



Bristol Metropolitan Orchestra

Players' Information

2024-2025 Season



BRISTOL
METROPOLITAN
ORCHESTRA

Draft 1 | August 2024



Rehearsal Dates for 2024-2025

Autumn 24	Spring 25	Summer 25
3rd Sep (1)	7th Jan (1)	1st Apr (1)
10th Sep (2)	14th Jan (2)	EASTER BREAK - NO REHEARSALS
17th Sep (3)	21st Jan (3)	22nd Apr (2)
24th Sep (4)	28th Jan (4)	29th Apr (3)
1st Oct (5) [+ 4/5 Oct for B Project]	4th Feb (5)	6th May (4)
8th Oct (6)	11th Feb (6)	13th May (5)
15th Oct (7)	HALF TERM NO REHEARSAL (18th Feb)	20th May (6)
22nd Oct (8)	25th Feb (7)	HALF TERM NO REHEARSAL (27th May)
HALF TERM NO REHEARSAL (29th Oct)	4th Mar (8)	3rd Jun (7)
5th Nov (9)	11th Mar (9)	10th Jun (8)
12th Nov (10)	18th Mar (10)	17th Jun (9) TBC or extra rehearsal
Sat 16 Nov @ St George's	Sat 22 Mar @ St George's	Sat 14 or 21 TBC June @ Clifton Cathedral
26th Nov - Christmas Party, General Meeting, Play & Social		24 Jun - Summer Social

'Beethoven Concerto-thon' Project: Autumn 2024

This event is a St George's fund-raising project towards a stage extension that will support the weight of a grand piano (so that Romantic piano concertos can be regularly performed in future). Community orchestras of Bristol are all joining forces in a day event to raise several thousand pounds towards this cost. The event is organised by St George's. BMet have been allocated **Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto in C minor**, an absolute masterwork with local young soloist, Henry Lewis. The rehearsals will mostly be tied in with the usual autumn term rehearsals.

N.B. Sadly, not all of the orchestra can take part in this event due to space on the main stage (no stage extension and there's a Steinway to fit on), so this will be reduced forces.

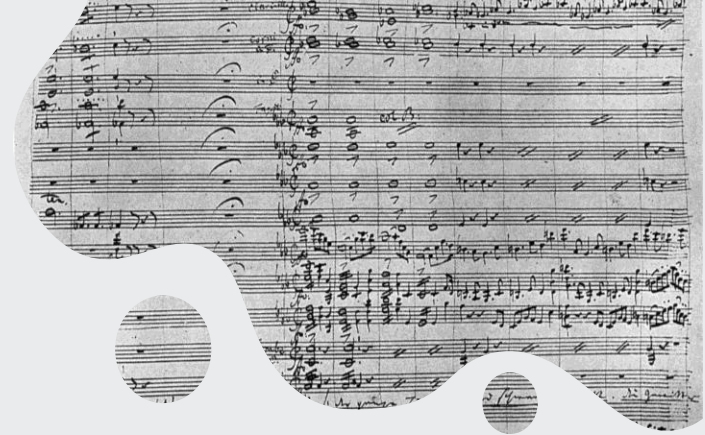
Date	Details	Notes
3rd Sep (1)	Beethoven Run and Tuttis	9.15-9.45pm
10th Sep (2)	Run Movement I & Beethoven Movement II rehearse	9.15-9.55pm
17th Sep (3)	<i>Sectional Week (No/not much Beethoven)</i>	<i>No Beethoven Tutti</i>
24th Sep (4)	Beethoven Movement III & Movement I Rehearse	9.15-9.55pm
Fri 4th Oct (5b) @ Redmaids (R Hall)	7.30-9pm Final Run and Pointers of Beethoven (with Soloist: Henry Lewis)	7.30-9pm
Sat 5th Oct @ St George's	ca. 2.40-3pm: Seating & Top and tail 3.30-4.10pm Performance	



Autumn 2024

'Inspired by Folk'

(Modality from the East)
@ St George's



Repertoire

Alexander Borodin: Polovtsian Dances

Lili Boulanger: D'un matin de printemps

Antonín Dvořák: Noonday Witch

Interval

Béla Bartók: Concerto for Orchestra

[Electronic Parts](#)

Useful Recordings

[\[Entire Season:
Playlist\]](#)



