

The days are getting shorter, the nights are getting darker but there is still so much entertainment to be enjoyed. Welcome to the latest B:Music brochure covering November to January events, the B:Music stages at Town Hall and Symphony Hall are the places to be this Festive season!

Don't miss Grammy Award winning guitarist and composer **Pat Metheny** in an intimate concert like no other. If hilarious Jane Austen improv is more your taste, the all-star cast of **Austentatious** are taking over the Town Hall stage in period costume with live musical accompaniment.

The **Birmingham Classical 2024/25** programme is in full swing with a collection of concerts bringing music to the city from all over the globe.

We have a selection of exciting family shows this Festive season including **The Snowman & The Nutcracker** performed by **Toscana Strings** and **The Tiger Who Came to Tea**. Fancy some film? Catch family favourites **Disney's The Muppet Christmas Carol** and **The Snowman** or re-live iconic films **Love Actually** and **The Holiday** accompanied by a live orchestra in one of the finest concert halls in the world.

In January **Dan & Phil** return to Symphony Hall with their screamingly hilarious live stage show. If that's not enough of a nostalgic kick, check out some of our tribute shows such as

Thank You For The Music and Man In The Mirror.

We hope you'll join us for what promises to be an exciting few months ahead!

Visit **bmusic.co.uk** to find more information on what is coming to Birmingham's Town Hall and Symphony Hall over for the next few months and beyond.

Aled Jones and Russell Watson reunited at Symphony Hall with new recordings of universally beloved Christmas songs from their brand-new album Photo @Paul Dixon

Cover Photo ©lbi Keita

Brochure designed by Louise Gale



Events are made possible thanks to the support of our funders, donors and sponsors.

# B: Eats at Symphony Hall Home of the Brummie Bacon Cake

Following the popularity of our house favourite, and after featuring on the 'Hairy Bikers Christmas Special', our Head Chef, Lee, has developed even more Brummie Bacon (and non-bacon cake) recipes. Available from October 2024!





#### **The Original Brummie Bacon Cake**

Our original Brummie Bacon Cake is a unique flavour sensation – containing traditional ingredients including cheese and bacon. How to eat it? ...we recommend served warm, with lashings of butter and a warm cuppa!

#### **Brummie Butter Chicken Cake**

Made using the original bacon cake recipe – but with chargrilled chicken thighs which have been marinated in a special blend of Indian herbs and spices.

#### **Festive Bacon Cake**

Our festive version is too good not to be eaten all year round! With all the base ingredients of our original, with cranberries and stuffing – it's a real favourite! We truly believe this Bacon Cake is not just for Christmas!

#### **Sundried Tomato and Feta Cake (V)**

The addition of sundried tomatoes and feta cheese make this a delicious alternative to our Brummie Cake range.

#### 'Fake-Un' Cake (VE)

Not to leave our vegan friends out of this taste sensation – this version is vegan friendly made with vegan cheese and plant-based bacon!

#### See our full menu at bmusic.co.uk/beats



## Nov



#### **Legends: The Divas**

Fri 1 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Three icons of music. Six decades of hits. One amazing concert. Celebrate the soundtrack of your life with this brand-new show featuring the music of three of the most acclaimed and beloved divas of modern times – Diana Ross, Whitney Houston, and Beyonce Knowles. Accompanied by a full live band, take a journey through six decades of the trio's biggest hits, along with some very special iconic classics.

#### **Gospel Goes Charity 2024**

Sat 2 Nov | Town Hall | 7PM

Birmingham's award winning and much-loved **Birmingham Community Gospel Choir** is back again for an evening of great gospel and inspirational songs that will cheer the heart.



### **An Evening with Lucinda Light**

Sat 2 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

An expert in emotional intelligence (EQ), **Lucinda** will greet the audience with her toolkit of grounding exercises, before speaking about her experiences on 'Married At First Sight Australia', and crucially what she learnt throughout her time on the show.

#### **Everybody Dance with Claire Richards**

Sun 3 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Join **Steps** superstar, **Claire Richards**, for the ultimate discoparty, Everybody Dance! This brand-new sparkling concert tour features the greatest dance and discohits of all time. Sing, dance and party with our sensational company of dynamic dancers, dazzling vocalists and pop royalty, Claire Richards.



#### The Stylistics

Mon 4 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**The Stylistics** are known instantly for their many recognisable hits such as the Grammy nominated 'You Make Me Feel Brand New' plus numerous classics including 'Can't Give You Anything (But My Love), 'Let's Put it All together', 'Stop Look Listen', 'You are Everything', 'Betcha by Golly Wow', 'Sing Baby Sing' and more.



#### Gareth Malone: Sing-Along-a-Gareth

Mon 4 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Sing-Along-A-Gareth: My Life Through Song delves into the heart and soul of Gareth's musical journey. Warm up your pipes and have your song sheets ready, as the time has come to lift our voices once again. Featuring a captivating blend of biography and music, the show offers a fusion of iconic songs from the 60s right up to today, cherished photographs and unforgettable memories. Get ready to laugh, dance and sing along like never before.

#### **Max Richter**

Tue 5 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Max Richter is one of the most influential and acclaimed composers of all time. His fusion of classical technique and electronic technology has been heard across genre-defining solo albums and countless scores for film, dance, art and fashion. This has won him legions of fans around the world and blazed a trail for a generation of musicians. His new album 'In A Landscape' is inspired by the beauty and fragility of the environment, reflecting Richter's deep connection to nature and his concerns about the impact of human activity on the planet.





Henry Rowley: Just Literally
Tue 5 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Age guidance: 16-

Join this Gen-Z internet tw\*t for fast paced stand-up and character sketch comedy featuring some familiar faces. It's disappointing enough having a TikToker for a son; can a comedy show be any more disappointing to Henry's parents? Yes, it can.





### **Fairytale of New York**

Wed 6 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

From the producers of 'Seven Drunken Nights – The Story of The Dubliners', immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of Irish culture as our talented singers, musicians and dancers perform all your festive favourites! Imagine a St Patrick's Day party... on Christmas Day!

