



SEPTURA

BRASS SEPTET

Septura brings together London's leading players to redefine brass chamber music through the uniquely expressive sound of the brass septet



"Virtuoso playing: glossy, brilliantly articulated, audaciously coloured, technically flawless"

BBC MUSIC MAGAZINE



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Septura was born out of a passion for the awe-inspiring sound of brass instruments. The ensemble's creation – the brass septet – is uniquely vibrant and versatile, and Septura aims to harness its intense emotional power to produce transformative musical experiences for audiences.

In short, it is pioneering a simple message: **music sounds better on brass**



TRUMPETS

Phil Cobb - BBC Symphony Orchestra

Kaitlin Wild - Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Huw Morgan - Sinfonieorchester Basel

Alan Thomas - Royal Air Force

James Fountain - London Symphony Orchestra

TROMBONES

Matthew Gee - Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Peter Moore - Soloist

Helen Vollam - BBC Symphony Orchestra

Dan West - London West End



TUBA

Sasha Koushk-Jalali - London Orchestras

Pete Smith - Philharmonia Orchestra





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ONE EQUAL MUSIC

Marginalised, neglected, ignored for centuries, and only now coming to the fore. The fate of brass chamber music mirrors that of the female composers of the past. Our counterfactual history redresses both balances: placing the music of two female composers, Élisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre and Clara Schumann, alongside that of their historically more celebrated male contemporaries.

RAMEAU Suite 'Dardanus'

DE LA GUERRE Suite from Céphale et Procris

GREGSON The Merry Love to Dance

Interval

PANUFNIK Seven Heavens

SCHUMANN, C Piano Sonata in G minor

MENDELSSOHN Organ Sonata in C minor

AMERICANS IN PARIS

Septura explore a great transatlantic relationship, charting a course from Debussy's Préludes, through Ravel's Mother Goose, to his friend Gershwin's Songbook and iconic An American in Paris, especially arranged for brass and solo car-horns.

RAVEL Mother Goose

DEBUSSY Préludes

Interval

GERSHWIN Three Piano Preludes

JOPLIN Suite from Treemonisha

GERSHWIN An American in Paris



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FORGOTTEN OPERA

Septura shake up the operatic canon, placing two intriguing but largely neglected works alongside two mainstays. Handel's crusader opera Rinaldo and Humperdinck's fairytale Hänsel und Gretel may be familiar. But Ethel Smyth's feminist comedy The Boatswain's Mate and Scott Joplin's Treemonisha – the first African-American opera – are lesser known. All four are vividly brought to life by the uniquely expressive sound of the brass septet.

SMYTH Overture from The Boatswain's Mate OR

HOLST Perfect Fool Ballet Music

JOSEPH BOLOGNE Suite from L'amant anonyme

JONTY WATT Stage; left

Interval

HUMPERDINCK Overture from Hänsel und Gretel

JOPLIN Suite from Treemonisha

STOLEN STRINGS

Strings reign supreme in chamber music, their extensive repertoire expressing the breadth and depth of the human condition. Three peerless examples – Elgar's youthful Serenade, Walton's turbulent Sonata, and Shostakovich's masterful 8th quartet – are magnified by the uniquely powerful sound of the brass septet.

ELGAR Serenade

WALTON Sonata for Strings

Interval

SHOSTAKOVICH Eighth Quartet



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CONCERT PROGRAMMES WITH OPTIONAL NARRATION

SEPTURA PLAYS GERSHWIN & PROKOFIEV

Septura explore two iconic pieces from different sides of the Atlantic in the 90th anniversary of their composition: Gershwin's Catfish Row – the suite from his opera Porgy and Bess; and Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. Joining them is a composer who influenced both, and with whom each shared mutual respect: Ravel and his Mother Goose Suite.

GERSHWIN Catfish Row (Suite from Porgy & Bess)

RAVEL Mother Goose Suite

Interval

PROKOFIEV Peter and the Wolf

VIVE LA FRANCE!

In the 150th anniversary of Ravel's birth Septura mine the extraordinarily rich seam of French music around the turn of the century. Three talismanic composers, and three pieces with extramusical inspiration: Ravel's fairytale suite Mother Goose, Debussy's atmospheric impressionist piano preludes, and Saint-Saëns' ever popular humorous masterpiece The Carnival of the Animals.

RAVEL Mother Goose

DEBUSSY Preludes

Interval

BOULANGER Trois Morceaux pour Piano , ILB 8

SAINT-SAENS Carnival of the Animals

Christmas with



Septura

In this festive concert Septura focus on some of the highlights of the rich Christmas canon – including Bach’s Christmas Oratorio, and Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker. Where years of repetition have dulled the impact of these wonderful works Septura — described by BBC Music Magazine as “dazzlingly polished” — illuminate them afresh, casting them in a brand new light through the unique and uplifting sound of the brass septet.

SCHUTZ Das Word ward Fleisch

BACH Christmas Suite

REENA ESMAIL A Winter Breviary

HUMPERDINCK Overture from Hänsel und Gretel
Interval

TCHAIKOVSKY Nutcracker Suite (with narrator)

MASTERCLASSES AND CHAMBER COACHING

Septura's members are some of the leading British brass players. They are all experienced teachers, teaching at the London music colleges, and regularly giving masterclasses internationally and throughout the UK. Visiting musical institutions around the world they are able to offer both individual masterclasses, ensemble coaching, and side-by-side ensemble playing as part of their concert package.

TOUCH TOURS

Septura's 'Touch Tours' are short (30-45-minute) presentations for blind and visually-impaired people.

Aided by a facilitator the members of the group introduce their instruments and explain how they are played; they demonstrate the wide range of different techniques, mutes and effects that will be used in the programme, and how all the instruments come together in different pieces to create a variety of sounds and musical textures.

Throughout this the participants are able to touch instruments (a trumpet, trombone and tuba) and the different mutes that radically change the sound of each instrument.

Septura's outreach work includes close collaboration with the Amber Trust.

FAMILY CONCERTS

Septura work with the wonderful amateur Ruth Rosales to produce engaging programmes for family concerts.

SUMMER BRASS ACADEMY

In 2023 Septura launched its first residential Summer Brass Academy in collaboration with the Rudolfus Foundation to inspire future generations of brass players.

More information [here](#).



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ikon|arts
management



Worldwide Representation

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