

**The Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra £5 Student Ticket Scheme  
brings in record young audiences  
28% students & 3.01% under 18s  
with half rating concerts 5/5 for positive impact on mental health  
according to survey conducted ahead of 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Oxford  
Philharmonic's appointment as Orchestra in Residence at the University of  
Oxford**



**Thursday 17 November 2022**

Sheldonian Theatre, 19:30

**Brahms- Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80 \*Side-by-Side**

**Mendelssohn- Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64**

**Jieun Lee- The Withdrawal \*world premiere**

**Bruckner- Te Deum, WAB45**

**Jennifer Pike** violin, **Lauren Fagan** soprano, **Claudia Huckle** contralto, **David**

**Junghoon Kim** tenor, **Simon Shibambu** bass

**The Choir of Merton College & The Choir of Queen's College**

**Cayenna-Ponchione-Bailey** conductor **\*Conducting Fellow**

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

Ahead of its concert on 17 November celebrating 20 years as Orchestra in Residence at the University of Oxford, the **Oxford Philharmonic** conducted an online survey for those who purchased a student ticket between September 2021 and August 2022. Within this period 28% of the audience were students, while 3.01% were under 18. The national average is 8% for under 31 attendance according to the Audience Agency's 2017 report of National Classical Music Audiences.

**Additional key statistics** included that:

- 45% of students attended 2-5 concerts
- 38.59% attendees are from other ethnic backgrounds
- 50% of students rated the concert 5/5 for having a very positive impact on their mental health

- 41.23% rated it 5/5 for "broadening horizons", 38.60% for "intellectual stimulation" and 31.58% for "social life"
- 35.09% of students were from Humanities, 42.11% from Sciences, 14.04% from Social Sciences and 8.77% from other
- 97% of students support the continuation of the scheme
- 3.01% of the audience in 2021/22 were under 18s

Comments from survey participants:

*"I am so grateful for the student discount tickets. There is no way I would otherwise have been able to afford the concerts because finances are extremely tight for me because I come from an underprivileged background and receive no support from my family (e.g. I save money from my food budget to be able to go to these concerts). I am so, so grateful. Thank you, and please keep providing them for other students to be able to receive similar benefits."*

*"The £5 tickets were a lifesaver! I've never been able to attend concerts so affordably"*

*"The concerts were one of the best parts of life in Oxford. Studying is very stressful and paying £5 for a concert was a way for me to destress. This helped me with my mental health and my academic studies."*

*"I have persuaded many friends to come who wouldn't otherwise think to do so, and they've all had a wonderful time"*

*"It's been breath-taking to see all the concerts, and if it wasn't for the student tickets, I would not be able to."*

**Marios Papadopoulos** commented,

"We are honoured to be serving the University of Oxford giving young people the opportunity to discover core repertoire performed by the world's greatest musicians such as Maxim Vengerov, Martha Argerich, Anne-Sophie Mutter and Sir Bryn Terfel, often with students performing alongside them. I am thrilled by the uptake from students coming to our concerts and that we have made classical music more accessible to younger audiences – and above all, about the positive impact our programmes have had on their mental health and well-being."

On 17 November, Oxford Philharmonic marks its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Orchestra in Residence at the University of Oxford with Oxford alumna Jennifer Pike in Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto*, followed by a performance of Bruckner's *Te Deum* with the Choir of Merton College and the Choir of the Queen's College. The concert also includes a premiere of a work selected from last year's Composers' Workshop by student **Jieun Lee** conducted by Oxford Philharmonic's Conducting Fellow **Cayenna Ponchione-Bailey**.

During the 2022/23 season, the Oxford Philharmonic welcomes a cast of world-renowned soloists to Oxford's historic **Sheldonian Theatre** including **Martha Argerich, Maxim Vengerov, Paul Lewis, Alban Gerhardt, Samantha Ege, Leia Zhu, Alim Beisembayev, Louis Schwizgebel, Mahan Esfahani** and more. **Marios Papadopoulos** passes the baton to conductors **John Wilson, Andrew Litton, John Rutter, Cayenna Ponchione-Bailey** and **Owen Rees**, for a wide range of programming from music by contemporary Afghan composers to choral masterworks, alongside chamber concerts celebrating the outstanding individual players within the orchestra.

## University Residency

The Oxford Philharmonic became the Orchestra in Residence at the University of Oxford in 2002, the first of its kind at such a prestigious seat of learning. As part of its residency the Orchestra provides the student body with the opportunity to engage with its world-class orchestral players and with visiting guest artists in masterclasses. In addition, and under the banner of the Oxford Philharmonic's Academy programme of education initiatives, the Orchestra holds an annual Composers' Workshop, offers a Young Artists' Platform (short recitals before OPO concerts), an Apprenticeship Scheme (for string players) and undertakes collaborations onstage and in the studio with numerous college choirs.

