

Alasdair Malloy
Family Concerts
Repertoire 2018/2019



Programmes

Countdown to Christmas

Trust Alasdair to have Christmas all wrapped up! Each colourful piece perfectly captures everything we look forward to at this special time of year. From the nostalgia of White Christmas to the riotous party singalong of Jingle Bell Rock Alasdair leads the way in a concert full of traditional festive favourites, Christmas cheer and suitably sparkling surprises. Even Santa himself never misses this one!!!

Fantastic Creatures

This is a programme in which all of the music relates to the fantastic creatures found in the magical world of Harry Potter. With Alasdair spectacularly dressed as a Wizard, the audience and orchestra are invited to dress as characters from the books. There are plenty of opportunities for the audience to get involved. Musical highlights include In the Hall of the Mountain King, the Bacchanale from Samson and Dalila and Elgar's Wand of Youth together with music from all the Harry Potter films. Alasdair plays steel drum in one item as well as the hilarious slapstick xylophone duet *The Two Imps*.

Let's get animated

From Looney Tunes to Liszt this animated programme reminds us of our favourite classic cartoon characters. Create images in your head to the stirring sounds of Bach's iconic Toccata in D minor, as featured in Fantasia, relive Wallace and Grommit's encounter with the Were-Rabbit, test your knowledge of the Disney films in Alasdair's Cunningly-Conceived Concealed Cartoon-Character Quiz, meet The Incredibles, and encounter the orchestra as never before as they give a unique performance of Liszt's Second Hungarian Rhapsody which featured in the Oscar winning Cat Concerto, starring Tom and Jerry.

The Return of the Gladiators

Experience spectacle on the grandest possible scale as the orchestra takes us to Rome's Colosseum to encounter its famous Gladiators. Music includes, The Parade of the Charioteers from Ben Hur, Khatchaturian's ballet Spartacus, Respighi's musical map of the Via Appia as well as music from the film Gladiator and of course The Entry of the Gladiators.

Bugs!! (note: the two exclamation marks are supposed to represent antennae)

A Creepy-Crawly concert featuring those insects we either love or loath! Alasdair will be in "David Attenborough" mode and the audience can be invited to come dressed as a bug or to bring along a home-made bug. Music includes The Wasps Overture, The Ugly Bug Ball and a Tarantella for Tarantulas as well as a unique and unforgettable version of The Flight of the Bumble Bee!

Summer Beach Party

With summer holidays just around the corner here's a concert which takes us to those sunny spots round the globe. We'll all join in singing "We're all going on a Summer Holiday" before jetting off to European favourites and far-flung fiestas! The orchestra and audience are invited to wear their brightest, sunniest clothes and there will be plenty of opportunities for everyone to party no matter what the weather is outside.

Memorable Musical highlights include Rimsky Korsakov's Capriccio Espagnole and Alasdair's Brazilian medley Carnivale as well as the iconic theme for Hawaii 5-O.

The Mad Hatter's Musical Tea Party

Alasdair transforms into the Madhatter for this event and the audience are invited to come dressed as characters from Alice in Wonderland. Through the music we'll meet Alice, shrink then become huge as we munch on some mushrooms, encounter the Cheshire Cat as well as hearing plenty of mad, mad music including the Madhatter's Maddest Musical Moment! There will also be Lots of Looney Limericks as the audience are invited to write some limericks and the best ones will be read out with musical accompaniment from the orchestra.

A Cavalcade of Clowns

From the opening sequence where an empty stage fills up with a comical cavalcade of clowns coming through the hall, this fantastically funny focus on humour and music provides plenty of scope for dressing up and general silliness! We'll search for the funniest instrument in the orchestra and hear music representing clowns from some spectacularly serious composers including Kabalevsky, Holst and Rimsky Korsakov. Some children will come onstage to help Alasdair create The Sounds of a Clown.

Mums, Dads, Aunties, Uncles and Grandparents will boogie away to The Tears of a Clown and we've all got to watch out for The Pie in the Face Polka!!

Out of this World

A fantastic adventure through Time And Relative Dimensions In Space as our very own Time Lord has close encounters with out of this world favourites from large and small screens. The programme includes a musical tribute to the Star Trek saga as well as music from every one of the Star Wars epics, performed in chronological story order. Mankind's giant leap is remembered and we pay a visit to our nearest planetary neighbour with a movement from Holst's Planets Suite.

Puppet Power (alternative title: No Strings Attached)

Alasdair pulls all the strings to present this stunning combination of puppetry and music. Working with top puppeteers Ronnie and Caroline le Drew (or local puppeteers if preferred) the spotlight shifts between orchestra and animated action with a dazzling array of music to enhance the effect. Alasdair's own puppetry skills are to the fore in his renowned routine The Skeleton in the Cupboard, the audience are invited to bring along a long sock which is transformed into a puppet to take part in The Singalong for Socks and the orchestra gets to perform the themes from The Muppets and Thunderbirds!

