

SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER 7.30PM
THE KING'S SCHOOL, MACCLESFIELD

NORTHERN
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

NORTHERN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA WITH JENNIFER PIKE VIOLIN CONDUCTED BY DELYANA LAZAROVA



Jennifer Pike is renowned for her unique artistry and compelling insight into music from the Baroque to the present day.

She made her concerto debut with the Hallé aged 11, and her international career was launched the following year when she won the BBC Young Musician and became the youngest major prizewinner in the Menuhin International Violin Competition. She was a BBC New Generation artist from 2008-2010 and won the International London Music Masters Award.

She now performs worldwide with eminent conductors including Sir Andrew Davis, Sir Mark Elder, Juanjo Mena, and Andris Nelsons at the world's top concert halls with top orchestras including the Bergen Philharmonic, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, Singapore Symphony, Tokyo Symphony and Czech National Symphony Orchestras, all the BBC Orchestras, and major orchestras across the UK. She has appeared as a guest director with the BBC Philharmonic, Manchester Camerata, London Mozart Players, and English Chamber Orchestra, among others.

Her critically-acclaimed discography on Chandos, Sony, Naxos and ABC Classics includes the Sibelius, Rózsa, Schultz and Mendelssohn concertos, the Debussy, Ravel and Franck sonatas, complete violin and piano works of Janáček, as well as a series 'The Polish Violin' and sonatas by Elgar and Vaughan Williams.

She is an ambassador for the Prince's Trust and Foundation for Children and the Arts, and patron of the Lord Mayor's City Music Foundation. In October 2020, she was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list for services to classical music. She plays a 1708 Matteo Goffriller violin.

After winning the inaugural Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition in February 2020, **Delyana Lazarova** has been Assistant Conductor to Sir Mark Elder at the Hallé Orchestra and Music Director of the Hallé Youth Orchestra in Manchester. In the same year she won the James Conlon Conducting Prize at the prestigious Aspen Music Festival, and earlier successes include the NRTA International Conducting Competition in 2019, and the Bruno Walter Conducting Scholarship at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in California in 2017 and 2018.

In recent seasons, Delyana has worked with orchestras such as the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre National de France, Real Filharmonía de Galicia, Klangforum Wien, Kammerphilharmonie Graubünden, Musikkollegium Winterthur, Collegium Musicum Basel, London Mozart Players, Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Göttinger Symphonieorchester, Orchester des Staatstheaters Meiningen, Estonian Festival Orchestra, and the Aspen Conducting Academy Orchestra.

Delyana studied conducting at the Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK) with Professor Johannes Schläefli. She attended numerous master classes with Bernard Haitink, Paavo Järvi, Leonard Slatkin, Mark Stringer, Robert Spano and Matthias Pintscher, among others. She also assisted Cristian Măcelaru at the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln and the Orchestre National de France. In addition to her master's degree in conducting, she is an accomplished violinist with a master's degree and performance diploma from the Jacobs School of Music in Indiana, where she studied under Mauricio Fuks and received a scholarship for artistic excellence.

The **Northern Chamber Orchestra** (NCO) has come a long way since it was set up in 1967. It now presents an annual series of eight concerts at The King's School in Macclesfield, which attracts top-flight soloists. The 2022-23 season features violinist Sophie Rosa, cellist Guy Johnston, and oboist John Roberts among many others.

The NCO players perform annually at Buxton Festival, playing for its main opera productions, and the NCO regularly gives orchestral concerts at St John's Church in Buxton. The orchestra also performs across the North of England and is regularly included in Orchestras Live programmes across rural areas, including the Lake District.

The members of the orchestra (twenty five in total) are distinguished chamber musicians who regularly appear as soloists.

The orchestra delivers an extensive learning and development programme with schools, colleges and music groups in many of the orchestra's concert locations. The orchestra's ethos is to provide young people and adults with opportunities to engage with enjoyable and inspiring projects, which are tailor-made to meet specific needs. The orchestra is always keen to give emerging new artists performance opportunities, including a fourteen-year-old Jennifer Pike back in 2003. Collaborations with Chetham's School of Music have enabled talented music students to rehearse with, then share the stage with, NCO's musicians as part of an ongoing learning and performance partnership.

