

RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

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RSNO Christmas
Concert featuring

The Snowman

Presented by **Sanjeev Kohli**

Caird Hall, Dundee
Fri 20 Dec 2024 6.30pm

SPONSORED BY



RSNO Christmas Concert featuring **The Snowman**

The RSNO's magical Christmas Concert is packed full of your favourite festive melodies and the enduringly enchanting film *The Snowman*. Shown on the big screen, it is narrated by our star guest – *Still Game*'s Sanjeev Kohli – and accompanied by the Orchestra, and of course features the wonderful *Walking in the Air*. The RSNO, its Youth Chorus and Changed Voices welcome you all to this special feast of Christmas cheer!

Stephen Bell Conductor

Sanjeev Kohli Presenter

RSNO Youth Chorus

Patrick Barrett Director, RSNO Youth Choruses

Alison McNeill Associate Director, RSNO Youth Choruses

RSNO Changed Voices

Frikki Walker Director, RSNO Changed Voices

Royal Scottish National Orchestra



 The
Northwood
Charitable Trust

 leisure &
culture DUNDEE

If viewing these notes at the concert, please do so considerately and not during performances. **Please silence all mobile telephones and alerts, and refrain from taking photographs, without flash, until the end of each piece.**

This concert is kindly supported by Leng Charitable Trust, Leisure & Culture Dundee Major Music Award, Northwood Charitable Trust and Tay Charitable Trust.



Nigel Hess
Christmas Overture

Howard Blake
The Snowman
Narrator: Sanjeev Kohli

INTERVAL

Paul Campbell
A Christmas Overture

Traditional (arr. Higgins)
We Three Kings of Orient Are

Adam Saunders
Fairytale Sleighride

Traditional (arr. Higgins)
Still, Still, Still
Soloist: Jessica Ewer

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Christmas Eve: Suite

Keith Stannard (arr. Doughty)
The Penguin Song (Consider the Penguin)

Traditional (arr. Harvey)
The Holly and the Ivy

Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez
Music from Frozen

Richard Bissill
A Christmas Carnival

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Sanjeev Kohli

Presenter



Sanjeev Kohli is the co-writer/co-star of award-winning BBC Radio 4 comedy *Fags, Mags and Bags*, has written for sketch shows *Chewin' the Fat* and *Goodness Gracious Me*, has presented extensively on the BBC, and has written and recorded vocals for the musical project *The Grand Gestures*. He has also appeared in the likes of *Cold Feet*, *Fresh Meat* and *Look Around You* (where he played Synthesiser Patel), as well as being the star of the video for Elbow's *Lost Worker Bee*. He is best known, however, for playing shopkeeper Navid in *Still Game* for nine series on the BBC and three sell-out runs at The Glasgow Hydro, and Amandeep Jandhu in *River City*.

Sanjeev's recent screen credits include: Armando Iannucci's *Avenue 5* (HBO), *Magpie Murders* (Britbox UK and PBS), *Chemistry of Death* (Paramount+), *Moonflower Murders* (BBC and PBS), *The Rig* (Amazon) and *Dinosaur* (BBC). He is currently filming *Department Q* for Netflix.



RSNO Christmas **PRIZE DRAW**

The RSNO's Prize Draw is your chance to win the perfect Christmas treat for yourself, or gift for your friends and family!

This year's prize includes **four tickets to *The Music of John Williams*** and an **RSNO Classical concert of your choice** plus more RSNO goodies.

To enter, simply donate to the RSNO, with a suggested **donation of £1**. All money raised will support the RSNO's work, helping us to provide a lifetime of musical inspiration for our community in Scotland and beyond.

Enter the RSNO Christmas Prize Draw by **scanning the QR code**, visiting uk.givergy.com/RSNOChristmasPrizeDraw or by texting **YULE to 70215**.

The prize draw will close at 11pm Tuesday 24 December 2024, and the winning ticket will be drawn on Monday 6 January 2025. Terms and conditions can be found at rsno.org.uk/rsno-christmas-prize-draw



Stephen Bell

Conductor



Stephen Bell studied at the Royal College of Music under the renowned conductor Norman Del Mar. He is in demand with a wide variety of international orchestras. He was appointed Artistic Director of the City of Oxford Orchestra in 2009, Associate Conductor of the Hallé Pops in Manchester in 2013 and Principal Guest Conductor of the RTÉ Concert Orchestra in Dublin in 2022.

