

# B:Music bmusic.co.uk

November  
December  
January

A photograph of Emma Bunton performing on stage. She is wearing a white, sparkly dress with a large, fluffy white fur collar. She has long, wavy blonde hair and is smiling broadly with her mouth open, showing her teeth. She is holding a pink microphone in her left hand and has her right hand raised in a peace sign gesture. The background is dark with some red and blue lighting elements.

**Celebrate the festive month  
with Emma Bunton & Friends  
at Symphony Hall**

**This November, December and January, we're thrilled to showcase an array of performances on B:Music stages at Symphony Hall and Town Hall.**

November will see a varied programme from the power vocals of **Anastacia** to the hilarity of **Clinton Baptiste** while our B:Classical season builds to a crescendo with **Sinfonia of London** conducted by **John Wilson**. The Christmas season will return to deck the Symphony and Town Halls with festive cheer along with **Emma Bunton & Friends**. In the New Year, we venture into the deep, dark woods with **The Gruffalo** to kick off 2023 for another year of live performances in the heart of Birmingham.

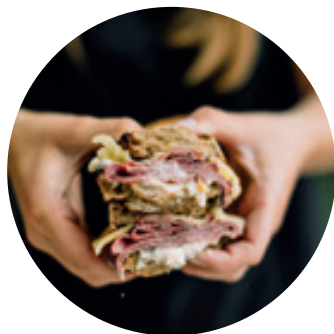
Visit **[bmusic.co.uk](https://bmusic.co.uk)** to see more information on what is coming to Birmingham's Symphony Hall and Town Hall over the next few months and beyond.

We celebrated the 10th anniversary of our B:Music funded project 'Community Spirit' at Symphony Hall on 10 July 22  
Photo © Johnathan Williams

Brochure designed by Louise Gale



This symbol highlights events that would not be possible without your support. These events are funded by your generosity.



# B:Eats

Join us before the performance in the new Symphony Hall eatery, **B:Eats**, where we're now serving our daytime menu full of Brummie surprises alongside some breakfast, brunch, lunch, and sandwich classics. Meanwhile, the evening menus offer a contemporary take on firm favourites and some quick bite options. **B:Eats** is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the incredible views of Centenary Square before a performance.

More information can be found on [bmusic.co.uk/your-visit/beats](https://bmusic.co.uk/your-visit/beats)



Take a listen  
to the music of  
**November**

Book today at  
[bmusic.co.uk](https://bmusic.co.uk)





## Halloween Silent Movie Special: Nosferatu

Tue 1 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Donald MacKenzie**, acclaimed silent film accompanist from London's - Odeon Leicester Square, makes a welcome return visit to perform an improvised score on the mighty Hill organ in Birmingham Town Hall.

## Anastacia: Outta Lockdown: the 22nd Anniversary

Tue 1 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Anastacia** is an American singer-songwriter, producer and former dancer. Join us for an evening as she performs her successful hits such as "Paid My Dues", "One Day In Your Life", "Left Outside Alone", "Sick and Tired", "Welcome to My Truth", and "Heavy on My Heart".



## We Don't Settle & B:Music present: Poetry Jam Live! November

Thu 3 Nov | Justham Family Room and Jane Howe 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.

## Tubular Bells with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra

Thu 3 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Tubular Bells** - one of the most ground-breaking albums of all time - will be presented live with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra this Autumn. The iconic album will be played in full, as well as Ommadawn Part 1 and Hergest Ridge Part 1.



## John Cale

Thu 3 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Co-founder of **Velvet Underground** and highly acclaimed pianist and composer in his own right. His willingness to experiment and constantly explore new styles ensures that his music remains vital.



## Leo Sayer

Fri 4 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Leo Sayer** is known the world over for his army of hits which include *Thunder In My Heart*, *One Man Band*, *I Can't Stop Loving You*, *The Show Must Go On* and the transatlantic chart toppers, *When I Need You* and *You Make Me Feel Like Dancing*.

## Gospel Goes Charity

Sat 5 Nov | Town Hall | 7PM

Gospel Goes Charity is a fantastic event coming to Town Hall this November. The concert will be raising funds and awareness for Inspired School Of Confidence, Birmingham Christmas Shelter and Birmingham Children's Hospital Burns Unit.



## Vaughan Williams at 150: A Sea Symphony

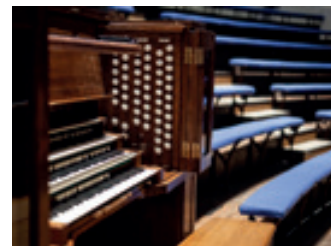
Sun 6 Nov | Symphony Hall | 3PM

**The City of Birmingham Choir** are celebrating their centenary with a programme of works from Ralph Vaughan Williams acknowledging his 150th anniversary.

## An Evening with Debbie Harry and Chris Stein in Conversation

Sun 6 Nov | Town Hall | 8PM

**Blondie** frontwoman **Debbie Harry** and the band's co-founder, guitarist and songwriter, **Chris Stein** will be in conversation with multidisciplinary artist and director (and longtime Blondie collaborator) **Rob Roth**.



## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter: Celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of César Franck

Mon 7 Nov | Town Hall | 1PM

Birmingham City Organist since 1983, **Thomas Trotter** is one of the world's top-ranking virtuoso organists and was awarded the 2020 Queen's Medal for Music.



## The Australian Pink Floyd

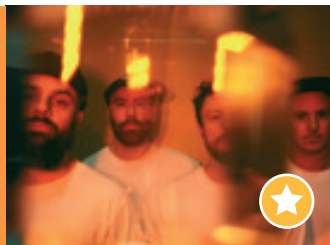
Mon 7 & Mon 28 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Performing the music of **Pink Floyd** with note for note perfection, this critically acclaimed show has been astonishing audiences worldwide for more than three decades.

