SOUTHAMPTON YOUTH ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY 15 JULY 7.30PM PRESENTS





COMPOSER TOLGA KASHIF
CONDUCTOR KEVIN WITHELL
PERFORMING WITH MASSED LOCAL CHOIRS
SUPPORT FROM GROOVE BANDS





Good evening, and welcome to Southampton Youth Orchestra's final concert of the season, and one of the most ambitious projects in the orchestra's 58 -year history.

It is a night to celebrate the talent that Southampton Music Services continue to discover, develop and support, and Southampton Youth Orchestra are honoured as always to be able to showcase the hard work and talent of some of Southampton's finest young musicians. Southampton Music Hub's 'Groove' bands will open the concert tonight; these fantastic ensembles offer pop and rock band experiences to a range of guitarists, drummers and singers across the city and SYO are proud to be following their 1st-half set.

Tonight also marks the world premiere of the music of one of our own students. It was an honour to be approached by Josh a few weeks ago for an opinion on his piece, and even more so to be involved in the very first orchestral premiere of a highly promising compositional career.

It is always a joy to share music with the community, and tonight is no exception. Tonight's concert would not be possible without the combined talent and passion of almost 200 local musicians, with members of more than 15 different choirs and representation from countless orchestras, bands and chamber groups across Hampshire and further afield.

I'd like to thank Friends of Southampton Youth Orchestras, who have supported us financially and morally throughout this difficult last couple of years, ensuring that SYO has a post-Covid future. Their involvement in rehearsals this term has also been invaluable; providing sugar for the students and caffeine for the adults, along with unparalleled support in every area of producing a concert. If anybody in tonight's audience feels that they are in a position to support FSYO with an hour or two of their time every term, please do feel free to approach them at the raffle table in the interval.

My thanks extend to Nia Collins who rehearsed the choirs for me, Charlie Mann, who assisted rehearsals and took on an important organisational role, and the staff of Southampton Music Hub who made tonight possible, both financially and logistically.

Kevin Withell

Musical Director of Southampton Youth Orchestra



Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

Welcome to the Southampton Youth Orchestra's Summer concert – Queen Symphony.

FSYO is a support partner of Southampton Music Hub and a registered charity whose aim is to support the ensembles that are part of the Southampton Youth Orchestras pyramid and the young people who play in them. The FSYO committee members are parents of current players and pyramid alumni. Musical directors are also represented. We are a friendly group who always welcome new members and helpers.

The Friends support the orchestras in many ways, for example by raising money to provide new music and new instruments, and by giving financial support for tours and residential weekends. Members of the Friends also give support at rehearsals, providing refreshments and adult help, and at concerts with front of house activities, raffles, and hospitality to guests. Over the Covid pandemic, we helped the ensembles to continue meeting by purchasing screens and hiring additional rehearsal spaces.

Do feel free to contact the friends on info@fsyo.org.uk if you have any feedback, suggestions or if you would like to volunteer to help in any way, and do please visit the website (www.fsyo.org.uk), our Facebook page (Friends of Southampton Youth Orchestra) or follow us on Twitter (@friends syo).

If you would like to join us, please contact us at membership@fsyo.org.uk. Best wishes

Nancy Lewis - FSYO Chair

Friends of Southampton Youth Orchestras

Registered Charity no. 283789

www.fsyo.org.uk

Programme

Groove Foundation

James Blankley, Jasmine Kelly, Louisa Miles, Lilly Payne, Katy Smith
Director: Max Copsey

Arctic Monkeys - Crying Lightning

Avril Lavigne – Sk8ter Boi

Green Day – Holiday

Groove Syndicate

Samuel Dockree, Romero Fulcher Cornah, Freya Galbraith, Oliver Humphries,
Dawid Kozik, Luke Sweetnam
Director: Oliver Thomas

Fleetwood Mac - The Chain

Lenny Kravitz – Are You Gonna Go My Way

Queen - Hammer To Fall

Groove Merchant

Isaac Acharjee, Abigail Batt, Philip Chen, Oskar Ciaramella, Janvi Dushianthan,
Joseph Orford, Vishaan Vohra
Director: Oliver Thomas

