

The Classical Series

2025/26

International | Orchestral | Chamber
Symphonic | Contemporary | Emerging



PORTSMOUTHGUILDHALL.ORG.UK

THE GUILDHALL TRUST & BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

OPEN AIR SUMMER CONCERTS IN GUILDHALL SQUARE

RETURNING SUMMER 2026!

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AND X FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS! PORTSMOUTHGUILDHALL.ORG.UK

WELCOME

THE CLASSICAL SERIES 2025/26 PRESENTED BY THE GUILDHALL TRUST

Featuring the best of orchestral, symphonic, chamber and film music by some of the best around, we are delighted to present The Classical Series 2025/26, an exciting programme that is guaranteed to give you goosebumps!

A heady mix of classical and contemporary, plus a dose of innovation, some of the most popular and powerful compositions are introduced alongside orchestral and film works by the finest musicians. There is much to choose from for seasoned classicalists, those who love the music of the big screen and if you are completely new to the thrilling world of classical music.

Explore rich programmes from our resident Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Portsmouth Chamber Music, enjoy two concerts featuring the Band of HM Royal Marines and don't miss festive classics, Love Actually and The Muppets Christmas Carol performed live to film.

In February, we welcome the return of London Sinfonietta who will bring to life the work of Japanese composer Tōru Takemitsu.

And in June we are delighted to introduce BBC Friday Night is Music Night and the BBC Concert Orchestra for a special evening in celebration of Portsmouth becoming a city 100 years ago. Orchestral favourites and unforgettable tunes will be featured in a magical concert that will be recorded live for BBC Radio 3.

Escape the everyday and join us on a voyage of discovery!



There is nothing better than a live concert featuring the full forces of an internationally renowned symphony orchestra. It has the power to stir the senses or soothe the soul, feed the mind or simply transport you away from the strains and stresses of everyday life.

TICKETS: £17 - £33

**KIDS FOR A QUID –
UNDER 18S ENJOY ANY
CONCERT FOR JUST £1!**



ENERGY UNLEASHED

Mendelssohn - Hebrides Overture
Mozart - Piano Concerto No.21 K.467
Beethoven - Symphony No.7

A musical postcard of a trip, to a piano concerto built on a fully symphonic scale, culminating in one of the most thrilling endings in all music.

7PM, THU 18 SEP 2025



PIANO PYROTECHNICS

Tchaikovsky - Polonaise from Eugene Onegin
Chopin - Piano Concerto No.1
Mendelssohn - Symphony No.3 'Scottish'

A dance with flair and large orchestral gestures, a dazzling display of technical virtuosity and a stirring symphony dedicated to Queen Victoria.

7PM, THU 22 JAN 2026

Time Shown Is The Start Time



MAHLER'S FIFTH

Haydn - Cello Concerto in D
Mahler - Symphony No.5

Haydn's authentic second Cello Concerto is followed by Mahler's symphony of a journey from death to life featuring extreme contrasts of joy and pain with electrifying effect.

7PM, THU 19 MAR 2026

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POPULAR CLASSICS

**LAST NIGHT OF
THE CHRISTMAS
PROMS**

Christmas just isn't Christmas without the BSO's Last Night of the Christmas Proms concert! Dive head-first into festivities and bring the whole family along for this musical sleigh ride. Orchestral classics, traditional Christmas numbers new and old, and a selection of Broadway and West End hits all wrapped up with a sprinkling of magic and a great big bow on top.



7.30PM, MON 22 DEC 2025

**CLASSIC FM HALL
OF FAME**

Rossini - The Barber of Seville Overture
Rodrigo - Concierto de Aranjuez
Chabrier - España
Mussorgsky - A Night on the Bare Mountain
Borodin - In the Steppes of Central Asia
Rimsky-Korsakov - Capriccio Espagnol

Sun-drenched melodies and one of the most sublime pieces of music ever written, to a dazzling rhapsody and vibrant, colourful suite to the contrasting sweeping plains of central Asia and nightmarish visions of a dark and brooding depiction of a Witches Sabbath.

7PM, THU 5 MAR 2026

Time Shown Is The Start Time



All Show Prices Include Booking Fee & Levy



PORTSMOUTH CHAMBER MUSIC

PRESENTED BY:



Enjoy friendly and welcoming chamber music concerts with some of the world's finest musicians. You'll be sitting just metres away from artists performing spine-tingling music with their heart and soul.

