

Music Director: Brian Wright

2023-2024 CONCERTS

Five exciting orchestral concerts at
Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre
Maidstone ME15 7RN

Ticket
Prices Held



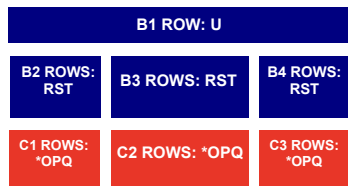
MSO at Mote Hall
November 2022

‘A moving, joyous account of Beethoven’s glorious *Symphony No.7*...
The *Finale* was played with as much *brio* and slick *panache* as I’ve heard
it played anywhere’ - Susan Elkin / Lark Reviews (February 2023)

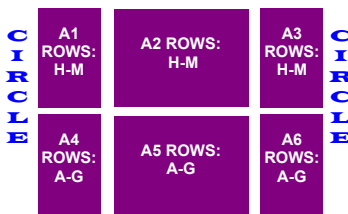
Buy Tickets

| AREA | A  | B  | C  |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| SEASON | £120 | £100 | £60 |
| 1 CONCERT | £30 | £25 | £15 |

**2023-24 SEASON TICKET OFFER
FOR REPEAT SUBSCRIBERS
- 5 CONCERTS FOR THE PRICE OF 4 -
† FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS ONLY
- HALF THE NORMAL SEASON TICKET PRICE -**



GALLERY



STALLS



Season Tickets:
by post (booking form on inside back cover)
via mso.org.uk or
07817 429143

Season Tickets are fully transferable

† A New Subscriber is anyone who has not been a season ticket holder in any of our last three seasons

Single concert tickets are available from 1st August 2023

18s & under FREE! Students (with student card) £5

* Restricted view OPQ

Single Concerts:
on the door or reserve
on **07817 429143**
for payment on the door
(cash, cheque & card)

Advance Concert Bookings by Card:
mso.ticketsource.co.uk
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(booking fees apply)

Wheelchairs can be accommodated in certain areas of the hall

Refreshments are normally available at the foyer bar

Free Parking



*promoting
Maidstone
Symphony
Orchestra*

Music Director & Conductor: Brian Wright
President: John Lill CBE Chairman: Peter Colman
MOS is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Charity No. 1163384

mso.org.uk



Maidstone Orchestral Society cannot accept responsibility for alterations to the programmes caused by circumstances beyond its control

Brian Wright *conductor*



Saturday 14 October 2023

Maxim Calver
cello

Smetana - Overture, The Bartered Bride
Shostakovich - Cello Concerto No.1
Brahms - Symphony No.1



Saturday 2 December 2023

Benjamin Baker
violin

Holst - The Perfect Fool
Coleridge-Taylor - Violin Concerto
Vaughan Williams - The Lark Ascending
Elgar - Falstaff

Ticket
Prices Held

Season Tickets: £60, £100, £120

Single Concerts: £15, £25, £30

Students £5, 18s & under FREE!

07817 429143 or on the door

Advance Concert Bookings by Card (booking fees apply): mso.ticketsource.co.uk 0333 666 3366

Steve Migden presents Free Pre-Concert Talks
before each concert from 6.40-7.10pm

113th SEASON 2023-24

Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre
Maidstone ME15 7RN at 7.30pm



Saturday 3 February 2024

Mathilde Milwidsky
violin

Wagner - Overture, Die Meistersinger
Sibelius - Violin Concerto
Rimsky-Korsakov - Scheherazade



Saturday 23 March 2024

Iyad Sughayer
piano

Mendelssohn - Overture, The Fair Melusine
Beethoven - Piano Concerto No.3
Schubert - Symphony No.9 "Great"



Saturday 18 May 2024

Jonathan Leibovitz
clarinet

Philip Le Bas - Yuki-Onna
Mozart - Clarinet Concerto
Debussy - Clarinet Rhapsody No.1
Bartok - Concerto for Orchestra

Music Director Brian Wright introduces the season:



We've a particularly fine set of concerts for you this season, featuring some of our favourite young international soloists. Cellist Maxim Calver plays Shostakovich's brilliant *1st Cello Concerto*, while master violinist Benjamin Baker, returning for a fifth time to MSO, brings Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's increasingly popular *Violin Concerto* along with Vaughan Williams' iconic *The Lark Ascending*. Mathilde Milwidsky, who impressed so much last season as a last-minute substitute, returns to play Sibelius's exciting *Violin Concerto*. And there are also MSO debuts for acclaimed Jordanian-Palestinian pianist Iyad Sughayer in Beethoven's mighty *3rd Piano Concerto*, and a superb Israeli clarinetist Jonathan Leibovitz in both Mozart and Debussy.