#### **The ELO Show**

Wed 6 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**The ELO Show** – The World's Greatest tribute to Jeff Lynne and ELO are back on the road in 2024 with a stunning new stage production, featuring a band of amazing musicians complimented by a female string section and playing hit after hit from ELO's vast back catalogue.





#### **Poetry Jam**

Thu 7 Nov & Thu 5 Dec Justham Family Room & Jane How Room | 7PM

Since 2013, **Poetry Jam** has opened its doors every first Thursday of the month, and has grown in love, attendance and adoration ever since. It's a monthly open mic platform to jam, perform and click with a community of creatives.

### **Ultimate Boyband Party Show**

Thu 7 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Cue the wind machine and get ready to celebrate the 90s! These Five bad boys with the power to rock you promise an unparalleled night of non-stop nostalgia in this exciting new theatre tour. Grab your friends for a party like no other as you're taken on a journey of chart topping hits from Blue, Boyzone, N'Sync, Westlife, to Backstreet Boys, Take That and many more.





#### **Dick and Angel: Forever Home**

Fri 8 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Spend an entertaining evening with the stars of Channel 4's hit show **Escape to the Chateau**, **Dick and Angel Strawbridge**, and experience the Chateau like never before. Following two sell out UK tours, the pair are heading back to Birmingham, sharing even more of the adventures, challenges, and successes of building and living their Chateau dream.

## Hue and Cry 40th Anniversary Full Band Tour 2024

Fri 8 Nov | Town Hall | 8PM

Legendary Scottish pop band **Hue and Cry** will be embarking on a special 40th Anniversary Tour to commemorate their outstanding four-decade legacy, set to take fans on a nostalgic journey through their illustrious career.





## Grace Campbell: Grace Campbell Is On Heat

Sat 9 Nov | Town Hall | 8PM

Age guidance: 16+

About to enter her 30s, the unwaveringly honest comedian, **Grace Campbell** has recently made some huge life changes. Grace has been on a journey to find out who she wants to be as a grown up. In her brand-new show, she will ask big questions about the world.

## Classical Spectacular

Sun 10 Nov | Symphony Hall | 3PM

The most popular classical show in the UK returns to Symphony Hall, combining the very best in classical music with magnificent lights and lasers! Ranging from a flood of pure white light to electrifying multi-coloured laser displays, the dazzling special effects bring to life the scenes and moods evoked by each glorious piece.





**Jamie Cullum** 

Wed 13 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Jamie Cullum is a celebrated musician the world over with loyal fans in every corner of the globe. Over the last 18 years his legendary live shows have seen him perform at festivals alongside artists as diverse as Herbie Hancock, Kendrick Lamar, St Vincent and Lang Lang.

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#### **Midday Mantra**

Sat 2 Nov Diwali Festival of Light Sat 25 Jan Burns and Beyond

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 1PM

Sampad in partnership with B:Music present **Mid-day Mantra**. A series presenting music and dance originating from the Indian Subcontinent to uplift the spirit on Saturday lunchtimes.



Scan for the full programme

## MULTIBUY OFFER

10% discount for purchasing 2 or more events 15% discount for purchasing 4 or more events 20% discount for attending all 6 events

(Note: Discounts are applicable only at the time of initial purchase, as per confirmation from the Box Office.)

## Sax in the City with The Notebenders

Sat 16 Nov | Sat 20 Dec | Sat 18 Jan Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 1:30PM

B:Music welcome back the Ladywood-based community big band to Symphony Hall to uplift with their unique mix of jazz and calypso music.



Scan for the full programme





Celebrating Sanctuary
Thu 21 Nov | Thu 12 Dec | Thu 16 Jan
Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 1PM
Celebrating Sanctuary has more amazing
World Music artists to bring you in our
Lunchtime Concert series, Free & Unticketed.



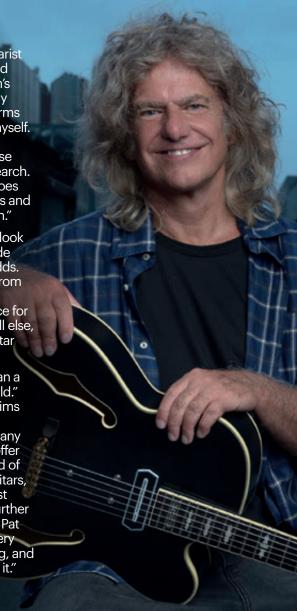
Scan for the full programme

# Pat Metheny: Dream Box/MoonDial Tour Thu 14 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

"This tour is very exciting for me," says Grammy-award winning guitarist and composer **Pat Metheny** ahead of his performance at Birmingham's Symphony Hall. "I have never really done anything this extensive in terms of being on a bandstand just by myself. This tour is new territory for me, and I feel really lucky to get all these opportunities to continue the research. It is "solo" but the concert really does reflect a wide range of approaches and concepts of what that might mean."

"The idea is that on this tour I can look at all the different ways I have made solo records over the years," he adds. "There is quite a range of things, from the first strumming-type stuff on New Chautauqua to Zero Tolerance for Silence to the baritone stuff and all else, plus the obvious conventional guitar stuff that I might come up with."

"At this point I have done more than a hundred concerts around the world." The **Dream Box/MoonDial** Tour aims to be an intimate concert like no other. "It is an evening very unlike any presentation I have been able to offer before and is getting a special kind of reaction." Playing over a dozen guitars, Metheny offers songs from his past and recent recordings, all given further dimension by the rare storytelling Pat shares with his audience. "It is a very intimate and personal kind of thing, and people seem to really be enjoying it."





#### **Rhod Gilbert & The Giant Grapefruit**

Fri 15 & Sat 16 Nov | Symphony Hall | 8PM

Age guidance: 16+

In his last show 'The Book of John', **Rhod Gilbert** was dealing with some pretty pungent life citrus, and an idiot called John. Little did he know that things were about to turn even more sour... But Rhod's not bitter; he's bouncing back and feeling remarkably zesty.

