

**An exciting time ahead for the Orchestra.....** we are pleased to welcome you to this evenings concert, the second in our 48<sup>th</sup> season, in which our conductor, Mark Lansom will take us on a musical tour of Europe. We welcome our soloists, Helen Belton and Sam Snowden and hope you will enjoy the journey with us. The next couple of concert seasons provides for much excitement as we celebrate two special anniversaries and make a return to Bridgewater Hall in Manchester. You can read more about that overleaf. This evening we are particularly pleased to provide a practical demonstration of our association with Glyndwr University. Students from the School of Creative Art will be displaying the outcomes of their WSO project which has the objective of refreshing our image and presentation in readiness for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert season in a couple of years' time. Below are outlines of the students' profiles and their conceptual ideas. We are inviting our audience to join with members in choosing which of the new designs they would like to nominate so we can make an informed decision on which one to adopt; so please make sure you cast your votes this evening. Next concert season will see us celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our association with Glyndwr University as the Orchestra in residence at the William Aston Hall; one of the concerts in our 49<sup>th</sup> concert season will mark this important and valuable relationship. We have our brand new venture in June when we headline a **Picnic Proms in the Park** concert at the British Ironworks Centre near Oswestry. We are also considering how we can join the national commemoration of the ending of World War 1 with a special concert in November 2018. So as you see, we do have an exciting couple of concert seasons ahead. Thank you for your continued support.

### Our Collaboration with the School of Creative Art - Student Profiles



Laura King

*I am a driven person with two main passions in my life, graphic design and my three horses. I do the very best I can in the graphic design industry to support myself and enjoy creating new and exciting concepts. I am trying to convey that the orchestra has diversity in its music, membership and audience appeal. It is a classical orchestra but at the same time, also contemporary. I have tried to convey that the orchestra appeals to a broad range of people from across the generations whilst retaining the persona of a progressive and ambitious Symphony Orchestra.*



Wendy Yeung

*I am originally from Hong Kong, and my family moved to Scotland when I was 10 years old. I started studying graphic design at the City of Glasgow College and after successfully completing the course, I wanted to study graphic design in more depth, so I applied for the BA (hons) Graphic Design and Multimedia degree course at the School of Creative Arts. My design is based around the word for 'sound'; in Latin it is 'sonas'. In Italian it is 'suono'. In French it is 'son'. In Spanish it is 'sonido'. At the time that the violin family was evolving, Latin was the formal written language. This is seen by the use of Latin versions of the names of the maker and city on the label of the instrument. I created a stretched conjecture and know that the early violin craftsman were creating 's' holes, or 'sonas' in their instruments. As the letters changed form, the name of the sound holes changed with them. I wanted to create a design that conveys the emotion and genre of music, in a dynamic and interesting way.*



Aled Roberts

*I live locally in a small village just outside of Wrexham. I am currently in my final year studying graphic design multimedia at the School of Creative Art. My future ambitions are to work within the North West initially and I will be looking for work in the areas of print and advertising. I think one the main instruments in the orchestra are in the string section. The colour scheme of my design is based on the warmth that emanates from the wood grain of these instruments. The brand I have created is linked to these instruments and has four parts to it that are related to the four strings found on the violin, cello and viola instruments.*



Ryan Jones

*I am a 20-year-old graphic design student at the School of Creative Art. My interest in graphics started when I took a graphic design GCSE and I have been hooked ever since. My ambition for the future is to get a job in advertising or branding, as they are the areas of design that I enjoy the most. I tried to stay away from the obvious music notes and instruments in my design, so I have focused on the shape of an orchestra pit, and discovered that it is a semi-circle and it is complemented with a graphic image of a Timpani drum to create the letter 'O'. I also incorporated the date the orchestra was established to show the audience the Orchestra's heritage and that they will be celebrating their forthcoming golden anniversary in 2019.*



Vicki Jones

*I'm a 28-year-old freelance Graphic Designer from Caernarfon, North Wales. Since I was in secondary school art has been a long-term passion of mine and I'm happy to have chosen a career that I am passionate about. I'm friendly, hardworking, honest and always ambitious about new challenges when it comes to Graphic Design. The key message I want to deliver on behalf of the WSO is that they are not just an orchestra that appeals to older people, but for the younger generation as well so I want to bring a fresh, young and colourful design for the orchestra but also in-keeping with their classical heritage and image.*



Carl Edwards

*I have returned to studying at the ripe old age of 54 to gain my BA and then an MA. My aim is to try my hand at lecturing, as I feel it would be a good thing to do with my 25 plus years of industry experience. Along with studying I'm still working as a freelance Creative Director, for various advertising and design agencies. My creative approach is to seek to convey the emotion and genre of music, in a dynamic and interesting way and using instrument images that will reflect the lead instrument from the piece being performed. The backgrounds will reflect the emotion of the main pieces from the concert. I have taken a simple yet integral musical device as our visual theme for the logo device: the tuning fork is essential and is a symbol for quality of sound.*

