



standard.co.uk

HOME NEWS BUSINESS MONEY COMMENT SPORT VIDEO ENTERTAINMENT LIFE & STYLE TRAVEL SHOWBIZ OFFERS GAMES HOMES & PROPERTY

Entertainment Film Theatre Showbiz Restaurants Music Comedy Art Events Pubs What's on Young's Hot Tickets Tickets

Music

Search for artist or event

Artist/Event...

Search for venue

Venue/Area/Postcode...

London Symphony Orchestra And Chorus: Prom 41

Description: Valery Gergiev conducts the orchestra for Scriabin's Symphony No 1 In E and Stravinsky's The Firebird. With mezzo-soprano Nadezhda Serdiuk and tenor Sergei Skorokhodov.

★★★★★ Nick Kimberley's rating
★★★★★ Reader rating

Your rating
Click on a star to rate



Royal Albert Hall Kensington Gore, SW7 2AP

Phone: 0207589 8212

Website: www.royalalberthall.com

Extra info: Food, Pub

Transport: Tube: High Street Kensington, Tube / Bus: 9, 10, 52, 360

Times: Aug 16, 7.30pm

Price: £5-£35



By Nick Kimberley

17.08.10

In most circumstances you'd have to travel a long way to hear four different orchestras perform Alexander Scriabin's music within nine days but that's what the Proms can do for you. Last night it was the turn of the London Symphony Orchestra under its principal conductor Valery Gergiev, who kicked off an all-Russian programme with Scriabin's monumental First Symphony.

Since Scriabin died at the age of 42, talk of an early work doesn't mean much but this is not his most original achievement. It has its sweeping emotions and elemental surges, its carefully layered washes of lustrous sound. Yet the orchestral textures never quite coalesce into a big tune, at least not until the final movement's duet for mezzo-soprano and tenor.

Nadezhda Serdiuk and Sergei Skorodhov brought operatic intensity to their contributions but even here, Scriabin's sense of proportion was faulty: the 170 singers of the London Symphony Chorus had just four words to sing, admittedly in an extended, somewhat overwrought fugal blast, but no matter how many times they sang "Glory to art, forever glory" (the English translation), it was hard to be convinced.



Conductor: Valery Gergiev took charge

Sponsored links

Conducting Master Classes

- Michail Jurowski 13.09.-19.09.10
Prof. Colin Metters 9.10.-16.10.10

The great isn't always the enemy of the good but the performance of [Stravinsky's](#) The Firebird that followed only underlined the gap between promise and achievement. Before a note had sounded, Gergiev's tense crouch suggested that something great was about to unfold; the barely audible tread of double basses confirmed it.

Even more striking than the strings' ability to deliver the quietest pianissimos was the brilliance of the solo contributions, none more impressive than David Pyatt's mournful horn solos, played with a quite magical sense of sonic perspective. With Gergiev sculpting infinite rhythmic intricacies from the array of sumptuous details, this was a great team performance built on stunning individuality. Repeated on Radio 3 on Monday August 23. [bbc.co.uk/proms](http://bbc.co.uk/proms)

---

*Details are correct at the time of publication - please check with venue before booking.*

### Sponsored links

---

#### Orchestra Jobs

VioWorld job market for orchestra, choir, dance, management  
[vioworld.de/index-en.htm](http://vioworld.de/index-en.htm)

#### Jazz Standards Sheet Music

Get 2000+ Famous Jazz Charts Along With Full Original Recordings  
[www.RealBookSoftware.com](http://www.RealBookSoftware.com)

#### SeniorenGeluk.nl (50+)

Ook toe aan een nieuwe relatie? Kom snel chatten en daten!  
[www.seniorengeluk.nl/chatten](http://www.seniorengeluk.nl/chatten)

#### Zonder BKR controle Lenen

Al in 10 minuten op je rekening. Leen nu gemakkelijk en snel!  
[www.InstantLening.com](http://www.InstantLening.com)

---

### Reader views (0)

---

No comments have so far been submitted.

### Add your comment

---

Name:

Town and country:

Your comment:

[Terms and conditions](#)

You have 1500 characters left.

[Make text area bigger](#)

We welcome your opinions. This is a public forum. Libellous and abusive comments are not allowed. Please read our [House Rules](#).

- I agree to the House Rules.
- Remember me - this will save your name and location for when you leave your next comment.

For information about privacy and cookies please read our [Privacy Policy](#).

#### Classical Concert

##### Finder

What Where When Who  
You Want to See Our  
Concert Finder Helps Fast.  
Try!

#### Lara St John Mozart

##### Album

Moving New Release by  
Lara St John with Scott St  
John & The Knights

#### Karten König der

##### Löwen

Wir beraten Sie gern  
Ticket Hotline  
041316972333