



**ROYAL
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA**

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Patron: HM King Charles III
President: Aline Foriel-Destezet
Music Director: Vasily Petrenko
Composer-in-Association: Joe Hisaishi

Artist Information

Lights in the Dark Symphony of Shadows

Sunday 27 April 2025, 3pm | Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall

Presented as part of *Multitudes*

Sibelius Finlandia 8 mins

Weill Four Walt Whitman Songs 17 mins

Interval: 20 minutes

Shostakovich Symphony No.7, 'Leningrad' 79 mins

Vasily Petrenko Conductor | **Roderick Williams OBE** Baritone

Kirill Serebrennikov Art Director | **Ilya Shagalov** Video Artist

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

This performance is funded in part by the **Kurt Weill Foundation for Music, Inc., New York, NY**

Symphony of Shadows was commissioned by the Southbank Centre and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Welcome to the **Southbank Centre**

We're the UK's largest centre for the arts and one of the nation's top five visitor attractions, showcasing the world's most exciting artists at our venues in the heart of London. We hope you enjoy your visit.

If you need any information or help, please ask a member of staff. You can also write to us at Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX, or email hello@southbankcentre.co.uk

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**SOUTHBANK
CENTRE**

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Vasily Petrenko

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's (RPO) mission to enrich lives through orchestral experiences that are uncompromising in their excellence and inclusive in their appeal, places it at the forefront of music-making in the UK and internationally. Typically performing approximately 200 concerts a year and with a worldwide live and online audience of more than 60 million people, the Orchestra is proud to embrace a broad repertoire and reach a diverse audience. Whilst artistic integrity remains paramount, the RPO is unafraid to push boundaries and is equally at home recording video game, film and television soundtracks and working with pop stars, as it is touring the world performing the great symphonic repertoire.

Throughout its history, the RPO has attracted and collaborated with the most inspiring artists and in August 2021, the Orchestra was thrilled to welcome Vasily Petrenko as its new Music Director. A landmark appointment in the RPO's history, Vasily's first three seasons with the RPO have been lauded by audiences and critics alike.

As well as a busy schedule of international performances, the Orchestra enjoys an annual season of concerts in London's Royal Albert Hall (where the RPO is Associate Orchestra), the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall and Cadogan Hall, where it is celebrating its 20th Season as Resident Orchestra. The RPO tours extensively around the UK and this fits with its mission to place orchestral music at the heart of contemporary society. Through collaboration with creative partners, the RPO fosters deeper engagement with communities to ensure that live orchestral music is accessible to as inclusive and diverse an audience as possible. To help achieve this goal, in 1993 the Orchestra launched RPO Resound, which has grown to become the most innovative and respected orchestral community and education programme in the UK and internationally.



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The Orchestra

First Violins

Emily Davis
Tamás András
Janice Graham
Shana Douglas
Esther Kim
Lauren Bennett
Savva Zverev
Andrew Klee
Kay Chappell
Anthony Protheroe
Erik Chapman
Adriana Iacovache-Pana
Rosemary Wainwright
Judith Templeman
Imogen East
Geoffrey Silver

Second Violins

Andrew Storey
Elen Hâf Rideal
Jennifer Christie
Charlotte Ansbergs
Jennifer András
Peter Graham
Stephen Payne
Manuel Porta
Inês Soares Delgado
Sali-Wyn Ryan
Charles Nolan
Leonardo Jaffe
Nicola Hutchings
Susie Watson

Violas

Abigail Fenna
Wenhan Jiang
Liz Varlow
Joseph Fisher
Ugne Tiškutė
Esther Harling
Jonathan Hallett
Triona Milne
Pamela Ferriman
Rebecca Carrington
Gemma Dunne
Georgie Davis

Cellos

Alexander Somov
Jonathan Ayling
Chantal Woodhouse
Roberto Sorrentino
Jean-Baptiste Toselli
William Heggart
Rachel van der Tang
Naomi Watts
Anna Stuart
Emma Black

Double Basses

Tyler Shepherd
David Gordon
Ben Wolstenholme
Joe Cowie
David FC Johnson
Martin Lüdenbach
Cathy Colwell
Ben Havinden-Williams