#### The Dubliners Encore: Official Stage Show

Sat 16 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The Dubliners Encore is the official stage show celebrating the greatest folk band of all time. Produced by The Dubliners'

John Sheahan; renowned fiddle player and legendary Irish icon, this new show packs 50 years of songs, stories, and craic, into one unforcettable night.

This hugely talented cast captures the magic of The Dubliners singing all their hits, including 'The Wild Rover', 'Seven Druhken Nights', 'The Black Velvet Band', 'Whiskey in the Jar' and 'The Irish Rover'. Be a part of the ultimate Irish sing-along.





#### Capercaillie

Sun 17 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

From their homeland roots of Argyll in the highlands of Scotland, **Capercaillie** have been credited with being the major force in bringing traditional Celtic music to the world stage and inspiring the great resurgence so evident today. Even four ground-breaking decades after Capercaillie first performed as teenagers in our native Scottish Highlands; even as they continue the worldwide musical journey that's taken them from the Brazilian rainforest to the Hanging Gardens of Babylon – it is the ancient Gaelic culture that still inspires them most.



#### Mica Millar

Sun 17 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 8PM

Amassing over eleven million streams on Spotify alone, **Mica** and her highly revered debut album, "Heaven Knows", have been championed by the likes of **Trevor Nelson**, **Jamie Cullum** and **Craig Charles** at BBC Radio 2 and 6 Music as well as receiving five star reviews and acclaim everywhere.

## Randall Munroe: What If? Mon 18 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Under 16s must be accompanied by adults 18+. Suggested for 8+.

This November, former NASA roboticist, Sunday Times Number 1 and international bestselling author and cartoonist, **Randall Munroe**, will be live on stage giving serious scientific answers to absurd hypothetical questions – celebrating the 10th Anniversary edition of his publication, 'What If?'.



#### **Monty Don**

Mon 18 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Join BBC Gardeners' World presenter and gardening writer, **Monty Don**, as he shares his passion for gardens and the unique role they play in human inspiration and wellbeing. Monty has been making television programmes for over 30 years and has been lead presenter of the BBC's Gardener's World since 2003.



#### Mazz Murray: I Only Want To Be With You

Thu 21 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Current star of the West End's Mamma Mia! and the voice of so many iconic musical roles, **Mazz Murray** will put her powerhouse vocals behind the songs of Dusty Springfield in the much-anticipated performance, Mazz Murray: The Music of Dusty Springfield.



# **B:Enamoured** by Birmingham Classical

# Season 2024/25

/isit bmusic.co.uk/bclassical KIDS GO FREE £5 FOR 16-30 and **MULTIBUY** packages



#### **Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra**

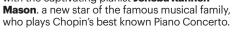
Sun 17 Nov | Symphony Hall | 3PM

The master musicians of Nuremberg have the music of Brahms and Beethoven coursing through their veins. Expect a spirited and fresh performance of Beethoven's 'Emperor' Concerto with charismatic Leeds Competition winner Federico Colli, and Brahms's Symphony No 4 to conclude.

#### **Hungarian Radio Symphony** Orchestra

Sat 30 Nov | Symphony Hall | 3PM

**The Hungarian Radio Symphony Orchestra** celebrated their 80th anniversary in 2023 and appointed Riccardo Frizza as chief conductor in the same season. He leads the orchestra on tour with the captivating pianist Jeneba Kanneh-**Mason**, a new star of the famous musical family.





#### **German National Orchestra:** Official partner of the Berlin Philharmonic Thu 16 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7PM

A blockbuster of a concert, highly recommended for newcomers and old hands alike! The stunningly talented musicians of the German National **Orchestra**, official partner of the Berlin Philharmonic. play Holst's lavish 'Planets' while celebrated Gershwin interpreter **Wavne Marshall** conducts and plays 'Rhapsody in Blue'.



From 16th century prince and assassin Carlo Gesualdo, to outspoken suffragette Ethel Smyth, and 'enemy of the people' Dmitri Shostakovich, Quatuor Agate explore 'outlaw' musicians in this fascinating presentation. Enjoy coffee/tea and cake beforehand, included in your ticket.



#### **Prague Symphony Orchestra** Fri 7 Feb | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

For authentic performances of Czech music, look no further! The superb musicians of the **Prague Symphony Orchestra** are steeped in the music of Smetana and Dvořák which they are touring with **Petr Altrichter**, the orchestra's Chief Conductor since 1991. They're joined by the dazzling Venezuelan pianist Gabriela Montero, a soloist who's always warmly welcomed at Symphony Hall.

#### **ECHO Rising Stars: São Soulez** Larivière - The Voice of Folk

Sun 9 Feb | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 11AM

Wake up your Sunday morning as São Soulez **Larivière** brings both percussion and electronics on board to explore a different side to the viola. The Voice of Folk incorporates traditional folk music into contemporary composition with a particular emphasis on the voice. Enjoy coffee/tea and cake beforehand, included in your ticket.



#### **ECHO Rising Stars:** Matilda Lloyd - Légende

Sun 2 Mar | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 11AM

Captivating in her artistry, communication and musicality. British trumpeter **Matilda Lloyd** came to attention as BBC Young Musician Brass Final winner in 2014, and wowed audiences in her first Proms appearance two years later. Her concert presents 20th century French music that tells a story. Enjoy coffee/ tea and cake beforehand, included in your ticket.

#### **Vasily Petrenko & the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra**

Sat 29 Mar | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Vasily Petrenko is quite simply one of the greatest conductors on the world stage right now. From the romance of Tchaikovsky to the thrill of Prokofiev, this is a concert not to be missed. Completing a stellar line-up, violinist **Esther Yoo** brings "tones of breath-taking beauty" (Sunday Times) to Bruch's much-loved Violin Concerto.



## Birmingham Classical

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**CONCERTS** 

# **Lunchtime Organ Concerts with Thomas Trotter**

Declared "Britain's greatest living organist" by Gramophone magazine, **Thomas Trotter** is among the world's most celebrated players and has elevated the tradition of the virtuoso organist to new heights.