## The Incubator Sessions

Tue 8 Nov | Justham Family and Jane How Room | 7:30PM

A space for emerging artists, poets and musicians to come together to share and generate ideas.



## Celebrating Sanctuary: Namvula

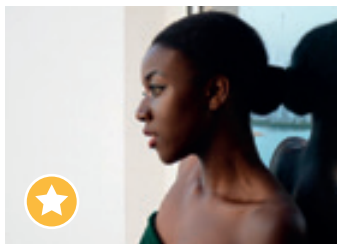
Thu 10 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 1PM

Fusing the folk and urban traditions of her Zambian homeland and her Scottish roots with London's eclectic music scene, **Namvula** blends African sounds and rhythms with Latin, jazz and folk into uplifting and emotive songs.

## Lightning Seeds Plus Very Special Guests Badly Drawn Boy

Thu 10 Nov | Town Hall | 7PM

**Lightning Seeds** are the brainchild of writer, singer, guitarist and producer **Ian Broudie**. Ian originally emerged from the post punk Liverpool music scene of the late seventies playing in the band "Big in Japan" which in turn led to him producing several bands starting with Echo & The Bunnymen.



## B:Music Presents Gabriella Liandu Remembrance Day Special

Fri 11 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

**Gabriella Liandu** and her band remember the forgotten faces of history, with songs and music that take us back to sound of 1939 – 1945.



## Jason Byrne

Fri 11 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Irish comedian **Jason Byrne** has earned a reputation for upbeat, energetic comedy shows with a liberal use of props and mostly willing audience participation.

## Squeeze Food for Thought Tour: Special Guest Dr John Cooper Clarke

Sat 12 & Sun 13 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Squeeze** first formed in 1973, shortly after **Chris Difford** and **Glenn Tilbrook** had begun their songwriting partnership. By 1977 they had made their recording debut, establishing the band as not just a passing footnote in new-wave history, but as an important and vital part of quintessential British music.



## Ex Cathedra presents Songs of Protest

Sun 13 Nov | Town Hall | 4PM

Some of the greatest music is written in protest, offering courage and hope. From the opening words – "What did you say?" – this concert will pin you to your chair with its appeals for freedom and compassion. **Full listings of further Ex Cathedra concerts can be found at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)**

## An Evening with Ricky Hatton

Mon 14 Nov | Town Hall | 8PM

During his boxing career, **Ricky Hatton MBE** held multiple world championships at light-welterweight and one at welterweight. BoxRec ranks Hatton as the 11th greatest European fighter of all time and fifth greatest British fighter of all time, giving two of his victorious fights a 5-Star rating.



## B:Music Presents Xhosa Cole: IBEJI with Hamid Drake & Soweto Kinch

Tue 15 Nov | Symphony Hall Flipped Stage | 8PM

**Xhosa Cole** along with **Soweto Kinch**, **Ian Parmel** and special guest **Hamid Drake** explores themes of duality, brotherhood, double consciousness, and rituals. A project that is deeply personal to Cole, this event has all the ingredients to be an unforgettable world class performance.



# B:Immersed in Birmingham Classical

## Season 2022/23

See [bmusic.co.uk/bclassical](https://bmusic.co.uk/bclassical) for details of  
**KIDS GO FREE**  
**£5 FOR 16-25** and  
**MULTIBUY** packages



© Signe Luksgaard

### Unquiet: Carmen Villain and Manchester Camerata Ensemble

Sun 6 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
7PM

Unquiet is a new music series for the brave and the curious. Featuring new commissions from **Carmen Villain** (world premiere) and **AFRODEUTSCHE** alongside the Manchester Camerata Ensemble, and the music of Bryce Dessner, Hildur Guðnadóttir, Philip Glass and Mica Levi.

### Nobuyuki Tsujii

Mon 7 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The former Joint Gold Medallist of the prestigious Van Cliburn competition, **Nobuyuki Tsujii**, has been blind from birth and his flawless performances have won him friends and admirers the world over.



© Giorgia Bertazzi

### Belgian National Orchestra

Tue 8 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

This is a first visit to Birmingham from Belgium's premier orchestra and its new Principal Guest Conductor **Roberto González-Monjas**, who has already enjoyed a long and fruitful collaboration as conductor, player-director and soloist with this ambitious and adventurous ensemble.



© Bert Decobbecc

### The Hermes Experiment

Tue 22 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
8PM

Grab a drink, pull up a seat and enjoy some late evening classical vibes with the spellbinding Hermes Experiment. Harp, clarinet, soprano and double bass is hardly a traditional quartet line-up, but **The Hermes Experiment** is anything but traditional.



© Raphael Neal



© Chris-Christodoulou

### Sinfonia of London

Sat 26 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**John Wilson** is a man with the Midas touch; everything he touches turns to gold. After the sell-out success of recreating MGM Hollywood scores, **The Sinfonia of London** is his latest project – a hand-picked 'super-orchestra'.

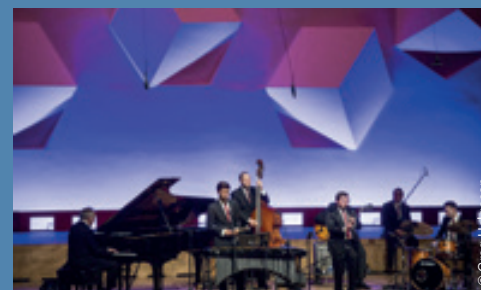
### Jess Gillam

Sun 27 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
11AM

In just a few years, **Jess Gillam**'s career has taken off like a rocket, proving, if proof were needed, that ECHO (European Concert Hall Organisation) Rising Stars really do live up to their name.



© Robin Clewley



© Greg Hopton

### Julian Bliss Septet – The Genius of Gershwin

Tue 17 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

With their dazzling virtuosity, extraordinary musicianship and easy-going charm, the **Julian Bliss Septet** have captivated audiences and garnered widespread acclaim wherever they appear and whatever they play.

