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# B:Music

Lea Salonga  
brings the  
West End  
to Brum's  
Symphony  
Hall





# Welcome to the summer and autumn programme at B:Music

As Birmingham gears up to welcome athletes and fans from around the world to the 2022 Commonwealth Games, B:Music is delighted to be a part of the Birmingham 2022 Festival, the biggest ever celebration of creativity across the region.

***Beyond the Bricks of Brum*** is our lead commission, bringing together music and spoken word artists such as ***Casey Bailey***, ***Black Voices*** and ***Sanity*** with the world-renowned ***BBC Symphony Orchestra***.

With over 100 musicians coming together on the Symphony Hall stage on June 17th, this is sure to be a spectacular concert.

On 10th July we celebrate 10 years of ***Community Spirit*** in ***Anthems*** another large-scale concert that brings together community choirs from across the region.

After the disruption of the pandemic, finally being able to celebrate 10 years of this amazing project will be very special.

If you are visiting the Fan Site in Centenary Square during the Commonwealth Games be sure to drop into Symphony Hall to have a look at our new foyer spaces or grab a bite to eat in our B:Eats café bar. The B:Music team look forward to welcoming you.

Nick Reed  
Chief Executive

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2	:	Welcome
8	:	Casey Bailey
10 – 23	:	<b>June</b>
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# B:Eats

**B:Eats**



**Food and drink served in  
the heart of Birmingham  
from the transformed  
spaces at **Symphony Hall**,  
a **B:Music** venue.**

**B:Eats**

**B:Eats**



Our seasonal menu is full of classic dishes with contemporary twists, alongside snackable sharing. Whether you're on a day out in the city with family and friends, or attending a concert at our iconic concert hall, B:Eats is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the incredible views of Centenary Square.

[bmusic.co.uk/beats](https://bmusic.co.uk/beats)

# Birmingham,

Casey Bailey is passionate about Birmingham. You'd expect the city's Poet Laureate to champion his birthplace, but his feelings run much deeper than that.

He repeats the endearment "**Brum, I love you**" in his fantastic poem *Dear Birmingham*. He points out there's lots to love about the city, from its witty and self-deprecating people to its beautiful buildings.

And one of his favourites is the Town Hall. His long association with B:Music started with his childhood fascination with the historic venue, built in 1834 in the Roman style.

*"I fell in love with the exterior of the Town Hall,"* he explains. *"Lots of Brummies walk past it every day and never really look at it. But if you walked past it in Athens or Barcelona, you'd stop and spend 15 minutes taking photos of it. It's a stunning building."*

*"I put a picture of the Pantheon in Rome on my Instagram and said they'd made a copy of the Town Hall in Birmingham. When people said 'you can't say that!' I replied 'Well, the Town Hall's nicer'."*

*"The first time I performed on the Town Hall stage was at The Grind Live spoken word event in 2017. That was incredible. As much as I revered it from the outside, it's a great space inside as well."*



# I Love You

A turning point in Casey's creative career came in 2019 when he was asked to write a poem for the launch of Making an Entrance at B:Music's other venue, Symphony Hall. The building project created a new entrance for the concert hall and opened up the spaces - and opened doors for Casey.

He says:

*"Making an Entrance was the biggest commission I'd ever done. It would have been easy and safer to find someone more established, but they trusted me with it. It was a great springboard for me."*

*"Last year I performed on the Symphony Hall stage with the CBSO, which was pretty special. When I launched my book, Symphony Hall helped me do it in the foyer. During lockdown I brought poets together for a livestream session on the stage."*

*"B:Music has huge venues and put on international acts on a regular basis but can also help me out. It's really great to have that access."*

*"B:Music is accessible, inviting and very warm. I feel very at home in Symphony Hall. Sometimes people are worried about going to a classical music venue and ask me what they should wear. I say 'I'm in jeans and a T-shirt and I'm on stage, so you'll be fine'. When you're in there you stop asking if you're meant to be there."*

Casey's next B:Music project is a special Commonwealth Games concert at Symphony Hall on June 17, teaming up with rapper Sanity, Black Voices and the 90-piece BBC Symphony Orchestra. He'll be celebrating Birmingham and telling a story through poetry, singing and rap.

Listening to Casey talk with passion and humour makes you realise what an inspiring teacher he must be. As well as his creative work, he's an assistant headteacher at a school in Shifnal, Shropshire.

*"People say I must be a cool teacher but I taught Maths and write poems, who knew that was cool?"*

he laughs.

His achievements by the age of only 33 are especially notable considering his own chequered

education at Heartlands High School.

Casey, who grew up in Nechells, remembers:

*"I clashed with one teacher and ended up not going to English lessons all through Year 11. My own experiences of poetry in school were not positive, but I found my own way. I say to the kids that I teach now, 'don't convince yourself you don't like reading when actually you just don't like reading this'."*

*"A lot of kids think poetry is more inaccessible than it is because they have to over analyse every word. You only really need to know how a poem makes you feel."*

*"When I was a teenager I did a lot of grime MCing at raves, in pubs or somebody's basement. But I stopped because I was writing about where I was growing up and what I was seeing. I realised at 19 that the music I was making was having a negative impact on my environment. I thought I was reflecting it, but I realised people were quoting my lyrics about gangs and violence as a reason to be bad. That's not what I was trying to do. It was the first time I realised the power that words can have."*

*"I started writing again at 22, when my first school asked me to work with students who were disengaged with English. I started BRAP Club, Bailey's Rap and Poetry Club. We met once a week to talk about rap and music lyrics. I started sneaking a bit of poetry in and I fell back into writing."*

Casey, who holds the position of Birmingham Poet Laureate from 2020 to 2022, was invited to launch the new BBC1 documentary strand We Are England and penned a poem that referenced James Bond, Marcus Rashford and drag queen Bimini Bon Boulash.

His poem about Peaky Blinders went viral, he collaborated with Birmingham Royal Ballet on their new production City of a Thousand Trades, and his piece Step Step describes going from Grand Central to Selfridges, "not a walk but a waltz".

Casey says:

*"When you walk through Birmingham city centre, it's beautiful. You'll see 200-year-old buildings next to buildings that are two minutes old."*

*"There's very little that you can't do in Birmingham. Why would I want to go anywhere else? We don't shout about how amazing we are. We have a rich community and culture and world-class talent we should be proud of. There really is a lot to love about Birmingham."*

Watch Casey Bailey perform at Beyond the Bricks of Brum on Fri 17 June at Symphony Hall.

Interviews by Roz Laws

Images by Richard Battye

# Interview

Ju-  
ne

# #MusicConnectsUs

When you're all different  
but you're alike because  
you're all different.

Photo: @macygray on Instagram



Macy Gray  
performs at TownHall  
in June 2022

# On Record: Jun 3- Aug 16

On Record will present twenty-two conversations with Birmingham musicians, promoters, managers, venue owners and entrepreneurs who have all contributed to local, national, and international music culture.

