

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN TOWN HALL CLASSICS

WEDNESDAY MATINEES THE COMPLETE PERFORMANCE...

Artistic Director, David Curtis

Principal Guest Conductor, Kenneth Woods



WHAT'S THE SCORE?

PRE-CONCERT TALKS IN THE AUDITORIUM

An informal discussion with Christopher Morley, Chief Music Critic, Birmingham Post and David Curtis, Artistic Director - 1.30pm

INFORMAL INTRODUCTIONS FROM THE PODIUM

POST-CONCERT CONVERSATION CLUB

Meet conductor David Curtis, soloists and members of the orchestra in the Lower Bar

THE COMPLETE AFTERNOON

Town Hall is situated in Victoria Square at the top of New Street, right in the heart of Birmingham. Take advantage of your visit and sample the delights of this vibrant city ... Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, many fine restaurants and the Midlands' best shopping are all only a few minutes away



Enjoy the complete performance for less

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£12.50 cons £11.50 £8.50 cons £7.50
Choir Stalls £6.50

A £2 fee per transaction will be charged on all bookings except purchases made in person at Town Hall or Symphony Hall Box Office

Concessions for patrons aged 60 and above.

Box Office: 0121 780 3333
www.thsh.co.uk

TOWN HALL CLASSICS... WEDNESDAY MATINEES

19 October 2011

Summer nights and Schubert's 5th

23 November 2011

The Lark Ascending with Tamsin Waley-Cohen

22 February 2012

Julian Lloyd Webber and Orchestra of the Swan

14 March 2012

Mozart's Clarinet Concerto with Emma Johnson

9 May 2012

Beethoven's Pastoral

6 June 2012

Grieg's Piano Concerto

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ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN

Orchestra of the Swan gratefully acknowledges the support of all our key partners, benefactors and the following organisations.

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ORCHESTRA
OF THE
SWAN



Benjamin Grosvenor
Associate Artist

TOWN HALL CLASSICS
2011-12
Town Hall, Birmingham



TAM SIN
WALEY-COHEN

JULIAN
LLOYD WEBBER

EMMA
JOHNSON

BENJAMIN
GROSVENOR

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*"an excellent orchestra
and conductor"*
BBC Music Magazine

TOWN HALL CLASSICS ... WEDNESDAY MATINEES

Join Orchestra of the Swan for another series of outstanding performances, wonderful music, a beautiful venue, accessible presentation and ... great company!

“an excellent orchestra
and conductor”
BBC Music Magazine

“You won’t hear
much better
than this anywhere”
Classic FM Magazine

“Curtis’s conducting,
if close to Boult’s,
is more intimate, and
slightly more perceptive”
American Record Guide

We are delighted to appoint Benjamin Grosvenor as our Associate Artist at Town Hall Birmingham. Benjamin, who was just 11 when he appeared in the BBC Young Musician of the Year, performed at the First Night of the BBC Proms as its youngest ever soloist on July 15 and has also recently joined Decca as its youngest ever British musician.

He will perform Mozart’s Piano Concerto no21 ‘Elvira Madigan’ on October 19 and future concerts include Beethoven’s Piano Concerto no3 and the Grieg Piano Concerto.

2012-13 is the 50th anniversary of the death of John Ireland and the 150th anniversary of the birth of Delius and both composers appear during the season with Delius’ First Cuckoo in Spring and Summer Night on the River in the opening concert.

Other highlights include Tamsin Waley-Cohen playing Vaughan Williams’ Lark Ascending, Emma Johnson and Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto and our great friend Julian Lloyd Webber returns in February 2012.

Wonderful music, world class soloists, Orchestra of the Swan and the magnificent Town Hall Birmingham: join us for our Town Hall Classics series and you’ll be in great company.

