

OAEDUCATION

 Orchestra of the
Age of Enlightenment

SONGS OF TRAVEL

ANNUAL REVIEW 2022-23



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The OAE is a Registered Charity No. 295329 and
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INTRODUCTION

A PROGRAMME TO INVOLVE, EMPOWER AND INSPIRE

Over the past twenty years, OAE Education has grown in stature and reach to involve thousands of people nationwide in creative music projects.

Our participants come from a wide range of backgrounds and we pride ourselves in working flexibly, adapting to the needs of local people and the places where they live. The extensive partnerships we have built up over many years where we work ensure maximum and lasting impact.

We take inspiration from the OAE's repertoire, instruments and players. This makes for a vibrant, challenging and engaging programme where everyone is involved; players, animateurs, composers, participants, teachers, partners and stakeholders all have a valued voice.

OUR MISSION

We believe that the OAE continues to be an important voice in the orchestral education sector. We will always strive to develop our partnerships so that the broadest, most diverse communities may enjoy and experience the arts.

OUR AIMS

TO MAKE THE OAE LOCAL

COMPLEMENT THE OAE'S CONCERT ACTIVITY

TO MAKE OUR OFFER UNIQUE

OUR STRANDS

OAE FLAGSHIP

OAE RESIDENCIES

OAE @ ABS

OAE TOTS & FAMILY

OAE SCHOOLS

OAE SPECIAL NEEDS

OAE NURTURING TALENT





SONGS OF TRAVEL 2022-2023

Undoubtedly one of the highlights of our 2022/23 season was our performance at the Queen Elizabeth Hall of *The Moon Hares*, our magical community opera. To see our Acland Burghley community perform alongside the OAE together with three Camden primaries and a community choir made up of singers from our residencies around the country at our Southbank home was a complete joy! These big moments in our calendar are to be cherished but so are the quiet moments; like when a student opens up through music or we make a real connection in a care home with a resident who comes alive listening to a piece of music. The OAE's Education programme is broad and far-reaching and is a wonderful way for us to connect with people of all ages across the country through the power of music.

Cherry Forbes, OAE Education Director



2022-2023 IN NUMBERS:

17,967
PARTICIPANTS

11,878
LIVE AUDIENCE

45
CONCERTS

345
WORKSHOPS

45
PRIMARY SCHOOLS

4
SECONDARY SCHOOLS

4
NURSERIES

7
SEN SETTINGS

IN 14 TOWNS/CITIES/VILLAGES ACROSS ENGLAND



OAE FLAGSHIP

Our Flagship programmes are in-depth residencies which take place across the country and involve training, workshops and performances for local people to perform alongside the OAE. From theatres to pubs, schools to care homes, we delight in being right at the heart of every community we work in.

THE MOON HARES

We have been on tour with this magical opera since 2020 and in November 2023 we gave our final performances at the Queen Elizabeth Hall (QEH) in London and the Wiltshire Music Centre (WMC) in Bradford-on-Avon.

We received a substantial strategic touring grant from Arts Council England to take the work to County Durham, Norfolk, Suffolk and Plymouth during 2020-21: all places were where the OAE had a long-standing educational partnership.

The first performance happened in January 2020 in Consett, County Durham, a town with limited exposure to classical music. We saw an enthusiastic turnout of local children participating. Many of them were experiencing the magic of a live orchestra for the very first time.

We all know what happened in March 2020 and the future became uncertain, so what did we do?

For starters, we created online resources for schools and teachers to use and we filmed the show. We then started online workshops on Zoom to keep in contact with all our partners around the country until we were able to join them again in person.

By July 2022, we had completed our tour and performed *The Moon Hares* at the following locations: Churchill Park School and the Coren Exchange in King's Lynn, in the Assembly Hall at Acland Burghley School, the Plymouth Guildhall with students from City College and Northgate High School in Ipswich.

Sharing the QEH stage with the OAE in November were a band of talented students, spanning Years 8 to

11, and members of the boys dance company from Acland Burghley School (ABS). Adding to the mix were 110 primary pupils from three Camden primary schools, along with an adult choir comprising of voices from across our UK residencies and staff from Camden Music and ABS. This magical evening not only celebrated the extensive partnerships fostered by OAE Education across the country but also our flourishing residency at Acland Burghley School.



“

IT WAS AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY, ONE OF THOSE ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCES!
CHOIR MEMBER PLYMOUTH

THE STORY

The village is run with a strict set of rules and regulations. At night, the villagers are under strict curfew and the streets are patrolled. Nobody goes out at night or looks up at the stars. The Mayor fiercely upholds the curfew, but the older villagers know that the village is full of magic and wonder.

When a new teacher arrives in town, she is surprised to find out that the children have never seen the moon as they are forbidden from going out at night. With the help of the wise old man, she discovers that the village is filled with ancient magic. Any person who goes out at night and looks at the moon is turned into a Hare until morning. They can live the life of a wild animal, exploring nature and the night. Will the children dare to disobey the rules for an adventure and look at the moon?



THE MOON HARES, WILTSHIRE

We had an equally inspiring time at the Wiltshire Music Centre (WMC) with members of Zone club joining us (a club for young adults with additional needs run at the WMC) with talented students from St Laurence school in our on-stage band, 2 primary schools and a community choir. Pupils from Silverwood School, Trowbridge, contributed to the performance with a beautiful film for the hare transformation scene.





THE MOON HARES JOURNEY

As we reach the end of our Moon Hares journey, we have now completed 8 residencies between 2020-23 and performed with:

- Over 800 primary pupils
- 150 secondary students
- 120 students with additional needs
- 3 OAE Young Artists
- 120 adults in our community choirs
- 2000 in our audiences

What next? The Fairy Queen is throwing a huge midsummer night's party. Big. Huge. You're invited!

Following on from *The Moon Hares* in 2022 we are delighted to present another family opera *The Fairy Queen: Three Wishes* at the QEH, on Wednesday 17 January 2024. Created in collaboration with communities from Camden and around the UK.

We hope to see you there!



