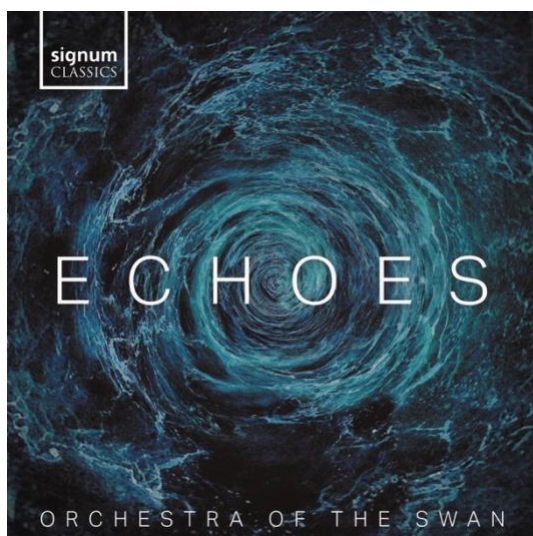


Orchestra of the Swan release the first single from their third pioneering mixtape album

Echoes

Friday 12 May 2023

Signum | SIGCD732



Single release dates

Wednesday 15 February

Prelude in B minor, BWV 855 –
J.S. Bach/Alexander Siloti/David Le Page

Wednesday 8 March

The Four Seasons Recomposed: Spring
1 – Max Richter

Wednesday 29 March

The Art of Dancing: Trance – Toby
Young

Wednesday 12 April

Mishima / Closing – Philip Glass arr.
David Le Page

Listen to the full album [here](#)

Watch the video for *Prelude in B minor* [here](#)

Philip Sheppard Conductor
David Le Page Artistic Director
Orchestra of the Swan

Orchestra of the Swan's third mixtape album *Echoes* follows on from the success of *Timelapse* and *Labyrinths* (7.5 million audio streams since January 2021 and shortlisted for a Gramophone Award) and features an eclectic mix of contemporary reworkings from Bach all the way to the present day.

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 J.S. Bach, Delius, Max Richter, Philip Glass and Finzi, the album will be preceded by the release of four singles.

Currently available to stream online now is their first single, *Prelude in B Minor BWV 855* by J.S. Bach, Alexander Siloti and David Le Page. In this collaboration across three musical time zones, Ukrainian pianist and composer Siloti's elegant transcription of Bach's prelude provides a springboard for new musical ideas in a delicate game of musical consequences. Transcribed for strings and a stratospheric solo violin, this version explores new melodies suggested by the archeological layering of Siloti and Bach, and is released alongside a [mesmerising video of the orchestra](#).

From 8 March 2023 the second single, Max Richter's *Spring 1* will be available to stream with another dramatic accompanying video. Richter's sampling of birdsong from Vivaldi's Four Seasons – imaginatively layering and embellishing, conjuring a mesmerising cloud of fiddles that materialises with a single instrument and expands exponentially – is delicately and poignantly underscored by bass, cellos, violas and harp.

Following this is the release of the third single on 29 March 2023, Toby Young's intriguing *The Art of Dancing: V Trance*. *"The Art of Dancing is a modern homage to the baroque dance suite, with each movement hinting at a different style of electronic dance music. 'Trance' is a nocturne from the centre of the work, inspired simultaneously by the hypnotic quality of trance music and the stillness of Mahler's famous Adagietto from his fifth symphony"*, says Young.

Finally, Philip Glass's *Mishima/Closing* will be released on 12 April 2023 as the fourth single. *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters* is a 1985 film based on the life and work of Japanese novelist Yukio Mishima. The surface simplicity of Philip Glass' score belies an almost indefinable sense of longing, euphoria and apotheosis. Glass uses different orchestrations to correspond to the three visual styles of the film. Black and white biographical flashbacks are underscored by an almost claustrophobic-sounding string quartet whereas the music to accompany stylised scenes from Mishima's novels are scored for large symphony orchestra.

David Le Page said:

"Although you can listen to each track in isolation Echoes is, first and foremost, a complete journey; the way a work ends and another begins is designed to create a frisson, a jolt of recognition or a feeling of surprise and satisfaction. Echoes explores landscape, light, water, dreams, birth and the slowly changing rhythm of the seasons; it also represents a callback to the days of vinyl when the act of listening to recordings was necessarily more involved and required all of your attention. The way we listen to recorded music is constantly evolving but sometimes it is hard to imagine where we can go from here. Despite the ongoing march of music technology and the death of various beloved formats the mixtape has somehow survived and adapted. It is unaccountably more popular than it has ever been."

The recording creates a space where sounds of the past and present collide to form a unique musical landscape where notions of time and style become irrelevant, inspired by David Le Page's multidisciplinary musical background.

Conducted by Philip Sheppard, the versatility of the orchestra's players and their passion for blurring the edges, confounding the boundaries and smudging the carefully drawn lines of genre is at the root of Orchestra of the Swan's triptych of pioneering mixtape albums.

"The individuality of the Orchestra of the Swan is beyond doubt; this strikes me as their finest offering to date."

Classical Explorer on the Labyrinths Digital Concert

Orchestra of the Swan presents *Earthcycle*

Thursday 9 March 2023, 19:30

Drapers' Hall, Coventry

Continuing their intimate and experimental Night Owl series, Orchestra of the Swan celebrate the 300th anniversary of Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* with a thought-provoking multimedia experience, *Earthcycle*, a contemplation of humanity's impact on the environment with a new genre-bending commission showcasing David Gordon's response to Vivaldi's masterpiece.

