

HALLÉ MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate publication

Tuesday 14 January 2025



Philip Glass © Steve Pyke

The Hallé presents a three-day celebration of Philip Glass, featuring guest soloist Angélique Kidjo.

- A three-day celebration of Philip Glass takes place in Manchester on 13-15 February
- The festival opens with a concert featuring five-time Grammy Award winner and global superstar, Angélique Kidjo
- Frans Lanting's *LIFE: A Journey Through Time* brings an audio-visual experience to The Bridgewater Hall with his photos displayed on the big screen accompanied by Glass's stunning score.

The Hallé is delighted to present a three-day festival in collaboration with the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), celebrating the best-loved works of iconic American composer and master of minimalism, Philip Glass, curated by world leading percussionist and conductor, Colin Currie.

The festival, which takes place at The Bridgewater Hall and RNCM on 13-15 February, gives Manchester audiences a rare and exciting opportunity to hear a series of concerts dedicated to a hugely popular and influential figure of contemporary classical music, known for his film scores for *Candyman*, *The Truman Show*, and *The Illusionist*.



On Thursday 13 February, the Hallé, conducted by Robert Ames, performs alongside five-time Grammy Award winner and global superstar, Angélique Kidjo, to give the UK premiere of Philip Glass's magnificent *Ifè Songs* which were written specifically for her.

Philip Glass said of his *Ifè Songs* and working with Angélique Kidjo: *"This has been for me a wonderful musical journey. At the conclusion of our work together, when I could finally hear Angélique singing the text within the musical composition I had completed, I said to her, 'Angélique, together we have built a bridge that no one has walked on before'. She replied with a burst of laughter as beautiful as any words she could sing"*.

On Friday 14 February, the Hallé performs a lunchtime chamber concert of one of Philip Glass's most popular and best-known works, *Glassworks*. Written in 1981, *Glassworks* was

intended to be 'walkman-suitable' and was released as both a 'home listening' LP and an 'on the go' tape cassette.

The final concert, on Saturday 15 February, is a performance of Philip Glass's collaboration with Frans Lanting of his *LIFE Symphony*. This one-hour immersive audio-visual experience is an emotionally-charged journey through time, combining Lanting's stunning photography projected onto the big screen and accompanied by Philip Glass's ever-changing musical textures and patterns.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Contacts:

Images, media and interviews are available, please contact press@halle.co.uk
Hallé information and biographies are available from <https://halle.co.uk/>

Concert Listings:

ANGÉLIQUE KIDJO SINGS IFÈ SONGS

Thursday 13 February 2025, 7.30pm
The Bridgewater Hall

Philip Glass

Days and Nights in Rochina
Ifé Songs – UK Premiere
Symphony No.11

Robert Ames conductor | **Angélique Kidjo** vocalist

Tickets £23 to £43 (including fees)

Discounts for students, under 30s, senior citizens and claimants
<https://halle.co.uk/event/angelique-kidjo-sings-ife-songs/>

GLASSWORKS

Friday 14 February 2025, 1pm
Royal Northern College of Music

Philip Glass

Aguas da Amazonia
Glassworks

Colin Currie conductor | Musicians from the Hallé and RNCM

Tickets (including fees) £16.50

Full-time students £8.50

<https://www.rncm.ac.uk/performance/the-halle-presents-philip-glass-glassworks/>

LIFE: A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

Saturday 15 February 2025, 8pm

The Bridgewater Hall

Philip Glass

Frans Lanting's LIFE: A Journey Through Time

Tickets £23 to £43 (including fees)

Discounts for students, under 30s, senior citizens and claimants

<https://halle.co.uk/event/life-a-journey-through-time/>

ABOUT 'THE HALLÉ PRESENTS...'

The Philip Glass Festival takes place as part of The Hallé Presents...' series of contemporary music, curated and performed by Manchester's Hallé orchestra with very special guests. Music that breaks boundaries and sees the orchestra in a different light. The next concert in the series will feature Chicago DJ, Honey Dijon, who brings her forward-thinking blends of style and genre to a unique performance with the full forces of the Hallé. Anticipate a night of thrilling House, anthemic celebration and unapologetic joy on Thursday 22 May 2025 at The Bridgewater Hall.

Photo credits:

Angeliqye Kidjo © Erwan Blaszk

Philip Glass © Steve Pyke