Fleetwood Mac – Go Your Own Way

Etta James – I Would Rather Go Blind

Queen - Play The Game

INTERVAL

Nocturne for Orchestra – Joshua Clark (2023) *World Premiere*

The Queen Symphony – Tolga Kashif (2002)

I: Adagio misterioso - Allegro con brio - Maestoso - Misterioso - Allegro Radio Ga Ga, The Show Must Go On, One Vision, I Was Born To Love You

> II: Allegretto - Allegro scherzando - Tranquillo Love Of My Life, Another One Bites The Dust, Killer Queen

> > III: Adagio

Who Wants To Live Forever, Save Me

IV: Allegro vivo - Moderato cantabile - Cadenza - Tempo primo Bicycle Race, Save Me

V: Andante doloroso - Allegretto - Alla marcia - Moderato risoluto - Pastorale - Maestoso

Bohemian Rhapsody, We Will Rock You, We Are The Champions, Who Wants To Live Forever?

VI: Adagio

We Are The Champions, Bohemian Rhapsody, Who Wants To Live Forever?

Nocturne for Orchestra - Josh Clark

Nocturne for Orchestra was composed over the past month or two and tonight will be both its premiere and my first time getting an orchestral piece performed. I started composing a piano piece in the French impressionist style a few months ago, and seeing the promise the piece had, decided to orchestrate and extend it as my submission for the BBC young composer competition (they haven't released winners yet).

The piece starts with a wandering flute melody. Using whole tone scales and ambiguous accompaniment, it seems lost amongst harps and tremolo strings. This is broken by an oboe and horn melody which brings a more stable tonal centre. This is short-lived before the strings take the opening melody with rich harmony. Before long, we land on what appears to be a tonal centre, when the cellos begin to take us on a careful build up to the climax of the piece. When we land at the climax, the woodwind, violins and cellos take us on a tonal journey, whilst a brass choral with pulsating strings carry us through lush romantic harmony. As this slowly dies down, we return to a variation on the opening themes, where clarinet and celesta take us through to a string variation which echoes the ambiguity to the opening. An even thinner harmony no longer even suggests whether the music is now minor or major. This slowly dies away until the celesta and harp give us the penultimate rendition of the melody, now comfortably in a tonal center. This gently gives way to the strings to give us a final rise and fall to the home key of Ab major.

A massive thank you to Kevin and Charlie for giving me this opportunity, I hope you enjoy the piece.

<u>The Queen Symphony - Tolga Kashif</u>

The Queen Symphony is an integrated work for orchestra and choir in which Tolga Kashif hoped to express the original essence of the great music of Queen. In seeking to reinvent rather than purely orchestrate it, he found that this music inherently contains the language of the modern classical genre.

The project has been more of a continuation of an onward journey since his early teens when he was first exposed to the music of Queen. Along with their contemporaries David Bowie and Genesis (to name but two), Queen were part of a radical new wave challenging the boundaries of popular music. They were the embodiment of a raw artistic expression that presented itself through meticulously created recordings and performances. In many respects Queen's music is embedded in the juxtaposition of classic and rock genres; the sound may be rock-orientated but, when stripped down to the bare components, the core contains as valid a thematic basis for symphonic treatment as any work in this genre.

It is hard to put into words the composition factor in this work, but improvisation and visualization were at the heart of the process. Initial research soon revealed unexplored depths of meaning and lyricism within the Queen lyrics and melodies.

Beginning sketching, the original themes began to coalesce into longer-form passages, while also taking on different contexts and characterizations. The original Queen recordings naturally suggested an orchestral/choral canvas. Layered guitars resembled orchestra layers; the diversity of solo expression in

both voice and guitar - from extreme lyrically tenderness to rhapsodic exuberance - suggested the language of concerto or opera.