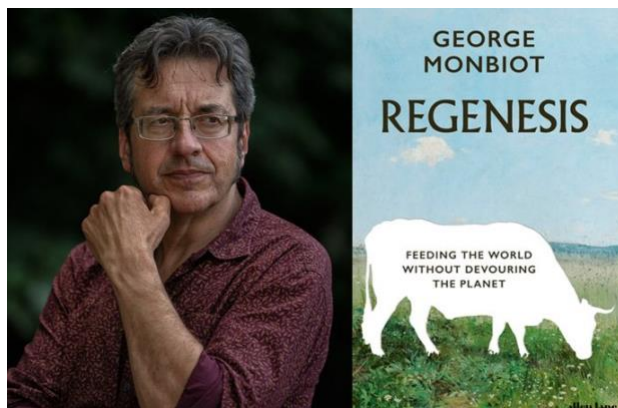


©Eugene McLaughlin

The series spans three concerts with the final one taking place in Coventry on 9 March 2023, and features guest artists Jackie Oates (folk singer), David Le Page (violin) and David Gordon (keyboards). *Earthcycle* will become Orchestra of the Swan's next album, released on Signum Classics in 2024 alongside a 45-minute digital concert.

Earthcycle gives us pause for thought about climate issues, whilst seeking to foster an appreciation of our extraordinary biosphere and a cognisance that regular acts of responsible living really can make a difference. The project is enhanced by a podcast with Guardian environmentalist George Monbiot, which explores the impact of UK farming practices on nature extinction and the effect this has on UK food production.

Listen to the George Monbiot podcast [here](#).



"An unforgettable experience. Music can bring awareness to the issues of our time in a profound way, far deeper than screaming headlines"

Seen & Heard International on
Earthcycle

ECHOES

TRACKLIST | [LINK TO BOOKLET](#)

1. Prelude in B minor, BWV 855*

J.S. Bach / Alexander Siloti / David Le Page

Soloist: David Le Page (violin)

2. The Four Seasons Recomposed: Spring 1*

Max Richter

Soloist: David Le Page (violins)

3. Buffalo Jump

Philip Sheppard

4. Peaches En Regalia

Frank Zappa arr. Ali N. Askin

Soloists: Graham Instrall (drums), Raphael Mizraki (bass)

5. Nana

Manuel de Falla arr. David Le Page

Soloists: Sally Harrop (clarinet), Daniel de Fry (harp), Nick Stringfellow (cello)

6. The Sea of Time and Space

David Le Page

Soloists: David Le Page (violin), Catherine Leech (violin), David Gordon (harpsichord)

7. The Art of Dancing: V Trance*

Toby Young

Soloists: Viv McLean (piano), Simon Desbruslais (trumpet)

8. Venus in Furs

Lou Reed arr. David Le Page

Soloist: David Le Page (violin)

9. Glory Box

Beth Gibbons / Adrian Utley / Geoff Barrow / Isaac Hayes arr. David Le Page

Soloists: Clara Sanabras (vocal), David Le Page (violin), Raphael Mizraki (bass), Graham Instrall (drums)

10. We Played Some Open Chords And Rejoiced, For The Earth Had Circled The Sun Yet Another Year

Dustin O'Halloran / Adam Wiltzie aka A Winged Victory for the Sullen arr. David Le Page

Soloist: Viv McLean (piano)

11. Starburst

Jessie Montgomery

12. Aquarelle 1

Frederick Delius arr. Eric Fenby

13. Mishima / Closing*

Philip Glass arr. David Le Page

14. Dies Natalis 'The Salutation'

Gerald Finzi

Soloist: Mark Le Brocq (tenor)

* Released as singles on 15 February, 8 March, 29 March and 12 April respectively

Selected listings

Thursday 9 March 2023, 19:30

Drapers' Hall, Coventry

Earthcycle

trad. Jackie Oates arr. Le Page

The Birds in the Spring

David Gordon Windigo

Vivaldi La primavera

trad. Jackie Oates arr. Le Page The

Lark in the Morning

David Gordon The Elephant and the

Moth

Vivaldi L'estate

trad. Jackie Oates arr. Le Page Bright

Phoebus

David Gordon Feeling the Chill

Vivaldi L'autunno

trad. Jackie Oates arr. Le Page The

Robin's Petition

David Gordon The Water's Tears

Vivaldi L'inverno

With

Jackie Oates vocals

David Gordon Keyboard

David Le Page Director

Thursday 16 March 2023, 19:30

Warwick Hall, Warwick

Goodnight Vienna

Strauss arr. Le Page Blue Danube

Op.314

J Schubert arr. Le Page Adagio from

String Quintet in C Major

Haydn Trumpet Concerto in E flat Major,

Hob.VIc:1

Schoenberg Notturmo for Strings and

Harp

Mozart Symphony No.41 'Jupiter' in C

Major, K551

With

Aaron Akugbo Trumpet

Michael Collins Conductor

Thursday 23 March 2023, 19:30

The Courtyard, Hereford

Mysterious Barricades

CPE Bach Sinfonia in E minor, Wq.178

Pachelbel Kanon in D Major

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

With

Victoria Brawn Oboe

David Le Page Director

Wednesday 19 April 2023, 19:00

Stratford Play House

In a Landscape (Night Owl – Swan Session)

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

With

Daniel de Fry Harp

David Gordon Keyboard

David Le Page Director

Friday 5 May 2023, 19:30

Number 8, 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

With

Matthew Sharp Cello

David Le Page Director

Friday 13 May 2023, 15:00

Warwick Hall, Warwick

Into the Woods

Paul Patterson Three Little pigs
Paul Patterson Little Red Riding Hood

With
Zeb Soanes Narrator
Cornelius Conductor

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 previous album *Labyrinths*, audio streamed 3.5 million times since its release on 19 November 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](#).

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 to listen to [here](#).

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. Now based at Warwick Hall, a purpose-built state-of-the-art concert hall at the heart of the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation's campus, 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

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