Rehearsal Plan | Autumn 2024

Date	Details	Notes	Tea Duty
3rd Sep (1)	Bartok Mov II, Mov IV, Mov V Run Dvorak, 9.15-9.45pm Beethoven Run and Tuttis	Lower Brass required. Timpani welcome. N.B. 9.15pm Finish for those not in Beethoven	Brass, (Perc) and Basses
10th Sep (2)	Bartok Mov I, Mov V Bartok Mov III, Mov II 9.15-9.55pm Run Mov I & Beethoven Mov II rehearse	<i>(Lower Brass welcome. Timpani welcome)</i> N.B. 9.15pm Finish for those not in Beethoven	Violas
17th Sep (3)	SECTIONALS Focus on Bartok	Woodwind & Brass practice week, Horn 1-4 @ Justin's, Violin I with Lynne, Violin II with Anne @ Redland Church Hall & Side Room, Violas with Maria @ David's, Cellos with Becca @ Bron's	1st Violins
24th Sep (4)	Borodin, Bartok Mov I Bartok Mov V 9.15-10pm Beethoven Movement III & Movement I Rehearse	<i>Lower Brass welcome. Timpani welcome.</i> N.B. 9.15pm Finish for those not in Beethoven	Cellos
1st Oct (5a)	Boulanger, Dvorak Bartok Mov IV & V	<i>Lower Brass welcome. Timpani welcome.</i>	Woodwind
4th Oct (5b) Beethoven	7.30pm Final Run of Beethoven PC with Henry Lewis	4th Oct Beethoven Concerto-thon players only @ Redmaids	
8th Oct (6)	SECTIONALS	Woodwind with Tim and All Brass with Eiron Bailey, both @ QEH. Violin I with Lynne, Violin II with Anne @ Redland Church Hall + Side Rooms, Cellos with Becca @ Billy's.	2nd Violins
15th Oct (7)	Borodin, Boulanger Bartok Mov II Run, Mov I, String Sectional (III & V)	No heavy brass or timps required. Early finish for winds and horns.	Violas
22nd Oct (8)	Dvorak & Bartok Mov I Bartok Mov II, Mov V , Run Boulanger	Lower Brass required, Timpani welcome. N.B. Rehearsal until 9.55pm	Brass, (Perc) and Basses
29th Oct	HALF TERM – Practice!		
5th Nov (9)	Boulanger, Borodin Bartok Mov II, Mov IV, Mov III	Lower Brass required, Timpani welcome.	1st Violins
12th Nov (10)	Dvorak, Bartok Mov I Bartok Mov II, III, IV, V	Lower Brass required, Timpani welcome. N.B. Rehearsal until 9.55pm	2nd Violins
Sat 16 Nov	Concert Day @ St George's, Brandon Hill 1.40pm Seating (rehearsal order: Dvorak, Boulanger, Borodin, Bartok) 7.30pm Concert	1.50-4.45pm Rehearsal 7.30-9.30pm Concert	
26 Nov	Christmas Party & General Meeting (Play/Sing some Christmas repertoire and bring an item for a buffet)		

Spring 2025 'Land of the Free'

(From Blues to the Wild West of USA)
@ St George's

Repertoire

John Williams: Cowboys Overture

Florence Price: Adoration

Leonard Bernstein: West Side Story Symphonic Dance

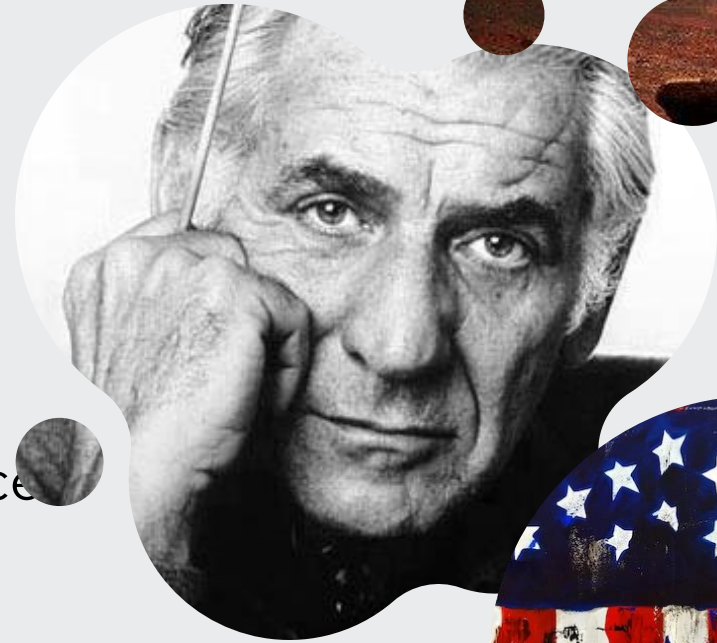
Interval

Aaron Copland: *Buckaroo Holiday* from Rodeo

Frederick Delius: *La Calinda* from Koanga

William Grant Still: Symphony No 1 "Afro-American"

[Encore: Elmer Bernstein: *Magnificent 7*]



[Electronic Parts](#)