TICKETS: £18 - £20
UNDER 25s - £10



INTIMATE EPICS: BEETHOVEN & JANÁČEK

Fibonacci Quartet

Programme includes:

JANÁČEK String Quartet No.2 'Intimate Letters' (26')

BEETHOVEN String Quartet No.14 (40')

The crowning achievement among Beethoven's late quartets is performed by prolific prize-winners and one of Europe's leading young string quartets.

7.30PM, MON 6 OCT 2025



DEATH & THE MAIDEN

Dudok Quartet

Programme includes:

MUSSORGSKY Songs and Dances of Death (selection) (10')

LISZT Via Crucis (selection) (10')

SCHUBERT String Quartet No.14 in D minor, 'Death & the Maiden' (35')

"Stylish, open-minded and adventurous" (The Guardian), the Dudok Quartet has made its name as a playful, inventive interpreter of string quartet repertoire.

7.30PM, MON 17 NOV 2025

Time Shown Is The Start Time

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THE LARK ASCENDING

Ensemble 360

Programme includes:

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS The Lark Ascending (15')

English music for strings and clarinet, including a gorgeous string quartet arrangement of Vaughan Williams' most popular work.

7.30PM, MON 19 JAN 2026



SITAR WITH TABLA & STRING QUINTET

Jasdeep Singh Degun (sitar) with Harkiret Singh Bahra (tabla) & Ensemble 360

Programme includes:

DEGUN Works for sitar, tabla and string quintet
STRAVINSKY Three Pieces for String Quartet (7')
DVOŘÁK Indian Lament for string quintet (4')

Spell-binding music by the multi-award-winning Jasdeep Singh Degun, interspersed with works by Stravinsky and Dvořák.

7.30PM, MON 23 MAR 2026

Time Shown Is The Start Time



QUARTET FOR HEART & BREATH

Lotte Bettes-Dean (mezzo-soprano) & Phaedra Ensemble

Programme includes:

RICHARD REED PARRY Quartet for Heart and Breath (7')

MEREDITH MONK String Songs (20')

CASSANDRA MILLER Thanksong (12')

Cassandra Miller's modern masterpiece is a tender reflection on a late Beethoven quartet (Op.132); it features alongside works by John Tavener and Kate Whitley.

7.30PM, MON 23 FEB 2026



THE STORM WHALE

A free concert for schools funded by The Guildhall Trust.

Benji Davies' heart-warming tales of friendship, love and courage are brought to life through music specially written for Early Years children.

All Show Prices Include Booking Fee & Levy

FROM £40.80 ✂

TIC COMEDY

loveactually In Concert



See the film on HD screen with a live orchestra
UK TOUR NOV & DEC 2025

A Senbla presentation
Love Actually is a copyright of WT Warren LLC. Licensed by Universal Studios. All Rights Reserved.

LOVE ACTUALLY IN CONCERT- FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA

This Christmas, the star-studded Love Actually, perhaps one of the most quotable and adored Christmas films around, will be presented live in concert, with a full orchestra playing the score live to film. An annual festive tradition for many, the concert has played to numerous sold-out audiences. The score for Love Actually, written by Golden Globe®, BAFTA and Emmy-winning composer Craig Armstrong OBE, and the film's music is considered some of the most recognisable across the modern romcom genre.

7PM, SAT 29 NOV 2025

FROM £39.60 ✂

DISNEY

The Muppet CHRISTMAS CAROL

IN CONCERT
LIVE TO FILM



FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA
UK TOUR
NOV & DEC 2025

MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL IN CONCERT - LIVE TO FILM

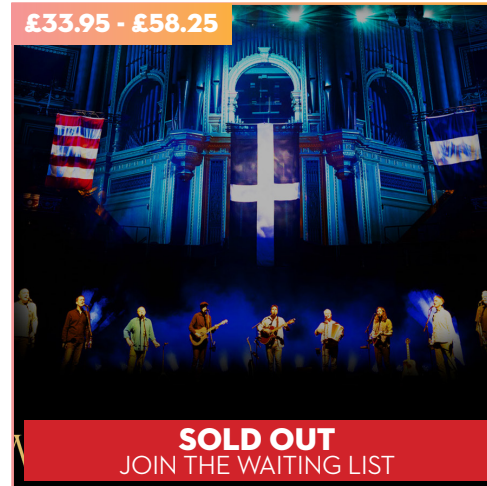
Disney's The Muppet Christmas Carol is presented live in concert, featuring a screening of the complete film with its musical score performed by a live orchestra. Charles Dickens' classic holiday tale features Kermit the Frog playing Bob Cratchit, the put-upon clerk of stingy Ebenezer Scrooge (Michael Caine) and Gonzo, as Dickens, who narrates the story with the help of Rizzo the Rat, plus Miss Piggy, Fozzie Bear and Robin the Frog. The original score was composed by Miles Goodman with songs by Oscar®, Emmy® and GRAMMY® winning songwriter Paul Williams.