The harmonic and melodic structures were reminiscent of classical form, with intelligently woven counterpoint, while the chord progressions ranged from Medieval to Romantic influences. As well as main themes, a subtext of secondary ones presented itself: the innocent piano figure from Bohemian Rhapsody, the riff from Another One Bites the Dust, the unmistakable turns of phrase in the guitar playing of Brian May.

The first movement uses excerpts from 'Radio Gaga' and 'The Show Must Go On' to form its motivic base, wrapping themselves in a stark landscape of layered strings – inspired by Brian's distinctive guitar writing. It gives the image of an eternal struggle against the odds, powered by the lyrics 'One World, One Vision'. In contrast, 'I Was Born To Love You' appears as a fuel for salvation at the end of the movement.

The second movement begins very lyrically – 'Love Of My Life' gives rise to what could be a Romantic-era piano concerto, invaded rudely by 'Killer Queen' and a very subtle reference to 'Another One Bites The Dust' conjuring up a storm together.

The third movement is the first of many direct tributes to the late great Freddie Mercury. The yearning 'Who Wants To Live Forever' forms the basis of an elegiac dialogue between solo violin and cello, against a mournful orchestra landscape, with references to 'Save Me' adding to the poignancy. The movement appears to finish, before a short epilogue hints gently towards the resolution that will be found at the very end of the Symphony.

The fourth movement is a frenzied version of Bicycle Race', in which the composed visualized the chaos shown in the original music video with even more of his own creation. The movement runs energetically, changing time signature and tempo regularly, with cross-rhythms and syncopation that will leave even the most attuned audience members unsure of exactly where the pulse lies.

The fifth movement opens with a parade of the best-known Queen moments – 'Mama, Just Killed A Man...', 'We Will Rock You...' and 'Scaramouche' play one after the other, barely altered in structure or harmony. The movement culminates in the emotional peak of the symphony – a colossal build-up of 'We Are The Champions', before a reprise of 'Who Wants To Live Forever' takes us, without a break, into the final movement.

The sixth movement bears the unofficial title 'Homage', and is worked primarily from 'Who Wants To Live Forever'. The dedicatee of this homage is, one hopes, self-explanatory

The Orchestra

1st Violins

Nathan Yam
Isaac Wright
Yumeng Wang
Nengwei Zhang
Duy Huynh
Lucia Okamoto
Charlotte McKenzie
Esme Thompsett
Clare Prest
Lucy Mellors
Ian Brightman
Liz Mellor
Aitor Brayo

2nd Violins

Teresa Kiang

Catherine Wood

Katie Ho
Eoin Williams
Maya Callaway
William Tuffrey
Joshua Rookes
Hannah Pugh
Sofia Mykulynska
Eva Lopes
Jill Sainsbury
Harry Price
Lara Prince
Shahnaz Lambert

Violas

Hannah Leary
Euan Lee Cann
Charlie Wright
Chris Nichols
Alba Alonso
Nikolaus Thompson
Simon James
Jo Molloy

Christa Porter Malcolm Porter Hiro Jones Thomas Gilbert

Cellos

Heather Greenfield Isabella Rose Rachel Pritchard Leah Packer Catherine Yi Charles Hutchins Jenny Bleeck Simon Wilkins Judi Galbraith John Hanchett

Double Basses

Lucas Olley Reuven Manore Beth Wilkinson Maggie Foster Adrian Osman Fiona Sunderland Peter Gosney

Flutes

Poppy Hawkins Laura Simmons Vickie Andrews

Piccolo/Alto Flute

Alex Jones

Oboes

Katie Guy Joanna Woodlock Nickie Smith

Cor Angais

Kate Downer

Clarinets

Anna Wilkinson Laura Gelauf Leah Wortham

Eb Clarinet/Bassett Horn

Anna Robinson

Bass Clarinet

Oren Manore

Bassoons

Lucy Gowans Martin Clark Bernadette Edwards

Contrabassoon

Wendy Lloyd

French Horns

Rebecca Cox
Charlie Mann
JJ Lambert
Tyler Saunders
Josh Wright
Naomi Andrew
Matthew McDermott
Sarah Nerval

