

**Concert  
Season  
2018/19**



**The Midlands' leading  
non-professional orchestra**

# **Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra**



***Birmingham What's On* readers'  
Best Orchestra in the Midlands  
2018**

**Music Director and Principal  
Conductor** Michael Lloyd  
**Patron** Peter Donohoe CBE

## War and Peace

Marking the centenary of the Armistice that ended the Great War. Berg's opera draws on the insanity of military life, and Vaughan Williams' symphony reflects on the war from the perspective of the subsequent peace. Two movements from Holst's most famous work need no further introduction.

**Holst** The Planets: Mars, The Bringer of War  
**Berg** Wozzeck: Three Symphonic Fragments  
**Holst** The Planets: Venus, The Bringer of Peace  
**Vaughan Williams** Pastoral Symphony

**Michael Lloyd** Conductor  
**Natasha Day** Soprano

**Elgar Concert Hall, University of Birmingham**  
Sunday 7th October 2018, 3.00 pm

## The Year 1905

Tchaikovsky's work recalls the year that the Russians turned Napoleon's army back, and Shostakovich commemorates the early Russian revolution that presaged the later Soviet one. Khatchaturian's suite of music for a play is rightly familiar in concert halls today.

**Tchaikovsky** Overture, The Year 1812  
**Khatchaturian** Masquerade (Suite)  
**Shostakovich** Symphony No 11 (The Year 1905)

**Michael Lloyd** Conductor

**Elgar Concert Hall, University of Birmingham**  
Sunday 16th December 2018, 3.00 pm



Like our Facebook page  
**Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra**



Follow us on Twitter  
**@BPOBirmingham**



Follow us on Instagram  
**Philharmonic Orchestra of Brum**

## Movie Night

We present to you a musical journey with your favourite film soundtracks, featuring music from Star Wars, ET, Back to the Future, The Mission, The Magnificent Seven, Independence Day, Beauty and the Beast and more!

As a special treat, the BPO will be performing a 1 hour, family friendly concert at the Elgar Concert Hall - keep an eye on the BPO website for details of some special events at this concert....

**Richard Laing** Conductor  
**Samantha Ward** Piano

**Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury**  
Sunday 3rd February 2019, 6.30pm  
**Elgar Concert Hall**  
Sunday 10th February 2019, 3.00 pm (family concert)  
Sunday 10th February 2019, 6.30 pm

## Classic and Romantic

Stravinsky was inspired by the model of Beethoven when writing his symphony, while arch-Romantic Brahms was also wedded to Classical models. Mendelssohn's overture is after a play by Victor Hugo.

**Mendelssohn** Overture, Ruy Blas  
**Stravinsky** Symphony in C  
**Brahms** Symphony No 2 in D major

**Michael Lloyd** Conductor

**St Mary's Church, Cleobury Mortimer**  
Sunday 24th March 2019, 7.30 pm  
**Elgar Concert Hall, University of Birmingham**  
Sunday 31st March 2019, 3.00 pm

Cover photo: Michael Lloyd and the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra, 2017  
Inside picture: A poppy field, Flanders

## Mahler's Fifth

Few composers wrote for the mezzo-soprano voice as effectively as Mahler, and his set of five songs reflects on themes of love and loss. His fifth symphony, with its famous *Adagietto*, journeys from doom to triumph.

**Mahler** Rückert Lieder  
**Mahler** Symphony No 5 in C sharp minor

**Michael Lloyd** Conductor  
**Ida Ränzlow** Mezzo-soprano

**Priory Church, Leominster**  
Sunday 9th June 2019, 7.30pm  
**Elgar Concert Hall, University of Birmingham**  
Sunday 16th June 2019, 3.00 pm

## Choral Adventures

With **City of Birmingham Choir**

**Elgar** The Dream of Gerontius

His masterpiece, based on the poem by Cardinal John Henry Newman.

**Adrian Lucas** Conductor  
**Kathryn Rudge** Mezzo-soprano  
**David Butt Philip** Tenor  
**Morgan Pearce** Baritone

**Town Hall, Birmingham**  
Sunday 25th November 2018, 2.30 pm

With **Brierley Hill and Halesowen Choral Societies**

**Mendelssohn** St Paul

The predecessor to *Elijah* as a grand oratorio, now not as frequently heard, but no less impressive in scale.

**Rory Freckleton** Conductor

**Ruskin Glasshouse Theatre, Stourbridge**  
Saturday 13th April 2019, 7.30 pm



# Ticket prices and booking details

## **Elgar Concert Hall, The Bramall, University of Birmingham**

Ticket £16 (adults), £14 (concessions), £6 (children), £35 (families) (plus a £1.25 booking fee on every ticket) available from <https://thebramall.co.uk/>, call 0121 414 4414. Also on the door on the day of the concert or from BPO members

## **Town Hall, Birmingham**

Tickets £28, £21 and £12.50 (concessions available) inclusive of commission, available from <https://www.thsh.co.uk/event/city-of-birmingham-choir-dream-of-gerontius>, call 0121 780 3333

## **Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury**

Tickets £20 including venue levy, reductions apply for groups, concessions, students/U16 and families, available from the theatre, [www.theatresevern.co.uk/shows/whatson/](http://www.theatresevern.co.uk/shows/whatson/), tel 01743 281281.

## **St Mary's Church, Cleobury Mortimer**

Tickets £17 including interval drink and programme, contact Angela Drennan (01299 270636) or Alec Osbaldiston (01584 891351)

## **Ruskin Glasshouse Theatre, Stourbridge**

Tickets £10 available in advance from members of the Brierley Hill Choral Society committee or ring 01384 830661. Please visit <http://www.brierley-hill-choral-society.org.uk> for further information

## **Priory Church, Leominster**

Ticket prices and booking details TBA. Please visit BPO website for details.

**Tickets for many concerts are available direct from the Orchestra. For enquiries, please email [tickets@bpo.org.uk](mailto:tickets@bpo.org.uk)**

*Programme details and ticket prices may be subject to change without notice. E&OE*

# **Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra**

**"... the equal of most on the professional scene."**

**Birmingham Post, March 2017**

Founded in 1941 to raise money for war charities, the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra received its present title in 1947. Since then the Orchestra has gone on to become the leading non-professional orchestra in the Midlands and has entertained many thousands of music lovers during over 75 years of history. It draws its members from all walks of life throughout the West Midlands. For most of them, playing in the BPO is a recreational activity, but for others it is a stepping stone in their musical careers.

Under the baton of Music Director and Principal Conductor Michael Lloyd, the BPO has completed its long-term cycle of the symphonies of Mahler, has explored the music of Elgar in some depth, and has diversified into ballet and opera, including performances of complete acts of works by Tchaikovsky and Wagner.

The Orchestra is based in the Bramall Music Building at the University of Birmingham, where it rehearses for its regular concerts, given every couple of months at venues in Birmingham and elsewhere across England. The BPO has performed regularly at Symphony Hall and Town Hall in Birmingham as well as some of England's great cathedrals and concert halls, and has been a mainstay of the Leominster Festival since its inception in 1980.

## **Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra**

71 Springfield Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, West Midlands B14 7DU

**T** 07759 186198 **E** [info@bpo.org.uk](mailto:info@bpo.org.uk)

**W** [www.bpo.org.uk](http://www.bpo.org.uk)

*If you would like to hire the BPO to perform, or to discuss any aspects of our future plans and programmes, please contact our Concert Manager on the email above*

**The BPO is registered charity No. 500654**