

LSO Discovery

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH AN
IDEA?

FAMILY CONCERT

Saturday 1 June 2.30–3.30pm, Barbican

Today's programme

barbican
Resident Orchestra

LSO

WELCOME



elcome to this afternoon's LSO Discovery Family Concert at the Barbican. To put this concert together, composer and presenter

Paul Rissmann was inspired by the book *What Do You Do With an Idea?* written by Kobi Yamada and illustrated by Mae Besom. The book tells the story of how one child's idea grows and grows until it becomes something incredible, and with repertoire spanning 200 years of musical creativity, we'll explore how composers have turned their ideas into amazing music for orchestra.

At the heart of the concert is Paul Rissmann's musical and theatrical realisation of *What Do You Do With an Idea?*, commissioned by the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in 2017. When he started working on the score, Paul was inspired by the challenge of evoking an 'idea' – which in the book is represented by an egg – with something physical in the concert hall. In addition to a children's choir, narrator and orchestra, Paul collaborated with Australian dancer Carlie Angel to create the role of the 'idea', and we are delighted that Carlie joins us today in London to bring this production to life.

This Family Concert is presented by LSO Discovery, which for the past 29 years has been at the heart of the LSO's mission of bringing the greatest music to the greatest number of people. We hope that we'll see you again soon. Our next Family Concert at the Barbican is on Sunday 27 October.

Saturday 1 June 2019
Barbican

2.30–3.30pm

LSO DISCOVERY FAMILY CONCERT WHAT DO YOU DO WITH AN IDEA?

Beethoven First movement from Symphony No 5
Elgar Selection from 'Enigma Variations'
Ives The Housatonic at Stockbridge
Paul Rissmann What Do You Do With an Idea?

Felix Mildenberger conductor
Paul Rissmann composer & presenter
Victor Craven director
Carlie Angel dancer
LSO Community Choir
LSO Discovery Junior Choir
London Symphony Orchestra

Today's concert is supported by LSO Patrons

'Creating new music isn't so much about the quality of the initial idea, it's more what you do with that idea that counts.'

Paul Rissmann



THE MUSIC

Ludwig van Beethoven 1770–1827

First movement from Symphony No 5

Beethoven's Fifth Symphony starts with one of the most recognisable ideas in music, which Beethoven himself described as 'fate knocking at the door'.

A darkly dramatic *Allegro con brio* ensues.

In 1808, when the piece was composed, symphonies were not the huge beasts they would become over the following 100 years. Even trombones were thought too grandiose for symphonies – and more suitable for outdoor bands, ceremonial music or theatre. Beethoven's Fifth was the first to make use of them.

Edward Elgar 1857–1934

Selection from 'Enigma Variations'

Elgar composed each of his *Enigma Variations* as musical sketches for his closest friends. The famous 'Nimrod' variation is dedicated to Augustus J Jaeger, Elgar's publisher, who encouraged him to continue composing at a time when Elgar was thinking of packing it all in.

Charles Ives 1874–1954

The Housatonic at Stockbridge from
The Three Places in New England

The Housatonic is a river from Charles Ives' New England home. Ives recreates the idea of the Housatonic in music with a rousing melody, and muted upper strings, in Ives' own word, 'As a kind of distant background of mists seen through the trees, or over a river valley.' The waters of the Housatonic gather force, building to a powerful climax.

Paul Rissmann

What Do You Do With an Idea?

- 1 One Day ...
- 2 The Egg Appears
- 3 Worries
- 4 Making Friends With An Idea
- 5 It's No Good!
- 6 But Then I Realised ...
- 7 Protecting The Idea
- 8 A Place Where It Is Safe To Dream
- 9 It Is Good To Have The Ability To See Things Differently
- 10 Then, One Day...

The story of *What Do You Do With an Idea?* focuses on the relationship between a young child and their idea, dealing with all of life's challenges, from doubt and worry to self-belief, commitment and courage.

When the idea first appears, the child doesn't know what to do with it – so they try to ignore it! The idea is too unusual, no good, and surely no one else would believe in it?

But then the child realises it's their own idea, and that what other people think doesn't matter. As the child protects and cares for it, it grows, until one day it bursts out of its shell and takes flight.

Words by Kobi Yamada

Illustrations by Mae Besom

Felix Mildenberger conductor

Winner of the Donatella Flick LSO Conducting Competition 2018 and of the second prize at the twelfth Cadaqués International Conducting Competition, German conductor Felix Mildenberger is currently the Assistant Conductor of both the London Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestre National de France. Moreover, he will become Paavo Järvi's Assistant Conductor at the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich in the 2019/20 season.

Paul Rissmann composer & presenter

Born on the Isle of Bute, Scotland, Paul studied composition and saxophone at the Royal Academy of Music, the Guildhall school and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Today, he writes music, talks about music and inspires others to make and perform their own music, working with people of all ages and abilities.

Paul has performed with orchestras in America, Australia, Canada, Europe, India, Malaysia and the Middle East. His projects have received awards from the Royal Philharmonic Society and the Royal Television Society and in 2012, he won a British Composer's Award. You can listen to Paul's music on Spotify, Apple Music and Amazon Music.

Victor Craven director

Victor Craven is an animator and director with a passion for classical music, theatre and film. He has many years' experience of producing work for the creative arts and specialises in working with world-class orchestras and ensembles, stage directing and producing animations for live concert performance.

Carlie Angel dancer

Carlie has worked with Australian Dance Theatre, TasDance and with diverse independent choreographers across a range of dance genres. A highlight of her career was being nominated for Best Female Dancer for her Solo performance of *Waiting for Violet* by Mia Mason.

Carlie has extensive teaching experience and continues to create work. She choreographed and performed *What Do You Do With an Idea?* with Paul Rissmann and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in 2018.

FOR FAMILIES

Sunday 23 June 10am & 11.30am, LSO St Luke's

ELMER'S WALK

Our storytellers invite under-5s and their families to LSO St Luke's for a magical musical journey with LSO musicians based on *Elmer's Walk*, written and illustrated by David McKee.

2019/20 Season

LSO FAMILY CONCERTS

Our Family Concerts for the new season are now on sale. Themes are yet to be announced, but we have more stories to share and lots more music to play here at the Barbican:

Sunday 27 October 2019, 2.30pm

Saturday 7 March 2020, 2.30pm

Saturday 16 May 2020, 12pm

Visit Iso.co.uk/families for more information

Did you know under-18s can attend most LSO concerts for just £5? Browse all our events at Iso.co.uk

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