It has over thirty, critically-acclaimed recordings to its name and is known in every continent. While excelling in performing a wide range of repertoire, the NCO enjoys opportunities to premiere new works by contemporary composers, such as Adam Gorb, Anthony Gilbert and David Ellis, and in house composer James Manson.

NORTHERN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

JENNIFER PIKE VIOLIN

CONDUCTED BY DELYANA LAZAROVA

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827)

Violin Concerto Op. 61

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827)

Symphony No. 3 Op. 55 'Eroica'

Like many of **Beethoven's** compositions of the early 1800's, the two works on tonight's programme received their public premieres at Vienna's Theater an der Wien. The theatre's concertmaster, the violin virtuoso Franz Clement, performed in the public premiere of the symphony in April 1805, alongside Clement's own D Major violin concerto. Clement approached Beethoven for a concerto, and this was hurriedly composed over the course of about a month before its premiere in December 1806. According to Beethoven's student Czerny, Beethoven completed it only two days before the concert, and such was the state of the manuscript, with alternatives and over-writings, that, as soloist, Clement had something of a challenge in the first performance. This may account for Beethoven's punning inscription on his manuscript: "Concerto par Clemenza pour Clement".

The resulting concerto is one of Beethoven's most sublime compositions. Perhaps in response to Clement's style of playing, famed for its delicacy and purity, Beethoven refrained from flashy technical feats in favour of simple yet deeply-felt melodies woven into its symphonic structure, and an expressive, improvisatory approach.

The opening is striking: a soft, pulsing rhythm from the timpani alone. This five-note motif is taken up by the orchestra, and contrasts with lyrical writing for the soloist. Tender orchestral colouration features in the meditative second movement, a theme and variations. A short cadenza leads without a break directly into the last movement, with its lively, rustic melody. This theme is heard several times, interspersed with contrasting sections. An extensive coda follows the soloist's cadenza, continuing to develop the main theme and leading to a glorious finale where the solo violin and orchestra alternate.

Beethoven's *Symphony No.3*, or to give its full title, a "Heroic Symphony, to commemorate the memory of a great man", is certainly a work on a heroic scale. The dedication is thought to refer to Napoleon Bonaparte, the hope of many who shared Beethoven's enlightenment ideals for a humanist, egalitarian revolution.

The symphony was written in 1803, and revolution was in the air. In Vienna, the Hapsburg dynasty was under threat from fall-out of the French revolution, as Napoleon led military campaigns over continental Europe. French troops were to occupy Vienna for a period between the premieres of tonight's music.

The symphony expresses intense revolutionary fervour, breaking free of the prevailing expectations of a symphony in multiple ways; in its form, its length, complexity and instrumentation, in its use of keys, harmony, dynamics and dissonance, and in its emotional content.

About halfway through the first movement, the music climaxes with a grindingly dissonant chord played very loudly not just once, but five times, with offbeat accents pushing against the underlying triple metre. It's a startlingly original sound, and a thrilling call for revolution.

The idea of commemoration or remembrance comes to the fore the second movement, with its solemn funeral march, accompanied by military drums.

The witty third movement features three horns, rather than the usual two. With Beethoven, there's often a sense of play and humour, and perhaps playing with the idea of the number '3' in this third symphony was an inspiration for him: it's in the key of Eb major, which has three flats; the first movement is in a fairly unusual triple metre, with a main theme made up of the three notes of a tonic triad.

After an initial flourish, the fourth movement starts rather comically, but we're back to revolution here too. Beethoven re-purposes a theme from his ballet *The Creatures of Prometheus*, and is perhaps alluding to the revolutionary sentiments of Schiller's *Ode to Joy*, where 'beggars become the brothers of princes', as Prometheus gives the sacred fire from Mount Olympus to humankind. There are ten, wide-ranging variations on this Promethean theme, and a suitably heroic ending, with bursts of joy from the three horns.