### The King's Singers – Northern Lights

Fri 27 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The personnel may have changed over the years but **The King's Singers** remain the gold standard for close harmony singing at its absolute best, combining traditional choral repertoire and new discoveries, as in their latest programme, Northern Lights.



© Frances Marshall

# Nov



## Low: Hey What

Wed 16 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Focusing on their craft, staying out of the fray, and holding fast their faith to find new ways to express the discord and delight of being alive, to turn the duality of existence into hymns we can share, **Low** present *HEY WHAT*.

## Judy Collins

Sat 19 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

In her 50-plus years in music, **Judy Collins** has always exhibited impeccable taste in songcraft. Now, in her 6th decade as a singer and songwriter, Judy is experiencing a profound level of growth and prolific creativity.



## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter

Mon 21 Nov | Town Hall | 1PM

Birmingham City Organist since 1983, **Thomas Trotter** is one of the world's top-ranking virtuoso organists and was awarded the 2020 Queen's Medal for Music.

## Bellowhead

Mon 21 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Bellowhead** formed in 2004 and after 12 amazing years, they called it a day in 2016. During lockdown in 2020 the 11 members of Bellowhead first re-connected online to remotely record 'New York Girls - At Home'.



## Clinton Baptiste: Clinton Vs. Ramone

Wed 23 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Britain is honoured to have spawned two of the most gifted mystics in the world. The coiffured titans of the Unknown - the flamboyant **Clinton Baptiste** and his Scottish nemesis **Ramone Tamime**.

© Kate Green



## Generation Ladywood

The B:Music funded project celebrated its eleventh year with a showcase at Symphony Hall on 29 June 22.

Don't miss the next great event by checking the listings at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

# Nov



## Woman to Woman

Thu 24 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

After the huge success of their last tour which played to over 35,000 people, **Beverley Craven**, **Judie Tzuke** and **Julia Fordham** reunite and this time have invited **Rumer** to join them.

## Leyla McCalla – Breaking the Thermometer

Thu 24 Nov | Symphony Hall Stage | 8:30PM

**Leyla McCalla** finds inspiration from her past and present, whether it is her Haitian heritage or her adopted home of New Orleans, she has risen to produce a distinctive sound that reflects the union of her roots and experience.



## B:Music Presents Nick Dewhurst Band 'Get The Party Started'

Fri 25 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

What happens when you mix great jazz, pop, funk and fusion together, all played by some of the finest session and jazz musicians from across the UK? Well, jazz trumpeter and guitarist **Nick Dewhurst** and his band are all about finding that out with their funky jazz-pop show 'Get The Party Started'!

## Jimmy Carr: Terribly Funny

Fri 25 Nov | Symphony Hall | 8PM

Jimmy's brand-new show contains jokes about all kinds of terrible things. Terrible things that might have affected you or people you know and love.



## B:Music Presents Arnie Somogyi Mingus Celebration

Sat 26 Nov | Justham Family Room and Jane Howe Room | 8PM

In 2022 B:Music celebrates the 100th anniversary of **Charles Mingus'** birth with this special project. The very strong lineup features **Arnie** on bass, **Sara Oschlag**, vocals, **Malcolm Earle-Smith** vocals and trombone, **Tony Kofi**, saxophones, **Tim Laphorn** piano and **Clark Tracey** drums.



## Family Jam

Sat 26 Nov & Sat 10 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space 10:30AM

Are you ready to make instant music? Warm up your voice and grab an instrument! This session is about exploring the aural skills that Jazz and Folk musicians share across the globe.



## The Four Seasons by Candlelight

Sun 27 Nov | Symphony Hall 3PM

The verve and virtuosity of the 18th century is brought to life in this enchanting concert staged in an elegant candle-lit setting with an evocative programme crowned by Vivaldi's sublime masterpiece.

**Mozart Festival Orchestra**

David Juritz *violin*  
David Blackadder *trumpet*  
Harriet Eyley *soprano*



## An Evening with Noel Fitzpatrick

Tue 29 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

One of the world's most renowned, and certainly the nation's most loved orthopedic-neuro veterinary surgeon, **Noel Fitzpatrick** – The Supervet from the hit Channel 4 show – will be bringing his unique ethos, incredible stories and remarkable bionic innovations to Birmingham this November.

## Joanne Shaw Taylor

Wed 30 Nov | Town Hall | 7PM

Join #1 Billboard Blues Artist **Joanne Shaw Taylor** and her amazing band as they perform songs from her highly acclaimed new release, "The Blues Album", along with fan favourites from the past.





## Take a listen to the music of December

Book today at  
[bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)



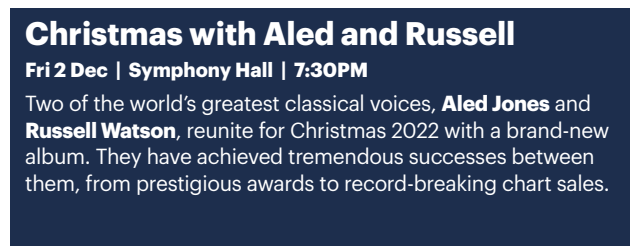
# Dec



## B:Music Presents Romarna Campbell

Fri 2 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

Rising star of the jazz scene, drummer, composer & producer Birmingham's own **Romarna Campbell** returns to the Symphony Hall with her latest critically acclaimed project.



## Christmas with Aled and Russell

Fri 2 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Two of the world's greatest classical voices, **Aled Jones** and **Russell Watson**, reunite for Christmas 2022 with a brand-new album. They have achieved tremendous successes between them, from prestigious awards to record-breaking chart sales.



## Gospel Revisited Project in collaboration with Birmingham University Symphony Orchestra

Sat 3 Dec | Town Hall | 7PM

**Gospel Revisited Project** seeks to celebrate the history, heritage and influence of gospel music, through the careful re-imagination and rearrangement of both classic and contemporary scores.



