

# B:Music

bmusic.co.uk

23/24

November  
December  
January



**Enjoy iconic  
animated films  
with a live  
orchestra at  
Town Hall this  
Christmas**

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**B:Music** The Birmingham music charity responsible for Town Hall and Symphony Hall

**This November, December and January sees an exciting programme of performances at two of Birmingham's iconic venues. Celebrate the end of the year and welcome the new with a variety of shows on B:Music stages, Town Hall and Symphony Hall.**

**Beverley Knight** returns to Symphony Hall in November to perform fan favourites along with brand new songs in celebration of her milestone 50th birthday. The **B:Classical 2023/24 season** is now in full swing with the **MultiPiano Ensemble** and **Boris Gilburg** in the lead up to December. Celebrate with B:Music Associate Artists **Black Voices** as they deck the halls of Town Hall with festive favourites drawing from their African, Caribbean and British heritage. Films with orchestras such as **The Muppet Christmas Carol** and **Love Actually In Concert** return to Symphony Hall. Join us as 2023 comes to a close with our **New Year's Eve Gala**, a Symphony Hall tradition, or travel back in time and dance to your favourite 80s anthems with **BBC Radio 2 Sounds of the 80s: The Live Tour**.

Visit [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk) to see more information on what is coming to our venues over the next few months and beyond.

**Horrible Histories, Horrible Christmas** returns to Symphony Hall on Thu 28 Dec for a terrific tale of Christmas!

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 generous donations.

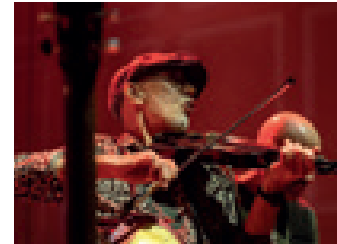


# B: Eats

Join us 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. Our evening pre-performance 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. No booking necessary.

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

## Nov



### Lindisfarne

Wed 1 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

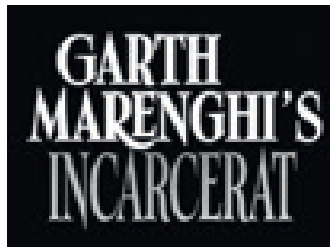
Tyneside folk-rock pioneers **Lindisfarne** first grabbed the attention of the country in 1970 with their debut album 'Nicely Out of Tune'. The classic five-piece line up of long time members will be fronted by original founder-member **Rod Clements** on vocals, mandolin, fiddle and slide guitar.

### Two Mr Ps in a Podcast Live: The Show and Tell Tour

Thu 2 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Age Guidance 16+

Join the **Two Mr Ps** as they take their award-winning podcast on the road again with the ultimate show and tell lesson, sharing some of the most embarrassing, cringey and downright hilarious stories from the classroom and from teachers all over the UK.



### Garth Marengi's Incarcerat Book Tour

Fri 3 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Age Guidance 16+

Following the massive success of his long-lost novel *TERRORTOME*, Sunday Times Bestseller & Archduke O' Darkdom, **Garth Marengi** is back with his latest masterpiece, *INCARCERAT*.

### Symphony Hall Public Tours

Various dates | Symphony Hall  
Various times

Returning for the first time in 5 years, take a look behind the scenes at Symphony Hall with your very own tour! Learn about the history, tech and everything that goes into putting on world class shows year round – you may even get a chance to be on stage yourself!



# Nov



## Sax in the City with the Notebenders

Sat 4 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 1:30PM

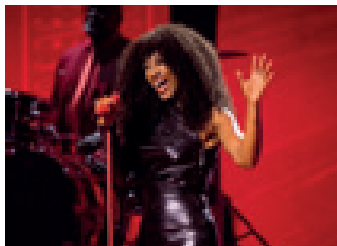
B:Music welcome back the Ladywood-based community big band to Symphony Hall to uplift with their unique mix of jazz and calypso music.

## Peace

Sat 4 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Guidance 14+ (Under 14s must be accompanied by an adult)

The scoop is that after spending two years in Exmoor, the band **PEACE** will be returning as a duo, and according to Sam and Harry Koisser "will be run like one of the great Italian fashion houses."



## Beverley Knight

Sat 4 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Beverley Knight** has been one of the UK's most consistent artists for almost three decades. Celebrating her incredible career over the years, the tour also marks her milestone 50th birthday. Back together with her live band expect a fun-filled night where she will perform all of her classic hits and fan favourites along with brand new songs.

## Kevin Bloody Wilson

Mon 6 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM Age Guidance 18+

There are few international comedians today who shoot down political correctness with such comedic pin point accuracy as Australia's **Kevin Bloody Wilson**. While today's Age Of Outrage has his contemporaries ducking for cover for fear of being cancelled, Kev crushes PC eggshells with the grace and diplomacy of a wounded buffalo.



## Norah Jones

Mon 6 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Norah Jones** has been a steady voice of warmth and reassurance since her cozy 2002 debut album *Come Away with Me*. Jones is a nine-time GRAMMY-winner, has sold more than 50 million albums, and her songs have been streamed six billion times worldwide.

# B:Music

THE SOUNDTRACK TO YOUR STUDENT LIFE

Our new  
**FREE**  
student membership!

Visit our  
student page for  
more information

Scan the QR code for **deals, discounts** and curated **playlists** featuring **local artists, Brummie legends** and stars of the **B:Music stages!**





Highlights of our Free Jazz Fridays performances this winter.

**Diwali Special**

10 Nov

**Millicent James**

17 Nov

**Birmingham Jazz Orchestra**

15 Dec

**Vato Klemera**

12 Jan

**Rebecca Wing**

19 Jan

Every Friday at 5pm at the Jennifer Blackwell Stage.

**PLUS Incubator Sessions**

Tue 14 Nov & Tue 12 Dec

To check who is performing next, please visit [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

© Garry Corbett

## Nov



**Stuart Broad**

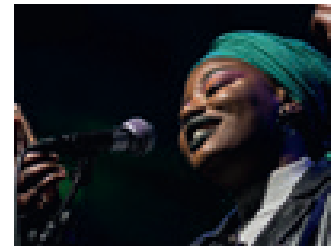
Tue 7 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Fresh off the field after taking his final wicket, join one of England's greatest cricketers **Stuart Broad** as he divulges the highs and lows of a sensational 17-year long career, to celebrate the release of his new sporting memoir *Stuart Broad: The Autobiography*.

