

RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

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RSNO Christmas
Concert featuring

The Snowman

Presented by **Josie Long**

Glasgow Royal Concert Hall

Sat 20 Dec 2025 6pm

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

Magnus Holden Soloist

RSNO Chorus

Stephen Doughty Director, RSNO Chorus

RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow

Aimee Toshney Director, RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow

Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Christmas Overture

Howard Blake

The Snowman

Narrator: Josie Long

Soloist: Magnus Holden

INTERVAL

Leroy Anderson

A Christmas Festival

Traditional (arr. Doughty)

Mary Had a Baby

Traditional (arr. Moore)

I Saw Three Ships

Leroy Anderson

Sleigh Ride

Traditional (arr. Doughty)

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Adolphe Adam (arr. Battiwalla)
O Holy Night

Mike Batt
A Christmas Overture

Kevin Stannard (arr. Doughty)
The Penguin Song

Traditional (arr. Campbell)
Christmas Carol Fantasy

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
ASSISTANT LEADER
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
Alison Murray
Diana Sheach
David McClenaghan
Martin Murphy

TRUMPET

Christopher Hart
PRINCIPAL
Katie Bannister
Jason Lewis

TROMBONE

Dávur Juul Magnussen
PRINCIPAL
Cillian Ó Ceallacháin
Alastair Sinclair
PRINCIPAL BASS TROMBONE

TUBA

John Whitener
PRINCIPAL

TIMPANI

Tom Hunter
GUEST PRINCIPAL

PERCUSSION

Simon Lowdon
PRINCIPAL
Peter Murch
Stuart Semple

HARP

Pippa Tunnell

KEYBOARD

Lynda Cochrane

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, performing with the MAV Orchestra in the Liszt Academy and Matthias Church, directed by Stephen Doughty. In 2018 it performed Britten's

War Requiem with the RSNO at the BBC Proms, joining the Orchestra again in the Royal Albert Hall in 2024 for Classic FM Live.

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
Becky Ward
Charlotte McKechnie
Mary Fraser
Morag Kean
Morven MacDonald
Roberta Yule
Sarah Greer
Seonaid Eadie

SOPRANO 2

Beth Kean
Carol McLean
Elspeth Waugh
Jenny Cheung
Judith Pexton
Katie Dew
Laura Gorman
Leila Inglis
Lorna Robertson
Lynsey Brook
Mairi Therese Cleary
Miriam MacDonald
Ruby Ginoris
Sally Sandground

ALTO 1

Ailie MacDougall
Angela McDonald
Anne Browning
Anne Murphy
Brenda Williamson
Catriona Eadie
Fiona Taylor
Julia Haddow
Julia King
June Thomas
Laura Macdonald
Lauren Hadley
Marrian Murray
Marita McMillan
Olivia Howe Gillespie
Ruth Townsend
Sophy Ying
Uta Engelbrecht

ALTO 2

Alison Bryce
Ann Firth
Anne Newlands
Denny Henderson
Eleanor McLaren
Elizabeth Scobie
Elizabeth Stevenson
Gillian Downie
Jane Stansfield
Sonja Crossan

TENOR 1

Alex Rankine
Andrew Clifford
David Miller
Nathan Dunsmore

TENOR 2

Calum Lowe
Cosma Gottardi
Graham Parsonage
John Harvey
Laurie Nelson
Robert Paterson
Sandy Eadie

BASS 1

Alistair Laird
Andrew Matheson
Fraser Dalziel
Ian Mackay
Mark Millington
Martin Engelbrecht
Peter Saunders
Robin Watson
Toby Reed

BASS 2

Alan Maxwell
Graeme Simpson
Kenneth Allen
Melvyn Davies
Stephen Lipton
Stewart Macfarlane
Stewart MacMillan
Tim Reilly
Tristan Stewart-Robertson

RSNO CHORUS

DIRECTOR

Stephen Doughty

RSNO CHORUS

VOCAL COACH

Polly Beck

RSNO CHORUS

REHEARSAL

PIANIST

Edward Cohen

RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow



The RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow was formed in November 2015. The group was set up to encourage singers who would like to build their confidence in all aspects of singing, including choral techniques, singing techniques and musicianship, as well as reading a musical score.

The RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow meets at Adelaide Place, is open to all, without audition, and focuses on singing for health and wellbeing.

For more information, visit: rsno.org.uk/project/rsno-chorus-academy/



SOPRANO 1

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

SOPRANO 2

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

ALTO 1

Alison Yacoubian
 Anne Marie Simpson
 Catriona Hunter
 Elizabeth Arbuckle
 Elizabeth Sherry
 Heather Fuller
 Kirstie McLean
 Mary Robertson
 Maureen Denham
 Polly Ewart
 Rosalind Mellon

ALTO 2

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

TENOR

David Lightbody
 Kathryn Yuile
 Lea Cramsie
 Ruth Murray
 Robert Arbuckle

BASS

Andrew Winter
 Bob Leslie
 Christian Marney
 Christopher Daly
 Laurence Reilly
 Martin Halleron
 Niahmat Ullah
 Peter Stott
 Robin Ewart
 Simon Munro
 Stephen Kennedy

**REHEARSAL
PIANIST**

Hebba Benyahla

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 animator, Aimee has also directed, taught and consulted for the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, National Girls' Choir, National Youth Choir of Scotland, Luminare, 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).



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