

THE RHONDDA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
PRESENTS

STAR WARS

COPLAND - GERSHWIN - JOHN WILLIAMS

*A NIGHT OF AMERICAN MUSIC /
NOSON O GERDDORIAETH AMERICANAIDD*

*JULY 6TH 2019 / 6 GORFFENNAF 2019
7PM*

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, PORTHCRAWL



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Special thanks go to the Friends of the RSO whose contributions help to subsidise student members of the orchestra and to secure its future development. If you would like to find out more about how to become a Friend of the RSO, please talk to a member of the orchestra or visit our website.

Cyfeillion Cerddorfa Symffoni'r Rhondda

Dymunwn ddiolch o galon i Gyfeillion y Gerddorfa sydd gyda'u cyfraniadau, yn helpu i roi cymhorthdal i fyfyrwyr sy'n aelodau o'r Gerddorfa a sicrhau ei ddatblygiad i'r dyfodol. gwerthu o dan Gyfyngiad. Os hoffech ragor o wybodaeth ynglŷn â sut i ddod yn Gyfaill o'r Gerddorfa, ewch i gael sgwrs ag aelod o'r gerddorfa neu ewch i'n gwefan.

Friends of the RSO/ Cyfeillion Cerddorfa Symffoni'r Rhondda:

S Haydn Davies
R Griffiths
N Griffiths
M L James
J James
B John
D John
H Jones
N Murray



The Rhondda Symphony Orchestra

The Rhondda Symphony Orchestra was formed in Tonypany in 1968 by our now-President Jeff Lloyd and gave its first concert in 1970. We are therefore probably the oldest amateur orchestra in Wales and today we draw musicians from across South East Wales. We rehearse weekly at Y Pant School, Pontyclun, and perform three or four concerts each year, in venues across South Wales, with a broad repertoire from classical to jazz. RSO has a playing strength of about sixty, with our members ranging from their teens to their eighties; some are keen amateurs, some teach music and some are semi- or ex-professionals, but we all share the same passion - bringing live performance of the world's greatest music to our local communities.

Cerddorfa Symffoni'r Rhondda

Ffurfiwyd Cerddorfa Symffoni'r Rhondda yn Nhonypany yn 1968 gan ein Llywydd presennol, Jeff Lloyd a chyflwynodd ei chyngerdd cyntaf ym 1970. Felly, rydym yn fwy na thebyg y gerddorfa amatur hynaf yng Nghymru. Heddiw rydym yn denu cerddorion o ar hyd De ddwyrain Cymru. Rydym yn ymarfer yn wythnosol yn Ysgol y Pant, Pont-y-clun, ac yn perfformio tair neu bedair o gyngherddau'r flwyddyn, mewn lleoliadau ledled y de, gyda repertoire eang o'r clasurol i jazz. Mae tua 60 o aelodau gydag ystod oedran o bobl ifainc yn eu harddegau i aelodau yn eu hwythdegau. Mae rhai yn amaturiaid awyddus, rhai yn athrawon sy'n dysgu cerddoriaeth a rhai yn lled-neu gyn-weithwyr proffesiynol. Ond yr un yw'r angerdd - dod â pherfformiad byw o gerddoriaeth fwyaf y byd i'n cymunedau lleol.

Edward John - Musical Director



Edward John was born in Swansea and educated at Olchfa Comprehensive School and Cardiff University. He presently teaches brass with Rhondda Cynon Taf Music Service and works with trainee student music teachers at Cardiff Metropolitan University.

As a trumpet player, he was taught by Brian Buckley, and progressed through the West Glamorgan County Youth system, culminating in becoming a member of the National Youth Orchestra of Wales and the first ever principal cornet of the National Youth Brass Band of Wales. He was also a finalist in the TSB Welsh Young Musician of the Year. Edward has since played with all the major amateur orchestras in South Wales, as well as the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

As a conductor, he has enjoyed a huge range of experiences over many years. He has directed the Glamorgan Chamber Orchestra and Neath Opera Group at Craig-y-Nos, as well as musicals for Newport Venture Players, Carmarthen Youth Opera and his own school. He has had the unique experience of conducting performances of Bernstein's West Side Story for all three of these companies. He has also conducted Swansea Philharmonic Choir in performances of Britten's War Requiem and Carl Orff's Carmina Burana.

