

***Musicians on Call: Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment* creates 'Tv show' for care home, hospices and community settings.**

From the 15th April 2020, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE) will reimagine their *Musicians on Call* series as a virtual TV show as part of their 'The Show must go On(Line)' digital initiative.

Musicians on Call has been an ongoing programme for the OAE for many years. The events see a small group of OAE players visit care homes, hospices and community settings around the country and perform, chat and make music with the residents in an informal way. The OAE musicians play a variety of music, from renaissance to baroque and the popular music of today.

Now that the musicians cannot carry on in person, the OAE musicians are recording *Musicians on Call* from their own homes. There will be weekly episodes spanning twelve weeks and they will be released every Wednesday at 4pm and then archived on the OAE YouTube channel.

Cherry Forbes, OAE Education Director, says:

"We are delighted to be able to continue our *Musicians on Call* programme in the coming weeks. Music is central to unlocking memories and feelings and we hope our new online version will bring joy to many people across the country."

Each episode will have a personal format. The musicians will introduce themselves directly, and will address what happened in the previous episode to add a conversational element. The audience are encouraged to join in the singing and music making, just as they would have done had the musicians visited in person.

Cecelia Bruggemeyer plays double bass in the OAE and features prominently in the first *Musicians on Call* with a feature called 'Sing with Cecelia'. She says:

"In times of trouble and strife the natural human response has always been to come together and sing to lift the spirits. And of course my instrument is such an ensemble instrument that being home alone feels like it's lost its voice totally. Preparing for our virtual *Musicians on Call* show has not only given my bass its voice back, but, more importantly, the chance for many others in isolation to enjoy a *feel good moment* as we sing an old familiar favourite and make music together."

These unique films provide the OAE one such opportunity to support the elderly through this difficult time. Previously, *Musicians on Call* has visited care homes such as the Princess Alice Trust, Athena Care Homes and Age UK Suffolk. However, with events now going on line, the OAE hope to reach a far larger audience in new environments.

Musicians on Call will be available from 15th April on <https://oae.co.uk/moc>

Notes to Editors

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Read more about the OAE's digital initiative:

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

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>


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