Stephen's discography includes critically acclaimed CDs on the ASV, Naxos and Dutton labels, including two with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, a disc devoted to the music of Gordon Jacob and three recordings with violist Roger Chase and the BBC Concert Orchestra, as well as *A Christmas Celebration* with the Hallé on its own label and a collaboration with award-winning vocalist Clare Teal on MUD Records.

His diverse repertoire, versatility and aptitude for communication with audiences of all ages has led to exciting conducting projects with an eclectic range of artists. Past highlights include conducting the Queen's Jubilee Concert at Chatsworth House, a tribute concert for Stanley Black at the Royal Festival Hall, a gala event for Prince Charles at Windsor Castle, the memorial concert for Alistair Cooke at Westminster Abbey, the award-winning *Pitch Perfect* for BBC TV's *Children in Need* at Wembley with the BBC Singers, the televised *Music Nation* concert from the Clyde Auditorium in Glasgow, and pop legends Texas with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra at Barrowlands, Glasgow, for BBC Music Day 2017.

From 2005 to 2010, Stephen conducted the annual televised *BBC Proms in the Park* with the BBC Philharmonic, and from 2011 he appeared every year on the live TV broadcasts of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra's *Last Night of the Proms* celebrations. He made his Royal Albert Hall Proms debut with the *Doctor Who Prom* in 2008, returning in 2012 for a *Family Matinée Prom* with the Royal Northern Sinfonia and in 2014 for two televised *CBeebies Proms* with the BBC Philharmonic. The *Folk Prom* in the 2018 season marked his first Prom with the BBC Concert Orchestra, and he returned with them in 2019.

Royal Scottish National Orchestra



Formed in 1891 as the Scottish Orchestra, the company became the Scottish National Orchestra in 1950 and was awarded Royal Patronage in 1977. Many renowned conductors have contributed to its success, including Sir John Barbirolli, Walter Susskind, Sir Alexander Gibson, Neeme Järvi, Walter Weller, Alexander Lazarev and Stéphane Denève.

The Orchestra's artistic team is led by Danish conductor Thomas Søndergård, who was appointed Music Director in 2018. In March 2024, Austrian-born conductor, composer and musician Patrick Hahn became the Orchestra's Principal Guest Conductor.

The RSNO is supported by the Scottish Government and is one of the Scottish National Performing Companies. The Orchestra performs across Scotland, including concerts in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Perth and Inverness, and appears regularly at the Edinburgh International Festival and BBC Proms. The RSNO has made recent tours to the USA, China and Europe.

The RSNO has a worldwide reputation for the quality of its recordings, receiving a 2020 Gramophone Classical Music Award for

Chopin's Piano Concertos (soloist: Benjamin Grosvenor), conducted by Elim Chan, two Diapason d'Or awards (Denève/Roussel 2007; Denève/Debussy 2012) and eight GRAMMY Award nominations. In recent years, the RSNO has increasingly recorded soundtracks for film, television and video games, with notable titles including *Horizon: An American Saga* (Warner Bros), *Life on Our Planet* (Netflix), *Star Wars Outlaws* (Ubisoft), *Avatar: Frontiers of Pandora* (Meta Quest VR) and *The Woman King* (Sony Pictures). The Orchestra records at its bespoke in-house facility, Scotland's Studio, in Glasgow.

The RSNO believes that music can enrich lives, and aims to inspire, educate and entertain people throughout Scotland and beyond with its performances, recordings and engagement programmes. Supporting schools, families, young professionals and wider communities, the RSNO delivers high-quality initiatives for all ages and abilities, reaching over 68,000 people in 2023.

On Stage

FIRST VIOLIN

Rebecca Chan
GUEST LEADER
Emily Davis
Patrick Curlett
Ruth Crouch
Caroline Parry
Elizabeth Bamping
Lorna Rough
Susannah Lowdon
Alan Manson
Liam Lynch
Sharon Haslam
Jane Reid

SECOND VIOLIN

Jacqueline Speirs
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Marion Wilson
Nigel Mason
Paul Medd
Harriet Hunter
Anne Bünemann
Sophie Lang
Robin Wilson
Colin McKee
John Robinson

VIOLA

Tom Dunn
PRINCIPAL
Lisa Rourke
Beth Woodford
Katherine Wren
Maria Trittinger
Francesca Hunt
Claire Dunn
Georgia Boyd