## Sheldonian Theatre

The Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra's main orchestral venue is the magnificent Grade I listed **Sheldonian Theatre**, built between 1664 and 1668 after a design by Sir 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 Orchestra also visits venues including **Oxford Town Hall**, where performances including three FUNomusica family concerts will take place during the season, and members of the Orchestra perform in Oxford's historic **Holywell Music Room**, the oldest purpose-built concert hall in Europe.

## 2022/23 Season Listings

### Wednesday 9 November 2022, 7:30pm

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Kevin Zheng-** *Poppy Song*\*  
**Prokofiev-** *Violin Concerto No. 1 in D major, Op. 19*  
**Rimsky-Korsakov-** *Scheherazade*

**Maxim Vengerov** violin  
**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor  
**Cayenna Panchione-Bailey** conductor\*

### Thursday 17 November 2022, 7:30pm

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Brahms-** *Academic Festival Overture, Op.80* \**Side-by-Side*  
**Mendelssohn-** *Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64*  
**Jieun Lee** *The Withdrawal* \**world premiere*  
**Bruckner-** *Te Deum*

**Jennifer Pike** violin  
**Lauren Fagan** soprano

**Claudia Huckle** contralto  
**David Junghoon Kim** tenor  
**Simon Shibambu** bass-baritone  
**The Choir of Merton College**  
**The Choir of The Queen's College**  
**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor  
**Cayenna Panchione-Bailey** conductor\*

### Sunday 27 November 2022 Oxford Town Hall, Oxford

#### FUNomusica – Top Scores!

**Alasdair Malloy** presenter

### Thursday 8 December 2022, 7:30pm Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Mozart-** *Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major, K. 467, 'Elvira Madigan'*  
**Bruckner-** *Symphony No.4 in E-flat major*

**Marios Papadopoulos** piano/conductor

**Thursday 15 December 2022,  
7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

Christmas music including...

**Finzi-** *In terra pax, Op. 39*

**John Rutter-** *Joseph's Carol*

**Susannah Hill** soprano

**Jonathan Brown** baritone

**John Rutter** conductor

**Wednesday 21 December 2022,  
7:00pm**

Olivier Hall, St. Edward's School, Oxford

**Handel-** *Messiah*

**Alexandra Lowe** soprano

**Christine Rice** mezzo-soprano

**Ed Lyon** tenor

**Michael Mofidian** bass

**Choir to be announced**

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Sunday 8 January 2023, 3:00pm**

TS Eliot Theatre, Merton College, Oxford

**Haydn-** *Piano Trio No. 38 in G major*  
'Gypsy Rondo'

**Gliere-** *8 Pieces for Violin & Cello, Op. 39*

**Mendelssohn-** *Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor*

**Charlotte Scott** violin

**Mats Lidström** cello

**Marios Papadopoulos** piano

**Wednesday 14 January 2023,  
7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Mozart-** *Divertimento in D major, K. 136*

**Mozart-** *Piano Concerto No. 25 in C major, K. 503*

**Mozart-** *Symphony No. 35 in D major, K. 385, 'Haffner'*

**Alim Beisembayev** piano

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Sunday 5 February 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Tchaikovsky-** *Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 35*

**Brahms-** *Symphony No.2 in D major, Op. 73*

**Leia Zhu** violin

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Monday 6 February 2023, 7.30pm**

Barbican Hall, London

**John Rutter-** *A birthday greeting* \*world premiere

**Mendelssohn-** *Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64*

**Brahms-** *Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 73*

**Maxim Vengerov** violin

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Friday 15 February 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

Programme tba from the stage

**Sir Andrés Schiff** piano

**Saturday 18 February 2023, 7:30pm**

Holywell Music Room, Oxford

**Brahms-** *Violin Sonata No. 1 in G major, Op. 78*

**Brahms-** *Violin Sonata No. 2 in A major, Op. 100*

**Brahms-** *Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor, Op. 108*

**Fiona Khuong-Huu** violin

**Hina Khuong-Huu** violin

**Marios Papadopoulos** piano

**Sunday 19 February 2023, 3:00pm**

Oxford Town Hall, Oxford

**FUNomusica: Mission Earth**

**Alasdair Malloy** presenter

**Thursday 9 March 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Dvorák**- *In Nature's Realm Op. 91* \*Side-  
by-Side

**Rachmaninov**- *Piano Concerto No. 2 in  
C minor, Op. 18*

**Shostakovich**- *Symphony No. 9 in E-  
flat major, Op. 70*

**Lise de la Salle** piano

**Andrew Litton** conductor

**Friday 31 March 2023, 7:30pm**

Oxford Town Hall, Oxford

**Sunday 2 April 2023, 8pm**

Isarphilharmonie, Munich \*Debut performance

**Monday 3 April 2023, 7:30pm**

Konzert- und Kongresszentrum  
Harmonie, Heilbronn

**Mendelssohn**- *The Hebrides, Op. 26*

**Beethoven**- *Piano Concerto No. 1 in C  
major, Op. 15*

**Mozart**- *Symphony No. 41 in C major,  
K. 551, 'Jupiter'*

**Martha Argerich** piano

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Thursday 6 April 2023, 7pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Bach**- *St. Matthew Passion, BWV 244*