MSO will be kept on their toes with classic symphonies by Brahms and Schubert, the ultimate romanticism of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, great English works by Holst and Elgar, and Bartok's spectacular *Concerto for Orchestra*.

There are also delightful overtures by Smetana, Wagner and Mendelssohn and, I'm very pleased to say, a contemporary piece composed by our principal bassoonist, Philip Le Bas, his *Yuki-Onna* ("Snow-Woman" - an orchestral ghost story).

Saturday
14 October 2023

Maxim Calver
cello

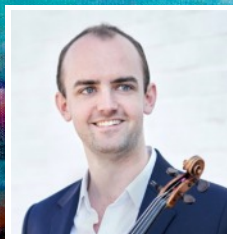


Smetana - Overture, *The Bartered Bride*
Shostakovich - Cello Concerto No. 1
Brahms - Symphony No. 1

This is the third visit to MSO by the outstanding young British cellist Maxim Calver. He plays the exciting *1st Cello Concerto* by Shostakovich, one of the summits of the cello repertoire both emotionally and technically. Either side are Smetana's brilliant *Overture, The Bartered Bride* and the great *1st Symphony* by Brahms. Overwhelmed by the legacy of Beethoven's nine symphonies, it took Brahms half a lifetime to compose one of his own. Magnificently constructed, Brahms eloquently combines elements of classicism and romanticism.

**Saturday
2 December 2023**

**Benjamin Baker
violin**

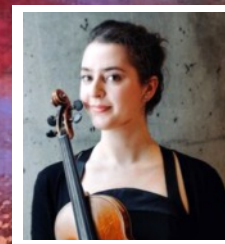


**Holst - The Perfect Fool
Coleridge-Taylor - Violin Concerto
Vaughan Williams - The Lark Ascending
Elgar - Falstaff**

A splendid concert of English music! One of our favourite violinists, New Zealander Benjamin Baker, on his fifth visit to MSO, plays both Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's passionately late-romantic *Violin Concerto* and Vaughan Williams' much-loved *The Lark Ascending*. To start we've a delightful suite of ballet music from Gustav Holst's opera *The Perfect Fool*. And to finish there's Elgar's superbly crafted "symphonic portrait" of Shakespeare's *Falstaff*. Elgar said he particularly enjoyed writing it, calling *Falstaff* "one of my best works".

**Saturday
3 February 2024**

**Mathilde Milwidsky
violin**

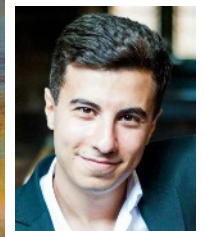


**Wagner - Overture, Die Meistersinger
Sibelius - Violin Concerto
Rimsky-Korsakov - Scheherazade**

Late-romanticism leaps to the fore in this highly entertaining concert. Wagner's magnificent *Overture* from his opera *Die Meistersinger* paves the way for Sibelius' powerful *Violin Concerto*. There's an instant return for the young British violinist Mathilde Milwidsky, who made such a tremendous impression at her MSO debut in 2022. Rimsky-Korsakov's *Sheherazade* is rightly popular. Gloriously orchestrated, Rimsky paints a series of wonderfully vivid musical pictures based on the famous collection of tales from the "thousand and one" Arabian Nights.

