

**RSNO STRING SEXTET  
WITH  
Lawrence  
Power**

**New Auditorium, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall**  
Sun 4 Oct 2026 2.30pm

Take Brahms at his happiest, add six terrific musicians – including viola sensation Lawrence Power – throw in some glorious tunes and the result is irresistible. But if Brahms' First String Sextet is true musical sunshine, Schoenberg's *Transfigured Night* is deep, velvety darkness. A tale of forbidden love poured out in some of the most sensuous music ever written, this is half an hour of decadence at its most delirious.

**Maya Iwabuchi** Violin 1  
**Shlomy Dobrinsky** Violin 2  
**Lawrence Power** Viola 1  
**Felix Tanner** Viola 2  
**Pei-Jee Ng** Cello 1  
**Betsy Taylor** Cello 2

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.

**Johannes Brahms** (1833-1897)

# String Sextet No1 in B flat Major

Op18

**FIRST PERFORMANCE** Hanover, 20 October 1860

**DURATION** 34 minutes

**1. Allegro ma non troppo**

**2. Andante, ma moderato**

**3. Scherzo: Allegro molto**

**4. Rondo: Poco allegretto e grazioso**

INTERVAL

**Arnold Schoenberg** (1874-1951)

# Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night)

Op4

**FIRST PERFORMANCE** Vienna, 18 March 1902

**DURATION** 30 minutes

## Maya Iwabuchi VIOLIN 1

Maya began violin lessons at the age of two, and since her concert debut at age five, she has enjoyed an international career as a solo violinist, chamber musician, orchestral leader and teacher. Her performances have taken her to the major concert halls of Europe, the Americas, Australia and Asia. Highlights include concertos with the Los Angeles and New York Philharmonic orchestras, Philharmonia Orchestra and RSNO, and performances at the BBC Proms and Edinburgh and Salzburg festivals. She is Artistic Director of the

Hellensmusic Chamber Music Festival. She is regularly invited as guest concertmaster to many European orchestras, and as Leader of the Philharmonia Orchestra from 1994 to 2012, she led for legendary conductors such as Kurt Sanderling, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Riccardo Muti, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Andris Nelsons and Gustavo Dudamel. Maya moved to Scotland in 2010, has served as Leader of the RSNO since 2011, and joined the faculty at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in 2015. Her violin was made by Fabrizio Senta in Turin, c1685.

# Shlomy Dobrinsky

## VIOLIN 2

Shlomy was appointed RSNO Associate Leader in 2025. He was granted the Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Scholarship at the Royal College of Music in London, and later completed a Masters in Performance at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. While a student, he was a prize-winner at the Lipizer International Competition in Italy, UNISA Competition in Pretoria and the Philharmonia/MMSF Concerto Award, which won him an invitation to debut with the Philharmonia Orchestra as a soloist. Shlomy has enjoyed a versatile career as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player, performing at major venues such as the Royal Festival Hall, Wigmore Hall, St John's Smith Square, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Fairfield Halls, Auditorium di Trieste, Windsor Castle, Sheldonian Theatre Oxford and Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club. He was a member of the Philharmonia Orchestra for 11 years and has been guest leader for orchestras including the Metropol (Netherlands), Oxford Philharmonic and London Concert Orchestra. He has performed in ensembles with artists such as Hiromi, Hugh Jackman, Mei Yi Foo and Maiko Mori.

# Lawrence Power

## VIOLA 1

Internationally acclaimed viola player Lawrence Power is widely praised for his richness of sound, technical mastery and advocacy for new music. Heralded by the *New York Times* as 'a musician on a mission to make us pay attention to the viola', Lawrence has advanced the cause of the instrument through outstanding performances as well as through the creation of the Viola Commissioning Circle. This pioneering initiative has inspired a significant body of new repertoire by today's leading composers.

