



NSO
Symphony Orchestra
ان.اس.او. الأوركسترا السيمفونية

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CARMINA BURANA COMES TO ABU DHABI

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The NSO is having one of the most exciting periods since its inception. At the end of March, 100 members of the ensemble performed a specially commissioned piece to open the Dubai World Cup at Meydan Racecourse. The orchestra now returns to Abu Dhabi for a Gala Concert on 25th April.

Even those who never listen to classical music will recognize the goosebump-inducing "O Fortuna" which opens Carl Orff's most famous work, *Carmina Burana*. Thanks to a collaboration between the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Community Development and Abu Dhabi Classic FM, this piece will be heard live in Abu Dhabi for the first time, at the Abu Dhabi National Theatre.

This extraordinary work will be performed by a 140-strong ensemble including the NSO Symphony Orchestra, as well as an adult chorus, youth chorus and guest solo vocalists.

At first glance, *Carmina Burana*, sung in Latin, high german and old french, might appear inaccessible, but listening for a short while reveals to the audience that it contains some of the best known 20th century classical melodies and they will soon find themselves absorbed. It will be a fitting finale in the second half of the concert, after an engaging first half.





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The first half of the concert will include the majestic orchestral favourite *Finlandia* by Sibelius and international award winning pianist Ioannis Potamouis performing Rachmaninoff's virtuosic *Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini Op 43*. Emirati soprano, Balqees Fathi, known for her vocal performances throughout the Gulf, will also make a much anticipated return appearance. Ms Fathi, who is also the NSO's goodwill ambassador, will be performing a beloved classic Arabic song *Atini El Nai* and a moving aria by French opera composer Jules Massenet.

The concert, which will be 90 minutes long in total with refreshments available for purchase at the interval, will have something to suit both seasoned concert-goers and those who are new to classical music.





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Musical director: Andrew Berryman

Soloists: Balqees Fathi, Emirati soprano
Ioannis Potamousis, concert pianist
Julia Teal Kermott, soprano
Bradley Minchin, baritone

Date/Time: April 25, 2014, at The National Theatre Abu Dhabi
7:30PM

Tickets: (AED) VIP 250, General 150, Students 75

Box office: www.timeoutticketsnso.org • www.uaenso.org
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About The NSO Symphony Orchestra

NSO is an orchestra of excellence, promoting music within the UAE, for current and future generations of Emirati Nationals and Expatriates. The orchestra was founded in 2011. Its aim is to engage, enrich and inspire the UAE through artistically vibrant performances and flagship series of main season classical concerts, chamber music concerts, young artists concerto competitions and educational programmes. It recently started the NSO Music Agency, providing smaller ensembles spanning the classical and popular musical genres for corporate, private and government functions.

For more information about NSO please visit our website: www.uaenso.org

