



1893 - 2018

nso
NORTHAMPTON
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

125 YEARS

1893 - 2018

125 Years of the NSO



The NSO came into being in the decade variously called the Gay Nineties or the Naughty Nineties. The plays of Oscar Wilde and the art of Aubrey Beardsley were all the rage.

Electric lights were a novelty - in fact Northampton turned on its first electric street lights only a year before our founding.

Romanticism was in its heyday in the concert hall, with composers such as Dvorak, Elgar, and Ravel in the beginning or primes of their careers. The decade was also to see the passing of the great Russian composer Tchaikovsky which coincided with the composition and premier of his Sixth Symphony. In America, Scott Joplin was creating the new musical form of ragtime, and composer Amy Beach was breaking new ground at the same time as the early stirrings of the suffragette movement on both sides of the Atlantic.

Northampton had evolved from a medium sized market town of 7,000 in 1800 to a bustling manufacturing and trade centre of 83,000 in 1890. With growth came opportunities to participate in culture and the arts. The Guildhall was built and opened, as was the Royale Theatre. A small group of musicians and musical enthusiasts formed what was to become the Northampton Symphony Orchestra in 1893.

In the 125 years since, the orchestra has grown to become one of the best community orchestras in the UK. This year each concert will connect in some way to our founding year, the Victorian era, or Northampton's rich musical history. I'm immensely proud and privileged to be part of the history of our orchestra, and to present to you this celebratory season.

John Gibbons
Musical Director



10th November 2018 7:30 pm

FANFARE

Saint Matthew's Church NN1 4RY



We open the season with an exciting march, an expansive and popular concerto for cello, and what is considered by many to be the great American symphony — based on Copland's famous "Fanfare for the Common Man"

Johan Halvorsen

Entry March of the Boyars

Antonin Dvorak

Cello Concerto op 104

Yaroslava Trofymchuk, cello

Aaron Copland

Third Symphony



£14 Adults, £12 concessions, and £2 18 and under
Purchase your tickets now at www.nso.org.uk/concerts



9th December 2018 3:00 pm
A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS
Spinney Theatre NN3 6DG



The NSO looks back on its Victorian beginnings with a concert of music composed during and inspired by the Victorian era. We will be joined by compere and narrator Alan Bell.

The programme will include:

Bryan Kelly
Scrooge

P.I. Tchalkovsky

Dances from “The Nutcracker”

Lionel Bart
Selections from “Oliver!”

And many more of your festive favourites!
Enjoy a mince pie and mulled wine at the interval.



£15 Adults, £13 concessions, and £2 18 and under
Purchase your tickets now at www.nso.org.uk/concerts



2nd February 2019 7:30 pm

1893

Northampton High School NN4 6UU



Our third concert features the immediately recognisable Dvorak Symphony no 9 "From the New World" composed in 1893 - our founding year. 1893 is also the birth year for Arthur Benjamin, composer of the Romantic Fantasy for Violin and Viola.

Mikhail Glinka

Ruslan and Lyudmila Overture

Arthur Benjamin

Romantic Fantasy

Stephen Bryant, Violin and Benjamin Roskams, Viola

Antonin Dvorak

Symphony no. 9 "From the New World"



£14 Adults, £12 concessions, and £2 18 and under
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30th March 2019 7:30 pm
NORTHAMPTON
Christ Church NN1 4HL



Malcolm Arnold, a Northampton native, played in the trumpet section of the NSO. His Sussex Overture is a perfect way to open our concert featuring the Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto with Northampton's own Jenny Dyson and Elgar's final reconstructed symphony.

Sir Malcolm Arnold

A Sussex Overture

W.A. Mozart

Concerto for Flute and Harp

Jenny Dyson, Flute and Elinor Nicholson, Harp

Sir Edward Elgar

Symphony no. 3



£14 Adults, £12 concessions, and £2 18 and under
Purchase your tickets now at www.nso.org.uk/concerts



16th June 2019 7:00 pm
CELEBRATION!
Derngate Theatre NN1 1DP



The NSO performs our last regular celebratory concert with internationally recognised soloist Peter Donohoe. Our concert is capped with Strauss's monumentally epic Alpine Symphony and will include the world premiere of a new composition by young local composer Alga Mau, commissioned to commemorate our 125th year.

