

# Norfolk Symphony

## Orchestra

Music Director - Alexander Walker

Leader - Grant Newman

President - James Stobart

## Music Director

## 39th Concert Season

### Alexander Walker

“This talented conductor”  
*Musical Opinion*



Professional conductor, Alexander Walker, took up his appointment as NSO Music Director last season, immediately making his mark with a very impressive performance of Shostakovich's massive Eighth Symphony. Since completing his studies at St. Petersburg State Conservatoire, he has conducted all over the world and recent engagements have included concerts with the Russian State Symphony Orchestra, Enescu Philharmonic, Prague Philharmonia, and Belgrade Philharmonic. He makes frequent appearances in Poland, Finland, Denmark, Turkey, Romania, the former Yugoslavia and the former Soviet Union where his concerts have been broadcast on national television and radio. In this country, he has conducted orchestras such as the City of London Sinfonia, New Queens Hall Orchestra and London Concert Orchestra, and he appears regularly at many of the country's major venues such as London's Barbican. Alexander Walker also works at the Royal Opera House and has toured with the Royal Ballet to America. He is keen to present audiences with great music even if it is unfamiliar to them and, with this aim, has organised successful festivals in Russia and Finland. Although performing extensively with professional groups, Alexander Walker is committed to his work with amateurs where he is highly regarded both as musician and teacher. He has conducting appointments in Daventry, Abingdon and Northampton as well as with the NSO and he also finds time to nurture talented young musicians at the Junior Academy in London.

## Press Comments

A very impressive performance. *EDP*

This concert was yet another triumph for the NSO. *Lynn News*

The warmth of the audience's reception proved the success of a performance full of energy and passion. *EDP*

...playing that I have never heard bettered. *Lynn News*

As ever, it was necessary to remind oneself this is an amateur orchestra. *EDP*

The NSO was on absolutely top form throughout. *Lynn News*

The programme this season is as varied as ever and should delight listeners of all musical tastes. As always the orchestra will be exploring new territory alongside popular masterpieces. Much of the music is inspired by fairytale, all the music is colourful and every programme maintains its own particular character.

The first concert comprises a programme of music from the frozen North, combining evocative music from Scandinavia and Finland with Tchaikovsky's wonderful and all too rarely performed first symphony *Winter Daydreams*. The Sibelius concerto will be played by the young Polish soloist Irmina Trynkos, one of the most gifted violinists of her generation.

The January concert for Friends of the Norfolk Symphony Orchestra presents the music of two Romantic composers at their most genial. The Tchaikovsky, featuring the exceptional musicianship and virtuosity of cellist Victoria Harrild, takes an affectionate glance at compositions of an earlier age, whilst the Dvorak draws inspiration from the folk music of his native Bohemia.

The March programme, inspired by fairytales with a particularly Russian flavour, opens with brilliantly orchestrated and exciting ballet music. It is clear that, as well as being prompted by the magical tales of the Arabian Nights, Rimsky-Korsakov's colourful work *Scheherazade* was also influenced by the composer's travels as a sailor, both at sea and in the Caucasus. For *Songs and Dances of Death*, the orchestra is joined by the distinguished mezzo-soprano Fiona Kimm, who has appeared with some of the world's greatest orchestras, both in opera and on the concert platform.

In the final concert, the NSO celebrates British creative talent, performing music by three of the country's greatest composers of the last century. The soloist is top pianist Huw Watkins, himself a distinguished composer having received commissions from organisations including the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and the Belcea Quartet.

## NSO Trustees

Chairman - Simon Cooper Treasurer - Ann Doubleday

Personnel - Jessica Berners

Friends' Secretary - Phillida Smith

Secretary - Graham Jones

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NSO website: [www.nso-uk.co.uk](http://www.nso-uk.co.uk)

The logo for the Norfolk Symphony Orchestra, featuring the letters 'NSO' in a stylized font inside a circular emblem.

39th Concert Season  
2009-2010

## Concerts

## Soloists

## Booking Details

Sunday 15th November 2009 3.30pm

Peer Gynt Suite 1 Grieg  
Violin Concerto Sibelius  
Symphony 1 *Winter Daydreams* Tchaikovsky

Violin - Irmina Trynkos

Irmina Trynkos  
"truly passionate performance ...  
wondrous talent"  
*The Polish Daily, London*



Sunday 17th January 2010 3.30pm

NSO Friends only

Variations on a Rococo Theme Tchaikovsky  
Czech Suite Dvorak

Cello - Victoria Harrild



Victoria Harrild  
"a young cellist of enviable  
virtuosity and musicianship"  
*Alexander Walker*

Sunday 14th March 2010 3.30pm

Pre-concert talk at 2.30pm - free to concertgoers

Firebird Suite: 1919 version Stravinsky  
Songs and Dances of Death Mussorgsky  
Scheherazade Rimsky-Korsakov

Mezzo-soprano - Fiona Kimm

Fiona Kimm  
"simply superb"  
*Evening Standard*

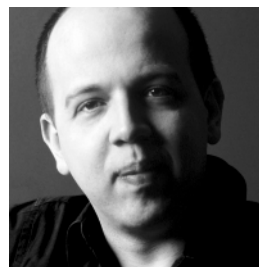


Sunday 23rd May 2010 3.30pm

Pre-concert talk at 2.30pm - free to concertgoers

Johannesburg Festival Overture Walton  
Piano Concerto Britten  
Symphony 1 Elgar

Piano - Huw Watkins



Huw Watkins  
"a pianist of alert intelligence"  
*Independent on Sunday*

Tickets for November, March and May: £13 & £9  
from the Corn Exchange Tuesday Market Place  
King's Lynn PE30 1JW 01553 764864  
& Princess Theatre Hunstanton 01485 532252

High quality printed programmes are provided free  
at all NSO Sunday Symphony Series concerts.

Public booking opens six weeks before each concert.  
Reductions and advance booking for the Friends of the NSO.  
Please note, the January concert is for NSO Friends only.

## NSO Friends' Scheme

The Norfolk Symphony Orchestra is proud to have over 320 Friends, whose support and encouragement have enabled the NSO to plan ahead and to progress with confidence. Benefits for members of the Friends' Scheme include priority booking with price reductions for all NSO promotions, regular newsletters, and free tickets for a special, exclusive concert and reception. The NSO Friends clearly enjoy feeling part of a welcoming and buoyant concern, buying the majority of tickets for the orchestra's Sunday Symphony Series concerts in King's Lynn. Many Friends give time to assist the orchestra behind the scenes, while others just enjoy listening to the music as part of a large and enthusiastic audience. The cost of an annual subscription is still only £15 (minimum) per year, as it was when the scheme was first set up. The orchestra is very grateful that many Friends do choose to give extra donations which can then be 'Gift Aided' to help the NSO even further. If you would like to become a Friend of the Norfolk Symphony Orchestra or to receive more details, please contact Phillida Smith, the NSO Friends' Secretary, by email: [friends@nso-uk.co.uk](mailto:friends@nso-uk.co.uk) or by phone: 01553 772544.

The Norfolk Symphony Orchestra is a registered charity, number 263422.

## NSO Website

Visit [www.nso-uk.co.uk](http://www.nso-uk.co.uk) to find an informative website about the Norfolk Symphony Orchestra. The website features all concert details, biographies of the Music Director and soloists, NSO news and other items of interest. There are links to available recordings of relevant repertoire as well as details of NSO clothing for sale. Programme notes for the NSO concerts are also included.