Top Scores

After a procession of International Flags to set off this sporting extravaganza, we hear John Williams' Summon the Heroes from the opening ceremony of the 1994 Olympics, imagine the sporting silverware being brought home in triumph with The Grand March from Aida, discover how football-fanatic composer Shostakovitch was the perfect choice for a ballet about a football team, take an energetic bicycle ride to a fantastic new piece, Pedal Power composed by Rob Lea before showing our true colours as we support two rival teams who meet in the final of a football match for audience and orchestra, then raise our voices loudly singing along to Alasdair's match-day medley A Football Fan-Tasia.

The World at our Feet or A World at our Feet

(Note: if this is performed WITHOUT dancers then the title is A World at our Feet)

Celebrating dance from all round the world, Alasdair and the orchestra whisk us off our feet on a joyous journey round the globe. Combining with local dance groups if possible, with the dancers using the natural spaces in around and between the musicians, this highly visual show focuses on the folk music and dance traditions of almost every continent. An undoubted musical and theatrical highlight is Alasdair's rousing arrangement of Riverdance. The audience are invited to dress in International costumes and they even get to learn and join in a very unusual dance; Mr Mozart's Macarena!!

The Pirate Party

Awesome Al, the cabin boy of our Pirate Ship welcomes you aboard this suitably swashbuckling seafaring adventure. From the stirring sounds of Leroy Anderson's Pirate March to the spectacular finale where everyone learns The Sailor's Hornpipe, this is an unforgettable voyage through uncharted waters in search of a treasure trove of musical gems. Hear about the pirates hiding their treasure in Fingal's Cave, head off Over the Waves to the Caribbean and sing about the Jamaican Rumba. Encounter Cap'n Jack Sparrow in music from the Pirates of the Caribbean films and test your nautical knowledge in our quiz Nautical Notes.

Steps in Time (Alternative Title: Time Travellers)

A Time Vortex has opened! Thank goodness our travelling Time-Lord Alasdair Malloy is on hand with his sonic screwdriver to get us back to the present day. The music whisks us through different centuries and periods of history as we hear Sumer is Icumen In, the Bergamasca from Respighi's Ancient Airs and Dances, Britten's Courtly Dances from Gloriana, the Scherzo from The New World Symphony together with music from the Incas, the Egyptians and the dinosaurs. The different sections of the orchestra are introduced as they provide time-travelling music inspired by the Doctor Who theme.

Adventures in the Magical Kingdom

The King of the Magical Kingdom of Far, Far Away is in town with his Jester who invites the audience to accompany them back home where a Grand Ball is about to take place. The guests begin to arrive and we meet Beauty and the Beast, Robin Hood, The Empress of the Pagodas, Puss in Boots as well as hearing some Tales of Narnia. The Ball commences with the Sleeping Beauty Waltz before we all shake off our shoes and strut our stuff to the Shrek Swamp Dance Party!

From Hamelin to Hogwarts

Everyone loves stories, and in this concert we've a symphonic selection to match a library full of children's literature from Lord of the Rings to Harry Potter. We remind ourselves of the Pied Piper of Hamelin, Long John Silver, and The Cat in the Hat, as well as hearing music inspired by the Arabian Nights and Alice in Wonderland, before settling down to hear Alasdair recount the tale of The King's New Clothes.

Magic and Mystery

The truly magical and mysterious sounds of the orchestra are on show here in music which conjures up spine-chilling thrills and spills. We'll protect ourselves with the Ritual Fire Dance, forge a magical sword in The Anvil Polka, cobble up some magic shoes with help from The Elfin Shoemaker, then hitch a ride to Hogwarts with the miraculous Firebird.

Music on the Menu

A fun-filled feast for all the family as we take a whisk round Europe's culinary kitchens and get creative with the orchestra's components. Music to tickle your taste buds includes a healthy breakfast with Grieg's Morning, tea and coffee breaks courtesy of the Sugar Plum fairy and a hearty Hungarian Goulash for dinner. All this and a smorgasbord to choose from for lunch – this concert has all the right ingredients.

The Thrill of the Orchestra

A carefully chosen collection of classics guaranteed to provide that Thrill-Factor only an orchestra can.

Thrills and Chills

From Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, through a specially narrated version of *Danse Macabre*, a trip on the ghostly *Flying Dutchman* and an encounter with *The Cool Ghoul* and *The Skeleton in the Cupboard* this spine-chilling selection of sensationally scary music will make your hair stand on end and give you goosebumps all over!

Going Global (alternative: *Earth Matters*)

Join Alasdair and the orchestra as we travel by Eco-Motion to **celebrate** the **natural beauty** of our planet. Visit blue oceans, green rainforests, red deserts and white icecaps along the way learning lessons from the past to prepare a path to the future. The music discovered in each O-Zone includes *Malambo* by Ginastera, *Cantus Arcticus* by Rautavaara, *Kakadu* by Peter Sculthorpe and an extract from the orchestral score for the award winning television series *The Blue Planet* by George Fenton.

Wheels and Motion (alternative: *Music on the Move*) (programme in development)

Blast off in a space ship, hurry along in a hansom cab, escape on a motorbike, take a trip on a train, a cruise on a boat and career along in a car – travel first class with music to match.