Flutes

Emer McDonough
Joanna Marsh
Diomedes Demetriades

Piccolo

Diomedes Demetriades

Alto Flute

Joanna Marsh

Oboes

John Roberts
Alexandra Hilton

Cor Anglais

Patrick Flanagan

Clarinets

Katherine Lacy
Jernej Albrecht
Sonia Sielaff

E-flat Clarinet

Sonia Sielaff

Bass Clarinet

Katy Ayling

Bassoons

Richard Ion
Dominic Tyler

Contrabassoon

Gareth Twigg

Horns

Ben Hulme
Kathryn Saunders
Zoë Tweed
Finlay Bain
Alexander Edmundson
Flora Bain
John Davy
Paul Cott
Olivia Gandee

Trumpets

Matthew Williams
Holly Clark
Mike Allen
Toby Street
Stuart Essenhigh
Sebastian Philpott

Trombones

Matthew Gee
Jamie Tweed
Rupert Whitehead
Andrew Cole

Bass Trombone

Josh Cirtina
Samuel Freeman

Tuba

Kevin Morgan

Timpani

Louise Lewis Goodwin

Percussion

Stephen Quigley
Martin Owens
Gerald Kirby
Richard Horne
Emmanuel Joste
Gillian McDonagh
Feargus Brennan

Harps

Suzu Willison-Kawalec
Elizabeth Green

Piano

Ben Dawson

In recognition of their outstanding commitment to the RPO, Honorary Life Members of the Orchestra:
Sir Peter Ellwood CBE DL
and **Sir John Rutter CBE**

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Artists and Creatives



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Vasily Petrenko Conductor

Vasily Petrenko is Music Director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, a position he took on in 2021, becoming Conductor Laureate of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra following his hugely acclaimed fifteen-year tenure as their Chief Conductor from 2006–2021. He is the Associate Conductor of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León, and has also served as Chief Conductor of the European Union Youth Orchestra (2015–2024), Chief Conductor of the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra (2013–2020) and Principal Conductor of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain (2009–2013). He stood down as Artistic Director of the State Academic Symphony Orchestra of Russia 'Evgeny Svetlanov' in 2022 having been their Principal Guest Conductor from 2016 and Artistic Director from 2020.

Recent highlights as Music Director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra have included wide-ranging touring across major European capitals, China, Japan and the USA, including an acclaimed performance at New York's Carnegie Hall. In London, he led an impressive survey of Mahler's choral symphonies at the Royal Albert Hall, explored the music of Elgar and Rachmaninov at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall and performed with Denis Kozhukhin at the 2024 BBC Proms. In their newly announced 2025–26 London Season, Vasily and the RPO create music that speaks directly to you, from the raw power of Shostakovich's Tenth Symphony and the joy of Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* to the boundless imagination of Messiaen's *Turangalila-Symphonie* and three mighty symphonies from the epic world of Gustav Mahler, alongside music by Joe Hisaishi, Galina Ustvolskaya and Sergei Taneyev, and more.

vasilypetrenkomusic.com



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Roderick Williams OBE Baritone

Roderick Williams is one of the most sought-after baritones of his generation with a wide repertoire spanning Baroque to contemporary. He enjoys relationships with all the major UK and European opera houses and also performs regularly with leading conductors and orchestras throughout the UK, Europe, North America and Australia.

Festival appearances include the BBC Proms and the Edinburgh, Cheltenham, Aldeburgh and Melbourne festivals. As a recitalist, he is in demand around the world and appears regularly at venues including the Wigmore Hall, Amsterdam Concertgebouw and Vienna Musikverein, and at song festivals including Leeds Lieder, Oxford International Song and Ludlow English Song.

Roderick was awarded an OBE in June 2017 and was Artist in Residence with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra from 2020–2022, Artist in Residence at the 2023 Aldeburgh Festival and is Singer in Residence at Music in the Round. He was also one of the featured soloists at the Coronation of HM King Charles III.

As a composer, he has had works premiered at Wigmore Hall, the Barbican, Purcell Room and on national radio. In 2016, he won Best Choral Composition at the British Composer Awards and from the 2022–23 Season, he has held the position of Composer in Association of the BBC Singers.