**Celebrating Sanctuary ft. Rihab Azar (Syria)**

Thu 9 Nov | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 1PM

Enjoy music from around the globe as part of the **Celebrating Sanctuary** Lunchtime Concerts series, in partnership with B:Music at Symphony Hall. Strongly influenced by Middle-Eastern music, Syrian oud player **Rihab Azar** has played and written music for projects involving storytelling, visual arts, film, TV programmes, radio and theatre plays.



**Poetry Jam**

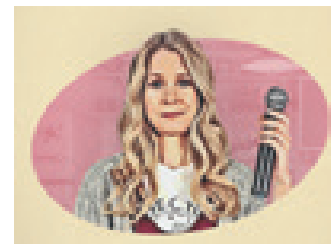
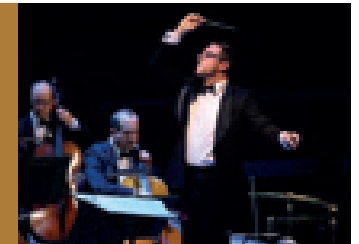
Thu 9 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7PM

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.

**John Wilson and his Sinfonia of London: Hollywood's Greatest Hits**

Thu 9 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

With special guest soloists **Kim Criswell** and **Jamie Parker**. Fabulous new show featuring hit songs *Singin' in the Rain*, *Over the Rainbow*, *S'Wonderful*, *High Society*, *They Can't Take That Away From Me*, *That's Entertainment* and many more performed by an all-star 70 piece orchestra of world class musicians.



**Lucy Beaumont: The Trouble and Strife**

Thu 9 Nov | Town Hall | 8PM

Age Guidance 14+

Award-winning stand-up comedian BEFORE she met Jon Richardson, **Lucy Beaumont** is going to let loose and let slip on her roller coaster world. Life through the Beaumont lens is more surreal than you could ever imagine.



## Paul Young: Behind The Lens

Fri 10 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

He's been a major star for four decades. Now, on the 40th anniversary of No Parlez, **Paul Young's** releasing a remarkable new record and publishing his extraordinary memoir; both called *Behind The Lens*. Join Paul Young as he meets fans, sings hits and tells stories about his incredible career.

## Ben Folds

Fri 10 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Ben Folds** is one of the major music influencers of our generation. He returns with *What Matters Most*, his first studio album in eight years. He will combine his new album with his own choice of songs from his whole career. Guitarist and singer Lau Noah will open the show – a thrilling new voice from Catalonia via New York.



## The Gruffalo, The Giant and The Mermaid with Julia Donaldson

Fri 10 Nov – Sat 11 Nov | Town Hall | Various times

Packed full of songs, puppetry, and audience interaction, join Harry and Betty at their scarecrows wedding. Go on an adventure with Cave Baby and a woolly mammoth to see if the grumpy Go-Away Bird would like a friend after all. Every performance will be followed by a book signing with **Julia Donaldson**.

## The Brand New Heavies: Live with the London Concert Orchestra

Sat 11 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Thirty-five years since the release of their debut single and with a legacy spanning decades, The **Brand New Heavies** are back with their greatest hits, *Never Stop... The Best Of*.



## An Evening with Wahaj Ali & Sarmad Qadeer

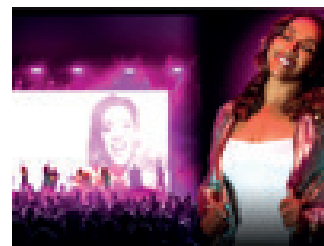
Sat 11 Nov | Town Hall | 8PM

This exclusive and intimate event invites you to a one-of-a-kind experience, where two personalities of Pakistani entertainment will share their talents and stories in a setting that resonates with the magic of Birmingham's iconic Town Hall.

## Classical Spectacular

Sun 12 Nov | Symphony Hall 3PM

Enjoy some of the very best classical music, dazzling lasers and special effects including *Nessun Dorma* and *Land of Hope and Glory*. Don't miss this sensational concert which has become a Symphony Hall tradition.



## Sister Sledge Live: Thinking of You

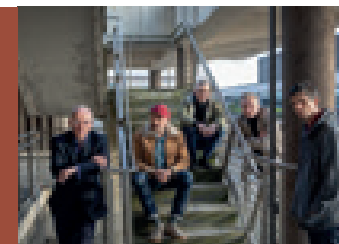
Mon 13 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Kathy Sledge's** unique soulful vocals and infectious energy captures audiences with an electrifying performance. Expect all the hits *Lost in Music*, *We are Family*, *The Greatest Dancer*, *My Guy* and many more.


## Teenage Fanclub with support Sweet Baboo

Tue 14 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Scottish indie icons **Teenage Fanclub** comes to Birmingham Town Hall, performing their first live shows since 2019, in celebration of the band's 11th studio album, *Nothing Lasts Forever*.



# B:The Future

Become a part of our mission to inspire a love of live music and to support the artists of the next generation. 

## B:and Together

Our subsidised music-making programme, consists of three strands:

- **B:and Together Jazz and Gospel:** Creative music making workshops, twice a month on Saturday afternoons.
- **B:and Together Summer School:** A free, five-day music making course where young musicians learn from a diverse group of industry professionals and connect with their local communities.
- **B:and Together education outreach:** Working in partnership with Services For Education to deliver creative music making workshops to schools based in deprived areas in Birmingham.

All strands aim to ignite a love for music and celebrate the heritage of children across different schools and communities within Birmingham.

## B:Aspirational

A free and accessible talent development programme offering training opportunities across 2 strands:

- **Aspiring Music Leaders:** Providing young musicians with hands on experience in music workshop leadership in a range of primary and secondary schools across the city.
- **College Partnerships:** Providing work experience with our Production and Tech teams and access to free show tickets for college students living in Levelling Up areas in the West Midlands.

This programme aims to support young adults looking to pursue a career in the music industry and offers a direct progression route from our B:and Together programme.

## StE.P Up

B:Music's free and accessible DJing and Production course for neurodivergent identifying children ages 11 to 16 learning in mainstream schools. The project aims to offer an alternative route to develop skills in music technology including DJing, production and live sound recording.