I look forward to seeing you

David Curtis

David Curtis
Artistic Director



Wednesday 19 October 2011 2.30pm

SUMMER NIGHTS AND SCHUBERT'S 5TH

As the days shorten Delius’ wisful and nostalgic First Cuckoo in Spring and Summer nights on the River offer a glance over our shoulder at fading summer memories and provides a suitable overture to Mozart’s masterful Piano Concerto no21 ‘Elvira Madigan’ used to such great effect in the film depicting the enraptured lovers

Delius	On hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring
Delius	Summer Night on the River
Mozart	Piano Concerto no21
Schubert	Symphony no5
Benjamin Grosvenor	piano
David Curtis	conductor

“a vivid sense of an excellent,
up-for-it orchestra and conductor”
BBC Music Magazine

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Wednesday 23 November 2011 2.30pm

THE LARK ASCENDING WITH TAMSIN WALEY-COHEN

Violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen offers a double bill this afternoon with the Classic Fm no1 The Lark Ascending and Vaughan Williams’ Violin Concerto. Two of Elgar’s masterpieces open and close the concert and John Ireland’s beautiful ‘Downland Suite’ will be a revelation to those unfamiliar with this composer

Elgar	Serenade for Strings
Vaughan Williams	The Lark Ascending
Ireland	A Downland Suite
Vaughan Williams	Violin Concerto
Elgar	Introduction and Allegro
Tamsin Waley-Cohen	violin
David Curtis	conductor

“Tamsin Waley-Cohen held us rapt with
daring and undaunted performances”
The Times




Wednesday 22 February 2012 2.30pm

JULIAN LLOYD WEBBER AND ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN

We are delighted to welcome back our great friend Julian Lloyd Webber to play Shostakovich’s first cello concerto. The slow movement is of incomparable beauty and one of the most moving works for cello and orchestra. Tchaikovsky’s Serenade for Strings presents a sunnier side of the Russian soul

Tchaikovsky	Serenade for Strings
Shostakovich	Cello Concerto no1
Mozart	Symphony no41 Jupiter
Julian Lloyd Webber	cello
David Curtis	conductor

Concert Partner 

“Lloyd Webber shared in a heartwarming
collaboration, always alert to the orchestral
musicians and phrasing with telling delicacy”
Birmingham Post

Save 30% on a subscription for all 6 concerts



Wednesday 14 March 2012 2.30pm

MOZART'S CLARINET CONCERTO WITH EMMA JOHNSON

Emma Johnson has become synonymous with this work since winning the BBC Young Musician of the Year and we open the concert with Mozart’s sparkling Divertimento K247 for horns and strings. Tchaikovsky’s Souvenir de Florence reflects the sunlit energy of the city that inspired the work when Tchaikovsky visited Florence in 1890

Mozart	Divertimento K247
Mozart	Clarinet Concerto
Tchaikovsky	Souvenir de Florence
Emma Johnson	clarinet
David Curtis	conductor

Concert Partner RLBI Rider Levett Bucknall

“Emma Johnson transforms herself into an
expressive instrument of sublime beauty”
The Guardian

For tickets and information call 0121 780 3333 or visit www.thsh.co.uk




Wednesday 9 May 2012 2.30pm

BEETHOVEN'S PASTORAL

Benjamin Grosvenor again joins us for Beethoven’s turbulent c minor piano concerto, but this sombre mood will soon be forgotten when we move into nature’s realm and his idyllic Pastoral Symphony. Delius sets the scene with his poetic Song before Sunrise

Delius	A Song before Sunrise
Beethoven	Piano Concerto no3
Beethoven	Symphony no6 Pastoral
Benjamin Grosvenor	piano
David Curtis	conductor

Concert Partner 

“this enthralling performance by David
Curtis and Orchestra of the Swan”
Glasgow Herald



Wednesday 6 June 2012 2.30pm

GRIEG'S PIANO CONCERTO

In our final concert of the season Benjamin Grosvenor returns to perform Grieg’s concerto, made even more popular by Morecambe and Wise, but I’m sure we will have all the right notes in the right places... Grieg and Delius keep us in Nordic mood

Grieg	Peer Gynt Suite no1
Delius	Norwegian Suite
Grieg	Piano Concerto
Benjamin Grosvenor	piano
David Curtis	conductor

“Grosvenor’s performance was so alluring, so alive
to the music’s poetry, and so colourfully detailed.”
Daily Telegraph

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