7PM, SUN 7 DEC 2025

Dining Upgrade Available ✂

PORTSMOUTHGUILDHALL.ORG.UK

£33.95 - £58.25



SOLD OUT
JOIN THE WAITING LIST

FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS WITH THE BAND OF HM ROYAL MARINES & RNA CHOIR

An evening of sea shanties, sing-a-longs and rousing military anthems in a fundraising concert for the Royal Naval Association.

7:30PM, WED 22 OCT 2025

£32.30 ✂

BANDS OF HIS MAJESTY'S ROYAL MARINES
PRESENTS

Christmas Spectacular



THE MASSED BANDS OF HM ROYAL MARINES: CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

An unforgettable evening of Christmas classics, traditional works and remarkable soloists. A truly must-see Christmas event!

7.30PM, WED 17 DEC 2025

FROM £40.80

nickelodeon

AVATAR

THE LAST AIRBENDER
IN CONCERT
THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR



AVATAR: THE LAST AIR BENDER IN CONCERT

Celebrate 20 years of elemental storytelling, unforgettable characters, and the epic journey that defined a generation. A stunning live orchestral performance of the series' beloved soundtrack and legendary music of Emmy® Award-winning composer Jeremy Zuckerman, in perfect sync with the action on screen. A two-hour visual journey through all three seasons of the iconic animated series, with new elements and artistic surprises that offer a fresh perspective on the show's legacy.

7.30PM, THU 15 OCT 2026

Time Shown Is The Start Time

All Show Prices Include Booking Fee & Levy

£12 - £25 ✂



THE LONDON SINFONIETTA TŌRU TAKEMITSU: BETWEEN SOUND AND SILENCE

For Japanese composer Tōru Takemitsu, silence was as meaningful as any note. One of the most important voices of the postwar era, Takemitsu drew deep inspiration from nature, composing music that feels both intimate and expansive, rooted in stillness and mystery. The London Sinfonietta brings Takemitsu's world to life. Step into the stillness and join us for an evening of quiet beauty and reflection.

Claude Debussy - Prélude à l'après-midi d'un Faune (arr. Benno Sachs)
Toru Takemitsu - Air, And then I knew 'twas wind, Rain Spell, Rain Coming
Olivier Messiaen - Le Merle Noir
Anton Webern - Three Little Pieces

7.30PM, WED 11 FEB 2026

Dining Upgrade Available ✂

All Show Prices Include Booking Fee & Levy

£20 - £32 ✂



FRIDAY NIGHT *is* MUSIC NIGHT

BBC FRIDAY NIGHT IS MUSIC NIGHT

Join the BBC Concert Orchestra for a special evening celebrating 100 Years of Portsmouth becoming a city! Enjoy orchestral favourites and unforgettable classical tunes as part of the BBC's popular, long-running radio show. Old ones, new ones, loved ones...and perhaps a few new tunes you've yet to discover in a live recording celebrating the region for BBC Radio 3. Come and find out for yourself - it's sure to be a night to remember!

7.30PM, FRI 5 JUN 2026

Time Shown Is The Start Time

All Show Prices Include Booking Fee & Levy

The Classical Series 2025/26

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BSO - Energy Unleashed	18 Sep
Portsmouth Chamber Series - Intimate Epics: Beethoven & Janacek	6 Oct
Fisherman's Friends with the Band of HM Royal Marines & RNA Choir	22 Oct
Portsmouth Chamber Series- Death & The Maiden	17 Nov
Love Actually in Concert- Film with Live Orchestra	29 Nov
Muppet Christmas Carol In Concert- Live to Film	7 Dec
The Massed Bands of HM Royal Marines: Christmas Spectacular	17 Dec
BSO- Last Night of the Christmas Proms	22 Dec
Portsmouth Chamber Series- The Lark Ascending	19 Jan
BSO- Piano Pyrotechnics	22 Jan
London Sinfonietta- Tōru Takemitsu	11 Feb
Portsmouth Chamber Series- Quartet for Heart & Breath	23 Feb
BSO- Classic FM Hall of Fame	5 Mar
BSO- Mahler's Fifth	19 Mar
Portsmouth Chamber Series- Sitar with Tabla & String Quintet	23 Mar
BBC Friday Night is Music Night	5 Jun
Avatar: The Last Air Bender in Concert	15 Oct 26