**With thanks to all our generous funders and supporters who make these programmes possible.**

© Johnathan Williams

# Nov



## Eddie Izzard: The Remix

Wed 15 Nov – Fri 17 Nov  
Symphony Hall | 8PM

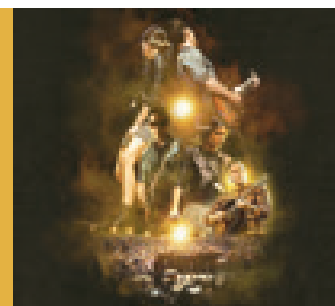
Age Guidance 16+

**Eddie Izzard: The Remix** is a chance for Eddie, inspired by her ever-loyal audiences to remix and re-imagine some of her own favourite, personal comedy highlights. This show promises to be a beautiful, hilarious journey spanning a 35-year career of thought provoking, intelligent and surreal ideas. Who could resist?

## Far From Saints

Wed 15 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

When **Kelly Jones** (leader of the legendary Welsh band **Stereophonics**) and **Patty Lynn** met backstage during a U.S. tour in 2013, they hardly knew each other but sensed an undeniable musical chemistry. Six years later, they proved their theory in a UK studio – and **Far From Saints** were born.

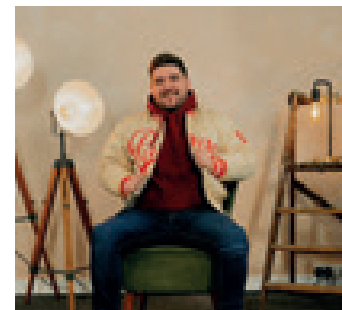


## Adam Rowe: What's Wrong With Me

Fri 17 Nov | Town Hall | 8PM

Age Guidance 14+

Host of the global smash-hit podcast *Have A Word & star of Live At The Apollo*; **Adam Rowe** is bringing his brand new stand-up tour to Town Hall. Adam's spent a bit of time self-reflecting and he's come to the conclusion that there's something wrong with him, although for a hypochondriac, that's not exactly news. A hilarious insight into the mind and body of one of the fastest rising comedians on the planet.



# B:Inspired by Birmingham Classical

## Season 2023/24

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



### MultiPiano Ensemble – Rachmaninov in Forty Fingers

Thu 16 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

MultiPiano describe themselves as a “unique modular piano ensemble” and it’s easy to see why: from one piano with four hands to several pianos in a variety of multi-hand combinations, they are as fascinating to watch as they are to hear.

### Boris Giltburg plays Rachmaninov

Thu 23 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Come and fall in love with Rachmaninov Preludes – 24 exquisite miniatures with as much colour and variety as you can imagine. **Boris Giltburg** is the perfect interpreter, and his recording has won high critical praise.



### Paul Lewis: Schubert Piano Sonatas 3

Tue 5 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

In this third recital of the series, one of today’s finest Schubert pianists, **Paul Lewis**, brings his magic to three more sonatas full of joy and happiness, tragedy and despair.

### The King’s Singers: When You Wish Upon A Star

Wed 20 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

A concert that celebrates the 400th anniversary of the Renaissance composer William Byrd and 100 years of the magic of Disney has the unmistakable hallmark of **The King’s Singers** stamped right across it. Programme includes music by Grieg, Byrd and Saint-Saëns, traditional and modern carols, and a celebration of 100 years of Disney.



### Symphony Orchestra of India with Zakir Hussain

Fri 1 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Birmingham’s own **Alpesh Chauhan** guest conducts on the orchestra’s return visit to Symphony Hall, and tabla maestro Zakir Hussain performs his own concerto.



### ECHO Rising Stars: Axelle Fanyo

Sun 25 Feb 2024

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 11AM

Taking her French-African descent and the jazz, gospel and soul music of her childhood as inspiration, soprano **Axelle Fanyo**’s ‘Heritage’ programme explores the influence of cabaret on classical music.

**Coffee and cake included in your ticket.**

### ECHO Rising Stars: Mathis Stier (bassoon)

Sun 3 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space 11AM

Already a leading orchestral player and soloist, **Mathis Stier**’s virtuosity and musicianship are beyond doubt. From the 17th century to contemporary sounds, Stier reveals a whole world of possibilities for the versatile bassoon.



### China Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra with Tamsin Waley-Cohen

Mon 11 Mar 2024 | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Daye Lin** conducts music from Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon and Respighi’s Fountains and Pines of Rome, while acclaimed British violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen’s adventurous spirit is perfect for the music of Saint-Saëns.





# 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 2023/2024 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)

## Lunchtime Organ Concerts With Thomas Trotter

Declared as “one of the greatest players of this, or any, age” by the Choir and Organ magazine, **Thomas Trotter** celebrated 40 years as Birmingham’s City Organist on Fri 6 Oct. Awarded The Queen’s Medal for Music 2020, he is among the world’s most celebrated organists and has elevated the tradition of the virtuoso organist to new heights.



Don’t miss **Thomas Trotter**’s future recitals at both Town Hall and Symphony Hall.

**Mon 6 Nov | Town Hall | 1PM**  
Angels and Demons

**Mon 20 Nov | Town Hall | 1PM**

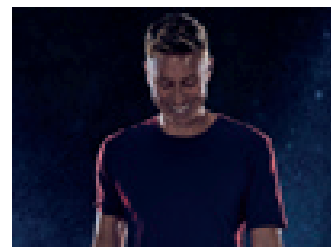
**Mon 4 Dec | Town Hall | 1PM**  
Sing Carols with the City Organist with Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir Jeremy Nicholas compère

**Mon 18 Dec | Symphony Hall | 1PM\***  
Lunchtime Christmas Music with Salisbury Cathedral Choir

**Mon 15 Jan | Symphony Hall | 1PM**

**Mon 29 Jan | Town Hall | 1PM**  
Pedal Power

# Nov



## Russell Howard Live

Sat 18 Nov – Sun 19 Nov | Symphony Hall | 3PM & 7:30PM

Age Guidance 14+

**Russell Howard**, “one of the world’s top comedians” (Sunday Times) is back with a brand new show! As we reel from one global crisis to the next, join Russell, ‘the uplifting Comedy King’, as he puts the world to rights in his own uniquely hilarious way.

## Gareth Malone: Sing-Along-A-Gareth-2

Sat 18 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Join **Gareth Malone** for a joyous evening of song, together with his band and stellar singers, performing a whole new set of songs for the 2023 tour. This feel-good concert will leave you with a song in your heart and a spring in your step.



