#### Patrons

As a Registered Charity we rely very much on the donations of members and friends to cover our costs. Although the Orchestra consists entirely of amateur players, we engage professional soloists for some concerts to give members the experience of working with professional musicians.

Patrons support the Orchestra by subscribing a minimum  $\pounds 10$  each year ( $\pounds 15$  for joint Patrons or  $\pounds 50$  for Corporate Patrons) and their names are listed in our concert programmes.

To support us in this way, please fill in the form below, and if you are a taxpayer we request that you complete the Gift Aid section.

I/we wish to become Patron(s) of Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra. I enclose a cheque for £...... (payable to Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra).

Name(s)

(as you wish them to appear in the programme listing)
Address
Postcode
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□ I wish to Gift Aid this and any future donations I make to Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in each tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Full name of

taxpayer.....

Signed.....

Date.....

Please send the form with your cheque to: Mrs Jenny Jones, 28 Piccadilly Way, Prestbury, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL52 5DQ Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra Registered charity No. 800445 www.cheltenhamphilharmonic.co.uk

President Professor Joanna MacGregor OBE FRAM



**Conductor** Stephen Belinfante

Leader Sue Belinfante

## JOIN US...

Membership is open to any amateur musician in the area, subject to vacancies being available. Full time students pay a reduced subscription.

Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings in central Cheltenham. There is no formal audition. Prospective members join on a probationary basis. There are more details at : www.cheltenhamphilharmonic.co.uk

If you are interested in joining as a player please send an email to : orchestra@cheltenhamphilharmonic.co.uk

#### Season Sponsor Mr John Baker

#### Patrons

Virginia Adsett Sarah Blizard Nigel & Margaret Britter Jean Elliott John & Sheila Fletcher Robin Gray Mary Healey Ian & Margaret Kilshaw Ian & Margaret Kilshaw Marion Moir Kevin & Norma Philpott David Price John Ricketts Francis & Pat Smith Bill & Monica Spreadbury Anna Walkden

The Orchestra would like to thank our Sponsors and Patrons for their continued and generous support

# Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra

## 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season 2019/2020





#### Welcome to the Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season.

On behalf of the whole Orchestra may I warmly invite you to join us for a very special year of music making here in Cheltenham.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> May 1895 in the

Upper Hall of the Cheltenham Ladies College a performance of Schumann's Cantata 'Paradise and the Peri' was given by, what came to be called, the Cheltenham Philharmonic Society. One hundred and twenty five years on the tradition of music making continues with the Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra. We have a very special year of concerts to celebrate our Anniversary.

Our opening concert features music written in 1895 by Rachmaninov and a world premiere of a brand new work commissioned by the Orchestra. During the season we welcome our President Joanna MacGregor OBE to play Brahm's wonderful Piano Concerto No. 1. We will pay homage to our one-time conductor Sibelius and finish with a performance of Verdi's Requiem for orchestra and massed choir.

The Orchestra has great pleasure in presenting our celebratory programme and we look forward to entertaining you during our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season. Michael Kilshaw Chair, CPO

## Keep in Touch...

We would love you to keep in touch with us. You can find us on Twitter and Facebook, and of course our website at **cheltenhamphilharmonic.co.uk** 

Concert-goers can receive more information about our concerts throughout the season by joining our free electronic mailing list.

Simply send your name and email address to :



publicity@cheltenhamphilharmonic.co.uk

@cheltphilorch

Find us on facebook!

#### The CPO at 125 : Autumn Concert In memory of George Toulmin Sunday 10th November 2019 Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham, 3pm Biberian : Valses Biberian : Concerto for Viola & Orchestra World Premiere with Viola : Richard Crabtree Rachmaninov : Symphony No.1

We start our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season with music spanning the history of the Orchestra. We are delighted to present the world premiere of local composer Gilbert Biberian's Concerto for Viola and Orchestra, The work was commissioned by the Orchestra to celebrate our anniversary and in memory of one of our former viola players, George Toulmin. We are delighted to be joined by renowned violist and soloist Richard Crabtree to perform the concerto. The concert also features a work that was written in 1895 – as the Cheltenham Philharmonic Society was born – Rachmaninov's stunning Symphony No.1.

#### The CPO at 125 : Winter Concert Sunday 26th January 2020 Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham, 3pm

Verdi : Overture 'La forza del destino' Prokofiev : Suite from 'Romeo and Juliet' Brahms : Piano Concerto No. 1 *with Joanna MacGregor* – *piano* 

We are delighted to welcome back the Orchestra's President Joanna MacGregor to perform Brahm's epic Piano Concerto No. 1. The concert also features much loved works by Prokofiev and Verdi.

Joanna MacGregor OBE is one of the world's most innovative and acclaimed musicians. She is Head of Piano at the Royal Academy of Music, Professor of Music at the University of London and curator of the Dartington Festival.

### Buy your concert tickets...

In person : The Wilson Tourist Office & Cheltenham Town Hall Box Office Phone : 0844 576 2210 Online : www.cheltenhamtownhall.org.uk The CPO at 125 : Spring Concert Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham, 3pm Sibelius : Finlandia Grieg : Peer Gynt Suite Sibelius : Symphony No. 2

In our Spring Concert we celebrate the music of the Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. Whilst visiting the UK in 1909 Sibelius conducted the Orchestra in a performance of his work Finlandia (pictured below). We open our concert with a performance of this piece. Continuing a Nordic theme the concert also includes Grieg's well-known Peer Gynt Suite and the powerful second symphony by Sibelius – a piece he described as a "confession of the soul".

PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRAL CONCERT, TOWN HALL, CHELTENHAM, FEB. 17, 190



The CPO at 125 : Gala Concert Sunday 28th June 2020 Cheltenham Town Hall, 3pm

#### Verdi : Requiem

The finale to our year of musical celebration is a performance of the Verdi Requiem. At 8pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 1895 in the 'Large Hall of the Cheltenham Ladies College' a performance was given of Verdi's Requiem conducted by the founding musical director of, what was then, the Cheltenham Philharmonic Society – Mr C J Phillips. 125 years later Verdi's masterpiece, full of vigorous rhythms, sublime melodies, and dramatic contrasts, is a fitting end to our Anniversary year.

We will have the honour of being joined by singers from throughout Gloucestershire including those from Tewkesbury Choral Society, Churchdown Choral Society, Cantate Domino, Musica Vera, Stroud Choral Society and Philomusica. We look forward to welcoming you to celebrate 125 years of music making here in Cheltenham.