CELLO

Pei-Jee Ng
PRINCIPAL
Betsy Taylor
Kennedy Leitch
Yuuki Bouterey-Ishido
Rachael Lee
Sarah Digger
Niamh Molloy

DOUBLE BASS

Jamie Kenny
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Michael Rae
Moray Jones
Alexandre Cruz dos Santos

FLUTE

Oliver Roberts
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Adam Richardson
Janet Richardson
PRINCIPAL PICCOLO

OBOE

Adrian Wilson
PRINCIPAL
Peter Dykes

CLARINET

William Knight
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Duncan Swindells
PRINCIPAL BASS CLARINET

SAXOPHONE

Lewis Banks

BASSOON

Patrick Bolton
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Paolo Dutto
PRINCIPAL CONTRABASSOON

HORN

Andrew McLean
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Alison Murray
Martin Murphy
David McClenaghan
Peter McNeill

TRUMPET

Christopher Hart
PRINCIPAL
Katie Smith
Juliette Murphy

TROMBONE

Dávur Juul Magnussen
PRINCIPAL
Jack Myles
Alastair Sinclair
PRINCIPAL BASS TROMBONE

TUBA

John Whitener
PRINCIPAL

TIMPANI

Paul Philbert
PRINCIPAL

PERCUSSION

Simon Lowdon
PRINCIPAL
John Poulter
Stuart Semple

DRUM KIT

Stuart Semple

HARP

Pippa Tunnell

PIANO/CELESTE

Lynda Cochrane

BASS GUITAR

Andy Sharkey

RSNO Youth Chorus



The RSNO Youth Chorus is one of the leading children and youth choirs in the UK. Formed in 1978 by Jean Kidd, the Youth Chorus is currently led by director Patrick Barrett and boasts over 400 members aged 7 to 18. It has built up a considerable reputation singing under some of the world's most distinguished conductors and appearing on radio and television.

RSNO Youth Chorus members sing regularly with Scotland's National Orchestra in major

concert halls and festivals throughout the country, and in 2021 performed at COP26 in Glasgow. The Youth Chorus has also sung at BBC concerts and regularly appears at the Edinburgh International Festival.

The RSNO Youth Chorus is kindly supported by **Dunclay Charitable Trust, Meikle Foundation, W A Cargill Fund** and **Walton Foundation**.

**RSNO YOUTH
CHORUS 1**

Abigail Gallacher
Ailsa Hutchinson
Alexandra Cartmell
Ava-Simran Dhillon-
Dileri
Bernadette Xin-Ying
Kho
Blair McKinlay
Bronagh McKnight
Charlotte Muir
Colette Balmer
Cora Robertson
Elishka Foster
Elizabeth Poet
Eunice Oyedokun
Faith Junyen Wong
Fiamma Milligan
Gabriella Mills
Grace Nickson
Grace Romans
Greta Ingleby
Hannah Binu
Idrissa Thiam
Iris Stalin
Isla Balitbit
Jayden Odebeatu
Kaia Grassl
Katherine Moffett
Kimberley McFarlane
Kirsty McLean
Lilianna Nemeth
Lisa Kipgen
Louise Morris
Megan Parsons
Melissa Gunathilaka

Melissa Maffia
Misha Gupta
Molly Kerr
Neave Maclachlan
Netra Gaikwad
Olivia Tait
Ollie Leitch
Penelope Leithead
Poppy Grafton
Rita El Obbadi
Rory Cameron
Shreeya Pandit
Sophie Waller
Tess Fleming
Thomas Wylie
Timur Kassimkulov
Tvisha Bhardwaj
Yashar Pourghazi

**RSNO YOUTH
CHORUS 2**

Aaleah McAulay
Aariyanna Akram
Abigail Hughes
Aicha Thiam
Aimee Morton
Alannah Clancy
Alec Buckley
Alicia Idessane
Alma Correal-Jarrett
Amelia Mashwani
Amelia Philip
Amelia Wilson
Amelie Caldwell
Amy Sanderson
Ana Ryburn-Thomson
Andrew Ross

