



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

CONCERT SERIES

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2018

First Night is Party Night!

Launching the Series is one of Britain's foremost big bands – the prestigious, 17 piece BBC Big Band. Eight times winners of the 'Best Big Band' at the British Jazz Awards, they are certain to bring a carnival atmosphere to our stage.

Frequently appearing in the BBC Promenade Concert Series and 'Proms in the Park' productions, the band has in the past featured guest performances with such notable singers and musicians as Cleo Laine and John Dankworth, Clark Terry, Lalo Schifrin, and Michael Bublé.

Accompanying the band for our performance is jazz vocal legend Elaine Delmar. Born in Hertfordshire, England, she was raised in a musical environment. Her father was the trumpeter Leslie 'Jiver' Hutchinson, and the family home was frequently filled with jazz soloists from the 40s and 50s era.

Leading the band is Barry Forgie, their principle conductor for more than 40 years. During this time, he has established an unparalleled repertoire for the band, transcribing a huge volume of classics from the 'swing era'.

Among the pieces you can expect to hear will be music by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Artie Shaw, Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman.

Wear your foot-tapping shoes, and join the party on Sunday, 16 September 2018 at 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall. ■

Season 77

Sunday, 16-Sep-18, at 7.30pm
BBC Big Band: Barry Forgie (Conductor),
Elaine Delmar (Vocalist)

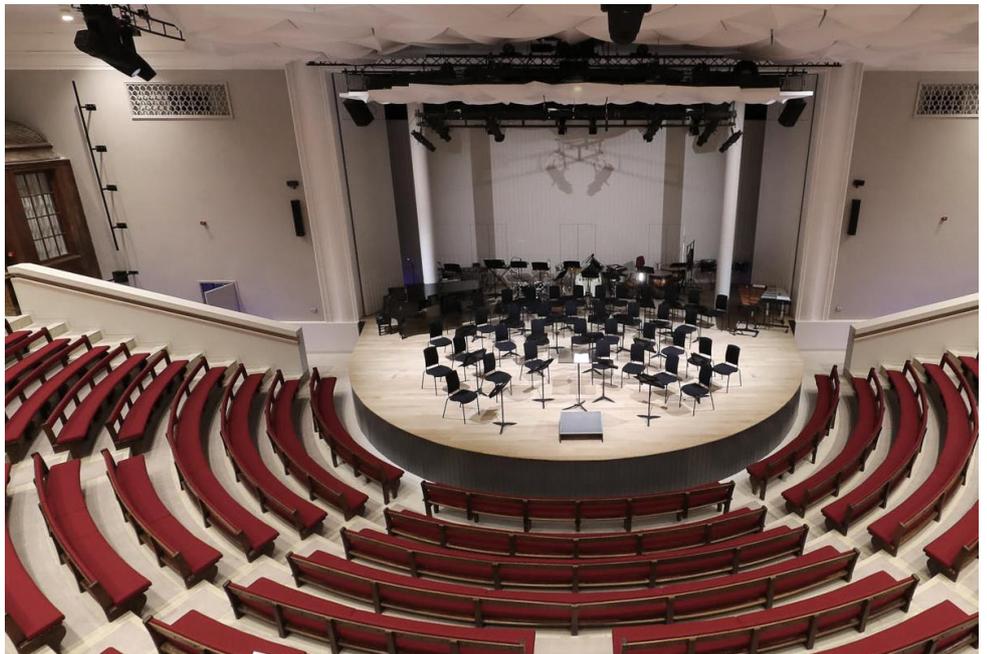
Sunday, 07-Oct-18, at 7.30pm
John Lill (Piano)

Sunday, 04-Nov-18, at 7.30pm
BBC National Orchestra of Wales: Adrian
Partington (Conductor) with The Amatis Trio

Sunday, 20-Jan-19, at 3:00pm
Jennifer Pike (Violin), Jeremy Pike (Piano)

Sunday, 05-May-19, at 3:00pm
Southbank Sinfonia: Simon Over (Director)

Contact the Box Office for tickets.
Phone: – 01672 892566.



Series returns to Memorial Hall

The transformation of the Memorial Hall raised many challenges, perhaps the greatest of which was how to improve how it worked as an auditorium without losing its historic charm.

Works to the Hall were always envisaged as more than simple restoration. The serious acoustic problems, limited audience amenities and lack of usable back-of-house space were limitations to be overcome.

To succeed, however, a delicate balance had also to be achieved between preserving the Hall's intrinsic qualities and improving its function, a balance between old and new.

Identifying its key elements was an essential first step – whether the poignancy of the engraved names of the fallen, the simple elegance of its architecture, or the way the afternoon sun floods it with light.

Under internationally renowned architect Jack Diamond and his team, the Memorial Hall has been transformed into a first-class auditorium. Its short-comings have been resolved in a way few could have imagined at the outset.

The mathematically complex ceiling reflector for example, so necessary to the improvement of the acoustics, is, to my mind, a work of art. It adds a

stunning focal point and yet does not dominate.

The ceiling reflector is one of many devices used to enhance the acoustics: the increased opening of the proscenium arch, pivoting acoustic panels, sound-proof doors and upholstery fabric, all play critical roles.

Audience amenities have been improved, from the addition of an air-circulating system, to cloakrooms at the lower level, ingeniously connected to the auditorium via ramped vomitoria.

The back-of-house space has been rationalised, maximising its potential for pedagogical use as well as performing arts.

Finally, and of paramount importance, the architects never lost sight of the *raison d'être* of the Hall: the 749 names of Marlburians who fell in the First World War are once again visible and, now, illuminated.

"We will remember them".

The transformation of the Memorial Hall preserves the very best aspects of the old Hall, whilst elevating it to an exceptional 21st-century auditorium.

Tania Freeman
Chair of the Memorial Hall Design
Committee