



THE TITAN SINFONIA NEW YEARS CONCERT 2026

Struggles And Stillness

4 JANUARY • 3.30PM • ST THOMAS CHURCH BRENTWOOD

CONTACT: TITAN.SINFONIAUK@GMAIL.COM

PROGRAMME

4 JANUARY 2026 • 15.30

JOLLIFFE

PASSACAGLIA (PREMIERE)

TCHAIKOVSKY

SYMPHONY NO.6, OP.74 "PATHETIQUE"

1.ADAGIO - ALLEGRO NON TROPPO

2.ALLEGRO CON GRAZIA

3.ALLEGRO MOLTO VIVACE

4.ADAGIO LAMENTOSO

Conductor

ATHARV GUPTA

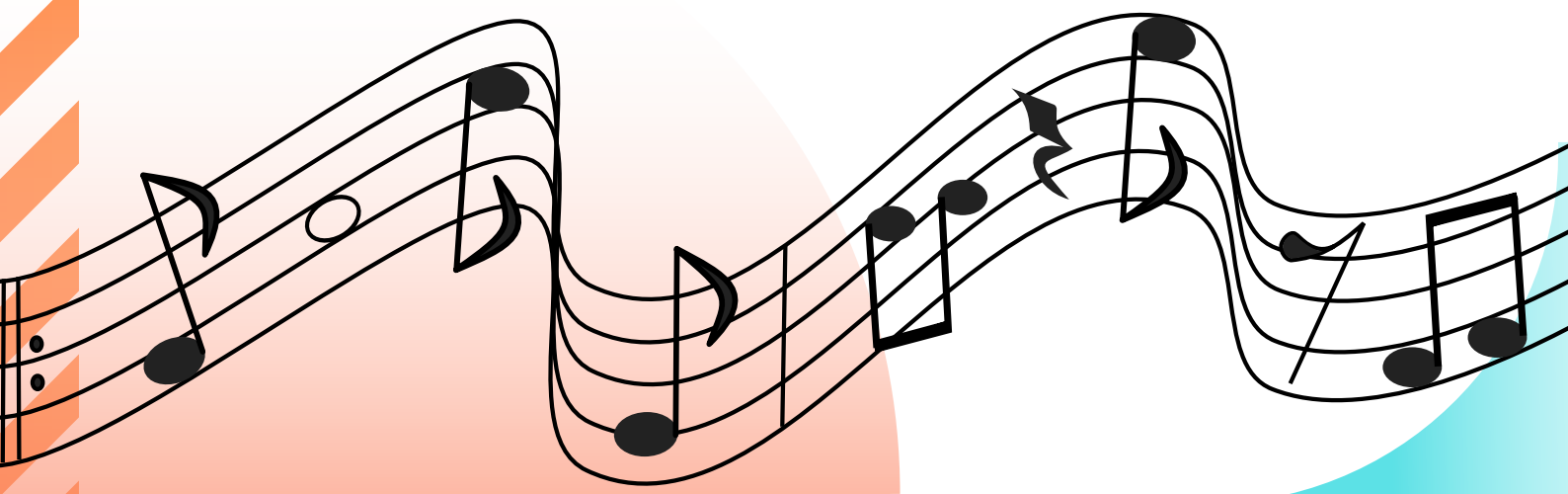
Concertmaster

CYRUS HO

A NOTE ABOUT TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE!

WE WOULD REQUEST THAT ALL AUDIENCE MEMBERS TURN OFF MOBILE PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES THAT COULD DISTURB TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE.

PLEASE NOTE THAT AUDIENCE MEMBERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO TAKE PHOTOS OR VIDEOS.



ABOUT THE COMPOSER

JOE JOLLIFFE (B.2007)

Joe is studying composition with David Sawer and Helen Grime MBE at the Royal Academy of Music. As a Martin Read Foundation composer, Joe has written solo pieces for Joseph Spooner, Cameron Sinclair, and Toril Azzalini-Machecler. Joe was an ORA Singers Young Composer, having a new choral commission performed at Worcester Cathedral as part of the Three Choirs Festival, conducted by Suzi Digby OBE.

Joe co-founded the Southeast-Hampshire Youth Orchestra, and is now Conductor Laureate, and has conducted open rehearsals with Havant Symphony Orchestra. Joe has studied composition with Simon Speare, Laura Jurd, David Horne, and Toby Young, and conducting with James Thomas, Don Lloyd, and Enyi Okpara. Ensembles that have performed Joe's works include the Southeast-Hampshire Youth Orchestra, Havant Symphony Orchestra, and the new music collective Standard Issue.

