

## Orchestra of the Swan moves to a full-time residency at Warwick Hall as a centre of excellence and musical education hub for the region



### **Echoes – new CD released by Signum**

\*singles will start being released from 18 Jan 2023

\*album and digital concert released on 5 May 2023

**Prelude in B minor BWV 855** – J.S.Bach  
**The Four Seasons Recomposed 'Spring 1'** – Max Richter  
**Buffalo Jump** – Philip Sheppard  
**Peaches En Regalia** – Frank Zappa  
**Nana** – Manuel de Falla  
**The Sea of Time and Space** – David Le Page  
**The Art of Dancing -V-Trance** – Toby Young  
**Venus in Furs** – Lou Reed  
**Glory Box** – Portishead  
**We Played Some Open Chords And Rejoiced, For The Earth Had Circled The Sun Yet Another Year** – A Winged Victory for the Sullen  
**Starburst** – Jessie Montgomery  
**Aquarelle 1** – Frederick Delius  
**Mishima/Closing** – Philip Glass  
**Dies Natalis 'The Salutation'** – Gerald Finzi

### **Earthcycle Concerts**

**Tuesday 7 February 2023, 7pm**

Stratford Play House, Stratford-upon-Avon

**Friday 10 February 2023, 7:30pm**

Number8, Pershore

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

Drapers' Hall, Coventry

**Earthcycle** – a *Four Seasons* for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, celebrating the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Vivaldi's work alongside a newly commissioned version by jazz composer David Gordon and interspersed with traditional songs by folk star Jackie Oates

**Jackie Oates** vocals

**David Gordon** Keyboard

**David Le Page** Director

In an unique example of a public-private partnership, **Orchestra of the Swan** moves its centre of operations from Stratford-upon-Avon to Warwick to take up a full-time residency at **Warwick Hall**. This purpose-built state-of-the-art concert hall with enhanced acoustics was opened in 2016 at the heart of the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation's campus on the Myton Road.

Community is at the centre of this partnership with the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation to make it into a centre of musical excellence for the region:

- Radiating out from Warwick, The Swan serves the whole region with further residencies at Drapers' Hall Coventry, The Courtyard Hereford and The Playhouse Stratford-upon-Avon.
- They will provide access for all talented children to the Foundation's outstanding musical facilities, ensuring that young people throughout the county can discover

and experience the joys of music. This is in addition to the Swan's professional players taking instrumental workshops and masterclasses into primary and secondary schools in partnership with Warwickshire Music Hub.

- The Swan runs Café Muse, dementia-friendly participative musical workshops across the region - in Herefordshire (for Armed Forces' Veterans and their families), Stratford-upon-Avon, Southam and from 2023 at Sense Touchbase Pears in Birmingham (for people living with complex disabilities).

To launch the new partnership, the Swan has created the '**Earthcycle**' **environmental project** giving concerts and education workshops across the region showcasing 3 concerts in Stratford (7<sup>th</sup> February 2023), Pershore (10<sup>th</sup> February 2023) and Coventry (9<sup>th</sup> March 2023).

'Earthcycle' presents the Four Seasons for the 21<sup>st</sup> century – a mesmerising multimedia experience celebrating the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Vivaldi's masterpiece, performed alongside a new version by jazz composer **David Gordon** and interspersed with traditional songs by folk star **Jackie Oates**. Featuring specially shot contextual film, bespoke lighting and sound design, *Earthcycle* contemplates humanity's most urgent environmental concerns, whilst celebrating nature and our place within it.

The 'Earthcycle' environmental project will see 4 full days of music and art workshops in schools in Nuneaton/Bedworth in partnership with the Warwick Schools Foundation, community arts organisation Escape Arts and educator Felicity Robinson, supported by 2 'Nurture Nature' videos for primary schools centred on the four seasons.

Two podcasts by Guardian environmentalist Madeleine Finlay will empower children to make small changes to adapt to the climate change crisis, whilst showing them the value of connecting to the natural world.

A podcast by Guardian environmentalist George Monbiot will explore the impact of UK farming practices on nature extinction in partnership with the Stratford Literary Festival.