Highlights of Lawrence's 2026/27 season include an Artist Residency at the Barbican Centre, featuring the London premiere of Anders Hillborg's Viola Concerto with the BBC

Symphony Orchestra; *Travellers' Tales*, a cross-arts collaboration with violinist Vilde Frang and creative director Jessie Rodger, bringing together music and film; a play-direct programme with his Collegium Orchestra; and a chamber programme with Ilya Gringolts, Nicolas Altstaedt and EXAUDI, including the UK premiere of Cassandra Miller's *The Years*. Elsewhere, he makes his debut with the RSNO, Orchestre National de Lille, Tonkünstler-Orchester and Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra, marking his Japanese debut. Lawrence returns to the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra for the world premiere of Anna Clyne's Viola Concerto, *Resonant Forms*, followed later in the season by its Australian premiere with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, and performs Brahms' Double Concerto with Nicolas Altstaedt and the Tapiola Sinfonietta and Britten's Double Concerto with Vilde Frang and the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra.

Chamber music highlights include an appearance at Carnegie Hall, and duo recitals with long-standing collaborator Simon Crawford-Phillips in Madrid and Australia. Lawrence also enjoys play-directing from both violin and viola, with recent projects including the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and a three-week tour with the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

# Felix Tanner

## VIOLA 2

Originally from Helensburgh, Felix joined the RSNO in 2022, having previously been a member of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. He studied with John White, Martin Outram and Katherine McGillivray at the Royal Academy of Music. While at the RAM he was awarded the Theodore Holland Viola Prize and the John Ireland, Vivian Dunn and Herbert Craxton prizes for Chamber Music. In 2018 he was appointed an Associate of the RAM. As a chamber musician, Felix was a member of the Badke Quartet before joining the Brodowski Quartet,

with whom he won the Royal Overseas League Competition and the Val Tidone International Chamber Music Competition in Italy. Alongside performing across Europe, the quartet were Chamber Music Fellows at Trinity College of Music and held residences at the Anvil Concert Hall in Basingstoke, Warwick School and Bristol University. Felix has also collaborated with the Allegri, Carducci, Edinburgh and Maxwell quartets, and pianists Susan Tomes and Jeremy Denk.

## Pei-Jee Ng CELLO 1

Australian cellist Pei-Jee joined the RSNO as Principal Cello in 2023. From 2015 to 2022 he was Co-Principal Cello of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. In his debut season with the RSNO he performed Shostakovich's Concerto No1 with Music Director Thomas Søndergård and followed it in the 2024:25 Season with Elena Langer's *The Dong with a Luminous Nose* conducted by Marzena Diakun. Pei-Jee is cellist of the Fournier Trio, winners of the 2013 Parkhouse Award, and 2nd Prize and Audience Prize at the 2011 Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition. His duo collaboration with pianist Chiao-Ying Chang won them the Libero Lana Prize in Trieste in 2011. He began cello studies with Barbara Yelland and Janis Laurs in Adelaide before moving to the UK to study extensively with Hannah Roberts and Ralph Kirshbaum in Manchester. He completed his studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Jo Cole, Sung-Won Yang and Thomas Brandis, receiving the Queen's Commendation for Excellence upon graduation.

## Betsy Taylor CELLO 2

Betsy is Associate Principal Cello of the RSNO, where she has performed since 2000. A graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music and Manchester University's prestigious Joint Course, she studied with Leonid Gorokhov and received masterclasses from Steven Isserlis and Ralph Kirshbaum. Betsy was a finalist in the BBC Young Artists Forum and the Pierre Fournier Award, with performances at London's Wigmore Hall and on BBC Radio 3. Betsy's career has included concerto appearances in the UK and US, collaborations with major orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and English Chamber Orchestra, and solo work on albums by The Divine Comedy and others. A committed chamber musician, she cofounded the Glasgow String Quartet and Earthtones Trio, and she teaches at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Betsy is known for her lyrical playing, musical insight and deep commitment to excellence across the orchestral, solo and chamber repertoire.

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Scottish Company No 27809  
Scottish Charity No SC010702

The RSNO is supported by  
the Scottish Government



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