



CBSO

City of Birmingham
Symphony Orchestra



FAMILY CONCERT CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS!

Symphony Hall, Birmingham

Sunday 24 October 2021, 2.00pm

Jaume Santonja Espinós – Conductor

Catherine Arlidge MBE – Presenter

Sarah Butt – BSL Interpreter

Saint-Saëns Carnival of the Animals 22'

Wiseman Carnival of the Endangered Animals (CBSO Centenary Commission: World Premiere) 18'

The lion roars, the swan glides and the elephant...waltzes? In Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals*, anything can happen; a truly delightful way to introduce children of all ages to the fabulous beasts of the orchestra! We've got a few extra surprises too, in this family concert – as composer Debbie Wiseman (*Stig of the Dump* / *Tom's Midnight Garden*) introduces a whole new musical menagerie. Please do not feed the musicians!

We are grateful to the Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity, Principal Supporter of the CBSO's work with young people.

OUR FEATURED PIECE TODAY IS...

The Carnival of the Animals, by Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Introduction and Royal March of the Lion | Hens and Cockerels | Wild asses (fast animals) | Tortoises | The Elephant | Kangaroos | The Aquarium | Characters with long ears | The Cuckoo deep in the woods | The Aviary | Pianists | Fossils | The Swan | Finale

Camille Saint-Saëns... hmmm... have a look at his name – and just try saying it out loud. Go on – admit it; you said “Saint Sanes”. It's actually pronounced “Sant-Son”. And one story goes that he got so tired of people making that very mistake that, in 1886, he decided to sit down and compose a “Grand Zoological Fantasy” as a tribute to the only creatures who'd never once mispronounced his name. So here they all are; all your favourites from the zoo and the farmyard, plus a couple of creatures discovered by Saint-Saëns himself in his musical career (now, why would an important composer want to call a couple of pianists charging up and down the keyboard like maniacs “Wild asses”..? And surely he doesn't think our lovely Pianists belong in a zoo – unless they've got something to do with those asses?).

Don't worry. We're going to explain everything. See if you can work out which instrument represents the huge, lumbering elephant (clue – it's not the piccolo), the glittering fish in the Aquarium, the fluttering birds in the Aviary, the rattling bones of the Fossils, and the gracefully gliding Swan. And who are the “Characters with long ears”? It's all there in the music. You just have to listen!

By Richard Bratby



Today's concert will last approximately an hour in total, with no interval.

Principal Funders:



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



YOU HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Our Orchestra was founded in 1920 and over the last 100 years has become one of the UK's leading symphony orchestras. Based here at Symphony Hall, it performs over 150 concerts each year in Birmingham and beyond – as well as managing four choruses, a youth orchestra, and a Learning and Participation programme that reaches over 80,000 lives every year. It has also toured around the world, to countries including China, Japan, the USA, Brazil and Finland.

Like what you heard today? With over 65 concerts every year at Symphony Hall, why not join us for more of the best music ever written...

Great symphonic classics, fun concerts for all the family, and rocking Friday night spectaculars, all played by one of the world's greatest orchestras – right here in your city.

Did you know that all of our Family, Notelets and School Concerts are BSL interpreted? See our website for details...



Find out more at cbsoco.uk



JAUME SANTONJA ESPINÓS CONDUCTOR

Today's conductor, Jaume Santonja has always worked closely with the CBSO. And when he's not with us, he is often found working with orchestras in Spain and playing as a percussionist in a symphonic orchestra in Antwerp, Belgium. He's just the person to guide you through the orchestra today – as well as conducting and playing percussion instruments, he also composes music of his own.



CATHERINE ARLIDGE MBE PRESENTER

Catherine is a violinist, educator and concert presenter. As a member of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, her professional life includes performing, touring and

recording with the CBSO, alongside a busy programme of educational activities. She is also a founder member of The Stringcredibles, the Artistic Director of the National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain and programmes and presents concerts across the UK for children, families and audiences new to classical music.



WHAT'S OUR SECOND PIECE OF MUSIC TODAY?

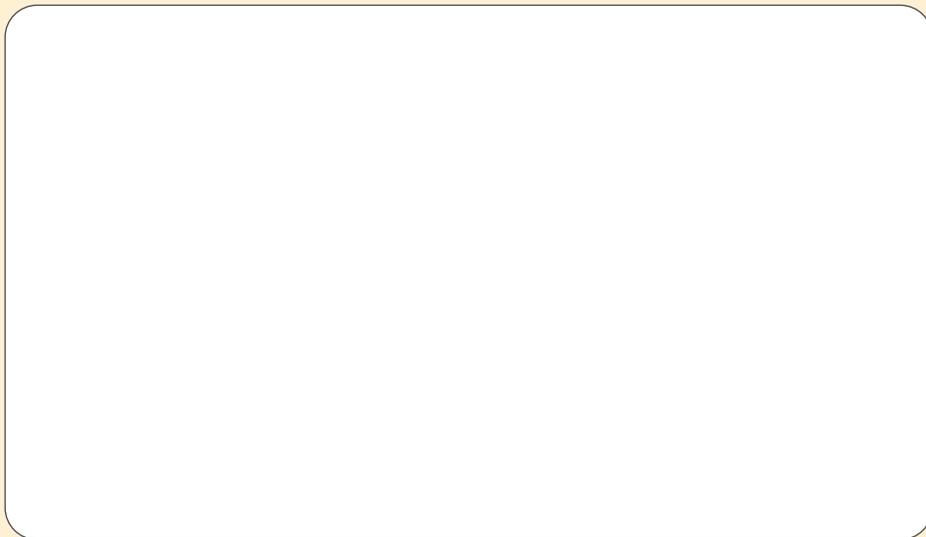
The CBSO asked composer Debbie Wiseman to create a piece of music, so she listened to Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals* and created a modern and topical piece of her own, which puts the spotlight on species at risk of extinction.

CHILD TICKETS

Don't forget that you can buy tickets for children aged 17 and younger for just £5 for main season concerts....

cbsoco.uk

TAKE A LOOK AT THE INSTRUMENTS IN THE ORCHESTRA AND DRAW YOUR FAVOURITE HERE!



DID YOU KNOW...?

- When scientists asked elephants to play specially designed instruments such as harmonicas and steel drums, they found that the elephants were able to keep the rhythm even better than their human counterparts!
- Goldfish can be trained to distinguish between composers. Researchers used pieces of music by two composers in the study: Igor Stravinsky and Johann Sebastian Bach. They trained the fish to chew on a food ball when they heard a chosen composer. And the fish could eventually spot which composer was which!
- Cows produce more milk when listening to slower music...