DOWN FOR THE COUNT PRESENTS

Suring Into Christmas

featuring CITY STRING ENSEMBLE



Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, London SW1X 9DQ
Thursday 17th December 2020
Digital Programme

Melcome/from our musical director



A very warm welcome to Cadogan Hall, and to what are by far Down for the Count's most ambitious concerts to date – two performances from our 28-piece "Concert Orchestra" as we celebrate the launch of our new album, *Swing Into Christmas*.

If you and I had been sat in a pub having a drink after a Down for the Count show earlier this year (remember when we could enjoy all of those things?!), and you had said to me that Down for the Count would close out 2020 by presenting two shows at one of the UK's top concert halls, I probably wouldn't have believed you; then again, as we all know, 2020 has had a habit of throwing up many surprises, but with them many opportunities.

One of those opportunities was the chance for Down for the Count to use our unexpected free time to create a lot of new things like our set of "lockdown videos", which have now been viewed over 500,000 times across our various social media platforms (including by a certain Mr. Bublé), and like our new (and unplanned) Christmas album, which we were able to record in September between the two lockdowns.

We couldn't be more proud of our new album, which is an evolution in Down for the Count's sound and musical approach. First of all, we've been very fortunate to work with the wonderful musicians of City String Ensemble, whose playing has added a whole new layer to Down for the Count's sound. Secondly, roughly half the songs on the album are original arrangements written by me to showcase the musicians in Down for the Count in ways that wouldn't be possible just by copying classic arrangements. We really hope that you enjoy the new sounds we're creating – and that you enjoy being some of the first people to hear them live in concert.

We are enormously grateful to a huge number of people for helping tonight's concert come to life, who we've thanked later in this programme. On behalf of the whole Down for the Count team, I'd particularly like to express our enormous gratitude to the team at Cadogan Hall who have gone to quite extraordinary lengths to get live music back in front of audiences in 2020. Whilst many venues remain closed, the team at Cadogan Hall have worked tirelessly to stage concerts – and they have done it with warmth, professionalism and a welcoming smile (and, of course, a 2 metre pole to make sure we're socially distanced on stage).

We're so grateful for the opportunity to perform here, and hope that tonight's show will help you escape the problems of the pandemic, if only for 90 minutes or so. Thanks for joining us tonight – and wishing you a very merry Christmas.

Mike Paul-Smith

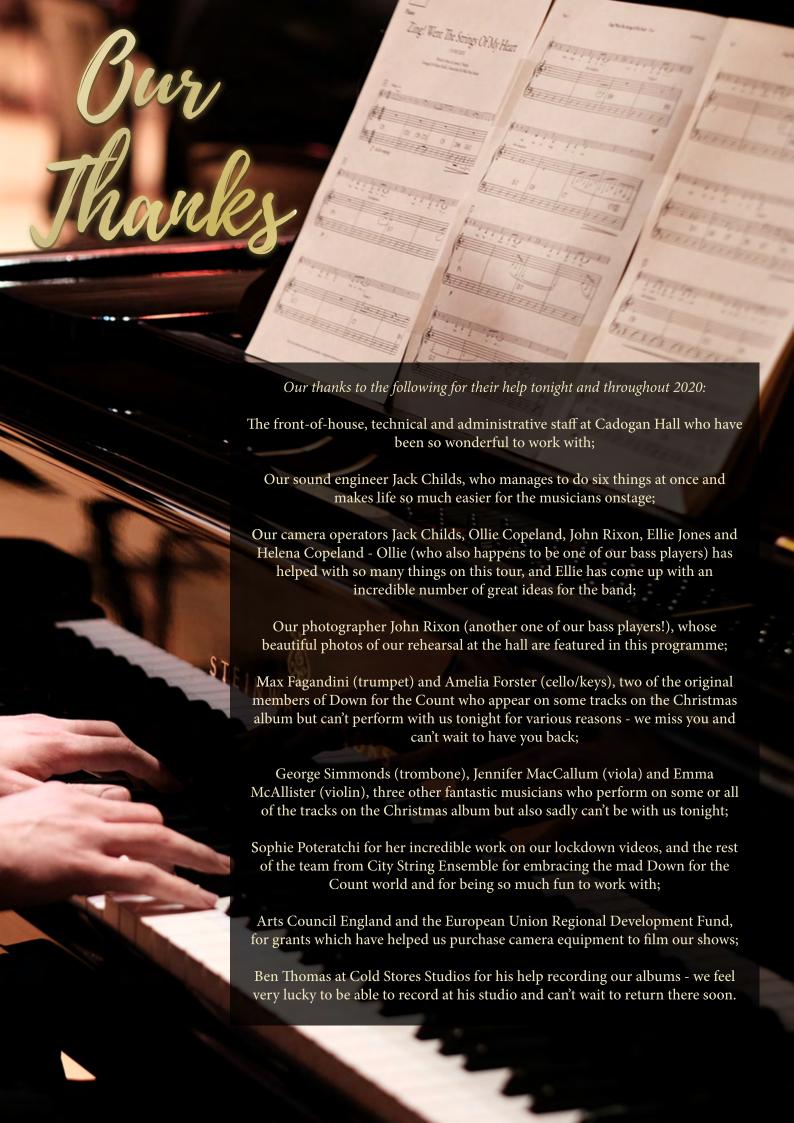
Musical Director, Down for the Count, December 2020





Tonight's concert will feature a selection of the following songs. We wish we could play them all for you, but then we would all be here well past closing time - so we apologise if we don't manage to include your favourite.