OUR RESIDENCIES

Across the year we have enjoyed residencies in Somerset, North Walsham, York, County Durham, Darlington and King's Lynn. Our residencies are built on strong partnership working where local stakeholders have a real voice in the development of our work and decide where it is targeted. We are also really grateful for our collaboration with Orchestras Live who are our partners in producing projects in Norfolk and County Durham and Darlington and the National Centre for Early Music (NCEM) who is our lead partner in York. We also really value the close relationships we have with music hubs in each area.

MILLFIELD RESIDENCY

For a number of years we worked with Kirsty Barry, Head of Music at St Laurence Secondary School in Bradford-on-Avon. Kirsty has now become the Director of Music at Millfield School in Somerset. In 2022 she invited OAE Education to join her at the school to develop a programme of work with Millfield students. Fully funded by the school, during 2022-23 we worked with composer Raph Clarkson and a team of OAE players to deliver a series of short residencies including:

27 November 2022 – a full day workshop for a band of strings, oboes, bassoon and horns to have a half day coaching session with OAE players on Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks followed by a composition workshop led by composer Raph Clarkson. Students used musical forms such as ground bass and theme and variation as the basis for composition. String players were invited to try out baroque bows and all found out about period instrument practice through playing side by side with OAE players.

27/28 February 2023 – workshops for students to find out how we work in primary schools and also have the opportunity to develop their compositional skills which will feed into their GCSE coursework as they move into Year 10 at the school.

10/11 May 2023 – workshops for students to prepare pieces in small groups to share in workshops in local primary schools on the theme of *The Fairy Queen* alongside OAE project leaders.

Through this programme of work to open ears and eyes of students by working alongside a composer and specialists in baroque performance practice and also by giving students skills to work in primary school settings. This activity will also provide the ground work for the planned opera project *The Fairy Queen: Three Wishes* involving Millfield and local schools in September 2023.



NORTH WALSHAM RESIDENCY

We returned to North Walsham between January and May 2023 for a variety of highly successful projects with over 900 local people.

MUSIC FOR A WINTER'S EVE

The second in our chamber series of concerts at St Nicholas' Church to celebrate music from the time of the famous and influential Paston Family. OAE players also joined to busk at the opening of the new community gallery space in the town in the afternoon.

“

THIS WAS A MAGNIFICENT CONCERT.
THE PERFORMERS ARE NOT ONLY GIFTED
MUSICIANS BUT THEY ARE ALSO BRILLIANT AT
DRAWING IN THE AUDIENCE DELIGHTING US
WITH WORDS AS WELL AS MUSIC. SO NICE TO
SEE THE PASTON CONNECTION DRAMATIZED IN
A PASTON CHURCH.
AUDIENCE MEMBER



MUSIC AND DANCE

PROJECT

In January we visited North Walsham High School to work with Year 10 music students to compose a piece inspired by the theme of regeneration which Year 10 dancers would then choregraph. Further workshops in May led to a flash mob performance by the students and OAE musicians in the Market Place to celebrate the opening of the new redeveloped Market Place and a concert at St Nicholas's Church in the evening



ON BEHALF OF NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL I WANT TO THANK YOU, THE PLAYERS AND THE PERFORMERS FOR YESTERDAY'S MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCE IN NORTH WALSHAM TOWN CENTRE. IT WAS AMAZING HOW WELL EVERYTHING HAD COME TOGETHER! PLEASE COULD YOU PASS ON OUR THANKS TO THE SCHOOL AND THE MUSICIANS AND DANCERS. IT HELPED US TO CELEBRATE A MAJOR MILESTONE IN THE HERITAGE ACTION ZONE PROJECT AND DO SO IN A WAY THAT BROUGHT PARTS OF THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN AN ENTERTAINING AND CAPTIVATING SPECTACLE.

LOU ROBSON

SCHOOL STAFF TRAINING

In April, OAE players met with Early Years (EY) and primary staff to share materials for our King of the Sea (for EY pupils) and Life of the Sea (for KS2 pupils) projects.

SUMMER RESIDENCY

22-24 MAY 2023

We took a 20 piece OAE band to North Walsham for our summer residency of six events including Introduction to the Orchestra for all Year 7's at the High School, a KS2 Life of the Sea concert, an Early Years (EY) concert King of the Sea, 2 care home visits and Music to Your Beers pub gig.

“

IT'S A REAL CHALLENGE TO BE ASKED TO CREATE A TRUE MUSICAL EXPERIENCE FOR A DIVERSE AUDIENCE WHICH IS RELEVANT TO THE HISTORY OF THE AREA. I LOVED LEARNING ALL ABOUT NORTH WALSHAM'S PAST AND I FELT A BIGGER CONNECTION WITH THE LOCAL AUDIENCE BY THE TIME WE WERE PERFORMING. I WON'T EVER FORGET THE PERFORMANCE, IT WAS SUCH FUN AND FELT SO IMPORTANT TO PLAY A PROGRAMME THAT MATTERED TO SUCH A RANGE OF PEOPLE IN THE AUDIENCE. THIS WAS MUSIC FOR REAL LIFE IN A REAL LIFE SETTING. THIS WASN'T JUST A CONCERT, IT WAS A WAY FOR MUSIC TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND CONNECTION.

OAE MUSICIAN TALKING ABOUT MUSIC TO YOUR BEERS





YORK RESIDENCY

In March, following a series of highly successful workshops involving EY and KS1 pupils in York, we completed the first year of our new five year residency. We are so pleased to be working with the National Centre for Early Music (NCEM) and the York Music Hub and are delighted that we will be supported by Susan Palmer over the course of the five year residency. Year One of the project has also been supported by the Skyrme Hart Foundation as lead sponsor. This residency encompassed KS1 schools taking part in our *Papageno and the Bird that would be Free* project, with concerts at the University of York. Additionally, we presented Early Years concerts - *The King of the Sea*. These performances took place in nearby primary schools, with the residency culminating in a final family concert hosted at the National Centre for Early Music.

“

ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT SHOW, MY LITTLE GIRL HAS NEVER BEEN SO ENGAGED. SHE WENT FROM SHY AND UNSURE TO REALLY SINGING HER HEART OUT. IT WAS WONDERFUL TO SEE (I'M ACTUALLY CRYING A BIT AS I WRITE THIS SHE HAS SPECIAL NEEDS AND FINDS THINGS VERY DIFFICULT SOMETIMES). THIS HAS BEEN WONDERFUL!