**Debbie Jagla**, Managing Director of Orchestra of the Swan, said:

*"Our extensive activities in the regional community underpin everything that we do as a professional orchestra. Without the next generation of school children understanding and appreciating the beauty of live performance and the breath-taking range of styles that form the classical music canon, the orchestral sector will not thrive. School pupils are the heartbeat that will sustain this sector over the next 20 years and our partnership with the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation is key to our success"*

## **Further Concerts in Warwick**

This season, Orchestra of the Swan will perform four concerts, including 'From the New World', a gala concert on 10 November 2022 with **Michael Collins**, Principal Conductor with the Swan. Culturally and politically, America is a bewildering tangle of contradictions, and its music reflects that complexity. What we may perceive as the quintessentially 'American' sound was in fact inspired by the immigrant, refugees and slaves who disseminated their astonishingly rich musical heritage wherever they settled. As America continues to wrestle with the long legacy of slavery this concert explores what constitutes truly American music in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

On 12 January 2023, baritone **Roderick Williams** joins the Swan in Warwick in a pastoral concert 'Enigma' conducted by Principal Guest Conductor **Jason Lai**, that includes Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*, Elgar *Enigma Variations* and Williams' own composition 'Corona', commissioned and premiered during the pandemic.

*"In recent years, I have become gradually more explicit about referencing the sources of my musical inspiration, especially when it comes from pieces I have sung as a professional baritone soloist. It feels almost akin to a collage artist, who creates a work out of scraps and patches of existing material, layered over each other. In my composition for the Corona Ensemble, sometimes the different poems suggested musical references to me, pieces I have sung or know well as a listener that formed the starting point for my composition. Some are very obvious – Bach's *Betrachte, meine Seel* or Purcell's *Now winter comes slowly*, for example. Others are less obvious; the coming of dawn in Haydn's *Creation* is not directly quoted but I wanted to pay homage to that glorious moment nonetheless."* - Roderick Williams

16 March 2023 sees trumpeter **Aaron Akugbo** performing Haydn Trumpet Concerto in Eb in 'Goodnight Vienna' conducted by **Michael Collins**, while Paul Patterson's *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Three Little Pigs* are performed by the Swan on 13 May 2023 in a family concert conducted by Gerry Cornelius.

## Upcoming Albums

The Swan's third mixtape album *Echoes* (to be released 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023), follows on from the success of *Timelapse* and *Labyrinths* (7.5 million audio streams since January 2021 and shortlisted for a Gramophone Award). *Echoes* explores landscape, light, water, dreams, birth and the slowly changing rhythm of the seasons, harking back to the days of vinyl when the act of listening to recordings was more involved and required all of your attention; featuring 14 tracks including orchestral arrangements of songs by Frank Zappa, The Velvet Underground and A Winged Victory for the Sullen, alongside classical standards by JS Bach, de Falla, Delius, Britten, Max Richter, Philip Glass and Finzi. The album will be preceded by the release of 5 singles, the first of which will be *Prelude in B minor BWV 855* by JS Bach on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

