

Adapt and Overcome: Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment perform *Quarantine Sessions* from their living rooms.

The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE) is refusing to have their music-making deterred by the quarantine. In the spirit of 'adapt and overcome', the Orchestra has established its *Quarantine Sessions*: a series of short videos that allow the musicians to play together virtually from all around the country.

These Sessions are a digital invention that sees the members of the OAE build pieces of music from scratch using the recording equipment they have in their own homes. The first video that the OAE have built is Bach's *Air on the G String*. In the Orchestra's usual manner, this performance is self-directed and was created using separate recordings, layered on top of each other over the course of a week.

Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eumxIVBIG5k>

Steven Devine, coordinator of the virtual performance and OAE principal keyboard, says:

"In these strange times, one of the hardest things is the lack of contact – social and musical – with friends and colleagues. It's possible to connect to chat but the collaboration of playing together is really not possible. Here we have an attempt to at least make music together, even if not in real-time. From this starting point, we hope that we can move towards new technologies to allow more direct music-making!"

Amid the chaos of the current global climate, *Quarantine Sessions* provides a way for the Orchestra to continue playing together and to share great music to relieve the difficulties of isolation.

Margaret Faultless, OAE leader, says:

"For those of us lucky enough to have more resources and more time, we are delighted to use this initiative to reach out through the power of music, though and our collaboration with colleagues, using newly acquired technology skills and the wonderful OAE community."

Throughout this very uncertain and turbulent period, the Orchestra will continue to explore all avenues of their creative potential. With a strong digital audience already, the OAE have seen the potential for a plethora of exciting, new projects.

The premiere of the piece will be streamed on the OAE's YouTube channel for free on the 7th April 2020. After the stream, the video will be available to watch on YouTube and the OAE website for free.

Notes to Editors

For more information, please contact:

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To subscribe to the OAE's YouTube channel, click on the link below and press the red 'subscribe' button.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/OrchestraEnlighten>

Read more about the OAE's digital initiative:


<https://oae.co.uk/the-show-must-go-online/>

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