PARENT AND CARER



DURHAM RESIDENCY

In Durham, we ran a teacher training session and workshops with KS1 pupils from seven primary schools in the county in preparation for two performances of our *Papageno and the Bird that would be Free* in Spennymoor Town Hall as part of the Durham Vocal Festival.

The OAE also performed their Baroquebusters programme at the Darlington Hippodrome in March 2023. Prior to that, secondary students took part in a workshop to explore music from the concert led by Cecelia Bruggemeyer.



“

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN CHERRY AND JAMES FOR ANOTHER FANTASTIC PROJECT, I LOVED BEING THERE FOR THE 1ST PERFORMANCE YESTERDAY, THE WHOLE PIECE WORKED SO WELL. ENGAGING KS1 PUPILS IN A FULL VERSION OF MOZART OPERAS BUT IN A TOTALLY ACCESSIBLE WAY THAT THEY WILL REMEMBER FOR YEARS TO COME.

THE OAE ARE WITHOUT DOUBT MY FAVOURITE ORCHESTRA TO WORK WITH, AND THE JOY AND GENEROSITY OF THE PLAYERS IS INTOXICATING AND A MODEL THAT ALL ORCHESTRAS (AND NOT JUST EDUCATION OUTREACH) SHOULD ASPIRE TO BE LIKE.

HUGE THANKS ONCE AGAIN!

MICHAEL SUMMERS, HEAD OF DURHAM AND DARLINGTON MUSIC SERVICE

KING'S LYNN RESIDENCY

We continued our longstanding residency in King's Lynn with 10 local schools taking part in our *Papageno and the Bird That would be Free* concert. After receiving in-school workshops from OAE players, KS1 students participated in a performance at the Corn Exchange alongside the OAE, featuring soloists Kirsty Hopkins and Timothy Dickinson, with narration by Adam Courting. Later, KS2 students joined the OAE on stage, presenting the project to their friends and families to a packed hall.

Our ongoing work at the Corn Exchange is a testament to real partnership working at many levels – this year we received this lovely note from the staff at the venue:

“

TO THE ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT,
ON BEHALF OF ALL THE STAFF HERE AT THE ALIVE CORN EXCHANGE CAN I JUST SAY WHAT AN ABSOLUTE JOY IT IS TO HOST SUCH AN ENRICHING EVENT. THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED THIS AFTERNOON WERE ENTHUSIASTIC AND ENGAGED BY THE PERFORMANCE ON STAGE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU BACK HERE NEXT YEAR FOR ANOTHER DAY OF FUN, EDUCATING THE CHILDREN INTO THE WORLD OF CLASSICAL MUSIC.

KINDEST REGARDS,
CORN EXCHANGE FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF





In September 2020, the OAE became the first and only arts organisation in the UK to have a permanent residency in a school. This year we have continued to build our relationship with the school and have also opened our doors to the local community too.

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR YEAR

CURRICULAR

ENCOUNTER SESSIONS

OAE players joining the ABS Music Team to help deliver live sessions to illuminate musical forms such as ground bass

YEAR 7 INTRODUCTION

Year 7 Introduction to the Orchestra session for the whole year group as well as preliminary workshops with Year 7's with additional needs

YEAR 10 FLYING START MUSIC AND DANCE PROJECT

A three-day project in July 2023 for students to compose music and dance for the Art Celebration evening

YEAR 10 FLYING START ATTENDANCE AT OAE EVENTS

Opportunities for students to see OAE Education in rehearsal and at culmination of Musical Connections events

YEAR 11 FLYING START SUPPORT

Summer term assistance with key GCSE music skills (composition, performance and appreciation)

YEAR 13 SUPPORT

Summer term vocal workshop programme for B.Tech students

STRING WORKSHOP

Pilot workshop to support string players at ABS

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

YOUNG PRODUCERS PROGRAMME

Weekly sessions, regular special events & OAE office drop-in throughout the week

- Specialist training in lighting, production, filmcraft, costume techniques, management, budgeting, photo and video editing
- Live at the Hex – December 2022/May 2023
- Commercial film production for Marquee TV (Classical Pop Videos & Full Features)
- Costume making for the production of *Princess Ida* at Queen Elizabeth Hall (5 stars *The Times*)
- Audio engineering / support for *Grease* with YPs

OTHER ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY

- Supported Southbank Centre attendance – Students attending OAE events e.g. year 12 concert visit May 2023.
- Trip to The Royal Opera House (18 students/4 staff) free tickets for *Zonation* Youth Performance at Linbury Studio Theatre.
- Musical environment - Opportunities to hear the OAE in rehearsal and OAE Experience projects in the playground.
- Playlist – weekly after school music appreciation project pilot programme in Autumn 2022 – restarting Summer 2023 as the basis for PULSE a new OAE enrichment programme to support gifted and talented musicians in the school with OAE player mentoring, opportunity development etc.
- Major dance project for ABS students starting July 2023 to develop a brand new show of HIP HOP choreography devised by internationally renowned choreographer, Kim Brandstrup, for TV documentary, national and international tour.
- Year 8 flying start OAE project on myth for July celebration event with flying start year 8 students.
- Work Experience (July – August) for 4 ABS students.
- Installation of theatre lighting grid in Assembly Hall – Young Producers in training programme to bring online new theatre lighting installed by OAE in ABS assembly hall for school events.

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL PROJECTS

MUSICAL CONNECTIONS

A three-year project with ABS and Swiss Cottage special school in London and Northgate high school and Thomas Wolsey Special school in Ipswich. Students involved in ABS Christmas concert and a water themed composition project in Spring- Summer 23 including Year 13 media students working alongside composer James Redwood and a team from the OAE

THE MOON HARES

The Moon Hares - our flagship Southbank Centre performance of our community opera including music and dance students from ABS plus ABS staff who joined our community choir at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in November 2022 (4 stars *The Guardian*)

GROUND BASE

Monthly sessions with Year 7-9 students from the BASE to work with composer Raph Clarkson and a team from the OAE

YORK RISE STREET PARTY

Performance of a family show *Papageno and the Bird that would be Free*

OAE TOTS @ ABS

Three OAE concerts for young children and families at ABS

CPD SESSION FOR ARTS FACULTY

Creative music session for all staff in the ABS Arts Faculty

HS2 SCHOOLS CONCERT

Life of the Sea presented for local primaries (esp. Camden) at ABS – ABS as a host school

FRIDAY DRINKS

OAE host staff drinks on the first Friday of the month for ABS staff

STATISTICS

490

ABS students directly involved with OAE projects across the year

234

KS2 pupils attending ABS for concerts *Life of the Sea*

280

Local families attending our TOTS concerts @ ABS

30

Staff and support staff from the school involved across the projects

3,500+

Live audience

WHAT DOES THIS WORK INVOLVE?