## 2022/23 Season Listing

**Thursday 10 November 2022,  
7:30pm**

Warwick Hall, Warwick

**From the New World**

**Copland** Hoe Down

**Jessie Montgomery** Banner

**Barber** Violin Concerto, Op.14

**Dvořák** Symphony No.9 in E minor,  
'From the New World', Op.95

**Corey Cerovsek** Violin

**Michael Collins** Conductor

**Wednesday 16 November 2022, 7pm**

Stratford Play House, Stratford-upon-Avon

**An English Fantasia**

**Britten** Simple Symphony, Op.4

**Purcell** Chacony in G minor, Z.730

**Vaughan Williams** Oboe concerto in A minor

**Delius** Two Aquarelles

**Walton** Two Pieces from Henry V

**James Wilson** The Green Fuse

**Vaughan Williams** Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis

**Nick Daniel** Oboe

**Jason Lai** Conductor

**Tuesday 6 December 2022, 7pm**

Stratford Play House, Stratford-upon-Avon

**Friday 9 December 2022, 7:30pm**

Drapers' Hall, Coventry

## Midwinter

**Corelli** Christmas Concerto

**Anon.** Nowell Tydings Trew

**Anon.** Coventry Carol

**Purcell** Now winter Comes Slowly

**Anon.** Noel 1

**Vivaldi** 'Winter': Mvt.i from The Four Seasons

**Holst arr. Le Page** In the Bleak Midwinter

**Anon.** Riu Riu

**Liszt** The Shepherds at the Manger

**Vivaldi** 'Winter': Mvt. iii from The Four Seasons

**Trad. English arr. Le Page** Three Ships

**David Le Page** Director

**Thursday 12 January 2023, 7:30pm**  
Warwick Hall, Warwick

## Enigma - An English Mystery

**Roderick Williams** Corona

**Vaughan Williams** Five Mystical Songs

**Walton** Two pieces from Henry V

**Elgar arr. George Morton** Enigma Variations, Op.36

**Warlock** Capriol Suite

**Roderick Williams** Baritone

**Jason Lai** Conductor

**Thursday 19 January 2023, 7:30pm**  
Stratford Town Hall  
**Friends' Soirée**

**Gounod** Petite Symphonie

**Françaix** Sept Danses

**André Caplet** Suite Persane

**Joachim Raff** Sinfonietta

**Michael Collins** Conductor  
The Swan's Wind Ensemble

**Tuesday 7 February 2023, 7pm**

Stratford Play House, Stratford-upon-Avon

**Friday 10 February 2023, 7:30pm**

Number8, Pershore

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

Drapers' Hall, Coventry

## Earthcycle

**Trad.** Spring Song 1

**David Gordon** Spring

**Vivaldi** La primavera

**Trad.** Summer Song 1

**David Gordon** Summer

**Vivaldi** L'estate

**Trad.** Autumn Song 1

**David Gordon** Autumn

**Vivaldi** L'autunno

**Trad.** Winter Song 1

**David Gordon** Winter

**Vivaldi** L'inverno

**Jackie Oates** vocals

**David Gordon** Keyboard

**David Le Page** Director

**Thursday 16 March 2023, 7:30pm**  
Warwick Hall, Warwick

## Goodnight Vienna

**Strauss arr. Le Page** Hoe Down

**J Schubert arr. Le Page** Banner

**Haydn** Violin Concerto, Op.14

**Schoenberg** Symphony No.9 in E minor, 'From the New World', Op.95

**Mozart** Symphony No.41 'Jupiter' in C Major, K551

**Aaron Akugbo** Trumpet  
**Michael Collins** Conductor

**Thursday 23 March 2023, 7:30pm**

The Courtyard, Hereford

**Mysterious Barricades**

**CPE Bach** Sinfonia in E minor, Wq.178  
**Pachelbel** Kanon in D Major  
**Corelli** Violin Sonata in D minor, Op.5 No.12 'La Folia'  
**Marcello** Oboe Concerto in D minor, S.Z799  
**Vivaldi** Concerto for 2 Violins in A minor, RV 522  
**Purcell** Chacony in G minor, Z.730  
**Couperin** Les Barricades Mystérieuses  
**Bach** Concerto for Violin and Oboe in C minor, BWV 1060R

**Wednesday 19 April 2023, 7pm**

Stratford Play House, Stratford-upon-Avon

**In a Landscape – Night Owl**

**Debussy** Danse Sacrée et Danse Profane  
**Satie arr. Le Page** Gnossienne 1  
**John Adams** China Gates  
**Yann Tiersen arr. Le Page** Comptine d'un autre été: l'après-midi  
**Steve Reich** Duet  
**Debussy arr. Hesketh** Two Arabesques  
**Trenet arr. Le Page** La Mer  
**Still** Summerland  
**Satie arr. Le Page** Gymnopédie 1  
**John Cage** In a Landscape  
**Ravel** Introduction & Allegro