All The Things You Are Kern & Hammerstein Christmas in New Orleans Sherman & Van Winkle Day In, Day Out Mercer & Bloom Don't Get Around Much Anymore Ellington & Russell Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas Martin & Blane Hooray for Hollywood Whiting & Mercer I'll Be Home for Christmas Gannon & Kent I've Got My Love To Keep Me Warm Berlin I've Got You Under My Skin Porter Let's Face the Music and Dance Berlin Manhattan Rodgers & Hart More Ortolani, Oliviero & Ciorciolini Mr Paganini Coslow Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps Farres 'S Wonderful Gershwin & Gershwin Santa Baby Javits, Springer & Springer Secret Love Webster & Fein Stardust Carmichael Sugar Rum Cherry Tchaikovsky That Ole Devil Called Love Roberts & Fisher That's Life Kay & Gordon The Christmas Song Wells & Tormé The Christmas Waltz Cahn & Styne The Most Wonderful Time of the Year Pola & Wyle The Things We Did Last Summer Cahn & Styne This Christmas Hathaway & McKinnor What Are You Doing New Year's Eve Loesser White Christmas Berlin Winter Wonderland Smith & Bernard Zing! Went the Strings of my Heart Hanley





About Nown for the Court

The Down for the Count Swing Orchestra is a mini big band based in London, UK. The band brings the sounds of the Swing Era back to life, with an electrifying show full of incredible energy and musicianship.

Down for the Count burst onto the swing scene at Twinwood Festival in 2013 and have since earned themselves a reputation as one of the hardest-swinging bands in the UK.

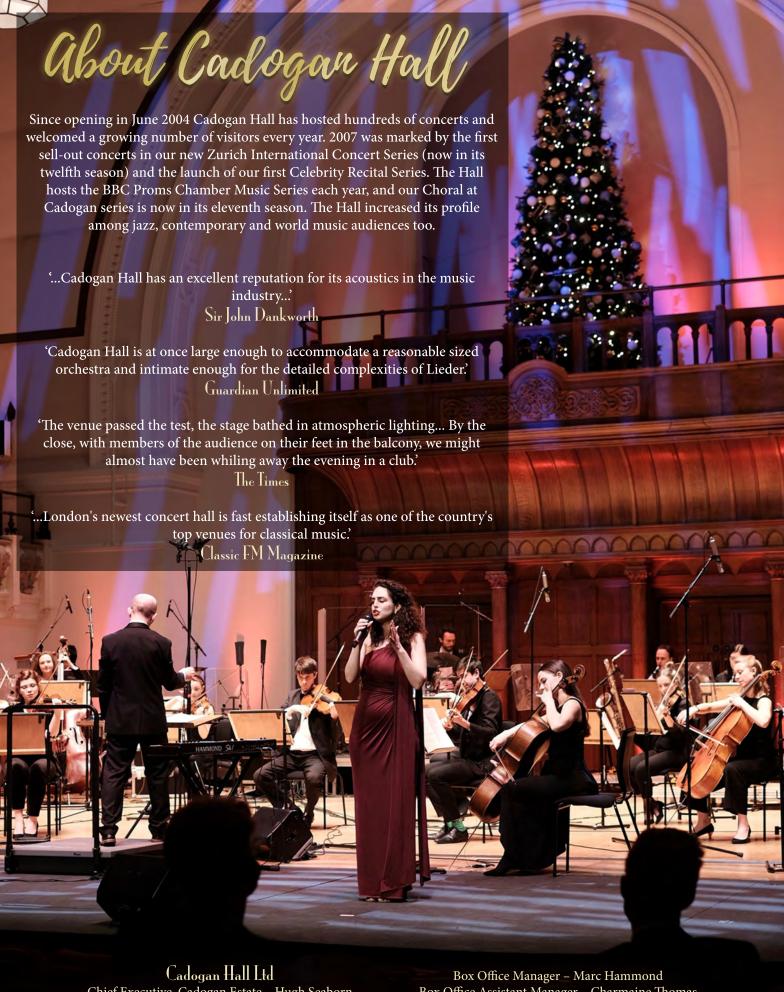
Constantly in demand, they have sold out shows at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club, The Southbank Centre, The London Jazz Festival, Hideaway Streatham, Pizza Express Jazz Club, Le Caveau de la Huchette in Paris, and now London's Cadogan Hall. The band has also performed at countless vintage dances and private events throughout the UK and abroad.

The band's stage show evokes the sounds of the Swing Era, but this is no mere nostalgia trip – Down for the Count perform each song in their own unmistakeable style, breathing new life into the best vintage music.

Combine that with the band's top class instrumental solos, sublime vocal performances, and irresistible humour and *joie de vivre*, and you get a show that will leave you feeling uplifted and wanting more.



Their debut EP as a string quartet *Twenty Twenty* is due for release at the end of this year, with many more planned for the future.



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Concerts Manager – Rebecca Stewart

Head of Production – James Tapping

Production Managers – Harry Spillett & Phil Jackson

Assistant Production Manager – Roz Malyon

Technician – Ben Allen



Smoking All areas of Cadogan Hall are non-smoking areas.

Food & Beverages You are kindly requested not to bring food and other refreshments into Cadogan Hall. A small selection of sandwiches, confectionary and snacks is available from the bars. Concert-goers may also enjoy a wide selection of champagnes, spirits, red and white wines, beers and soft drinks from the Culford Room bar.

Cameras & Electronic Devices Video equipment, cameras and tape recorders are not permitted. Please ensure all mobile phones and pagers are switched off before entering the auditorium.

Timings Latecomers will not be admitted until a suitable break in the performance.

Consideration We aim to deliver the highest standards of service. Therefore, we would ask you to treat our staff with courtesy and in a manner in which you would expect to be treated.