OAE TOTS @ ABS

THE KING OF THE SEA

A show written by Hazel Gould with music by Handel. This lovely story features Timothy Dickinson as Poseidon and Adam Courting as our narrator who is an explorer going on an underwater adventure. Poseidon guards his treasure given to him by the people above the water until he realises it is in fact rubbish but with the help of Adam and the OAE we recycle it into musical instruments and all ends well!



WHAT AN AMAZING PERFORMANCE. BLOWN AWAY!! SUCH HIGH QUALITY, BRILLIANT IN EVERY WAY. THANKYOU!
AUDIENCE MEMBER

THE APPLE TREE

Another beautiful story by Hazel Gould for soprano Kirsty Hopkins who portrays a young girl on a quest through the seasons to find a delicious apple for her snack.



THATS MY SON, AND HIS LITTLE SISTER IS DANCING OVER THERE. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WE WERE COMING TO BUT MY FRIEND SAID IT WOULD BE GOOD AND IT'S BEEN AMAZING.
AUDIENCE MEMBER

PACK YOUR BAGS!

In early June, an audience of 140 joined us on a captivating journey with composer Raph Clarkson, all aboard his scooter. Our expedition began from home and swept us on a whirlwind tour around Italy and France, with the wind in our sails. At the end of the concert one parent told us he hadn't heard live classical music since his child was born and it had brought him to tears.



THE MUSIC IS BEAUTIFUL. IMAGINE HAVING AN ORCHESTRA LIKE THIS IN YOUR SCHOOL. LUCKY, LUCKY KIDS.
AUDIENCE FEEDBACK



YORK RISE STREET PARTY

We were once again invited to play at the vibrant York Rise Street Party and this year brought our Magic Flute show *Papageno and the Bird that would be Free* to the event.

“

ITS JUST SO AMAZING TO HAVE A WHOLE ORCHESTRA AT OUR STREET PARTY! HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE THAT WHERE THEY LIVE? WE LOVE IT THAT YOU ARE PART OF OUR COMMUNITY NOW.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

“

YOUR CONCERT AT THE STREET PARTY WAS AMAZING! WE LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT IT. IT WAS WONDERFUL TO SEE EVERYONE OF ALL AGES AND SECTIONS OF OUR COMMUNITY LISTENING. THE MOZART WAS SO BEAUTIFUL, I LOVED IT THAT YOU MADE COMPLETE SENSE OF AN OPERA THAT DOESN'T, REALLY, SO THAT EVEN THE SMALL CHILDREN COULD UNDERSTAND IT. THE ACTING WAS VERY ENGAGING AND THE SINGING AND PLAYING WERE LIKE YOU'D JUST WALKED OUT OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE AND ONTO OUR STREET. WE ARE REALLY LUCKY. AND IT WAS SO FUNNY, THE MOMENT YOU STOOD UP WITH THE HOSEPIPES WAS JUST PRICELESS. WE ALL CERTAINLY NEED MORE FUN AND MORE CULTURE IN THESE TIMES AND THIS WAS BOTH.

AUDIENCE FEEDBACK



YEAR 7 INTRODUCTION TO THE ORCHESTRA

As part of our universal offer to students at ABS, each year we run sessions for all students in Year 7 to introduce them to the orchestra in the first few weeks of them joining the school. Presented by James Redwood, these sessions give the chance for students, many of whom we have met and worked with during their time at primary school, to meet players from the OAE, hear baroque music and take part in some participatory music making. Ahead of these sessions we also run a preliminary workshop for students in Year 7 with additional needs so they have already met some of the team and are familiar with what will be happening in the orchestral workshop.



THE MOON HARES QEH

A MOON HARES THANK YOU



WHAT AN INCREDIBLE SHOW! IT WAS SO WONDERFUL ON SO MANY LEVELS. SEEING THE ACLAND BURGHLEY MUSICIANS JOINING IN THE CHORUS AT FULL VOICE WAS ONE OF MY FAVOURITE BITS. WHAT ELSE? THE STAFF SINGERS? THE YOUNG PRODUCERS? THE MUSICAL CONNECTIONS GRADUATES? TREVOR'S BAND? MICHAEL AND TOMS LEADERSHIP? THE BOYS DANCE COMPANY? THE WONDERFUL PRIMARY SCHOOL CHORUS AND ACTORS?

THE ORCHESTRA AND SOLOISTS WERE EXTRAORDINARY IN THEIR ABILITY TO INCLUDE AND FOREGROUND THE YOUNG PEOPLES ACHIEVEMENTS. AS I SAID, SO MUCH, ON SO MANY LEVELS.

COLLEAGUES THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE PROJECT. LAST NIGHT WE SAW THE POTENTIAL OF THE PARTNERSHIP REVEAL ITSELF UNDER THE BRIGHT LIGHTS AND MAGNIFICENCE OF QEH. I AM INCREDIBLY PROUD OF OUR SCHOOL, AND EXCITED ABOUT THE FUTURE.

CHERRY WE OWE YOU, JAMES, AND THE WHOLE OAE EDUCATION TEAM, AN ENORMOUS DEBT OF GRATITUDE. THANK YOU FOR WORKING WITH US AND OUR STUDENTS SO PATIENTLY AND CLEVERLY, AND MANY CONGRATULATIONS ON AN EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT.

NICHOLAS JOHN (ABS HEADTEACHER)



MUSICAL CONNECTIONS

Musical Connections is a three year arts-based learning project which brings together mainstream and students with additional needs to work together creatively. Acland Burghley is one of the four schools on this project (2 in London and 2 in Ipswich). We have found time and time again that music breaks down barriers and working across multiple years enables students to really build their skills and friendships.

