

## THE ORCHESTRA

Reading Symphony Orchestra has built a reputation for its high standard and exciting concert performances.

The orchestra is directed by professional conductor, Stefan Hofkes. Stefan combines a busy schedule as the Musical Director of Reading Symphony Orchestra and of Bristol Concert Orchestra with orchestral and opera engagements throughout Europe. At Beauforthuis in Holland, Stefan is Artistic Director of both the yearly "Opera!" festival, conducting productions with top young singers from all over Europe, and the "Music, alive and kicking" series, a national initiative focusing on classical concerts.

The orchestra's leader is Lynette Wynn, who is now a freelance professional violinist after many years as a member of the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

## YOUNG MUSICIANS' COMPETITION

The orchestra is keen to encourage young performers, and holds an annual Young Musicians' Competition. We are delighted to welcome Joshua Poole, winner of the 2009 competition, and runner-up, Joseph Blamey, who will be performing as soloists with the orchestra during the season.

Previous winners of the competition move on to flourishing musical careers, so it's a great pleasure also to welcome back Eloisa-Fleur Thom, who won the competition in 2004. Eloisa-Fleur is our soloist in the concert on Saturday 19 June 2010.

The Young Musicians' Competition, sponsored by Hickies of Reading, is open to instrumentalists and singers of school age who live or study within a 30-mile radius of Reading and who have reached a standard at least equivalent to Grade 7 of the Associated Board.

The next competition will be held in March 2010. Please contact us for more details.



## TICKETS FOR OUR CONCERTS

Tickets for our concerts can be purchased from the RSO Box Office on 0118 986 0707 or [tickets@rso.org.uk](mailto:tickets@rso.org.uk). Our **Friends of the RSO** scheme allows you to support the orchestra and enjoy our principal concerts at a reduced price. This year, becoming a Friend costs a minimum of £39 (£32 for concessions) which includes tickets to the four concerts effectively for the price of three.

## JOIN THE ORCHESTRA

If you play an orchestral instrument and would like to find out about joining the orchestra, contact our Chairman, Julia Luckett, at the details below. We rehearse on Thursday evenings in Caversham. A minimum standard of Grade 8 is required.



## ORCHESTRA HIRE

The RSO's musicians are available for your own events. For example we can provide:

- A full orchestra to accompany choral concerts.
- A chamber orchestra for church festivals.
- A small chamber group for a reception.
- A short concert before or after a celebratory dinner (such as a St George's Day "Prom").
- Entertainment at corporate events.

Please contact us to discuss your requirements.

## SPONSORSHIP

The RSO welcomes all offers of support from businesses and individuals. This might extend to sponsoring an entire concert or perhaps meeting a smaller cost, such as flowers for the soloist. All donations can be acknowledged in our programmes.

## CONTACT US

RSO Box Office: 0118 986 0707 or [tickets@rso.org.uk](mailto:tickets@rso.org.uk)

All other enquiries: 0118 973 5517

email: [info@rso.org.uk](mailto:info@rso.org.uk)

website: [www.rso.org.uk](http://www.rso.org.uk)

Registered Charity No 273969

# READING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2009-10

[www.rso.org.uk](http://www.rso.org.uk)

# READING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2009–10

**Stefan Hofkes** Conductor  
**Lynette Wynn** Leader

Welcome to our exciting new season. We are hugely looking forward to making music with a remarkable roster of guests.

Ashley Wass is now firmly established on the international circuit, and appeared three times in the 2009 Proms season. Laura Lucas recently graduated from the Royal College of Music with First Class Honours, and is already in great demand as a concerto soloist.

We are delighted to welcome back Eloisa-Fleur Thom, who is continuing her studies at the Royal Academy of Music and garnering an impressive range of prizes. Just starting out on their musical careers, Joshua Poole and Joseph Blamey were outstanding performers from our own most recent Young Musicians' Competition.

Last, but not least, our friends from Reading's twin town Düsseldorf will augment our forces, allowing us to present Mahler's magnificent Fifth Symphony.

**Saturday 7 November 2009, 7.30pm**

The Great Hall, Reading University

## Cornish Dances

Arnold

## Saxophone Concerto

Ibert

**Joshua Poole** Saxophone

*RSO/Hickies Young Musician  
winner 2009*

## Symphony No. 10

Shostakovich



£12, concessions £10, under 16s £2

**Sunday 7 February 2010, 3.30pm**

The Concert Hall, Reading Town Hall

## Capriccio Espagnol

Rimsky-Korsakov

## Iberia

Debussy

## Four Slavonic Dances

Dvorak

## Air on a G String

Bach

## Flute Concerto

Rodrigo

**Laura Lucas** Flute



£14 & £12, concessions £12 & £10, under 16s £2

**Sunday 28 March 2010, 3.30pm**

The Great Hall, Reading University

## The Noon Witch

Dvorak

## Piano Concerto No. 1

Mendelssohn

**Ashley Wass** Piano

## Symphony No. 7

Beethoven



£12, concessions £10, under 16s £2

**Saturday 19 June 2010, 7.30pm**

The Concert Hall, Reading Town Hall

## Violin Concerto

Mendelssohn

**Eloisa-Fleur Thom** Violin

## Symphony No. 5

Mahler

*Twining Concert with  
members of the Orchester  
der Landesregierung  
Düsseldorf*



£14 & £12, concessions £12 & £10, under 16s £2

**September 2010**

Venue and date tbc

READING SINFONIETTA

Look out for our next **Reading Sinfonietta** summer event, featuring popular works on a smaller scale than the RSO main season. The programme includes a piano concerto played by **Joseph Blamey**, runner-up in the RSO/Hickies Young Musicians' Competition 2009. Details will be published on our website as they become available.



£10, concessions £8, under 16s £2