

RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

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RSNO Christmas
Concert featuring

The Snowman

Presented by **Josie Long**

Music Hall, Aberdeen

Wed 17 Dec 2025 6.30pm

RSNO Christmas Concert featuring *The Snowman*

Welcome to the RSNO's Christmas Concert for an extra-special feast of Yuletide cheer! This family-friendly concert is packed with your favourite sing-along carols and festive melodies, including *The Penguin Song* and *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. And of course there's the enchanting film *The Snowman*, shown on the big screen, accompanied by the Orchestra and narrated by our star guest, comedian Josie Long. It's the perfect start to your Christmas!

Stephen Doughty Conductor
Josie Long Presenter
Nuala-Maria McKnight Soloist
Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Christmas Overture

Howard Blake
The Snowman
Narrator: Josie Long
Soloist: Nuala-Maria McKnight

INTERVAL

Leroy Anderson
A Christmas Festival

Traditional (arr. Doughty)
Mary Had a Baby

Philip Lane
Two Pieces from Old Christmas Music
Bring a Torch
Gaudete

Traditional (arr. Doughty)
The Twelve Days of Christmas

Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane (arr. Custer)
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Leroy Anderson
Sleigh Ride

Kevin Stannard (arr. Doughty)
The Penguin Song

Mike Batt
A Christmas Overture

Felix Mendelssohn (arr. Willcocks)
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! The herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.'
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born king.'*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born king.'*

Hail the Heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings;
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born king.'*

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.**

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Josie Long

Presenter



Josie Long is a multi-award-winning comedian, writer, podcaster and film-maker. She is a trailblazer of the UK comedy industry, as the first woman to be nominated three times for the Edinburgh Comedy Award (2010-12). Her nine critically acclaimed tours showcase her unique and powerfully original voice, and have been performed globally to sell-out shows. Her various podcasts and original radio shows have garnered her a worldwide audience of dedicated listeners and multiple awards.

Josie is an avid film-maker, having written and performed in two short films and a full-length feature called *Super November*. She's been on all the TV channels, and has two comedy specials currently streaming; *Cara Josephine* is available on Amazon Prime, and *Something Better* is available on Netflix. Her debut book, a collection of short stories called *Because I Don't Know What You Mean and What You Don't*, was published in 2023.



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Stephen Doughty

Conductor



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*.

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.

Royal Scottish National Orchestra



Formed in 1891 as the Scottish Orchestra, the company became the Scottish National Orchestra in 1950 and was awarded Royal Patronage in 1977. Many renowned conductors have contributed to its success, including Sir John Barbirolli, Walter Susskind, Sir Alexander Gibson, Neeme Järvi, Walter Weller, Alexander Lazarev and Stéphane Denève.

The Orchestra's artistic team is led by Danish conductor Thomas Søndergård, who was appointed Music Director in 2018. In March 2024, Austrian-born conductor, composer and musician Patrick Hahn became the Orchestra's Principal Guest Conductor.

The RSNO is supported by the Scottish Government and is one of the Scottish National Performing Companies. The Orchestra performs across Scotland, including concerts in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Perth and Inverness, and appears regularly at the Edinburgh International Festival and BBC Proms. The RSNO has made recent tours to China and Europe.

The RSNO has a worldwide reputation for the quality of its recordings, receiving a 2020 Gramophone Classical Music Award for Chopin's

Piano Concertos (soloist: Benjamin Grosvenor), conducted by Elim Chan, two Diapason d'Or awards (Denève/Roussel 2007; Denève/Debussy 2012) and eight GRAMMY Award nominations. In recent years, the RSNO has cultivated an international reputation for world-class film, television and videogame soundtrack recording. The Orchestra has recorded for BAFTA-winning series *Silo* (Apple TV) and worked with the likes of GRAMMY Award-winning composer Lorne Balfe on *Life on Our Planet* (Netflix). Other notable titles include *Nuremberg* (Sony Pictures), *Now You See Me: Now You Don't* (Lionsgate), *Horizon: An American Saga* (Warner Bros) and *Star Wars Outlaws* (Ubisoft). The Orchestra records at its bespoke in-house facility in Glasgow.

The RSNO believes that music can enrich lives, and aims to inspire, educate and entertain people throughout Scotland and beyond with its performances, recordings and engagement programmes. Supporting schools, families, young professionals and wider communities, the RSNO delivers high-quality initiatives for all ages and abilities.

On Stage

FIRST VIOLIN

Maya Iwabuchi
LEADER
Shlomy Dobrinsky
ASSOCIATE LEADER
Tamás Fejes
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Patrick Curlett
Caroline Parry
Ursula Heidecker Allen
Elizabeth Bamping
Lorna Rough
Susannah Lowdon
Alan Manson
Liam Lynch
Veronica Marziano
Stewart Webster

SECOND VIOLIN

Emma Oldfield
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Marion Wilson
Jacqueline Speirs
Nigel Mason
Emily Nenniger
Paul Medd
Anne Bünemann
Sophie Lang
Robin Wilson
Kirstin Drew
Colin McKee
Helena Rose

VIOLA

Tom Dunn
PRINCIPAL
Felix Tanner
Asher Zaccardelli
Susan Buchan
Nicola McWhirter
Claire Dunn
Lisa Rourke
Maria Trittinger
Francesca Hunt
Beth Woodford

CELLO

Pei-Jee Ng
PRINCIPAL
Betsy Taylor
Kennedy Leitch
Yuuki Bouterey-Ishido
Rachael Lee
Sarah Digger
Robert Anderson
Gunda Baranauskaitė

DOUBLE BASS

Nikita Naumov
PRINCIPAL
Michael Rae
Moray Jones
Alexandre Cruz dos Santos
Chris Sargeant

FLUTE

Oliver Roberts
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Janet Richardson
PRINCIPAL PICCOLO

OBOE

Adrian Wilson
PRINCIPAL
Henry Clay
PRINCIPAL COR ANGLAIS

CLARINET

Timothy Orpen
PRINCIPAL
Duncan Swindells
PRINCIPAL BASS CLARINET

BASSOON

Jamie Louise White
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Paolo Dutto
PRINCIPAL CONTRABASSOON

HORN

Amadea Dazeley-Gaist
PRINCIPAL
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Martin Murphy

TRUMPET

Christopher Hart
PRINCIPAL
Katie Bannister
Jason Lewis

TROMBONE

Dávur Juul Magnussen
PRINCIPAL
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Alastair Sinclair
PRINCIPAL BASS TROMBONE

TUBA

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PRINCIPAL

TIMPANI

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GUEST PRINCIPAL

PERCUSSION

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Makoto Ozone Piano

Gillian Moore Presenter

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Ravel La valse

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No1

Vaughan Williams Symphony No2

A London Symphony

John Wilson Conductor

Sir Stephen Hough Piano

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THU 23 APR 2026: 7.30pm

Music Hall, Aberdeen

Book online at

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