

# The Snowman with Live Orchestra

## Group A

Jubilee Opera Chorus

Aldeburgh Young Musicians

Suffolk Ensemble

Ben Parry conductor

### **We Wish You a Merry Christmas**

traditional, arranged by Chris Walden

4'

### **The Snowman (1982)**

script: Raymond Briggs (1934–2022)

music & lyrics: Howard Blake (b.1938)

29'

*Audience singalong:*

### **The Twelve Days of Christmas**

traditional, arranged by Jonathan Rathbone

words will appear on the surtitle display

5'

### **The Snowman**

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'.

## **Group A**

### *12.30 and 2.30pm 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.

Blaise, Lexi, Elsie-May, Theodore, Harry, Lana, Logan, Keira Lily-Ann, Sofia, Eva, Rihanna, Mia, Florence

New members of Group A are always welcome. Email [community@brittenpearsarts.org](mailto:community@brittenpearsarts.org) or go to [brittenpearsarts.org/group-a](http://brittenpearsarts.org/group-a)

## **Jubilee Opera**

### *12.30 and 4.30pm 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.

Beau, Orlando, Emilia, Emmeline, Iris, Evie, Jasmine, Eli, Lilah, Katie, Miles, Leo, Charles, Xanthe, James, Saffron, Daisy, Dotty

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

## **Aldeburgh Young Musicians**

### *12.30 and 2.30pm performances*

Aldeburgh Young Musicians (AYM) offers creative and collaborative musical training for promising young musicians aged 10 to 18. We are a Centre for Advanced Training that explores multiple disciplines and genres, ranging from folk and early music to carnival and musical theatre. At AYM we can offer a tailored experience, building on each AYM's individual needs and interests. This customisable and progressive approach means we're able to nurture our students' talents, producing resilient, adaptable and engaged musicians.

Arlo, Arthur, Aryobarzan, Belle, Bertie, Charles, Eden, Eric, Jess, Jessica, Joey, Joseph, Josh, Jude, Kea, Kyriel, Mia, Mo, Peter, Raine, Roo, Saffron, Will

## **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 the Britten Pears Chamber Choir 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*. The Suffolk Ensemble has accompanied the live screening of *The Snowman* at Christmas since 2016.

*Violin 1* Clio Gould, Nicholas Ward, Jonathan Morton, Elizabeth Pigram, Greg Eaton, Kathryn Parry

*Violin 2* Michael Dolan, Rebecca Scott, Helen Farrell, Cal Fell

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

*Cello* Juliet Welchman, Melanie Woodcock, Harriet Bennett

*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* Andrew Leach

*Percussion* Craig Apps, George English