NEWSLETTER OF WREXHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA NO. 20 FEBRUARY 2019



One of the areas we have been working on over the last few years has been to extend the nature and depth of our relationships across our local community. The Orchestra has been one of Wrexham's best kept secrets and all but a loyal few knew that Wrexham had an orchestra; even less knew that we started in 1969 and that education was the embryo we were born out of. 2019 is a remarkable milestone for us and one we plan to mark in a number of ways, starting with tonight's Presidents concert which supports our first collaboration with Welsh National Opera. Partnerships and collaborations are a key feature in 2019; a glance at the chart above highlights a large number of organisations we are now connected with and offer us future potential which we are excited about. Over the coming months our concerts will see collaborations with Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod (May), British Ironworks Centre (June), Techniquest (July) and Classic FM (November) through their parent Global's charity 'Make Some Noise'. This evening we are highlighting the work of 'Your Space', a Wrexham based charity who support children and young adults with the autistic spectrum disorder. We follow this in May, when we will formally launch our Sensory Garden project for Wrexham Memory Clinic and in July, when we support the valuable work of Maelor Voluntary Services which we all experience when visiting the Maelor Hospital. In November, which will be our official 50th birthday party concert (please don't miss this!), we will feature local charities who benefit from the work of Global's 'Make Some Noise'. We are committed to supporting our local and regional communities and particularly, the development of young musical talent. Our practical engagement with Ty Pawb, Wrexham's Arts, Communities and Markets hub and the University is vital in this regard. You can read more about our work with Ty Pawb in this newsletter. Once again, we are pleased to be working with students at the University related our Pendine project, the design of the Sensory Garden at the Memory Clinic and also for the very exciting July concert, 50 years since the Lunar landing and Neil Armstrong's moon walk. Please help us spread the word about the Orchestra; we have done a lot in recent years, but we remain with more much to do; with your help and continuing support we can build the future together and ensure that high quality, live orchestral music in Wrexham will live on for another 50 years. Thank you for all your continuing support and encouragement.

WSO Concert Diary – 50th Concert Season Saturday 4th May 2019 Saturday 8th June 2019 Saturday 20th July 2019 7.30pm William Aston Hall 7.00pm British Ironwork Centre 7.30pm William Aston Hall 50th Anniversary Gala **Picnic Proms in the Park** 50th Anniversary of Man's Concert Walk on the Moon 'Music for a Summers Night' in collaboration with In a collaboration with featuring Radio and TV themes, TTY IT TH APPE * popular Film music and a dazzling 🖌 Llangollen 2 98 19 'Star Wars' Firework Finale TECHNIQUEST glyndŵr Conductor: Richard Howarth Stravinsky: Firebird Suite (1919) Leader: Mark Lansom **Rachmaninov:** Shostakovich: Festival Overture Piano Concerto No. 2 **Tickets - Adults £20 and Young** Sibelius: Violin Concerto Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade People U18 £10 are available from: Holst: The Planets Suite www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk Conductor: Mark Lansom Conductor: Richard Howarth **Soloist:** Vicky Yannoula (Piano) **Soloist:** Sophie Rosa (Violin) Gates open 5.30pm

Our 'Heart for Music' right across our Community

tŷ pawb Live Music Showcase and 2019 Wrexham Music Festival Ty Pawb (Everybody's House) is a £4.5m investment in developing Wrexham's Arts, Culture and Markets proposition and since April 2018, in collaboration with Calon FM, The Music Place and the markets in Ty Pawb, we have been supporting 'Live Music Showcase', a weekly recital concert each Thursday lunchtime at 1pm. These have become very popular recitals, regularly attracting audiences, numbering between 70 and 90. We have been treated to some wonderful music performed by a cross section of local and talented musicians. Supporting the development of musical talent and offering a platform to perform, lies at the very heart of the Orchestra's core values. We are also 'lead supporting' the Wrexham Music Festival 2019, a new initiative with the University, offering school children/pupils and students who are aged under 19 to participate in a Festival of Music during the first week of the Easter holiday. There will be 3 days of 'mild competition' followed by a final's day on Thursday April 18th, when 2018 BBC Young Musician of the Year category finalist, Elias Ackerley from Wrexham, will perform a recital with fellow students from Chethams School of Music. Further information about the Wrexham Music Festival is available on the Facebook page @wrexhammusicfestival or by sending an email to wrexhammusicfestival2019@gmail.com. Please do come and enjoy the weekly FREE to attend Live Music Showcase concerts in Ty Pawb and similarly. support our young musicians in the Borough of Wrexham during the Wrexham Music Festival 2019 from the 15th to 18th April, also in Ty Pawb.

WSO Member News: One of the most satisfying aspects of the Orchestra is to see some of our younger members make the decision to take their musicianship to the next level through one of the leading musical institutions, just like Cellist, Rachel Priamo, a member of the WSO for the last 5 years.



We extend our congratulations to Rachel on being awarded a Master's degree in Musicology (Health and Well-Being) from Bangor University in 2018 and gaining a scholarship to complete a PhD, also at Bangor University. Speaking to Orchestrate about her time with the WSO, Rachel shares 'The orchestra has provided me with opportunities to perform some amazing works with some very talented musicians. Some personal highlights include our Opera concert with the NWOS last year, as well as performances at the British Ironworks Centre. They have also challenged me to learn some new techniques; some of my colleagues in the cello section will tell you that certain pieces have made me sweat! I have been involved in various orchestras and ensembles over the years; of them all, I am most grateful to the WSO and hope to continue to play with them for many years to come. Thank you for your encouragement and support over the 5 years'.

You can find out more about the orchestra from its website www.wrexhamorch.co.uk and Facebook pages. Please search for Wrexham Symphony Orchestra. We also have a Twitter feed @wrexhamorch. We welcome feedback, comments and suggestions about our concerts and events. Please either speak to one of us at a concert or send them in an email to wrexhamso@gmail.com. You can also write to us at 26 Park Avenue, Wrexham LL12 7AH.