

# B:Music [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

May  
June  
July



**The Madrigals come to  
Symphony Hall with  
Encanto in Concert –  
The Film With Live Orchestra!**



**This May, June and July promises an exciting and eclectic programme of performances on the B:Music stages at Town Hall and Symphony Hall.**

From **Phil Wang's** stand-up show to the exhilarating music of **The Lord of the Rings, Game of Thrones and beyond**, May will truly not disappoint. The **Birmingham Classical Season's** ending is on the horizon, but the trailblazing **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** vows to make it a finale to remember. June sees Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and GRAMMY Award winner **Bonnie Raitt** grace the Symphony Hall stage with her legendary tracks, while on the Jennifer Blackwell Stage, our Associate Artists, **Black Voices**, pay homage to the musical icons of Black Britain. Finally this July, B:Music's funded mass voices project, **Community Spirit**, returns to Symphony Hall after their extravagant 10th anniversary celebrations last year.

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

Aled Jones and Russel Watson reunited on 2 Dec 22 at Symphony Hall with new recordings of universally beloved Christmas tunes and songs from their brand-new album.

Photo © Paul W Dixon

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 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, while our evening menus offer a contemporary take on some firm favourites and some quick bite options – **B:Eats** is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the incredible views of Centenary Square before the 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  
**May, June  
and July**

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



# May



## Alyssa Edwards on Tour

Tue 2 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Justin Dwayne Lee Johnson, known by his stage name **Alyssa Edwards**, is an American entertainer, choreographer and television personality having appeared on *RuPaul's Drag Race Season 5*, *RuPaul's Drag Race All-Stars 2*, *America's Got Talent* and his notable Netflix docuseries, *Dancing Queen*.

## Kazuki conducts Scheherazade

Wed 3 May | Symphony Hall | 2:15pm

Every note tells a story... A concert to enchant! In 1001 Arabian Nights the Sultana Scheherazade saved her life by weaving fabulous tales for her husband night after night – Rimsky-Korsakov tells equally magical stories in this brilliant suite. More information about B:Music's resident orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at [cbsoco.uk](http://cbsoco.uk)



## Phil Wang: Wang In There, Baby!

Thu 4 May | Town Hall | 7:30pm

Hot off the heels of his critically-acclaimed Netflix special, David Letterman appearance, and role on *Life & Beth* with Amy Schumer, **Phil Wang** is bringing a brand-new stand-up show to Birmingham's Town Hall.

## Eric Bibb: Ridin' Tour

Fri 5 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Renowned Blues Troubadour and two-time Grammy Award nominee **Eric Bibb** and his band will perform the classics he is known and loved for, whilst introducing brand new material from his much-anticipated forthcoming album, *Ridin'*.



## Celebrating 40 Years of the London Community Gospel Choir Presents A Night to Remember

Sun 7 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

An evening of music celebrating 40 years of the **London Community Gospel Choir** plus special guest that will see this 'National Treasure' of a choir light up the stage with powerful vocals and exciting musical arrangements.



## Paul Dunmall 70th Birthday Celebration!

Sun 7 May | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 2PM

**Paul Dunmall** is without doubt one of the leading improvising saxophonists in the world, much in demand in the USA and across Europe. He was a member of the Divine Light Mission band which took him to California and to an Ashraf that worked with Alice Coltrane.

## Walter Trout

Wed 10 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Walter Trout's** backstory is a page-turner you won't want to put down. Five decades in the making; it is equal parts thriller, romance, suspense and horror. The veteran bluesman has seen and done it all - plays earth shattering blues rock music.



## Daniel O'Donnell

Thu 11 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Daniel O'Donnell's** career spans more than 30 years, racking up over 15 million album sales worldwide. The Donegal based singer, who is one of the most prolific and successful recording artists in the UK charts, is the only artist in the world to score a hit in the UK album charts every year since 1988.

## BCMG TREE

Fri 12 May | Town Hall | 6PM

The **Birmingham Contemporary Music Group** presents the long-awaited T R E E Concert! Join us in exploring the connections between nature and humankind in an enchanting musical programme that includes the world premiere of **Christian Mason's** new Sound Investment commission *The Singing Tree*.





## Jasmine Gardosi

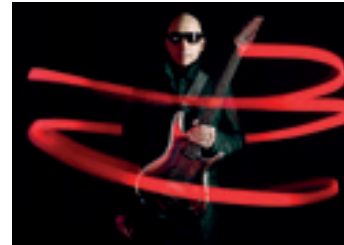
The Birmingham Poet Laureate performed alongside some of Birmingham's finest musicians in a sold-out show at the Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space on 24 Jan 23.