For full listings of our 2024/25 Season, please visit bmusic.co.uk/bclassical



## Nov



#### **Bellowhead**

Fri 22 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

In 2004, **Bellowhead** burst onto the British folk scene like nothing before or since. Famously conjured up by duo **Spiers & Boden** whilst sitting in a traffic jam, they roped in friends and the big band was born and began performing traditional dance tunes, folk songs and shanties with arrangements drawing from a wide range of musical styles and influences.

#### **Disco Inferno**

Fri 22 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Disco Inferno** is set to take audiences back to the glory days of Disco with an all-singing, all-dancing celebration that is the stuff of glitterball, Studio 54 dreams! Featuring a cast of dynamic West End performers and some of the UK's most talented musicians.



Country Roads
Sat 23 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

best country classics! Celebrate the Kings and Queens of country music and enjoy the very biggest country songs of all time: '9 to 5', 'The Gambler', 'Walk the Line', 'Ring of Fire', 'Jolene', 'Walkin' after Midnight' and many, many more.

#### **Nathan Carter and his band**

Sat 23 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

In just a few short years, **Nathan Carter** has established himself as one of the most popular entertainers in Ireland, packing out the country's biggest venues and heading straight to number one in the Irish Album Charts with his latest release, The Morning After.





#### Austentatious: An Improvised Jane Austen Novel Sun 24 Nov | Town Hall | 2PM & 7PM

Age guidance: 14+

For one delightful matinee and evening only, the all-star **Austentatious** cast will improvise a hilarious new Jane Austen novel, performed in period costume with live musical accompaniment. In August this year, 57 participants aged between 11 and 19 worked across Symphony Hall with the support of over 20 tutors as part of our week-long **B:Music Summer School** led by world-renowned saxophonist, flautist and this year's Creative Director, **Xhosa Cole**.

**Xhosa Cole said,** "The B:Music Summer School is one of the organisation's flagship talent development programmes which gives many young musicians their first foray into the world of jazz, and also into Birmingham's iconic Symphony Hall." Xhosa himself was a participant in the first Summer School when he was 15 years old, later becoming a chaperone and then a support tutor. "It's wonderful to be coming back this year as the Creative Director. I have a long history with B:Music; it's a big part of me musically. It feels great to now be able to reciprocate that and keep the ball rolling into the future."

"Thank you for the opportunity to play and be connected to other jazz musicians. Where I'm from, I've never met a single jazz musician, which for me was difficult because I wanted to get into the playing of it earlier, but I had nobody to go to. Now I've been to this summer school I realised how big jazz was and it blew my mind. It assured me that this was what I wanted to do in the future." – Participant

"My daughter was lucky enough to be one of the participants and I can safely say it's been one of the most incredible musical experiences of her life. She's learnt so much, not just musical skills but also confidence, independence, resilience and self-belief. She's met so many inspirational people, it really was a special week!" – Parent

The theme of the week this year was legendary Jazz icon Thelonious Monk. Xhosa was joined by a group of 20 talented tutors including **Shiv Singh** who also attended the first ever Summer School in 2012 and 6 **Aspiring Music Leaders**, another B:Music project that supports musicians interested in teaching or community work.

This year's Summer School was very kindly supported by the Dumbreck Charity, the Lillie Johnson Charitable Trust, the Saintbury Trust, the Michael Marsh Charitable Trust, the Thompson Family Charitable Trust and a number of individual donors, all helping us to inspire the next generation of the city's musical talent.

#### Did you know we're a charity? Change Lives: Donate Today.

With your generous support, we can continue to nurture many more young music makers and sustain our free and accessible performances.



Scan here to donate online or discover other ways you can play your part at bmusic.co.uk/support-us Registered charity No 1053937





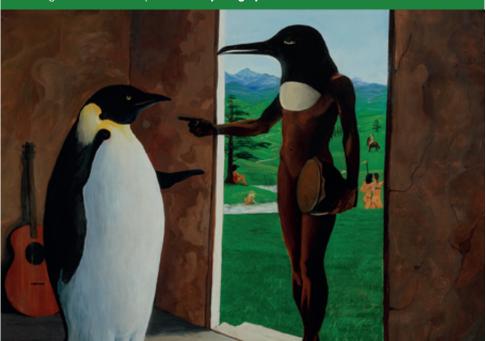
## Penguin Cafe performs music from The Penguin Cafe Orchestra Live

Mon 25 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Penguin Cafe** is bringing the music of the legendary Penguin Cafe Orchestra back to life! This magical concert features a collection of PCO classics, celebrating the unique sound that has captivated audiences worldwide.

'Some of the most unusual and delightful music of the last 40 years.' – **The Guardian** 'Culturally omnivorous instrumentals of considerable elegance and ingenuity.' – **Mojo** 

'The Penguins are back on top form.' - Daily Telegraph





## **Gruff Rhys and Bill Ryder Jones**

Tue 26 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Having spent half a lifetime within each other's orbits, and the odd show here or there, their timelines serendipitously aligned in 2024. Both **Gruff** and **Bill** released critically acclaimed albums just weeks apart, therefore it wasn't a giant leap of logic to take to the road together with full bands in tow to round off a special year. Headliners will switch each night, with both artists playing a full headline length set.



#### What's Love Got To Do With It?

Tue 26 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

'Simply The Best' tribute to sensational Rock'n'Roll Hall Of Fame legend Tina Turner is coming to Symphony Hall on what would have been the singer's 85th birthday. Celebrate with some feelgood rock'n'roll performed by an all-live band and awe inspiring cast, and pick up your tickets today!

#### Jools Holland And His Rhythm And Blues Orchestra

Wed 27 & Thu 28 Nov Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Musical maestro Jools Holland and his revered Rhythm & Blues Orchestra.

Jools says: "I'm delighted to announce a truly remarkable mix of guest artists on this year's winter tour, from the Boogie woogie queen of our orchestra, **Ruby Turner**, to the iconic songmanship of **Marc Almond**. I'm also proud to introduce the new dazzling voice and guitar of British blues, the extraordinary 19-year-old **Toby Lee. Louise Marshall** and **Sumudu Jayatilaka** will be illuminating brilliant songs old and new."