Anshi Sai Vanga
Bea Courtial
Brewen Lyons
Cara Mackay
Charlotte Leathem
Connie Hunter
Diana Lizer
Edie Dunn
Eilidh Hughes
Eilidh McIntyre
Ellie Digger
Ellie Toner
Emilia Ewer
Emilia Rathbone
Emily Fuge
Emma Little
Eve Cameron
Evie Diamond
Gemma Gowans
Gregor Townsley
Holly Rodger
Hope Henderson
Indii McCulloch
Izzy Hughes
Jennifer Friels
Jessica Ewer
Jessica-May Payne
Jeviy Dela Santa
Jodie Sumpter
Joe Thunder
Joely Gardiner-Clark
Jude Tait
Kate Mosley
Katie Rourke
Leila Osmond
Lia McCulloch
Lily Overton

Louisa Greenhill
Lucy Arbuckle
Maia Fernandez
McCann
Martha Danton
Martha Johnson
Max Biankin
Mia Tomb
Nellie Heinrich
Nerea Winchester
Nirvana Balideh
Nuala-Maria McKnight
Olivia Cocozza
Olivia Osborne
Orla Gilligan
Rachel Cook
Rebecca Greig
Risha Chatterjee
Rosa Caughie
Rowie Bryce
Sarah Oliver
Sarah Orimoloye
Scarlett O'Sullivan
Sophie Hall
Stella MacEachran
Stella Sorenson
Summer Wang
Susie Wu
Thea Morag Heinrich
Valentina Campanella
Willow Gardiner-Clark
Yasmin Patel
Yi Han Dong
Zoe Drysdale

**RSNO YOUTH CHORUS
STAFF**

**RSNO YOUTH CHORUS
DIRECTOR**
Patrick Barrett

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Alison McNeill Youth Chorus 1

MUSICIANSHIP STAFF

Heather Drysdale
Phil Gault
Mairi Leggatt
Claire McCue
Moilidh NicGriogair
Sarah Skerritt
Laura Smith
Aimee Toshney
Frikki Walker

VOCAL COACHES

Daniela Hathaway
Alison McNeill
Laura Smith

PIANISTS

Edward Cohen
Judith Keaney

RSNO Changed Voices



Changed Voices is a satellite group of the RSNO Youth Chorus for boys whose voices are changing. The choir was established in 2006, with generous support from **The Gannochy Trust**, with the aim of encouraging boys to continue singing as their voices are changing. Studies have shown that careful singing through the changing process allows boys to develop and maintain a healthy singing technique. Changed Voices is coached by Frikki Walker and Phil Gault, and continues the fine RSNO Youth Chorus tradition of singing and musicianship taught in

a lively and fun way, while giving the voice time to develop before members move into adult choirs. Changed Voices has given performances at various high-profile engagements, including guest appearances on BBC Radio Scotland's *Classics Unwrapped* and at the RSNO's Gala Ball.



RSNO CHANGED VOICES

Aarush Bhat
 Advay Kadwe
 Akash Gadale
 Alastair NG
 Alexander Crawford
 Alistair Hillis
 Andrew Irvine
 Ashwin Dykes
 Brodie Webster
 Calum Tamata
 Daniyal Sölić-Ansari
 David Liu
 Dougie Grant-Duff
 Ewan Pilsworth
 Finlay Bryce
 Jack Ellen

Jack Hammond
 Jamie Gibbons
 Keir Cameron
 Kelvin Lin
 Kjartan Magnusson
 Lev Sorokin
 Logan Adam
 Lucas Crawford
 Matthew Clarkson
 Murray Graham
 Nicholas Milne
 Odunayo Orimoloye
 Reuben Griffiths
 Sam Smith
 William Philip
 Yashvardhan Jain

RSNO CHANGED VOICES STAFF

DIRECTOR

Frikki Walker

VOCAL COACH

Phil Gault

PIANIST

Tim Mills

STAFF ASSISTANTS

Claire Bryan
 Katie Bryan
 Dylan Findlay
 Rennie MacKechnie
 Eilidh Marrison
 Rachel Morrison
 Nicole Swindells

Frikki Walker

Director, RSNO Changed Voices



Frikki Walker is a choral conductor with many years' experience of conducting boys' changing voices. He has conducted the RSNO Changed Voices since 2009 and for many years conducted the Changed Voices of the National Youth Choir of Scotland, and also founded and directs Glasgow Cambiata, which brings together boys' choirs from schools in the area. This choir has performed to great acclaim with the RSNO.

Frikki is Director of Music at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, where his choir has earned an international reputation for excellence through its regular broadcasts on radio and TV. He founded and conducts the Royal School of Church Music Scottish Voices, and is often a guest conductor and examiner at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. As a member of staff at the High School of Glasgow, his Chamber Choir has won BBC Songs of Praise Senior School Choir of the Year and made various radio and TV appearances.

