

LSO

HALF SIX FIX

Wonderful Town

Thursday 21 December 6.30–7.45pm
Barbican Hall

Bernstein Wonderful Town (concert version)

Sir Simon Rattle conductor
Danielle de Niese Eileen
Alysha Umphress Ruth
Nathan Gunn Bob Baker
Duncan Rock Wreck/Second Associate Editor
David Butt Philip Lonigan
Ashley Riches Guide/First Associate Editor/Frank
Kevin Brewis Third Cop/First Man/Cadet/Villager
Stephen John Davis First Cop/Chick Clark
Flora Dawson Violet
Soophia Foroughi Second Woman
Andrew Keelan Second Cop/Second Man
Jane Quinn First Woman
Michael Baxter Fourth Cop
Daniele Quilleri, Gary Brown casting consultants
London Symphony Chorus
Simon Halsey chorus director
David Lawrence assistant chorus director
London Symphony Orchestra

Welcome to Half Six Fix, a new way to experience great classical music from the LSO. Before the performance begins, LSO Music Director Sir Simon Rattle will give you an introduction to the music from the stage. To bring you closer to the action, we've got screens to showcase the performers up-close, and you can access digital programme notes through your Android or Apple device. Grab a drink, take your seat and enjoy the concert!

Please note that photography and filming are not permitted during the performance, and phones and devices are only to be used to access the EnCue app. We ask that customers set their phones to silent and turn notifications off.

ENCUE PROGRAMME NOTES ON YOUR SMARTPHONE OR TABLET

We're working with EnCue for this concert to bring you digital programme notes that are synced to the performance as it happens, giving you a real-time insight into the music and the musicians. EnCue is available as an app for both Apple and Android devices, and can be used on a tablet if desired. Here's how to get involved:

- 1 Connect to the 'LSO Half Six Fix' WiFi network in the Barbican Centre (no password).
- 2 Search for 'EnCue' in the App Store or Google Play, and download the app (it's free).
- 3 Set your phone to silent. We also recommend turning off auto screen lock and disabling push notifications.
- 4 Open the EnCue app.
- 5 You can sign in with Facebook or your email if you want to create an account. If you'd rather not create an account, select 'Skip'.
- 6 Select 'London' from the list of available cities, and choose our concert.
- 7 Tap 'Download Performance' then 'View Performance'. The notes will start and advance automatically during the performance – you can swipe left or right to browse content on your own, and re-sync with the performance at any time by tapping the EnCue icon in the lower left corner of the screen. You will know you are in sync when the icon is completely blue.
- 8 To access the app's user guide, tap the (?) icon in the top right of the screen.

barbican

Resident
Orchestra

London Symphony Orchestra


BERNSTEIN WONDERFUL TOWN

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Book by **Joseph Fields** and **Jerome Chodorov**
Music by **Leonard Bernstein**
Lyrics by **Betty Comden** and **Adolph Green**
Based upon the play *My Sister Eileen* by **Joseph Fields** and
Jerome Chodorov and *The Short Stories* by **Ruth McKenney**

- 1 **Overture**
- 2 **Christopher Street**
- 3 **Ohio**
- 4 **Conquering New York**
- 5 **One Hundred Easy Ways to Lose a Man**
- 6 **What a Waste**
- 7 **A Little Bit in Love**
- 8 **Pass the Football**
- 9 **Conversation Piece**
- 10 **A Quiet Girl**
- 11 **Conga**
- 12 **Entr'acte**
- 13 **My Darlin' Eileen**
- 14 **Swing**
- 15 **Quiet Incidental**
- 16 **Ohio (Reprise)**
- 17 **It's Love**
- 18 **Ballet at the Village Vortex**
- 19 **The Wrong-Note Rag**
- 20 **It's Love (Reprise)**

No interval

itting between *On the Town* (1943) and *West Side Story* (1957), *Wonderful Town* (1953) is the second of three musicals by Leonard Bernstein in which New York City itself plays a lead role. It is based on the 1940 play *My Sister Eileen* by Joseph Fields and Jerome Chodorov, which in turn had been adapted from a book of short autobiographical stories by Ruth McKenney.

The plot follows sisters Ruth and Eileen Sherwood, freshly arrived in the Big City from Columbia, Ohio, and eager to make their mark: Ruth as a writer, Eileen as an actress. The 1930s setting (one which the book writers initially wanted to update to the 1950s) allowed Bernstein to reference not only the style of musicals by Cole Porter, Jerome Kern and Irving Berlin but also to incorporate the recent jazz craze.

Bernstein, Comden and Green, who had together written *On the Town*, were tasked by director George Abbott to produce the music and lyrics for *Wonderful Town* at short notice, after the contributions of the existing composer/lyricist team were deemed unsuitable. Cooped up in Bernstein's 57th Street apartment the trio came up with the music and song lyrics in just five weeks.

The original production ran on Broadway for 559 performances, most of which featured the Hollywood actress Rosalind Russell as Ruth. The show won five Tony Awards in its first year, and it's easy to see why. Although *Wonderful Town* doesn't have the gritty edge of *West Side Story*, it effortlessly combines witty lyrics, a light-hearted plot and a sizzling, wide-ranging score in tracing Ruth and Eileen's adventure in the Big Apple.

Introduction & EnCue programme notes by Edward Bhesania

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ON STAGE

Leader Roman Simovic	Cellos Tim Hugh Alastair Blayden Jennifer Brown Noel Bradshaw Eve-Marie Caravassilis Hilary Jones	Saxophones Luke Annesley Claire McInerney Mike Davis Mark Crooks Jay Craig
First Violins Carmine Lauri Lennox Mackenzie Clare Duckworth Nigel Broadbent Ginette Decuyper Gerald Gregory Maxine Kwok-Adams Claire Parfitt Harriet Rayfield Sylvain Vasseur Rhys Watkins	Double Basses Colin Paris Patrick Laurence Matthew Gibson Joe Melvin Jani Pensola	Bassoon Rachel Gough
Second Violins David Alberman Miya Väisänen David Ballesteros Matthew Gardner Julian Gil Rodriguez Naoko Keatley Belinda McFarlane Iwona Muszynska Andrew Pollock Paul Robson	Flutes Gareth Davies Alex Jakeman	Trumpets David Elton Russell Bennett Gerald Ruddock Niall Keatley Paul Mayes
Violas Edward Vanderspar Gillianne Haddow Malcolm Johnston Anna Bastow Julia O'Riordan Robert Turner Heather Wallington Jonathan Welch Michelle Bruil	Piccolo Sharon Williams	Trombones Peter Moore James Maynard
	Oboes Olivier Stankiewicz	Bass Trombone Paul Milner
	Cor Anglais Christine Pendrill	Timpani Nigel Thomas
	Clarinets Andrew Marriner Chris Richards	Percussion Neil Percy David Jackson
	E-Flat Clarinet Chi-Yu Mo	Drum Kit Matthew Skelton
	Bass Clarinet Christelle Pochet	Piano Bruno Heinen

MORE HALF SIX FIX IN 2018

Wednesday 28 March 2018
Barbican Hall

6.30-7.30pm

STRAVINSKY & DEBUSSY

François Xavier-Roth conductor

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THOUGHT

We'd love to know what you thought! Give us your feedback by filling out a short online survey at goo.gl/wV4jzG