

# *Piano & more series*

*An hour of music on Sunday afternoons*

**Leon Bosch** *Conductor*

**Helen Godbolt** *cello*

Orchestra led by Marion Garrett

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February

at 3pm

Tring Parish Church

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Symphony No. 22 in E $\flat$  major, Hoboken I/22 "The Philosopher"

*I Adagio; II Presto; III Menuet e Trio; IV Finale: presto*

Johannes Matthias Sperger (1750-1812)

Symphony No. 29 in G major. Cello soloist: **Helen Godbolt**

*I Adagio - Allegro vivace; II Romance; III Menuetto – Trio; IV Allegro assai*

*1<sup>st</sup> violins*

Marion Garrett *leader*

Jackie Burwell

Philip Burwell

Jane Thorburn

*2<sup>nd</sup> violins*

Linda Miller

Akiko Coulter

David Coltman

*Violas*

Adrienne Cooke

Linda Clark

*Cellos*

Gavin Clements

Beth Wickens

*Double bass*

Pui Wah

*Oboe & Cor Anglais*

Louisa Osmond

Patrick Garrett

*Horns*

David Cropper

Tim Egan

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March, we are pleased to welcome senior music students from Tring School, directed by their head of music, Sarah Stephens. Expect an interesting and varied programme from these talented youngsters! For further details and to sign up for our emailing list, please see our website:

[piano-and-more.org.uk](http://piano-and-more.org.uk) or Google 'Piano and more, Tring'.

### Today's performers

**Leon Bosch** conducts chamber and symphonic ensembles around the world and is one of the few double bass players to direct concertos from the instrument. Having worked with the finest conductors for 30 years as a member of groups such as the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, Philharmonia and Hallé, he learnt the repertoire and conductor's craft from inside the orchestra, and finally made the transition to the podium in 2015, when he left Academy of St Martin in the Fields and went to study in St Petersburg with Alexander Polishchuk. Since then he has conducted orchestras across the UK, Europe, India, South Africa and Mozambique. During his playing career, he performed concertos around the world and served as a guest with ensembles such as the Lindsays, Brodsky Quartet and Zukerman Chamber Players.

Leon is committed to rediscovering neglected music, as well as expanding and diversifying the double bass repertoire, and has recorded 19 CDs of wide-ranging programmes, with more in planning. Throughout his career he has worked with leading composers, and his latest project is to revive the sonatina form for a programme he will tour and record for Meridian Records in 2024. He also commissions chamber arrangements of well-known symphonic classics for his ensemble I Musicanti, and set up I Musicanti Publishing in order to distribute these works.

He is professor of double bass at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London and gives masterclasses in the US, Europe, South Africa, and the Far East. He has also served as double bass coach for youth orchestras including the I, Culture Orchestra, National Youth String Orchestra, Miagi Orchestra and Buskaid. He has contributed to programmes on BBC Radio 3 and 4 and written for The Strad and Classical Music magazines.

Leon grew up in South Africa, the son of the political activist Jonas Fred Bosch, and spent time in a police cell for organising protests while at school. He left the apartheid regime behind to study at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

He became a British citizen in 2000. In recent years he has returned to his roots, musically, forming the Ubuntu Ensemble with other UK-based South African musicians, and commissioning music for the South African Double Bass project, the first CD of which was released in 2020. He also acts as a mentor for South African musicians worldwide.

Away from music, he runs marathons and ultra-marathons and holds a Master's degree in Intelligence and International Relations from Salford University.

**Helen Godbolt** started playing the cello at the age of 8 and went on to gain a music degree at Manchester University (studying cello with Bernard Gregor-Smith from the Lindsay quartet), and a post-graduate diploma on 'cello at the Royal Academy of Music, London. Here she formed the Regent Quartet with Sarah McKenna, Caryn Cohen and Suzanne Casey and performed with them for over fifteen years.

Professional work has been with a range of ensembles, including the City of London Sinfonia, The English Festival Orchestra, Longborough Opera, and Kanye West at the Brit Awards. Recent solo performances include the Kodály Sonata in Tring and in Shamley Green, Surrey, and the Kodály violin and 'cello duo with Sarah McKenna. Based in Tring, she works as a freelance professional player, performing with orchestras and chamber ensembles nationwide as well as teaching a broad range of students.