Trumpets

Daniel Gould Richard Price Ed Kinge Ghin Choi Abi Williams

Tenor Trombones

Lizzie Rowland Julian Whitehead Catherine Lewis

Bass Trombone

James Mobley

Tuba

Matthew Rumble

Timpani

Josh Clark

Percussion

Reuben McDermott Alfie Perrott Amalka Slavikova Emily Yeates Katie Nichols

Piano

Edward Bence

Celesta/Harpsichord

George Smith

Harps

Laura Lister Lizzie Laybourne

The Choir

Sopranos

Maggie Allington Rachel Binnington

Carol Bundy Sarah Carruthers

Abi Caveney

Xuanying Cheng

Terri Crawley Hannah Dalgleish

Nick Duncombe

Janet Elton Rosalind Freeson

Zixuan Fu

Glanda Gardiner

Sue Grove

Sarah Hammett Juliette Harcourt

Priscilla Ho

Ruth Hopgood

Xi Jin

Jacqueline Kleinot

Anna Lee

Miriam Makraki

Deborah Mitchell Laura Moodley

Lesley Pennington

Hanna Reading Heather Rimington

Pam Robertson

Rose Seneviratne

Alison Story-Scrivens

Michaela Trescakova

Lynne Watts Jennifer Wells Xinyi Zhang

Altos

Diana Barnes

Amanda Barradale

Kath Carter

Maggie Chalmers

Barbara Cobley

Sarah Evans

Libby Duckett

Jia Fu

Xiang Gao

Zoe Heathcote

Elliot Hitchcoe

Ange Huang

Lorna King

Sarah King

Jill Lock

Lizzie Lock Eleanor Moodley

Sarah Morgan-Jones

Kath Page

Alison Powell

Lesley Prendergast

Clare Purdie

Anne Rogers

Tammi Sinha

Rachel Sullivan

Ann Waterman

Tenors

Colin Batchelor

Joshua Carpenter

Dan Clark

Jeremy Edwards

Keith Francis

Jo Grundy

Byron Horne

Qingnan Lin

Tony Morgan-Jones

Alex Pearson

Basses

James Atkins

Peter Bettridge

Andy Binnington

John Bridge

Ken Brown

Duncan Chambers

Steve Crick

Roland Dauncey

John Hinsley

Alec Lawrie

Nigel Martin

Richard McDermott

Trevor Osprey
Geoff Rimmington

Piers Ruff

Julian Shelton

David Spencer

Kevin Withell – Musical Director



Kevin enjoys a busy and varied conducting career as well as playing and teaching French horn, trombone and percussion.

Kevin read music at University of Southampton, where he excelled in conducting, as well as studying composition and orchestration and a writing dissertation in Holocaust Music, before remaining to complete a Masters in orchestral conducting. During his studies at University of Southampton, Kevin was awarded the prestigious

positions of assistant conductor of both Southampton University Symphony Orchestra and Southampton University Sinfonietta. Kevin currently conducts Langtree Sinfonia, Southampton Youth Orchestra and Southampton University Concert Band. Kevin has previously conducted Southampton Youth Concert Sinfonia, Southampton Youth Wind Band and Southampton University String Orchestra. Kevin is in regular demand to conduct rehearsals and sectionals with Winchester Chamber Orchestra, Worthing Philharmonic Orchestra and London Gay Symphony Orchestra, as well performing in the brass or percussion sections of several orchestras around the Hampshire and Sussex area including Southampton Concert Wind Band, Hyde Brass and City of Southampton Orchestra. He has also recently made two appearances with Meridian Winds to perform Tom Davoren's Diversons on Calon Lan for trombone and band.

Kevin has conducted two sell-out concerts with Charity Symphony Orchestra, and organised a much-enjoyed outdoor, socially-distanced performance involving over 100 local musicians to celebrate the end of lockdown.

Kevin continues to dedicate his spare time to researching the lives and works of musicians affected by Nazism and the holocaust, and has had articles published on the Music and the Holocaust website.

