Programme

G F Handel (1685-1759)

Water Music Suite

Allegro

W A Mozart (1756-1791)

Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major K.467

I. Allegro maestoso, II. Andante, III. Allegro vivace assai

-Interval-

W A Mozart (1756-1791)

Marriage of Figaro—Overture

R Wagner (1813-1883)

Siegfried's Idyll

Tonight's programme brings together music of ceremony, theatrical sparkle and intimate warmth. Opening with Handel's Water Music, recalling the festive outdoor performances for which the music was written. Mozart then takes centre stage with the infamous Piano Concerto No. 21, a work celebrated for its graceful melodies and expressive dialogue between soloist and orchestra. We are delighted to welcome Italian pianist Thomas Masciaga, with Music Director Brian Choi leading the performance.

Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro Overture follows, launching straight into the opera's world of quick-witted comedy and irresistible energy. The concert concludes with Wagner's Siegfried Idyll, a work of warmth and tenderness, originally composed as a private birthday gift for his wife, Cosima. From public celebration to personal serenade, tonight's music offers a varied and inviting journey.

Conservatoire Concerts

present

The Sutton Philharmonic Orchestra

Under the direction of

Brian Choi

with

Piano Soloist: Thomas Masciaga





17th October, 2026, 7.00pm

Godalming Baptist Church, GU7 1BA

www.conservatoireconcerts.org.uk

His awards include prizes at the Humberto Quagliata International Piano Competition, the ARS Modi International Piano Competition, and the Intercollegiate Sheepdrove Piano Competition, where he was also awarded the Robert Turnbull Award. Since 2024, he has been supported by Talent Unlimited and is a scholar of the Robert Turnbull Piano Foundation and of Fondazione Cecilia Gilardi

Brian Choi is a conductor from Hong Kong, now based in London. He studied at Diocesan Boys' School, and later at Guildhall School of Music with Prof Tim Redmond and Dominic Wheeler. Brian held the Junior Fellowship in Conducting at the Guildhall School of Music in 2023, assisting guest conductors such as Lionel Bringuier, Roberto Gonzalez Monjas with symphonic projects at the Barbican Centre. Since the fellowship, Brian has been in demand as assistant conductor to many top-level international conductors and institutions, including Tan Dun with the London Philharmonic Orchestra .

In the operatic field, Brian has been on the music staff for London Opera Company's productions of Wagner operas since 2023 as assistant/ off-stage conductor, productions including: Die Walküre, Siegfried, Götterdämmerung, and Tristan und Isolde in 2026, Parsifal in 2027. Brian's passion for the Wagnerian repertoire led him to be selected by the Wagner Society UK and Richard Wagner Stipendienstiftung, as a Bayreuth Stipendiat 2025. In the 25/26 season, Brian is involved in three productions of Wagner's Die Walküre, taking him across the UK, Europe, and China. Apart from Wagner, Brian is Music Director for Opera SQUASHED, where he will conduct Mozart Le Nozze di Figaro, and Beethoven's Fidelio in the 26/27 season..

In 2022, Brian founded the Sutton Philharmonic Orchestra, based in Great Sutton Street, where he is also Music Director. Together, they have performed works by Bach, Beethoven, Bruckner, Brahms, and Wagner. Particular highlights include a semi-staged performance of Bach's St John Passion on Palm Sunday 2024. Future plans include performing Wagner Die Walküre in autumn 2026, and a revival of Hans Pftizner's Three Preludes to 'Palestrina', which haven't been played in London since the 1925 Proms concert!

There will be a retiring collection towards musicians' fees and expenses. We are grateful for your generous contributions towards these concerts.

The Sutton Philharmonic Orchestra

Concertmaster: Kassia Ren

Violin I

Kassia Ren #

Lily An

Violin II

Xenia Edwards

Hayun Lee

Viola

Kelvin Chan

Riana Tam

Cello

Haoran Li

Shannon Do

Double Bass

Diana Weiz

Horn

Tom Pinnell

Oscar Chung

Trumpet

Jess Malone

Flute

Kiera Exall

Oboe

Wilson Leung

Clarinet

Galina Baxter

Holly Bannister

Bassoon

Rosie Lupton

Thomas Masciaga is an Anglo-Italian pianist whose performances have been praised for their sensitivity, clarity, and expressive depth. He began studying the piano at the age of seven and made his recital debut at twelve at the Teatro dei Rozzi in Siena. At fifteen, he was admitted to the Junior Department of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London, where he was awarded the prestigious Piano Prize. He later studied with Paul Roberts, and Charles Owen, graduating with First-Class Honours and completing both the Concert Recital Diploma and most recently the Artist Diploma.

Masciaga performs regularly as a soloist and with orchestra throughout the United Kingdom and Italy. His appearances have taken him to distinguished venues including St James's Piccadilly, Bechstein Hall, and Milton Court at the Barbican Centre in London.

A formative influence on his artistic development has been his long-standing mentorship with Konstantin Bogino at the Accademia Perosi in Biella. Equally significant has been his ongoing artistic dialogue with pianist Federico Colli, which continues to inspire and shape his musical vision.