

RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

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RSNO Christmas
Concert featuring
**The
Snowman**

Presented by **Hugh Dennis**

Music Hall, Aberdeen

Thu 21 Dec 2023 6.30pm

SPONSORED BY



RSNO Christmas Concert featuring *The Snowman*

The RSNO's magical Christmas Concert is packed full of your favourite festive melodies, singalong carols – and the enduringly enchanting film *The Snowman*. Shown on the big screen, it is narrated by special guest star Hugh Dennis and accompanied by the Orchestra, and of course features the wonderful *Walking in the Air*. The RSNO – Scotland's National Orchestra – welcomes you all to this special feast of Christmas cheer!

Neil Ferris Conductor

Hugh Dennis Presenter

Andrew Ross Soloist

Royal Scottish National Orchestra



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.**



Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Christmas Overture Op74, No1

Howard Blake
The Snowman
Narrator: Hugh Dennis
Soloist: Andrew Ross

INTERVAL

Paul Campbell
A Christmas Celebration Overture

Émile Waldteufel
The Skaters' Waltz

James Lord Pierpont (arr. Campbell)
Jingle Bells

Adolphe Adam (arr. Custer)
O Holy Night

Leroy Anderson
Sleigh Ride

Keith Stannard (arr. Doughty)
The Penguin Song (Consider the Penguin)

Traditional (arr. Willcocks)
O Come, All Ye Faithful

Thomas Koschat
Schneewalzer

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

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
Glory to God In the highest:

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

Yes, Lord, we greet thee,
Born that happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

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



Hugh Dennis

Presenter



Hugh Dennis is best known for being in BBC2's hit topical panel show *Mock the Week* and BBC1's hit sitcoms *Outnumbered* and *Not Going Out*.

Hugh began his performing career in 1985, as one half of the double act Punt and Dennis, which led to series such as *Carrott Confidential* for BBC1 and *The Mary Whitehouse Experience*, which won the Sony Award for Best Comedy before transferring from BBC Radio 1 to BBC2, where it achieved instant success and a cult following.

Hugh is a regular voice on the BBC's radio network, both writing and presenting Radio 4's award-winning comedy *The Now Show*.

Hugh's other recent TV credits include *Murder They Hope* (UKTV), *McDonald and Dodds* (ITV), *Scrambled Eggs* (Sky), *Fleabag* (BBC), *Midsomer Murders* (ITV) and *Ballot Monkeys* (Channel 4). His film credits include *Higher Grounds*, *No Time To Die*, *Nativity Rocks* and *All Stars*.

He has also had great success as a presenter for *The Great British Dig* and *Hugh's Huge Homes* on More4.



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Neil Ferris

Conductor



Neil Ferris is Chorus Director of the BBC Symphony Chorus, Artistic Director of the professional chamber choir Sonoro and Music Director of Wimbledon Choral. He made his BBC Proms conducting debut in 2019, celebrating the 90th Anniversary season of the BBC Symphony Chorus with the premiere of Jonathan Dove's specially commissioned piece *We Are One Fire*.

With Sonoro, Neil has appeared at the St Magnus International Festival, Wimbledon International Music Festival and at King's Place in London. In demand as a guest conductor at some of the finest choirs in the UK, Neil has worked with the London Symphony Chorus, Choir of the Age of Enlightenment, BBC Singers, National Youth Choir and National Youth Choir of Wales. In his role as a chorus director, he has prepared choirs for conductors including Marin Alsop, Sir Andrew Davis, Sir Mark Elder, Edward Gardner, Valery Gergiev, Bernard Haitink, Sakari Oramo and Sir Simon Rattle.

Orchestras Neil has conducted include the London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia, RSNO, Welsh National Opera, Ulster Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, London Mozart Players and Orchestra of the Swan. He made his Royal Opera House conducting debut in a production of Will Tuckett's ballet *The Wind in the Willows*.

Formerly Director of Choral Studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Neil is recognised as one of the country's leading teachers of choral conducting and has led masterclasses in the UK, USA, Ireland, Denmark, China and Singapore. In the UK he has been invited to lead masterclasses at the Royal College of Music, Royal Academy of Music and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.

Recordings include an album of the choral music of Jonathan Dove (Naxos), Fauré's Requiem (Convivium) and a regular programme of recordings with Sonoro on the Resonus label. *Christmas with Sonoro* was Christmas album of choice in *BBC Music Magazine*, and followed their debut album *Passion and Polyphony* featuring works by Sir James MacMillan and Frank Martin. Further recordings include two *Choral Inspirations* projects and an album of the choral music of Martin Bussey. Signum has recently released the world premiere recording of Cecilia McDowall's *Da Vinci Requiem* with Wimbledon Choral and City of London Sinfonia.

Royal Scottish National Orchestra



The Royal Scottish National Orchestra is one of Europe's leading symphony orchestras. Formed in 1891 as the Scottish Orchestra, the company became the Scottish National Orchestra in 1950, and was awarded Royal Patronage in 1977. The Orchestra's artistic team is led by Danish conductor Thomas Søndergård, who was appointed RSNO Music Director in 2018.