Don't miss the next great event. Check out B:Music's full listings at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

# retro:optive spectacles

© Shubham Jain

## May



### Joe Satriani

Fri 12 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

World-renowned guitar virtuoso, Joe Satriani returns to Birmingham in support of his 17th solo album. The live show will feature tracks from the new studio album released, plus he will perform many of his classic fan-favorites including *Surfing With The Alien*, *Always with Me*, *Always with You* and *Flying In A Blue Dream*.

### Rhiannon Giddens with Francesco Turrisi plus support Philippa Zawe

Sat 13 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The acclaimed musician **Rhiannon Giddens** uses her art to excavate the past and reveal bold truths about our present. Giddens co-founded the Grammy Award-winning **Carolina Chocolate Drops**. She most recently won a Grammy Award for Best Folk Album for *They're Calling Me Home* and was also nominated for Best American Roots Song for "Avalon" from *They're Calling Me Home*, which she made with multi-instrumentalist **Francesco Turrisi**.



An interview with Philippa Zawe who will be supporting Rhiannon Giddens and Francesco Turrisi.

#### "Rhiannon Giddens – from an early age she's been an inspiration for me.

To be able to perform on the same stage as someone I admire is exciting but also very terrifying. I'm very honoured to perform alongside an absolute legend. And to see what she's doing, with not just cross-genre but cross-culturally with Francesco is something that is incredibly inspiring to me. I'm excited to also be present just for what she's going to perform as well."



### Katie Melua

Mon 15 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Under 14s Accompanied by adult

In support of her brand new album *Love & Money*, **Katie Melua** will perform her classic hits including "Nine Million Bicycles" and "The Closest Thing To Crazy" plus songs from the new album.

# May



## Kerry Ellis

Mon 15 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The supremely talented singer-songwriter and actress **Kerry Ellis**, performs at Birmingham Town Hall in May in support of her 4th studio album, *Kings & Queens*.

## The Music of Lord of The Rings, Game of Thrones and Beyond

Fri 19 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Experience epic and inspirational music from *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, in this unmissable concert featuring the greatest movie music of all time.



## Sax in the City with Notebenders

Sat 20 May | 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.



## Gretchen Peters with special guest Kim Richey

Sat 20 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Blending shades of country-rock, indie-folk and Southern gothic with **Gretchen Peters'** smokily honeyed voice, it features all-female characters, from pre-teen to elderly, whose stories vividly illuminate both the personal and political.



## Mike and The Mechanics: Refueled!

Sat 20 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Mike + The Mechanics** are Genesis founding member Mike Rutherford (Guitar) – one of the UK's most prolific R&B singer, Andrew Roachford – Lead and backing vocals – (whose previous hits include *Cuddly Tour* and *Family Man*) and Canadian-born singer, Tim Howar – lead and backing vocals – who formed and toured with his band *Vantramp*, with the likes of Rod Stewart and Paulo Nutini.



Highlights of our Free Jazz Friday performances this summer.

## Yaatri

5 May

## Sultan Stevenson

12 May

## Aurora Rays

19 May

## Ethan Wood

26 May

## Daisy Houlder

2 June

## Cherise & the University of Birmingham Jazz Orchestra

16 June

Every Friday at 5pm at the Jennifer Blackwell Stage.

See full listings, secure your place and book today at at [bmusic.co.uk/free-jazz-fridays](http://bmusic.co.uk/free-jazz-fridays)

Please note there is a 2 tickets per order limit.

# Free Jazz Fridays

# The final B:Classical events of the Season



## Diana Tishchenko

Sun 14 May  
Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 11AM

In **Diana Tishchenko**, critics have discovered “a genuinely distinctive, individual voice”, praising her “beauty of tone,” and “astonishing maturity”. Solo engagements with leading European orchestras, a clutch of major international awards and a widely-acclaimed debut album in 2019, put her in the top rank of violinists to watch

## An Unforgettable Evening with Sir Willard White and Brodsky Quartet

Sun 14 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Two musical superpowers join forces to pay homage to the friendship between Frank Sinatra and the Hollywood String Quartet, with Great American Songbook standards and Sinatra numbers from the album Close to You.



