

Atlantic Voyagers

Sat 17th October, 7.30 pm

RIPON CATHEDRAL

Xenophon Kelsey – Conductor

BERNSTEIN *Candide Overture*
GERSHWIN *Piano Concerto in F*

Martin Roscoe – Piano

RACHMANINOV *Symphony No 2*

An exhilarating programme with one of Britain's most celebrated pianists, Martin Roscoe, showcasing the music of three great composers separated by the Atlantic Ocean: Gershwin, Rachmaninov and Bernstein.

Martin Roscoe, always a popular soloist with St Cecilia Orchestra, returns to Ripon Cathedral to perform Gershwin's lively and rhythmic piano concerto.

Rachmaninov's 'perfectly proportioned, ingeniously constructed and melodically exultant' second symphony (one of his best-loved and most enduring works) and Bernstein's sparkling *Candide* overture complete the programme.

Beethoven: 200 Years

Sat 6th February, 7.30 pm

RIPON CATHEDRAL

Xenophon Kelsey – Conductor

BEETHOVEN *Egmont Overture*
BEETHOVEN *Violin Concerto*

Chloe Hanslip – Violin

BEETHOVEN
Symphony No 3 'Eroica'

Virtuoso violinist Chloe Hanslip joins St Cecilia Orchestra in a majestic programme commemorating 200 years since Beethoven's death.

The powerful and expressive *Egmont* overture opens the concert, followed by Beethoven's Violin Concerto, proclaimed by the celebrated violinist Joachim as 'the greatest German violin concerto'. After the interval comes the monumental *Eroica* Symphony: a work which broke boundaries in symphonic form, harmony and emotional content, and which is often considered to be the first Romantic symphony.

Darkness and Light

Sat 24th April, 7.30 pm

RIPON CATHEDRAL

Gary Matthewman – Conductor

SIBELIUS *Finlandia*
BORODIN *Nocturne* (arr. Sargent)
ARUTIUNIAN *Trumpet Concerto*
Will Thomas – Trumpet
SHOSTAKOVICH *Symphony No 10*

A programme of emotional contrasts, from tragedy and turbulence to patriotic pride and triumph.

Sibelius' ever-popular patriotic tone poem, *Finlandia*, opens the concert, followed by Borodin's *Nocturne* with its main theme of remarkable beauty and emotional intensity. Next, St Cecilia is joined by rising star and former Young Musician of the Year brass finalist Will Thomas in Arutiunian's virtuosic trumpet concerto: an energetic powerhouse of Eastern European lyricism and harmonic textures. After the interval comes Shostakovich's Symphony No 10. Composed following the death of Stalin it is a colossal work: 'a declaration against injustice and a testament to freedom, truth and humanity'.

Summer Serenade

Sat 19th June, 7.30pm

HOLY TRINITY, RIPON

Xenophon Kelsey – Conductor

ELGAR *Introduction and Allegro*
HOLST *Fugal Concerto*
Adam Powell – Flute & Alexia Owens – Oboe
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS *Lark Ascending*
Chloe Fletcher – Violin
SAINT-SAENS *Romance for Horn*
Simon Twigge – French Horn
TCHAIKOVSKY *Serenade for Strings*

A beautiful summer programme featuring Vaughan-Williams' best-loved work, *The Lark Ascending*.

A rich and varied programme, bookended with two perennial favourites for string orchestra: Elgar's exhilarating *Introduction and Allegro* and Tchaikovsky's heartfelt *Serenade for Strings*. Alongside these are three works featuring soloists: Holst's Bach-inspired *Fugal Concerto* for flute and oboe, the melodic *Romance* for French horn by Saint-Saens, and of course Vaughan-Williams' *The Lark Ascending* performed by brilliant Ripon-based violinist, Chloe Fletcher.



Xenophon Kelsey



Martin Roscoe



Chloe Hanslip



Simon Twigge



Will Thomas



Adam Powell &
Alexia Owens



Chloe Fletcher



Gary Matthewman

About St Cecilia Orchestra

Ripon's celebrated St Cecilia Orchestra began life as a small local ensemble, formed to accompany the Cathedral Choir at its annual St Cecilia Day Concert. Under the leadership and guidance of renowned conductor and educator, Xenophon Kelsey MBE, it has since grown both in size and reputation to become one of the best regarded non-professional orchestras in the North of England.

Known for its exciting and ambitious programming, and often working with the finest of international soloists, St Cecilia Orchestra draws upon a wealth of local talent while also attracting some of the best players from across North Yorkshire and beyond.



Booking Information

CONCERTS IN HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Adults £20; Children under 18 Free. All seats are unreserved.

CONCERTS IN RIPON CATHEDRAL

Adults £35/£28 (reserved) & £20 (unreserved); Children under 18 Free.

SAVE WITH A SEASON TICKET – ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE

Save 20% for 4 concerts booked before 17 Oct 2026 and 15% for 3 concerts booked before 6 Feb 2027.

WHERE TO BOOK

- **Online at www.st-cecilia.org.uk** for all ticket types
- **Little Ripon Bookshop:** book in person (unreserved tickets only)
- **Harrogate Theatre:** book in person, on the phone (01423 502116, Tues–Fri, 10–4), or visit www.harrogatetheatre.co.uk/whats-on (unreserved tickets only)
- **By phone** at 01423 531062 (pay and collect at the door, unreserved tickets only)

www.st-cecilia.org.uk

ST
Cecilia
ORCHESTRA
Est Ripon 1995



Concert Season
2026/27