## Choirmania 2023: Charity Concert in Aid of Birmingham Children’s Hospital

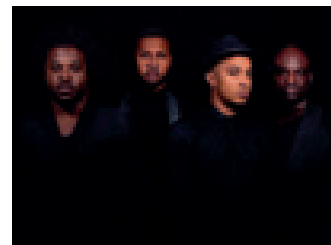
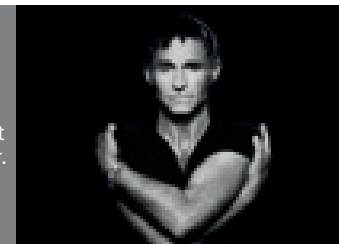
Sun 19 Nov | Town Hall | 2:30PM

This will be a great evening of music with a 200 strong choir singing pop songs from throughout the ages and songs from the West End and Broadway. There will be lots of great songs, lots of fun and laughter and the amazing **Charlie Green** as our special guest star.

## Marti Pellow: Pellow Talk: The Lost Chapter

Tue 21 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Marti Pellow**, lead singer of the Scottish pop group Wet Wet Wet brings Pellow Talk: The Lost Chapter to Town Hall this November.



## The Street Cred Magazine 25th Anniversary Legacy Showcase

Tue 21 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Birmingham’s very own cutting-edge entertainment magazine celebrates its 25th Anniversary. Get ready for a star-studded epic concert and glamorous Awards presentation supported by the West Midlands Combined Authority.



## Kenny Thomas

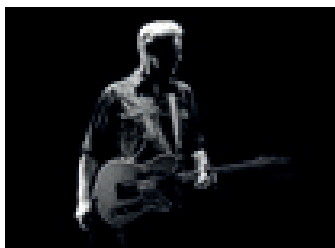
Wed 22 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

British soul star **Kenny Thomas** is back with his all-star band of musicians performing his biggest UK theatre tour in over 20 years.

## Exhibit of Love

Thu 23 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

A monumental evening of praise and remembrance that will collectively strengthen bonds by reaffirming and rejuvenating love for the final Messenger of Allah.



## Billy Bragg

Sat 25 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Billy Bragg** has been a fearless recording artist, tireless live performer and peerless political campaigner for 40 years. He has released 11 solo studio albums, written a best-selling musicology book and two books of political analysis, and worked with a wealth of celebrated musicians.

## The Holiday: Film with Live Orchestra

Sat 25 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Age Guidance: This film is rated 12

The beloved Christmas film, *The Holiday*, will be presented live in concert this winter, featuring its magical musical score performed live to the film by a full concert orchestra.



## CBSO & The Orchestral Qawwali Project

Sun 26 Nov | Symphony Hall | 3PM

Widely regarded as the biggest step forward for the art-form in decades, the Orchestral Qawwali Project has captivated audiences through its unique combination of Sufi poetry, Indian Classical dance and orchestral arrangements. More information about B:Music's resident orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at [cbsoco.uk](http://cbsoco.uk)



## The Australian Pink Floyd

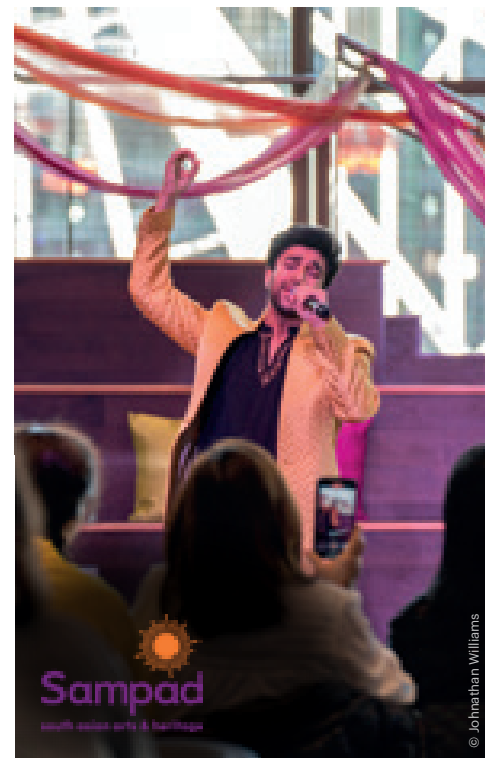
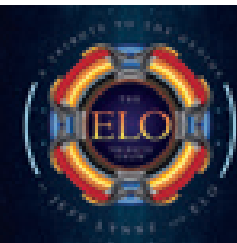
Mon 27 Nov – Tue 28 Nov | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

The critically lauded **The Australian Pink Floyd Show** have announced *The Dark Side Of The Moon* tour for 2023 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Pink Floyd's timeless classic album.

## The ELO Show: A Tribute to the Genius of Jeff Lynne

Tue 28 Nov | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**The ELO Show:** The World's greatest tribute to the music and genius of **Jeff Lynne & ELO**. Internationally acclaimed musician Brian Cummins brings this stunning show celebrating the music of **Jeff Lynne** and **E.L.O.** with a band of amazing musicians including a female string section.



## Sampad Arts announces new season of performances

11 Nov 2023 – 27 Jan 2024

£8 per ticket | £5 16–25 | Under 16s go free

From November 2023 to September 2024, **Sampad South Asian Arts and Heritage** presents a series of performances celebrating a range of South Asian musical styles, including classical, folk, and contemporary genres. Working with local, national and international artists, *Midday Mantra* connects audiences with South Asian and British Asian arts and heritage. Sampad believes in the power of arts and heritage to impact widely on all communities – breaking down barriers, raising important issues, amplifying unheard voices and bringing people from all walks of life together.

## Buy more, save more

Discounts are available as follows:

2+ events = **10%** discount

4+ events = **15%** discount

All 6 events = **20%** discount

Find out more at

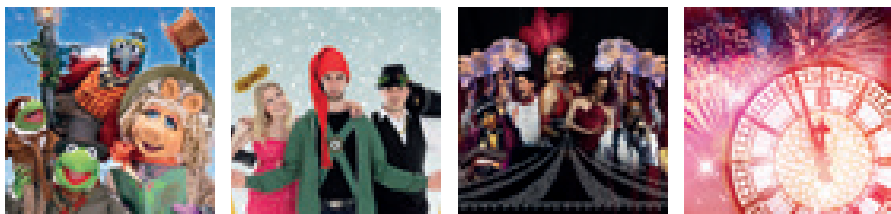
[bmusic.co.uk/midday-mantra](http://bmusic.co.uk/midday-mantra)

© Johnathan Williams

# B:Festive

Christmas at Town Hall  
and Symphony Hall

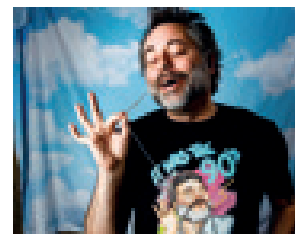
## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...