Charlie Mann - Assistant Musical Director

Charlie studied at the University of Southampton, being awarded a BA in Music (First Class Honours) and an MA in International Music Management. Charlie started conducting with Robin Browning in her second year of studies, conducting a variety of student ensembles including Southampton University Symphonic Wind Orchestra last year. Charlie now conducts Southampton Youth Orchestra, Southampton Youth Concert Sinfonia and guest conducts Per Piacere.

Alongside conducting, Charlie is a busy freelance French Horn player. Charlie enjoys session work and played with the band Don Broco in the Royal Albert Hall last year as part of the concert series raising money for Teenage Cancer Trust. She tours the UK festival circuit with Symphonica Mr Switch and the Ibiza Orchestra,



most notably playing with Symphonica at Melkweg in Amsterdam last June for a drum and bass gig. Most recently, Charlie has played on a tour with West End star Lucie Jones and The Fulltone Orchestra across the UK. Other orchestral work includes Charity Symphony Orchestra, Magna Sinfonia, Dorset Chamber Orchestra, La Primavera Orchestra, New Forest Orchestra and Wimborne Choral Society. Charlie also performs as a soloist, most recently appearing with Southampton University Symphony Orchestra, Southampton Youth Orchestra and Langtree Sinfonia.

As a conductor and horn player, Charlie has toured to France, Belgium, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, and The Netherlands. Charlie accredits her inspiration to become a professional musician to her own experience in a youth orchestra as a teenager, so she is delighted to be working with the next generation of talented young musicians.

Nathan Yam - Principal Violin



Nathan started playing violin at the age of seven and joined the Southampton Youth Strings (SYS) in 2017 and Southampton Youth Concert Sinfonia (SYCS) in 2018. He has been a member of Southampton Youth Orchestra (SYO) since 2019 and was violin 1 co-leader in 2022. Nathan has particularly enjoyed playing Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 and Schubert's 'The Great' Symphony at the SYO concerts in the past years. He also liked playing at the Royal Albert Hall in 2018 with SYCS and at Southampton Mayflower Theatre with SYO and SYWB in 2020.

Other than being a violinist, Nathan is also a clarinettist, a pianist, an organist and a chorister. With the recommendation of his clarinet teacher, Nathan joined Southampton Youth Wind Band (SYWB) in 2018 when he was in Year 6 and became the lead clarinettist in 2022. Nathan is currently an organ scholar at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Bassett, where he has been a chorister since

Year 2. He frequently plays piano and organ at church services and contributes to the junior choir as an assistant.

At King Edwards VI School, Nathan participates in many ensembles and choirs and often performs solos at high profile school events. In 2022, he was also awarded an Upper School music scholarship.

In his leisure time, Nathan likes composing and arranging music. He appreciates listening to and playing music from the Romantic era. In addition to music, mathematics, computing, reading and badminton are Nathan's favourite things to do.

<u> Iosh Clark - Composer</u>

Josh Clark started playing violin and drum kit at age 10, and has since learned many more instruments, and grown to appreciate many different genres of music. He first played with SMS in 2018 when he joined Southampton Youth Strings. He has since played in pretty much every ensemble available, but particularly enjoys playing violin in SYO, percussion in SYWB and French horn in SYCS. Having only discovered a love for classical music in the past 3 years, Josh has quickly learned orchestral percussion since then, and particularly enjoys playing instruments such as the vibraphone that can be used in many different genres.

Before becoming a predominately classical musician, Josh previously played guitar, drums and piano in several rock and jazz bands, and still plays piano and vibes in jazz bands at college. He is particularly enjoying taking the jazz and pop course at Barton Peveril College, where he is learning jazz piano and harmony under the tuition of Bryan Postlethwaite and Simon Allen. As a performer, he currently enjoys playing with SYO, SYCS, SYWB and SYP on top of performing regularly in college and leading worship at St. James Church. Over lockdown he discovered his passion for composition,



and started writing and producing songs in many different genres. Then as he found a love for classical music, he started to write more romantic piano and orchestral works. In January this year, Josh was awarded a grant by the Martin Read Foundation to receive some composition lessons and get a piece for solo cello performed. This was a massive success, and thanks to the foundations support, Josh has now secured a place at the Royal College of Music's junior program next year to study composition under Simon Speare and Bushra El-Turk, and study percussion under Geoff Boynton.