**Robert Murray** Evangelist

**Tristan Hambleton** Christus

**Mary Bevan** soprano

**Helen Charlston** mezzo-soprano

**Mark Wilde** tenor

**David Stout** baritone

**The Choir of The Queen's College**

**The Boys of Radley College Choir**

**Owen Rees** conductor

**Saturday 22 April 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Still**- *Wood Notes*

**Price**- *Piano Concerto*

**Barber**- *Adagio for Strings*

**Copland**- *Appalachian Spring Suite*

**Samantha Ege** piano

**Cayenna Ponchione-Bailey** conductor

**Saturday 29 April 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Saturday 6 May 2023, 7:30pm**

St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London

**Haydn**- *The Creation*

**Mhairi Lawson** soprano

**Thomas Elwin** tenor

**Jonathan Brown** bass

**Merton College Choir**

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Saturday 13 May 2023, 7:30pm**

Holywell Music Room, Oxford

**Schubert**- *String Quartet No. 14 in D  
minor, D. 810 'Death and the Maiden'*

**Schubert**- *Piano Quintet in A major, D.  
667 'Trout'*

**Soloists of the Oxford Philharmonic**

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Thursday 18 May 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Fauré**- *Pelléas et Mélisande Suite*

**Britten**- *Les Illuminations*

**Debussy**- *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un  
faune*

**Ravel**- *Ma mère l'oye*

**Ruby Hughes** soprano

**Nicolò Foron** conductor

**Tuesday 23 May 2023, 7:30pm**

Cadogan Hall, London

**Mozart**- *Piano Concerto in D minor, K.  
466*

**Beethoven**- *Symphony No.7 in A major,  
Op. 92*

**Marios Papadopoulos** piano/conductor

**Sunday 28 May 2023, 3:00pm**

Oxford Town Hall, Oxford

**FUNomusica: Pirates Ahoy!**

**Alasdair Malloy** presenter

**Saturday 3 June 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Morfydd Llwyn Owen**- *Nocturne* \*Side-  
by-Side

**Elgar**- *Cello Concerto in E minor, Op. 85*

**Elgar**- *Enigma Variations, Op. 36*

**Alban Gerhardt** cello

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

**Cayenna Ponchione-Bailey** \*  
conductor

**Thursday 15 June 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**The Orchestral Music of Afghanistan**

**Cayenna Ponchione-Bailey** conductor

**Thursday 29 June 2023, 7:30pm**

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

**Beethoven**- *Piano Concerto No.2 in B-  
flat major, Op. 19*

**Bruckner**- *Symphony No. 7 in E major*

**Paul Lewis** piano

**Marios Papadopoulos** conductor

## Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra



Since 1998, the Oxford Philharmonic has brought exciting and inspirational classical music performances to Oxford and beyond. Praised as 'remarkable' by *The Spectator*, the Orchestra prides itself on creating exceptional and unique musical experiences, bringing new and engaging interpretations to well-loved works in the classical repertoire.

In June 2022 the Oxford Philharmonic made its Carnegie Hall debut, in a concert 'enmeshed in soul-enriching playing' (*Oberon's Grove*) of 'world-class quality' (*Blogcritics*).

The Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra is dedicated to the highest standards of artistic excellence and musical integrity, and strives to create bold musical statements with every concert it presents. Its continual search for excellence is underpinned by the uncompromising standards of its Founder and Music Director Marios Papadopoulos and maintained by some of the finest musicians, whom 'Papadopoulos has moulded into a stunning group' (*ConcertoNet*).

The Oxford Philharmonic attracts some of the world's greatest artists to appear in concert, including Maxim Vengerov, Angela Gheorghiu, Sir Antonio Pappano, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Martha Argerich, Sir András Schiff, Lang Lang, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Evgeny Kissin and Sir Bryn Terfel.

In addition to its annual concert season in Oxford, touring performances across the UK, family concerts, annual Oxford Piano Festival, and Chamber Music Series, the Orchestra is proud to present a growing list of international engagements including its debut at the Tivoli Festival in Copenhagen in June 2019, US debut at Carnegie Hall in June 2022, debut at the Isarphilharmonie in Munich with pianist Martha Argerich in April 2023, and Haydn's *The Creation* in September 2023 at St Thomas Church Fifth Avenue New York, joined by the Choir of Merton College.

