

TOGETHER WE ARE

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL



PHILHARMONIA
ORCHESTRA
RESIDENCY

2024

**WE ARE
EDINBURGH
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL**

The original festival. We're the one that started it all, the igniting spark that established Edinburgh as the world's Festival City.

Founded in 1947, the International Festival was the inspired idea of Rudolf Bing, a cultural pioneer and Jewish refugee, working with a group of civic and artistic leaders. Together, they created a festival that transcends political boundaries through a global celebration of the performing arts.

Every August, our hand-picked programme of world-leading dance, opera, music and theatre brings people of different cultures and viewpoints together. Shining far beyond what you see on stage, we offer year-round pathways for people of all ages and backgrounds to discover and participate in live performance. Learn more at eif.co.uk/about

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

PUBLIC FUNDERS



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



SUPPORTING PARTNER



PRINCIPAL SUPPORTERS

- Dunard Fund
- James and Morag Anderson
- Sir Ewan and Lady Brown
- Edinburgh International Festival Endowment Fund
- Pirie Rankin EIF Fund
- Léan Scully EIF Fund
- Anonymous Supporters

Scan the QR code for a complete list of Edinburgh International Festival 2024 supporters:



Santtu-Matias Rouvali © Mark Allan

**TOGETHER WE ARE
EDINBURGH
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL**



**PHILHARMONIA
ORCHESTRA
RESIDENCY**

21-25 Aug
USHER HALL

WELCOME TO EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Our 2023 Festival was unified by a central provocation, asking of artists and audiences alike: 'Where do we go from here?'

One audience member told me: 'The answer is community. You must bring us deeper into that.' His response resonated with the thousands who had also replied with the necessity for unity.

This year's theme speaks to the importance of collective experiences to bind us closer together.

Although we come to the International Festival as individuals, couples, groups and families: by simply showing up, we join an extended fellowship of strangers. Together, we gather, we listen, we seek. We evolve.

By elevating our collective ritual experience, we create an intensified sense of shared space, time and emotion, with room for celebration and contemplation.

During this performance, we invite you to join in communion with the artists on stage and your fellow audience members. With an open heart and mind, play your part in the Rituals That Unite Us.

Nicola Benedetti

Festival Director
Edinburgh International Festival

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA RESIDENCY

One of the world's most innovative orchestras comes to us with four monumental contrasting works. The Philharmonia Orchestra bring evocative tales of community tragedy, life and death — illuminating the power of our Festival's core art forms.



Philharmonia Orchestra © Camilla Greenwell

FIRE IN MY MOUTH

The UK premiere of a multimedia impassioned elegy for the victims of New York's 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire.

Philharmonia Orchestra
Julia Wolfe Composer
Marin Alsop Conductor

Anne Kauffman Director
Jeff Sugg Scenic, Lighting, and Video Designer
Márion Talán Costume Designer
Kenny Savelson Executive Producer
Asher Lloyd Ehrenberg Associate Director
Bang on a Can Producer

National Youth Choir of Scotland
Christopher Bell Chorus Director

Julia Wolfe Fire in my mouth

1. Immigration
2. Factory
3. Protest
4. Fire

© Red Poppy Music /
Universal Music Corp. (ASCAP)
By arrangement with
G. Ricordi & Co. (London) Ltd.

To see full credits for all of these performances, visit the event page on our website.

Fire in my mouth © Caitlin Ochs



21 Aug 8pm

USHER HALL

This performance lasts approx. 1 hour with no interval.

Sung in English with surtitles.

VERDI'S REQUIEM

The Edinburgh Festival Chorus come together with the Philharmonia Orchestra for Giuseppe Verdi's powerful setting of the Catholic funeral mass.

Philharmonia Orchestra
Santtu-Matias Rouvali Conductor

Edinburgh Festival Chorus
James Grossmith Chorus Director

Masabane Cecilia Rangwanasha Soprano
Jennifer Johnston Mezzo soprano
René Barbera Tenor
Tareq Nazmi Bass

Verdi Messa da Requiem

24 Aug 8pm

USHER HALL

This performance lasts approx. 1 hour 30 minutes with no interval.

Sung in Latin with English surtitles.

Supported by
Edinburgh International Festival Endowment Fund

FAMILY CONCERT

In collaboration with the Philharmonia, Festival Director Nicola Benedetti is the solo violinist in this family-friendly performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams's masterpiece alongside beloved classics.

Philharmonia Orchestra
Matthew Lynch Conductor

Nicola Benedetti Violin
Lucy Drever Presenter

Vaughan Williams The Lark Ascending
Saint-Saëns Carnival of the Animals (Selection)

- I. Introduction
- IV. Tortoise
- V. Elephant
- VII. Aquarium
- IX. Cuckoo
- X. Aviary
- XII. Fossils
- XIII. Swan
- XIV. Finale

Rimsky-Korsakov Flight of the Bumblebee

25 Aug 3pm

USHER HALL

This performance lasts approx. 50 minutes with no interval.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Philharmonia Orchestra has produced scores for over 100 films, including three Charles Dickens adaptations: *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby* (1946), *Oliver Twist* (1948) and *Great Expectations* (2012).

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Founded in 1945, the Philharmonia Orchestra is one of the world's leading symphony orchestras. Resident at the Royal Festival Hall in the heart of London, the orchestra also tours the globe, from Tokyo to New York, Vienna to São Paulo. Since its inception, the Philharmonia has been committed to innovation, embracing emerging technologies — from the LP in the 1940s to VR and AR today — to bring musical experiences of the highest quality to a worldwide audience.

SANTTU-MATIAS ROUVALI

Santtu-Matias Rouvali first conducted the Philharmonia in 2013, aged 27, before taking on the baton as Principal Conductor in September 2021. He is just the sixth person to hold that title since the orchestra was founded in 1945. Since his appointment, Rouvali has conducted a wide range of music with the Philharmonia, from blockbusters by Richard Strauss and Sergei Rachmaninoff to lesser-known works by his compatriots Jean Sibelius and Magnus Lindberg.

A separate freesheet will be available at Usher Hall for the final performance in the Philharmonia Orchestra's residency: *Capriccio*, on Aug 25.

HOME TO
OUR RESIDENT
ORCHESTRAS
AND BEANBAG
CONCERTS



A landmark venue in the heart of the Scottish capital, the Usher Hall is one of the most outstanding concert halls in the world, well loved by performers for its superb acoustics. The Hall presents a wide range of music and events, including orchestral, rock, pop, jazz, world, blues, comedy, talks, school concerts, conferences, sponsorship events, ceremonies, lectures and recording sessions. For more, visit usherhall.co.uk