

## After Dark: 200 Years of ZSL

Wednesday 15 April 2026 | 9.30pm | Queen Elizabeth Hall Foyer

In collaboration with international conservation charity ZSL

### Welcome

from LPO Artistic Director Jesús Herrera and ZSL Council Chair Professor Sir Jim Smith FRS

### Trumpets

Paul Beniston

Chair supported by the Williams family in memory of Grenville Williams

Tom Nielsen

Anne McAneney

David Hilton

### Horn

John Ryan

### Trombones

Mark Templeton

Chair supported by William & Alex de Winton

Jamie Tweed

David Whitehouse

Lyndon Meredith

### Tuba

Lee Tsarmaklis

Chair supported by William & Alex de Winton

### Percussion

Andrew Barclay

Chair supported by Gill & Garf Collins

Karen Hutt

Chair supported by Joe Topley & Tracey Countryman

Oliver Yates

### Featuring

### Zooniversity Challenge

A special late-night quiz celebrating ZSL's anniversary. Hosted by presenters from London Zoo, this light-hearted game invites you to test your knowledge of both wildlife and music. Expect curious facts, playful questions and a few surprises, with prizes to be won.

### William Walton (1902-83)

#### Roaring Fanfare (1)

British composer William Walton had a real flair for ceremonial music – his best-known works include *Crown Imperial* (performed at the Coronation of King George VI in 1937) and *Orb and Sceptre* (composed for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953). His *Roaring Fanfare* is another perfect example. It was first heard on 3 June 1976 at London Zoo in Regent's Park, performed by players from the Royal Military School of Music. The occasion was a reception marking the 150th anniversary of ZSL (Zoological Society of London), with the fanfare written to accompany the entrance of its patron Queen Elizabeth II – and performed again that year as she officially opened the Zoo's new Lion Terraces.

The piece lasts under a minute, but makes its impact instantly. Walton dedicated it 'to Solly Z., that Lion of Lions' – a nod to Solly Zuckerman, the eminent zoologist and research pioneer who was President of ZSL between 1977-84. The piece has not been performed since – until now, in honour of ZSL's 200th anniversary year.

### Goff Richards (1944-2011)

#### Homage to the Noble Grape (10')

1. *Champagne*
2. *Chablis*
3. *Fundador*

Goff Richards, born in Cornwall and trained at the Royal College of Music and the University of Reading, was a hugely influential figure in brass and light music. As a lecturer at Salford College of

Technology, he led the Big Band to win BBC Big Band of the Year in 1989, and his music has been performed by ensembles ranging from the King's Singers to the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Composed in the mid-1990s his *Homage to the Noble Grape* raises a glass to wine in five contrasting movements, three of which are served this evening. Each captures a different mood – from sparkling effervescence to something smoother and more relaxed.

### Chris Hazell (b. 1948)

#### The Cats Suite (15')

1. *Mr Jums*
2. *Black Sam*
3. *Borage*
4. *Kraken*

Chris Hazell is best known in the brass world for his long association with the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble, for whom he worked as a producer on many recordings. Alongside that, he developed a distinctive voice as a composer. His *Cats Suite* (also known as *Three Brass Cats*), written in the early 1990s, quickly became a favourite, with each movement affectionately portraying a different feline personality. Its success led Hazell to expand the set with *Kraken* (another *Cat*).

The composer writes: '*The Cats Suite* is loosely based on the cats (all former strays) who share my home. Mr Jums is a ginger tom, scruffy but affectionate; Black Sam looks like and purrs like a New Orleans gospel singer; Borage, brown and white, rushes around all day long. Kraken, the only female, rules the roost, though only half the size of the others.'