

LSO Discovery

THE PLANETS

Family Concert

Saturday 21 June 2.30pm

LSO



supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



barbican
Resident Orchestra

TODAY'S CONCERT



In today's concert we will explore the iconic *Planets* Suite by Gustav Holst. Holst was a British composer living and working in London 100 years ago. He was a very interesting man and completely ahead of his time.

He was so obsessed by astrology and space that in 1914 he decided to write music to describe the character of each planet. His *Planets* Suite was first played in full by the LSO in 1920 and was an instant hit. People had never experienced anything else like it!

Today we will hear a snapshot of each piece and explore what makes it so special. We will learn how to play in 5 with Mars, search for peace with Venus, grow old to Saturn and laugh along with Jupiter. Mercury will fly across the orchestra, Neptune will plunge us underwater and Uranus the Magician will play tricks on us.

There will also be an opportunity to play and sing along with the orchestra with our new song *Em Vem Juh Sun* – our new method for learning and remembering the order of the planets.



The Planets

Gustav Holst

Excerpts from 'The Planets'

Rachel Leach

Em Vem Juh Sun

Rachel Leach presenter

Karen Ní Bhroin conductor

London Symphony Orchestra

Recommended by **Classic FM**

Rachel Leach presenter

Rachel Leach has worked within the education departments of most of the UK's orchestras and opera companies. The majority of her work is for the London Symphony Orchestra and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Alongside this, she is increasingly in-demand as a concert presenter. She is the presenter of the LSO St Luke's Free Friday Lunchtime Concert series and regularly presents children's concerts and pre-concert events for the LSO, LPO, BBC NOW and RCM.

Rachel is passionate about the value of using classical music in the classroom. As lead tutor on LSO Discovery's teacher training programme she has trained over 150 teachers, and is the author of many free online classroom resources including LSO Play and BBC Ten Pieces lesson plans.

Karen Ní Bhroin conductor

Karen Ní Bhroin is one of Ireland's leading young conductors, with a transatlantic career spanning opera and symphonic work. This season includes debuts with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Welsh National Opera and the BBC Proms, returns to the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland and the London Symphony Orchestra, and working as Artist in Residence at Mozarteum University Salzburg. A 2024 Taki Alsop Fellow, Karen also leads innovative conducting education through *And Other Duties*.

WHAT'S NEXT

Family Concerts

Sunday 2 November 2025
Barbican

2.30pm

Symphonie fantastique

Presenter Rachel Leach and the LSO embark on a spooky adventure, featuring a dream, a witch and a waltz!

Visit lso.co.uk/families

Half Six Fix

Half Six Fix is a short burst of music in the early-evening. Hear directly from the conductor and learn all about what makes the music so great.

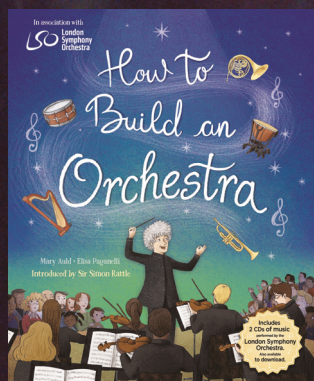
Selected Wednesdays at 6.30pm

Visit lso.co.uk/halfsixfix

How to Build an Orchestra

Discover everything about orchestras and their instruments in a beautifully illustrated children's book with online resources and activities. Produced in association with Hachette Children's Group.

Visit lso.co.uk/digitalactivities



£6 Tickets for Under-18s

Under 18s can get tickets to most LSO concerts at the Barbican, including our Half Six Fix series, for just £6. There are always lots of opportunities through the year to experience the joy of live music.

Visit lso.co.uk/whatson

LSO Discovery Showcase

Thursday 26 June 2025
Barbican

7.30pm

This year's LSO Discovery Showcase unites performers from across our Discovery programmes to share the stage with the London Symphony Orchestra, in a celebration of artistic growth and the power of making music together.