## Estonian National Symphony Orchestra

Tue 16 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Making their first Birmingham appearance, the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and Olari Elts play a true Classic FM favourite – Rachmaninov’s romantic Third Piano Concerto. Barry Douglas’s international career was sealed when he won the Gold Medal at the 1986 Tchaikovsky Piano Competition.



## Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

Wed 17 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Using instruments of the period, the trailblazing **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** bring the music of the past to life in a way that’s inspiring and fresh in the 21st century.



# B:Thrifty

## for the Birmingham Classical Season

### KIDS GO FREE

One free ticket per child (aged 16 and under) for every adult ticket purchased

### FAMILY PLUS

One free ticket per child (aged 16 and under) for every adult ticket purchased. £5 for additional child tickets (aged 16 and under), no additional adult ticket necessary.

### 16 – 25s FOR £5

Tickets for just £5 are available for every Birmingham Classical 2022/2023 performance for those aged 16–25.

For full listings of the upcoming Birmingham Classical season, please visit [bmusic.co.uk/bclassical](https://bmusic.co.uk/bclassical)



# May



## Celebrating Meat Loaf

Sun 21 May | Symphony Hall | 8PM

Celebrate the legendary **Meat Loaf** and experience his hit songs performed brilliantly by The Neverland Express plus American Idol winner, Caleb Johnson.

## The Searchers

Sun 21 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**The Searchers** have decided to return for one more tour in the Spring of 2023 as a way of showing appreciation for a wonderful and successful career, which has lasted over six decades.



## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter

Mon 22 May | Town Hall | 1PM

Join Birmingham City Organist **Thomas Trotter** in his fortnightly lunchtime concerts that lasts around an hour and showcases the organ's sublime delicacy and awesome power – as well as his own technical wizardry – in some of the most inventive programmes you're ever likely hear.

## Jay Shetty World Tour: Love Rules

Mon 22 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

In this 90-minute experience, **Jay Shetty** will take the audience on a journey of finding, keeping, and even letting go of love. Including live meditations, experiments, and demonstrations, this will be an unforgettable and transformational evening.



## Tony Blackburn: Sound Of The 60s Live

Tue 23 May | Town Hall | 7:30PM

An evening of 60s classics performed by the Sounds Of The 60s All Star Band & Singers, hosted by Radio 2's legendary DJ, **Tony Blackburn**. The show features stories and songs from the most loved decade.

## Midge Ure – The Voice & Visions Tour

Thu 25 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Following the overwhelming response to 2019's 'The 1980 Tour', **Midge Ure & Band Electronica** are delighted to return to the road in 2023 with the 'Voice & Visions' tour, celebrating 40 years since the release of Ultravox's *Rage In Eden* and *Quartet* albums.



## Dan Whitehouse: A Night of Glass

Fri 26 May | Justham Family Room | 8PM

At this very special 'Night of Glass' Midlands singer-songwriter/guitarist **Dan Whitehouse** explores the thin and fragile layer between digital and emotional life with insightful songs reflecting on how much of our human experience and expression is now mediated through the looking glass of virtual communication.

## Queen Symphonic: A Rock Orchestra Experience

Fri 26 May | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The CBSO gets a rock-star makeover as they join forces with incredible vocalists (from the West End hit musical *We Will Rock You*) and a full rock band for a night of Queen's greatest hits. Join us for this symphonic spectacular which pays tribute to one of the UK's greatest ever rock bands and promises to be an epic night out! More information about B:Music's resident orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at [cbsoco.uk](http://cbsoco.uk)





# May



## Carrie Hope Fletcher: An Open Book

Mon 29 May | Symphony Hall  
7:30PM

Actress, author, vlogger and award-winning West End sensation **Carrie Hope Fletcher** is heading out on her first ever UK tour. Carrie Hope Fletcher -An Open Book will see the musical theatre star play a series of unmissable theatre shows. Performing songs from her incredible career expect fan favourites including hits from *Heathers*, *Les Miserables*, *The Addams Family* and many more interspersed with chat about Carrie's fascinating life and career.



This July, B:Music celebrates two years since the completion of our **Making an Entrance** campaign and the transformation of Birmingham's Symphony Hall.

The £13 million redevelopment introduced **B:Eats**, Symphony Hall's new eatery and the **Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space** with the aim of breaking down barriers and presenting local and emerging talent.

Just last year, 25 000 people attended 200 FREE events and workshops in our new spaces. We look forward to many more people and artists "making an entrance" at Symphony Hall for years to come.