Frikki has worked with all of Scotland's most prestigious choirs and has run workshops and adjudicated at music festivals all over Scotland. He is also an accomplished organist, singer and composer.



Patrick Barrett

Director, RSNO Youth Chorus



Patrick Barrett is a conductor specialising in choral music and opera. He is currently Chorus Director of the RSNO Youth Chorus, Royal Opera House Youth Opera Company, Irish Youth Choir (14-17 years) and the award-winning Farnham Youth Choirs.

Recent highlights include conducting the RSNO Youth Chorus in performances with Sheku Kanneh-Mason, Benjamin Grosvenor and Nicola Benedetti, as well as preparing them for the recording of *Gaspard's Christmas* by Jonathan Dove. Patrick also led Farnham Youth Choir to two gold medals at the World Choir Games 2024 in New Zealand. He has premiered new works by Errollyn Wallen, Jonathan Brigg, Emma O'Halloran and DJ R.Kitt, and is a regular guest conductor with the National Youth Choirs 9-15 Years.

Patrick's commitment to youth choral music extends to preparing choruses for the Edinburgh International Festival, and for the Dunedin Consort, where his work often features in major international performances. As a dedicated music educator, Patrick has worked with organisations including The Sixteen, BBC Singers, Wigmore Hall and Aldeburgh Young Musicians, and has spoken at the Post Primary Music Teachers Association in Ireland.

In opera, Patrick collaborates with leading UK companies such as the Royal Opera House, English National Opera and Garsington Opera, where he prepares youth choruses for main-stage productions and world premieres, including *Carmen* under Antonello Manacorda and *Otello* under Sir Antonio Pappano. Previously, he was the conductor of the University of Birmingham's Upper Voices Choir, University of Reading Chamber Choir and Brockham Choral Society.

Alison McNeill

Associate Director



Scottish conductor, soprano and fiddle player Alison McNeill graduated with a Masters in Performance from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She went on to study with the late legendary mezzo-soprano Teresa Berganza in Granada, winning the Andrés Segovia prize for Spanish Song in Spain (the only non-native speaker to win this award). As a specialist in Spanish Song, Alison has premiered new works by Spain's foremost composers Antón García Abril and Teresa Bretal in the National Auditorium of Galicia and Atheneum in Madrid. She has also performed in the Manuel de Falla Auditorium in Granada and in the houses of celebrated composers Joaquín Rodrigo and Manuel de Falla.

With guitarist and duo partner Sasha Savaloni, Alison performed world premieres by Stuart MacRae and Marco Ramelli at the St Magnus International Festival in Orkney, and gave a recital in Madrid's 'Clásicos en Verano' Chamber Music Festival which was recorded by Spanish national radio. Since then she has performed

as a soloist in the UK, Holland, Spain, Italy, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Japan, Pakistan, Kenya, USA and Mexico, with highlights including singing as a soloist with Ditrambo Early Music Ensemble in Mexico, in Minami Aizu Concert Hall (Japan), Canteloube's *Chants d'Auvergne* with the Glasgow Chamber Orchestra, and Verdi's Requiem and Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the RSNO in Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.

As a traditional musician, Alison is fiddler and singer songwriter in the award-winning folk rock band Reely Jiggered, who won the O2 ABC SoundWave Music competition and have since released three albums. They have most recently returned from a tour of Pakistan, Denmark and Virginia. The band have performed at the Scottish Parliament, Celtic Connections, for BBC Radio nan Gàidheal and Radio 4, and on Pakistani and Mexican national TV. They performed in Nairobi on the recent St Andrew's Night and will perform at Tartan Week in New York in April.

Alison is Director of the National Youth Choir of Northern Ireland's Boys Choir and 100-strong Junior Choir who recently gave the premiere of Claire McCue's *The Giant Folk and the Wee Folk*, broadcast on BBC Ulster. She is Associate Director of the RSNO Youth Chorus, Conductor of the National Youth Choir of Scotland National Boys Choir, and Director of Voices of Argyll, who recently performed the world premiere of *Interwoven*, an Indian-Scottish fusion commission for choir, sitar, tabla and Indian dancer, in the Scottish Parliament. Alison returns to Doha as head judge for the Qatar Choir of the Year Competition next year.



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Jonathon Heyward Conductor
Jess Gillam Saxophone

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