

**St Albans Cathedral**

Saturday 14 October 2017

7.30 pm

**St Cecilia Festival Chorus**

Hardynge Choir, Radlett Choral Society and  
St Albans Chamber Choir



in concert with

**St Albans Symphony Orchestra**

**Rachmaninoff**

*The Bells*

**Borodin**

*Polovtsian Dances*

**Tchaikovsky**

*1812 Overture*

**Shostakovich**

*October*

**John Gibbons** *conductor*

**The St Albans St Cecilia Festival Society** has been making music in St Albans for more than sixty years. It brings together four local music societies:

Hardynge Choir  
Radlett Choral Society  
St Albans Chamber Choir  
St Albans Symphony Orchestra



into St Albans Cathedral every two years to perform a choral and orchestral work that needs larger forces than any one organisation can provide. The post of conductor is rotated among the member organisations. This year it is the turn of **John Gibbons** who is Musical Director of St Albans Chamber Choir. John is a versatile conductor and composer, equally at home on the concert platform, in the opera pit or on the Cathedral steps, conducting numerous choirs and orchestras across the UK and abroad.

This programme of Russian music includes:

**The Bells**, one of **Rachmaninoff's** own favourite works, a choral symphony set to the poems of Edgar Allan Poe.

**Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture**, performed in the version for orchestra and chorus.

**Borodin's Polovtsian Dances** for orchestra and chorus, from his opera Prince Igor.

**Shostakovich's** Symphonic Poem **October**, written exactly 50 years ago to commemorate the Russian revolution of 1917.

**TICKETS** are available from St Albans Cathedral:

- Online at [www.stalbanscathedral.org/whatson](http://www.stalbanscathedral.org/whatson)
- From the **Cathedral Box Office** located in the Gift Shop (Opening hours 10 am–4.45 pm Monday to Friday, 10 am–3.45 pm on Saturday and 1 pm–5 pm on Sunday; or telephone 01727 890290).