**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**Xhosa Cole**

**Fri 3 Jun :**

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
7:30PM

**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**Parv Kaur**

**Wed 8 Jun**

Justham Family Room & Jane How Room  
7:30PM

**On Record:**  
Live!  
**Elle Chante**

**Sat 12 Jun**

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
3PM

**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**Lekan Babalola  
& Kate Luxmoore**

**Tue 21 Jun**

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
7:30PM

**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**Holly Hollister**

**Fri 8 Jul**

Justham Family Room & Jane How Room  
7:30PM



**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**Bobby Friction**

**Sat 16 Jul**

Justham Family Room & Jane How Room  
7:30PM

**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**Special Guests** (TBC)

**Thu 21 Jul**

Justham Family Room & Jane How Room  
7:30PM

**On Record:**  
Live!  
**Friendly Fire**

**Sun 31 Jul**

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
3PM

**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**James Indigo**

**Wed 10 Aug**

Justham & Jane How Room  
7:30PM

**On Record:**  
Live!  
**Sanity**

**Sun 14 Aug**

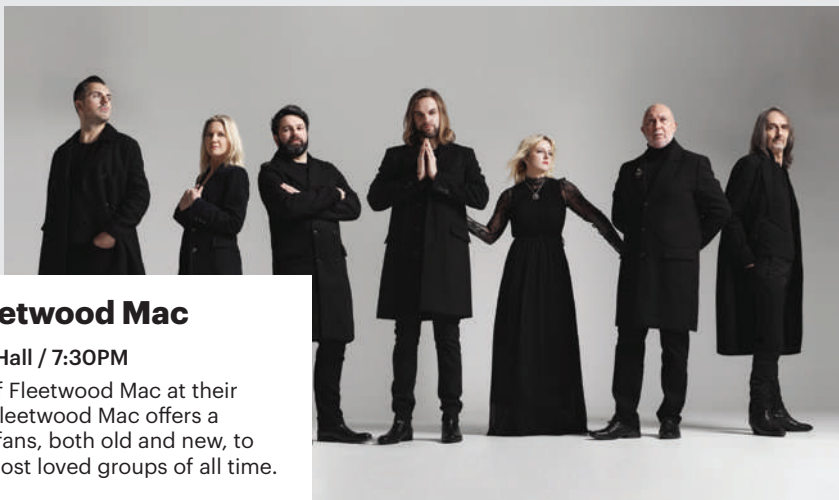
Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space  
3PM

**On Record:**  
In Conversation with  
**Lloyd Blake**

**Tue 16 Aug**

Justham Family Room & Jane How Room  
7:30PM

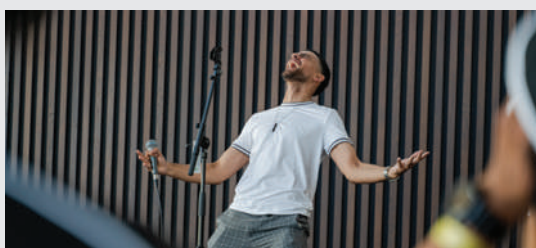
# Jun



## Rumours of Fleetwood Mac

**Wed 1 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Channelling the spirit of Fleetwood Mac at their very best, Rumours of Fleetwood Mac offers a unique opportunity for fans, both old and new, to rediscover one of the most loved groups of all time.



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

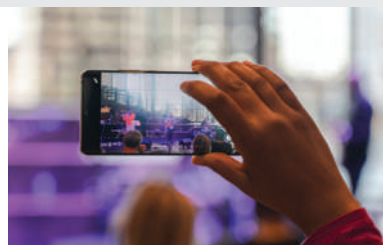
**Thu 2 Jun :**  
Justham Family Room & Jane How Room / 7PM

A monthly open mic platform to jam, perform and click with a community of creatives.

## Housewarming Sessions

**Fri 3 Jun : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 5PM**

Our Friday Jazz Foyer sessions have been relaunched as the Housewarming Sessions. We will be collaborating with partners across the UK jazz scene to celebrate emerging and established artists for you to enjoy.



## Sax In The City with The Notebenders

**Sat 4 Jun :**  
Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 1:30PM

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

## Gospel Revisited

**Sat 4 Jun : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Celebrating the impact and influence of Women In Gospel, revisiting the works of pioneering lyricists and composers.



## National Open Youth Orchestra

**Sun 5 Jun : Town Hall / 4PM**

Over twenty of the UK's most talented young disabled and non-disabled musicians from around the country will take to the stage, playing exciting new music inspired by the diversity of this pioneering inclusive orchestra.



## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter: By Royal Treatment

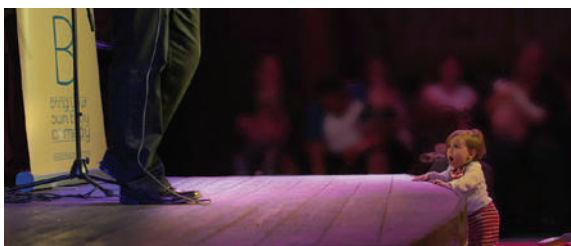
**Mon 6 Jun : Town Hall / 1PM**

City of Birmingham-based organist Thomas Trotter is rightly regarded as one of the most brilliant concert organists currently on the world stage.

## Jeff Beck: Special Guest Sharon Corr

**Mon 6 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Universally acknowledged as one of the most talented and significant guitarists in the world, Jeff has played alongside some of the greatest artists of rock, blues and jazz.



## Bring Your Own Baby Comedy

**Tue 7 Jun :**

**Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 12PM**

Bring Your Own Baby Comedy is the UK's premier baby-friendly comedy club!

## Musical Meet Ups: Keys of Life special (Midland Mencap) Day Show Carers Week

**Wed 8 Jun : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 11AM**

Throughout the year, a group of carers from the Midland Mencap community have come together to share their experiences, poetry and writing. As part of the monthly sessions, they have worked to create musical interpretations which will be shared.



## Jimmy Webb

**Wed 8 Jun : Town Hall / 7:45PM**

An American songwriter, composer and singer known worldwide as a master of his trade.

# Jun



## **BC 2021/22: Concerto Budapest Symphony Orchestra**

**Thu 9 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Angela Hewitt is one of those rare pianists who makes you feel as if she's playing for you personally - combining profound musicality with effortless communicative warmth.

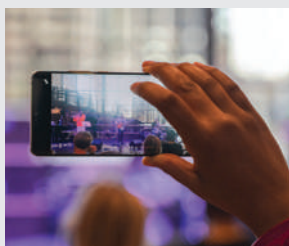
Mozart's sun-suffused Piano Concerto No. 23 in A major is perfect for a summer evening whilst Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra is a vibrant swansong from a master of orchestral colour.

## **BC 2021/22: ECHO Rising Stars: Johan Dalene**

**Thu 9 Jun : Symphony Hall / 5:30PM**

21-year-old violinist, Johan Dalene, is already making an impact on the international scene, performing with leading orchestras both at home in Sweden and abroad.

*\* Free admission with a ticket for Concerto Budapest Symphony Orchestra*



## **Housewarming Sessions**

**Fri 10 Jun : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 5PM**

Our Friday Jazz Foyer sessions have been relaunched as the Housewarming Sessions. We will be collaborating with partners across the UK jazz scene to celebrate emerging and established artists for you to enjoy.

## **The High Kings**

**Fri 10 Jun : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

The High Kings, the true heirs of Ireland's Folk Heritage, are delighted to announce their return to Town Hall.





## **2020 Keep Fit Association National Festival: The Magic of Dance**

**Sat 11 Jun : Symphony Hall / 2PM**

This National Festival bringing together teams from the nine UK regions of our association to proudly present our National Festival of Dance.



## **Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra: Mahler's Seventh Symphony**

**Sun 12 Jun : Town Hall / 3PM**

Among his monumental orchestral achievements, Mahler's Seventh Symphony defies all expectations. Often controversial and sometimes castigated, for over a century the symphony has fascinated listeners with its combination of nocturnal mystery, refinement, irony and uproarious cheerfulness.

## **With a Smile and a Song: Music of Life Celebration Concert 2020**

**Mon 13 Jun : Town Hall / 6PM**

Music of Life, a charity that supports children with physical and learning disabilities through regular engagement in high-quality musical activities, presents its three special needs school choirs, SFE Music Service Ensemble, inspiring soprano Denise Leigh and sparkling female vocalists, Papagena, coming together for a vibrant evening of family-friendly music and fun.



## **Elvis Costello & the Imposters**

**Mon 13 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Elvis Costello will return to the Symphony Hall with The Imposters; Steve Nieve - keyboards; Pete Thomas - drums; Davey Faragher - bass & backing vocals, along with Charlie Sexton.

