>Angels' Carol</i>                                 | John Rutter   |
| 2. | <b>Joint Chamber Choir</b>                           | <b>Directed by Adam Treadaway</b>                           |
|    | <i>Ubi Caritas</i>                                   | Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)                                 |
|    | <i>Winter Wonderland</i>                             | Dick Smith (1901-1935)                                      |
| 3. | <b>Gospel Choir</b> , accompanied by Ashwin Tennant  | <b>Directed by Helen Wenham</b>                             |
|    | <i>Sinnerman</i>                                     | Traditional<br>arr. Stephen Deazeley                        |
|    | <i>Gonna Build a Mountain</i>                        | Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley<br>arr. Bruce Montgomery |
| 4. | <b>Chamber Orchestra</b> , led by Oliver Breach      | <b>Directed by Mariette Pringle</b>                         |
|    | <i>Brandenburg Concerto No 3 in G Major BWV 1048</i> | J S Bach (1685-1750)  |
|    | <i>Allegro – Adagio – Allegro</i>                    |   |
| 5. | <b>Big Band</b>                                      | <b>Directed by Simon Currie</b>                             |
|    | <i>Tank</i>  | Yoko Kanno  |
|    | <i>Tequila</i>                                       | Daniel Flores   |

#### INTERVAL OF TWENTY MINUTES

Refreshments will be served by the Music Society in the Theatre Foyer

**Retiring Collection** First Orchestra and Big Band Tour to Japan 2019

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 6. | <b>Symphonic Wind Band</b> , led by Ethan Chui                     | <b>Conducted by Andy Townsend</b>          |
|    | <i>Song of the Blacksmith</i>                                      | Gustav Holst (1874-1934)                   |
|    | <i>Music from Apollo 13</i>  | James Horner (1953-2015)<br>arr. John Moss |
| 7. | <b>Second Orchestra</b> , led by Jamie Robson                      | <b>Conducted by Michael Stinton</b>        |
|    | <i>Grand March from Aida</i>                                       | Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)                 |
|    | <i>Slavonic Dance</i>  | Dvorak (1841-1904)                         |
| 8. | <b>First Orchestra</b> , led by Oliver Breach & Chanka Pathinayake | <b>Conducted by Michael Stinton</b>        |
|    | <i>Piano concerto No 2 – First Movement</i>                        | Serge Rachmaninov (1873-1943)              |
|    | <i>Pomp &amp; Circumstance March No. 1</i>                         | Edward Elgar (1857-1934)                   |
|    | Audience Carol: <i>Unto us is born a Son</i> (words on back page)  | Arr. David Willcocks                       |

**The audience is warmly invited to sing us out**

**FIRST YEAR CHOIR**

Sion Actur	Jacob Eaton	Conor Rogan
Frederick Arnold	Matthew Flynn	Lucas Sammartino
Philip Ashton	Hayato Frellesvig	Finnbar Scott
Ibrahim Atitebi	Shaun Gregory	Oliver Sherratt
Ethan Barksfield	Jamie Halliwell	Leo Shipley
Michael Bell	Sean Hanlon	Sam Siriwardene
Bertie Bellman	Henry Haynes	Luke Skates
Shawn Birch	Tom Hyder-Smith	Matthew Stone
Hamish Bloom	Arlo Hyman	William Sue
Harry Brinson	Tom Jarvis	Henry Tattersall
John Cairns	Lachlan Keene	Aleksandar Ustic
Daniel Chamberlin	Jack Kerley	Jack Veal
Peter Christou	Oliver Lambert	Oliver Veal
Adrian Chung	Alex Leech	Harry Vinall
Freddie Clark	Stephen Lin	Manaswith Vippera
Tristan Clark Lam	Oliver Mallinson	Oliver Vivian
George Coombs	Rupert Mathieson	James Wakefield
Max Cranstoun	Roddy McVie	Harry Wildgoose
Harrison Cruikshank	Lucas Mueller Quintino	Jacob Wilkins
Ben Cuthbert	Pranit Narain	Thomas Wilson
William Darbishire	Jonny Noctor	Harry Winsey
Bertie Dinsey	Luke Ramsden	Alexander Woolmer
Henry Drake	Arthur Robertson	

**JOINT CHAMBER CHOIR**

Izzy Anderson-Besant, Rosie Aylard, David Bicarregui, Aidan Chan, Claudia Hall, Lottie Hannon, Ella Jackson, Anna Kelly, Owen Ravden, Issy Slater, Fiona Steer, Tristan Tonks

**GOSPEL CHOIR**

Sam Andersson, Peter Bradley, Joshua Buckingham, Louis Chan, Harrison Cruikshank, Sam Daly, Howard Hawkes, Barnaby Hindley, Peter Leeson, Oliver Liddell, Andreas Lo, Benjamin MacLennan, Mike MacLennan, Rory Mitchell, Alfred Morley, Henry Muller, Naoki Parker, Owen Ravden, Oliver Smith, Henry Steinsberg, Harvey Vinton, Thomas Wilson, Henry Wooding, Thomas Woodrow

**CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

<b>Violin:</b>	Oliver Breach, Timmy Chiu, Tom Hart, Dashiell Hathaway, Elvis Hung, Andrew Kang, Andreas Lo, Nicholas Ng, Naoki Parker, Chanka Pathinayake, Alvin Tam, Ashwin Tennant
<b>Viola:</b>	Alex Glover, Ralph Hargreaves, Nicholas Raptakis, Jamie Robson
<b>Cello:</b>	Joe Bradley, Aidan Chan, Oliver Simpson
<b>Double Bass:</b>	James Magé

## **BIG BAND**

<b>Alto Saxophone:</b>	James Chung, Sam Daly, Thomas Harding, Henry Lu, Josef O'Connor, Chanka Pathinayake, Henry Pickess, Jimmy Strange
<b>Baritone Saxophone:</b>	Nicholas Ko
<b>Tenor Saxophone:</b>	Mike MacLennan
<b>Trumpet:</b>	Cameron Gouldstone, Oliver Hobbs, Ilya Korzinkin, Edward Jones, Toby Smallcombe, Maximillian Weaver, Ludo Wilson, Archie Wood
<b>Trombone:</b>	Bentley Cook, Alisdair Emmett, Tom Hart, Felix Kind, Lloyd Langley, Jack Lester
<b>Drums:</b>	Toby Hammond, Graham Suttie, Max Upton
<b>Piano:</b>	David Bicarregui
<b>Guitar:</b>	Jake de Jongh
<b>Bass:</b>	James Magé

## **SYMPHONIC WIND BAND**

<b>Flute:</b>	Raffy Armon-Jones, Rory Mitchell
<b>Oboe:</b>	Felix Breach, Tom Graham, Thomas McGonnell, Iain Storrie
<b>Clarinet:</b>	Ethan Chui, Owen Ravden, Ivan Tan, Dennis Wei, Miguel Ferreira, Andrew Crisp
<b>Bassoon:</b>	Luc Tucker
<b>Saxophone:</b>	Nicholas Ko, Thomas Harding, Henry Lu, Greg Northwood
<b>Horn:</b>	Max McNally
<b>Trumpet:</b>	Edward Jones, Caleb Maijek, Jake de Jongh, Rory Middlemiss, Laurence Peverall, William Wakelam, Helen Wenham
<b>Trombone:</b>	Alasdair Emmett, Jack Lester
<b>Euphonium:</b>	Isaac Tan
<b>Tuba:</b>	Arthur Boulton, James Daly
<b>Percussion:</b>	Alfred Morley, Graham Suttie

## **SECOND ORCHESTRA**

<b>Flute:</b>	Thomas Whetter, Thomas Wright
<b>Oboe:</b>	Hugo Hewetson-Smith, Thomas McGonnell, Joshua Rodrigues, Eddie Williams
<b>Clarinet:</b>	Miguel Ferreira, Harry Gee, David Hrushovski, Oliver Li, Rupert Mathieson, Ivan Tan
<b>Bassoon:</b>	Josef O'Connor, Luc Tucker
<b>Saxophone:</b>	Joshua Braich, Jamie Firth, Thomas Harding, Lorenzo Matousek, Jamie Wright
<b>Horn:</b>	Freddy Selby-Lowndes
<b>Trumpet:</b>	Robin Hambidge, Oliver Hobbs, Rory Middlemiss, Laurence Peverall, Khadim Sagna, James Wakefield, Archie Wood
<b>Trombone:</b>	Alasdair Emmett, Arthur Robertson
<b>Tuba:</b>	Arthur Boulton, James Daly
<b>Timpani &amp; Percussion:</b>	Jack Cabell, William Tibbs
<b>Violin:</b>	Oscar Bennett, Ianto Brewer, James Deng, Rory Kind, Arthur Larousse, Alexander Lees, Arlie MacPherson, Jonathan Pannett-Smith, Jamie Robson, Alvin Tang, Marius Williamson,
<b>Viola:</b>	Shreyanshu Mohanty
<b>Cello:</b>	Cameron Eilbeck, Thomas Wilson, Alexander Woolmer
<b>Double Bass:</b>	Can Tugcetin

