

London Philharmonic Orchestra

2023/24 concert season at
Eastbourne's Congress Theatre



EASTBOURNE THEATRES
CONGRESS
THEATRE

Welcome to our 2023/24 season

It's wonderful to share with you our 2023/24 concerts.

In our 60th season as Resident Orchestra at Eastbourne's Congress Theatre, we're joined by exciting talent for some of the world's most loved classical music.

Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony opens the season with a bang. In a concert brimming with drama and passion, Alessandro Crudele conducts the dazzling symphony alongside Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto with British violinist Chloë Hanslip.

We're thrilled to welcome Charlotte Politi in October. Guided by our Principal Conductor, Edward Gardner, Charlotte is one of two LPO Fellow Conductors for the 2023/24 season. She presents a programme of music by German greats Weber, Brahms and Beethoven with pianist Samson Tsoy.

The season continues in November with two of the biggest names in music history: Beethoven and Mozart. Bertie Baigent, winner of the Grand Prix at the 2022 Rotterdam International Conducting Competition, conducts a programme of some of their most popular works, including Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, performed by our very own Principal Clarinet Benjamin Mellefont.

In the New Year, Laura van der Heijden performs Elgar's beloved Cello Concerto – a piece that drew inspiration from close to home in the Sussex Downs. And in the final concerts of the season, we hear two iconic violin concertos from two fantastic violinists: Francesca Dego plays Brahms's Violin Concerto and Randall Goosby closes the season with Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 3.

Beyond the concert hall, we are delighted to share the wonder of classical music with the local south coast communities. We are excited to be offering musical opportunities for young people in the area, including orchestral experience days and a BrightSparks schools' concert, as well as working with local partners, with lots of exciting projects in the pipeline.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Congress Theatre this season. Dive in and see where the music takes you.

David & Elena



Elena Dubinets
Artistic Director

David Burke
Chief Executive

SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2023 | 3.00PM

Tchaikovsky's Fourth



© KAIPO KIRKAS

Mendelssohn *Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage* Mendelssohn *Violin Concerto* Tchaikovsky *Symphony No. 4*

Alessandro Crudele conductor
Chloë Hanslip violin

Great music is like a journey, and when we raise anchor for Mendelssohn's *Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage*, there's no doubt that this will be an eventful one! With a shattering fanfare, Tchaikovsky lets fly with a symphony in which he poured out his soul: a no-holds-barred autobiography, told in music of raw emotion and dazzling colour. It's a gripping showcase for our dynamic guest conductor Alessandro Crudele. First, though, he joins Chloë Hanslip – one of Britain's best-loved violinists – for more Mendelssohn: the sweet (and gloriously songful) Violin Concerto.

Pre-concert event, 2.15pm

Join us for a special free performance in the foyer, given by young musicians from Create Music, the music education hub for Brighton and East Sussex.

Tickets **£16–£31** Premium seats **£36**
Series discounts Page 12

Book now **01323 412000** / eastbournetheatres.co.uk
(transaction fees may apply)

SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER 2023 | 3.00PM

Brahms's Second

Weber Overture, Der Freischütz
Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3
Brahms Symphony No. 2

Charlotte Politi* conductor
Samson Tsoy piano

Even geniuses need a holiday, and when Brahms spent a summer in the Austrian Alps, the music just poured out of him. His Second Symphony is one of those pieces that seems to glow with summer sunshine: music of soaring melodies and majestic vistas. It's a lovely contrast to Beethoven's stormiest piano concerto played by the 'fearless' (*The New Statesman*) Samson Tsoy, and this afternoon the drama starts from the very first note – as *BBC Music Magazine* Rising Star Charlotte Politi ventures into the haunted forests of Weber's *Der Freischütz*. Be warned – it gets spooky!

*Inaugural participant in the LPO Conducting Fellowship programme. The LPO Conducting Fellowship programme is generously supported by Patricia Haitink with additional support from Gini and Richard Gabbertas.