**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.**

Treat yourself to a Hot Chocolate or a Festive Brummie Bacon Cake at **B:Eats** before settling into your seat for a Christmas film with a live orchestra; bring the kids along to see a stage production of one of their favourite stories; or choose from our range of music and comedy shows for a fun December night out. Covering everything from Classical music to Burlesque and ending with a choice of two events for New Year's Eve, browse through the following pages to find something to look forward to this festive season.

## Dec



### Kevin James Thornton

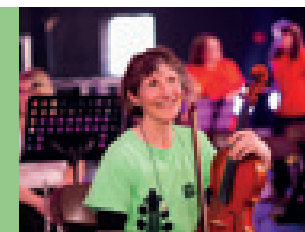
**Fri 1 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM**  
Age Guidance Strictly 18+

**Kevin James Thornton** is a rising TikTok/IG star with over 1 million followers and 500 million video views. Kevin has built a loyal following posting hilarious, heartfelt and occasionally cringey moments of self-reflection that are relatable to audiences young and old alike (with a splash of autotune).

### Something Magical: Once Upon a Time

**Sat 2 Dec | Town Hall | 4PM**

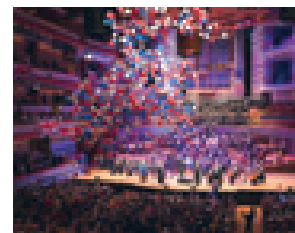
Once Upon A Time... in an orchestra far far away, came the melodious tunes of **The People's Orchestra's** Something Magical Concert! Jump into our fantasy Christmas world and cosy up with themes from popular storybooks performed by combined orchestra and choir.



### Proms Night Spectacular! An Enchanted Evening

**Sat 2 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM**

The award-winning **British Police Symphony Orchestra** returns to this iconic hall for An Enchanted Evening, with music to suit every taste.



### Cory Band: A Cory Trilogy – Episode I: The Curtain Rises

**Sun 3 Dec | Town Hall | 3PM**

Join us on a spectacular journey of immersive live music and dazzling multimedia entertainment. In a first of its kind, **Cory Band** presents part one of an extended trilogy programme – a reimagining of Charles Dickens's timeless *A Christmas Carol*, but like you've never seen or heard it before.



### Ex Cathedra 2023/24: Handel's Messiah

**Sun 3 Dec | Symphony Hall | 4PM**

We're excited to revisit Handel's thrilling masterpiece with a historically-informed performance that underscores the vitality and virtuosity of its much-loved choruses and arias – sung by our wonderful company of soloists. What better way to start your festive season.





## The Muppet Christmas Carol: Film with Live Orchestra

Mon 4 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

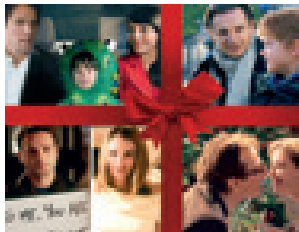
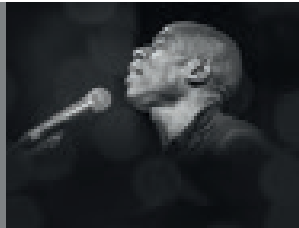
Age Guidance U

Disney's much loved 1992 musical comedy, *The Muppet Christmas Carol*, is presented live in concert, featuring its music score performed live to the film.

## Roachford

Mon 4 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Still going strong with 35 years of classics under their belts, **Roachford** present an evening of soulful pop-rock excellence this December.



## Love Actually In Concert: Film with Live Orchestra

Tue 5 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Age Guidance Strictly 15+

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.

## 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.



# Community Spirit 2023: Celebrating Songs Of The Earth



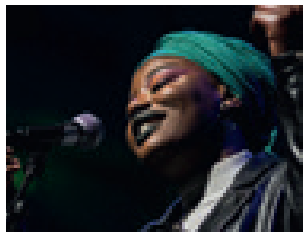
In July, Associate Artists **Black Voices** once again shared the stage at Symphony Hall with 400 singers from local community choirs. The performance included an exciting new commission by Birmingham Poet Laureate **Jasmine Gardosi**.

*'A fantastic experience,  
I enjoyed every minute!'*

**CHOIR MEMBER**

To find out how you or your business can support our community engagement programme visit [bmusic.co.uk](https://www.bmusic.co.uk)

# retroactive spots



## Poetry Jam Live

Thu 7 Dec | Symphony Hall | 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.

## The Bootleg Beatles

Thu 7 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.



## City of Birmingham Choir present Handel's Messiah

with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra  
Fri 8 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

Enjoy well-known choruses and arias with the **City of Birmingham Choir's** repertoire staple alongside the **CBSO** in the acoustically perfect Symphony Hall.

## The Overtones Good Times Tour 2023

Fri 8 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The multi-platinum selling vocal harmony group are bringing back the 'Good Times' with their unique, show-stopping blend of original material and feel-good classics.



## How The Grinch Stole Christmas: The Film with Live Orchestra

Sat 9 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

Age Guidance PG

This winter, Christmas favourite *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* is to be shown live in concert for the first time in the UK. With a full orchestra performing its soundtrack live to screen.



## Dancing in a Winter Wonderland with Aljaz and Janette

Sun 10 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Combining world-class choreography, fabulous costumes and amazing sets with the greatest hits of Christmas. Strictly's most celebrated couple will once again be joined by a supporting cast featuring some of the UK's very best dancers and singers as they countdown to Christmas Day in this breath-taking spectacular.

## An Evening of Burlesque

Tue 12 Dec | Town Hall  
7:30PM

Age Guidance 18+

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.



# Give them a gift they'll never forget

You never forget a great night out or the person who made it possible.

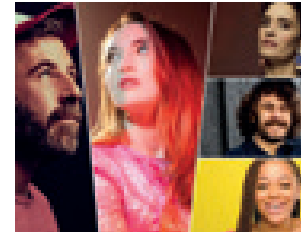
B:Music **gift vouchers** can be redeemed against any event at Town Hall and Symphony Hall, making them ideal for music lovers from classical to contemporary as well as comedy, dance and film fans. Even better, they have a two year use by so they can be saved for something extra special.

Buy on the **B:Music** website and have them emailed directly to the recipient on the date of your choosing, or print to present in person.