To read more on the redevelopment and B:Music's mission, visit [bmusic.co.uk/news/mae](http://bmusic.co.uk/news/mae)

**B:Music's mission is to inspire a love of live music through performance, participation and learning. Last year...**

**25k**  
people attended  
**200**  
FREE events  
& workshops

**350**  
young people  
attended FREE  
music education  
workshops  
& events

we held  
**64**  
fully relaxed,  
inclusive  
performances

we helped  
**15k**  
young people  
perform on our  
stages

we provided  
paid work  
for over  
**300**  
artists &  
musicians

**500k**  
people attended  
over  
**850**  
events

we invested  
**£500k**  
in our funded education, engagement  
and participation programme for local  
people and communities

# B:Performing

Image: Romarna Campbell by Garry Corbett



## Nashville Sounds in the Round

Thu 1 June | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 7:30PM

Birmingham's premier country songwriter night 'Nashville Sounds In The Round' returns to the iconic Symphony Hall in partnership with B:Music!

## Jonathan Van Ness

Fri 2 June | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Under 14s to be accompanied by an adult 18+

**Jonathan Van Ness** is an Emmy-nominated television personality, New York Times best-selling author, podcaster, and hairstylist to the stars.



## Harriet

Fri 2 June | Justham Family Room & Jane How Room | 7:30PM

Following her hugely popular 20 date sell-out Piano Sessions tour in 2022, **Harriet** is back on the road to promote her brand new album, *The Outcome*, expected Spring 2023.

## Georgia Cécile

Sun 4 June  
Symphony Hall Stage | 8PM

Tipped as 'One To Watch' by *Wonderland Magazine* and *Jazz FM*, **Georgia Cécile** is at the helm of the new wave of UK jazz crossover artists. Inspired by the likes of Nancy Wilson, Duke Ellington and Stevie Wonder the vocalist and songwriter's debut album *Only The Lover Sings* topped the UK Jazz and Blues charts and remained in the Top 20 for its first 16 weeks and counting.



## Sun Records, The Concert: 70th Anniversary

Sun 4 June | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Revisit the blessed recording studio and the legendary record label that brought you Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Carl Perkins, Rufus Thomas and scores more rockin' pioneers, as they once again come to life live on stage.

## Did you know...

This performance of Sun Records is 60 years to the day since former Sun Records artist, **Roy Orbison**, visited Town Hall for a performance that was supported by **The Beatles**. Were you there during this historic show? Did you experience this first hand? We'd love to hear your story! Email us at [marketing@bmusic.co.uk](mailto:marketing@bmusic.co.uk)

## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter & Celia Craig

Mon 5 June | Town Hall | 1PM

Birmingham City Organist **Thomas Trotter**'s fortnightly lunchtime concerts last around an hour and showcase the organ's sublime delicacy and awesome power – as well as his own technical wizardry. This concert, Thomas will be joined with orchestral player **Celia Craig**.



## Workplace Voices 2023

Various dates | Symphony Hall | 1PM

Workplace Voices brings together workplace singers from across the City including the choirs of Birmingham City Council, HSBC and Newman University. Now we're opening up to anyone who works in the city to come and sing with others in their lunchbreak. Find out more at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

# An interview with **Shereece Storrod**

**Black Voices** have been Associate Artists for B:Music since 2005 and boasts an impressive performance history globally.



of Birmingham. And when we do things like **Community Spirit**, and we get to work with other choirs and vocal groups.”

The all-female a cappella quintet is no stranger to Town Hall and Symphony Hall. “It’s always “wow” when you tell people that you’re performing at Symphony Hall, but Town Hall always feels like home for **Black Voices**. It’s where our journey and our relationship with B:Music began many, many years ago – even before there was a Symphony Hall.”

With three upcoming performances in 2023 across both venues and the Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space, **Black Voices** promises to show different sides to their music this year. “[We’re loving] the new Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space and the different types of audiences that we get to encounter in that space. I love the intimacy of being able to be close to the audience and interact with them more.”

