

Christmas 2023

Saturday 23 December 12.30pm, 2.30pm & 4.30pm Snape Maltings Concert Hall

Total performance time: approximately 50', with no interval Words for the audience singalong will be displayed on the surtitle screen

The Snowman, with Live Orchestra

Group A
Jubilee Opera Chorus
Suffolk Ensemble
Ben Parry conductor

Dashing Through the Snow

traditional, arranged by Ben Parry

The Snowman (1982) 29'

script: Raymond Briggs (1934–2022) music & lyrics: Howard Blake (b.1938)

Audience singalong:

The Twelve Days of Christmas 5' traditional, arranged by Jonathan Rathbone

The Snowman

4'

Composer and music director Howard Blake is best-known for having written the music for the much-loved children's animated film of The Snowman, including the hit song 'Walking in the air'. The film is based on the original 1978 picture book by Raymond Briggs, and was first shown on Channel 4 on Christmas Eve in 1982. It was an immediate success: it was nominated for an Oscar, won prizes in France and Italy, and received the Best Children's TV Programme at the BAFTAs in 1983. Howard Blake also developed The Snowman into a full-length stage show, which has continued to run in the Peacock Theatre in London and on tour, and has been named as the 'longest-running Christmas show of all time'.

The artwork on-screen this afternoon was created by the Willow Class (Years 3 & 4) at Eyke Primary School.

With thanks to The Chapman Charitable Trust for its kind support



Group A

12.30 and 4.30pm performances

Group A is a free, vocal-performance group for young people aged 8 to 18 in Ipswich, Lowestoft and Leiston, run by Britten Pears Arts. The group rehearses and performs throughout the year in collaboration with a variety of artists and musicians across a breadth of musical genres. The young people on stage this afternoon are from Group A in Leiston and Lowestoft.

Alice, Alistair, Beatrix, Bella, Blaise, Ella, Kaya, Emanuela, Esme, Esther, Evie, Finlay, Genevieve, Harrison, Harry, Jedimah, Leo, Luc, Kiegan, Matilda, Mia, Oliver, Seb, Sofia, Teddie, Theadora

New members of Group A are always welcome. Email community@brittenpearsarts.org or go to brittenpearsarts.org/group-a

Jubilee Opera

12.30 and 2.30pm performances

Jubilee Opera Chorus is the training ground for Jubilee Opera, which was formed in 1987 as a result of a production of Britten's Noye's Fludde in Aldeburgh Church. Such was the enthusiasm in the local community that it was decided to start an opera company for young aspiring performers to work with professionals on productions of the highest possible quality and standard. The aim was to give children with little opportunity elsewhere, the chance to discover their own abilities and to develop their musical and performance skills, thus engendering a lifelong love of the performance arts.

Sophie-May, Clem, Nina, Iris A, Ranulph, Phoebe, Leonora, Daphne, Beau, Orlando, Emilia, Emmeline, Iris E, Evie, Jasmine, Aria, Katie, Miles, Xanthe, Joe, Saffron

If you are interested in joining Jubilee Opera and would like to know more please contact info@jubileeopera.co.uk or look at our website: www.jubileeopera.co.uk

Suffolk Ensemble

The Suffolk Ensemble was formed in 2013 for a special live broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in Aldeburgh Church of Benjamin Britten's *St Nicolas* with Aldeburgh Voices to celebrate the composer's centenary.

The ensemble comprises some of the UK's leading orchestral and chamber musicians who have chosen to make their homes in Suffolk. Further memorable performances include Handel's Coronation Anthems, Bach's Magnificat, Handel's Messiah and James MacMillan's Seven Last Words from the Cross with Aldeburgh Voices. The Suffolk Ensemble has accompanied the live screening of The Snowman at Christmas since 2016.

Violin 1 Nicholas Ward, Franziska Mattishent, Greg Eaton, Caroline Bishop, Kathryn Parry Violin 2 Michael Dolan, Rebecca Scott, Cal Fell, Helen Farrell

Viola Robert Smissen, Wendy Gudgin, James O'Toole, Laura Feeney

Cello John Chillingworth, Harriet Bennett, Melanie Woodcock, Nick Parry

Bass Andrew Durban, Angela Chillingworth

Flute/Piccolo Anna Noakes, Samantha Read

Oboe Tim Eaton

Clarinet/Bass clarinet Claire Baughan, Cliff Wybrow

Bassoon Steve Lock
Trumpet John Jermy
French horn Kay Dawson,
Georgia Dawson

Harp Helen Sharp

Piano/Keyboard Andrew Leach

Percussion Craig Apps, Sam Wilson