Palace

Fri 29 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Conjuring an enthralling maelstrom of sound and emotion – **Palace** are equal parts intricate alt-rock, dark blues, glacial melody, cosmic echo and exotic experiment. They became an almost instant streaming hit, garnering over a million plays for early EPs 'Lost In The Night' and 'Chase The Light'.

#### **Northern Soul Orchestrated**

Fri 29 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Northern Soul Orchestrated** promises to transport audiences back in time capturing the spirit of a movement. Originating in the industrial regions in the 1960s and 70s across the North and the Midlands, the Northern Soul subculture emerged as a passionate and vibrant all-night dance movement centred around American soul music.



### A Cory Trilogy: Part 2

Sat 30 Nov | Town Hall | 7PM

From the sensational brass virtuoso musicians of the award-winning **Cory Band** comes the dazzling follow-up to their spectacular show from 2023 featuring breath-taking performances and eye-popping immersive multimedia entertainment!







Scan for the full programme

Spend some time at one of our iconic venues this festive season, between Town Hall and Symphony Hall we have a huge variety of events for the whole family to enjoy...



# Toscana Strings: The Snowman & The Nutcracker

Sun 1 Dec Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space 10:30AM & 1PM

Hear the story, see the dance, listen to the music. **Toscana Strings** reinvent family favourites through story telling, dance and music. Featuring mesmerising music, enchanting dance and audience participation to captivate young imaginations.

## Ex Cathedra 2024/25: Bach Mass in B Minor

Sun 1 Dec | Town Hall | 4PM

"A small product of the skill I have attained in Musique" wrote Bach as he sent two of the movements to the court of Dresden An epic work showcasing supreme mastery and a profound beauty that resonates deeply within us.



## Midge Ure: Catalogue. The Hits Tour Sun 1 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Celebrating 50 years of musical innovation, from Slik to Ultravox, **Midge Ure** has shaped iconic hits for decades. This show will feature an evening filled with beloved hits and hidden favourites. Recognised with Ivor Novello, Grammy, and BASCAP awards, Midge's influence on music is unmatched.







## The Rat Pack at Christmas

Mon 2 Dec Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Direct from the West End, the original London cast returns to Symphony Hall in its 22nd year of touring! Back by popular demand, The Definitive Rat Pack brings you an evening of festive classics, including 'White Christmas', 'Baby It's Cold Outside', 'The Christmas Song', 'Let It Snow' and more. Featuring Dean Martin's sensational Golddiggers and the internationally-renowned Manhattan Swing Orchestra, this is one Christmas party not to miss.

#### CBSO 2024/25: Kazuki conducts Walton & Elgar

Wed 4 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The CBSO and Music Director Kazuki Yamada explore the expressive side of British music, opening with Elgar's passionate Violin Concerto. Walton's Orb & Sceptre is suitably ceremonial, while his Symphony No.2 has been described as an "emotional blockbuster". More information about B:Music's resident orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at cbso.co.uk





## Jarrod Lawson Wed 4 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Jarrod Lawson**'s debut album sent shockwaves through the soul and jazz scenes, earning comparisons to icons like Donny Hathaway, Stevie Wonder, and Marvin Gaye. His music blends elements of jazz, soul, funk, and gospel in a way that has resonated with audiences around the globe.



#### **The Bootleg Beatles in Concert**

Thu 5 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Regarded the world over as being the gold standard of tribute, **The Bootleg Beatles** return this Christmas for another nostalgic whirlwind trip through the sixties with fastidious attention to detail.

#### **An Evening of Burlesque**

Thu 5 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Age restriction: 18+

A night of laughter, cabaret, mystery, and glamour! The UK's longest running burlesque show is back touring the nation. Join us for the good old-fashioned night out as we bring you the ultimate variety show, blending stylish cabaret, comedy, music, circus and burlesque to light up all your senses.



## City of Birmingham Choir: Handel's Messiah

Fri 6 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

Begin the Festive season with style with the **City of Birmingham's Choir** electrifying performance of Handel's greatest choral work. 'Messiah' with Birmingham's very own **CBSO**.

# Change: Change of Heart 40th Anniversary Tour

European-American collaborations were not uncommon during the disco and post-disco eras. **Change** are among the most noteworthy international acts during the early '80s. Some 40 years on, the band return to celebrate its release in front of a class reunion of all the suburban Soul Boys and Girls from this glorious mid 80's era.





## Something Magical: Radio Times Edition Sat 7 Dec | Town Hall | 4PM

**The People's Orchestra** and **The People's Show Choir** are back at Birmingham Town Hall with their annual performance – Something Magical: Radio Times Edition, showcasing music from ultimate Christmas Radio Time favourites.





# **BPSO Proms Night Spectacular:** Hear the People Sing!

Sat 7 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

The **British Police Symphony Orchestra** invites you to an evening of film, show and all-time favourites, complete with a spectacular Proms Night Finale and flagship firework display, joined by **Beyond the Barricade** and Vicky McClure's, **Our Dementia Choir**.

### **Got 2 Sing Choir Rocks Christmas**

Sun 8 Dec | Symphony Hall | 2PM & 7PM

Your Christmas celebrations officially start here... The Midlands' largest family of choirs join forces for a dazzling Christmas extravaganza featuring the very best in festive pop hits and seasonal classics. This spell-binding show is sprinkled with magical moments that will kick off your Christmas in style!





## A Christmas Fantasy: Phoenix Singers and Midlands Hospitals' Choir and Town Hall

Sun 8 Dec | Town Hall | 4:30PM

Join in for a Christmas celebration in aid of Birmingham Hospice. Led by Musical Director, James Llewelyn Jones, the Phoenix Singers & Midlands Hospitals' Choir brings an exciting selection of seasonal music. Kick start your preparations for a joyful Christmas! Featuring Gemini Brass, organist Charles Matthews and RGS Dodderhill School Choir.

#### **The Unthanks in Winter**

Mon 9 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

In typical magpie style, **The Unthanks** collect and reimagine, at once unique and familiar, inspired but natural and effortless. **'In Winter'** is an abstract new work that captures the warmth and nostalgia of the festive season, the chill and darkness of the winter months, and the reflective ritualisms of the turn of the year.