Charlotte Politi



SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2023 | 3.00PM

Mozart & Beethoven

Bertie Baigent



© BENJAMIN EARLOVEGA

Beethoven Overture, Fidelio **Mozart Clarinet Concerto** **Beethoven Symphony No. 4**

Bertie Baigent conductor
Benjamin Mellefont clarinet

Pure inspiration. 'We'll never do anything as good as that' said Beethoven when he heard the music of Mozart – but he gave it his best shot, and in his brilliant Fourth Symphony his imagination runs riot: dancing, singing and turning cartwheels for joy. Bertie Baigent, winner of the Grand Prix at the 2022 Rotterdam International Conducting Competition, won't hold back, in a concert of Beethoven at his most unbuttoned and Mozart at his most ravishing. There's a good reason why Mozart's Clarinet Concerto is one of the best-loved of all classical concertos – and with the LPO's Principal Clarinet Benjamin Mellefont as soloist, you'll hear why!





SUNDAY 14 JANUARY 2024 | 3.00PM

Elgar's Cello Concerto

Laura van der Heijden



© OLIVIA DA COSTA

**Smetana Overture,
The Bartered Bride
Elgar Cello Concerto
Dvořák Symphony No. 7**

Gabriella Teychenné conductor
Laura van der Heijden cello

'There is music in the air' said Edward Elgar, and deep in the Sussex Downs, he found the inspiration for his Cello Concerto. A century later, we've taken it to our hearts, and in Prague they feel much the same way about Smetana's *The Bartered Bride* and Dvořák's Seventh Symphony. One is a sparkling romantic comedy, the other is one of the most passionate of great symphonies, but conductor Gabriella Teychenné will make them both leap to life today. One of the leading cellists of her generation, Laura van der Heijden takes the spotlight in Elgar's haunting, hugely-popular Concerto.

SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2024 | 3.00PM

Pictures at an Exhibition

Brahms Violin Concerto **Mussorgsky Pictures at an Exhibition**

Kahchun Wong conductor
Francesca Dego violin

It might have been the vodka talking, but when Modest Mussorgsky went to an art exhibition his imagination went into overdrive. Talking skulls, dancing chickens, ancient castles and a hut with hen's legs: *Pictures at an Exhibition* is a riot of colour. Going to an art gallery was never meant to be this much fun, but for guest conductor Kahchun Wong it's merely the climax of a whole concert powered by the imagination. Because when violinist Francesca Dego scales the Alpine peaks of Brahms's radiant Violin Concerto, every note speaks straight to the heart.



SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2024 | 3.00PM

Randall Goosby plays Mozart

Mozart Ballet Music from Idomeneo
Mozart Violin Concerto No. 3
Prokofiev Romeo and Juliet
(excerpts)

Gemma New conductor
Randall Goosby violin

'How silver-sweet sound lovers' tongues by night, Like softest music to attending ears!' Shakespeare's star-cross'd lovers have inspired composers for centuries, but nothing quite matches Prokofiev's great Soviet ballet: *Romeo and Juliet* retold in music as sharp as a rapier and as tender as a kiss. It's hot stuff, but Principal Conductor of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra Gemma New and the 'exquisite tone' (*The New York Times*) of Randall Goosby cool things down in the most elegant and enjoyable way imaginable – with a delicious concerto by the teenage Mozart.

Randall Goosby



© JEREMY MITCHELL

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Series discounts Page 12

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Beyond the Stage



© BENJAMIN EAALOVEGA

As well as our Sunday concerts on the Congress Theatre stage, we are delighted to share the wonder of classical music beyond the concert hall with the local south coast communities.

We are proud to partner with Create Music, the music education hub for Brighton and East Sussex, and with West Sussex Music, the music education hub for West Sussex, working together to offer musical opportunities for young people in Eastbourne and further along the south coast. These include unique offers for young musicians to connect with the LPO on our concert days, as well as LPO Overture days during school holidays. On these engaging orchestral experience days, young musicians play side-by-side with LPO players, pick up top tips about their musicianship and perform to family and friends.

This season we are also excited to perform our first BrightSparks schools concert at the Congress Theatre, offering a special opportunity for Key Stage 2 children to experience the thrill of hearing a full orchestra, possibly for the first time. The concert takes place on 9 May during the school day, with booking opening earlier in the spring. The concert includes free resources and a prior workshop for teachers, as well as a longer creative project in two primary schools in the area.