# Jun



## Brum Craic

**Tue 14 Jun :**

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 8PM

Celebrating the best circuit-comedy acts from all over the UK. Featuring the UK's funniest headline comedians and club-comperes. With three sections there's plenty to enjoy, including new talent... so you'll be the first to witness these creative comics flourish and develop new material! Strictly 18+

## Ex Cathedra 2021/22: Summer Music by Candlelight

**Wed 15 Jun & 16 Jun : Hereford Cathedral / 8PM**

As a long summer day fades to dusk, and candles flicker in the twilight, Ex Cathedra present an enchanting programme of seasonal music and readings inspired by nature, summer holidays, sea and sunshine - a concert to send you home with "the sun in your heart, ready for love"!



## Nashville Sounds in the Round

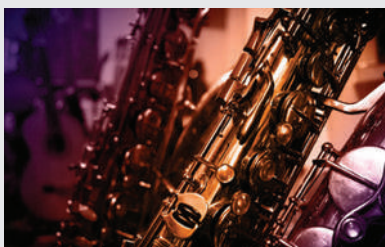
**Thu 16 Jun : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 8PM**

Nashville Style songwriter round where artists are invited to tell the stories behind their songs, taking us back to their origins and transporting the audience right back to the writers rooms. Hosted by multi-award-winning duo Gasoline & Matches featuring special guests.

## Macy Gray

**Thu 16 Jun : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Born and raised in Canton, Ohio, Macy Gray - real name Natalie Renée McIntyre - moved to Southern California in the '80s to attend university. She studied scriptwriting and was even in film classes with Ally Sheedy and Rob Lowe.



## Housewarming Sessions

**Fri 17 Jun : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 5PM**

Our Friday Jazz Foyer sessions have been relaunched as the Housewarming Sessions. We will be collaborating with partners across the UK jazz scene to celebrate emerging and established artists for you to enjoy.

## Help! I Sexted My Boss Podcast: Live

**Fri 17 Jun : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Be part of the biggest Sexted My Boss party ever, as Jordan takes William for the ultimate night out. Experience everything you love about Sexted My Boss live on stage, with added pre-wedding fun and frivolity!





## Beyond the Bricks of Brum feat. BBC Symphony Orchestra, Black Voices, Casey Bailey, Sanity

**Fri 17 Jun : Symphony Hall / 8PM**

Featuring over 100 musicians, this celebration of Birmingham's music and spoken word scene will see some of the most exciting talent from Birmingham being partnered with one of the country's top orchestras.

Under the baton of Principal Guest Conductor, Dalia Stasevska, and featuring arrangements and orchestrations by Jules Buckley, the BBC Symphony Orchestra will be playing brand new arrangements and compositions from the likes of Black Voices, Casey Bailey and Sanity, plus Agaama, Jasmine Gardosi, John Bernard and TrueMendous.

This one-off performance will showcase the very best of Birmingham to the world, celebrating the city's musical place in the Commonwealth and looking forward to the future of the music and spoken word scenes here in the city.

## Celebrating Sanctuary Takeover Week

**Sat 18 Jun : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 1PM**

Celebrating Sanctuary will be presenting amazing World Music artists from across the country, with music originating from around the world, as part of the celebrations for their 20th Anniversary.



## Ronan Keating: All The Hits

**Sat 18 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Ronan Keating gets back to doing what he does best... singing the hits that people love to hear, as his UK & Ireland tour gets underway.

# Jun



## Gladys Knight

**Sat 19 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Seven-time Grammy award winner is known for classic hits such as Midnight Train To Georgia will be performing all her greatest hits plus many more.

## Lunchtime Organ Concert with Thomas Trotter; Summer Requests

**Mon 20 Jun : Town Hall / 1PM**

City of Birmingham-based organist Thomas Trotter is rightly regarded as one of the most brilliant concert organists currently on the world stage.



## ABC

**Mon 20 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

The classic album, The Lexicon of Love, will be performed in its entirety in celebration of the albums 40<sup>th</sup> with Southbank Sinfonia and conducted by Anne Dudley, plus their other greatest hits.



## Ex Cathedra 2021/22: Summer Music by Candlelight

**Tue 21 Jun & Wed 22 Jun : St Paul's Church / 8PM**

As a long summer day fades to dusk, and candles flicker in the twilight, Ex Cathedra present an enchanting programme of seasonal music and readings inspired by nature, summer holidays, sea and sunshine - a concert to send you home with "the sun in your heart, ready for love"!

## Lea Salonga

**Thu 23 Jun :  
Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

An Olivier and Tony Award-winning stage sensation - and official Disney Legend, best known for her award-winning role as the original Kim in Miss Saigon and is also the first actress of Asian descent to play both Eponine and Fantine in Les Misérables on Broadway.





## **Electric Ladies : Toyah, Lene Lovich & Saffron of Republica** In support of Hazel O'Connor

**Fri 24 Jun : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Post Punk and New Wave artists Toyah and Hazel O'Connor join forces to bring you their exciting new tour, Electric Ladies of the 80s.

## **Housewarming Sessions**

**Fri 24 Jun : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 5PM**

Our Friday Jazz Foyer sessions have been relaunched as the Housewarming Sessions. We will be collaborating with partners across the UK jazz scene to celebrate emerging and established artists for you to enjoy.



## **YES: Close to the Edge**

**Fri 24 Jun :  
Symphony Hall / 8PM**

YES, one of the most innovative of all prog-rock bands, and true legends of the genre.

## **Mid-day Mantra: Zoe Rahman Trio, a Bangladesh at 50 Special**

**Sat 25 Jun :  
Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 1PM**

A family special with live music from The Zoe Rahman Trio, poetry readings, and Bengali craft, to mark the anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh, 50 years ago this month.



## **George Benson in Concert**

**Tue 28 Jun : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

The live shows will feature George Benson's masterful guitar playing, and Benson and his band will perform his Greatest Hits from his impressive back catalogue and many more.



## Generation Ladywood 2022

**Wed 29 Jun : Symphony Hall / 1PM**

Ladywood is the district where both B:Music venues, Symphony Hall and Town Hall are located. Research conducted by the End Child Poverty campaign group found that 54% of children were living in poverty in Ladywood in

2019-20, one of the highest child poverty rates in the UK.

B:Music launched Generation Ladywood in September 2012, enhancing learning opportunities provided by Services for Education Music Services.

This long-term project connects Ladywood residents to music by:

- Enabling school children to learn how to play music with professional jazz musicians;
- Pop-up performances in school playgrounds;
- Musical Picnics on-site and in Children's Centres;
- Supporting people - often in challenging circumstances - to attend concerts.

We believe that music is essential to everyone and has the power to transform and change lives, to entertain and uplift, to create shared experiences and to educate.

This project is fully funded through the generosity of trusts, foundations and individual donors. If you would like to find out how you can support B:Music, please visit our Support Us pages on our website [bmusic.co.uk/support-us](https://www.bmusic.co.uk/support-us)

Now available at **B:Music** Venues

# Sustainably Brewed

**Purity**  
BREWING CO



Crafted with a conscience in the heart of the Warwickshire countryside, each one of our award winning beers embodies our love of great beer with real character – brewed responsibly to leave an even better taste in your mouth.

With a range of Gluten Free, Vegan friendly or Organic beers, Purity Brewing Company was born in 2005 out of a desire to make a difference by producing the highest quality beers in a natural & sustainable way, leaving the least impact on the local environment.

