

# RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL  
ORCHESTRA

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RSNO Christmas  
Concert featuring

# The Snowman

Presented by **Sanjeev Kohli**

**Usher Hall, Edinburgh**  
Sun 22 Dec 2024 3pm

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 Chorus and Chorus Academy welcome you all to this special feast of Christmas cheer!

**Stephen Bell** Conductor

**Sanjeev Kohli** Presenter

**Ana Ryburn-Thomson** Soloist

**RSNO Chorus**

**Stephen Doughty** Director, RSNO Chorus

**RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee**

**Laura McFall** Community Singing Director

**Royal Scottish National Orchestra**



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.**



Nigel Hess  
**Christmas Overture**

Howard Blake  
**The Snowman**  
Narrator: Sanjeev Kohli  
Soloist: Ana Ryburn-Thomson

INTERVAL

Paul Campbell  
**A Christmas Overture**

Traditional (arr. Raney and Doughty)  
**Once in Royal David's City**

Adam Saunders  
**Fairytale Sleighride**

Andrew Carter (arr. Doughty)  
**Hodie Christus Natus Est**

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov  
**Christmas Eve: Suite**

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

Traditional (arr. Harvey)  
**The Holly and the Ivy**

Traditional (arr. Wilberg)  
**Ding! Dong! Merrily on High**

Richard Bissill  
**A Christmas Carnival**

Please join in with verse 4 of  
**Once in Royal David's City**

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heav'n above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he has gone.



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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.



# Sing Your Part

Support the RSNO Chorus

**At the RSNO, we understand the transformative influence singing can have on individuals and communities. Our mission this year is to get even more people singing.**

Donate today to support the RSNO Chorus. Comprised entirely of amateur singers, under the leadership of Stephen Doughty, our singers rehearse weekly to create the beautiful sounds you've heard this evening.

Donate today and your money will go towards recruiting new members and supporting future projects.



Scan the QR code to donate  
or visit [rsno.org.uk/support-our-chorus](https://rsno.org.uk/support-our-chorus)



# 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 Chorus



The RSNO Chorus performs in around six different programmes in up to 20 concerts across Scotland with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra each year. The RSNO Chorus has also had great success in recording with the Orchestra. Its recordings, among others, of Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky*, conducted by Neeme Järvi, and Holst's *The Planets*, conducted by David Lloyd-Jones, have both attracted high critical acclaim.

In addition to its commitment to the Orchestra, the RSNO Chorus performs independently and has been invited to perform with orchestras in many parts of the world, establishing an international status and touring to Copenhagen, Hong Kong, Israel, Germany, Belfast, Australia, Trondheim and, most recently, Amsterdam and Prague. In 2018 it performed Britten's *War Requiem* with the RSNO at the BBC Proms.

The RSNO Chorus evolved from a choir formed in 1843 to sing the first full performance of Handel's *Messiah* in Scotland. Today it is one of the most successful choruses in the UK. In recent years it has performed practically every work in the standard choral repertoire along with contemporary works by renowned composers, including John Adams, Magnus Lindberg, Howard Shore and, most recently, the critically acclaimed Scottish Premiere of Sir James MacMillan's *Christmas Oratorio*.

The RSNO Chorus is directed by Stephen Doughty, who was appointed to the role at the start of the 2022:23 Season.



**SOPRANO 1**

Alison Pryce-Jones  
 Caroline Cradock  
 Charlotte McKechnie  
 Iris O'Connell  
 Karman Leung  
 Mhairi Hendry  
 Morag Kean  
 Rhona Christie  
 Roberta Yule  
 Sarah Greer  
 Seonaid Eadie

**SOPRANO 2**

Amelie Masters  
 Beth Kean  
 Carol McLean  
 Elizabeth Jack  
 Elspeth Waugh  
 Helen Hyland  
 Jennifer Imrie  
 Jenny Cheung  
 Judith Pexton  
 Katie Dew  
 Laura Gorman  
 Lizzie Reather  
 Lorna Robertson  
 Lynsey Brook  
 Ruby Ginoris  
 Sally Sandground