## Proms Night Spectacular! With the British Police Symphony Orchestra

Sat 3 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Fanfares will herald the return of the **BPSO** to this iconic concert hall, bringing an evening of music to suit every taste. Musical Director, **Dr Richard Jenkinson**, conducts this celebration of the music of cultures, nations and people.



## Ex Cathedra Presents Christmas Oratorio

Sun 4 Dec | Symphony Hall | 4PM

From the exuberance of the opening chorus – underscored with pulsating energy from the trumpets, drums and richly scored orchestra – to exquisite arias and chorales, Bach's uplifting masterpiece tells the Christmas story with music of great joy and beauty. **Full listings of further Ex Cathedra concerts can be found at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)**



## Daniel Sloss: Can't

Sun 4 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Daniel Sloss** – Can't is the all-new, 12th solo show by Scotland's international comedy superstar and we are delighted to welcome Daniel back to Birmingham! **16+**

## Lunchtime Christmas Music with The Choir of St John's Cambridge

Mon 5 Dec | Symphony Hall | 1PM

**The Choir of St John's College, Cambridge** is one of the finest collegiate choirs in the world, known and loved by millions from its broadcasts, concert tours and recordings.



## Voice of Black Opera

Mon 5 Dec | Town Hall | 7PM

From many entries from around the Commonwealth, our esteemed Jury has decided that the twelve semi-finalists, named above, will begin the battle to become one of the five finalists, to present their repertoire accompanied by the **Welsh National Opera Orchestra**.

## Craft Your Christmas With Sara Davies

Tue 6 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Sara Davies**, Queen of Crafting, Dragon and Strictly star is taking to the road to give you tricks and tips to help make Christmas this year. Craft Your Christmas with Sara Davies is the perfect warm up for the festive break, with plenty of practical demonstrations, creative ideas and a healthy slice of Sara's down to earth know how.



## The Bootleg Beatles

Tue 6 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

From *Love Me Do* to *Let It Be*, from the Cavern to the Apple rooftop, from black and white to psychedelic technicolour, the world's Premier Beatle band returns to take you on a whistle-stop journey through the most vibrant revolutionary and divisive decade of all – the Swinging Sixties.



## Queenz: The Show with Balls! Ft. Jaymi Hensley

Wed 7 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The trailblazing, life affirming drag extravaganza taking the UK by storm. Featuring mind blowing LIVE vocals, and not a lip-sync in sight! Join these death-dropping divas as they slay the biggest hits of all time and serve up the sequin-clad pop party we've all been gagging for!

## An Evening with Monty Don

Thu 8 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Spend an evening with the 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.



## Rick Wakeman: Grumpy Christmas Stocking Tour

Thu 8 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Rick Wakeman CBE's** Christmas shows have become a regular must-see feature of the festive season. Performing on a grand piano and electric keyboards, he always manages to bring a new Yuletide twist to his unique musical arrangements for songs from his own career and others.

## B:Music Presents The Emma Rawicz Duo

Fri 9 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

Saxophonist **Emma Rawicz** is one of the most exciting new talents to emerge on the UK jazz scene in recent years. She is a member of the **National Youth Jazz Orchestra (NYJO)** and the **NYJO Jazz Exchange**. On this occasion she will be playing with the amazing **Ivo Neame**, one of the very best pianists of the British and European scenes.





## Go Gentle Into the Light: An Evening with Guy Chambers

Fri 9 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Guy Chambers** is one of the UK's most successful living songwriters. He is the writer behind songs we know from the radio, from the movies, and from the dance floor. Songs we know from our parties and our weddings. Songs that half the world can sing along to note for note.

## Kate Rusby at Christmas

Sat 10 Dec | Town Hall | 3:30PM & 7:30PM

Forever proud to call herself folk singer, **Kate Rusby's** beautiful, expressive vocals never fail to connect the emotional heart of a song to that of her audience. Famously down to earth, Kate's engaging personality and sharp, Yorkshire wit have further endeared her to concert goers everywhere for over a quarter of a century.



## Horrible Christmas

Sun 11 Dec | Symphony Hall | 11:30AM & 2:30PM

When Christmas comes under threat from a jolly man dressed in red, it's up to one young boy to save the day – but can he save Christmas? From Victorian villains to Medieval monks, Puritan parties to Tudor treats, join us on an hair-raising adventure through the history of Christmas with Charles Dickens, Oliver Cromwell, King Henry VIII and St Nicholas to save the festive season!

## Phoenix Singers and Midlands Hospitals' Choir

Sun 11 Dec | Town Hall | 6PM

Two local choirs combine, under the leadership of **James Llewelyn Jones**, to bring you an exciting selection of seasonal carols and rousing choruses. Sing some favourite carols with us as you prepare for a joyful Christmas. The concert will also feature Birmingham's renowned **Gemini Brass** and guest soloist **Zoha Sohail**.



## Gilbert O'Sullivan

Mon 12 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Enjoying one of the most creative and commercially successful periods of an outstanding career, **Gilbert O'Sullivan** has continued to look to the future while his famous back catalogue has won respect and adoration all over the world.



## Love Actually In Concert: Film with Live Orchestra

Tue 13 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

Love Actually In Concert is becoming an annual festive tradition for many, having garnered sold out audiences in previous years, with the Bournemouth Echo commenting '... the whole performance was simply spectacular, enhancing the magic of this classic Christmas movie tenfold'. **15+**

## Live at Christmas: Dylan Moran, Mike Wozniak, Rosie Jones, Celya Ab & John Robins

Tue 13 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

It's nearly Christmas and the country's best comedians – **Dylan Moran, Mike Wozniak, Rosie Jones, Celya Ab, John Robins** – are coming to Birmingham for a spectacular all-star festive show!