**Daniel de Fry** Harp  
**David Gordon** Keyboard  
**David Le Page** Director

**Friday 5 May 2023, 7:30pm**

Number8, Pershore

**Rococo**

**Jessie Montgomery** Banner  
**Warlock** Capriol Suite

**Tchaikovsky arr. Le Page** Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op.33

**Martinů arr. Le Page** Variations on a Theme of Rossini

**Tchaikovsky** Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op.48

**Matthew Sharp** Cello  
**David Le Page** Director

**Friday 13 May 2023, 3pm**

Warwick Hall, Warwick

**Into the Woods**

**Paul Patterson** Three Little pigs  
**Paul Patterson** Little Red Riding Hood

**Gerry Cornelius** Conductor

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

Number 8, Hereford

**Americana**

**Denes Agay** Sinfonia in E minor, Wq.178  
**Valerie Coleman** Red Clay and Mississippi Delta  
**Dvořák** 'American' quartet arranged for wind quintet  
**Valerie Coleman** Tzigane  
**Barber** Summer Music  
**Kazimierz Machala** American Folk Suite

**Tuesday 20 June 2023, 7pm**

Stratford Play House, Stratford-upon-Avon

**Icons**

**Arensky** Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky, Op.35a  
**Rachmaninoff** Vocalise Op.34, No.14  
**Tchaikovsky** Variations on a Rococo Theme Op.33 for Cello and Orchestra  
**Rachmaninoff arr. Iain Farrington** Symphony No.2, Op.27

**Guy Johnston** Cello  
**Rebecca Miller** Conductor

**Thursday 20 July 2023, 7pm**

Stratford Play House, Stratford-upon-Avon

**Mysterious Barricades**

**CPE Bach** Sinfonia in E minor, Wq.178

**Pachelbel** Kanon in D Major

**Corelli** Violin Sonata in D minor, Op.5  
No.12 'La Folia'

**Marcello** Oboe Concerto in D minor,  
S.Z799

**Vivaldi** Concerto for 2 Violins in A  
minor, RV 522

**Purcell** Chacony in G minor, Z.730

**Couperin** Les Barricades Mystérieuses

**Bach** Concerto for Violin and Oboe in C  
minor, BWV 1060R

**Victoria Brawn** Oboe

**David Le Page** Director



## Orchestra of the Swan

Formed in 1995, Orchestra of the Swan is a British chamber orchestra which, under the artistic direction of David Le Page, is passionate about audience inclusivity and blurring the lines between genres, through its adventurous and accessible programming.



The Swan presents over 45 concerts a year – both live and digital and has a catalogue of over 29 recordings. The orchestra is passionate about new music and has premiered more than 70 new works by composers including Joe Cutler, Tansy Davies, Joe Duddell, Alexander Goehr, Roxanna Panufnik, Joseph Phibbs, Dobrinka Tabakova, Errollyn Wallen, Huw

Watkins, John Woolrich and many others.

Their latest album *Labyrinths*, audio streamed 3.5 million times since its release on Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 2021 reinterpreted music by Syd Barrett, Britten, Trish Clowes, Joy Division, Brian Eno, Maxwell Davies, Nico Muhly, Piazzolla, Purcell, Max Richter & Yann Tiersen. To listen to *Labyrinths* click here <https://smarturl.it/labyrinths>

Their prior album *Timelapse*, audio streamed 3.9 million times since January 2021, creates a space where sounds of the past and present collide to form a unique musical landscape. Although the pieces were written in some cases, centuries apart and in culturally disparate eras, it is striking how much these contrasting works inhabit such similar emotional territory. Intriguing pairings of works by Rameau and Radiohead's *Pyramid Song*, Schubert and The Smiths, Adés and Grieg, Satie and Reich, complement each other beautifully, and style becomes irrelevant. *Timelapse* is available at [smarturl.it/OotSTimelapse](https://smarturl.it/OotSTimelapse)

[Vivaldi Sleep](#) is a side project of *Timelapse*, where 11 diverse musicians from Folk to Jazz improvised to the second movement of Vivaldi's *Autumn*. Performed by the Swan and conducted by the RSC's Head of Music Bruce O'Neil, *Vivaldi Sleep* was released February 2021.

The Swan has been enormously successful in making a positive and effective contribution to the communities at the heart of its 'immersive residencies' in Herefordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Birmingham with an ambitious programme of work in care homes, schools and rural areas growing year by year. Shortly to be based at Warwick Hall, the Swan is proof that an orchestra really can be an indispensable and relevant part of the community with its aim to entertain, educate and engage in a way that truly makes it a living orchestra.

[orchestraoftheswan.org](https://orchestraoftheswan.org)

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