Interview by **Lerah Barcenilla**  
Photography by **Ibi Keita**



“Performing for the Pope in Laureto has to be up there,” says singer-songwriter and Artistic Director of **Black Voices**, **Shereece Storrod**. But her heart lies in Birmingham. “It’s weird because we do so many big things, you know, Ray Charles, Nina Simone – whilst it was all amazing, sometimes I like the lowkey gigs. Sometimes when we’re just here at the **Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space**, getting to perform for the people

Find out more about our Associate Artists, **Black Voices**, at [bmusic.co.uk/black-voices](https://bmusic.co.uk/black-voices)

## **Black Voices: The Sound of Black Britain**

**Sun 4 June | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 7:30PM**

Join **Black Voices** on a musical journey through the musical icons of Black Britain. The Birmingham-based female a cappella quintet, accompanied by a live band of talented musicians, take a trip down memory lane performing hit songs by Mica Paris, Loose Ends, Soul II Soul, Omar, Eternal, Five Star, Aswad, Maxi Priest, Jamelia and many more...

## **Black Voices: Christmas Extravaganza**

**Thu 7 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM**

After almost a decade, Birmingham-based female a cappella quintet **Black Voices** return to the historic Town Hall. This end-of-year concert will showcase the group’s outstanding vocal harmonies and feature special guests including Lichfield Community Gospel Choir, the Reggae Choir and more to-be-announced.

## **Women In (E)Motion: Black Voices x Agaama x Emily Saunders**

**Sat 9 March 2024 | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 3PM**

In celebration of International Women’s Day, Europe’s finest female a cappella quintet **Black Voices** join Agaama and Emily Saunders to pay tribute to some of the most iconic women in music.

## **Multibuy Offer**

5% off when you book two **Black Voices** Shows, and 10% off if you book all three





## Robert Cray Band

Sat 10 June | Town Hall | 8PM

Over the past four decades, **Robert Cray** has created a sound that rises from American roots, blues, soul and R&B, with five Grammy wins, 20 acclaimed studio and live albums that punctuate the Blues Hall of Famer's career.

## Jimmy Carr: Terribly Funny

Sun 11 June | Symphony Hall | 8PM

Star of the UK's most streamed Netflix comedy special of 2021, Jimmy is back on the road with brand new material for 2023.



## The Beat featuring Dave Wakeling with Bow Wow Wow feat. Annabella Lwin

Mon 12 June | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The Beat formed in 1979 and released their debut single, an infectious cover of the Smokey Robinson classic *Tears of A Clown* on 2-Tone Records which went straight into the UK national charts at #6. Along with their contemporaries The Specials, Madness and The Selecter, The Beat became an overnight sensation. Age guidance 18+

## Spiers & Boden

Tue 13 June | Symphony Hall Stage | 8PM

Described by The Guardian as 'the finest instrumental duo on the traditional scene', **Spiers & Boden** first rocketed onto the music scene in 2001, quickly winning a clutch of BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and going on to form and front the extraordinarily successful folk big band Bellowhead.



## Season Finale: Kazuki conducts Elgar's First Symphony

Wed 14 June | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

A celebration of British music across over 100 years. Elgar's Symphony No. 1 is bursting with energy and an endless supply of tunes. Britten's Serenade is a group of brilliant songs and British music is alive and well in the form of a brand-new piece by **Dani Howard**. More information about B:Music's resident orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at [cbso.co.uk](http://cbso.co.uk)



## The Makings of a Murderer

Thu 15 June | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Join The Scottish Detective, **David Swindle**, for a chilling, thrilling, night at the theatre. True crime fans, and those with a curious mind, can explore the cases, the circumstances and the detective's perspective on what really went on, the early warning signs and the clues behind *The Makings of a Murderer*!

## Bonnie Raitt

Thu 15 June | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Under 14 accompanied by an adult 18+

Rock and Roll Hall of Famer **Bonnie Raitt** continues to draw on the range of influences that have shaped her legendary career, while creating something that speaks to the circumstances and challenges of these unprecedented times.



## Mnozil Brass: Gold

Fri 16 June | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Exclusive UK Date!** See the world class musicians with their pioneering unique style: Everyone will find something to love in this exciting high-energy performance. Bring your friends, bring your family, bring your party spirit!

## The Music of Zimmer vs Williams

Sat 17 June | 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 including music from *Star Wars*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Harry Potter* and *Jurassic Park*.



## Steve Earle

Sat 17 June | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Steve Earle** is one of the most acclaimed singer-songwriters of his generation. A protege of legendary songwriters Townes Van Zandt and Guy Clark, he quickly became a master storyteller in his own right.