**ALTO 1**

Angela McDonald  
 Anne Browning  
 Brenda Williamson  
 Cath Malone  
 Catriona Eadie  
 Esther McMillan  
 Fiona Taylor  
 Harriet Skipworth  
 Julia King  
 June Thomas  
 Laura MacDonald  
 Marita McMillan  
 Ruth Townsend  
 Uta Engelbrecht

**ALTO 2**

Alice Bennett  
 Ann Firth  
 Anne Newlands  
 Denny Henderson  
 Eleanor McLaren  
 Gillian Downie  
 Jane Stansfield  
 Sonja Crossan

**TENOR 1**

Alex Rankine  
 Andrew Clifford  
 David Miller  
 Lawrence Smith  
 Nathan Dunsmore

**TENOR 2**

Cosma Gottardi  
 Graham Parsonage  
 Kerr Noble  
 Robert Paterson  
 Tyler Newton

**BASS 1**

Andrew Lyons  
 Andrew Matheson  
 David MacDonald  
 George Lloyd  
 Ian MacKay  
 Mark Higginson  
 Martin Engelbrecht  
 Peter Saunders  
 Robin Watson  
 Stuart Corkindale  
 Toby Reed

**BASS 2**

Alan Maxwell  
 Brian Watt  
 Chris Morris  
 Kenneth Allen  
 Melvyn Davies  
 Oluwatimilehin Bimbo-Adeola  
 Richard Goldie  
 Stephen Lipton  
 Stewart Macfarlane  
 Stewart McMillan  
 Tim Reilly

**RSNO CHORUS  
 DIRECTOR**

Stephen Doughty

**RSNO CHORUS  
 VOCAL COACH**

Polly Beck

**RSNO CHORUS  
 REHEARSAL PIANIST**

Edward Cohen





# RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee



The RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee is a group inspired by the RSNO Chorus Academy Glasgow. The group is designed to encourage singers who would like to build their confidence in all aspects of singing, including choral techniques, singing techniques and musicianship, as well as reading a musical score.

The RSNO Chorus Academy Dundee meets at Dundee Science Centre, is open to all, without audition, and focuses on singing for health and wellbeing.

For more information, visit: [rsno.org.uk/project/rsno-dundee-chorus-academy/](https://rsno.org.uk/project/rsno-dundee-chorus-academy/)





**SOPRANO 1**

Benetta Johnston  
 Carolyn Gibson  
 Elaine Selbie  
 Elizabeth Shearer  
 Irene Hill  
 Jan Clarkson  
 Joan Chynoweth  
 Maria Miller  
 Marta Reis  
 Rebecca Paavola  
 Shirley Graham  
 Shonagh Morrison  
 Susan Eccles

**SOPRANO 2**

Ann Johnson  
 Christine Middleton  
 Denise Hill  
 Erica Murray  
 Grace Godfrey  
 Hazel Robertson  
 Helen Davie  
 Liz Crawford  
 Maggie Douglas  
 Sandra Brown  
 Sylvia Adams  
 Teresa Little

**ALTO 1**

Abigail Lyons  
 Amanda Parker  
 Anna Young  
 Anne Lindsay  
 Anne Rendall  
 Bernie Arnott  
 Caroline Boyd  
 Charlotte Petty  
 Christine Mulherron  
 Cristina Ruiz Alonso  
 Donna Morrison  
 Dorothy Duncan  
 Eileen Holmes  
 Fran Benison  
 Helen Forbes  
 Jemma Toller  
 Jenny Fitzpatrick  
 Jessica Fedak  
 Karen Johnstone  
 Lindsay Crosbie  
 Maureen Keith  
 Maureen McKeown  
 Maureen Miller

Morag Sutherland  
 Pauline Dolan  
 Roberta Ramsay  
 Roslyn Muir  
 Sandra Savage  
 Susan Jarvis  
 Susan Rees  
 Vivienne Adams