**Purity**  
BREWING CO

**GREAT BEER. REAL CHARACTER.**

[www.puritybrewing.com](http://www.puritybrewing.com)  Purity Brewing Co   @purityale

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# #MusicConnectsUs

Supporting the  
independent artists

Photo: @rosiefratertaylor on Instagram



Rosie Frater-Taylor  
the Jennifer Blackwell Performance  
Space in July 2022

# Jul

## Housewarming Sessions

**Fri 1 Jul :** Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 5PM

Our Friday Jazz Foyer sessions have been relaunched as the Housewarming Sessions. We will be collaborating with partners across the UK jazz scene to celebrate emerging and established artists for you to enjoy.

## Nashville Sounds in the Round: The Weekend Sessions

**Sat 2 Jul :** Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 11:30AM

Nashville Style songwriter round where artists are invited to tell the stories behind their songs, taking us back to their origins and transporting the audience right back to the writers rooms.



## Gwen Dickey: The Voice of Rose Royce

**Sun 3 Jul :** Town Hall / 7:30PM

From the USA, Gwen Dickey - The Voice of Rose Royce - are Back, with the famous grammy-award winning soundtrack to one of the hottest movies in the 1970s - Car Wash, in the middle of the soul, funk and disco era.

## Roger Daltrey

**Mon 4 Jul :** Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

The show, which will comprise of a unique mix of music and conversation, is built around Roger's musical journey.



## Adam Ant: Special Guest Laurie Black

**Wed 6 Jul :** Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Pop icon Adam Ant is back with a set list that promises to get everyone on their feet.

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

**Thu 7 Jul :**  
Justham Family Room & Jane How Room / 7PM

A monthly open mic platform to jam, perform and click with a community of creatives.



Birmingham 22 Festival Presents:

**B:Music**

# Community Spirit 2022 - Anthems

**Sun 10 Jul : Symphony Hall / 3PM**

2022 marks the 10 year anniversary of Community Spirit, an annual project run by B:Music in partnership with their Associate Artists, Black Voices. Join us at Symphony Hall, for this rousing large-scale concert where hundreds of choral voices sing together as one.

[bmusic.co.uk/community-spirit](http://bmusic.co.uk/community-spirit)



## **BC 2021/22: Sheku & Isata Kanneh-Mason**

**Sun 10 Jul :**  
Symphony Hall / 8PM

Few instrumentalists have built such a formidable reputation more quickly than the Kanneh-Masons, each with a classical chart-topper under their belt and still in their early twenties.

Don't miss this recital by the brilliant brother-and-sister duo from

'Britain's most musical family'  
(THE TIMES)

[bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

# Jul



## Housewarming Sessions: Rosie Frater-Taylor

**Fri 15 Jul :**

Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 5PM

Rosie Frater-Taylor makes her debut at the Housewarming sessions has a very attractive voice and sings in an interestingly rhythmic style.



## Sax and the City

**Sat 16 Jul :**

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.

## Rob Brydon: A Night of Songs & Laughter

**Sat 16 Jul :**

Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Featuring a sensational live band, 'A Night of Songs & Laughter' tells Rob's personal musical journey from South Wales to Hollywood and back.





## Housewarming Sessions

**Fri 22 Jul : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 5PM**

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## Burn The Floor: The Reunion

**Fri 22 Jul : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Featuring some of the most celebrated alumni of Burn the Floor including Strictly Come Dancing's Aljaž Škorjanec, Kevin Clifton, plus many more.



## Wilko Johnson: Special Guest John Otway

**Fri 22 Jul : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Following a remarkable recovery from a diagnosis of terminal cancer, Wilko Johnson has enjoyed a rousing return to the live arena.

## Here Come the Boys

**Sat 23 Jul :  
Symphony Hall  
2:30PM & 7:30PM**

Here Come The Boys is returning this big, spangled, energetic, non-stop dance spectacular to Symphony Hall!



# Jul



## **Solihull Pop Chorus: Pop Voices Through The Decades**

**Sun 24 Jul : Town Hall / 3PM**

Pop Voices brings together amateur singers of all ages, many of whom had never sung in public before, and the result is magical.

## **An Evening with David Sedaris**

**Mon 25 Jul :  
Symphony Hall / 7PM**

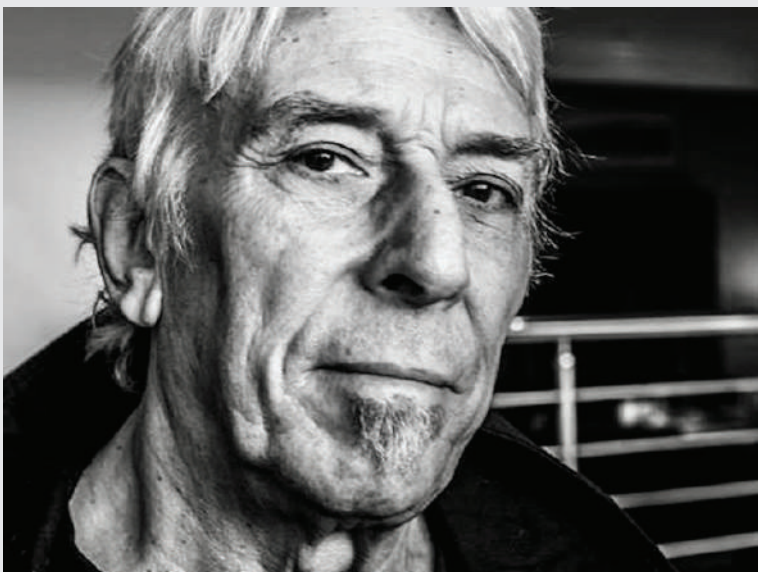
With sardonic wit and incisive social critiques, David Sedaris has become one of America's pre-eminent humor writers. He is the master of satire and one of today's most observant writers addressing the human condition.



## **John Cale**

**Mon 25 Jul :  
Town Hall / 7:30PM**

One of the most famous and, in his own way, influential underground rock musicians, he is also one of the hardest to pin down stylistically.





## George Thorogood & The Destroyers, Good to be Bad: 45 Years of Rock

**Tue 26 Jul** : Symphony Hall / 8PM

“To hear George Thorogood flail his slide up and down his guitar,” wrote Greil Marcus in Rolling Stone, “you might have thought he was Ben Franklin - that he’d discovered not the blues, but electricity.”



## Peppa Pig: My First Concert

Peppa Pig © [2021] ABD Ltd/Ent. One UK Ltd

**Thu 28 Jul and Fri 29 Jul** : Town Hall / 1PM & 3PM / 10:30AM, 12:30PM & 2:30PM

Peppa Pig: My First Concert is a fun, interactive introduction to a live orchestra for ages 18 months and older. Peppa and George learn all about different sounds that instruments make together and enjoy some of their favourite music from the show played by an orchestra as well as discovering some other exciting orchestral pieces, perfect for children. Little piggies can join in with Peppa and her family and make music of their own.



## Joe Jackson

**Sat 30 Jul** : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Joe Jackson will be performing at Symphony Hall with the same band as the successful Four Decade Tour of 2019, and his last album Fool: Graham Maby (Bass, Vocals), Teddy Kumpel (Guitar, Vocals) and Doug Yowell (Drums, Vocals, Electronics).

**Au-  
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# #MusicConnectsUs

Who doesn't like a pun?

Photo: thesarahmillican on Instagram



Sarah Millican  
performs at Symphony Hall  
in August 2022

# Aug



## Sarah Millican: Bobby Dazzler

**Wed 3, Thu 4 & Fri 5 Aug : Symphony Hall / 8PM**

The hilarious Sarah Millican is back on tour with a Bobby Dazzler of a new stand-up show. In this, her sixth international tour, you'll learn about what happens when your mouth seals shut, how to throw poo over a wall, trying to lose weight but only losing the tip of your finger, a surprisingly funny smear test, and how truly awful a floatation tank can actually be.