## Beethoven's Ninth

Sun 18 June | Symphony Hall | 3PM

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, City of Birmingham Choir and the Birmingham Choral Union perform a breathtaking all-Beethoven concert, featuring the master's final *Symphony No. 9, The Choral Symphony*, with its climactic *Ode to Joy*.



## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter: Elizabethan Serenade: A programme of British Light Music

Mon 19 June | Town Hall | 1PM

Thomas Trotter's fortnightly lunchtime concerts last around an hour and showcase the organ's sublime delicacy and awesome power – as well as his own technical wizardry – in some of the most inventive programmes you're ever likely hear.

## Free Jazz Friday: A Celebrating Sanctuary & Refugee Week special with Herbie Tsoaeli

Fri 23 June | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 5PM

Herbie Tsoaeli's music is rooted in Afrikan Time ethos—as music of the future, guided by spirits, energies and vibrations from the past. It is inspired from the soil of Africa – that in turn inspires its own unique elements of creativity and expression.



## A year since Beyond the Bricks of Brum...

On June 17 2022, under the baton of Principal Guest Conductor, **Dalia Stasevska**, and featuring arrangements and orchestrations by **Jules Buckley**, the **BBC Symphony Orchestra** played brand new arrangements and compositions alongside **Black Voices**, **Casey Bailey** and **Sanity** at Symphony Hall. Featuring over 100 musicians, this celebration of Birmingham's music and spoken word scene was called **Beyond the Bricks of Brum**.

"From an early stage in our planning for the Birmingham 2022 Festival at **B:Music**, we wanted to ensure that we used this opportunity to champion the musical, spoken word and poetry talent from Birmingham on a global scale whilst the eyes of the world were on our city for the Commonwealth Games," says B:Music's Head of Programme, **Chris Proctor**. "The pinnacle of this resulted in **Beyond the Bricks of Brum**, alongside supporting other key Festival initiatives that celebrated the city such as On Record, Key to the City and the Victoria Square Festival Site, in partnership with other organisations like Birmingham Music Archive, Fierce Festival and OPUS."

"Performing at Symphony Hall as part of the **Beyond the Bricks of Brum** was an unforgettable experience for me. Collaborating with the **BBC Symphony Orchestra** and other incredible musicians



and poets to celebrate Birmingham and the midlands was a true blessing," poet and rapper **John Bernard** recalls. "The year prior to my performance, I recall walking past the Symphony Hall and expressing to my friend my desire to, one day, have the opportunity to perform there. As fate would have it, a few months later, I received the news that I would indeed have the chance to grace the Symphony Hall stage!"

"Working on **Beyond the Bricks of Brum** was a real career highlight! To share the stage with an orchestra whose size was only surpassed by its quality and number of the shining lights of the Birmingham performing scene was a privilege and a blessing," echoes **Casey Bailey**.

One year on, these artists have found success in and beyond Birmingham. "I've been on a UK tour, performed at Shambala & Godiva festival, also currently supporting youth organisations by doing 1-2-1 music mentoring," says **John Bernard**.

"Since Beyond the Bricks of Brum I've been straight back to work," **Casey Bailey** says. "My poetry pamphlet *From This Soil* was published by The Broken Spine, so check that out!"

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

# Jun



## The High Kings XV Tour

Fri 23 June | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Widely regarded as the standard-bearer for their genre **The High Kings** continue to surprise and delight and "The High Kings XV TOUR" together with 15 newly reimagined tracks is just the beginning of their electrifying plans for 2023.

## Chris Hadfield

Fri 23 June | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Join Canadian astronaut and ex-commander of the International Space Station, **Chris Hadfield**, for a mind-expanding evening of exploration, imagery, stories, and music.



## Shalamar: Friends 40th Anniversary

Sun 25 June | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The Friends 40th Anniversary tour commences in June 2023 and for the very first time the band will perform the entire album live in concert –all 10 tracks from the album in full.

## Nell Bryden: Arms Around the Flame

Tue 27 June | Justham Family Room & Jane How Room | 7:30PM

After the success of her tour in 2022, **Nell Bryden** is back on the road with an extensive set of dates promoting her latest album *Arms Around The Flame*.



## Legend: The Music of Bob Marley

Fri 30 June | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Legend – the Music of Bob Marley** is an unforgettable evening celebrating this musical icon in one fantastic stage show extravaganza. Combining his superb, distinctive vocals with flawless musicianship, a supremely talented cast recreate the timeless hits.



