

HENLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Tchaikovsky

Fantasy Overture 'Romeo and Juliet'

Grieg

Piano Concerto in A minor

Rimsky-Korsakov

Scheherazade

Alexander Walker

Conductor

Leon McCawley

Piano

Sunday 16th March 2025, 7.00pm
The Hexagon, Reading

Tickets: email hsoboxoffice@gmail.com or 07726 459261

£25, £22, £16; U16s/students half price; 1 child free with paying adult (£22 and £16 tickets); Groups: 1 in 8 free.

Or via Reading Arts: 0118 960 6060 or www.whatsonreading.com/book/408202 (booking fee applies)

Photo Credit: Clive Barda



www.henleysymphonyorchestra.co.uk

Henley Symphony Orchestra is a Registered Charity No. 271849



HENLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Henley Symphony Orchestra returns to the Hexagon for its annual spring concert with a programme inspired by folk music and fantasy. Celebrating its 55th season, HSO is delighted to welcome **Alexander Walker** as its recently appointed Music Director. He has worked extensively in Russia and Eastern Europe and conducted some of the UK's finest orchestras, including the BBC Philharmonic and Royal Philharmonic. In 2017 he was awarded the Elgar Society Medal for championing the composer's music worldwide.

Leon McCawley

One of today's most impeccably musical pianists.
International Piano – Jan/Feb 2021

Praised for his unfailingly communicative playing, British pianist **Leon McCawley** has been delighting audiences worldwide since winning, in 1993, First Prize in the International Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna and Second Prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition. Leon will be soloist in **Grieg's** ravishing *Piano Concerto*. Rich with Norwegian melodies and rhythms, the concerto is the perfect balance of drama and lyricism, from its famous opening flourish to the vigorous 'peasant dance' finale.

Stories of doomed love resonated with **Tchaikovsky**, and his *Fantasy Overture* is a tautly constructed masterpiece that reduces Shakespeare's narrative to its essentials in music that is, by turns, thunderingly dramatic and achingly beautiful.

Rimsky-Korsakov's skill in orchestration is shown off to the full in his sensuous oriental-themed symphonic music, *Scheherazade*, inspired by the story of The Arabian Nights. In this fairy-tale adventure, the Sultana Scheherazade saves her own life by entertaining the grim Sultan with fascinating tales for a thousand and one nights.



Alexander
Walker

Come and join us!

The Hexagon is in the centre of Reading, ten minutes' walk from the station and well signed for those coming by car (postcode for Sat Nav is RG1 7TQ). Car parking is in the Broad Street Mall, Oracle shopping centre or Q-Park Chatham Street car parks (<http://www.readingarts.com/hexagon/your-visit/how-find-us>). There is parking for disabled attendees outside the Hexagon stage door and wheelchair spaces are available in the stalls. To book one of these please contact the Hexagon on **0118 960 6060**. The spacious theatre meets all current requirements for the safety of its patrons.