Recently, Joe won the Havant Orchestras Composition Competition, writing a new piece to celebrate Havant Chamber Orchestra's 60th anniversary.



SYMPHONY NO.6, OP.74

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (1840-1893)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky composed his Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 74, famously known as the *Pathétique*, in 1893, the final year of his life.

Premiered in St Petersburg under the composer's own baton just nine days before his untimely death, the work is widely regarded as a profound and intensely personal statement, blending lyrical Romanticism with moments of dramatic turbulence. The symphony is remarkable for its emotional depth, expressive orchestration, and its unusual trajectory, culminating in a quietly tragic finale that defies conventional symphonic expectations.

The work is in four movements, each contrasting sharply in character and emotional tone:

I. Adagio – Allegro non troppo opens with a mournful bassoon melody that immediately establishes a sense of introspection. The movement gradually unfolds into a passionate Allegro, alternating between heroic themes and lyrical, almost plaintive melodies. Tchaikovsky's mastery of orchestral colour is evident in the striking contrasts between brass fanfares, swirling strings, and delicate woodwind interjections.



SYMPHONY NO.6, OP.74

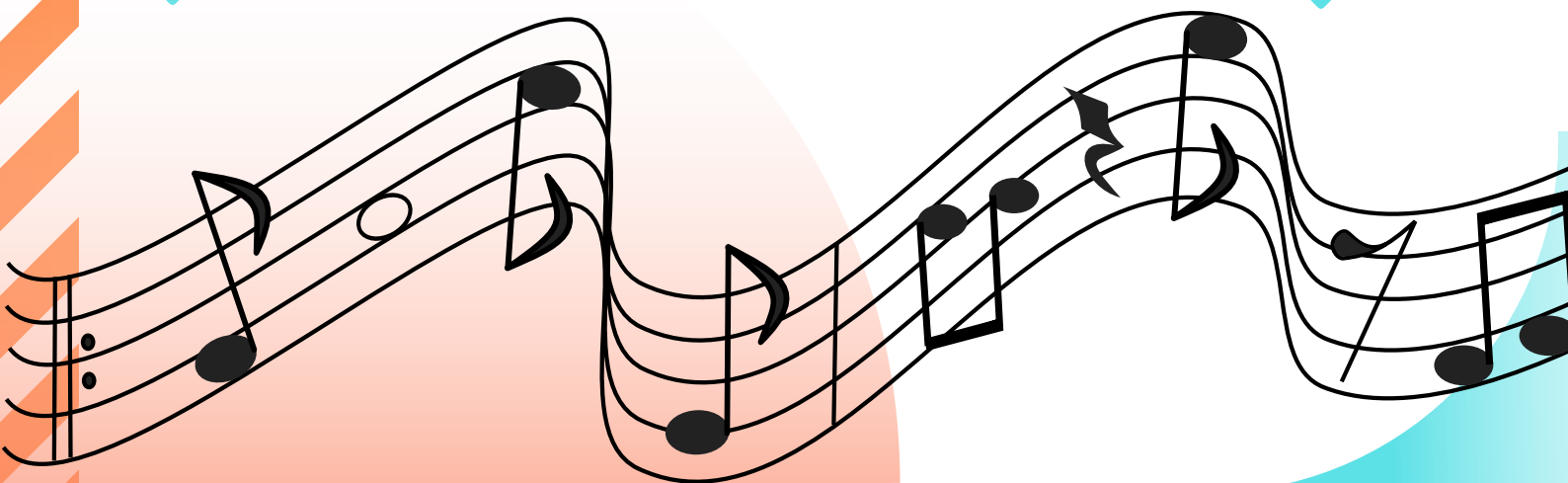
CONTINUED...

II. Allegro con grazia is a light, lilting waltz in 5/4 time, an unusual and subtly unsettling rhythm that imbues the dance with a feeling of gentle instability. Beneath its graceful surface, the movement contains fleeting moments of melancholy, hinting at the underlying pathos that permeates the symphony.

III. Allegro molto vivace bursts forth with energy and rhythmic drive. Often described as a march-like scherzo, it combines playful motifs with sudden outbursts of intensity. Tchaikovsky's intricate interplay between sections of the orchestra heightens the tension, creating a sense of urgency that propels the music toward the final movement.

IV. Adagio lamentoso is the symphony's extraordinary and unconventional finale. Rather than ending triumphantly, Tchaikovsky creates a sense of profound emotional strain, with melodies that seem to cry out in anguish. The strings carry a sorrowful, almost pleading theme, underpinned by tense harmonic shifts and aching orchestral textures. This movement's poignancy is raw and intimate, conveying resignation, grief, and deep human vulnerability, leaving the listener with an unforgettable emotional impression that defines the *Pathétique* as one of the most moving symphonies ever written.