**There's something for everyone at B:Music venues Town Hall and Symphony Hall this Christmas.**

More information can be found on [bmusic.co.uk/gift-vouchers](https://bmusic.co.uk/gift-vouchers)

## Dec



### David O'Doherty, Fern Brady, Jen Brister, Josh Pugh, Kyrah Gray: Live at Christmas

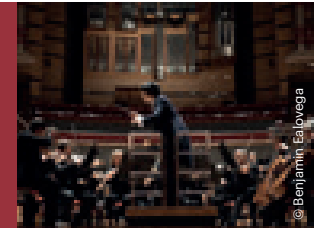
Wed 13 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM Age Guidance 16+

Five of the best comedians are coming to Birmingham for a spectacular all-star festive show! Headlining is the one and only **David O'Doherty**.

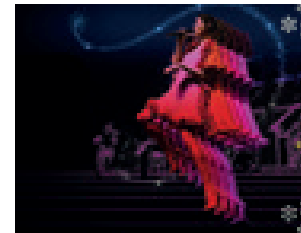
### Beethoven's Eroica with Kazuki Yamada & the CBSO

Wed 13 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**Kazuki Yamada**, alongside the full force of 90 musicians, brings the power of the human spirit to Symphony Hall in this landmark performance of Beethoven's Eroica symphony. More information about further CBSO concerts can be found at [cbsoco.uk](https://cbsoco.uk)



© Benjamin Lalovega



### Sophie Ellis-Bextor

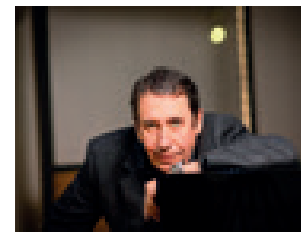
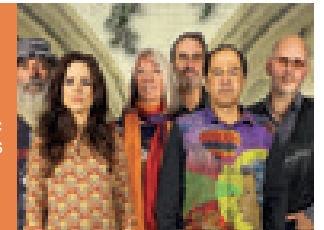
Thu 14 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Following on from the huge success of her 2022 Kitchen Disco Tour in which she brought her lockdown online sensation from her kitchen to sold-out stages across the country, **Sophie Ellis-Bextor** is back with a very special Christmas Kitchen Disco.

### Folk Rock Pioneers Steeleye Span In Concert

Thu 14 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

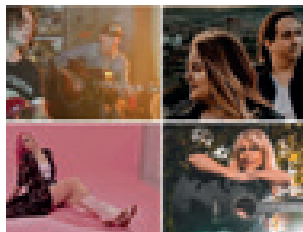
Folk Rock Pioneers, **Steeleye Span** changed the face of folk music forever, taking it out of small clubs and into the world of gold discs and international tours. Five decades on and this six-piece line up celebrate over fifty years of this wonderful music playing all the favorite songs and tunes from their long and glittering career.



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

Fri 15 Dec - Sat 16 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Musical maestro **Jools Holland** and his revered Rhythm & Blues Orchestra with special guests inc. The Selecter's Pauline Black and Arthur 'Gaps' Hendrickson: Prepare to enjoy the greatest boogie-woogie party in town!



## Nashville Sounds in the Round: Gasoline & Matches, Jack & Tim, Gina Larner, The Rising, Sarah Riches

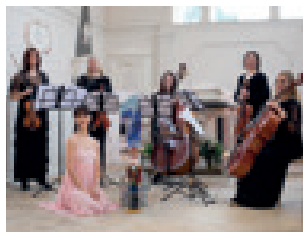
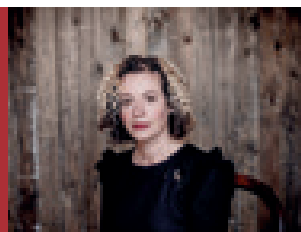
Sat 16 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 11:30AM

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.

## Kate Rusby: Established 1973 Christmas Tour

Sat 16 Dec | Town Hall | 3PM & 7:30PM

Hailed as 'The Start of Christmas' for many, a Kate Rusby Christmas Concert perpetuates the tradition of Yorkshire carols, specific carols still sung in the pubs of South Yorkshire.



## Toscana Strings: The Snowman and The Nutcracker – Stories Set To Music

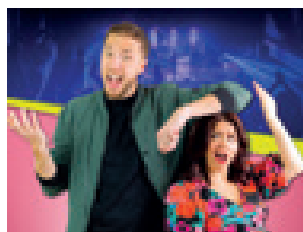
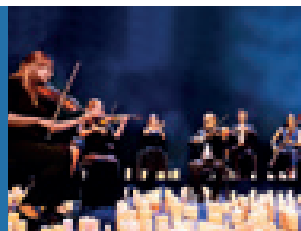
Sun 17 Dec | Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space | 10:30AM & 1PM

Two family favourites brought to life through music, dance and a little help from the audience. Perfect for all the family. Performed by former Birmingham Royal Ballet soloist **Laura Tye**, string quintet **Toscana Strings** and narrated by **Sophie Price**.

## Candlelit Carols

Sun 17 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

A sublime concert of carols and seasonal classics, staged in an evocative candle-lit style setting featuring **Steven Devine** as conductor, **Harriet Eyley** as soprano, **Mark Williams** as reader and **Mozart Festival Orchestra**.



## LadBaby: Live, Laugh, Love – Live

Sun 17 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

Age Guidance 15+

Get up close and personal with the comedic duo and Celebrity Parents of the Year. Mark and Rox have promised a jam packed Christmas extravaganza with plenty of singing, dancing, audience participation and even some on stage head-to-head live couples battles.

# It's Christmas! Live at B:Eats

**FREE Festive Family Fun**

Running from  
**Mon 18 December to**

**Fri 22 December,**

this will feature

**'Santa Storytelling  
and Sing-a-long'**

every day from

10:30AM – 11:30AM

and then **'Live at B:Eats'**  
performances from 1PM.



# B: Eats



## The Lock In 'Christmas Carol' featuring The Demon Barbers

Tue 19 Dec | Town Hall | 7PM

Half gig, half dance show and half panto! Join the BBC Award Winning team of musicians and dancers for 150% of the very best festive live music, song and dance!

## The Amy Winehouse Band: Celebrating 20 Years of Frank

Thu 21 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

20 years ago, **Amy Winehouse** released her debut album *Frank* to critical acclaim. To celebrate the 20th anniversary of that album, B:Music is proud to be working with Amy's band to present an exclusive performance of the album played in full, track-by-track, performed by the musicians who stood alongside her on stages all around the world!



