

SPRING CONCERTS AT A GLANCE

The new Philharmonic year kicks off with a concert featuring one of the young soloists who has most impressed us in recent seasons, Alexander Ullman. We were lucky to engage him before he went on to win the Liszt International Piano Competition in 2017 and he has since played two Rachmaninov concertos with us. This time he plays another mighty Russian piano concerto, Prokofiev's Third, a work that calls for extraordinary fireworks and drama from piano and orchestra alike. The other main work is Rachmaninov's youthful First Symphony, which, since its rediscovery in a Leningrad archive after his death, has found its rightful place in the repertoire. Glinka's sparkling Overture to his opera *Ruslan and Ludmila* opens the concert.

Our March concert heralds our triumphant return to St Andrew's Hall, newly refurbished and finally reopened. This has been the Phil's home since 1841 and it is fitting that the chorus and orchestra has chosen to mark this historic occasion with a performance of one of the greatest British choral works of the 20th century, *The Dream of Gerontius*. Elgar's masterful setting of the words of John Henry Newman broke new ground in choral writing and helped to cement the composer's reputation throughout Europe and beyond. Certainly Elgar himself considered it to be 'the best of me'. The full Phil forces are joined by a hand-picked trio of international soloists in what promises to be a momentous milestone in the musical life of Norwich.

After the great success of our Children's Concerts in the past two seasons, we are delighted to be back at the friendly and informal King's Centre presenting another fun-filled short programme for younger listeners aged 5–11. Bernard Hughes is the narrator in his musical story, *Isabel's Noisy Tummy*, about a little girl's eventful trip to the zoo (based on the book by David McKee). He'll also introduce other light-hearted music inspired by animals and showing off the instruments of the orchestra. Each performance lasts around an hour including a short interval, with a chance to try some of the instruments!

May brings an extra concert given as part of the Norfolk & Norwich Festival. The programme showcases the musical genius of William Walton with a powerhouse double bill. *Henry V – A Shakespeare Scenario* weaves Walton's iconic score for Laurence Olivier's film version with stirring speeches from Shakespeare's play (actor TBA). Roderick Williams is the starry soloist in *Belshazzar's Feast*, Walton's spine-tingling setting of the fall of the kingdom of Babylon. Championed on a global scale by Malcolm Sargent, who conducted the premiere at the 1931 Leeds Festival, it remains one of Walton's most popular compositions. See nnfestival.org.uk for booking details.

ONLINE www.ticketsource.co.uk/norwichphil TEL 0333 666 3366

SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2026 7.30pm
NORFOLK EVENTS CENTRE, SHOWGROUND

Glinka Overture, Ruslan and Ludmila Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 3 Rachmaninov Symphony No. 1

Alexander Ullman piano
Norwich Philharmonic Orchestra
Matthew Andrews conductor

INFO www.norwichphil.org.uk

SATURDAY 21 MARCH 2026 7.30pm
ST ANDREW'S HALL

Elgar The Dream of Gerontius

Diana Moore mezzo-soprano
Gwilym Bowen tenor
Ashley Riches bass
Norwich Philharmonic Orchestra
Norwich Philharmonic Chorus
Ashley Grote conductor

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TICKET PRICES

14 February 2026

Front Block	£26 (£25 Friends/Benefactors/Members)
	£13 (students/under 26)
Back Block (unreserved)	£15 (£14 Friends/Benefactors/Members)
	£8 (students/under 26)

21 March 2026

Stalls/West Gallery	£26 (£25 Friends/Benefactors/Members)
	£13 (students/under 26)
Side Aisles (unreserved)	£15 (£14 Friends/Benefactors/Members)
	£8 (students/under 26)

28 March 2026 – Children's Concert

All seats (unreserved)	£15 (£5 students/under 26)
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BOOKING

No booking fee	
Online	www.ticketsource.co.uk/norwichphil
Phone	0333 666 3366 (Mon–Sat 9am–5pm excl public holidays)
Telephone service fee	£2 (to cover cost of posting tickets)

Friends/Benefactors/Members discounts: quote membership number for 25/26 season and use name as printed on membership card.

Join our email mailing list: if you would like to receive regular email updates, please register your contact details at www.norwichphil.org/mailinlist

Become a Friend or Benefactor: benefits include discounted ticket prices and free concert programmes on specified concerts. Download details and application form from our website OR email friendsec@norwichphil.org.uk

Returns and refunds: tickets cannot normally be refunded except in the case of a cancelled performance. Tickets can be offered for resale where similar tickets are otherwise unavailable and on production of the original tickets. Please note that tickets returned on the night are unlikely to be resold. If you are considering taking out the Ticketsource booking protection insurance, please read the T&Cs carefully to make sure they are suitable for your needs.

All details correct at time of going to press. The Society reserves the right to change any programme and/or performer without notice. If a concert is cancelled by the promoter, ticket holders will be refunded automatically.



NORWICH
PHILHARMONIC
SOCIETY
Reg. Charity No. 264425

Designed and produced
by Media Associates
Printed by Colour Print

SAT 28 MARCH 2026 1.30pm and 3.30pm
THE KING'S CENTRE, KING STREET



The Phil's Children's Concerts

Norwich Philharmonic Orchestra
with story-teller, Bernard Hughes and conductor, Matt Andrews

Back by popular demand – the Phil's fun concerts specially designed for children aged 5–11 and their families. Bernard Hughes narrates *Isabel's Noisy Tummy*, all about a trip to the zoo, and the orchestra plays music inspired by animals. Come dressed as your favourite animal!



Walton Henry V – A Shakespeare Scenario Belshazzar's Feast

Roderick Williams baritone • actor tba
Norwich Philharmonic Chorus and Orchestra
Matthew Andrews, Ashley Grote conductors

NORFOLK
NSM
NORWICH
FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 23
MAY 2026 7.30pm
ST ANDREW'S HALL

TICKETS

Stalls/West Gallery: Band A	£40
Band B	£35 (£18 students)
Side Aisles:	£25 (£15 students)

BOOKING

ONLINE: nnfestival.org.uk
PHONE: 01603 531800

NORWICH

Phil
NORWICH PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS

SEASON 2025/26
JAN–MAY 2026



www.norwichphil.org.uk