**ALTO 2**

Amy Knighton  
 Anne Tavendale  
 Fiona Anderson  
 Jay Knezovic  
 Jenni Dorward  
 Lisbeth Thoms  
 Morag Thomson  
 Morag Ward  
 Pat Fegen

**TENOR**

Chao Dun Tan  
 Christopher Hill  
 Emily Hanover  
 Graham Overton  
 Lucy Wakefield  
 Mairi Fraser  
 Maureen Gilchrist  
 Pauline Martin  
 Richard Kelly

**BASS 1**

Bob Andrew  
 Kenny McKaig  
 Stewart Fyffe  
 Stuart Miller

**BASS 2**

Alan Cook  
 Alan Gordon  
 Andrew Hall

**COMMUNITY SINGING  
DIRECTOR**

Laura McFall

**REHEARSAL PIANIST**

Euan Gow

**COMMUNITY SINGING  
ASSISTANT**

Chiko Parkinson

## Laura McFall

### Community Singing Director



In 2019 Laura graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with a Master's in Music Performance, specialising in Vocal Performance, under the tutelage of Wilma MacDougall.

Laura has worked with many of the best singing teachers and coaches in the UK and Europe, and has given recitals through the Live Music Now programme in concert halls across the UK. She is an accomplished Kodály practitioner and choral leader, and holds a Postgraduate Diploma of Education from the RCS.

Laura has held teaching posts with RCS Juniors and Seniors, National Youth Choir of Scotland and Northern Ireland, Carlisle Community Choir, Derry International Choral Festival, Queen's University Belfast and Garnock Community Campus. Most recently, she was appointed Curriculum Leader for General Musicianship and Choral Delivery at Sistema Scotland, Musical Director of the National Youth Choir of Scotland's East Dunbartonshire Boys Choir and the RSNO's Glasgow and Dundee Chorus Academy Music Director.



# Stephen Doughty

## Director, RSNO Chorus



Stephen Doughty was appointed Chorus Director of the RSNO Chorus from the start of the 2022:23 Season. Since his arrival the Chorus has seen an influx of new members, and an abundance of varied and critically acclaimed performances, including Verdi's *Requiem*, Britten's *War Requiem*, Bruckner's E Minor Mass and the Scottish premiere of Sir James MacMillan's *Christmas Oratorio*. Prior to this appointment, Stephen's 12-year tenure as Chorus Master of Belfast Philharmonic Choir included a number of world premieres, most significantly James Whitbourn's *The Seven Heavens* and Philip Hammond's *Requiem for the Lost Souls of the Titanic*, performed exactly 100 years since the liner went down, and the European premieres of both Stuart

Scott's *Requiem Brevis*, which saw the 100-strong choir separated into eight choirs spaced around the audience, and Christopher Marshall's *Earthsong*.

Stephen particularly enjoys working with amateur singers. He was Musical Director of Edinburgh Bach Choir until the end of last season and was Organist and Director of Music of St John's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh for 18 years. He has been Musical Director of the Garleton Singers since 1994, performing with them recently at the Lammermuir Festival.

Stephen plays harpsichord/organ continuo and orchestral piano and has given frequent organ recitals, including several on the grand Mulholland Organ in the Ulster Hall, Belfast. He is also in demand as an arranger and orchestrator, with a large portfolio of work particularly for young voices. He has produced a plethora of arrangements of the music of pianist Christopher Norton, including two publications of piano duets and a suite for wind sextet, and has received commissions from Children's Classic Concerts, the Ulster Orchestra and the RSNO. Commissions from the BBC have seen his work being performed on BBC Alba and at the Last Night of the Proms, and his pieces feature on several recordings, including a recent one with the RSNO Chorus.

Stephen is an Examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

[stephendoughty.co.uk](http://stephendoughty.co.uk)



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rsnorchestra

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Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



# 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](https://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](https://rsno.org.uk/rsno-christmas-prize-draw)





A photograph of a choir performing, with several women in the foreground singing into microphones. The background is a soft, warm glow.

**RSNO**

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# RSNO Chorus in Concert

Stephen Doughty Conductor

**Fri 14 Mar 2025: 7.30pm**

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Paisley Abbey

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