



RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

A Festive Celebration

New Auditorium
Glasgow Royal Concert Hall
Sun 14 Dec 2025 2pm

Caird Hall, Dundee
Sun 21 Dec 2pm

Christmas by train

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A Festive Celebration

New Auditorium, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall Sun 14 Dec 2025 2pm

Caird Hall, Dundee Sun 21 Dec 2pm

No music says 'It's Christmas' quite like the bright shining sound of a brass ensemble – unless it's carols from a choir in full, joyous, festive voice. Put the two together and the result is an afternoon of seasonal magic! Join the RSNO's Brass Ensemble, RSNO Chorus and RSNO Chorus Academies for a celebration of some of your favourite festive melodies.

Stephen Doughty Conductor

RSNO Brass Ensemble

RSNO Chorus (*Glasgow only*)

RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow (*Glasgow only*)

Aimee Toshney Director, RSNO Chorus Academy

RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee (*Dundee only*)

Laura McFall Director, RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee



The Dundee concert is supported by Leisure and Culture Dundee, Leng Charitable Trust, Northwood Charitable Trust and Tay Charitable Trust.

If viewing these notes at the concert, please do so considerately and not during performances.

Please silence all mobile telephones and alerts, and refrain from taking photographs, without flash, until the end of each piece.

Keep in touch with the RSNO



rsno.org.uk

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Scottish Company No. 27809 Scottish Charity No. SC010702

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A Festive Celebration

ANDERSON arr. ARNOLD

A Christmas Festival

TRADITIONAL arr. CABLE

Ding Dong Merrily on High

TRADITIONAL arr. WILLCOCKS

O Come, All Ye Faithful

TCHAIKOVSKY arr. SEIPP

March and ***Russian Dance*** from *The Nutcracker Suite*

FRENCH CAROL arr. WELLS

Whence is that Goodly Fragrance Flowing?

DEDRICK arr. COLETTI

The Angel Choir and the Trumpeter

TRADITIONAL arr. DOUGHTY

Mary Had a Baby

TRADITIONAL arr. IVESON

A Carol Fantasy

GRUBER arr. HARVEY

Silent Night

HANDEL arr. HENDERSON

Joy to the World

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!*

God of God, Light of Light,
lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created;

O come, let us adore Him ...

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore Him ...

RSNO BRASS ENSEMBLE

TRUMPET

Christopher Hart
Juliette Murphy

HORN

Martin Murphy

TROMBONE

Cillian Ó Ceallacháin

TUBA

John Whitener



RSNO Chorus



The RSNO Chorus performs in around six different programmes in up to 20 concerts across Scotland with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra each year. The RSNO Chorus has also had great success in recording with the Orchestra. Its recordings, among others, of Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky*, conducted by Neeme Järvi, and Holst's *The Planets*, conducted by David Lloyd-Jones, have both attracted high critical acclaim.

In addition to its commitment to the Orchestra, the RSNO Chorus performs independently and has been invited to perform with orchestras in many parts of the world, establishing an international status and touring to Copenhagen, Hong Kong, Israel, Germany, Belfast, Australia, Trondheim, Amsterdam, Prague and, most recently, Budapest. In 2018 it performed Britten's *War Requiem* with the RSNO at the BBC Proms.

The RSNO Chorus evolved from a choir formed in 1843 to sing the first full performance of Handel's *Messiah* in Scotland. Today it is one of the most successful choruses in the UK. In recent years it has performed practically every work in the standard choral repertoire along with contemporary works by renowned composers, including John Adams, Magnus Lindberg, Howard Shore and, most recently, the critically acclaimed Scottish Premiere of Sir James MacMillan's *Christmas Oratorio*.

The RSNO Chorus is directed by Stephen Doughty, who was appointed to the role at the start of the 2022:23 Season.

