

## 2025–26 Short Biography

### **'An orchestra on top form' *The Guardian* on the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra**

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO), with Music Director Vasily Petrenko, is on a mission to bring the thrill of live orchestral music to the widest possible audience. The RPO's musicians believe that music can – and should – be a part of everyone's life, and they aim to deliver on that belief through every note. Based in London and performing around 200 concerts per year worldwide, the RPO brings the same energy, commitment and excellence to everything it plays, be that the great symphonic repertoire, collaborations with pop stars, or TV, video game and movie soundtracks. Proud of its rich heritage yet always evolving, the RPO is regarded as the world's most versatile symphony orchestra, reaching a live and online audience of more than 70 million people each year.

Founded in 1946 by Sir Thomas Beecham, live performance has always been at the heart of what the RPO does, and through its thriving artistic partnership with Vasily Petrenko, the RPO has reaffirmed its status as one of the world's most respected and in-demand orchestras. In London, that means flagship concert series at Cadogan Hall, the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, and the iconic Royal Albert Hall, where the RPO is proud to be Associate Orchestra. The Orchestra is also thrilled to be resident in four areas of the UK: Crawley, Hull, Northampton and Reading. And around the world, the RPO flies the flag for the best of British music-making.

The RPO remains true to its pioneering, accessible roots. Now in its fourth decade, the RPO Resound community and education programme continues to thrive as one of the UK's – and the world's – most innovative and respected initiatives of its kind.

Passionate, versatile and uncompromising in its pursuit of musical excellence, the Orchestra looks to the future with a determination to explore, to share and to reaffirm its reputation as an orchestra with a difference: open-minded, forward-thinking and accessible to all.

Discover more online at [rpo.co.uk](https://rpo.co.uk)

322 words

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*Not to be edited without permission. If you require an updated version of the RPO biography, please contact the RPO Office: +44 (0)20 7608 8800 / [info@rpo.co.uk](mailto:info@rpo.co.uk).*