YORK YOUTH ORCHESTRA

£ by donation

Programme

Saturday 11th May 2019
Bootham School

York Music Hub

THE RADCLIFFE TRUST

yorkartseducation

Supported using public funding by

Department for Education

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

WELCOME

A very warm welcome to you all to the third concert of this season.
All members are between the ages of 11 and 21 and represent some of the best young musical talent in the area.

We are privileged to be working with top soloist, Paul Feehan, for the Schumann Piano Concerto and are excited to be giving the first performance of ORC by Nick Williams - as part of the orchestra's commitment to commissioning new music.

We are also very grateful to our inspiring conductor, Ben Crick, and the sectional tutors who have been very encouraging to all the young players whilst upholding high, professional expectations.

The York Youth Orchestra is a term-time activity and each termly project is run in six week blocks to help avoid certain times of year such as exam periods as we appreciate the varied demands on young people's time.

In addition to working with top soloists and high quality leadership, the orchestra is also committed to:

- collaborating with other orchestras and ensembles
- commissioning new works and exploring contemporary repertoire
- collaborating with other art forms such as dance and film
- performing in unusual venues

You may notice that some of the players may be a little above the age limit of 21 as, in these early stages of the orchestra, we rely on some adult players to help out whilst we are still in the recruitment process. If there are any young players who would like to join please contact support@yorkartseducation.org.uk or see the website www.yorkartseducation.org.uk for more details.

Thank you for coming and I hope you are inspired by tonight's performance.

Tim Brooks
Orchestral Manager and Director of York Arts Education

BEN CRICK - *CONDUCTOR*

Ben Crick has established a reputation as an innovative and original conductor who is comfortable working with diverse and challenging repertoire; he is a former BBC Music Fellow. In recent years he has conducted concertos with Tasmin Little, Raphael Wallfisch, Peter Donohoe, Nicholas Daniel, Jennifer Pike and Benjamin Frith as well as conducting Handel's Messiah with Dame Emma Kirkby performing the soprano solos.
His orchestral repertoire ranges from Bach to contemporary works with a special interest in music of the British 20th century. He is committed to new music, regularly conducting world premieres, and is also passionate about discovering unknown music from previous centuries.
Alongside freelance conducting engagements with numerous ensembles, he is the Artistic Director of several professional ensembles including Skipton Building Society Camerata. With this group, alongside over one hundred more conventional performances, he has staged operas in pubs, commissioned and performed new works in shopping centres and run a chamber music series which exclusively performs in alternative venues. He is the Musical Director of the English National Philharmonic Orchestra and in this role conducted Lesley Garrett's 2017 national tour.
With a commitment to higher education, Ben is a visiting lecturer at several universities and is a staff conductor at Leeds College of Music. Outside his conducting career he has written for Classical Music Magazine, Opera Now and Early Music Today, been a guest contributor on BBC radio 2 and 3 programmes and arranges music for many societies including the Royal School of Church Music.

PAUL FEEHAN - *SOLOIST*

Paul Feehan was born in Wigan and studied piano initially at Huddersfield University where he received the Peabody Homes Prize for all-round attainment and the Kruzynski Prize for Piano. He went on to study at the Royal Northern College of Music with David Lloyd. Whilst at the RNCM, he passed the Postgraduate Diploma for Advanced Studies in Musical Performance and the Professional Performer's Diploma. Prizes awarded included: the Saville-Holmes Prize for Lieder Accompaniment, the John Ireland Prize for Accompaniment and the R J.Forbes Prize (twice). He participated on numerous occasions in the prestigious Principal's Senior Recital series and was offered a Junior Fellowship.

After leaving the RNCM, Paul continued his studies with Martin Roscoe and Ryzard Bakst. He has performed throughout the country and abroad, (France, Spain, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Ireland) as soloist, accompanist, conductor and concerto soloist. He has accompanied many distinguished soloists including cellists Alexander Baillie, Natalie Clein (BBC & European Young Musician of the Year) and Anna Douglass (winner of the Brass Class at the BBC Young Musician of the Year 2010).

In December 2012, Paul was the recipient of a national composition award, where the judges were John Rutter, Stephen Cleobury (Director of King's College Choir, Cambridge) and David Hurley (of the King's Singers), for his a-cappella SATB composition 'Sir Christèmas'. He has worked regularly with Yorkshire Youth Choir, where his compositions and arrangements are regularly used. In 2014, to commemorate the centenary of the start of World War I, Paul composed a requiem entitled, 'Deeds of Angels', which was very well received.

Last year, Paul performed as accompanist to Maria Marshall, cellist, in the Harrogate International Music Festival and very recently, he has been appointed as Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for Yorkshire Youth Choir. Paul has been Director of Music at Bootham School in York since 2001.