The Oxford Philharmonic was appointed the Orchestra in Residence at the University of Oxford in 2002, the first relationship of its kind between an orchestra and a higher education institution.

World-renowned violinist Maxim Vengerov became the Oxford Philharmonic's first ever Artist in Residence following his remarkable debut with the Orchestra in 2013. Over an unprecedented four-season collaboration, Vengerov performed with the Orchestra across the UK, recorded the violin concertos of Brahms and Sibelius as well as Mendelssohn's Octet. In July 2018 Vengerov appeared at Cheltenham Music Festival and Saffron Hall with the Soloists of the Oxford Philharmonic – a tight-knit group of musicians described by Jessica Duchon as 'a line-up to match any top-notch international chamber ensemble and probably beat them on their own turf'.

In February 2023 the Orchestra celebrates its 25th anniversary in a special concert at the Barbican with Maxim Vengerov playing Mendelssohn Violin Concerto and a new commission from John Rutter.

In December 2020, the Orchestra recorded a concert in a tribute to all those working on developing a vaccine for Covid-19 at the University of Oxford, including the world premiere of John Rutter's Joseph's Carol, commissioned by the Orchestra for the occasion. In addition to Rutter, the Orchestra were joined in their tribute by Sir Bryn Terfel and the Choir of Merton College, Oxford. The film was presented by John Suchet, and also included a special performance by Maxim Vengerov alongside tributes from Anne-Sophie Mutter, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford Louise Richardson, and the Orchestra's Royal Patron HRH Princess Alexandra.

The Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra has been firmly committed to outreach work from its earliest days, with projects taking music to areas of social and economic disadvantage, including hospitals, special schools, and partnerships with Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council. In December 2021 the Orchestra's Sub-Principal Violin Jamie Hutchinson was awarded the prestigious Salomon Prize, a joint prize between the Royal Philharmonic Society (RPS) and Association of British Orchestras (ABO), in recognition of the educational initiatives she spearheaded with the Orchestra's education team during the pandemic.

As Orchestra in Residence at the University of Oxford, the Oxford Philharmonic frequently collaborates with the Faculty of Music in educational programmes with various tuition and performance opportunities for talented young musicians, including the Side-by-Side scheme, which provides an opportunity for young musicians to perform within the ranks of a professional orchestra.

The Oxford Philharmonic has appeared on several recordings including works by Nimrod Borenstein for Chandos, cello concertos by Shostakovich and Mats Lidström (Solo Cello of the Oxford Philharmonic), both conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy, on BIS Records, A Merton Christmas with the Choir of Merton College, Haydn's The Creation with the Choir of New College, and the Handel/Mendelssohn Acis and Galatea with Christ Church Cathedral Choir. The Orchestra's most recent disc The Enlightened Trumpet with soloist Paul Merkelo was released on Sony Classical in September 2019.

A partnership with J & A Beare provides the Orchestra's distinguished members with opportunities to play on Stradivari instruments, adding a new dimension to the sound of the Orchestra.

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.

## Marios Papadopoulos



Marios Papadopoulos is the Founder and Music Director of the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestra in Residence at the University of Oxford.

His 1974 recital at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall was described by the *The Times* as an 'astonishing debut', with his recital in the same venue a year later eliciting further praise from the same critic who described him as having 'all the attributes of one of the world's greatest players'. Papadopoulos has since gone on to enjoy an international career both as pianist and conductor. He has worked with a host of eminent musicians including Maxim Vengerov,

Vladimir Ashkenazy, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Evgeny Kissin, Joyce DiDonato, Menahem Pressler, Renée Fleming, Martha Argerich and Lang Lang.

Papadopoulos's recording catalogue includes his critically acclaimed Beethoven sonatas – which have been set on a level with Schnabel, Brendel, Barenboim, and Kempff (*Daily Telegraph*, *Classic FM Magazine*) – and works by Stravinsky (with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra), Mozart, Mussorgsky, Franck and Shostakovich. He and Maxim Vengerov have recorded the complete Brahms violin sonatas and performed them at Vienna's Musikverein in 2016.

Papadopoulos has conducted the complete cycle of Beethoven symphonies and directed from the keyboard the five piano concertos in the Oxford Philharmonic's 2008 Beethoven Festival, a feat he repeated to celebrate the Orchestra's 15th anniversary in the 2013/14 concert season.

Papadopoulos holds a doctorate in music from City University and is both a member of the Oxford University Faculty of Music and Fellow by Special Election of Keble College Oxford. He became an Honorary Fellow of the Worshipful Company of Musicians in 2010 and was awarded Oxford City's Certificate of Honour in 2013. Papadopoulos was awarded an MBE in the Queen's 2014 New Year's Honours List for services to music in Oxford.

His book *Beyond Dreams and Aspirations* was published in summer 2020 and charts his early career, the creation of the Oxford Philharmonic and his thoughts on musical interpretation.

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