“

QUESTION: WHICH ONE OF THESE CHORDS DO YOU PREFER? ANSWER: THE ONE WITH THE SPICY CHORD. THIS ONE.

ABS STUDENT

The OAE joined our Musical Connections students in the ABS Christmas Concert performing some of the creative composition work they had been working on with James Redwood and OAE Players across the term.

During the Spring and Summer we worked on a film project and after a recording session in May, Year 12 students then made a film to accompany the sound track which was shown at our sharing with the OAE and our Musical Connections band to students and parents at ABS in June.



GROUND BASE

A brilliant example of how our partnership at ABS is working is our new initiative of sessions in the BASE (ABS unit for students with autism). This came about through discussion with Billy Pinches, Associate SENDCo and OAE Education Director, Cherry Forbes. We have piloted four sessions at the Base and moving forwards this will become a monthly session for Year 7-10 students. Students are gaining confidence in working together and the sessions provide them with the chance to explore a range of music.



WE ARE A MAINSTREAM COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL WITH A VERY HIGH NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (AEN) AND THEREFORE INCLUSION IS CENTRAL TO EVERY STRAND OF OUR PRACTICE. OAE PROGRAMMES SUCH AS MUSICAL CONNECTIONS (FOR STUDENTS WITH AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS) AND GROUND BASE (FOR STUDENTS IN OUR AUTISM BASE) ENABLE STUDENTS WITH A RANGE OF COMPLEX NEEDS TO COLLABORATE WITH THEIR PEERS TO MAKE AND PERFORM MUSIC GUIDED BY PLAYERS WHO BRING DEEP EXPERIENCE OF WORKING WITH AEN STUDENTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY IN A RANGE OF DIFFERENT SETTINGS.

ANNA RIMINGTON ABS DIRECTOR OF LEARNING KS5 AND OAE LIAISON

FLYING START

Inspired by the music and dance Year 10 project in North Walsham earlier in the year, we suggested a similar project at ABS in July as part of the Flying Start programme at the school whereby all students move up a year after the summer half term. We spent three days working with students to create site specific pieces around the campus to be shown at the Celebration Evening at the end of term. Dancers had previously worked with Lead for Dance, Jordan Williams, to create short choreographed pieces inspired by themes of love and conflict. Musicians then composed music to accompany the dancers. After many weeks of wonderful sunshine, on the day of the performance the heavens opened but all students rose to the occasion and re-imagined their work to be performed inside to a delighted audience.



STAFF CPD

As part of our Musical Connections project, in all four schools we will be running skills sharing workshops with OAE and school staff and as we develop this area of our work, we will share best practice between schools and more widely across the education sector. At ABS, led by James Redwood, we ran a highly enjoyable and informative session with all the staff from the Arts Faculty at the school.



DREAMCHASING YOUNG PRODUCERS

OAE Young Producers is a scheme that mentors and trains young people in the skills of management, creative design and production. We provide sessions each week after school. In addition, these Young Producers assist us as work experience trainees at our own public engagements.



“

THE SCHOOL'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OAE CAPTURES PERFECTLY OUR ETHOS: CREATING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER. WE HAVE GAINED A GROUP OF COLLEAGUES WHO BRING EXPERTISE, PROFESSIONALISM AND IMAGINATION TO EVERYTHING THEY DO AND WITH EACH NEW LAYER WE EXPLORE, WE REALISE WE ARE ONLY AT THE START OF MINING ITS POTENTIAL. - ANNA RIMINGTON ABS DIRECTOR OF LEARNING KS5 AND OAE LIAISON

As we end Year 3 of our residency at Acland Burghley it is truly wonderful and natural for us as an organisation to live in a school. Our relationships with staff and students are deepening and the branches of our tree are growing, but most importantly we are going on this journey together.





OAE TOTS & FAMILY

Our TOTS programme includes workshops and concerts for 2-5 year olds in nursery and school settings, or in the community. Our TOTS events are always lively with lots of interaction, lots of noise and lots of fun for children and adults alike!

OAE TOTS @ RFH

PACK YOUR BAGS!

Our Southbank audience joined us on a captivating journey with composer Raph Clarkson, all aboard his scooter. Our expedition began from home and swept us on a whirlwind tour around Italy and France.

WHIZZ, ZOOM TO THE MOON!

Beautifully presented by Cecelia Bruggemeyer, we returned to the RFH for two sold out concerts for our youngest music lovers for another journey – this time to the Moon with Mozart.



IT WAS BRILLIANT! OTIS WENT HOME SHOUTING HELLO, HELLO WHOOOA ALL THE WAY DOWN THE SOUTHBANK!

PARENT

OAE TOTS @ LPO FUNHARMONICS

This year we continued our partnership with the London Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO) running TOTS workshops alongside the LPO FUNharmonics concerts at the Royal Festival Hall. Based around the theme and repertoire of the LPO concert taking place, this year Jo Lawrence (OAE) led some musical bird spotting workshops, with our eyes on the prize to spot the rare Firebird. In May, Alice Poppleton led workshops at the Colour Monster's tea party, exploring lots of different emotions and how they can be represented in music.



OAE TOTS IN SCHOOLS

We delivered workshops in five London schools on our *King of The Sea* project and presented three very lively concerts in late March. The concert took the pupils on a journey aboard the Sailboat Malarky. Diving deep into the sea they stumble across Poseidon, *The King of the Sea*, who is closely guarding his treasure chest, filled with riches gifted to him by the people who live on the land. His treasure turns out to be the junk people on land have thrown away. But there is hope yet, as the junk is given a second life for us all to make music together!





OAE SCHOOLS

Each year we offer KS1 and KS2 programmes to our partner schools across London. This year we have offered programmes to explore a Mozart symphony for Year 1 and 2 pupils *The Magic of Mozart* and an exploration into the Great Pacific garbage patch for year 3-6 pupils as part of our *Life of the Sea* project.

KS1 MAGIC OF MOZART

Over 650 Year 1 and 2 pupils from schools in our partner boroughs in London took part in *The Magic of Mozart*. After taking part in a workshop with players from the OAE, students attended a concert to hear and explore Mozart's 29th Symphony. During the show they joined in with Mozart's *Twinkle Variations* arranged by James Redwood and found out about the instruments and sounds of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.