Edward has played concerti with RSO in 2000 and 2016 and has been a member of the orchestra for many years before taking up the baton as the orchestra's conductor. Recent programmes have included Beethoven's 3rd and 5th Symphonies, Stravinsky's Firebird and Holst's The Planets.

Ganwyd Edward John yn Abertawe, cafodd ei addysg yn Ysgol Gyfun Olchfa a Phrifysgol Caerdydd. Mae wrthi'n dysgu offerynnau pres gyda Gwasanaeth Cerdd Rhondda Cynon Taf ac yn gweithio gydag athrawon y dyfodol ym Mhrifysgol Fetropolitan Caerdydd.

Brian Buckley oedd ei athro trwmpeid, fe gynyddodd drwy system Ieuencid Sir Forgannwg, a mynd yn aelod o Gerddorfa Ieuencid Cenedlaethol Cymru, a phrif gornedwr Band Pres Ieuencid Cenedlaethol Cymru. Roedd hefyd yn derfynwr yng nghystadleuaeth Cerddor Ifanc Cymreig y Flwyddyn TSB. Mae Edward wedi perfformio gyda holl brif gerddorfeidd amaturaid de Cymru, yn ogystal â Cherddorfa Genedlaethol Gymreig y BBC a Cherddorfa Ffilharmonig Lerpwl.

Fel arweinydd, mae wedi mwynhau llawer o brofiadau amrywiol dros nifer o flynyddoedd. Roedd yn gyfarwyddwr ar Gerddorfa Siambr Morgannwg a Grŵp Opera Nedd yng Nghraig-y-Nos, yn ogystal â sioeau cerdd gyda Chwaraewyr Menter Casnewydd, Opera Ieuencid Caerfyrddin, a'i ysgol ei hun. Cafodd y profiad unigryw o arwain perfformiadau o West Side Story gan Bernstein i'r tri chwmni hwn. Mae hefyd wedi arwain Côr Ffilharmonig Abertawe wrth iddyn nhw berfformio Offeren Rhyfel Britten, a Carmina Burana gan Carl Orff.

Perfformiodd Edward concerti gyda ChSRh yn 2000 a 2016, ac mae wedi bod yn aelod o'r gerddorfa am sawl blwyddyn cyn derbyn y baton a mynd yn arweinydd. Mae rhaglenni diweddar wedi cynnwys 3ydd a 5ed Symffoni Beethoven, Firebird gan Stravinsky, a'r Planedau gan Holst.

Rebecca Sian Goss - Leader

Rebecca Sian Goss, began violin at aged 10 and made swift progress while having lessons with Wendy Jenkins and Mansel Hughes in West Glamorgan.

At age 14 she started having lessons with Simon Weinmann of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. Under his expert tuition Becci was accepted into the National Youth Orchestra of Wales as a 1st violinist and was awarded a music scholarship to study 'A' levels at Repton School in Derbyshire.

Whilst at Repton School, Becci gained extensive solo, chamber and orchestral experience, leading the school orchestra, performing several concerti, also having a master class with Kenneth Sillito.



Becci then studied music at Goldsmiths' College, University of London. In her final year she was co-leader of the University of London Orchestra under the direction of Mark Shanahan, and Leader of the Goldsmiths' College Symphony Orchestra for the final concert under the baton of Edward Gregson

A few years later Becci completed her teacher training and has been a peripatetic upper strings teacher in Bridgend County since 1999 (except for a few years' living in America). She has regularly tutored in various County Youth Orchestras and Ensembles and whilst overseas, she volunteered at local schools assisting in their Strings Programmes.

Becci chose to put orchestral playing on hold whilst raising her two children, but has returned to it in more recent years. She became a member of RSO in 2015 and was honoured to be invited to lead the orchestra in 2016.

Dechreuodd Rebecca Sian Goss, chwarae'r feiolin pan yn 10 oed ac fe wnaeth ddysgu'n gyflym iawn wrth gael gwersi gyda Wendy Jenkins a Mansel Hughes yng Ngorllewin Morgannwg.

Yn 14 oed dechreuodd gael gwersi gyda Simon Weinmann o Gerddorfa Genedlaethol Gymreig y BBC. O dan ei hyfforddiant arbenigol derbyniwyd Becci i Gerddorfa Ieuencid Cenedlaethol Cymru fel y feiolinydd 1af a derbyniodd ysgoloriaeth cerddoriaeth i astudio pynciau lefel uwch yn Ysgol Repton yn Swydd Derby.