As well as our work with children and young people, we are building relationships with other local partners, with several exciting projects in the pipeline. To find out about the latest performances, events and how to get involved, follow us on social media or sign up to our local newsletter by dropping an email to southcoast@lpo.org.uk

Share in the joy of music. *Be a part of the LPO.*



We are proud of our longstanding relationship with Eastbourne and delighted to share with you such an exciting season. We invite you to play a part and join the Orchestra's incredible community of supporters. By making a contribution you will help ensure that we continue to provide inspirational musical experiences for everybody, whether through our concerts at the Congress Theatre or our work sharing the wonder of classical music with local south coast communities.

Your donation, of any size, will make a difference.

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LPO★

OFF STAGE



Delve into the world of classical music with our podcast, LPO Offstage

If you love classical music or want to learn more about it, you're in the right place. Find us on your favourite podcast app.

lpo.org.uk/podcast



Booking information

Congress Theatre Venue

Carlisle Road, Eastbourne,
East Sussex BN21 4BP

Congress Theatre Ticket Office & Correspondence

01323 412000

Monday to Saturday 9am–5pm
Sunday 10am–4pm

Welcome Building,
Carlisle Road, Eastbourne,
East Sussex BN21 4BW

Book online

eastbournetheatres.co.uk

Tickets £16–£31

Premium seats £36

Inclusive of £2 per ticket booking fee

Book more, pay less: series discounts

- 10% discount for 3 concerts
- 15% discount for 4 concerts
- 20% discount for 5 concerts
- 25% discount for 6 concerts

Group discounts:

Bring friends – save money!

- Groups of 10 or more will receive a 20% discount on ticket prices
- Groups of 20 or more will receive a 20% discount as well as an extra complimentary ticket for the group organiser.

Please call the Ticket Office for details.
Please note that offers cannot be combined.

How to pay

Tickets can be paid for by cash or credit/debit card. There is a £2 booking fee for each ticket purchased. This is included in the advertised ticket prices. There is a £1.50 charge for postage. Tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded.

Access

We want everybody to enjoy their visit and offer a range of facilities for patrons with disabilities and their companions, and also to those who may need support in attending our events. Please ensure you notify us of any special requirements when booking, so we can ensure you are offered the most appropriate seats.

General information



Wheelchair users

The Congress Theatre has several specially designed seat positions as well as a wheelchair-accessible toilets. A companion may be admitted free of charge, via the essential companion scheme. Please ask the Ticket Office for further details.



Hearing impaired customers

There is an infra-red assisted hearing system and induction loop system at Congress Theatre. Headphones and neck loops can be requested from the Duty Manager prior to the performance. They can also check that your hearing aid is compatible with this system.



Visually impaired customers

Guide dogs are welcome. Printed materials are available in large print on request from the London Philharmonic Orchestra Marketing Department on **020 7840 4200**.



Public transport

Eastbourne Station is a 10–15 minute walk away, with fast, regular services to Eastbourne from Hastings, Lewes, Brighton, Haywards Heath, London and elsewhere. To book tickets and for travel updates visit southernrailway.com or call National Rail Enquiries on **08457 484950**.



There is a frequent bus service from all areas of the city. Visit stagecoachbus.co.uk or call Traveline on **0871 200 2233** for details.

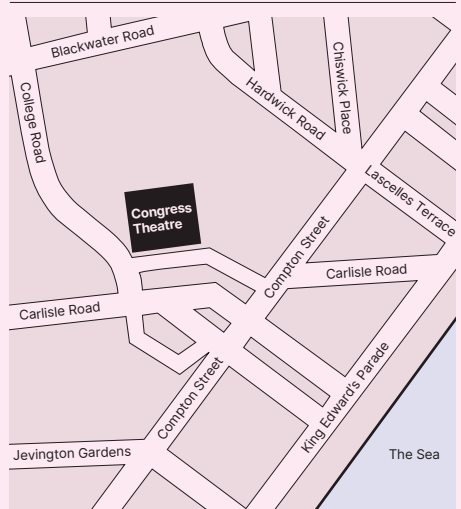


Parking

Disabled parking is available on the roads around the Congress Theatre and directly in front of the Devonshire Park Theatre. Patrons may also be dropped off and collected from this point. Disabled parking spaces and Pay and display parking is available in College Road Car Park.

How to find us

The venue is situated close to Eastbourne seafront and a short distance from the town centre. We are just 45 minutes from Brighton, 30 minutes from Hastings and Bexhill and 60 minutes from Tunbridge Wells.



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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



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