SOPRANO 1

Alison Blair
Alison Pryce-Jones
Caroline Cradock
Catherine Taylor
Charlotte McKechnie
Heather Keating
Joanna Beaton
Joanna Webster
Karman Leung
Morag Kean
Morven MacDonald
Roberta Yule
Sarah Greer

SOPRANO 2

Amelie Masters
Beth Kean
Eleanor Gaskell
Elspeth Waugh
Jenny Cheung
Judith Pexton
Kate Adams
Laura Gorman
Leila Inglis
Lorna Robertson
Lynsey Brook
Lynsey Scott
Margaret Mills
Ruby Ginoris
Sally Sandground

ALTO 1

Ailie MacDougall
Angela McDonald
Anne Browning
Anne Murphy
Anne Thies
Brenda Williamson
Catriona Eadie
Esther McMillan
Julia Haddow
Julia King
June Thomas
Laura Macdonald
Lauren Hadley
Linda McLauchlan
Louise Reid
Mary Taylor
Maureen McCroskie
Marita McMillan
Olivia Howe Gillespie
Ruth Townsend
Sophy Ying
Uta Engelbrecht

ALTO 2

Alison Bryce
Ann Firth
Anne Newlands
Carol Leddy
Denny Henderson
Eleanor McLaren
Elizabeth Scobie
Elizabeth Stevenson
Gillian Downie
Jane Stansfield
Janette Morrison
Moirra Allingham
Sonja Crossan

TENOR 1

Andrew Clifford
David Miller
Nathan Dunsmore

TENOR 2

Cosma Gottardi
George Lloyd
Graham Parsonage
John Harvey
Kerr Noble
Robert Paterson

BASS 1

Andrew Matheson
Ian MacKay
Ian Mills
Martin Engelbrecht
Martin Waddell
Peter McMahon
Peter Saunders

BASS 2

Alan Maxwell
Chris Morris
Graeme Simpson
John MacLellan
Melvyn Davies
Stephen Lipton
Stewart Macfarlane
Tim Reilly
Tristan Stewart-Robertson

RSNO CHORUS DIRECTOR

Stephen Doughty

RSNO CHORUS VOCAL COACH

Polly Beck

RSNO CHORUS REHEARSAL PIANIST

Edward Cohen



RSNO Chorus Academies

Part of the RSNO's community singing strand, the RSNO Chorus Academy was originally formed in Glasgow in 2015. Open to all and unauditioned, the choir is designed to encourage singers to build their confidence in all aspects of singing, including choral techniques and musicianship. Inspired by the success of RSNO Chorus Academy in Glasgow,

in 2023 a sister choir was formed in Dundee. Now welcoming over 150 singers each week, the RSNO Chorus Academies in Glasgow and Dundee are led by Aimee Toshney and Laura McFall respectively. The RSNO Chorus Academies perform with the RSNO and RSNO Chorus as well as at their own showcases.

RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow

SOPRANO 1

Agnes Wypych
Andrea Nelson
Anne Livingstone
Christine Copeland
Grace Baxter
Heather Ferguson
Jackie McNamara
Jan Smith
Lynn Kennedy
Margaret Kingsley
Martina Boyce
Mary Weepie
Nadia Reilly
Nikola March
Viktoriya Sheikh

SOPRANO 2

Daria van Vliet
Elizabeth Irvine
Gillian Harkness-McKinlay
Irene Hastings
Jennifer Macdonald
Lynn Curran
Margaret Corrigan
Maureen Sinclair
Morag Buchanan
Pauline Buchanan
Sue Fraser

ALTO 1

Alison Yacoubian
Anne Marie Simpson
Catherine Macdonald
Catriona Hunter
Elizabeth Sherry
Heather Fuller
Julie Morrison
Kirstie McLean
Mary Robertson
Maureen Denham
Polly Ewart
Rosalind Mellon
Shona Halley
Siân Malyon

ALTO 2

Aileen Robertson
Antje Cammisar
Biddy Ramsay
Christine Davidson
Debbie Connor
Donna Mackenzie
Fiona Marshall
Gwen Stokes
Keziah Nyam Jim
Margaret Tarbert
Marie McDougall
Moira McArthur
Morag McQuade
Susan Futter