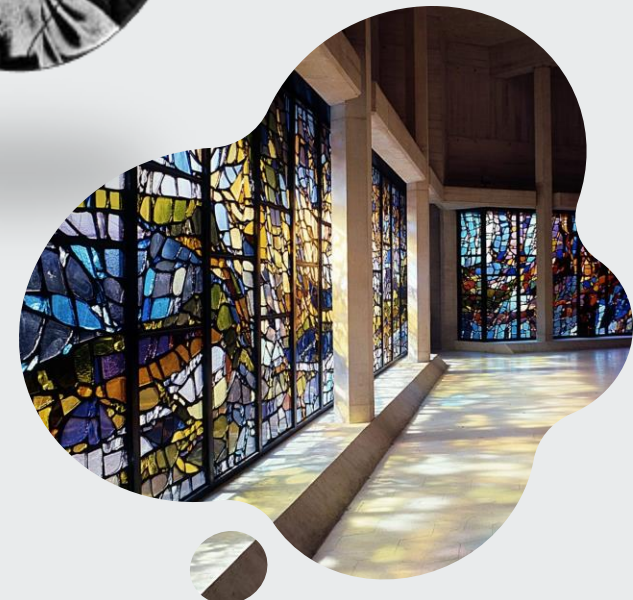
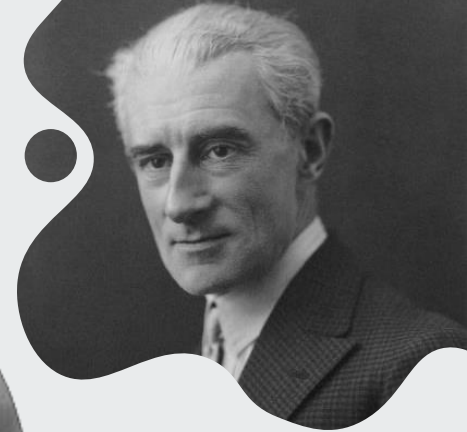
[Useful Recordings](#)

[\[Entire Season:
Playlist\]](#)



Rehearsal Plan | Spring 2025

Date	Details	Notes	Tea Duty
7th Jan (1)	Bernstein , Still Mov III Copland, Still Mov IV, Still Mov I	Trombones required; Timpani welcome.	Brass, (Perc) and Basses
14th Jan (2)	Bernstein, Copland John Williams , Still IV, Still Mov II	Trombones required; Timpani welcome.	Woodwind
21st Jan (3)	SECTIONALS	Winds and all Brass with Tim and Eiron Bailey @ QEH, M1 & M3. Violins with Lynne @ Redland Church Hall, Violas with Maria @ David's, Cellos with Becca @ Billy's.	1st Violins
28th Jan (4)	Copland Run Delius Still Mov I, Bernstein, Price	No heavy brass or timps required. Early finish for woodwind and horns.	2nd Violins
4th Feb (5)	Still Mov IV, Bernstein (smaller orchestrations) Still Mov I & II, Copland, Delius	<i>Trombones welcome. Timpani welcome.</i>	Violas
11th Feb (6)	Magnificent 7, Bernstein, John Williams Still Mov I, Still Mov III & IV	Trombones required; Timpani welcome.	Cellos
18th Feb	HALF TERM		
25th Feb (7)	John Williams & Copland Delius , Still Mov II, Price	<i>Trombones welcome. Timpani welcome.</i>	2nd Violins
4th Mar (8)	Still Mov IV , Copland, Magnificent 7 Still Mov I , Delius, Still Mov II	<i>Trombones welcome. Timpani welcome.</i>	1st Violins
11th Mar (8)	Bernstein, Price Delius (Run), Still Mov II & III , John Williams	<i>Trombones welcome. Timpani welcome.</i>	Woodwind
18th Mar (9)	John Williams (Run), Still (Run + Pointers) Copland (Run), Delius (Run), Bernstein (Run and Pointers)	Trombones required; Timpani welcome.	Brass (Perc) and Basses
Sat 22 Mar	Concert Day @ St George's, Brandon Hill 1.20pm Seating (rehearsal order: Price, John Williams, Bernstein, Copland, Delius, Still) 7.00pm Concert	1.30-4.15pm Rehearsal 7.00-9.00pm Concert	



Summer 2025 Romantic Gems (German Masterworks) @ Clifton Cathedral

Repertoire

Wagner: Die Meistersinger Prelude

Ravel: Pavane pour une infante défunte

Strauss: Four Last Songs

Interval

Brahms: Symphony No 3

[Encore: Brahms: Hungarian Dance No 5]

[Electronic Parts](#)

[Useful Recordings](#)

[\[Entire Season:
Playlist\]](#)