Programme

ORC - Nick Williams (world premiere)

Piano Concerto in A Minor - Schumann

Soloist - Paul Feehan

I Allegro affettuoso
II Intermezzo: Andantino grazioso
III Allegro vivace

INTERVAL of 20 MINUTES

Enigma Variations - Elgar

Theme (Enigma:Andante)
Variation I (L'istesso tempo) "C.A.E."
Variation II (Allegro) "H.D.S-P."
Variation III (Allegretto) "R.B.T."
Variation IV (Allegro di molto) "W.M.B."
Variation V (Moderato) "R.P.A."
Variation VI (Andantino) "Ysobel"
Variation VII (Presto) "Troyte"
Variation VIII (Allegretto) "W.N."
Variation IX (Adagio) "Nimrod"
Variation X (Intermezzo:Allegretto) "Dorabella"
Variation XI (Allegro di molto) "G.R.S."
Variation XII (Andante) "B.G.N."
*Variation XIII (Romanza:Moderato) "***"*
Variation XIV (Finale:Allegro) "E.D.U."

VIOLIN 1
Marcus Bousfield (tutor)
Alex Callaghan
Annie Gee
Amy Greener
Lilly Ho
Oscar March
Johan-Christen Seeliger
Yilin Xu

VIOLIN 2
Hannah Crawford
Klara Gatt
Ella Hodgson-Laws
Edward Hughes
Nerina Onion
Benedict Schofield
Aisha Tribak

VIOLA
Imogen Clarke
Mary Luker
Eleanor March
Yiyang Xu

CELLO
Anton March
Zac Stewart

DOUBLE BASS
Christian Topman (tutor)
Isaac Burland
Laura Fox
Georg Ruschemeyer

FLUTE
Maeve Reeve-Smith
Emma Ward

OBOE
Jill Garside (tutor)
Josie Osborne

CLARINET
Lesley Schatzberger (tutor)
Emily Connor
Emily Gibbons
Hannah Walton-Hughes

BASSOON
David Johnson
Chris Thorp

HORN
Joshua Burland
Dan Edwards
Ollie Nash
Adam Soden

TRUMPET
Connor Mclean (tutor)
Tiffany Birch
Manon Hollingworth
Emily Hope

TROMBONE
Nick Garside
Amy Long
John Tuffen

TIMPANI
Robert Carr

PERCUSSION
Tim Brooks

ORC (2019) – NICK WILLIAMS

Over the years I have written a number of works dealing with the visionary poet, engraver and artist William Blake; ORC is the latest. Unlike Tolkien's humanoid monsters, Blake's Orc is a positive figure, representing energy and rebellion, and stands opposed to Urizen, the embodiment of cruel authority and tyrannical tradition. At one point in the story of Orc, he is chained to a rock (shades of Prometheus) with the Chains of Jealousy by his father Los; in the same way my piece seems to be in constant struggle against its own constraints.

The fact that 'Orc' is also the first three letters of 'orchestra' is a total coincidence…

ORC was written for the York Youth Orchestra with funds provided by York Arts Education and the Radcliffe Trust.

Nick Williams is a composer, lecturer and conductor based in Leeds, and has a long association with York. His music has been performed and broadcast throughout Europe, North America and Canada by leading ensembles and soloists. Until recently he was head of composition at the University of West London.

PIANO CONCERTO in A MINOR - SCHUMANN

During the 1820's and 30's, Schumann toyed with ideas for 3 different piano concertos although none of these were ever finished. In 1841 he wrote a one movement Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra which his pianist wife, Clara, suggested he expand into a full length piano concerto. In 1845 Schumann added 2 more movements and this 3-movement work was given its premier in Dresden on December 4th 1845 with Clara as the soloist. Schumman immortalised his wife in the main theme of the 1st movement which starts with the notes C - H(B) - A - A (the Italian spelling of her name - CHiArA). The concerto was very well received and, after the premiere, Clara wrote "... how rich in invention, how interesting from the beginning to the end, how fresh and what a beautiful coherent whole!"

ENIGMA VARIATIONS - ELGAR

Edward Elgar composed his Variations on an Original Theme, popularly known as the Enigma Variations, between October 1898 and February 1899.
Elgar dedicated the work "to my friends pictured within", each variation being a musical sketch of one of his circle of close acquaintances, including Elgar's wife Alice, his friend and publisher Augustus J. Jaeger and Elgar himself. In a programme note for a performance in 1911 Elgar wrote:

"This work.....contains sketches of the composer's friends. It may be understood that these personages comment or reflect on the original theme & each one attempts a solution of the Enigma, for so the theme is called. The sketches are not 'portraits' but each variation contains a distinct idea founded on some particular personality or perhaps on some incident known only to two people."

After its 1899 London premiere the Variations achieved immediate popularity and established Elgar's international reputation.

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yorkartseducation

York St John University

York Music Hub

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As the orchestra is becoming more fully established, we are looking for further sponsorship to ensure its longer term future. If anyone feels able to support this high quality opportunity for our most talented young musicians, please contact:

Tim Brooks – orchestral manager and director of York Arts Education CIC.

Email: *tim.brooks@yorkartseducation.org.uk* Tel: 01904 293245