## The Muppet Christmas Carol: Film with Live Orchestra

Wed 14 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

Don't miss Disney's *The Muppet Christmas Carol* live in concert this winter at Symphony Hall, with a special screening of the classic film, and the musical score performed live by a full orchestra! Prepare for the 'ultimate festive escapism'!

## Collabro – The Farewell Tour

Wed 14 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

After 8 amazing years the world's most successful musical theatre vocal group, **Collabro**, announce their Farewell Tour commencing in Winter 2022. Celebrate all things Collabro with stunning vocals and beautiful arrangements of your best-loved musical theatre classics as we reminisce on an amazing journey filled with very special memories.



## B:Music Presents Birmingham Jazz Orchestra

Fri 16 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

Big band performance, featuring the cream of Birmingham's jazz scene. Led by trumpeter / composer **Tom Syson** and saxophonist / composer **Mike Fletcher**.



© Johnathan Williams



## B:Music Jazzlines Summer School

60 participants and 24 tutors were welcomed to Symphony Hall for a free, non-residential 5 day course this summer. From masterclasses to composition and performance; for many, Summer School is a first step in their lifelong journey into jazz.

Don't miss the next great event by checking the listings at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

# retrospective

## Dec



### Emma Bunton & Friends

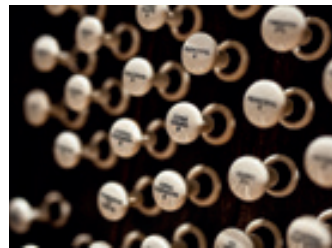
Sat 17 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Emma Bunton's Christmas Party will see her performing songs from her own back catalogue as well as some classic Spice Girls tracks and all your favourite festive hits. Emma will also be bringing along some very special guests, soon to be announced.

### Carols By Candlelight

Sun 18 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

A sublime concert of carols and seasonal classics, staged in full 18th Century costume in an evocative candle-lit style setting.



### Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter: Sing Carols with the City Organist

Mon 19 Dec | Town Hall | 1PM

Birmingham City Organist since 1983, Thomas Trotter is one of the world's top-ranking virtuoso organists and was awarded the 2020 Queen's Medal for Music.

### Jools Holland 2022: Special Guest Vic Reeves & Roland Gift

Mon 19 - Tue 20 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The tour follows the release of Jools Holland's latest star-studded album, 'Pianola, Piano & Friends', which came out in November 2021 and features musical luminaries David Gilmour, Sir Tom Jones, Jamie Cullum, Joe Bonamassa and many more.



### Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel

Tue 20 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel celebrate their 50th Anniversary this year. These very special shows will include songs from the vast and eclectic Harley Songbook. 'Mr Soft', 'Judy Teen', 'Sebastian' and the legendary 'Make Me Smile' and more from an incredible career.

# Dec



## Christmas at the Movies

Thu 22 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Big screen Christmas live on stage – join the **London Concert Orchestra** for great music from festive films.

## The Notebenders Christmas Special

Fri 23 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

The **Notebenders** community big band close the year with celebratory Christmas special.



## Christmas Carol Singalong

Fri 23 Dec | Symphony Hall | 2:30PM

A joyful mix of the very best Christmas songs and seasonal classics with **Jonathan Cohen** and **Louise Dearman**. One big festive party for all the family! This festive favourite has been raising the roof for over 20 years.

## A Dickensian Christmas

Fri 23 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Toast the Christmas spirit with Charles Dickens and celebrate the very best of Victorian carols, classics and a selection of readings from Dickens' A Christmas Carol.



## Christmas Spectacular

Sat 24 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

Christmas Spectacular is a cracker of a show with music, dance, lights and spectacle. The Symphony Hall will spring to life with high kicks, festive fun and special effects plus all the trimmings in the company of glittering West End vocalists, a full orchestra and our all-star Jingle Belle dancers.

# Tall Stories Presents **The Gruffalo**

Based on the picture book by **Julia Donaldson** and **Axel Scheffler**

Tue 27 Dec – Sun 15 Jan 2023 | Town Hall | various times



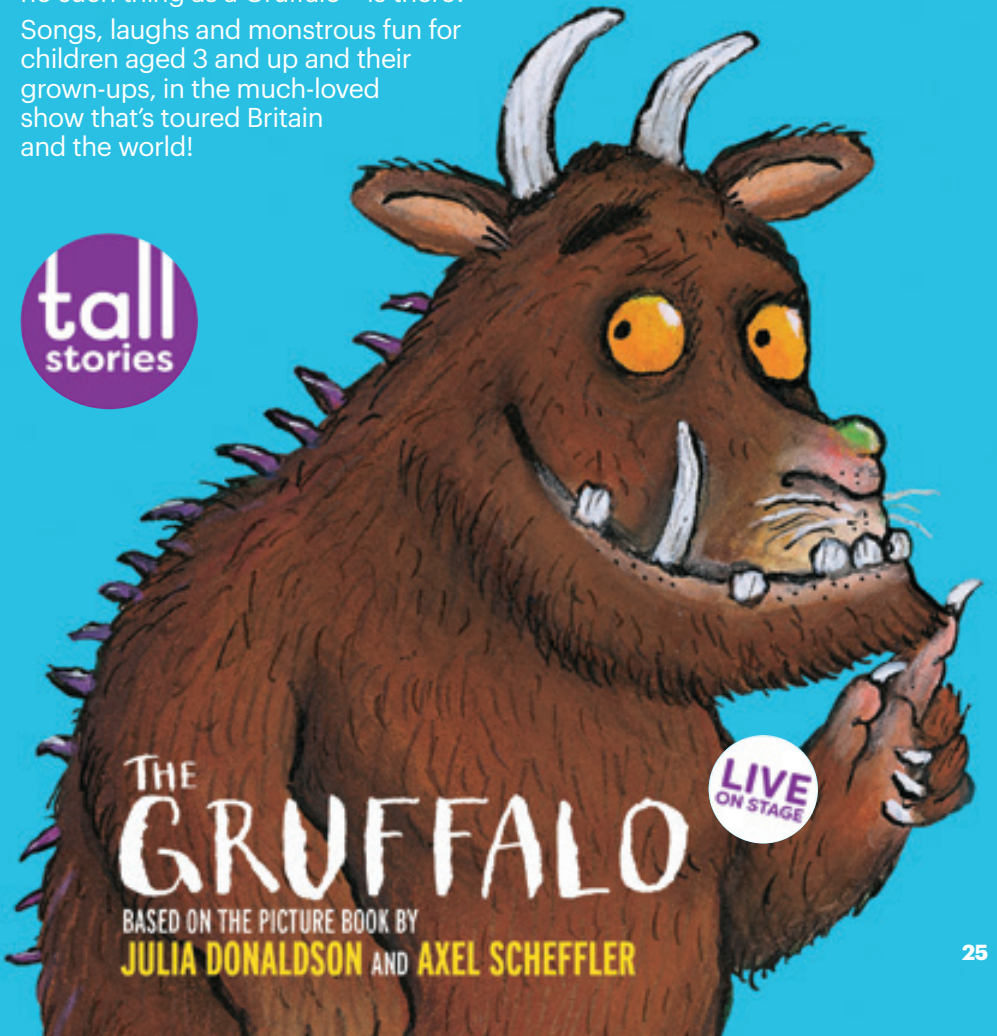
Performed by a company of deaf and hearing actors using spoken English, visual storytelling and BSL.