Tra yn Ysgol Repton, cafodd Becci brofiad helaeth fel unawdydd, profiad o chwarae mewn siambr a cherddorfa. Cafodd gyfle i arwain cerddorfa'r ysgol, perfformio sawl concerto, a hefyd cael dosbarth meistr gyda Kenneth Sillito.

Aeth Becci i astudio cerddoriaeth yng Ngholeg Goldsmiths, Prifysgol Llundain. Yn ei flwyddyn olaf roedd yn gyd-flaenwr Cerddorfa Prifysgol Llundain o dan arweiniad Mark Shanahan, ac Blaenwr Cerddorfa Symffoni Coleg Goldsmith ar gyfer y cyngerdd olaf dan arweiniad Edward Gregson.

Ychydig o flynyddoedd yn ddiweddarach cwblhaodd Becci ei hyfforddiant athrawon ac mae bellach yn athro peripatetig llinynnau yn Sir Penybont-ar-Ogwr ers 1999 (heblaw am rai blynyddoedd lle'r roedd yn byw yn America). Mae'n tiwtora yn rheolaidd mewn cerddorfeydd ieuencid sirol ac ensembles amrywiol a tra roedd dramor, gwirfoddolodd mewn ysgolion lleol gan eu cynorthwyo gyda'u rhaglenni llinynnau.

Dewisodd Becci gael hoe fach o'r chwarae cerddorfaol er mwyn codi ei dau blentyn, ond mae wedi dychwelyd i'r chwarae yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf. Daeth yn aelod o Gerddorfa Symffoni'r Rhondda yn 2015 a chafodd y fraint o gael ei gwahodd i fod yn flaenwr y gerddorfa yn 2016.



The
SO Musicians



First Violin

Elizabeth Bryan
Branwen Evans
Jill Francis
Becci Goss *
Noreen Harris
Nick James
Ruth Jones
Rhianwen Lewis
Abigail Linforth
Sophie McKellar
Elaine Noden
Richard Pegg

Second Violin

Jodie Absalom
Rhian Croad
Niamh Fish
Nicole Gravenor
Nia Honeybun
Wendy Jones *
Gaye Lloyd
Derek Mascall
Sheila Nurse
Joanna Rees
Jane Roberts
Mair Roberts
Julia Silezin
Katie Vincent
Kate Wilde
Joshua Young

Viola

Oliver Bown
Catherine Bright
Angharad Croot
Jenna Dychoff
Lewis James
Andrew May
Claire Popp
Gareth Tudor *

Cello

Will Davies
Bethan Ford
Georgia Goss
Eloise Gynn
Bethany Harries
Elin James
Justin Silezin
Bronwen Thomas
Jemma Wells *
Mark Wells

Double Bass

Jocelyn Churchill *
Katey Day
Paula Gardiner
Ursula Harrison
Jeff Ryan

Flute

Jim Evans
Isabelle Harris
Viv John *
Bethan Rees

Oboe

Sian Crossan
Elin Howard *
Melanie Wilson

Clarinet

Chris Beadsworth
Emma Buck
Faye Jones
Clare Sandford *

Bassoon

Lucy Millership
Karyn Phelps *
Latasha Wade

French Horn

Charlotte Leeke
Edwin Mead
Colin Preece
Carolyn Thistlewood *
Dai Williams

Trumpets

Alex Duncan
Richard Hood *
Dylan John

Trombone

Chris Kipling *
Richard Thurston

Bass Trombone

Joseph Edwards

Tuba/ Tiwba

Bryn Kipling

Timpani & Percussion

Samantha Herman
Sam Jowett
Joshua Pegg
Gill Ridout *
Ewan Thomas

Harp

Aisha Palmer

Piano

Branwen Evans

Denotes section principal *

Cuban Overture – Gershwin

Cuban Overture is a symphonic overture or tone-poem for orchestra composed by American composer George Gershwin. Originally titled Rumba, it was a result of a two-week holiday which Gershwin took in Havana, Cuba in February 1932. Gershwin composed the piece in July and August 1932.

The overture is dominated by Caribbean rhythms and Cuban native percussion, with a wide spectrum of instrumental colour and technique. It is a rich and exciting work with complexity and sophistication, illustrating the influence of Cuban music and dance.