Saturday
23 March 2024

Iyad Sughayer
piano

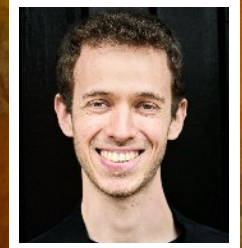


Mendelssohn - Overture, *The Fair Melusine*
Beethoven - Piano Concerto No.3
Schubert - Symphony No.9 "Great"

This concert brings us musical classicism at the cusp of the Romantic Era. Our soloist is the multi-prizewinning Jordanian-Palestinian pianist Iyad Sughayer playing the emotionally diverse passions of Beethoven's *3rd Piano Concerto*. Mendelssohn's neglected but nevertheless delightful *Overture, The Fair Melusine* sets the scene. Schubert's much-loved "Great C major" *Symphony* then crowns it. Sadly, it had to wait ten years after his early death before its premiere, conducted by Mendelssohn.

Saturday
18 May 2024

Jonathan Leibovitz
clarinet



Philip Le Bas - *Yuki-Onna*
Mozart - *Clarinet Concerto*
Debussy - *Clarinet Rhapsody No.1*
Bartok - *Concerto for Orchestra*

We end our season with Bartok's *Concerto for Orchestra*. Written in 1943 to show off the brilliance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, it was an instant success and has retained its popularity ever since. Our soloist in both Mozart's evergreen *Clarinet Concerto* and Debussy's *1st Clarinet Rhapsody* is the award-winning Israeli clarinetist Jonathan Leibovitz. To begin, we've a fine home-grown contemporary piece, *Yuki-Onna*, based on Japanese folklore, written by our much-admired principal bassoonist, Philip Le Bas.

2023-24 Season Ticket (MOS Membership) Booking Form

1. CURRENT SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

a) I wish to renew my membership and have the same seats, if possible, (numbers _____) as for the 2022-23 season

_____ seats @ £ _____ = £ _____

b) I wish to renew my membership, but change my seats to area _____ on the seating plan

_____ seats @ £ _____ = £ _____

2. NEW SEASON TICKETS: "HALF PRICE" OFFER

I wish to become a member and book the best available seats in area _____ on the seating plan

_____ seats @ £ _____ **LESS 50%** = £ _____

3. 18s & under FREE! (Number) _____

4. GIFT AID DONATIONS

I am a UK taxpayer and confirm that I pay Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the amount that Maidstone Orchestral Society may retain. I wish to make the following donation and agree to Gift Aid being claimed.

£ _____

Sign here _____

5. PAYMENT

Total payment £ _____

Please return this completed form and your cheque, payable to Maidstone Orchestral Society, together with a stamped, addressed envelope to:

MOS Membership Secretary
Nicci Whitaker
Sunbeams
Bayview Road
Whitstable
Kent CT5 4NP

For BACS payment details email tickets@mso.org.uk

TITLE _____ SURNAME _____ INITIALS _____

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Important / Data Protection Act: MOS would like to send you information about our future events. If you would like to receive this information, **please tick here** () to give us permission to use your subscription contact details for this purpose. To withdraw your consent at anytime, please email tickets@mso.org.uk

The Orchestra:

Under the direction of its acclaimed and popular conductor, Brian Wright, Maidstone Symphony Orchestra is regarded as one of the UK's finest "community" orchestras. It was formed in 1910 as Maidstone Orchestral Society, still the title of the concert promoting organisation. Today MSO is a superbly well-balanced mix of local professionals and ex-professionals, music teachers and excellent amateur players who come together regularly on a voluntary basis to perform concerts of a professional standard. This entails great commitment by the players, many of whom travel from all over Kent, and beyond, to attend MSO's weekly Thursday evening rehearsals.



Sheku Kanneh-Mason playing his first ever performance of Elgar's Cello Concerto with MSO in 2018

The Audience:

Join the Club! Season Ticket holders become Members of Maidstone Orchestral Society, with full voting rights at the AGM. The MOS organising committee includes both player and audience members.

The Friends:

The Friends of Maidstone Orchestral Society are the orchestra's financial lifeline. Please join them for a modest annual subscription and pledge your extra support to MSO. For further information email secretary@mso.org.uk

*If you would like to know more about MSO
visit mso.org.uk or email secretary@mso.org.uk*

The background cover images are audio spectrograms of the sound of a violin.
The concert page images are by the Japanese artist, Rikka Ayasaki.