## A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood...

Join Mouse on a daring adventure through the deep, dark wood in Tall Stories' magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

Searching for hazelnuts, Mouse meets the cunning Fox, the eccentric old Owl and the high-spirited Snake. Will the story of the terrifying Gruffalo save Mouse from ending up as dinner for these hungry woodland creatures? After all, there's no such thing as a Gruffalo – is there?

Songs, laughs and monstrous fun for children aged 3 and up and their grown-ups, in the much-loved show that's toured Britain and the world!



THE  
**GRUFFALO**  
BASED ON THE PICTURE BOOK BY  
**JULIA DONALDSON** AND **AXEL SCHEFFLER**





## The Glenn Miller Orchestra

**Tue 27 Dec | Symphony Hall | 2:30PM**

The sensational **Glenn Miller Orchestra** swings you back in time playing Glenn Miller's own arrangements of favourite wartime chart toppers and hits from the forties directed by legendary band leader **Ray McVay**.

## The Best of John Williams

**Wed 28 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM**

From E.T. to Star Wars and beyond, nothing can compare to the iconic film scores of **John Williams**. Enjoy this concert packed full of the Hollywood heavyweight's most celebrated and iconic music.



## The Greatest Showtunes

**Thu 29 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM**

Celebrate the best of West End and movie musicals with this show-stopping concert packed full of the greatest show tunes of all time. Performed live on stage with sensational West End singers and the **London Concert Orchestra**.

## The Music of Zimmer vs Williams

**Fri 30 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM**

The **London Concert Orchestra** perform the best scores celebrating the two greatest film composers of all time in one fabulous programme.



## New Year's Eve Gala 2022/23

**Sat 31 Dec | Symphony Hall | 9:30PM**

A Symphony Hall tradition of great classics and fun to see in the New Year and all your New Year's Eve favourites! Why not make your night extra special and add a champagne or dining experience package? Find out more at **bmusic.co.uk**

Take a listen  
to the music of  
**January**

Book today at  
**bmusic.co.uk**



# retro spective

## Skip Marley

performed on 29 July 22 at Town Hall to celebrate the life and music of Bob Marley alongside Ruby Turner, JP Cooper and the Chineke! Orchestra, and introduced by Trevor Nelson.

Don't miss the next great event by checking the listings at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

## Jan



### Magic of Motown

Sat 7 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Seen by over a million people, now in its 16th year! It is no surprise that this show is one of the biggest success stories in British theatre history. Get ready for the biggest Motown party of the year.

### Shen Yun

Sat 7 & Sun 8 Jan | ICC Hall 1 | various times

Shen Yun presents an epic dance and music production that takes you on a journey through 5,000 years of Chinese civilisation. Featuring one of the world's oldest art forms – classical Chinese dance – Shen Yun brings to life the enchanting beauty and profound wisdom of ancient China.



### Free Jazz Friday

Fri 13, 20 & 27 Jan | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

Every Friday B:Music presents a free Jazz performance, details can be found on [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)



### Queen Extravaganza

Sat 14 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Queen Extravaganza, the official Queen tribute band produced by Roger Taylor and Brian May is returning to the UK! The band, who began touring back in 2012, are made up of a rolling cast of gifted musicians who have been hand-picked by Roger Taylor and Brian May.



### The Classic Rock Show

Thu 19 – Fri 20 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The Classic Rock Show is back bigger and even better, and celebrating, once again, the very best of Classic Rock. Paying tribute to its favourite rock heroes **CRS** thunders through legendary performances from the likes of Led Zeppelin, Dire Straits, The Who, Eric Clapton, AC/DC, Queen, The Eagles, Fleetwood Mac and many more.



## Kayhan Kalhor & Erdal Erzincan

Wed 25 Jan | Town Hall | 7PM

The classical music traditions of Persia and of Ottoman Turkey that inspire the music of **Kalhor** and **Erzincan** share a great deal in common, including the ancient modal compositional system known as maqam, and the idea of improvisation plays a definitive role in their intensely spiritual and emotional performances.

## Stewart Lee: Basic Lee A BRAND-NEW SHOW

Thu 26 - Fri 27 Jan  
Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

After a decade of ground-breaking high concept shows involving overarched interlinked narratives, massive sets and enormous comedy props, **Lee** enters the post-pandemic era in streamlined solo stand-up mode. One man, one microphone, and one microphone in the wings in case the one on stage breaks. Pure. Simple. Classic. Basic Lee.