THE CONCERT WAS AWESOME!

BRENT TEACHER



KS2 LIFE OF THE SEA

We have delivered teacher training and workshops on our *The Life of the Sea* project and completed our KS2 concerts in June for over 600 children from schools in our partner boroughs in London. These concerts took place at Acland Burghley and it was wonderful to be bringing KS2 pupils on to campus, some of whom will be joining ABS in future years.



KS3 MUSICAL CONNECTIONS NORTHGATE

Musical Connections is an arts-based learning project which brings together mainstream students and those with additional needs to work together creatively. Northgate School in Ipswich is one of the four schools on this project (two in London and two in Ipswich).

Northgate have a fantastic music department at the school led by Chloe Rutter and Jade Tournay Godfrey and the 17 students we are working with are really responsive and a pleasure to work with.

This year we have been working on compositional tools that students can use in their course work and during the Spring and summer they created music for a film depicting the sea which was shown at the culmination day at Thomas Wolsey Special School where students from both schools joined together alongside the OAE. Students also helped compose music for a *Storm* piece for primary pupils included in the *The Life of the Sea* project which toured to London and Norfolk in the summer term.

“

I HAVE NEVER WORKED WITH A PROFESSIONAL ORCHESTRA, AND I FOUND IT VERY HELPFUL AND FUN NEW EXPERIENCE. MY CONFIDENCE WITH PERFORMING IN A BIG GROUP HAS IMPROVED.

NORTHGATE STUDENT

“

I HAVE LEARNT LOTS OF NEW THINGS ABOUT BAROQUE MUSIC AND BAROQUE INSTRUMENTS AND I HAVE IMPROVED MY KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT THE VIOLIN CAN DO.

NORTHGATE STUDENT





OAE SPECIAL NEEDS

Our special needs programme has expanded significantly over the last few years to include large-scale projects such as our Musical Connections three-year arts based learning programme. This year we have also been involved with young people from two London hospital schools who took part in online workshops to help create the introduction to *Something Special* which was performed at the Royal Albert Hall by 1500 young singers from across Camden.

MUSICAL CONNECTIONS

Thomas Wolsey and Swiss Cottage Special Schools are both wonderful places full of students who love music, staff who nurture them and where every success and achievement is celebrated however big or small. At the OAE we have had the privilege of working with these students over a number of years which means we can really connect and each time we visit we can see their development – students know what to expect and each time we can expect more of them as we build bands and create music together.



THOMAS WOLSEY

We finished the year at Thomas Wolsey with a very special day with students from the school who hosted the OAE and our Musical Connections group from Northgate school. We started with an OAE rehearsal and saw many students and staff intrigued with what was going on in their hall. We then introduced the OAE to our friends at Thomas Wolsey – a good number who had been in school for workshops so we already had a connection.

After lunch (kindly provided by the school) Northgate students joined us for their chance to rehearse with the OAE and then we brought everyone together to watch the two beautiful films that had been created by the two schools.

John-Henry Baker had not only been our double bass player in the workshops, but had also recorded material for both films and then had created beautiful films out of the footage. We were all transfixed by both videos! We rounded off our four days with a joyous celebration in the hall – Handel Water Music, joyous hello and goodbye songs and a marvellous storm for everyone – what a day we had.

“

I HAVE BEEN MOVED TO TEARS ON MANY OCCASIONS DURING THESE PROJECTS, NOT LEAST DURING THE DAY AT THE THOMAS WOLSEY ORMISTON ACADEMY YESTERDAY. SEEING THE CONCENTRATION AND JOY ON THE FACES OF THE CHILDREN WAS VERY MOVING.

OAE MUSICIAN



SWISS COTTAGE

At Swiss Cottage we worked on two projects across the year. Firstly, students created a beautiful soundscape to the song *Something Special* by Raph Clarkson which was heard by over 2000 people at the Royal Albert Hall. Young people from Great Ormond Street and University Hospital Schools also contributed in online workshops, and, in the event, OAE players performed live with the track. Our friends from Swiss Cottage were high up in the gallery with the other secondaries and were acknowledged from the stage – they were very proud of their achievement.

Secondly, students worked on our sea themed project and wrote a beautiful song about sticky tentacles! They also went on a sea adventure with Robin Hood with M(student) taking the lead which was magical. In an early morning teacher training session staff wrote a new hello song which Raph orchestrated for the OAE and on our culmination day when we took the OAE to Swiss Cottage the whole school learnt it, heard music by Handel and of course sang the sticky tentacles song.



“

AGAIN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR LAST THURSDAY. IT WAS NOTHING LESS THAN EPIC! THE EXPERIENCE OF HAVING AN ORCHESTRA IN OUR SCHOOL WAS A CATALYST OF EMOTIONS. AT THE AUDIENCE WE HAD LOTS OF EXCITEMENT, JOY, SMILES AND DANCING, BUT ALSO, PEACE AND FOCUS. THE PARTICIPANTS...WERE PROUD, CONCENTRATED BUT ALSO SPARKLINGLY HAPPY. RAPH HAD THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF GIVING A POINT OF CONTACT FOR OUR STUDENTS TO CONNECT WITH, AND HE DID THAT AMAZINGLY WITH ENERGY, FUN AND RESPECT. SO, IT WORKED: THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE WAS A MOMENT THAT COULD REGENERATE OUR INTEREST IN MUSIC LIKE A TRULY JOYFUL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. I AM VERY GLAD OUR STUDENTS HAD THE CHANCE TO TAKE PART IN IT.

THANK YOU!

SWISS COTTAGE LEAD FOR MUSIC

MUSICIANS ON CALL

We continue to offer our Musicians on Call programme where small groups of players visit care homes to play, chat and share stories with residents usually with a cuppa and cake. This year we have made visits to care homes in North Walsham and were also invited back to Henderson Court for a coronation themed afternoon.

“

IT'S NO SECRET THAT MY FAVOURITE PERFORMANCES ARE IN THE CARE HOME SETTING. IVE BEEN TO MANY CARE HOMES OVER MY PERFORMING LIFE BUT ALL OF THE CONCERTS IN NORTH WALSHAM ARE UP THERE! THESE WERE CONCERTS OF FUN, HAPPINESS, LAUGHTER, INTERVENTION, EQUALITY AND DEEP EMOTION. IT WAS AN HONOUR TO BECOME MUSICAL FRIENDS TOGETHER FOR A FEW HOURS AND BEYOND.

