BEN WRIGHT AND THE RPO

The RPO live at Ascot!

An exclusive concert from one of the UK's top-ranked orchestras, free to attend for UK Hi-Fi Show *Live* visitors

2026 marks the 80th anniversary of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's creation by Sir Thomas Beecham. His successors include André Previn, Vladimir Ashkenazy and the RPO's current Chief Conductor (since 2021), Vasily Petrenko. The appearance of the RPO at the UK Hi-Fi Show *Live* signals a new and landmark fusion of musical and technological excellence, courtesy of SME Music.

SME is already very familiar to *HFN* readers as a premier turntable brand [p62]. Its latest venture is an analogue-only record label, with new recordings of western and Indian classical music. The first LP, on 180g vinyl, is a recording of Lieutenant Kijé and other works by Sergei Prokofiev, performed by the RPO.

To mark the launch of SME Music, the RPO will give a concert of light classical repertoire at 3pm on Sunday 28th Sept with Cadence Distribution at the UK Hi-Fi Show *Live*. On hand will be the producer, Tony Faulkner, ready to share his decades of experience in engineering high-end analogue recordings. As the producer of the new album, he will also be making a live analogue recording of this concert.

Free tickets will be available from the Cadence/Parade Ring suite (Grandstand, Level 2) after the Show opens on Sunday 28th. Seating is limited: snap up your ticket before they all go!