Catfish Row (Suite from Porgy and Bess) – Gershwin

Catfish Row, originally titled Suite from Porgy and Bess, is an orchestral work by George Gershwin based upon music from his famous opera Porgy and Bess. Gershwin completed the work in 1936 and it premiered at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia on January 21 of that year, with Alexander Smallens conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra. Gershwin played the piano part, including the piano solo in the opening moments. This piece preserves some of the darkest and most complex music Gershwin ever wrote. It is made up of five movements:

1. Catfish Row contains the Introduction, “Jazzbo Brown’s Piano Blues”, which was cut from the opera until 1976 (a motive from this music is first heard in the orchestral Introduction, which was actually composed later), and the first iteration of “Summertime” with a short coda. The coda consists of the opening bars of the “crap game” music, which immediately follows “Summertime” in the opera.
2. Porgy Sings contains one of Porgy’s arias: “I Got Plenty o’ Nuttin” and Porgy and Bess’s duet “Bess, You Is My Woman Now” bridged by a cello solo (the introduction to the latter song).
3. Fugue contains the dark dissonant music from the murder of Crown in Act III scene 1.
4. Hurricane features the music from the hurricane sequence (12 more measures than the R. R. Bennett Porgy and Bess”Symphonic Picture” medley).
5. Good Morning, Sistuh contains the Act III Prelude from the final scene of the opera, as well as the final song, “Oh, Lawd, I’m on My Way”.



Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo – Copland

Rodeo is a ballet composed by Aaron Copland and choreographed by Agnes de Mille, which premiered in 1942. Subtitled “The Courting at Burnt Ranch”, the ballet consists of five sections: “Buckaroo Holiday”, “Corral Nocturne”, “Ranch House Party,” “Saturday Night Waltz”, and “Hoe-Down”.

Copland arranged the music as a symphonic suite for orchestra titled Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo, which consisted chiefly of removing “Ranch House Party” and minor adjustments to the final two sections. With the middle section removed, the composition resembled the symphonic form with an ambitious opening movement, slow movement, minuet and finale. In this form, Rodeo found even greater success, premiering at the Boston Pops in 1943.

STAR WARS

Star Wars Symphonic

The music of the Star Wars franchise is composed and produced in conjunction with the development of the feature films, television series, and other merchandise within the epic space opera franchise created by George Lucas. The music for the primary feature films (which serves as the basis for the rest of the related media) was written by John Williams. Williams' scores for the nine saga films (and a suite for a spin-off film) count among the most widely known and popular contributions to modern film music, and utilize a symphony orchestra and features an assortment of about fifty recurring musical themes to represent characters and other plot elements: one of the largest caches of themes in the history of film music.

They each make extensive use of the leitmotif, or a series of musical themes that represents the various characters, objects and events in the films. Throughout all of the franchise, which consists of a total of over 18 hours of music, Williams has written approximately fifty themes.

The scores utilize an eclectic variety of musical styles, many culled from the Late Romantic idiom of Richard Strauss and his contemporaries that itself was incorporated into the Golden Age Hollywood scores of Erich Korngold and Max Steiner. The reasons for this are known to involve George Lucas's desire to allude to the underlying fantasy element of the narrative rather than the science-fiction setting, as well as to ground the otherwise strange and fantastic setting in well-known, audience-accessible music. Indeed, Lucas maintains that much of the films' success relies not on advanced visual effects, but on the simple, direct emotional appeal of its plot, characters and, importantly, music.



STAR WARS

Suite – John Williams

Lucas originally wanted to use tracked orchestral and film music in a similar manner to 2001: A Space Odyssey, itself a major inspiration for Star Wars. Williams, however, advised to form a soundtrack with recurring musical themes to augment the story, while Lucas's choice of music could be used as a temporary track for Williams to base his musical choices on. This resulted in several nods or homages to the music of Gustav Holst, William Walton, Sergei Prokofiev and Igor Stravinsky in the score to Star Wars.

This suite from the original motion picture is made up of 5 movements:

1. Main Title
2. Princess Leia's Theme
3. The Imperial March (Darth Vader's Theme)
4. Yoda's Theme
5. Throne Room and End Title





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THE RHONDDA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
PRESENTS

Scheherazade

RHAPSODY ON A THEME
OF PAGANINI
SOLOIST/ UNAWDYDD
ROB MARSHALL



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