



ENGLISH
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA



A NEW GOLDEN AGE FOR
**MUSICAL
STORYTELLING**

KENNETH WOODS AND THE **ENGLISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

www.eso.co.uk

A NEW GOLDEN AGE FOR MUSICAL STORYTELLING

KENNETH WOODS and the **ENGLISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** present new works for young listeners.

These new works, not available anywhere else, can be heard in individually curated programmes to suit any occasion alongside music from major film scores, classics of the storytelling repertoire and classical favourites. They're perfect for seasonal concerts, too.

All our storytelling works are written for the same forces, allowing the maximum range of music in venues of all sizes and shapes. The orchestral programmes can be done with 18-50 musicians, and we also offer supplementary chamber programmes for violin, cello and narrator.

We offer choices of narrator and presenter to suit every venue and budget, from concerts narrated from the podium to performances hosted by some of today's most celebrated stars.



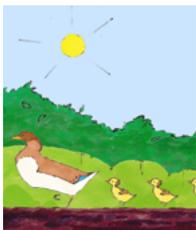
FEATURED WORKS

TOM KRAINES – HANSEL AND GRETEL 14'



A spooky and evocative take on the Brothers Grimm favourite, Kraines' brilliant setting of this tale is full of humour and humanity. Given the story's Germanic roots, it's fitting that Kraines' musical language embraces stylistic hints of Viennese operetta, the works of Mahler and Richard Strauss and even playful references to the music of the Second Viennese School. It's a fast-paced and immersive work that draws young listeners into the deepest roots of the Western musical tradition.

KENNETH WOODS – THE UGLY DUCKLING 17'



This is a setting of Hans Christian Andersen's literary masterpiece shorn of all its Disney baggage. The work includes witty set-pieces, virtuoso orchestral displays for violin, clarinet and cello, and moments of great emotion. Woods commissioned the Polish-American artist and poet Wanda Sobieska to create a bespoke set of illustrations for the work, resulting in over 100 absorbing and captivating images which are projected during the performance. The Ugly Duckling is also a treasure trove for teaching young people about music. Written as a mini-symphony in four thematically-linked short movements, there are musical references to the music of composers as diverse as Saint-Saëns, Mahler, Shostakovich, de Falla, Tchaikovsky and Sibelius. The piece is a captivating listening experience for young people and also a doorway to further exploration of the riches of classical music.

KILE SMITH – THE BREMEN TOWN MUSICIANS I 11'

Philadelphia-based composer Kile Smith has given us an effervescent and playful setting of this Brothers Grimm classic with subtle hints of neo-classical Stravinsky alongside stylistic nods to Copland and Ravel. As in Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf, each of the animal musicians has its own theme and instrument, so this work is a perfect introduction to the orchestra and a great vehicle for learning to recognise musical ideas and to see how they can change in the course of this playful and uplifting work.

NEW WORKS IN 2019-2020

DAVID YANG – LUBIN FROM CHELM

A madcap and hilarious Klezmer re-telling of the classic English folktale, Lucky Jack. Includes a healthy dose of laugh-out-loud audience participation.

ANDREW WAGGONER – THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

Stravinskian bite and mischievous humour bring this rollicking setting of Hans Christian Andersen's popular parable to life.

JAY REISE – THE WARRIOR VIOLINIST

American composer Jay Reise uses a musical palette inspired by the French masters Debussy and Ravel to set this 2,500 year-old Egyptian folk tale about a young man who goes to war to prove his heroism to a young princess and returns after a triumphant campaign to find that he is so changed by the war that his love no longer recognises him.

CONTACT

For more information or to book, please contact:

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