



**Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

# **Spring Concert Programme**

**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year**

**Conductor: Leon Reimer**  
**Leader: Katharine Bowness**  
**Soloist: Freya Holliman**

A donation will be made to the Red Cross from the proceeds of tonight's concert in aid of those fleeing the war  
❤️ in Ukraine ❤️

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## Programme

**Overture to the Magic Flute ~ W A Mozart:** The Magic Flute (German: Die Zauberflöte) is a two act opera to a libretto by Schikaneder and includes both singing and spoken dialogue. It was premiered in 1791 in Vienna, just two months before the composer's premature death. The allegorical plot was influenced by Schikaneder and Mozart's interest in Freemasonry and concerns the initiation of Prince Tamino. Enlisted by the Queen of the Night to rescue her daughter Pamina from the high priest Sarastro, Tamino comes to admire the high ideals of the latter and he and Pamina both join Sarastro's community, while the Queen and her allies are vanquished.

**Four Last Songs ~ R Strauss:** The Four Last Songs (German: Vier letzte Lieder), were the final completed works of Richard Strauss composed in 1948 when the composer was 84. The songs are "Frühling" (Spring), "September", "Beim Schlafengehen" (When Falling Asleep) and "Im Abendrot" (At Sunset). The title Four Last Songs was provided posthumously by Strauss's friend Ernst Roth, who published the four songs as a single unit in 1950 a year after Strauss's death. The premiere was given at the Royal Albert Hall in London on 22 May 1950. Strauss had come across the poem "Im Abendrot" by J. von Eichendorff, which he felt had a special meaning for him and set its text to music in May 1948. Strauss was also strongly inspired by a copy of the complete poems of Hermann Hesse and set three of them – "Frühling", "September", and "Beim Schlafengehen" – for soprano and orchestra. All of the songs but "Frühling" deal with death and all were written shortly before Strauss himself died. They are suffused with a sense of calm, acceptance, and completeness.

The soprano voice is given soaring melodies against a full orchestra, and all four songs have prominent French horn parts. The combination of a beautiful vocal line with supportive horn accompaniment references Strauss's own life; his wife was a famous soprano and his father a professional horn player. Towards the end of "Im Abendrot", after the soprano's intonation of "*Ist dies etwa der Tod?*" ("Is this perhaps death?"), Strauss musically quotes a phrase he wrote 60 years earlier (known as the "transfiguration theme"), which is seen as the fulfillment of the soul through death.

~ Ukrainian National Anthem ~

~ Interval ~

**Symphony No. 2 ~ J Brahms:** Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 73 was composed in the summer of 1877, during a visit to the Austrian province of Carinthia. Its composition was very brief in comparison with the 21 years it took Brahms to complete his First Symphony! The cheerful, almost pastoral, mood of the symphony is often compared to Beethoven's 6th, although, Brahms wrote to his publisher that his 2nd symphony "is so melancholy that you will not be able to bear it. I have never written anything so sad, and the score must come out in mourning".

It was premiered in Vienna in December 1877, a few weeks later than originally planned because the players were so preoccupied with learning Wagner's "Das Rheingold"! Brahms preserves the structural principles of the classical symphony, with two lively outer movements framing a slow second movement followed by a short scherzo:

- I. Allegro non troppo (D major), which starts with the principal theme played by the 'cellos and double-basses in a peaceful mood,
- II. Adagio non troppo (B major), which starts with a brooding theme once again by the 'cellos,
- III. Allegretto grazioso (quasi andantino) (G major), also starting with 'cellos accompanying an oboe melody
- IV. Allegro con spirito (D major). The final movement reiterates themes heard in the previous movements but towards the end the second theme is drowned out by a flurry of brass, ending the symphony in a triumphant mood.

## **Our Conductor: Leon Reimer**



After graduating from the University of Glasgow with a degree in Music in 2013, **Leon Reimer** went on to study orchestral conducting at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where he received tuition from Garry Walker, Sian Edwards, Martyn Brabbins, Christopher Seaman, Jean Claude Picard, Baldur Brönnimann and Alasdair Mitchell. Professional engagements since his graduation in 2015, include working for the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Highland Regional Youth Orchestra (Associate Musician), the National Youth Choir of Scotland (Musicianship tutor and Workshop leader), Cumbria Youth Orchestra (Music Director) and Scottish Opera Youth Company (Assistant Conductor).

Eager to embrace the challenges and rewards of music making at all levels, Leon has heavily been heavily involved in the community music and education scene across Scotland and the UK. Leon has lead ensembles at several major festivals, including the Edinburgh International Festival (2016, 2018), the Celtic Connections Festival (2015, 2017), St Magnus Festival (2015) as well as Glasgow's West End Festival (2017, 2018).

## **Tonight's Soloist: Freya Holliman**



Scottish soprano **Freya Holliman** recently graduated from Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama at the David Seligman Opera Studio, where she studied with Anne Mason and John Fisher. She has a degree in French and Music from the University of Glasgow, and a Masters degree from Royal Northern College of Music.

During her studies, she won a number of prizes including the Janet Price Opera Prize and the David and Philippa Seligman Award for Excellence.

