

At the Usher Hall – Sunday Classics Series

Next Sunday 29 October 2017 at 5.30pm the hall will be brought alive with the sounds of the St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra with Peter Donohoe.



The St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra has a distinctive rich sound which has been an important part of its hometown's history since its beginnings in the 1930s.

They will perform an all Russian programme including two of Tchaikovsky's most popular works the *Romeo and Juliet Overture* and his Symphony No. 6 'Pathétique',

[tweet_box design="default"]Edinburgh audiences will experience one of the best orchestras in the world as part of Usher Hall's Sunday Classics.[/tweet_box]

Romeo and Juliet was arguably Tchaikovsky's first true masterpiece weaving sumptuous melodies together and making full use of the orchestra's sweeping string section. Symphony No 6 is a piece which he described many times as "the best thing I ever composed or shall compose". A work that is about life and death which is full of vivid passion, struggle and pain.

The muscular playing of the St Petersburg Symphony and its rich Russian sound will create an experience to transport audiences at the Usher Hall to deep within the Russian psyche.



The orchestra is led by Kazakh conductor Alan Buribayev, chief conductor of the Astana Opera House and Principal Guest conductor of the Japan Century Symphony Orchestra in Osaka. Until last year he was Principal Conductor of RTE's NSO. Still in his 30s, Buribayev has made a name for himself around the world across a wide range of opera and symphonic repertoire.

Joining them is one of the foremost pianists of our time, Peter Donohoe CBE. He joins the Orchestra for Rachmaninov's 'jazzy' fourth piano concerto, bringing his musicianship, stylistic versatility and commanding technique to the Usher Hall's Steinway. His performances are described as monumental, charged and compelling and together he and the Orchestra are sure to deliver a memorable performance of this dramatic concerto.

The St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra used to be called the Leningrad Radio Orchestra and is famous for having performed Shostakovich's 7th Symphony in 1942 whilst the city was under siege. This month marks the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution which started in St Petersburg in 1917.

The Orchestra featured in the BBC Two documentary Leningrad: The Orchestra That Defied Hitler in January 2016.

Tchaikovsky Romeo & Juliet Fantasy Overture

Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 6 in B minor, 'Pathétique'

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No.4

Alan Buribayev Conductor

Peter Donohoe Piano

USHER HALL, SUNDAY CLASSICS

Tickets £34, £28, £23, £17 and £12.50 (Concessions available)

You can also buy tickets for five or more concerts and get one free by becoming a member of the Sunday Classics Club

Book 5 or more concerts in the 2017-18 season (8 Oct 2017 – 3 June 2018) to become a member of the Sunday Classics Club. As a member you can take advantage of the following benefits.

- *Sunday Classics Club Membership Card*
- *Free Sunday Classics concert programmes on concert day*
- *Complimentary tea/coffee at Sunday Classics concerts*
- *Flexible ticket exchange scheme**
- *Invitation to special Sunday Classics Club Party*
- *15% discount on the Sheraton Hotel's Sunday Lunch***
- *Complimentary glass of Prosecco when booking the Sheraton Hotel's afternoon tea***

£1.50 transaction fee applies on all phone and online bookings.

Other concerts this year in the Sunday Classics series include:

- **Brussels Philharmonic with Nikolaj Znaider | 12 November**
- **Basel Chamber Orchestra with Stephen Hough | 19 November**