## Christmas at the Movies with the CBSO

Thu 21 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Is it even Christmas until you've curled up with a classic seasonal movie? We've packed a stocking full of the greatest music from the best-loved seasonal films of all time including *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Home Alone*, *Love Actually* and *Elf*. No adverts, no repeats: Just widescreen, surround-sound Christmas spirit! More information about B:Music's resident orchestra and further CBSO concerts can be found at [cbsoco.uk](http://cbsoco.uk)



© Hannah Fichers

## Talon: The Best of Eagles

Fri 22 Dec | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**Talon** perform the Eagles iconic 'Hotel California' album from beginning to end plus all the 'Greatest Hits' including, *Take It Easy*, *One Of These Nights*, *Take It To The Limit*, *Desperado*, *Livin' Eyes* and many more in this spectacular music production.



## All I Want for Christmas... Live

Fri 22 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

Raymond Gubbay Limited presents a brand-new show that promises to bring joy and laughter to audiences of all ages. All I Want For Christmas... Live! boasts a spectacular blend of festive pop hits and traditional favourites, featuring a dazzling live ensemble band and four headline singers, dancers, lights, and incredible live music.



## The Snowman Film with Orchestra Including Wallace & Gromit: The Wrong Trousers

Sat 23 Dec | Town Hall  
1PM & 3:30PM

Make it a Christmas to remember with a very special performance featuring two of the UK's best-loved and iconic animated films, *The Snowman* and *Wallace & Gromit: The Wrong Trousers*, with live accompaniment from an outstanding professional orchestra.



## Christmas Carol Singalong

Sat 23 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!





## Oh No! Shark in the Snow!

Wed 27 Dec – Sun 7 Jan | Town Hall | Various times



### “There’s a shark, there’s a shark, there’s a shark in the park!”

Join Timothy Pope, his Dad, and his trusty Telescope as they embark on a thrilling quest to find the elusive Shark. A fresh, festive, twist on the widely acclaimed touring production of ‘Shark in The Park,’ inspired by the beloved books by Nick Sharratt. Prepare to dive into the enchanting winter tale of ‘Oh No! Shark In the Snow!’ – the exciting new addition to this Fin-Tastic series.

Experience a delightful blend of the original show’s captivating stories and beloved characters, coupled with catchy new songs that will have you tapping your feet and singing along. But that’s not all – could there be a remarkable surprise guest for Tim to meet in the Park?

Featuring Shark in the Park, Shark in the Dark and Oh No! Shark in the Snow!, this fin-tastic, family musical follows Timothy Pope (and his telescope!) on 3 exciting adventures...

This marvelous and witty winter show guarantees to keep you on the edge of your seat, wondering: could there truly be a Shark in the Snow!?

### Kids Snappy Meal!

Available from B:Eats, Symphony Hall  
Tue 2 Jan – Sun 7 Jan

Add to your basket when booking Oh No! Shark in the Snow! Then collect or eat-in at B:Eats between 11am and 4pm on the day of the show.

£8 per person



**B:Eats**



### The Glenn Miller Orchestra

Wed 27 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

The UK’s most renowned big band is excited to be returning, swinging you back in time, playing Glenn Miller’s own arrangements of favourite hits from the forties, directed by legendary band leader Ray McVay.

### Horrible Histories, Horrible Christmas

Thu 28 Dec | Symphony Hall | 2PM & 4:30PM

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 a hair-raising adventure through the history of Christmas in the company of Charles Dickens, Oliver Cromwell, King Henry VIII and St Nicholas, as they all join forces to save the festive season!

Raymond Gubbay presents the Birmingham Stage Company production of Horrible Christmas.



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

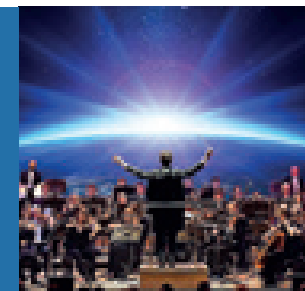
Fri 29 Dec | Symphony Hall | 7PM

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.

### The Music of Zimmer vs Williams

Sat 30 Dec | Symphony Hall | 3PM

It’s time to settle the scores... The **London Concert Orchestra** perform the best scores from the two greatest film composers of all time in one fabulous programme.



# Dec



## New Year's Eve Gala

Sun 31 Dec | Symphony Hall | 2:30PM

Join us at Symphony Hall to celebrate the New Year and bring in 2024 with an afternoon of favourites.

This wonderful event featuring the **London Concert Orchestra** conducted by **Anthony Inglis** is the perfect end of year treat.

Featuring performances of *Nessun Dorma* and *Land of Hope and Glory*, plus many more.

Make it extra special with our pre-concert **Champagne & Afternoon Tea** experience!

## New Year's Eve Special:

### BBC Radio 2 Sounds of the 80s: The Live Tour

Sun 31 Dec | Symphony Hall | 9PM

See in the New Year with legendary DJ **Gary Davies** as he brings the UK's most popular 80s radio show to Birmingham for a special New Year's Eve celebration! Alongside his producer **Johnny Kalifornia**, they will take you back to the best decade in music – the 80s! Party along to specially curated Mastermixes and watch as our brilliant **Sounds of the 80s dancers** recreate classic scenes from 80s films and videos. With special guest singer **Carol Decker** (T'Pau) and more to be announced soon!

Add our special **NYE Champagne and 80s style buffet** to your visit!



# Jan



## Magic of Motown

Fri 12 Jan | Symphony Hall  
7:30PM

Come celebrate our brand-new show as we Reach Out and show you there ain't no mountain high enough with the biggest Motown party of the year. Get ready for all the hits, glittering costumes, dazzling dance routines and outstanding musicianship in this breath-taking live concert spectacular.

## Sax in the City with the Notebenders

Sat 13 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.



## The Contemporary Choir In Concert

Sat 13 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

**The Contemporary Choir** are proud to present their annual concert in aid of The Myton Hospices & Birmingham Children's Hospital. This renowned vocal ensemble is made up of over 300 Warwickshire based singers, who are well known for putting on a spectacular show!





## Danny Baker: At Last... The Sausage Sandwich Tour

Sun 14 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

The third (and final) part of the trilogy that began with the sell-out Cradle To Stage nights, charged on through the Good Time Charlie shows now reaches its peak with (At Last) The Sausage Sandwich Tour! **Danny Baker's** concluding chapter of high kicking euphoria in Birmingham Town Hall!