Kirill Serebrennikov Art Director

Born in 1969, Kirill Serebrennikov graduated from Rostov University. He has directed numerous productions at prestigious theatres worldwide, including the Moscow Art Theatre, Pushkin Theatre and Deutsches Theater in Berlin, and staged operas at renowned venues like the Mariinsky Theatre, Bolshoi Theatre, Zurich Opera House, Vienna State Opera and Opéra National de Paris. He also directed two ballets, *A Hero of Our Time* (2015) and *Nureyev* (2018), at the Bolshoi Theatre.

Kirill's productions have been featured at the Festival d'Avignon multiple times, with *Outside* (2019) named the best foreign performance by French critics. In 2022, a special version of his production *The Black Monk* opened the Festival.

Continued overleaf...

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Artists and Creatives

Continued

He has worked extensively in film and television. Among his works are: *Playing the Victim*, *Bed Scenes*, *Yuriyev Day*, *Short Circuit* (or *Shrimp's Kiss*), *Betrayal*, *The Student*, *Leto*, *Petrov's Flu*, *Tchaikovsky's Wife* and *Limonov: The Ballad*.

In 2012, together with the graduates of his directing and acting class from the Moscow Art Theatre School, he found the company The Seventh Studio. It then became the main team of the Gogol Center, with Kirill as its Artistic Director from 2012 to 2021.

Kirill has received numerous awards, and his works have been selected for the Venice Film Festival and Cannes Film Festival, amongst many others. In 2018, he was named Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Ministry of Culture. In 2023, he founded his own theatre company, Kirill & Friends, based in Berlin, Germany.

kirillandfriends.com



Ilya Shagalov Video Artist

Ilya Shagalov is a video designer and multimedia artist. He began his artistic career at the Moscow Art Theatre and emerged as the innovative video artist in contemporary musical theatre. Since 2008, he has been creating video productions for leading opera houses and festivals across Europe, including the Staatsoper Stuttgart, Hamburg State Opera and Zurich Opera House.

His long-standing artistic partnership with Kirill Serebrennikov has led to groundbreaking productions such as *Così fan tutte* in Zurich and Berlin, *Nabucco* in Hamburg, and *Salome* in Stuttgart. At the Komische Oper Berlin, he has been responsible for the video production of *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (2016) and *Le nozze di Figaro* (2024).

Ilya's work combines cutting-edge technology with emotional depth and narrative power. His multimedia installations, which often explore themes of memory, identity and resilience, have been featured at venues including the Gogol Center Moscow and the Ruhrtriennale in Germany. As a director, he has completed his own projects at the Théâtre des Deux Rives (Normandy) and Vene Teater (Estonia). In 2024, he also created video productions for *Don Carlo* at the Vienna State Opera, *LEGENDE* at the Ruhrtriennale, and *Leben mit einem Idioten* at Zurich Opera House.

Fancy an encore? After the concert, why not continue your own musical journey with a specially selected playlist of works inspired by today's concert and further pieces from the *Lights in the Dark* series. Visit rpo.co.uk/symphonyofshadows to enjoy our listening suggestions and discover more about today's music.

With thanks to...

The Kurt Weill Foundation, Inc. promotes and perpetuates the legacies of Kurt Weill and Lotte Lenya by encouraging an appreciation of Weill's music through support of performances, recordings, and scholarship, and by fostering an understanding of Weill's and Lenya's lives and work within diverse cultural contexts. It administers the Weill-Lenya Research Center, a Grant and Collaborative Performance Initiative Program, the Lotte Lenya Competition, the Kurt Weill/Julius Rudel Conducting Fellowship, the Kurt Weill Prize for scholarship in music theatre, and publishes the Kurt Weill Edition and the Kurt Weill Newsletter. Building upon the legacies of both Weill and Lenya, the Foundation nurtures talent, particularly in the creation, performance, and study of musical theatre in its various manifestations and media. Since 2012, the Kurt Weill Foundation has administered the musical and literary estate of composer Marc Blitzstein. kwf.org

Don't miss...

Wed 25 Jun 2025, 7.30pm
Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall

Lights in the Dark: Tchaikovsky's Symphony No.4

Howell Lamia

Price Piano Concerto in One Movement

Tchaikovsky Symphony No.4

Vasily Petrenko Conductor Jeneba Kanneh-Mason Piano

This concert is generously supported by **The Tong Family**

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Details correct at the time of going to press.



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