

Vladimir Ashkenazy and the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra present a programme of Shostakovich, Rachmaninov and Borenstein following their most recent recording on Chandos



Saturday 9 December 2017

Sheldonian Theatre, 7:30pm

Borenstein *If You Will It, It Is No Dream*,
Op. 58

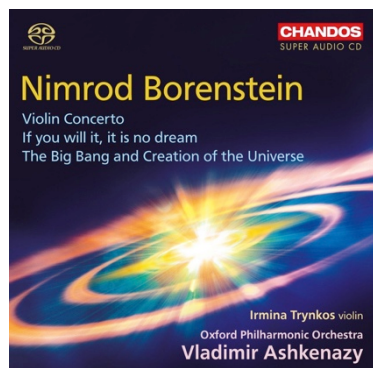
Shostakovich *Violin Concerto No. 1 in A*
minor, Op. 77 (99)

Rachmaninov *Symphony No. 1 in D minor*,
Op. 13

Natalia Lomeiko *violin*

Vladimir Ashkenazy *conductor*

Following the **Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra's** critically acclaimed CD of music by **Nimrod Borenstein**, the orchestra's patron **Vladimir Ashkenazy** returns to Oxford with a programme including Borenstein's *If You Will It, It Is No Dream* alongside Shostakovich's *Violin Concerto No.1* and Rachmaninov's *Symphony No.1*. **Natalia Lomeiko**, Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra's Concertmaster, will appear as soloist in the concerto.



Nimrod Borenstein

Violin Concerto

The Big Bang and Creation of the Universe

If You Will It, It Is No Dream

Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra

Vladimir Ashkenazy *conductor*

Irmina Trynkos *violin*

Chandos CHSA5209 (2017)

The Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra have given the world premieres of Nimrod Borenstein's *Violin Concerto* and *The Big Bang and Creation of the Universe*. Following the world premiere of *If You Will It, It Is No Dream* at the Royal Festival Hall with the Philharmonia, Ashkenazy recorded the work on the latest Chandos disc.

Borenstein is a melodic composer, and he draws attention in his work to his special use of counterpoint, which he says could be described as 'multimelodic', suggesting the eternal but ever changing flow of time, in which events constantly overlap with one another.

★★★★★

"The orchestral playing and engineering is of bracing impact and captivating allure"

- BBC Music Magazine

"A terrifically entertaining, optimistic disc, performed with abundant zip and pizzazz"

- The Arts Desk

Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra

Founded by Marios Papadopoulos in 1998, the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra is one of the UK's leading orchestras praised as 'excellent' by Gramophone Magazine and 'thoroughly impressive' by BBC Music Magazine. It attracts some of the finest musicians in the UK. The Oxford Philharmonic has an annual concert season at the Christopher Wren's Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford. Since 2002, the Oxford Philharmonic has enjoyed a close association with the University of Oxford as its first-ever Orchestra in Residence. Their recordings include Haydn's *Creation* with New College Choir, the Handel/Mendelssohn *Acis and Galatea* with Christ Church and the world premiere recordings of Nimrod Borenstein. In addition to touring and their popular family concerts, the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra hosts an annual Piano Festival and Summer Academy. In 2016 Classic FM broadcasted Maxim Vengerov in concert with the Oxford Philharmonic and Marios Papadopoulos as their premiere radio broadcast (with a programme of Brahms and Silbelius). This November Classic FM broadcast a concert from the Sheldonian marking the 15th anniversary of their residency at the University of Oxford. The Orchestra and its Music Director were awarded the City of Oxford's Certificate of Honour in 2013, in recognition of their contribution to education and performance in Oxford.



The Oxford Philharmonic's main performance venue, the Grade I listed **Sheldonian Theatre**, was built between 1664 and 1668 after a design by Christopher Wren. Handel conducted the first performance of his third Oratorio *Athalia* there in 1733 and Haydn's Symphony No. 92, subsequently nicknamed the 'Oxford', was performed here in the presence of the composer following his acceptance of a Doctorate. The Theatre seats 800 people and provides a unique and

engaging experience for audience and musicians alike.

"The Oxford Philharmonic and its founder Marios Papadopoulos [...] gave a concert of such vigour and splendour that I was quite blown away."

Classical Source, Edward Clark, June 2016

Marios Papadopoulos

Marios Papadopoulos is the founder and music director of the Oxford Philharmonic, Orchestra in Residence at the University of Oxford. Described by The Times at his 1975 piano recital debut as 'having all the attributes of one of the world's greatest players', Papadopoulos has gone on to enjoy an international career both as pianist and conductor. He has appeared as soloist with and conducted many of the world's great orchestras, and worked with a host of eminent musicians. His recordings of the Beethoven Sonatas have been set on a level with Schnabel, Brendel, Barenboim and Kempf (Daily Telegraph, Classic FM Magazine Critics' Choice). Papadopoulos was awarded an MBE in the Queen's 2014 New Year's Honours List for services to music in Oxford.

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