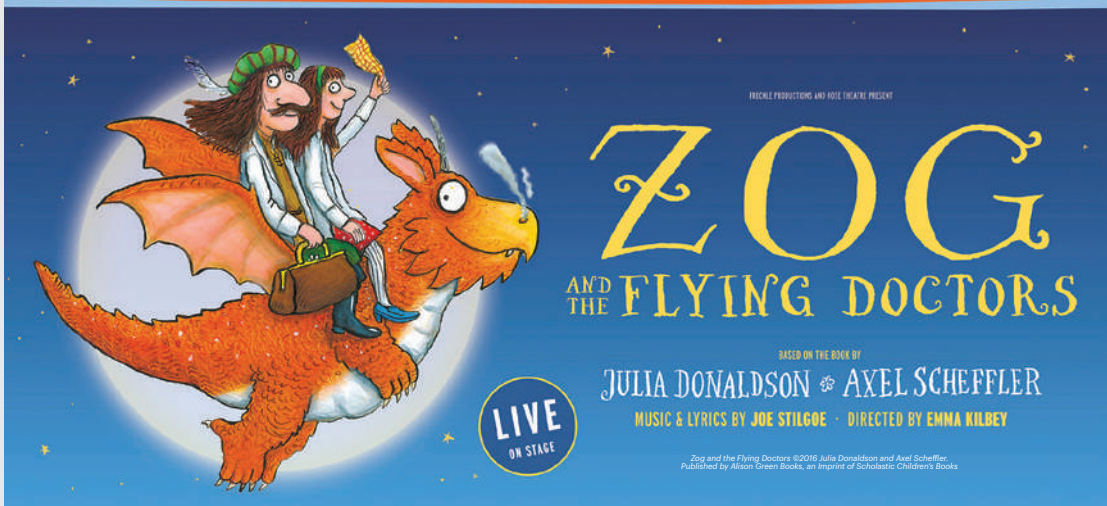
## Nashville Sounds in the Round: The Weekend Sessions

**Sat 17 Aug : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 11:30AM**

Nashville Style songwriter round where artists are invited to tell the stories behind their songs, taking us back to their origins and transporting the audience right back to the writers rooms.



THE **ROAR-SOME** CREW ARE **BACK** FOR A **BRAND NEW** ADVENTURE!



## Zog and the Flying Doctors

**Tue 23 - 28 Aug : Town Hall / Various times**

Based on the book by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler

Zog, super keen student turned air-ambulance, still lands with a crash-bang-thump. Together with his Flying Doctor crew, Princess Pearl and Sir Gadabout, they tend to a sunburnt mermaid, a unicorn with one too many horns and a lion with the flu. However, Pearl's uncle, the King, has other ideas about whether princesses should be doctors, and she's soon locked up in the castle back in a crown and a silly frilly dress!

With a bit of help from some friends and half a

pound of cheese, can Pearl make her uncle better and prove princesses can be doctors too?

Based on Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's bestselling sequel, Freckle Productions (Zog, Stick Man, Tiddler & Other Terrific Tales, Tabby McTat) bring the creative team behind Zog, Emma Kilbey and Joe Stilgoe, back together for this truly modern take on the classic fairy tale.

Most suitable for ages 3+ but all ages welcome.

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# Black Voices amazing journey continues...

They've played around the world, for presidents and royalty, but Black Voices never forget that their home is Birmingham. So it's only fitting that the a cappella group should be centre stage when the world comes to their city this year for the Commonwealth Games.

Black Voices will be part of a spectacular concert at Symphony Hall on 17 Jun, teaming up with poet Casey Bailey, rapper Sanity and the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Then they're back at the hall on Jul 10 for a special performance of their annual Community Spirit concert, bringing together 13 local choirs. Finally, they'll be part of the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony at Alexander Stadium on Jul 28.

Black Voices feel very at home at the B:Music venues of Birmingham Town Hall and Symphony Hall, having regularly played there since they began in 1987.

The female a cappella quintet was born in the great tradition of gospel, singing in church from an early age, but they also take us on a musical journey through blues, jazz, soul, pop and reggae.

The Handsworth-based group became Associate Artists of B:Music in 2005. Managing director and founder Carol Pemberton remembers: "When we first started, our annual concert at Town Hall was one of the highlights of our year. Then we performed at the launch of the renovated hall in 2007, singing a reworking of Handel's Messiah. Black Voices pulled the choir together for the performance and the Town Hall Gospel Choir grew out of that.

*"Community Spirit was first presented at Town Hall in 2009 before moving to Symphony Hall. It's a place that I'm very proud of. When it was first constructed, as the home of the CBSO, it didn't feel like a place for black musicians. It wasn't easy to pop in, it felt like part of the ICC and not a welcoming venue. But now it feels very inclusive and accessible, especially since the new entrance and extension has opened it up.*

*"We really enjoy B:Music's venues. The new spaces in Symphony Hall are where we can showcase different elements of our work and collaborate with other great musicians across Birmingham.*

*"We have a fantastic relationship with B:Music, especially in terms of the outreach programmes we deliver. We organise Community Spirit every year, which is a way for choirs to learn from and perform with each other, and we work with schools across Birmingham to help them learn about music from a mix of cultures. Like B:Music, we want to nurture future talent. Each of the Community Spirit choir leads who have been there a while will encourage newcomers - we have a good support network to help people through the process."*

BV's Artistic Director Shereece Storrod, who has taken many workshops in inner city schools, adds: "One of the singers in the B Positive Choir remembers us going into their school years ago. Others support many world famous artists as backing singers and it makes us feel proud to have played a part in that."

This year's Community Spirit concert will feature a 'people's anthem' for 800 voices composed by Ken Burton, Musician, Choirmaster and Conductor, Songs of Praise.

*"It celebrates all that's great about Birmingham," says Carol. "It encapsulates the city's motto of Forward Together and talks about the City of a Thousand Trades. There's great sentiment within it of how we all rise together."*



When Carol formed Black Voices, she admits she thought 'We'll give it six months'. But 35 years later, they're very much still here as a vibrant part of Birmingham's music and culture.

They went to Buckingham Palace last year for the launch of the Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay and didn't talk to Her Majesty on that occasion, but as Carol points out, "we have met her several times and often sung at Westminster Abbey".

They've also met and often shared a stage with Prince Charles and Princess Diana, Nelson Mandela, Hillary Clinton, Nina Simone, Sandie Shaw, Ray Charles and Randy Crawford, among many others.

Black Voices have performed around the world on their "**amazing journey**", everywhere from the middle of a lake in Italy and a cave in France to a monsoon in Vietnam. Not bad for a group who started out as backing singers for other bands.

Carol remembers:

*"We'd always rehearse in my house. Back in 1979 we went to Liverpool to see Sweet Honey in the Rock, an a cappella band from the US. We were mesmerised by five women on stage and many times throughout the concert we were in tears. We thought 'how powerful is this' and incredulous that England didn't have anything like it. We had the Flying Pickets but nothing really with women, so we started Black Voices.*

*"We've always just been women. People often think there are men in the group when they hear our arrangements because Celia Wickham-Anderson and I have deep voices, which throws a lot of people. It wasn't a conscious decision but people told us what a powerful statement it was to see five black women on stage, so we thought 'better not change that then'."*

Black Voices has a core of seven members who swap in and out of the quintet on stage. Three are original members, with the rest of the line-up changing over the years as people leave - and often come back after studying and having children.

Looking ahead to Birmingham's big year, Carol says:

*"We feel connected to the Commonwealth, as within Black Voices all our members' heritage is from the Caribbean and include St Kitts and Nevis, Barbados, Jamaica and St Vincent.*

*"I think the Commonwealth Games will be really exciting, and I think many people will be surprised by just how well Birmingham pulls it off."*

Watch Black Voice perform at Beyond the Bricks of Brum on Fri 17 June and Community Spirit on Sunday 10 July.