Sir William Walton

Crown Imperial

P.I. Tchaikovsky

Piano Concerto no. 2

Peter Donohoe, Piano

Richard Strauss

An Alpine Symphony



Tickets will be available from www.royalandderngate.co.uk
and will range from £7 - £21



14th July 2019 3:00 pm

FRIENDS' CONCERT

Northampton High School NN4 6UU

The NSO delivers our perennial “thank you” concert and buffet exclusively for the Friends of the NSO. The ever popular Peer Gynt Suites and Tchaikovsky’s exhilarating March are joined by smaller pieces that feature the different sections of the orchestra.

Frank Bridge

Two Old English Dances:

Sally in Our Alley & Cherry Ripe

Peter Warlock

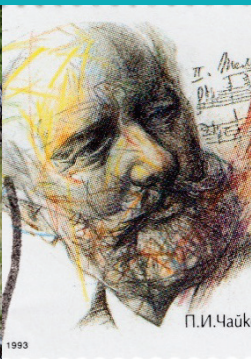
Capriol Suite

Edvard Greig

Peer Gynt Suites 1 & 2

P.I. Tchaikovsky

March from Symphony no. 6



This concert is open only to the Friends of the NSO
Secure your membership using the form on page 10 of this brochure



Become Our Friend

For a minimum donation of £20 a year, you can become a Friend of the Orchestra. There are a number of exclusive benefits available through the Friends' Scheme, and your contribution plays an important part in funding our concerts and securing the orchestra's future. As a Friend, you will receive:

- 2 free tickets to the Friends' concert and buffet
- £1 discount on all concert tickets (excluding the Derngate concert)
- Priority booking
- Regular NSO newsletters about forthcoming concerts
- A free programme at each concert
- Your name printed in our programmes

It's said you can't buy friendship, but you can buy exclusive membership to the NSO Friends' Scheme. Why not pay for a friend to become a Friend? It's a great gift to give.

To find out more, contact our Friends' Secretary Siân Bunker on 07972 027924 or email friends@nso.org.uk.

Thank you for your support!



NSO Friends' Scheme Application Form 2018-2019

I would like to become a Friend of Northampton Symphony Orchestra and I enclose a cheque for £ _____ (£20.00 minimum per person), payable to NSO.

Gift Aid (Northampton Symphony Orchestra is a registered Charity, No.265052) Any amount over the £20.00 minimum can be treated as a Gift Aid donation if you are a UK taxpayer. **Please tick the box below if you are sending more than £20.00, are a UK taxpayer and would like to Gift Aid your donation.**

To qualify for Gift Aid, the total income tax and/or capital gains tax you pay must at least equal the amount NSO will claim back from HMRC.

I am a UK tax payer and would like any donation included here over and above the minimum Friends' subscription to be treated as a Gift Aid donation.

I consent to my name and address being kept on a computer for mailing and membership purposes and also to my name being included in the Orchestra's concert programme.

Please tick this box if you are happy to receive NSO information by e-mail.

Title, Initial and Surname (Printed clearly)

as you would like it to appear listed in programmes.

Post Address and Postcode

Email Address

Phone Number

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Please clip and return to: Sian Bunker, 439 The Manor, Billing Garden Village, The Causeway, Great Billing, Northampton NN3 9EX



Musical Directors of the NSO

William Bonner	1893 - 1922
R. Richardson-Jones	1922 - 1951
Oswald Lawrence	1951 - 1959
Robert Joyce	1959
John Bertalot	1959 - 1964
Graham Mayo	1964 - 1985
Clive Fairbairn	1985 - 1990
Christopher Fifield	1990 - 1997
Leon Gee	1997 - 2000
Graham Tear	2000 - 2008
Alexander Walker	2008 - 2014
John Gibbons	2015 - Present



Leaders of the NSO

J. Dickens	1893 - 1902
J. Jackson	1902 - 1922
H. Payne	1922 - 1933
Leslie Heggs	1940 - 1956
Tina Faulkner	1940 - 1956
Leonard Andrews	1964 - 1970
Norah Jones	1970 - 1984
Trevor Dyson	1984 - 2014
Stephen Hague	2014 - Present





www.nso.org.uk



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Registered Charity, No.265052

Please note, while the NSO will always endeavour to present concerts as advertised; concert programmes, venues, prices, and soloists are subject to change.