In 2019 she made her debut with Welsh National Opera as Foreign Woman in *The Consul*. She was also a soloist for the WNO Opera Gala at RWCMD conducted by Carlo Rizzi. Other roles include: Fiordiligi, *Così fan tutte* (RWCMD), Suor, Osmina Suor *Angelica* (Random Opera Company), Lady Billows, *Albert Herring* (RWCMD), Pamina and Zweite Dame, *Die Zauberflöte* (Fife Opera, and RNCM) and the title role in *Dido and Aeneas* (Edinburgh Studio Opera).

In addition to the operatic repertoire, Freya is an active recitalist and has performed at the Wigmore Hall and Bridgewater Hall. During the Cardiff Singer of the World Competition in 2019, she gave two recitals (including a cabaret recital) and took part in a filmed masterclass with Malcolm Martineau as part of the Fringe Festival.

## **Why not sponsor us?**

This year marks our 60th anniversary and so we are looking for sponsors/patrons to help support the on-going running of the orchestra and performances. A number of you have already contributed for which we are very grateful. Thank you!

If you think this is something you would also consider, please find details of how to donate by contacting [CityOfCarlisleOrchestra@hotmail.com](mailto:CityOfCarlisleOrchestra@hotmail.com). Major sponsors can have their name/company logo in the next concert programme, should they wish.

## The players - City of Carlisle Orchestra

### **1st Violins**

Katharine Bowness  
Linda Mages  
Philip Chapman  
Frances Sutton  
Lucy Ingham

### **2nd Violins**

Isobel Fenton  
Lorna Strong  
Robert Charlesworth  
Hilary Lawrence  
Margaret Hancock

### **Violas**

Peter Wood  
Lesley Ormrod

### **‘Cellos**

Linda Forsyth  
Mary Lawler  
Lee Willis  
Rachel Owen  
Steven Thompson  
Roger Cooke

### **Double Bass**

Charles Hattrell  
Wendy Willis  
Emma Gray

### **Flute/Piccolo**

Lyn Young  
Samantha Willis  
Terry Mullett

### **Clarinets**

Jane Bell  
Norma Bagot

### **Oboes/Cor Anglais**

Glenys Braithwaite  
Mary Hitch

### **Bassoons**

Ann Bishop  
Andrew Smith  
Nicholas Butters

### **Horns**

Pam Harris  
Ian Williams  
Julie Ratcliffe  
Alberto Carlo Costa

### **Trombones**

Graham Harris  
Giles Wilson  
Ruth Wood

### **Trumpets**

Gordon Kydd  
Mike Edwards

### **Percussion**

Toby Cass  
Jamie Hoyle  
Sue Roe

### **Timpani**

David Birkett

## Why not join us?

In particular, we are currently looking for upper string and percussion players. Please see our website for details of how to join or email us at [CityOfCarlisleOrchestra@hotmail.com](mailto:CityOfCarlisleOrchestra@hotmail.com). Rehearsals take place once a week during term time at Trinity Secondary School, Carlisle. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings from 7.15pm till 9pm.

## Our next concert – Summer Concert

Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> June, City of Carlisle Orchestra - St John's Church, London Road, Carlisle. Our Summer concert programme will include; Eric Coates: The Three Elizabeth's Suite, Philip Wood: Cumbrian Dances and César Franck: Symphony in D minor.

## Other local concerts coming up

- 7 April (Thurs): Carlisle Music Society, Fraternity Hall, Carlisle Cathedral, Manu Brazo (saxophone) with Prajna Indrawati (piano)
- 18 June (Sat): Wigton Choral Society, St Mary's Church, Wigton, The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace Karl Jenkins, Requiem Maurice Duruflé

## Acknowledgements

- Cumbria Music Services for support and assistance from the Carlisle Hub. [www.cumbriamusicclub.com](http://www.cumbriamusicclub.com)
- Trinity School Music Hub for assistance with the rehearsal venue.
- Soloist sponsorship: Ademti Software Ltd.
- A number of individual sponsors, who have also kindly donated.

## ~ Ukrainian National Anthem ~

### In the Latin alphabet (sing along):

Shche ne vmerla Ukrayiny, ni slava, ni volya,  
Shche nam, brattya-ukrayintsi, usmikhnet'sya dolya.

Zginut' nashi vorizhen'ki, yak rosa na sontsi,  
Zazhivemo i mi, brattya, u svoiy storontsi.

Dushu y tilo mi polozhim za nashu svobodu  
I pokazhem, shcho mi, brattya, kozats'kogo rodu.

Dushu y tilo mi polozhim za nashu svobodu  
I pokazhem, shcho mi, brattya, kozats'kogo rodu.

### In the Ukrainian alphabet:

Ще не вмерла України і слава, і воля,  
Ще нам, браття молодії, усміхнеться доля.

Згинуть наші воріженьки, як роса на сонці.  
Запануєм і ми, браття, у своїй сторонці.

Душу й тіло ми положим за нашу свободу,  
І покажем, що ми, браття, козацького роду.

Душу й тіло ми положим за нашу свободу,  
І покажем, що ми, браття, козацького роду.

### English translation:

The glory and freedom of Ukraine has not yet perished  
Luck will still smile on us brother-Ukrainians.

Our enemies will die, as the dew does in the sunshine,  
and we, too, brothers, we'll live happily in our land.

We'll not spare either our souls or bodies to get freedom  
and we'll prove that we brothers are of Kozak kin.

We'll not spare either our souls or bodies to get freedom  
and we'll prove that we brothers are of Kozak kin.