Interviews by Roz Laws

Images by Richard Battye



# Interview

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# #MusicConnectsUs

## Blue Monday

Photo: astro\_timpeake on Instagram



Tim Peake  
performs at Symphony Hall  
in September 2022

# Sep



## Rupaul's Drag Race UK: Season 3 Tour

**Thu 1 Sep** : Symphony Hall / 8PM

Drag Royalty will sashay across the stage for The Series Three Tour of RuPaul's Drag Race UK. Expect a night of endless extravaganza as ALL 12 queens from Series Three of RuPaul's Drag Race UKwerk their way across the country.

## Massed Male Voices of Cornwall

**Sat 3 Sep** : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

The Cornish Federation of Male Choirs will present a Grand Charity Concert in 2021. There are 370 choristers from 25 member choirs who will perform a concert not to be missed.



## Tavares

**Tue 6 Sep** : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Grammy-award winning R&B singing group Tavares - best known for their infectious sound and close harmony, are proud to announce a 'Greatest Hits Tour 2022'

## Tim Peake: My Journey to Space

**Wed 7 Sep** : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Fasten your seatbelts and get ready for an awe-inspiring ride. Tim Peake is a European Space Agency astronaut. In December 2015, he became the first British astronaut to visit the International Space Station to conduct a spacewalk (and run a marathon!) whilst orbiting Earth.



## Fame UK Reunion 2022: 40th Anniversary

**Thu 8, Fri 9 & Sat 10 Sep** : Town Hall / 7:30PM

The original cast of the tv series Fame will reunite on a U.K. stage to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the series.

## Fastlove: A Tribute to George Michael

**Thu 8 Sep** : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Direct from London's West End, this is the world's favourite George Michael Celebration! Join us for one very special night as we celebrate the late great George Michael.







## **The 168th British Open Brass Band Championships Gala**

**Sat 10 Sep : Symphony Hall / 10:30AM**

The British Open is the oldest brass band contest in the world and the top 15 British bands continue this great tradition, alongside the invited European champions, by competing for the coveted 'Open' title.

## **Agnes Obel**

**Mon 12 Sep : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Critically acclaimed composer, singer and pianist, Agnes Obel will return to Symphony Hall. Fans will hear brand new songs, alongside a set list comprised of songs from Obel's award-winning and platinum-selling album Philharmonics, Aventine, and Citizen of Glass.



## **Chris de Burgh & Band: The Legend of Robin Hood Tour**

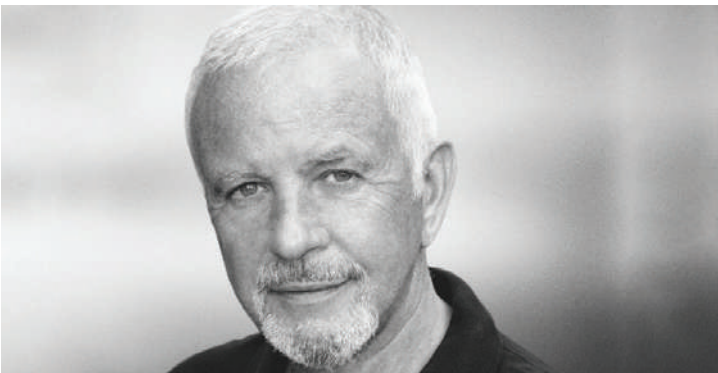
**Tue 13 Sep : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Chris de Burgh will be celebrating his new album The Legend of Robin Hood, as well performing many of his greatest hits.

## **Don Mclean: 50th Anniversary of American Pie**

**Wed 14 Sep : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

The American Troubadour has had Top 20 singles worldwide along with American Pie, Vincent. Madonna, Drake and Garth Brooks are amongst many artists who have also recorded Don's songs.



## **David Essex**

**Thu 15 Sep :  
Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Internationally renowned singer, composer and actor David Essex OBE will return to Symphony Hall.

# Sep



## Loudon Wainwright III In Concert with support

**Thu 15 Sep : Town Hall / 8PM**

For the past fifty two years, Loudon Wainwright III has carved out a distinguished career as one of our most original singer-songwriters, a six-string diarist with material that is by turns, tongue-in-cheek, tender, sarcastic, heart-wrenching and always deeply personal.

## Kim Wilde: Greatest Hits Tour Plus Special Guests China Crisis

**Fri 16 Sep : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Kim Wilde and her incredible band are returning to Symphony Hall, with support from China Crisis.



## Nashville Sounds in the Round: The Weekend Sessions

**Sat 17 Sep : Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space / 11:30AM**

Nashville Style songwriter round where artists are invited to tell the stories behind their songs, taking us back to their origins and transporting the audience right back to the writers rooms.

## Steve Hackett Genesis Revisited: Foxtrot at Fifty + Hackett Highlights

**Sun 18 Sep : Symphony Hall / 7:45PM**

The tour will mark the 50th anniversary of the legendary Genesis album Foxtrot which, in 1972, was pivotal in establishing the band as a major force.



## The Billy Joel Songbook

**Sun 18 Sep : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Hugely acclaimed singer-songwriter and pianist Elio Pace is set to thrill audiences with his smash-hit award-winning show.



## A1: The A Game

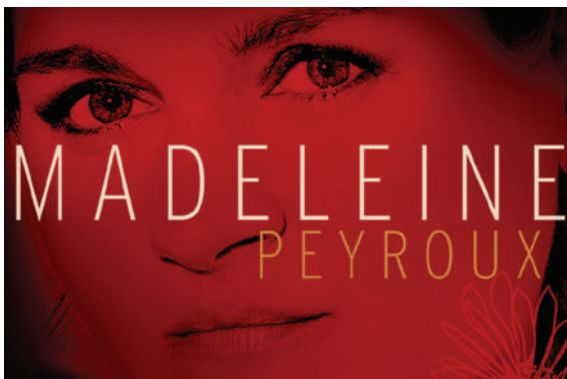
**Mon 19 Sep : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

A1, the Brit award winning, British-Norwegian band had their first breakthrough in 1999 and went on to have many international number 1 hits.

## Space Spectacular

**Sun 25 Sep :  
Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

A thrilling concert of your favourite music from deep space and beyond in a galaxy of sight and sound with a Spectacular Star Wars finale.



## Madeleine Peyroux

**Tue 27 Sep : Town Hall / 8PM**

Careless Love was a commercial and critical success. In the US, the album sold more than 500,000 copies in its first year—hitting No.2 on Billboard's Jazz chart and, eventually, earning a platinum certification both in the USA.

Rivalling the sales of a pop record, the album was also a bestseller abroad, landing in the Top Ten in the UK, and earning Gold and Platinum certifications in Europe, South America, and China.

## The 80s Show

**Wed 28 Sep :  
Town Hall / 8PM**

The Greatest Tribute to the Greatest Decade, brings you the best 80s party on the Planet!

The 80s Show covers as many of these eras as possible and has gone to monumental lengths to get all the sounds and music absolutely perfect to take you on a journey of Nostalgia to the golden days when it was all about FUN!



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# #MusicConnectsUs

Love is Love

Photo: vondashepard on Instagram



Vonda Shepard  
performs at Symphony Hall  
in October 2022

# Oct



## Boyzlife

**Sat 1 Oct:**  
Town Hall / 7:30PM

Boyzlife is the supergroup formed by long time pals Keith Duffy and Brian McFadden who previously appeared as members of '90s and '00s boybands Boyzone and Westlife, respectively.

## Ricky Ross: Short Stories Vol. 2

**Sun 2 Oct:**  
Town Hall / 7:30PM

Ricky Ross, songwriter and lead singer for Deacon Blue, one of Scotland's best loved and most successful bands, returns with his solo tour in support of his brand new album, Short Stories Vol 2.



## George Clarke's Life in Amazing Architecture

**Wed 5 Oct:**  
Town Hall / 7:30PM

Both enlightening and entertaining, George can help inspire you to create your dream home, whilst also sharing his unique and often hilarious stories about his life in architecture and television.