## FIRST ORCHESTRA

<b>Flute:</b>	Raffy Amon-Jones, David Bicarregui, Ollie Martin, Rory Mitchell
<b>Oboe:</b>	Felix Breach, Oliver Glover, Tom Graham, Scott Yap
<b>Clarinet:</b>	Robin Collins, Oliver Elly, Christopher Fry, Alex Glover, Matthew Hoult, Ollie Northwood, Owen Ravden
<b>Bassoon:</b>	James Ashby, Noah Chakravarti, Dan Cooper, Josef O'Connor, Luc Tucker, Can Tugcetin
<b>Horn:</b>	Daniel Barratt
<b>Trumpet:</b>	Jake de Jongh, Cameron Gouldstone, Maximillian Weaver, Ludo Wilson, Archie Wood
<b>Trombone:</b>	Bentley Cook, Alasdair Emmett, Felix Kind, Jack Lester
<b>Tuba:</b>	Arthur Boulton, James Daly
<b>Timpani &amp; Percussion:</b>	Ernest Chu, Toby Hammond, Alfred Morley, Graham Suttie
<b>Violin:</b>	Oscar Bennett, Oliver Breach, Timmy Chiu, Dashiell Hathaway, Max Hems, Elvis Hung, Cameron Khoo, Rory Kind, Andreas Lo, Arlie MacPherson, Nicholas Ng, Jonathan Pannett-Smith, Naoki Parker, Chanka Pathinayake, Lawrence Putt, Ben Shaw, Harry Shiu, Alvin Tam, Ashwin Tennant
<b>Viola:</b>	David Grozin, Ralph Hargreaves, Shreyanshu Mohanty, Nicholas Raptakis, Jamie Robson
<b>Cello:</b>	Joe Bradley, Aidan Chan, Nathan Hudson, Alfie Marshall, Hugo Payton, Thomas Rolfe, Oliver Simpson
<b>Double Bass:</b>	James Magé, Tristan Mann Powter, Daniel Woodrow
<b>Piano:</b>	Didier Delgorge

## Unto Us is Born a Son

1. Unto us is born a son,  
King of choirs supernal:  
See on earth his life begun,  
Of lords the Lord eternal,  
Of lords the Lord eternal.

2. Christ, from heav'n descending low,  
Comes on earth a stranger;  
Ox and ass their Owner know  
Becradled in the manger,  
Becradled in the manger.

3. This did Herod sore affray,  
And grievously bewilder,  
So he gave the word to slay,  
And slew the little childer,  
And slew the little childer.

4. Of his love and mercy mild  
This the Christmas story:  
And O that Mary's gentle Child  
Might lead us up to glory!  
Might lead us up to glory!

5. O and A and A and O,  
*Cum Cantibus in choro,*  
Let our merry organ go,  
*Benedicamus Domino,*  
*Benedicamus Domino.*

## **Abingdon School Orchestral and Big Band Tour to Japan and Hong Kong**

**30 June to 10 July 2019**

We are very excited indeed to confirm our next international music tour to the Far East in the summer of 2019, a trip that has been over two years in the planning.

Over the last 25 years, the music department at Abingdon School has embarked on many international music tours with their orchestras, choirs and bands as far afield as Hungary, France, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, USA, Hong Kong, China and Japan. In addition, the school has hosted visits by orchestras from Australia, India and Japan.

These tours provide a unique opportunity to excite and inspire our young musicians who work so hard to develop their musicianship and to attain the highest standards possible. The preparation for the tours creates a palpable goal and an added incentive for achievement in our orchestras, choirs and bands as the date of the tour approaches.

Our tour sees us giving three concerts in Japan and one in Hong Kong, where we are looking forward to linking up with many Abingdon families, both current and past. The opportunity to perform alongside musicians of other nationalities, whilst sharing a common musical language, is a very special one indeed - and it opens up the minds of our pupils to the possibilities of productive friendships and partnerships with other musicians from overseas.

The school's orchestra is reaching something of a peak in standard at the present time and, in addition, there are some sparkling soloists who have some exciting repertoire to play. We are planning to bring no less than 70 young musicians and 7 teachers. That group will form a symphony orchestra and a Jazz Band, who will present concerts in Tokyo (with BST, the British School Tokyo), Nagoya (with Toho School), Kyoto and in St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong.

We are immensely grateful for all the support that we have gained from individuals, companies and organisations that will help make this tour a reality. Next term we hope to have an Auction of Promises and a Japan Tour Benefit Concert on Thursday 24 January. Do please join us!

**FORTHCOMING CONCERTS:**

Wednesday 16 January	Piano Masterclass with Yekaterina Lebedeva, CMR
Thursday 24 January	Japan Tour Benefit Concert, Amey Theatre
Wednesday 30 January	Solo Concert Platform No. 3, CMR
Wednesday 13 February	Menine Quartet Brass Workshop and Evening Concert, Amey Theatre
Wednesday 27 February	Annual Chamber Music Evening, Amey Theatre
Wednesday 6 March	Singers' Platform, Chapel
Wednesday 13 March	Solo Concert Platform No. 4, CMR
Thursday 14 March	Intermediate Instrumental Solo Competition, CMR
Thursday 21 March	Choral Concert, Chapel

### **Would you like a DVD recording of the Christmas Concert?**

We are aiming to do a DVD video recording of the Thursday Christmas Concert made by Third Strike Films.

This will be available after Christmas once editing has taken place.

If you would like to pre-order a DVD please complete the enclosed slip and hand it in at the box office as you leave.

Thank you.