# retrospective

## Transatlantic Sessions

celebrated its 20th edition at Symphony Hall on 9 Feb 23.

Don't miss the next great event. Check out B:Music's full listings at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

# Community Spirit

© Johathan Williams

**Community Spirit** is a B:Music funded project in partnership with our Associate Artists, **Black Voices**. The project offers local community choirs the opportunity to share repertoire and perform as a collective in a large-scale concert in Symphony Hall.



23 July | Symphony Hall | 3pm

In 2022, **Community Spirit** celebrated their 10th anniversary, with over 750 singers performing a brand-new commission for the **Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games**.

"It's always a highlight in our calendar," says **Louise Blackburn**, the Choir Leader of **Voices Entwined**. "Last year was amazing, but **Community Spirit** just gets better and better."

**CeCelia Wickham** of **Black Voices** adds: "Last year was definitely a landmark for **Community Spirit**, and it does make you wonder if we can top that. But every year brings something different – old choirs, new choirs and exciting repertoire."

Following this incredible success, the highly acclaimed concert returns this year with the theme '*Celebrating Songs of the Earth*', including an exciting, commissioned performance by **Birmingham Poet Laureate**, award-winning spoken word artist, multi-slam champion and beatboxer **Jasmine Gardosi**.

"It's been interesting to get a taste of each choir's interpretation of that in the rehearsals," says **CeCelia**. "I think you can expect a wide variety of styles and songs you probably wouldn't readily associate with the Earth. The choirs are excited, and I can already hear how wonderful the sound will be in this great space."

Don't miss **Community Spirit** on Sun 23 July at Symphony Hall. Please support this wonderful event and B:Music's work in the community by buying a ticket or donating. Find out more about **Community Spirit** at [bmusic.co.uk/make-music](https://bmusic.co.uk/make-music)

B:Music funded project **Community Spirit** celebrated their 10th anniversary at Symphony Hall on 10 July 22.



## Sax in the City with Notebenders

Sat 1 July | 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.



## Cirque

Sat 1 July | Town Hall | 2PM & 6PM

Welcome to Cirque, the award-winning, smash-hit circus musical that is fun for all the family. Let us take you on a truly wondrous journey as a monochrome life, bursts joyously into kaleidoscopic colour.



## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter: Summer Requests

Mon 3 July | Town Hall | 1PM

In this special 'end of term' concert, Thomas Trotter plays a range of pieces selected by the audience from the music he's performed during this season's Lunchtime Organ Concerts.

## Mostly Jazz Funk & Soul Festival: B:Music Stage

Fri 7 – Sun 9 July | Moseley Park  
Sat 8 July | B:Music Stage

Mostly Jazz Festival returns in 2023 and once again B:Music have joined in partnership for this fantastic celebration of music in the heart of the West Midlands.



## Ustad Rahat Fateh Ali Khan: Just Qawali

Sun 9 July | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

After his sell out Arena Shows in 2022, the musical maestro is back to perform a once in a lifetime performance of Qawali in an up close and personal setting.

## Services for Education Proms

Mon 10 – Thu 13 July  
Symphony Hall | 7PM

Over four nights, Services For Education will showcase the musical talents over 3000 young musicians from across Birmingham. Featuring performances from SFE Central Ensembles, Area Ensembles, School Based Ensembles and Birmingham Schools' Primary Choir.



## Pop Voices 10th Anniversary

Sat 15 July | Town Hall | 3PM

Created in 2013, by choir director **Anya Small**, **Pop Voices** brings together amateur singers ranging from age six to 80-years young, many of whom had never sung in public before, and the result is magical. The choir will be celebrating their 10 year anniversary by performing their favourite repertoire.

## Troy Hawke

Sat 22 July | Town Hall | 8PM

Guidance 16+

Having sold every ticket available at the 2022 Edinburgh Fringe and being listed as one of the top 40 best reviewed comedy shows, star of the viral Greeters Guild online series (over a million followers across all platforms), **Troy Hawke** brings his new show to Town Hall.







## Anton & Giovanni: Him & Me

Sat 29 July | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Guidance 8+

*Strictly Come Dancing* judge **Anton Du Beke** and 2021 champion **Giovanni Pernice** join forces for their spectacular tour – Him & Me!

## Encanto In Concert – The Film with Live Orchestra

Mon 31 July | Symphony Hall | 3PM

Film Rated PG for some thematic elements and mild peril.