### **Step Into Christmas**

Tue 10 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

This Christmas feel-good show brings all the magic of the season to life, with all your favourite songs you will know and love! Including: 'All I Want for Christmas Is You', 'Last Christmas', 'Jingle Bell Rock', 'Stay Another Day', 'Let it Snow', 'White Christmas', 'Do They Know it's Christmas', 'A Winter's Tale', 'Merry Xmas Everybody', and many many more!



## **Count Arthur Strong:** A Christmas Carol

Wed 11 Dec | Town Hall | 8PM

Due to public pressure, **Count Arthur Strong** extends his fond farewell to you, for a 'once in a lifetime' limited run. As he takes on, one of the literary greats, the famous Charles Dickens, and then goes on to present his one-man interpretation of A Christmas Carol. 'If you miss it, you weren't there!'

#### Sara Pascoe, Lou Sanders, Jamali Maddix, Ivo Graham and more: Live At Christmas

Thu 12 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Age guidance: 16+ (16s - 17s to be accompanied by an adult 18+)

The country's best comedians are coming to Birmingham Town Hall for a spectacular all-star festive show! Joining **Sara Pascoe** is a spectacular line-up of **Lou Sanders**, **Jamali Maddix**, **Steen Raskopoulos**, and **Ivo Graham** as host.



## Festive Happening with AMC Gospel Choir & Manchester Camerata

Fri 13 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Reconnect yourself with the joy of Christmas with this incredibly popular and moving concert for the whole family. **AMC Gospel Choir** is one of the UK's top live-performance Gospel Choir, performing alongside the **Manchester Camerata**.





# Disney's The Muppet Christmas Carol in Concert Live to Film

Fri 13 Dec Symphony Hall | <u>7PM</u>

Age guidance: Film Certificate U

Disney's **The Muppet Christmas Carol** will be presented live in concert this winter at Birmingham's Symphony Hall, featuring its musical score performed live to the film. The Muppets perform the classic Charles Dickens holiday tale, with Kermit the Frog playing Bob Cratchit, the put-upon clerk of stingy Ebenezer Scrooge (Michael Caine). Gonzo, as Dickens, narrates the story with the help of Rizzo the Rat.











#### Nashville Sounds in the Round: Gasoline & Matches, Two Ways Home, Luke Flear & Special Guest

Sat 14 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 11:30AM

Birmingham's premier country songwriter night 'Nashville Sounds In The Round' in partnership with B:Music! Hosted by multi awardwinning **Gasoline & Matches**, artists are invited to tell the stories behind their songs in a Bluebird Café style 'In The Round' session.



#### **Kate Rusby**

Sat 14 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

Forever proud to call herself a folk singer, **Kate Rusby** rounds off 2024 in style with her annual, and much anticipated, Christmas concert Full of warmth, sparkles and her unique festive music featuring songs from her latest charting Christmas album 'Light Years' 2023 and her ever-popular previous six Christmas albums.

#### **The Overtones: The Good Times Tour**

Sat 14 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The multi-platinum selling vocal harmony group is bringing back the 'Good Times' and it's your official start to Christmas! The show promises to be a non-stop party from start to finish featuring songs for all the family – from original hits like 'Gambling Man' through to classic songs by artists such as The Drifters and Stevie Wonder and many more plus some festive favourites and brand-new tracks. With special quest **Tom Ball**.





#### **Christmas Carol Singalong**

Sun 15 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

Christmas Carol Singalong is coming to town! Join Jonathan Cohen and Louise Dearman for some family festive fun with the very best Christmas songs and seasonal classics Christmas has to offer.







#### 'The Snowman' Film with Live Orchestra

Sun 15 Dec | Town Hall 1:30PM & 4PM

Film Rating PG (Recommended age 3+)

Make Christmas unforgettable with a magical screening of **'The Snowman'**, accompanied by a live orchestra.

As a bonus each screening includes a second short film with live accompaniment.

Choose from:

1:30PM: 'The Snowman' + 'The Snowman and The Snowdog'

4PM: 'The Snowman' +
'The Bear, the Piano, the Dog
and the Fiddle'

There will even be a special visit from the Snowman!

© Snowman Enterprises Limited

#### Love Actually In Concert: Film with Live Orchestra

Mon 16 Dec Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Film Rating 15

A full, live orchestra will perform Craig Armstrong's scores at each show, with the film being projected onto a vast screen. Written and directed by Richard Curtis and initially released in 2003, **'Love Actually'** follows 10 different, yet all interweaving stories of love around the festive period.





## Carols and Capers with Maddy Prior and The Carnival Band

Tue 17 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Maddy Prior and The Carnival Band has offered a unique take on timeless Christmas music ever since they first came together in 1984.

#### **Christmas with Anton Du Beke**

Tue 17 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Embark on a dazzling journey into a festive wonderland as Strictly's one and only **Anton Du Beke** brightens up your Christmas with his brand-new show – **Christmas with Anton Du Beke!** 





## The Holiday: Film with Live Orchestra Wed 18 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

ilm roting 12A

Film rating 12A

The in-concert experience with a full orchestra and cinema size screen is an incredibly unique and immersive way to experience **The Holiday**, which has become a cult Christmas viewing experience for many.







#### **The Amy Winehouse Band:** Live in Concert

Wed 18 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

original band led by her long term Musical Director/Bass player Dale Davis and Amy's close friend from the very start of her career, celebrate her era defining music and live performances with this, the only completely authentic reimagining of the Amy Winehouse sound. Fronted by the incredible vocalist Bronte Shandé and featuring on-screen visuals and unique footage the show has become an unforgettable experience and celebration for audiences around the world which we are delighted to bring to you.

## The Big Christmas Assembly

Thu 19 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Crack out the Christmas Jingles! Join James B Partridge (Primary School Assembly Bangers Live) for an evening of pure nostalgia, stepping back in time for some joyous singalong tunes from Christmases past. Full of festive musical surprises, throwback mashups and reflections on growing up at Christmas time.