OAE MUSICIAN

“

I HAD A GREAT DAY PLAYING AT HENDERSON COURT. OUTSIDE IN THE COURTYARD RESIDENTS GATHERED IN CUSHIONED CHAIRS FOR AN INFORMAL SHARING OF OPERA EXCERPTS, CLASSICS, FAMILIAR SONGS, FOLK, IMPROVISING AND LOTS OF CHAT FROM EVERYONE. WE HAVE A LIST OF REQUESTS FOR NEXT TIME TOO! BEING ABLE TO LISTEN TO PEOPLES STORIES UP CLOSE AND SHARING MUSIC TOGETHER IS SUCH A TREAT. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE AFTERNOON WAS WHEN ONE GENTLEMAN CAME UP TO US AT THE END TO SAY THAT WE HAD INSPIRED HIM TO GO AND PRACTICE HIS FIDDLE WHICH WAS UP IN HIS ROOM.

OAE MUSICIAN



OAE NURTURING TALENT

Through our Nurturing Talent programme we aim to share our passion for the music we play and to inspire the next generation of young players to reach their full potential.

THE PETER AND ANN LAW OAE EXPERIENCE SCHEME

The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment runs an annual scheme for exceptional young players to work alongside players from the OAE in courses, masterclasses, education projects and chamber concerts. Haydn's symphonies are the backbone of the Experience projects. In workshops and rehearsals, students explore Haydn's musical language and performance practice. They also discuss the intensely social aspects of the writing and the effects of this on their music-making and the interaction with the audience. The aim is to treat symphonies as enlarged chamber music with the whole group influencing and leading aspects of the rehearsals and performance

OAE ACADEMY

In September 2022 we ran our second OAE Academy course of the year for our 2022 cohort which culminated with a concert at St Matthais church in Dalston, as part of the Daylight Music concert series. Over the course our students explored symphonies by Haydn, Chevalier de St Georges and a concerto by Maddalena Lombardini Sirman. The Istante Collective also joined us in the Daylight concert in a fantastic set exploring Extraordinary People and Extraordinary Music, our theme for the concert.



“

MAGGIE'S APPROACH SEEKS TO CULTIVATE THOUGHTFUL MUSIC MAKING WHAT WE DO. WHY, AND WHAT WE'RE AIMING TO COMMUNICATE. THE CULTURAL CONTEXT IS AS IMPORTANT AS THE MUSICAL HOWS AND MAGGIE MAKES SPACE FOR THE IMAGINATION TO GET TO WORK WHICH ACTUALLY DRIVES TECHNICAL STANDARDS UP AS WELL. THERE ARE ALL THE OBVIOUS SATISFACTIONS OF WORKING WITH DEVELOPING PLAYERS AND HELPING THEM FIND WHAT THEY REALLY NEED TO DO IN AN ORCHESTRA, WHICH IN ITSELF CHALLENGES ME TO APPRAISE WHAT I DO AS WELL.

ORAE MUSICIAN





In February we welcomed a new cohort of students onto the Experience Scheme with our OAE Academy brilliantly led by Maggie and Leo, initially at St John's Smith Square and then at Acland Burghley School.

“

THE EXPERIENCE DAY FOR THE WIND PLAYERS WAS A MAD WHIRLWIND OF EXPLORING CLASSICAL THEORIES THROUGH GAMES AND PLAYING. ABOVE ALL ELSE WE HAD THE SPACE TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER AND BE EXCITED ABOUT PLAYING TOGETHER, PLAYERS CAME FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD TO BE THERE AND IT FELT LIKE A REAL MELTING POT OF IDEAS.
OAE MUSICIAN

“

THE WAY THE ORCHESTRA MEMBERS WORKED WITH US IN THE REHEARSAL MADE ME NOTICE EVEN MORE WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOOD MUSICIANS AND BRILLIANT MUSICIANS.
OAE EXPERIENCE MEMBER 2023

SUFFOLK YOUNG STRINGS

We were invited by the Suffolk County Music Service to work alongside their tutors with the Suffolk Young Strings (SYS) in the Spring and Summer of 2023. Led from the OAE by Alice Poppleton, OAE players joined these young players on an Easter course at Framlingham College to explore baroque style and also move away from their music stands to work creatively together.

In July the team returned to Suffolk to work with SYS which culminated in a showcase at Northgate High School in Ipswich.



“

I LOVED THAT WE PLAYED WITH OTHER
SCHOOLS AND ENDED UP WITH AN EPIC
MASTERPIECE
PARTICIPANT



LONDON STRINGS

We are delighted to have received a grant towards string work in London and during the Spring and Summer we ran inspiration workshops in primary and secondary schools for string players. In the last week of term, we ran a day for over 50 primary pupils who came to Cecil Sharp House for a lively and jam-packed day of music beautifully led by Alice Poppleton.



“

I REALLY ENJOYED WHEN WE DID THE BODY
PERCUSSION AS IT WAS VERY FUN. I LOVE THE
OAE!
PARTICIPANT

COMMUNITY MUSIC

Once again OAE players joined students at Community Music (CM) to create a sound bank of musical motifs. Students were then tasked with creating a track that told the story and conveyed the message of the painting *Guernica* by Pablo Picasso.

A NOTE FROM...

OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Access to high quality art should be a normal part of growing up in the United Kingdom. The work of the OAE Education department is, in every aspect, committed to that aspiration. It is a genuinely inclusive programme that takes care of young people across the spectrum of individual circumstance.

Continually evolving, the OAE plan of activity has established new modes of access for disadvantaged young people in its pioneering Musical Connections and Ground Base strands, important work that supports the flagship work that unites communities in new creative work on stage. *The Moon Hares* at the Queen Elizabeth hall is the summative demonstration of OAE Education's inclusive and expansive success – inspiring art at the highest level that confidently hurdles all barriers to access and sells every seat in the house.

Crispin Woodhead, OAE Chief Executive

OUR CHAIRMAN



Turning the tide on musical education must be seen as a priority as we grapple with widespread educational disengagement post-pandemic. As a society we need to engage with what the Arts can bring to each life, and to each stage of life. Creativity of any sort within a life is priceless, and brings untold joy and self-expression.