## **Henning Wehn: It'll All Come Out In The Wash**

**Fri 7 & Sat 8 Oct :**  
Town Hall / 8PM

Watch German Comedy Ambassador Henning Wehn give everything a good rinse and witness him wring sense out of the nonsensical. An unbiased look at a certain virus might be inevitable but Henning has no agenda; he just happens to be always spot on. It's a curse.



## **Sir Bryn Terfel: Songs and Arias**

**Sun 9 Oct :**  
Symphony Hall / 7:40PM

The Welsh bass-baritone, Sir Bryn Terfel performs an evening dedicated to the world of Songs and Arias.

# Oct



## Uriah Heep: 50th Anniversary Tour Lockdown to Rockdown

**Mon 10 Oct :**  
Symphony Hall / 8PM

Uriah Heep's longevity is a testament to the band's excellent music, prolific song-writing and tireless efforts.

## Jongleurs Legends

**Tue 11 Oct :**  
Town Hall / 7:30PM

Buckle up for a comedy rollercoaster ride that will leave you breathless from laughter! Jarred Christmas, Paul Tonkinson, Ninia Benjamin and Mike Gunn will be relentless in their delivery to ensure that you have a great night.



## Essential 80s featuring Paul Young, T'Pau and Hue and Cry

**Tue 11 Oct :**  
Symphony Hall / 7PM

Essential 80's brings the very best live compilation of chart topping 80's artists to the stage this Sep for a nostalgic tour of everyone's favourites.





## Will Young

**Sat 15 Oct :**  
Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Will Young originally shot to fame after winning Pop Idol 2002, but has since gone on to defy the critics by releasing four multi-platinum selling albums, being voted the UK's Favourite Artist twice and receiving critical acclaim for hit singles such as Leave Right Now and All Time Love.



## BC 2022/23 Brno Philharmonic Orchestra

**Sun 16 Oct :**  
Symphony Hall / 3PM

The roots of the BRNO Philharmonic Orchestra go back to the 1870s, when the young Leoš Janáček strove to establish a Czech symphony orchestra in Brno. Janáček's gripping tone poem, Taras Bulba features in this colourful Czech programme, which also includes Korngold's richly Romantic Violin Concerto, performed by the brilliant British virtuoso Chloë Hanslip, and Dvořák's 'New World' Symphony.

## Vonda Shepard: Greatest Hits Tour

**Sun 16 Oct :**  
Symphony Hall Stage / 8PM

Vonda Shepard first shot to fame through her long running appearances, performances and musical accompaniment on the smash hit US TV show Ally McBeal. The theme song Searching My Soul reached the top 10 in the UK and Vonda released a series of Ally inspired albums which went on to sell a staggering 12 million copies worldwide.



# Oct



## The Proclaimers

**Mon 17 Oct :**  
Symphony Hall / 7:30PM

Strikingly individual, twin brothers Craig and Charlie Reid emerged 35 years ago with their debut album *This Is The Story* and Top 3 single *Letter from America*. Since then, their enduring appeal across generations has have over the years seen them enjoy huge success across the globe.

## Al Stewart with his band The Empty Pockets

**Tue 18 Oct :** Town Hall / 7:30PM

After Al's last UK tour in Autumn of 2019 with his band the Empty Pockets, for most of 2020 he was sidelined due to Covid. For his first major tour since then he has decided to reprise the line-up of his 2019 UK trek. Once again Al and the Pockets will be joined by saxophonist Marc Macisso.



## Milton Jones: Milton Impossible

**Wed 19 Oct :** Town Hall / 7:30PM

One man. One Mission. Is it possible? No, not really. Milton reveals the truth about being an international spy, before being given a disappointing new identity which forced him to appear on *Mock the Week*, *Live at the Apollo*.

## Howard Jones

**Thu 20 Oct :** Town Hall / 7:30PM

The acoustic shows will highlight a fresh take on Howard's best-known hits and will provide a rare and intimate opportunity about the inspiration behind his material.



## **Beth Nielsen Chapman: Crazytown Tour**

**Fri 21 Oct : Town Hall / 8PM**

One thing you can count on is one great song after another and some fascinating stories woven between them.



## **Tony Hadley: Live with an Orchestra**

**Sun 23 Oct :  
Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Celebrating four decades since Tony first released music with his former band Spandau Ballet this show will see him perform live with an Orchestra.

## **Soweto Gospel Choir present FREEDOM**

**Sun 23 Oct :  
Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Winner of the 2019 Grammy Award for Best World Music Album for their latest album Freedom, a collection of songs which celebrate and commemorate South Africa's democratic movement's struggle for freedom.



## **Sixties Gold: The All Hits Show!**

**Mon 24 Oct : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

The Tremeloes featuring Chesney Hawkes; Herman's Hermits; The Marmalade; Spencer James, lead singer of The Searchers, Gerry's Pacemakers plus, special guest from the USA Gary Puckett.

# Oct



## Ladysmith Black Mambazo

**Thu 27 Oct : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Following the very sad news about Joseph Shabalala death, Ladysmith Black Mambazo have confirmed that they will be celebrating his life and music in these concerts. For sixty years they have sung powerful, uplifting songs that emote the struggles and passion of South Africa.

## Symphonic Universe

**Fri 28 Oct :  
Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

Take a bold leap into another dimension with Symphonic Universe: The Music of The Avengers and Beyond, a new show that is out of this world.



## Levison Wood

**Fri 28 Oct : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

Join critically acclaimed author and explorer Levison Wood as he takes to the stage for his third UK tour, The Art of Exploration.





## The Feeling plus support

**Sat 29 Oct : Town Hall / 7:30PM**

In the lead up to the release of the soundtrack for the smash musical Everybody's Talking About Jamie, composed by Dan Gillespie Sells, Ivor Novello award-winning band The Feeling have announced a new chapter in their career with their sixth studio album, Loss. Hope. Love - back where it all started in 2006 for their Top 3 debut album Twelve Stops and Home.

## Classical Spectacular®

**Sat 29 Oct : Symphony Hall / 7:30PM**

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



## MILKSHAKE! Live: Milkshake! Monkey's Musical

**Sun 30 Oct : Town Hall / 12PM & 3:30PM**

Milkshake! Monkey is back and can't wait to put on a spectacular NEW Show for you all, joined by some of his favourite Milkshake! friends plus two Milkshake Presenters creating the most dazzling show you have ever seen. This brand-new show has plenty of laughter, audience interaction and great fun to get everyone up on their feet! It's a family show not to be missed!

\*Produced by Mark Thompson Productions by arrangement and in partnership with Channel 5 Broadcasting.

# City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

## Resident Orchestra at Symphony Hall, a B:Music Venue

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

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

The CBSO will announce their full Season from Sep '22 to Jun '23 in early May, but meantime there's musical gems to catch in June, July and August a sneak preview of the start of their Season including the return of acclaimed violinist, Nicola Benedetti.

## More than just classical



# CBSO at Symphony Hall

## Handel's Messiah

**Wed 8 Jun : 7PM**

*Richard Egarr - Conductor  
Mary Bevan - Soprano  
Reginald Mobley - Counter Tenor  
James Gilchrist - Tenor  
Christopher Purves - Baritone  
CBSO Chorus*

### Programme :

Handel Messiah, 140'  
(There will be a 20-minute interval after Part I)

Handel's Messiah isn't so much an oratorio as a national institution - hands up if you've ever heard the Hallelujah chorus? Yet, even though Messiah was a favourite at the great Birmingham Triennial Festivals, the CBSO Chorus has never sung it. We're putting that right this Season, and under the baton of Baroque specialist Richard Egarr, Handel's timeless inspiration will burn brighter than ever.