#### The Brand New Heavies: **Brother Sister 30 Tour**

Fri 20 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Few bands stand out as truly iconic, straddling genres, eras and scenes, to become a stalwart part of musical culture. **The Brand New** . **Heavies** are absolutely one of those bands. And with 'Brother Sister', their million plus selling album released in 1994, they flawlessly displayed a unique blend of sounds and styles, forming something entirely fresh and distinctively theirs.



#### CBSO 2024/25: Christmas Party

Sat 21 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

Whether you're team 'Die Hard' or team 'Love Actually'- or even team Tchaikovsky - this concert is bringing the very best of Christmas music to Symphony Hall. Expect sleigh bells, songs, a full symphony orchestra and plenty of Christmas spirit! More information about B:Music's resident orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at cbso.co.uk

### **Talon: The Best Of Eagles**

Sat 21 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Revered by their peers and loved by their fans, this world class seven-piece band are a phenomenon. **Talon** have risen from humble beginnings to become one of the most successful theatre touring shows in the UK.



#### The Big Christmas Party

Sun 22 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

The Big Christmas Party boasts a spectacular blend of festive pop hits and traditional favourites, featuring a dazzling live ensemble band, four headline singers and incredible live music.



#### **Dana and Grimethorpe Colliery Band:** A Dana Good Christmas!

Sun 22 Dec | Town Hall | 3:30PM

Joined by his celebrated choir, conductor and arranger Matthew Jones fuses the world's most renowned brass band with a singe whose music transcends pop. Don't miss this Christmas spectacular with host and guest singer **Bob Brolly** alongside the original Derry girl, Dana, Ireland's first winner of the Eurovision Song Contest.



#### **The Glenn Miller Orchestra** Mon 23 Dec | Town Hall | 3PM

The UK's most celebrated big band returns, swinging you back in time with Glenn Miller's own arrangements of favourite wartime chart toppers and hits from the forties. **John James** joins Mark Porter and Ray McVay with a tribute to the Kings of Swing plus the **Swing Time Jivers** and **The London Belles**.





#### The Tiger Who Came to Tea

Thu 26 Dec 2024 - Sun 5 Jan 2025 | Town Hall 11AM & 1:30PM

Age guidance: 3+

Direct from the West End, the Olivier Award nominated smash hit show, **The Tiger Who Came to Tea** returns on tour.

The doorbell rings just as Sophie and her mummy are sitting down to tea. Who could it possibly be? What they certainly don't expect to see at the door is a big, stripy tiger!

Join the tea-guzzling tiger in this delightful family show; packed with oodles of magic, sing-a-long songs and clumsy chaos.
Don't miss this stunning stage adaptation of the classic tale of teatime mayhem... expect to be surprised!

## Music of the Movies: The Lord of the Rings, Game of Thrones and Beyond

Fri 27 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Experience epic music from 'The Lord of the Rings', 'The Hobbit', 'Game of Thrones' and beyond as the worlds of TV, film and fantasy are brought to life by a full symphony orchestra and stunning choir.





## **Ministry of Sound Classical**

Sat 28 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The greatest dance compilations of all-time hit the stage with your favourite dance tracks re-orchestrated, re-imagined, re-lived. Over 25 years on, **The Annual Classical**, set to a thrilling laser light production, is brought to life by the **London Concert Orchestra** and sensational yocalists.

#### **The Music of Zimmer vs Williams**

Sun 29 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

It's time to settle the scores! **The London Concert Orchestra** with conductor **Anthony Ingliss** alongside the **London Concert Choir** perform the best scores from the two greatest film composers of all time in one fabulous programme with music from 'Lion king', 'Top Gun', Harry Potter', 'Pirates of the Caribbean' and more.



## Jan



#### **The Drifters**

Fri 3 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**The Drifters** are back performing all their classic hits including 'Saturday Night at the Movies', 'You're More Than A Number,' 'Come on Over to My Place', 'Under the Boardwalk', 'Kissin' In The Back Row' and many more!

#### **Nashville Sounds in the Round**

Sat 11 Jan | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 11:30AM

Birmingham's premier country songwriter night 'Nashville Sounds In The Round' in partnership with B:Music! Hosted by multi award-winning **Gasoline & Matches**, artists are invited to tell the stories behind their songs in a Bluebird Café style 'In The Round' session, stripping the songs back to their origins and transporting the audience right back to the writing rooms.



## The Classic Rock Show 2025

Sun 12 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

An amazing opportunity for rock fans, young and old, to celebrate three decades of the world's greatest classic rock music with a stunning multi-million-dollar sound and light show to match. Note-for-note, anthem after anthem, riff after riff and solo after solo – culminating in a show-stopping guitar duel, that is definitely not to be missed.

#### **Black Dyke in Concert**

Sun 12 Jan | Town Hall | 2:30PM

Join **Black Dyke Band** for an exciting concert in the beautiful Town Hall. Since its formation in 1855, the record of achievement of the Black Dyke Band can be considered without parallel in the Brass Band world. Everything that has been accomplished stems from a core principle held by all band members, past and present, that the Band exists to promote the very highest quality of musicianship at all times.



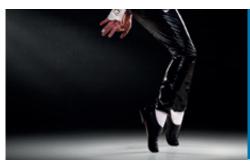


#### **Dan and Phil: Terrible Influence**

Mon 13 Jan & Wed 22 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Dan and Phil** are back to heal your inner child and take back what the internet took from them. In their new screamingly hilarious live stage show – it's a new era. They're older, gayer, Phil's gone blonde, and nothing is off limits.

## Jan



#### **Man In The Mirror**

Wed 15 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Join us for a Thriller of an evening, as we celebrate the legendary music of the King of Pop. This is the "Man in the Mirror". The brand new must-see, electrifying tribute concert to Michael Jackson. Starring CJ, one of the world's greatest Michael Jackson tribute artists and supported by a talented cast of performers and musicians.

# A Tribute to The Carpenters featuring The British Carpenters Thu 16 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

It's time to get over that rainbow and make the smallest of dreams come true with **A Tribute to** 

the Carpenters. Featuring Gordy Marshall's, The British Carpenters, starring Sally Creedon as Karen Carpenter and a cast straight from London's West End.