Tchaikovsky's orchestration in the *Pathétique* exploits the full range of the Romantic orchestra, from rich, singing strings and radiant woodwinds to dramatic brass and nuanced percussion. The symphony stands as a profoundly personal testament, balancing expressive lyricism with dramatic intensity, and remains a pinnacle of emotional and structural innovation in late 19th-century music.



ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR

ATHARV GUPTA (B.2008)

Atharv is a young conductor, composer, trombonist, and pianist. His musical journey began at age 5 with Redbridge's Young Music Makers programme but it was during the lockdown at age 10 that he discovered a deep passion for classical music.

In 2021, Atharv joined Essex Music Services, playing with several ensembles, including the Essex Youth Orchestra, where he plays Bass Trombone. He also attends Trinity Laban School of Music's junior department, studying Conducting and Composition with Darren Bloom and Trombone with Jonathan Watkins.

A significant milestone came in 2023, when Atharv won the BBC Young Composer Award, leading to a yearlong mentorship programme and the premiere of his prize commission by the BBC Concert Orchestra at the BBC Proms. He was also named an ORA Singers Young Composer for 2024, culminating in the premiere of a choral work he wrote at Worcester Cathedral as part of the Three Choirs Festival.

In 2023, Atharv made his conducting debut in a masterclass with Robin Browning, after which he became the assistant conductor of the Essex Young Person's Orchestra until Summer 2025, working under the guidance of Matthew Andrews. This winter, Atharv began in his new role as the assistant conductor of the Essex Youth Orchestra.

Outside of music, Atharv enjoys debating, quizzing, and playing table tennis with the Chelmsford Table Tennis Club. He also has a keen interest in physics.



ABOUT THE CONCERTMASTER

CYRUS HO (B.2007)

Cyrus is an active London-based violinist. He began his musical training as a pianist at the age of five and started the violin at seven, later shifting his focus decisively towards the violin on entering secondary school.

In recent years, Cyrus has pursued instrumental performance alongside academic music study through A-level Music. In March 2025, he toured Belgium with Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School, where he was fortunate to perform selections from Bach's Sei Solo on multiple occasions in churches and cathedrals in Brussels. Cyrus has also dedicated his Saturdays to the Centre for Young Musicians, where he has performed Schubert's Octet in F multiple times this year as a first violinist.

Cyrus plays in several ensembles and orchestras, including as a first violinist in CYM Symphony and Chamber Orchestra. He has also been a member of the London Schools Symphony Orchestra, where he led the second violins in repertoire including Stravinsky's The Firebird and Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 (From the New World).

Beyond instrumental performance, Cyrus enjoys arranging and is especially interested in how colour, texture, and balance are shaped within an ensemble. Outside of music, he is a keen mathematician and physicist, and enjoys exploring the overlap between music and physics—particularly the mathematics behind acoustics and how resonance and space influence sound making in music performances.



THE TITAN SINFONIA

Violin I

Cyrus Ho
Elio Aliaj
Anja Newman
Casey-Joan Whyte
Soshin Yoshitake-
Thatcher
Amelia Swiecka

Violin II

Annabelle Gray
Thomas O'Hagan
Art de Bruyn
Barnaby Pang
Amogh Somayaji
Nathan Johnson
Alec Imamovic

Viola

Charles Lino
Orsida Luli
Annabel Cullington-
Doss

Cello

David Ball
Jasper Pike
Jacob Gooding
Jasmine Townson
Daniel Tidey
Gabriel Leung

Flute

Olta Luli
Sofia Gkatsou

Oboe

Harry Wilson
Elise Lai

Clarinet

Rebecca Boland Ross
Jasper Rebel

Bassoon

Sophie Kelly
Max Docherty

French Horn

Darcie Vernon
Caspar Glemser
Georgia Paxton
Matthew Gray

Trumpet

Alex Rebel
Isaac Thomas
Oliver Toms

Trombone

Chloe Simpson
Megan Huan
Sasha Bohn

Tuba

Adi Grant

Percussion

Xander Haile
Vincent Lilley



GET IN TOUCH!



The Titan Sinfonia is a non-profit youth orchestra that offers two courses each year.

If you enjoyed tonight's performance, we'd love for you to spread the word to your family and friends! Stay tuned for details about our upcoming winter course and concert—announcements will be made on our Instagram page, @titansinfonia.

Follow us to keep up with our musical journey!

[Go To Our Instagram Page Here](#)