The OAE Education department continues to make remarkable strides within communities up and down the land, and in our home constituency of Acland Burghley School. Make no mistake: Cherry and her team are improving lives wherever they go.

Imogen Overli, OAE Chairman

LOOKING AHEAD...

We're getting ready and looking forward to another fabulous season of music making across the country including:

OAE@ ABS

a host of activity from Encounter Sessions to Dreamchasing Young Producers, GCSE composition work, Musical Connections, Live at the Hex, OAE TOTS, Ground Base and much more

OAE FLAGSHIP

The Fairy Queen: Three Wishes at the Queen Elizabeth Hall

OAE RESIDENCIES

in Somerset, York, Durham, King's Lynn and Suffolk

OAE TOTS & FAMILY

at the Royal Festival Hall, Brighton Early Music Festival and North Yorkshire

OAE SCHOOLS

in London and our regional residencies

OAE SPECIAL NEEDS

in London and Suffolk through our Musical Connections programme and a new SEN project in Ealing

OAE NURTURING TALENT

OAE Experience scheme, London and Suffolk String Projects



EDUCATION TEAM 22-23

Abigail Hayward-Brown	Daniel Bates	Katherine Spencer	Rebecca Livermore
Adam Wood	Daniel Da Souza	Kati Debretzeni	Richard Bayliss
Adrian Bending	Daniel Edgar	Katie Heller	Richard Lewis
Adrian Woodward	David Bentley	Katie Lodge	Richard Thomas
Alice Evans	Dominika Feher	Katy Bircher	Robert Howarth
Alice Poppleton	Ellen Bundy	Kinga Ujszaszi	Rodolfo Richter
Angelika Stangl	Flora Curzon	Kizzy Brooks	Roger Montgomery
Anna Curzon	Gavin Edwards	Leo Duarte	Ruth Alford
Annette Isserlis	Geoff Coates	Margaret Faultless	Sarah Bealby -Wright
Benedict Williams	Hayley Pullen	Marina Ascherson	Sarah Humphrys
Camilla Morse-Glover	Helen Verney	Mark Seow	Sarah Moore
Carina Cosgrave	Henrietta Wayne	Martin Lawrence	Sean Heath
Carina Drury	Huw Daniel	Meadow Brooks	Sebastian Gillot
Catherine Rimer	Huw Evans	Miriam Nohl	Sophie Simpson
Catriona McDermid	Iona Davies	Nathan Giorgetti	Stephen Rouse
Cecelia Bruggemeyer	Jacob Garside	Nia Lewis	Steven Devine
Charlotte Jolly	Joanna Lawrence	Nicola Barbagli	Tom Highnam
Cherry Forbes	Johan Lofving	Nina Kumin	Ursula Paludan-Monberg
Christopher Bucknall	John-Henry Baker	Oliver-John Ruthven	William Edwards
Christopher Rawley	Jonathan Manson	Peter Moutoussis	William McGahon
Claire Holden	Jonathan Rees	Rachel Beckett	William Russell
Claudia Norz	Julia Kuhn	Rebecca Hammond	Zoe Shevlin
			Oliver Wilson

OAE EXPERIENCE MUSCIANS 2022-23

Abbie Young

*Aleksandra Kwatowska

*Alexandra Lopez Arca

*Angel Munoz-Vella

Andres Villalobos Lepiz

**Appolline Khou

Beth Stone

**Brenda Lopez

**Carolina Guiducci

Clement Pickering

**Dominika Masszyczynsa

Dorota Kolinek

*Elana Cooper

*Emma Williams

Emily Newman

Erlend Vestby

Fergus Butt

Flora Fontanelli

*Giuseppe Ciraso-Cali

*Guillermo Santonja di Fonzo

*Guo Yu

Hannah Gardiner

*Helena Reguera

**Hugo Lau

*Javier Sanchez Castillo

*Jennie-Marie Wszolek

**Jorge Silva

Josie Jobbins

*Lewis Blee

*Majella Munz

*Maria Jesus Moreno Cuidad

Maria Reinon Roig

**Matthew Brown

*Matylda Adamus

*Nivanthi Karunaratne

Nivedita Sarnath

Ori Langer

*Peter McNeill

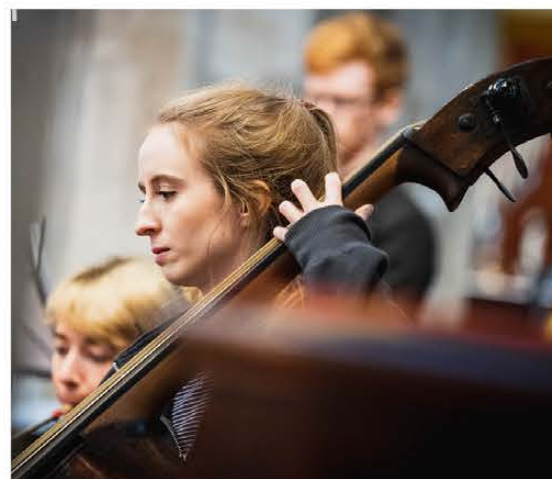
*Rebecca Barrato

Rodrigo Checa Lorite

*Samuel Ng

Samuel Middleton

**Sergio Sanchez-Martin



*Experience scheme members 2023

** Associate Experience scheme members 2023

ANIMATEURS, COMPOSERS, PRODUCERS, SOLOISTS

Charmian Bedford

Adam Courting

Tim Dickinson

Rob Gildon

Hazel Gould

Jenni Harper

Kirsty Hopkins

Simone Ibbett- Brown

Brett Kasza

James Redwood

Mary Collins

Raphael Clarkson

Ruth Paton

Yshani Perinpanayagam

OUR SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank the following supporters whose generosity and enthusiasm enables us to continue our ambitious education programme. We are also very grateful to our anonymous supporters.

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Brighton Early Music Festival

OAE EAST

Norfolk Music Hub

Suffolk Music Hub

North Norfolk District Council

OAE WEST

Wiltshire Music Centre

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OAE LONDON

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Camden Music Service

Ealing Music Service

Merton Music Foundation

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ORCHESTRAS *Live*