Walt Disney Animation Studios' Academy Award®-winning film, **Encanto**, comes to life in a UK tour for the first time ever, featuring the entire feature-length film with a full orchestra performing the score.



## B:and Together

Twice a month on Saturday afternoons | Symphony Hall | various times

Are you aged between 11 and 19 years old? Are you from Birmingham or the surrounding areas? Do you want to develop your music and performance skills while learning more about gospel and jazz music? Find out more about **B:and Together** and the upcoming sessions at [bmusic.co.uk/make-music](https://bmusic.co.uk/make-music)



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# Sneak Peek

 at shows coming soon

Full listings available at [bmusic.co.uk](https://bmusic.co.uk)



## Grayson Perry: A Show All About You

Fri 22 Sep  
Symphony Hall

## Simon Reeve: To The Ends Of The Earth

Mon 9 Oct  
Symphony Hall



## Fascinating Aïda: The 40th Anniversary Show!

Thu 26 – Fri 27 Oct  
Town Hall

## The Australian Pink Floyd

Mon 27 – Tue 28 Nov  
Symphony Hall



## The Bootleg Beatles

Thu 7 Dec  
Symphony Hall

# B:Music Meets...

Learn more about some of the artists gracing the Symphony Hall and Town Hall stages through a series of interviews with B:Music.

"I went to the **Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Orchestra** performance in 2012 at Symphony Hall which was really cool. That was the first live jazz performance I'd seen of that kind. I learnt so much about arrangements, on-stage interaction between band members and the sound was just phenomenal as well. That's one that really sticks out."

**Ashley Allen, in conversation with B:Music ahead of his performance back in March 2023.**



Scan to read more interviews from B:Music's artists or visit **bmusic.co.uk**

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## 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, 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 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

Once you've enjoyed reading this brochure, please recycle. You can find out more about what B:Music is doing to **B:Green** at: [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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We may collect personal data from you when you buy a ticket in person, over the phone or via **bmusic.co.uk**. We may collect data when you join or renew a membership with B:Music, ask us to send you information, make a donation, pledge a legacy, attend an event, visit our premises, or participate in a project or group. From time to time we may contact you by post, email, or phone to inform you about relevant concerts, events, services or activities we believe will be of interest, as well as opportunities to support our work. You have the option to change any of your contact preferences at any time by logging into your B:Music online account or by contacting **unsubscribe@bmusic.co.uk**. Our full Privacy Policy can be found at **bmusic.co.uk**.

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### 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. E-tickets will be sent free of charge. Customers do have an option for postage at a cost of £2.00 per order.

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Naming a seat gives you the chance to leave a lasting impression. It is the perfect gift to honour a family member or music lover, a way to share your love of performance, celebrate a special occasion, or simply to remember the fantastic concerts and events you have enjoyed.

## Name Your Seat...

- Make a donation to support our charitable work with young musicians, community projects, programme of free gigs, and so much more
- Personalise your plaque with an inscription of up to 46 characters
- We'll proudly display your plaque for 10 years
- Visit your seat plaque for a photo
- Share your story with us and on social media



*"The seat is in the name of Jane who was my wife for 69 years and we were great followers of Symphony Hall right from the day it opened 30 plus years ago. We were here more often than not and loved every moment of it..."*

**PETER HOW** SUPPORTER AND NAME A SEAT DONOR



[bmusic.co.uk/support-us/name-a-seat](https://bmusic.co.uk/support-us/name-a-seat)  
Scan to find out more

Peter How photographed by Jason Sheldon/Junction10 Photography

# B:Lucky

## with the B:Music Spring Lottery

Enter the **B:Lucky Lottery** for just £5 and the chance to win; 3 pairs of tickets to gigs of your choice; a VIP Backstage tour of Symphony Hall or Town Hall; and a Silver Patron Membership for 12 months (worth £250). Entries close at 12:00 on Saturday 13th May 2023. One winner will be chosen at random.

Proceeds from the lottery will support **B:Music's** charitable work with young musicians, community projects, programme of free gigs, and so much more. You can help us achieve our mission – to inspire a love of live music, through performance, participation and learning across Birmingham and beyond.

Find out more about what we do by visiting [bmusic.co.uk/what-we-do-2](https://bmusic.co.uk/what-we-do-2)



Full terms and conditions can be found: [bmusic.co.uk/blucky](https://bmusic.co.uk/blucky)

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**Fri 16 Jun | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM**

High-Energy fun for the whole family

