

Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra

"one of the best non-professional orchestras in the land"

Founded in the early years of the second world war to raise money for war charities, the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra received its present title in 1941. It retained its vigour at the cessation of hostilities and remains one of the country's leading large non-professional symphony orchestras, drawing its members from all walks of life throughout the West Midlands. For most of its members music is a form of relaxation, but for others it is a stepping stone in their musical careers.

The orchestra has been based at the Birmingham Conservatoire since 1993. It rehearses there on Sundays between September and June, giving concerts every 7-8 weeks in the Conservatoire's Adrian Boult Hall. Six or seven concerts a year are given at other venues in the West Midlands. The BPO has also performed regularly at Symphony Hall and Town Hall Birmingham as well as some of England's great cathedrals, and has been a mainstay of the Leominster Festival since its inception in 1980. For more information, visit our website (www.bpo.org.uk), email info@bpo.org.uk, or call us on 0121 689 2835.

Michael Lloyd Music Director

Michael Lloyd first conducted the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra in 1985 and became Music Director and Principal Conductor in 1994. Born in Worcestershire, he studied at the Birmingham School of Music, the University of East Anglia and the Royal College of Music. His conducting career has encompassed opera, ballet, symphony concerts and West End musicals. Michael teaches regularly in the opera schools of the Royal College of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and was an Advisor to the OperaGenesis programme at the Royal Opera House for the duration of its existence from 2006-2009.



From September 2009 - January 2010 Michael was engaged at the Opera House in Magdeburg, Germany, for a new production of "Orpheus in the Underworld" and a variety of ballets. He has now been appointed Principal Guest Conductor there.

Michael is also the Music Director of Chandos Symphony Orchestra, Malvern.



Ticket Prices and Booking Details



Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham

Tickets £13 (£10 concessionary, £8 students/children), book online via www.oxboffice.com*, or direct from the orchestra (www.bpo.org.uk).
* (£1 postage and administration charge for online bookings).

St John's, Smith Square

Ticket prices on application, tel 020 7222 1061, or book online via <https://www.sjss.org.uk>*,
For further information visit <http://www.sjss.org.uk> (£1 postage and administration charge for online bookings).

All Saints Church, Leamington Spa

Tickets £13 (Concessions £12, Students £5, 16 & under £2), available at the door and from members of the Choir, Presto Classical, Park Street, Leamington Spa, Kenilworth Books, Talisman Square, Kenilworth, or enquiries via choir website www.wkcs.org

Town Hall Birmingham (December)

Tickets £25, £20, £15 and £10, tel 0121 780 3333 or book online via www.thsh.co.uk *
Family tickets available, details on application.
* (£2 postage and administration charge for online bookings).



Sutton Coldfield Town Hall

For tickets and other information contact Bill Stableford, tel 0121 308 4126.

Lichfield Cathedral

Tickets £13 (£10 concessionary, £8 students/children), book online via www.oxboffice.com*, or direct from the orchestra (www.bpo.org.uk) or from the Cathedral shop
* (£1 postage and administration charge for online bookings).

St Peter Church, Sudbury

Tickets £10 reserved and £8 unreserved, tel 01787 881160.

Priory Church, Leominster

Tickets £12 (£5 under 18), from the Tourist Information Centre, 1 Corn Square, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 8LR, tel 01568 616460. For further details visit <http://www.leominster-festival.co.uk>

Tickets for all concerts are usually available direct from the orchestra. For enquiries, please email tickets@bpo.org.uk.

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

Music Director Michael Lloyd
Patron Peter Donohoe CBE



Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra



70th Anniversary Concert Season 2011/12

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

1: Mahler's 6th Symphony

Mahler's epic work, sometimes seen as his "tragic" symphony, with its seemingly fateful hammer-blows in its finale. Premonitions of events to come in his life, or just a rhetorical device? You decide. Meanwhile, Haydn's much smaller symphony makes good use of the fine team of horns that he had at the time.

Haydn: Symphony No 31 (Hornsignal)

Mahler: Symphony No 6 in A minor

Conductor: **Michael Lloyd**

St John's, Smith Square:

Sunday 16th October, 3.00 pm

Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham:

Sunday 23rd October, 3.00 pm

2: Christmas Treats

A joint concert with the City of Birmingham Choir, this concert will feature Christmas favourites, carols and other seasonal items.

Humperdinck: Overture, Hansel and Gretel

Tchaikovsky: Nutcracker Suite (Excerpts)

Finzi: In Terra Pax

Gardner: Tomorrow shall be my Dancing Day

Arr. Rathbone: Silent Night

Plus Christmas carols and additional choral items

Conductors: **Adrian Lucas and Michael Lloyd**

Town Hall, Birmingham:

Sunday 18th December, 7.30 pm

3: Mahler's 10th Symphony

Mahler's last, unfinished symphony, composed in the final months of his life, has his anguish at his wife's affair with architect Walter Gropius, and his own imminent mortality shining through its pages.

Mahler: Symphony No 10 in F sharp major
(Performing version prepared by Deryck Cooke)

Conductor: **Michael Seal**

Lichfield Cathedral: Saturday 18th February, 7.30 pm

Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham:

Sunday 26th February, 3.00 pm

4: Rachmaninov and More

Liadov shows his mastery of descriptive colour in two short pieces. Wagner gives us both the beginning and the very end of his tale of love and betrayal, while Rachmaninov's most expansive symphony shows his gift for drama and melody at every turn.

Liadov: Kikimora

Liadov: The Enchanted Lake

Wagner: Prelude and Liebestod (Tristan and Isolde)

Rachmaninov: Symphony No 2 in E minor

Conductor: **Richard Laing**

St Peter Church, Sudbury: Sunday 15th April, 3.00 pm

(Promoted by the Friends of St Peter)

Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham:

Sunday 22nd April, 3.00 pm

5: Now We Are 70

A selection marking the BPO's 70th anniversary as we remember patrons and conductors from our history plus Dvořák's last and best-loved symphony – a fitting finale to a concert season.

Arnold: Overture, Tam O'Shanter

Delius: Brigg Fair

Holst: Egdon Heath

Walton: Spitfire Prelude and Fugue

Dvořák: Symphony No 9 (From the New World)

Conductor: **Michael Lloyd**

Priory Church, Leominster: Sunday 10th June, 7.30pm

(Promoted by the Leominster Festival)

Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham:

Sunday 17th June, 3.00 pm

The Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra

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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 a registered charity, No. 500654

Special Events

The BPO with Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society

Mendelssohn's Elijah

Mendelssohn's dramatic telling of the Biblical narrative.

Conductor: **Andrew Jones**

Soloists: **Rachel Little** (soprano), **Joyce Tindsley** (mezzo-soprano), **George Bartle** (tenor), **Jolyon Didgson** (bass-baritone)

All Saints Parish Church, Leamington Spa:

Saturday 19th November, 7.30 pm

Birmingham Community Foundation Christmas Prom

The BPO Concert Band in a night of Christmas celebrations, plus evergreen favourites from the traditional prom finale.

Conductor: **Mike Syrett**

With the Choir of St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton *Peter Morris, Director*

Town Hall Birmingham:

Thursday 1st December, 8.00 pm

The BPO Concert Band Presents ...

A selection of favourites from the wind band repertoire. To include:

Shostakovich: Festival Overture

John Williams (arr. Paul Lavender): Viktor's Tales; Raiders' March; Superman March

Conductor: **Mike Syrett**

Sutton Coldfield Town Hall:

Sunday 29th January, 7.30 pm

(Promoted by Sutton Town Hall Users)