TENOR 1

David Lightbody
Kathryn Yuile
Lea Cramsie
Ruth Murray

TENOR 2

Robert Arbuckle

BASS 1

Martin Halleron
Robin Ewart
Simon Munro

BASS 2

Andrew Winter
Bob Leslie
Christian Marney
Laurence Reilly
Niahmat Ullah
Peter Stott
Stephen Kennedy

REHEARSAL PIANIST

Hebba Benyaghla





RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee

SOPRANO 1

Davina Gray
Elizabeth Shearer
Fiona Cameron
Heather Miller
Jan Clarkson
Maria Miller
Marta Reis
Rebecca Paavola
Ruth Macdonald
Shonagh Morrison
Susan Eccles

SOPRANO 2

Carolyn Gibson
Debbie Dyer
Denise Hill
Elaine Selbie
Erica Murray
Gillian Smith
Gwen Boswell
Helen Davie
Irene Hill
Joan Chynoweth
Kay Pratt
Kat Fox
Linda Hamilton
Liz Crawford
Margaret Henry
Sandra Brown
Shirley Graham
Susan Carmichael
Sylvia Adams
Teresa Little

ALTO 1

Abigail Lyons
Amanda Parker
Anna Young
Anne Jordan
Dorothy Duncan
Helen Forbes
Jenni Dorward
Karen Johnstone
Karen Urquhart
Kate Keillor
Maureen Keith
Maureen McKeown
Morag Sutherland
Norma Taylor
Pauline Dolan
Susan Rees
Valerie Gauld
Vivienne Adams

ALTO 2

Amy Knighton
Anne Lindsay
Barbara Vettraino
Bernie Arnott
Caroline Boyd
Charlotte Petty
Christine Mulherron
Donna Morrison
Eileen Holmes
Fiona Anderson
Jacquie Anderson
Jay Knezovic
Jemma Toller
Jenny Fitzpatrick
Johanne Phillips
Lindsay Crosbie
Lisbeth Thoms

Maureen Miller
Morag Ward
Pat Fegen
Sonia Morrison
Sue Jarvis

TENOR 1

Andrew Wight
Anne Tavendale
Christopher Hill
Emily Hanover
Graham Overton
Lucy Wakefield
Mairi Fraser
Maureen Gilchrist
Richard Kelly
Robert Henry
Susan Taylor

TENOR 2

John Parry
Sandra Savage
Susie Schofield

BASS 1

Doug Stirling
Kenny Mckaig
Mark Phillips
Pauline Martin
Stewart Fyffe

BASS 2

Andy Hall
Frank Carey
Stuart Miller

REHEARSAL PIANIST

Euan Gow

Stephen Doughty

Director, RSNO Chorus



Stephen particularly enjoys working with amateur singers, not least leading regular singing days frequently involving up to 800 amateur singers. He was Musical Director of Edinburgh Bach Choir for seven years and has enjoyed directing the Garleton Singers for over 30 years, performing with them recently at the Lammermuir Festival.

Stephen plays harpsichord/organ continuo and orchestral piano and has given frequent organ recitals, including several on the grand Mulholland Organ in the Ulster Hall, Belfast. He is also in demand as an arranger and orchestrator, with a large portfolio of work particularly for young voices. He has produced a plethora of arrangements of the music of pianist Christopher Norton, including two publications of piano duets and a suite for wind sextet, and has received commissions from Children's Classic Concerts, the Ulster Orchestra and the RSNO. Commissions from the BBC have seen his work being performed on BBC Alba and at the Last Night of the Proms, and his pieces feature on several recordings, including with the RSNO Chorus.

Stephen is an Examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

Stephen Doughty has been Chorus Director of the RSNO Chorus since the start of the 2022:23 Season. Since his arrival the Chorus has seen an influx of new members, and an abundance of varied and critically acclaimed performances, including Verdi's *Requiem*, Britten's *War Requiem*, Bruckner's E Minor Mass and the Scottish premiere of Sir James MacMillan's *Christmas Oratorio*. He has also directed the Chorus in new and imaginative programmes in their own right, including Rheinberger's Mass in E flat for double choir, and concerts with percussion and organ featuring Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, the European premiere of McIntyre's *Missa Brevis* and Ives' final major choral work, *Psalm 90*.