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 the BBC Proms. The RSNO has made recent tours to the USA, 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. Over 200 releases are available, including Thomas Søndergård conducting Strauss (*Ein Heldenleben*, *Der Rosenkavalier Suite*) and Prokofiev (Symphonies Nos 1 and 5); two discs of African American Voices featuring the music of George Walker; William Levi Dawson, Margaret Bonds and more, conducted by Kellen Gray; the complete symphonies of Sibelius (Gibson), Prokofiev (Järvi), Bruckner (Tintner) and Roussel (Denève); as well as further discs championing the music of William Grant Still (Eisenberg), Xiaogang Ye (Serebrier) and Thomas Wilson (Macdonald).

The RSNO's Engagement strategy, Music for Life, sees the Orchestra work with schools and community groups, connecting its music with the people of Scotland. Since March 2020, the RSNO has created multiple online Engagement programmes and Digital Seasons, ensuring the RSNO continues to bring world-class music to its audiences in Scotland and around the world on stage and on screen.

On Stage

FIRST VIOLIN

Emily Davis
GUEST LEADER
Tamás Fejes
ASSISTANT LEADER
Patrick Curlett
Veronica Marziano
Ursula Heidecker Allen
Caroline Parry
Lorna Rough
Susannah Lowdon
Liam Lynch
Elizabeth Bamping
Alan Manson
Jane Reid

SECOND VIOLIN

Marion Wilson
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Jacqueline Speirs
Anne Bünemann
Harriet Hunter
Sophie Lang
Nigel Mason
Emily Nenniger
Paul Medd
John Robinson
Liz Reeves

VIOLA

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

CELLO

Betsy Taylor
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Kennedy Leitch
Rachael Lee
Sarah Digger
Gunda Baranuaskaitė
Bill Paterson

DOUBLE BASS

Nikita Naumov
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Moray Jones
Alexandre dos Santos
Ben Burnley

FLUTE

Mark Taylor
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Adam Richardson
Janet Richardson
PRINCIPAL PICCOLO

OBOE

Adrian Wilson
PRINCIPAL
Peter Dykes

CLARINET

Timothy Orpen
PRINCIPAL
Duncan Swindells
PRINCIPAL BASS CLARINET

BASSOON

David Hubbard
PRINCIPAL
Paolo Dutto
PRINCIPAL CONTRABASSOON

HORN

Lauren Reeve-Rawlings
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Alison Murray
Andrew McLean
David McClenaghan
Martin Murphy

TRUMPET

Christopher Hart
PRINCIPAL
Ruby Orłowska
Marcus Pope

TROMBONE

Dávur Juul Magnussen
PRINCIPAL
Lance Green
Alastair Sinclair
PRINCIPAL BASS TROMBONE

TUBA

John Whitener
PRINCIPAL

TIMPANI

Paul Philbert
PRINCIPAL

PERCUSSION

Simon Lowdon
PRINCIPAL
John Poulter
Stuart Semple

HARP

Pippa Tunnell

PIANO/CELESTE

Lynda Cochrane



Cirrus Logic is proud to support the RSNO for their 2023-24 season.

Music is ingrained in everything we do at Cirrus Logic, from our culture to our innovative technology. We are delighted to support the arts and give back to the Scottish community by backing the RSNO, a beloved cultural institution that exudes musical excellence in every performance.

Junior Conservatoire Music



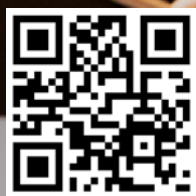
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of Scotland

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RSNO CHRISTMAS PRIZE DRAW

**WIN your family the perfect
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Enter the RSNO Christmas concert prize draw.

The prize includes **family tickets to *The Music of John Williams*** and an **RSNO Classical concert of your choice**, and musical goodies for the whole family including your very own RSNO tote bags, CDs and more.

Entry to the prize draw is by donation. Suggested donation is **£1 per entry**. All money raised will help the RSNO continue its vital work both on stage and off, bringing music to people across Scotland.

Enter the RSNO Christmas prize draw by **scanning the QR code**, visiting **uk.givergy.com/RSNOChristmasPrizeDraw** or by texting **MERRY to 70215**.

The prize draw will close at 11pm Sunday 23 December 2023, and winning ticket will be drawn Wednesday 3 January 2024. Terms and conditions can be found at rsno.org.uk/rsno-christmas-prize-draw.



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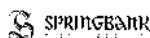
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Royal Scottish National Orchestra

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Royal Scottish National Orchestra
19 Killermont Street
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T: +44 (0)141 226 3868
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Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto No2
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Nicola Benedetti Plays Simpson

Mark Simpson Violin Concerto
(Scottish Premiere & RSNO Co-commission)
Shostakovich Symphony No5

David Afkham Conductor
Nicola Benedetti Violin

MUSIC HALL, ABERDEEN

THURSDAY 21 MAR 2024: 7.30PM

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