Rehearsal Plan | Summer 2025

Date	Details	Notes	Tea Duty
1st Apr (1)	Brahms All, focus on Movement I and IV, Run Wagner & Ravel	Trombones required (early finish)	Woodwind
8th + 15th	EASTER – Practice!		
22nd Apr (2)	Brahms Mov I Wagner, Strauss (III & IV)	Trombones required	Violin II
29th Apr (3)	Ravel, Strauss (focus on I & II) Brahms Mov II, Mov III	No trombones and timps required	Cellos
6th May (4)	SECTIONALS Focus on Brahms & Strauss	Woodwind with Tim @ QEH, M1. Violins with Lynne @ Redland Church Hall, Violas with Maria @ David's, Cellos with Becca @ Billy's.	Violin I
13th May (5)	Brahms Mov I, Mov IV Strauss I & II, Wagner , Brahms Mov II	No trombones and timps required	Violas
20th May (6)	Brahms Mov IV , Run Ravel Strauss Run (focus on III & IV), Run Brahms Mov I, III	Trombones required. <i>Timpani welcome.</i>	Brass
27th May	HALF TERM – Practice!		
3rd Jun (7)	Wagner , Brahms Mov I Brahms Mov II & III , Ravel	Trombones required. (early finish). <i>Timpani welcome.</i>	Cellos
10th Jun (8)	Brahms Mov I & IV , Run Mov II Wagner (Run) and Strauss	Trombones required. <i>Timpani welcome.</i> N.B. Rehearsal until 9.55pm	Violin I
17th Jun? (9)	TBC Dependent on concert date	if 14 June concert – there'll be an extra rehearsal to make into 9 rehearsals (perhaps Fri 13 Jun) TBC	Violas
Sat 14/21st June	Concert Day @ Clifton Cathedral 1.40pm Seating (rehearsal order: Ravel, Brahms Wagner, Strauss) 7.30pm Concert	2.00-4.30pm Rehearsal 7.30-9.30pm Concert	
24th June	Summer Playthrough (Repertoire for fun – please suggest suitable works you'd like to try out) and social evening		Wine!

This season...

Bartók's *Concerto for Orchestra* is arguably one of the greatest achievements of the twentieth century. It draws from a vast array of traditional musical inspirations, with orchestration that vividly captures diverse styles and colours. True to its title as a 'concerto' (grosso) for orchestra rather than a 'symphony,' it offers a balanced distribution of melodies, presenting significant challenges for all and an exhilarating experience. The rest of the programme is equally captivating, highlighting the striking rhythms of Eastern Europe.

The Spring term shifts focus to the USA, drawing from its traditional musical heritage. This lively and accessible programme, featuring works by John Williams, Copland, and Bernstein, promises to be a crowd-pleaser, with the potential to fill St George's. While William Grant Still and Florence Price may be less familiar, their stunning compositions are sure to win your hearts, leaving melodies that will stay with you forever.

In the Summer term, we return to Clifton Cathedral for the 'Clifton International Festival of Music,' where we performed in 2023. Strauss's *Four Last Songs* is a firm favorite, especially among vocal music enthusiasts, who make up a large portion of the festival audience. The other German masterpieces, along with Ravel, whose anniversary we acknowledge, have not been performed by the Metropolitan Orchestra in many years. Brahms' *Third Symphony* is a brilliant work, showcasing the finest of his writing, and offers a chance for us to revel in the rich, open sonorities which the cathedral space enhances.





Future Dates

Concert Dates for following seasons

Autumn 2025: Saturday 22 November

Spring 2026: Sunday 29 March

Summer 2026: Date TBC

Autumn 2026: Saturday 21 November

Please let us know ideas you have for repertoire for future seasons.



Rehearsals

Venue

Redland Church Hall, Redland Green
Road Bristol BS6 7HE

Day and Time

Tuesdays 7.30-9.45pm

(where possible, aiming to end at 9.30)

Drinks and a biscuit available in the
break - please bring change!

Further Information

- More detail is provided in the membership form. Please ensure you have read & completed this - [Click here](#).
- Subs are £50 a term. Please pay at the beginning of the term (and make sure you have signed the Gift Aid form). Please speak to Chris C (violinist & trustee) if you have extenuating circumstances.
- Please contact your section principal if you are unable to attend a rehearsal. It is expected that you attend at least 8 rehearsals a term. If this isn't possible, please highlight this as early as possible.
- Please sign out music, look after and return on concert day. Tegan (cellist) is our librarian.
- Our concert venues are:
St George's, Brandon Hill, Great George St, Bristol BS1 5RR (Autumn & Spring) &
Clifton Cathedral, Clifton Park, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3BX (Summer)



Communication

Details of key people to communicate with:

Name	Role	Contact
Sally	Email Communications and Trustee	sbarrow@bristolmetropolitanorchestra.com
David	Orchestra Secretary and Trustee	djewell@bristolmetropolitanorchestra.com
Chris	Trustee (regarding subs)	cjcullis@bristolmetropolitanorchestra.com
Lynne	Leader	07800 892967