## TALON: The 25th Anniversary Tour

Sat 28 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The '25th Anniversary Show' will feature the Eagle's timeless back catalogue including *Hotel California*, *Take It Easy*, *Life In The Fast Lane* and more. This world class seven-piece band have truly transcended the tag of 'tribute' and are not only revered by their peers, respected by the music industry but dearly loved by their fans.

# Free Jazz Fridays



Free jazz on the Jennifer Blackwell Stage at Symphony Hall every Friday at 5pm.

To check who is performing next, please visit [bmusic.co.uk/free-jazz-fridays](http://bmusic.co.uk/free-jazz-fridays)



# City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO), resident orchestra at Symphony Hall a B:Music Venue



**The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra is the flagship of musical life in Birmingham and the West Midlands and one of the world's great orchestras.**

Resident in Symphony Hall, a B:Music Venue, the CBSO typically gives over 150 concerts each year in Birmingham, the UK and around the world, playing all kinds of music for everyone of all ages from classical to contemporary including – film scores, family concerts, tribute nights, celebrations of musicals and opera, concerts for pre-schoolers and pensioners and everything in between. With a far-reaching community programme and a family of choruses and youth ensembles, it's involved in every aspect of music-making in the Midlands and at its centre is a team of 90 superb professional musicians.

## More than just classical...



### Street Music: Stravinsky, Ellington & Rota

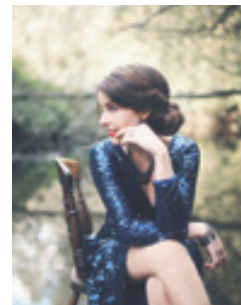
Thu 1 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

If you're looking for something different, then this concert should be top of your list! Opening with a cinematic score by the composer of The Godfather, followed by a wild, jazz-infused trumpet concerto, before the **CBSO** take in a swinging trip to jazz-age Harlem and riotous ballet in an old Russian fairground – both equally thrilling.

### A Swinging Christmas with the CBSO

Wed 21 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Tonight, the **CBSO** transforms itself into a seasonal time machine, with top West End vocalists singing the hit songs of Christmases gone by, from Frosty the Snowman and Jingle Bells to Sleigh Ride and of course White Christmas. Join us and get your festive spirit into the swing of things as all we want for Christmas is you!



### Viennese New Year

Sun 8 Jan 2023 | Symphony Hall | 3PM

The perfect pick-me-up for a Sunday afternoon in early January, offering the glitz and glamour of Vienna right here in Birmingham! It simply wouldn't be New Year without elegant waltzes, playful polkas, and good old-fashioned operetta romance. So let the CBSO, soprano **Anna Devin** and maestro **Christoph Alstaedt** whirl you into a new year feeling romanced, revitalised and ready for 2023!

### Classic FM Hall of Fame 2023

Fri 20 Jan 2023 | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

As a concert experience, think of the Classic FM Hall of Fame as being just like your favourite box of chocolates – a selection of the most delicious musical moments ever, handpicked by the **CBSO** just for you. There will be drama, love stories, even the occasional dinosaur – so, whatever your tastes, we guarantee there will be something you'll love!



# How to Book

**Online:** [bmusic.co.uk](http://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, 10am – 5pm  
(please check the website for full details as  
these are subject to change).  
Closed Sundays and Bank Holidays,  
except when there is an event  
(open two hours before event starts)

Town Hall's Box Office is open  
two hours before the start of  
a performance.

**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](http://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.

Access line: 0121 289 6343

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time of going to press and published in good  
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programme or names of artists: please check  
the event page on [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk) for latest  
updates both before booking and attending.

## Ticket Commissions

\*Some events may carry a £3 – £4 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. Concert packages and tickets under  
£15.01 are exempt from this commission but a  
£1.50 postage fee may be charged.

# Q&A with Digital Marketing Apprentice Ibi Keita



## Why did you choose an apprenticeship route?

*I chose to be an apprentice as the university route wasn't for me at the time. I needed experience in the field that I was hoping for and B:Music was the perfect balance between music and media so I just had to apply. I'm doing all the photography and content making I wanted to do while being surrounded with world class musicians.*

## What were your expectations before working with B:Music? Did it change?

*I expected B:Music to be much more formal and classical than it turned out to be. While it does have a deep connection to classical music, the things I have worked on have spanned from buying a Steinway piano to building magazine covers for poets and rappers for Beyond the Bricks of Brum. Everyone at the charity was so welcoming and the variety in music taste between staff is fascinating!*

## What kind of experiences were you not expecting? Were there any exciting projects / events you've been involved in?

*I never expected to be asked to take pictures of Bob Marley's grandson, Skip Marley, it was a slightly surreal experience, and I was so happy to have worked on the project. Meeting Jamie Anderson and holding the Thunderbirds on stage was also a childhood dream. I think the main thing I didn't expect was just how many connections I would make outside of work, I have done video and photo work with Xhosa Cole, David Austin Grey, Steve Saunders and many more from meeting them right here at B:Music and I couldn't thank them enough.*

## Do you have any advice for anyone wanting to work in this sector?

*My advice for people wanting to start working in this sector is to just go for it! Working here has set me up for a great career no matter where I work in the industry as I have been given so many responsibilities and experiences I couldn't get anywhere else.*



*"Working here has set me up for a great career"*

# B:Noticed



# B: Music's December to Remember

Help us give the gift of music to **10,000** young or vulnerable people, and local communities across Birmingham and the West Midlands.