Stephen's previous 12-year tenure as Chorus Master of Belfast Philharmonic Choir included a number of world premieres, most significantly James Whitbourn's *The Seven Heavens* and Philip Hammond's *Requiem for the Lost Souls of the Titanic*, performed exactly 100 years since the liner went down, and further European premieres of both Stuart Scott's *Requiem Brevis*, which saw the 100-strong choir separated into eight choirs spaced around the audience, and Christopher Marshall's *Earthsong*.

Laura McFall

Director, RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee



Laura is a distinguished musician, educator and choral leader known for her commitment to advancing vocal and music education.

She holds a Master's

degree in Vocal Performance from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, where she studied with Wilma MacDougall, and was a semi-finalist in both the Charles Wood and Mozart singing competitions. While at college, she was awarded prestigious scholarships including the South Square Trust, Mario Lanza Trust and McGlashan Trust Award. Laura has performed widely with organisations including Live Music Now, Westbourne Music Society and National Galleries Scotland.

A skilled Kodály practitioner, singing teacher and choral director, Laura also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from the RCS. Her varied teaching and choral delivery experience includes roles with Sistema Scotland, RCS Juniors and Seniors, the National Youth Choirs of Scotland, Northern Ireland and Great Britain, Dunedin Consort and East Renfrewshire Music Service. She now serves as Head of Primary Music at Jordanhill School, and Musicianship Lecturer at the RCS. Laura is also in demand as a freelance singing workshop leader and most recently led a Primary Big Sing with over 900 children at the Derry Choral Festival 2025.

A passionate advocate for the wellbeing benefits of singing, Laura champions the belief that everyone can sing and share in its joy. Her inclusive approach and dedication to choral leadership continue to inspire communities across the UK. As a result of her passion and commitment, she has started her own business, Singing Threads, focusing on day-long retreat workshops in Glasgow and Dundee, which creatively intertwine Gaelic song, weaving and singing for wellbeing.

Aimee Toshney

Director, RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow



Scottish classical and traditional musician Aimee graduated from Glasgow University (MA 1st class Hons, MMus Musicology), the Royal Northern College of Music

(MMus with Distinction) and English National Opera's Opera Works programme.

Solo performance highlights include Mozart's Requiem with the RSNO Chorus, the title role in *Carmen* for an audience of over a thousand at Chiswick House, London, Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* alongside Dame Felicity Lott, and performances in Canberra (British High Commission), Auckland Town Hall, London Coliseum, National Opera House (Ireland) and on Scottish television.

An accomplished educator and animateur, Aimee has also directed, taught and consulted for the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, National Girls' Choir, National Youth Choir of Scotland, Luminate, Edinburgh International Festival, MENSA, Jessie's Fund, Citizens Theatre, Scottish Association for Music Education, Sistema Scotland, RSNO Youth Chorus and ISM Trust for Education.

Awards include an Evening Times Community Champion Award for dementia projects and the J M Barrie Action for Children's Arts Members' Award (Discovering Lieder project, Leeds Lieder).



RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
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Handel's Messiah

FRI 2 JAN 2026: 3pm
GLASGOW ROYAL
CONCERT HALL

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SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
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Come and Sing Carmina Burana

SATURDAY 24 JANUARY 2026
GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL

Participant session 10.30am-5.30pm Public concert 7.30pm

Whether you're a choral society regular or only ever sing in the shower, absolutely everyone is welcome to join in. Spend the day rehearsing under the expert guidance of RSNO Chorus Director Stephen Doughty, before putting on a performance of *Carmina Burana* accompanied by Scotland's National Orchestra.

Participation (£28) and audience (£15) tickets are available to book online at rsno.org.uk

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