### **Magic of Motown**

Fri 17 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The Magic of Motown is back with its 20th Anniversary Tour! It's no surprise that this show is one of the biggest success stories in British theatre history. Come celebrate their brand-new show for 2024 as they 'Reach Out' and show you there ain't no mountain high enough with the biggest Motown party of the year.

#### The Glam Rock Show Fri 17 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

the year!

It's time to bang a gong and Get It On for – one night of glam rock! Girls rock your boys as we bring you the biggest glam rock show of a generation! Featuring the biggest hits from T.Rex, Mud, Slade, Bowie, Suzi Quatro, Wizzard, Sweet and many more. Come on feel the noise and dress to impress for this feel-good show of





## Sweet Caroline: A Tribute to Neil Diamond

Sat 18 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

It's time for that night out you have been dreaming of! We invite you to celebrate the life and work of **Neil Diamond** – starring the renowned tribute artist **Gary Ryan**, as seen on 'Stars in Their Eyes'. The show will take you for one special evening, back to where it began. A musical journey celebrating 50 years of some of the greatest songs ever written.

#### CBSO 2024/25: Music at the Movies

Sun 19 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7PM

Epic tales need epic soundtracks – and tonight, Radio 3's

Petroc Trelawny shares his favourites. From worldsaving

Avengers and the legends of Middle Earth to tragedy on a

personal and global scale, featuring the music of composers

James Horner, Howard Shore, John Williams, Hans Zimmer and
many others. More information about B:Music's resident
orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at

chso.co.uk



## The Black Ball Final 40th Anniversary with Steve Davis, Dennis Taylor & John Virgo

Thu 23 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Come and join **Steve Davis** and **Dennis Taylor** as they recreate the match that gripped a nation – the 1985 World Snooker Final. A record-breaking 18.5m TV viewers stayed up to watch the legendary match and this is your chance to see the rematch with snooker royalty as we recreate the final frame from that special night. Snooker legend **John Virgo** is your host and referee for an evening guaranteed to include his famed, hilarious snooker impressions.



## Jan



## **Stewart Lee vs The Man-Wulf**

Fri 24 Jan – Sun 26 Jan Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Age restriction: 14+

**Stewart Lee** ("The world's greatest living stand-up comedian" The Times), is in danger of being left behind. In this brand-new show, Lee shares his stage with a toughtalking werewolf comedian from the dark forests of North America who hates humanity. The Man-Wulf lays down a ferocious comedy challenge to the culturally irrelevant and physically enfeebled Lee. Can the beast inside us all be silenced with the silver bullet of Lee's unprecedentedly critically acclaimed style of stand-up?

#### The Makings of A Murderer 2: The Real Manhunter Sat 25 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Join us for a chilling, thrilling night at the theatre as Colin, who was head of a Metropolitan Police murder squad tells us the stories of how he caught some of the UK's most evil murderers. In this all-new show, Colin; who the ITV drama series 'Manhunt,' played by Martin Clunes, is based on, will talk you through his remarkable career and what it is like to chase and catch a serial killer in a unique and one-off night at the theatre for true crime fans and theatre goers alike.





# Boyzlife Thu 30 Jan Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

There are few acts that accomplished the level of success that **Boyzone** and **Westlife** respectively achieved as two of the defining groups of 90s and 00s boyband era, with an incredible 21+ UK No.1 singles and countless millions of audience members performed worldwide. Now, **Boyzlife**, the supergroup comprised of Boyzone's Keith **Duffy** and Westlife's **Brian** McFadden, will celebrate the iconic and defining hits from both acts with their first tour in two years.

#### **Thank You For The Music**

Fri 31 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Calling all Dancing Queens, this is your night to say, **Thank you for the Music**! This international smash-hit tribute show brings all ABBA's number one hits to the stage in a production like no other. The show combines the unmistakable harmonies, colourful costumes, and dazzling performances by our all-star cast.



# Sneak Peek at shows coming soon

Full listings available at **bmusic.co.uk** 



**Luther: Live** 

Sat 1 Feb **Symphony Hall** 

#### **Transatlantic Sessions**

Thu 6 Feb **Symphony Hall** 





Pretty Vacant: The Story of New Wave and Punk

Tue 4 Mar
Town Hall

#### **Levellers Collective**

Thu 13 Mar **Symphony Hall** 





**Mark and Lard** 

Sun 16 Mar **Town Hall** 

### **How to Book**

Online: bmusic.co.uk

**By phone:** 0121 780 3333 Telephone lines open Monday to Saturday, 10am – 2pm.

#### In person:

Symphony Hall's Box Office is open Monday to Saturday, 11am – 4pm (Please check the website for full details as these are subject to change).

Closed Sundays and Bank Holidays except when there is an event, where we will open 2 hours before the start of a main hall performance.

Town Hall's Box Office is open 1 hour 30 minutes before the start of a performance except for all family and organ concerts, where we will open 1 hour before the start of a performance.

(Please check the website for full details as these timings are subject to change).

#### How to reach us:

Symphony Hall is located in Centenary Square, Birmingham, B1 2EA

Town Hall is located in Victoria Square, Birmingham, B3 3DQ

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bmusic.co.uk/green

#### Accessibility

Everyone is welcome at Town Hall and Symphony Hall, and we will do whatever we can to ensure that you have an enjoyable visit.

## bmusic.co.uk/your-visit/accessibility-information

Access Booking Line: 0121 289 6343

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#### **Ticket Commissions**

\*Some events may carry a £3 – £5 ticket commission; charged per ticket. This is charged when you book through B:Music's Box Office – online, by phone or in person. Any advertised prices will include any per-ticket fee that may apply. E-tickets will be sent free of charge. Customers do have an option for postage at a cost of £2.00 per order. These fees are waived for B:Music Patrons.

#### Age Guidance

Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult 18+ unless otherwise stated.

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#### Return Address

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# **Mnozil Brass:**Jubilee - Celebrating 30 Years of Mnozil Brass

Sat 28 Jun 2025 | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

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