## B:Festive and open your heart for Christmas.

**Just £10** could give an unpaid carer 90 minutes of musical rest and relaxation (and a cup of tea!) at our Musical Meet Ups

**£6.50** could enable a child with complex needs to enjoy our annual Families Together at Christmas performance

**£9.50** will give a school child in Handsworth their first live music experience

**£70** will enable a school child in Ladywood to learn a new instrument and perform on Symphony Hall's world-renowned stage.

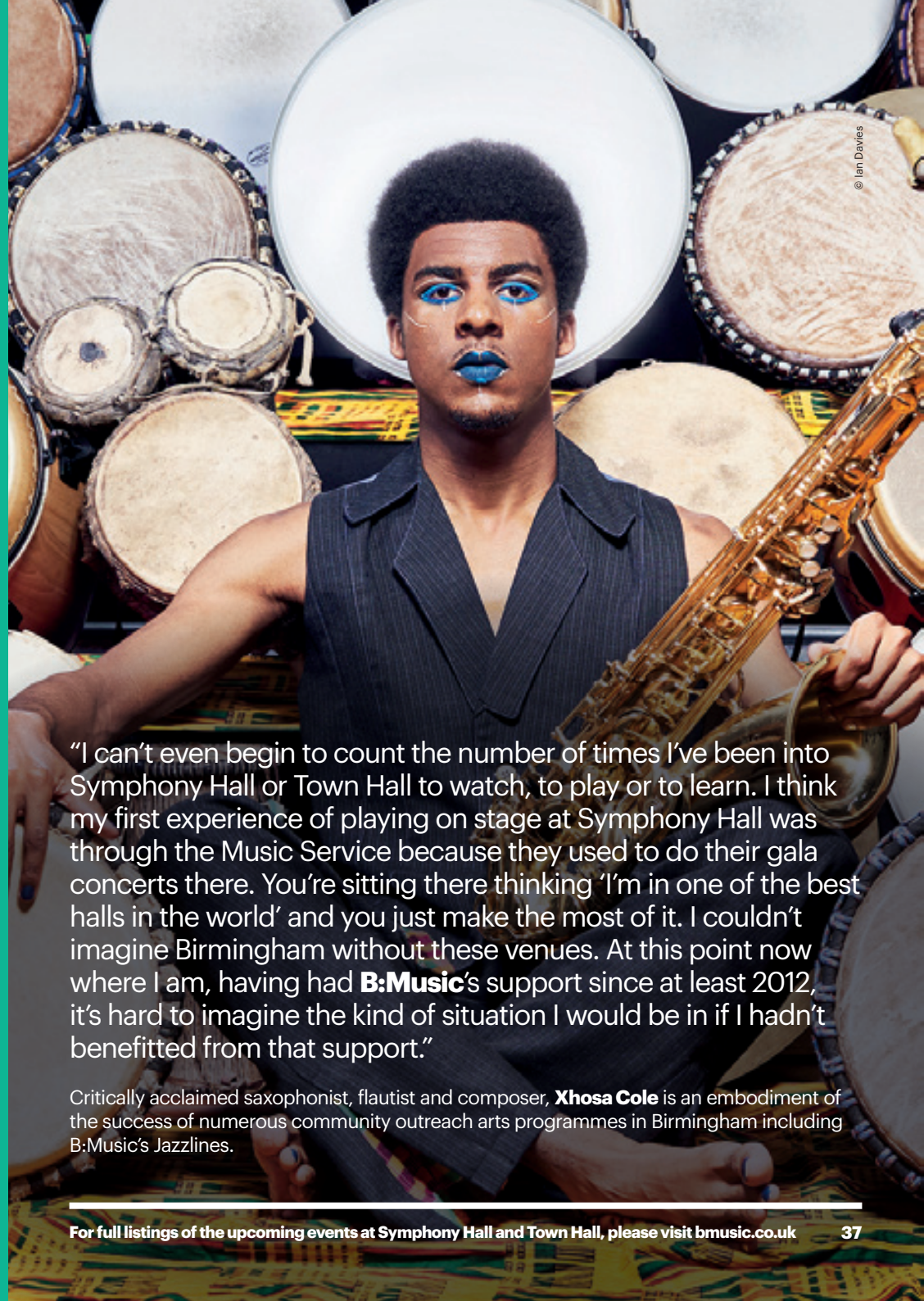
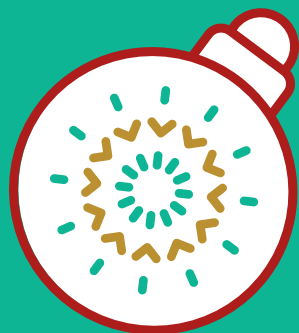
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- Making a donation
- Deck B:Music's halls by purchasing a Christmas Bauble for our Symphony Hall Christmas Tree
- Giving the gift of a B:Music Membership
- Share your musical memories with us on social media
- Naming a Seat in Symphony Hall

[bmusic.co.uk/december-remember](http://bmusic.co.uk/december-remember)



Scan to find out more



© Ian Davies

"I can't even begin to count the number of times I've been into Symphony Hall or Town Hall to watch, to play or to learn. I think my first experience of playing on stage at Symphony Hall was through the Music Service because they used to do their gala concerts there. You're sitting there thinking 'I'm in one of the best halls in the world' and you just make the most of it. I couldn't imagine Birmingham without these venues. At this point now where I am, having had **B:Music's** support since at least 2012, it's hard to imagine the kind of situation I would be in if I hadn't benefitted from that support."

Critically acclaimed saxophonist, flautist and composer, **Xhosa Cole** is an embodiment of the success of numerous community outreach arts programmes in Birmingham including B:Music's Jazzlines.

# Supporters



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# Films with a Live Orchestra at Symphony Hall



**Disney's  
Hocus Pocus**  
Tue 25 Oct | 7:30pm



**Home Alone**  
Mon 12 Dec | 7pm



**Love Actually**  
Tue 13 Dec | 7pm



**The Muppet  
Christmas  
Carol**  
Wed 14 Dec | 7pm

