



SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

RSNO PLAYS
Mendelssohn

Airdrie Town Hall

Tue 25 Feb 2025 1pm

Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock

Wed 26 Feb 1pm

Kellen Gray Conductor

Gillian Moore Presenter

Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Symphony No3

in A Minor Op56 Scottish

First performance: Leipzig, 3 March 1842

Duration: 40 minutes

1. Andante con moto–Allegro un poco agitato –

2. Vivace non troppo –

3. Adagio –

4. Allegro vivacissimo–Allegro maestoso assai

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.

Royal Scottish National Orchestra



The RSNO is one of Europe's leading symphony orchestras. Formed in 1891 as the Scottish Orchestra, the company became the Scottish National Orchestra in 1950, and was awarded Royal Patronage in 1977. The Orchestra's artistic team is led by Danish conductor Thomas Søndergård, who was appointed Music Director in 2018.

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 the BBC Proms. The RSNO has made recent tours to the USA, China and Europe.

The RSNO's Engagement strategy, Music for Life, sees the Orchestra work with schools and community groups, connecting its music with the people of Scotland.

Gillian Moore **Presenter**



Until 2022, Gillian Moore was Director of Music and Performing Arts at Southbank Centre, London, where she oversaw an extensive

programme of classical, jazz and contemporary music in one of the world's largest cultural institutions. She is currently the Centre's Artistic Associate.

Born in Glasgow, she studied Music at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, and subsequently the universities of Glasgow and York. In 1983 she became the first Education Officer at a UK orchestra, taking the London Sinfonietta into schools and prisons in a piece of pioneering creative work. She became Artistic Director of the Sinfonietta in 1998.

Throughout her career, she has been committed to changing the landscape for music and encouraging wider conversation and action to improve diversity and equality in the industry. In 2019 she was awarded the CBE.

Kellen Gray **Conductor**



Scotland-based American conductor Kellen Gray is Associate Artist of the RSNO, following his two-year tenure as Assistant Conductor (2021-3), a post that was supported by the Solti Foundation.

Kellen has earned a reputation as a versatile and imaginative artist, celebrated for his diverse array of traditional and experimental programming, thrilling performances and provocative multimedia concert experience curation.

Born and raised in Rock Hill, South Carolina, Kellen's early professional life took him on a diverse path ranging from orchestral violinist to beekeeper, before turning his full-time attention to conducting.

Kellen credits the many folk music styles of the south-eastern United States as his earliest and most impactful musical influences, and his repertoire interests to date have been fuelled by the engaged pursuit of that same spirit of cultural authenticity. This has led to a particular mastery not only of works that incorporate American folk idioms, but also in-depth explorations of heavily folk-inspired European composers such as Béla Bartók, Manuel de Falla and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

A passionate champion for African-diasporic composers, Kellen was the Founder & Curator of Charleston Symphony's Project Aurora, a programming and performance initiative aiming to illustrate the importance of African American arts and culture as equally valuable to its European equivalent. Additionally, he serves as Assistant Editor & Conductor Liaison for the African Diaspora Music Project, after extensive research at The Center for Black Music Research at Columbia College Chicago.

Kellen's discography to date comprises two celebrated releases – *African American Voices* and *African American Voices II*, made with the RSNO – showcasing music by Margaret Bonds, William Dawson, William Grant Still, Coleridge Taylor Perkinson, Florence Price and George Walker. Both records have met with the highest critical acclaim, including an elusive 5-star review from the prestigious *Diapason* magazine.

Kellen's appointment as Associate Artist of the RSNO – the first position of its kind for the orchestra – marks an unprecedented but organic development following his highly successful tenure as the orchestra's Assistant Conductor. Previous positions in Kellen's formative years included successful tenures with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra (Associate Conductor, 2018-23), Chicago Sinfonietta (Conducting Fellow & Assistant Conductor, 2016-18) and Valdosta Symphony Orchestra (Assistant Conductor, 2014-16).

Recent and forthcoming guest conducting highlights include engagements with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony, Houston Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra (Washington), Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra and Seattle Opera.

On Stage

FIRST VIOLIN

Lena Zeliszewska
ASSOCIATE LEADER
Liu-Yi Retallick
Cheryl Crocket
Lorna Rough
Veronica Marziano
Liam Lynch
Susannah Lowdon
Alan Manson
Elizabeth Bamping
Caroline Parry

SECOND VIOLIN

Jacqueline Speirs
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
Marion Wilson
Anne Bünemann
Harriet Hunter
Sophie Lang
Paul Medd
Kirstin Drew
Colin McKee

VIOLA

Tom Dunn
PRINCIPAL
Matthew Johnstone
Susan Buchan
Claire Dunn
Nicola McWhirter
Lisa Rourke

CELLO

Pei-Jee Ng
PRINCIPAL
Kennedy Leitch
Yuuki Bouterey-Ishido
Sarah Digger
Gunda Baranuaskaitė

DOUBLE BASS

Nikita Naumov
PRINCIPAL
Michael Rae
Moray Jones

FLUTE

Jack Welch
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Janet Richardson
PRINCIPAL PICCOLO

OBOE

Adrian Wilson
PRINCIPAL
Peter Dykes

CLARINET

Timothy Orpen
PRINCIPAL
Duncan Swindells
PRINCIPAL BASS CLARINET

BASSOON

David Hubbard
PRINCIPAL
Paolo Dutto
PRINCIPAL CONTRABASSOON

HORN

Timothy Doyle
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Alison Murray
Andrew McLean
David McClenaghan
Martin Murphy

TRUMPET

Jonathan Holland
GUEST PRINCIPAL
Brian McGinley

TIMPANI

Simon Archer
GUEST PRINCIPAL

rsno.org.uk     

Royal Scottish National Orchestra
19 Killermont Street, Glasgow G2 3NX
+44 (0)141 226 3868
rsno.org.uk | info@rsno.org.uk

Scottish Company No 27809
Scottish Charity No SC010702
The RSNO is supported by
the Scottish Government

 Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba