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SCOTTISH SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

**EDINBURGH
SEASON
2011/12**

Featuring:

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Strauss's Four Last Songs

.....
Mozart's Clarinet Concerto

.....
Brahms's Alto Rhapsody
with Jennifer Larmore & the
Edinburgh Festival Chorus

.....
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USHER HALL

YOUR CITY. YOUR ORCHESTRA.

WELCOME

TO THE BBC SCOTTISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S
2011-2012 EDINBURGH SEASON

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra has been part of my life for a very long time. When I was growing up in Edinburgh, I was very much aware of the orchestra because of its presence on the radio. Now, as I embark on my third season as Chief Conductor, I'm thrilled to experience what a profound role this wonderful orchestra plays in the lives of its audiences, both in the concert hall and on-air.

I'm always aware of the many microphones on stage, and it is wonderful to know that music we make here in Scotland is being shared with a world-wide audience via BBC Radio 3. The BBC SSO and I began a journey together when we first met back in 2001, and I'm delighted that it will continue well beyond this season with years of joyous music making still to come.

So whether you're a seasoned concert-goer or just starting on your own musical adventure, I ask you to bring your curiosity to the Usher Hall and join us on an inspirational journey in your city, with your orchestra.

Donald Runnicles
Chief Conductor, BBC SSO

Sunday, 2 October 2011, 7.30pm

STRAUSS'S FOUR LAST SONGS

Beethoven *Overture: Egmont* (c.9')

Richard Strauss *Four Last Songs* (c.22')

Elgar *Symphony No.2* (c.56')

Michaela Kaune soprano
Donald Runnicles conductor

*"That Runnicles can be a great
Strauss conductor is
beyond dispute."*

The Guardian

Hamburg-born soprano Michaela Kaune is a member of Berlin's Deutsche Oper and a distinguished interpreter of Strauss's achingly beautiful *Four Last Songs*, composed at the very end of his life and not performed until after his death. The autumnal atmosphere of Strauss' songs is carried over into Elgar's inspiring Second Symphony. Elgar's grief at the loss of two friends, and perhaps also his despair over a doomed love affair, give the symphony an intense air of noble tragedy that will make this performance a special experience.

01



02



01: Michaela Kaune

02: Jennifer Larmore

2

Sunday, 25 March 2012, 7.30pm

RHAPSODIC BRAHMS

Schumann *Symphony No.4*
(original version) (c.28')

Brahms *Alto Rhapsody* (c.15')

Brahms *Symphony No.1* (c.45')

Jennifer Larmore mezzo-soprano
Men of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus
Donald Runnicles conductor

*“What an interpretation.
Runnicles’s mastery of the
big arch of the piece was
unshakeable... awesome.”*

*The Herald on Brahms’s
German Requiem, 2011*

Johannes Brahms always preferred the original, unrevised version of his friend Schumann’s Fourth Symphony, and here’s a chance to experience those first thoughts in all their freshness alongside Brahms’s own towering First Symphony. Donald Runnicles is joined by leading American mezzo Jennifer Larmore and the men of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus in one of Brahms’s most moving vocal works, the marvellous *Alto Rhapsody*.

3

Sunday, 13 May, 7.30pm

MOZART’S CLARINET
CONCERTO

Mozart *Clarinet Concerto* (c.27')

Bruckner *Symphony No.7* (c.65')

Martin Fröst clarinet
Donald Runnicles conductor

*“Until you’ve heard Martin Fröst,
you really haven’t heard
the clarinet.”*

The Times

Mozart’s *Clarinet Concerto* was one of the last pieces he completed before his death. Composed for the basset clarinet - lower pitched than the modern instrument - it has a very special colour, most obviously in the profoundly melancholic beauty of its slow movement. It’s played by one of the world’s leading clarinetists, Martin Fröst. Bruckner’s Seventh Symphony is perhaps his most popular. In Donald Runnicles the BBC SSO is fortunate to have a Chief Conductor who understands better than most how to shape Bruckner’s magnificent musical architecture, golden melodies and overwhelming climaxes.

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Buy a ticket for all three concerts and receive a 15% discount (discount applies to all categories except standby tickets).

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Season Tickets

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Area II : £53.55 (£48.45*)

Area III : £40.80 (£35.70*)

Area IV : £25.50 (£20.40*)

* denotes concession price

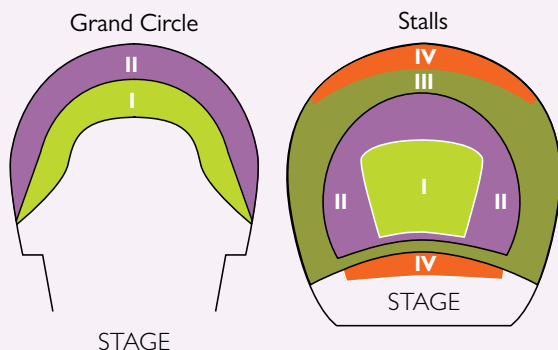
Single Tickets

Area I : £26.00

Area II : £21.00

Area III : £16.00

Area IV : £10.00



Discounts

Single Ticket Concessions: Over 60s, BBC Scottish Symphony Club Members, Registered Unemployed: £2.00 off full price single ticket (proof of status may be requested).

Registered Disabled: Both you and a companion will receive a 50% discount on any single full price ticket.

School Pupils: £5.00

Students: Those in full time education can buy any remaining tickets for £5.00 each. This offer is available only on the day of the performance (proof of status may be requested).

Groups: Get a group of 10 together and get 1 extra ticket free (that's 2 free tickets for a group of 20, etc. - only one concession applies).

Box Office

Usher Hall: Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2EA

Telephone Bookings: 0131-228 1155
Open Monday - Friday 10am to 5.30pm

Online: www.usherhall.co.uk

By post: to the address above
Cheques made payable to:
City of Edinburgh Council

In person: Usher Hall Box Office
Monday - Saturday, 10am - 5.30pm

All major credit cards accepted. Please note there is a £1 transaction fee for bookings by telephone, online or by post.

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All the concerts in this series are promoted
in association with The Usher Hall.



Getting to the Usher Hall

The Usher Hall is located between the Royal Lyceum Theatre and Traverse Theatre. It is close to both Haymarket and Waverley train stations (approx. 15 minutes walk to either). A taxi rank is situated opposite the hall.

There is limited on-street parking, however a 24-hour car park is located behind the hall on Castle Terrace.

Disabled Access

There are wheelchair access places in the Stalls and Grand Circle and wheelchair accessible toilets are available. Parking spaces for disabled badge holders are located across from the Royal Lyceum Theatre in Grindlay Street; it may be wise to phone in advance to check availability.

A large print, text-only version of this brochure is available, for a copy please telephone: 0141-552 0909

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Cover photograph of Donald Runnicles, Chief Conductor, on location at Calton Hill, Edinburgh by Mark Hamilton.
Brochure design: wearer8.com

All the information carried in this brochure was believed to be correct at the time of publishing. The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra reserves the right to amend artists and programmes if necessary.