## Future Dates for your Diary

(All our concerts start at 7.30pm and are performed at the William Aston Hall, Glyndwr University, Mold Road, Wrexham LL11 2AW unless otherwise stated)

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**Liadov** - The Enchanted Lake  
**Tchaikovsky** – Piano Concerto No. 1  
**Rachmaninov** – Symphony No. 3

**Conductor:** Jonathan Small  
**Soloist:** William Bracken (Piano)

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017 @6.30pm**  
 (Gates open at 5pm)

**Picnic Proms in the Park & Fireworks**  
**British Ironwork Centre, Oswestry**

A summer evening concert of popular classical and contemporary music including works by Gershwin, Grieg, John Williams and Elgar. The evening will close with the traditional Proms songs and spectacular fireworks.

**Conductor:** Richard Howarth  
**Soloist:** Lily Whitehurst (Violin)  
**Special Guests:** Clwyd Clippers

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017**

**Glinka** – Overture 'Ruslan & Ludmilla'  
**Saint-Saens** - Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso

**Gershwin** – An American in Paris  
**Sibelius** – Symphony No 1

**Conductor:** Richard Howarth  
**Soloist:** Lily Whitehurst (Violin)

## Our Mahler Charitable Project is returning to Bridgewater Hall in May 2018



We are pleased to confirm that the Orchestra is returning to Bridgewater Hall on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> 2018 when it will perform one of the great Mahler Symphony's – the 8<sup>th</sup> which is commonly known as 'Symphony of a Thousand'. The WSO's ground breaking Mahler project, which is supported by Wrexham based medical research business Betrinac, has raised over £13,000 for organisations, such as the Wrexham Memory Clinic, supporting those in our communities who are affected by the impact of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. Matthew Ellis, Chairman of the WSO shares the excitement of another concert at the Bridgewater Hall, *'Being able to take the Orchestra back for a second concert in 3 years to Bridgewater Hall is truly amazing. Not many amateur musicians have the privilege to perform once at such an iconic international concert hall. This will be the biggest concert that the Orchestra has undertaken and we shall be joined by a chorus of 450 or so voices and several outstanding international standard soloists. It will be another amazing night in the history of the Wrexham Symphony Orchestra and we both desire and hope that many of our audience and local communities will be able join us for this memorable evening.'*



During this evening and at our next concert on May 6<sup>th</sup>, we shall be selling tickets for our new 'Picnic Proms in the Park' concert, which will take place at the British Ironwork Centre near Oswestry on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>. This promises to be a wonderful summer evening and joining us for this very special occasion will be the Mold Harmony Barbershop Chorus, more commonly known as the Clwyd Clippers. The concert programme is a delightful mix of some favourite classical pieces, music from a number of popular films and concludes with traditional Proms music, songs and a spectacular fireworks display. The gates will be open from 5pm and the evening's programme will commence at 6.30pm. Tickets are limited so please make sure you secure yours as soon as possible and join us for this very special concert occasion. Why not bring the whole family and enjoy a truly memorable summer evening with the WSO?

Arts & Business Cymru

We are delighted to extend a welcome to Arts and Business Cymru to our concert this evening who are hosting a reception for some of their members in North Wales. We were thrilled to have been selected as a finalist in their 2016 Awards programme for the Betrinac supported WSO Mahler Charitable concert series, raising funds for organisations like Wrexham Memory Clinic in support of their work and programmes for those in our communities who are affected by Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. It is therefore fitting that we extend a warm WSO welcome to them on this extra special evening, as it enables us to support their valuable work in establishing, encouraging and nurturing active and mutually beneficial partnerships between the Arts and Business communities in North Wales.

We are also pleased to welcome Vice Chancellor Professor Maria Hinfelaar and members of the Executive Board of Glyndwr University as well as Cllr John Pritchard, the Mayor of Wrexham County Borough and Ian Lucas, our Westminster MP.

Glyndwr Wrexham University

**Keeping in touch through our Website and Social Media Communications Channels**

You can keep up to date on all WSO news and events through our website [www.wrexhamorch.co.uk](http://www.wrexhamorch.co.uk). You can also purchase tickets for our concerts through the web site. We also have a public Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/wrexhamorch](http://www.facebook.com/wrexhamorch)), a Facebook group (<http://tinyurl.com/na9rtv>) and a Twitter feed @wrexhamorch

**Next Up is William Bracken whose previous performance with us in November 2015, received a standing ovation**



We are thrilled to welcome back 17 year old pianist William Bracken for our next concert in May. In 2016, he won the Chester Music Society Young Musician of the Year award and was a finalist in the Wales International Piano Festival. William will perform Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1. This will be a concert not to be missed.

**Our next Newsletter** will be published in time for the May 2017 concert and will also be available through our website and Facebook page. If you have any comments about the Orchestra's concert programme or have any suggestions for items you would like to see in Orchestrate, please speak with us at a concert or send us an email to [wrexhamso@gmail.com](mailto:wrexhamso@gmail.com). We would love to hear from you.