## Get it on! One night of Glam Rock

Sat 20 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

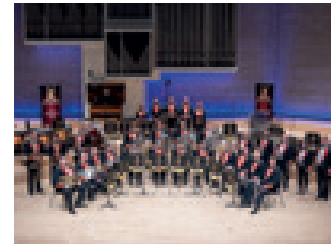
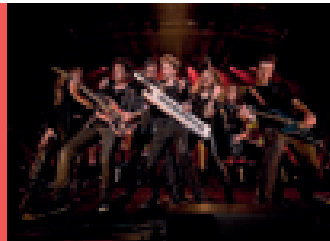
It's time to bang a gong and Get it On for one night of glam rock! From the producers who brought you hit show – *Lost in Music!* Girls rock your boys as we bring you the biggest glam rock show of a generation! An outrageous celebration of a golden age, live on stage. The costumes, the make-up, the music!



## Classic Rock Show

Sat 21 Jan | Symphony Hall | 8PM

Bigger and even better, and celebrating, once again, the very best of Classic Rock. 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 Band in Concert

Sun 21 Jan | Town Hall | 3PM

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.

## Wet Wet Wet & Go West

Mon 22 Jan | Symphony Hall | 7:30PM

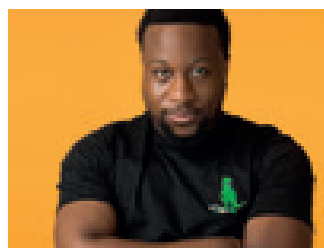
The Best of Both Worlds tour will see the legendary bands play shows across the UK in early 2024, performing their seminal songs from a combined treasure-trove of hits; with 36 Top 40 UK Singles between them!



## DakhaBrakha

Tue 23 Jan | Town Hall | 7:30PM

**DakhaBrakha** are a quartet from Kyiv, Ukraine. Reflecting fundamental elements of sound and soul, the Ukrainian self-described "ethnic chaos" band create a world of unexpected new music.



## Babatunde Aléshé

Fri 26 Jan | Town Hall | 8PM

Age Guidance 16+

**Babatunde Aléshé** is one of the fastest rising stars in British Comedy. A powerhouse performer, his stand up presents a hilariously fresh perspective, oozing charisma whilst showcasing impeccable stagecraft and comic timing.

# Sneak Peek

at shows coming soon

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

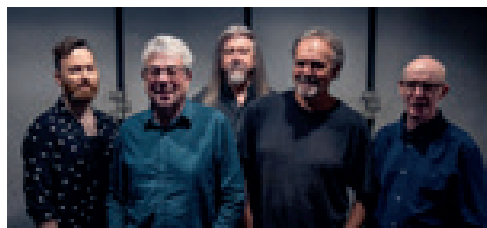


## Mischief & Mystery in Moominvalley

Sat 10 Feb 2024  
Justham Family Room &  
Jane How Room

## The World According to Kaleb

Mon 19 Feb 2024  
Symphony Hall

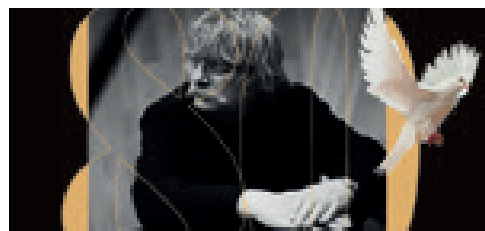


## 10cc: The Ultimate Ultimate Greatest Hits Tour 2024 plus special guest Paul Canning

Fri 8 Mar 2024  
Symphony Hall

## Fastlove

Fri 15 Mar 2024  
Symphony Hall

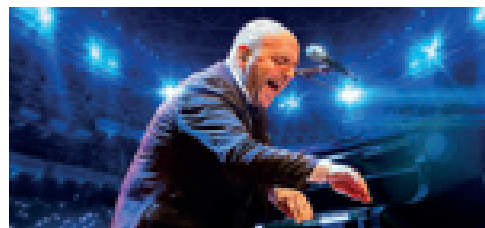
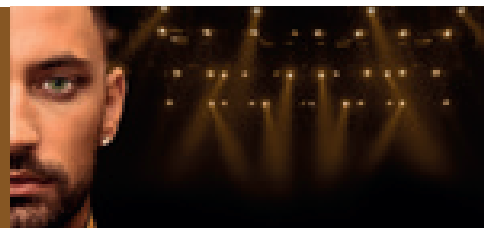


## Karl Jenkins' 80th Birthday Concert

Sat 30 Mar 2024  
Symphony Hall

## Giovanni: Let Me Entertain You

Thu 4 Apr 2024  
Symphony Hall

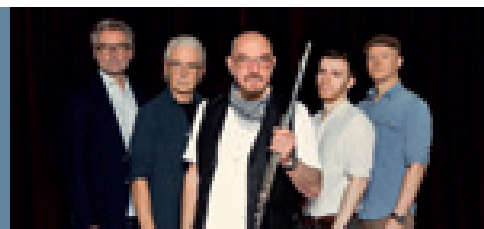


## The Billy Joel Songbook Performed By Elio Pace And His Band

Sat 13 April 2024  
Town Hall

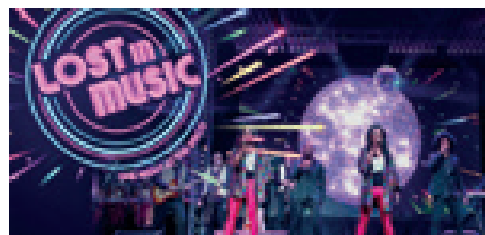
## Jethro Tull: The Seven Decades

Sat 20 Apr 2024  
Symphony Hall



## Justin Hayward

Sun 17 Mar 2024  
Town Hall



## Lost in Music

Fri 26 Apr 2024  
Symphony Hall



© @joshbaileyPhotography

# retroactive specs

Budding photographer, B:and Together member and Jazz pianist **Josh Bailey** captured this great shot of **Pete 'Washboard' Hammond** at the **Steve Ajao's Blues Giants** gig on the Jennifer Blackwell Stage in September. We love it when talent inspires talent!

## 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 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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### 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

### Data protection

We may collect personal data from you when you buy a ticket in person, over the phone or via [bmusic.co.uk](http://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](mailto:unsubscribe@bmusic.co.uk). Our full Privacy Policy can be found at [bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk).

### Disclaimer

Information in this guide was correct at the time of going to press and published in good faith. Unforeseen circumstances, however, may result in changes to the published 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. 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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Foyle Foundation  
GJW Turner Trust  
GNC Trust  
Garfield Weston Foundation  
Geoff Hill Charitable Trust  
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