**Jun**

## Rodgers & Hammerstein: Some Enchanted Evening

**Fri 10 Jun : 7.30PM**

*Martin Yates - Conductor  
Scott Davies - Vocalist  
Gina Beck - Vocalist  
Alice Fearn - Vocalist*

### Programme :

Including music from *Oklahoma! Carousel, South Pacific, The King and I, The Sound of Music, State Fair* and more!

June is bustin' out all over: so celebrate Friday night with the most successful partnership in American Musical Theatre history. Everyone knows the sound of Rodgers and Hammerstein's music, and all your favourite songs are here - we're sure to send you home whistling a merry tune!

**Jun**

## Patricia Kopatchinskaja: Shostakovich

**Wed 15 Jun : 7.30PM**

**Thu 16 Jun : 2.15PM**

*Ludovic Morlot - Conductor  
Patricia Kopatchinskaja - Violin*

### Programme :

Thorvaldsdottir *Catamorphosis*, 20'  
(CBSO Centenary Commission:  
UK Premiere - 15 Jun only)

Britten *Gloriana: Symphonic Suite*, 25'  
Shostakovich *Violin Concerto No. 1*, 38'  
Britten *Four Sea Interludes*, 16'

Fans call her "PatKop", and violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja attracts a passionate following wherever she plays. Adventurous, innovative and dazzlingly gifted, she makes every note an adventure. Hear for yourself, as she performs Shostakovich's gripping First Violin Concerto; and discover our powerful new commission from Icelandic composer Anna Thorvaldsdottir - it's already been hailed as a masterpiece.

**Jun**

## Season Finale: Mahler's Resurrection

**Wed 22 Jun : 7.30PM**

**Sat 25 Jun : 7PM**

*Markus Stenz - Conductor  
Janai Brugger - Soprano  
Karen Cargill - Mezzo Soprano  
CBSO Chorus  
CBSO Youth Chorus\*  
CBSO Children's Chorus\**

### Programme :

A & R Panufnik *Five Polish Folk Songs*, 12'  
(CBSO Centenary Commission: *World Premiere*\*)

Mahler *Symphony No. 2 (Resurrection)*, 87'

\* *The Panufnik piece, featuring the CBSO Youth Chorus and Children's Chorus, will only be performed at Saturday's concert.*

We played it when Symphony Hall opened, and when Sir Simon Rattle said farewell; our recording has won international awards and our Chorus has sung it around the world. But in the CBSO family, it's always a special occasion when we perform Mahler's mighty "Resurrection" Symphony. It's a masterpiece that we love, and have made our own. Bring a handkerchief - or two.

**Jun**





# CBSO at Town Hall

## Stanford's Requiem

Sat 2 Jul : 7PM

Martyn Brabbins - Conductor  
Carolyn Sampson - Soprano  
Marta Fontanal-Simmons - Mezzo Soprano  
James Way - Tenor  
Ross Ramgobin - Baritone  
University of Birmingham Voices

### Programme :

Stanford Requiem, 81'

Once upon a time in Birmingham, crowds gathered to hear the first performance of the Requiem by Charles Villiers Stanford - commissioned by the legendary Triennial Festival, who went on to premiere Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* just three years later. 125 years on, we join forces with the University of Birmingham Voices to bring a forgotten masterpiece back home: prepare to be surprised, prepare to be impressed - but above all, prepare to be moved.

Jul

## Simply Schubert

Thu 14 Jul : 7PM

Conductor Edward Gardner

### Programme :

Schubert  
Fierabras Overture 9'  
Symphony No. 1 in D major 29'  
Symphony No. 4 in C Minor (Tragic) 28'

Who better than Schubert to provide sumptuous music for a summer's evening and how better to begin than with an overture? In this case, it's from his rarely performed deeply Romantic opera, *Fierabras*. His first Symphony (famously composed when he was just 16) then takes centre stage. A lovely, enchanting piece it is very much in contrast to his fourth, a dramatic stormy work in which Mozart's masterful influence can clearly be heard.

As ever, it is a delight to welcome back long term CSBO associate Edward Gardner to conduct.

Jul



## CBSO SO Vocal 10 Year Celebration

Sun 17 Jul : 6PM

The CBSO's community choir, SO Vocal, is one of the most vibrant forces in Birmingham's musical life. Join us as we celebrate 10 years of the choir with an eclectic evening of feelgood summery sounds including *Hushabye Mountain*, *Make Your Own Kind of Music*, *Let's Face the Music and Dance*, *Just Give Me a Reason* and more.

Jul

# CBSO at Symphony Hall

## Happy Birthday John Williams!

**Tue 2 Aug : 7.30PM**

Conductor - Stephen Bell

### Programme :

Williams

Includes music from *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, *Jurassic Park*, *Schindler's List*, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Star Wars*, *ET*, *Jaws*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *Saving Private Ryan*

Celebrate the magic and the music of John Williams this Aug and join the CBSO as they wish a very happy 90th birthday to one of the most popular composers of all time. The genius of John Williams has touched countless lives through his music for films such as *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter*, *Jaws*, *ET*, *Schindler's List* - and many more - and the CBSO will be performing a selection of amazing music from all of them this evening.

If ever there was a birthday party music lovers will want to be invited to, it's this one!

Jul



# CBSO

## 2022/23

### A New World: Kazuki Yamada and Nicola Benedetti Season Opener

Sep

Tue 20 Sep : 7.30pm

Conductor - Kazuki Yamada  
Violin - Nicola Benedetti  
CBSO Chorus

**Programme :**

Mendelssohn Violin Concerto

Grigorjeva In Paradisum

Dvorak: Symphony No.9 (From the New World)

We can't think of a more delightful way to open our Season with than by pairing our designate Chief Conductor and Artistic Advisor Kazuki Yamada with acclaimed violinist, Nicola Benedetti. Expect musical fireworks and a packed concert hall, so early booking is strongly advised.



### Human Nature: The Rite of Spring

Sep

Sat 24 Sep : 7PM

Conductor - Nicholas Collon  
Soprano - Jennifer France  
Counter Tenor - Patrick Terry  
CBSO Chorus  
Hallé Choir

Dean In this Brief Moment  
(CBSO Centenary Commission - World premiere) 45'  
Stravinsky The Rite of Spring (1947) 32'

Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* revolutionised classical music – and we're still dealing with the shockwaves today. Guest conductor Nicholas Collon brings his own special kind of voltage – and conducts two colossal choruses in the latest CBSO Centenary Commission: a grand, teeming celebration of nature, "an opportunity to marvel at what has been, what is and what may well be lost".

Thu 6 Oct : 7.30PM

Conductor - Mirga Gražinyte-Tyla  
Cello - Sheku Kanneh-Mason

**Programme :**

Adès *The Exterminating Angel* Symphony 20'  
Haydn Cello Concerto in C 24'

Another chance for Birmingham audiences to see Mirga conduct live one of the big hits of last year's Proms, Adès *The Exterminating Angel* Symphony. Critically acclaimed by *The Guardian* as 'A wonderful orchestral showpiece that the CBSO clearly relished' it is paired with Haydn's Cello Concerto which will doubtlessly prove the perfect vehicle to showcase the talents of returning brilliant young cellist, Sheku Kanneh-Mason.

### CBSO Youth Orchestra play Bruch & Lutoslawski

Oct

Sun 30 Oct : 3PM

CBSO Youth Orchestra  
Conductor - Marta Gardolinska  
Violin - Randall Goosby

**Programme :**

Bruch Violin Concerto

Lutoslawski Concerto for Orchestra

It's always wonderful to welcome back the CBSO Youth Orchestra. Don't miss your opportunity to see the stars of tomorrow today as they perform Bruch's much loved violin concerto with the young American violinist, Randall Goosby.

[bmusic.co.uk](http://bmusic.co.uk)

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## How to book

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