TONIGHT'S ORCHESTRA

Violin 1

Sarah Brandwood-Spencer
Catherine Yates
Sarah Whittingham
Paula Smart
Luke Coomber
Catherine Studman

Violin 2

Simon Gilks
Rebecca Thompson
Louise Latham
Sue Voss
Libby Sherwood

Viola

Carol Ella
Heather Wallington
Jacq Leighton-Jones
Jayne Coyle

Cello

Jennifer Langridge
Amy Jolly
Mandy Turner
Heather Bills

Double bass

James Manson
Diane Clark

Flute

Conrad Marshall
Nichola Hunter

Oboe

Helen Clinton
Jane Evans

Clarinet

Elizabeth Jordan
Matt Dunn

Bassoon

Ben Hudson
Rachel Whibley

French Horn

Naomi Atherton
Jenny Cox
Alan Tokeley

Trumpet

Peter Mainwaring
David Hooper

Timpani

Tim Williams

UPCOMING CONCERTS

Mozart's Jupiter: Music of the Gods

Saturday 5 November 7.30pm
The King's School in Macclesfield
Jamie Phillips conductor
Elizabeth Jordan clarinet

Christmas Concerts

Friday 9 December, 3.30pm & 7.00pm
Tatton Park, Knutsford

Shostakovich and the music of war

Saturday 17 December 7.30pm
The King's School in Macclesfield
Magnus Johnston director & violin
Guy Johnston cello

www.ncorch.co.uk

0161 247 2220


Bang your own drum



CDL
is a proud
patron
of the

NORTHERN
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

 @cdl_software

 #cdlsoftware

CDL is a fast growing tech company at the leading edge of the insurance sector, and we are looking for new members to join our talented family.

Visit www.careers.cdl.co.uk



CDL
creating powerful partnerships

This concert has been generously supported
by **Bevan and Dr. Barbara Broadbent.**

PATRONS

Professor Alison and Dr Craig Adam | Alison Allcard | Dr Mary Anderson | Bevan and Dr Barbara Broadbent | Caro Brown | Michael and Judith Biggin | Roger Brice | Hilary Brice | Nicola Bright | Ian Edgar | David Ellis | Heather Griffiths | Geoff Holman in memory of Jennie Dr David Kingsley | Drs Chris and Mary Loughran | Alan and Eleanor Lewington | Joan Matthews | Vernon Matthews | Dr Michael Sambrook | Dieter Senn | Adrienne Spilsbury David Sutton | Dr Peter Thomasson | Stephen Threlfall Mike and Ruth Wilbey | Sue Williams

Patron: Stephen Barlow

President: Raphael Wallfisch

Vice-President: Martin Roscoe

Honorary Patrons: The Lord Stunell OBE; The Baroness Bakewell OBE

CHAIR SPONSORS

Angela Losse (supporting Simon Gilks, violin) | **Eleanor Lewington** (supporting Louise Latham, violin) | **Dr Michael Sambrook** (supporting Rebecca Thompson, violin) | **Peter Raynes** (supporting Barbara Grunthal, cello) | Pam McKinley in memory of Ken (supporting James Manson, double bass) | **Dieter Senn** (supporting Conrad Marshall, flute) | **Jane and Wyn Davies** (supporting Nichola Hunter, flute) | **Caro Brown** (supporting Kenny Sturgeon, oboe) | **John Whibley Holidays** (supporting Rachel Whibley, bassoon) | **Dr John Bush** (supporting Tracey Redfern, trumpet) | Michael Dale (viola), Elizabeth Jordan (clarinet) and Daniel Bayley (clarinet) are supported anonymously.

For information about sponsoring a chair or concert, or becoming a Friend or Patron, please visit www.ncorch.co.uk/support

We gratefully acknowledge that our Macclesfield season and associated education programme is additionally supported by The Scops Arts Trust and the Ashley Family Foundation.

Season Sponsors

CDL
creating powerful partnerships



 **Manchester
Metropolitan
University**