Josh has found the music he has played in SYO to be a great inspiration for his composing, and has thoroughly enjoyed playing it, you might even find some Shostakovich inspired orchestration in his piece.

Tolga Kashif - Composer



Tolga Kashif was born in London, and studied conducting and composition at the Royal College of Music, then later at Bristol University with Derek Bourgeois. His professional debut was with the London Philharmonic, after which he has been a frequent guest with orchestras in this country and increasingly abroad. His work, however, runs a complete gamut and he enjoys a considerable reputation in the commercial sector for his film and television music and production.

In 2002 he wrote a huge orchestral and choral piece based on the music of Queen, undertaken at the commission of EMI Classics and with the full blessing of the surviving members of the band. Since the world premiere, attended by the band

members and Freddie Mercury's family, the piece has become a success worldwide, and Tolga has conducted it throughout Europe and the world. In 2010 he followed it up with the Genesis Suite, which has proved equally as successful and receives further performances this year.

Tolga has collaborated in different ways with many artists, having composed, directed and produced a number of CDs. He has appeared regularly on BBC TV and has made CDs for all of the leading classical labels.

Tolga Kashif is a Trustee of the National Foundation for Youth & Music

Southampton Music Hub

The Southampton Music Service is the lead partner for the Southampton Music Hub. Over 30 music and arts organisations are represented within the Southampton Music Hub partnership. The group (established in September 2012) work collaboratively to bring a high level of music provision, expertise, access and resource to communities and young people in Southampton.

Our aim is to support schools and colleges in delivering the National Plan for Music Education and provide opportunities for young people to engage in a rich programme of music making. This is an exciting time for all involved and we look forward to seeing music in Southampton continue to thrive and



ensuring our young people can take fond musical memories with them into their future lives.

Southampton Music Service

In March 2011, the Southampton Music Service was judged by the Federation of Music Services as being in the top category of Music Services in the country. SMS has maintained the level of excellence and access to music activity that our community has come to expect. SMS seeks every opportunity to promote and develop the musical potential and personal development of all young people in the City and region of Southampton.

In addition to the specialist instrumental lessons and curriculum support we deliver in schools, SMS also provides an impressive range of choirs, bands and orchestras to support musical progression.

Any young musician interested in joining a Southampton Music Service ensemble or starting lessons for the first time should contact the music service at music@southampton.gov.uk or call 02380 833648

Southampton Hub website www.southamptonmusichub.org

Twitter https://twitter.com/MusicHubSouth

If you are age 8-18 and would like to join a student focus group to help shape future Hub activity, please contact us.

Southampton Youth Orchestra 2023-24 Season

Saturday 4th November 2023, 7.30pm

Turner Sims Southampton

'Storytellers' Children's Concert
Smyth – The Wreckers Overture
Bizet – Selections from Carmen
Grieg – Selections from Peer Gynt
Tchaikovsky – Romeo and Juliet Fantasy
Overture

Saturday 20 January 2024, 7.30pm

Turner Sims Southampton

Stories of the Sea
Nielsen – Helios Overture
Rimsky-Korsakoff – Scheherazade
(Stephen Nurse – guest leader/solo violin)

Saturday 13th April 2024, 7.30pm

Romsey Abbey

Copland – Fanfare for the Common Man Saint-Saens - Organ Symphony (Edward Bence – Organ) and concertos featuring members of SYO

Saturday 27th April 2024, 7.30pm

St Alban's Church

Southampton Youth Orchestra Strings Concert

Charlie Mann: Conductor

Programme to include: Copland – A Quiet City Britten – Simple Symphony