OAEDUCATION



MUSICAL COMMUNITIES

2020-21



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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

OAE @ ABS

4

8

TOTS & FAMILIES

SCHOOLS

16

20

SPECIAL NEEDS

NURTURING TALENT

24

34

NOTES FROM...

LOOKING AHEAD

40

41

EDUCATION TEAM

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

42

44



A PROGRAMME TO INVOLUE, EMPOWER, 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 help us engage fully with all the communities where we work to 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 community may enjoy and experience the arts.

OUR AIMS

- MAKE THE OAE LOCAL
- COMPLEMENT THE OAE'S CONCERT ACTIVITY
- MAKE OUR OFFER UNIQUE

OUR STRANDS

- OAE @ ABS
- OAE TOTS & FAMILY
- OAE SCHOOLS
- OAE SPECIAL NEEDS
- OAE NURTURING TALENT

OUR REACH





MUSICAL COMMUNITIES 2020 - 2021

Never have the words **involve**, **empower and inspire** been more important than over the last year. One other word I would like to add to this list is connection. With the ongoing disruption to all of our lives through the pandemic the connections we have been able to make with each other have been vital in helping with the well-being of us all.

At the OAE we have challenged ourselves to make connections with our audiences without, for a long time, the chance for live performance to take place. We have reinvented how we work with our education partners with a live, digital or blended approach now part of our everyday offer.

Most importantly we have moved lock, stock and barrel into a school, Acland Burghley in Camden where we have a home, a library and a vibrant school community. The OAE is a place where everything is possible and creativity and thinking outside the box has enabled us to weather the storm of the pandemic but also to continue to offer musical connections to thousands of people across the country and the world.

We are all hoping for calmer times ahead but whatever the future holds the OAE will make sure sharing our music with as many people as possible in as many different ways will be our mission.



Last year I said it had been a year 'like no other' and that could also be true of 2020-21. Saying that we haven't stood still and with over 300 workshops and over 600 hours of educational activity last season we have continued to serve the communities where we work through music. Our move to Acland Burghley puts us at the heart of a school community and we look forward to many musical adventures to come.

It is a privilege to work for such a forward looking and inspiring company that is the OAE and I would like to say a huge thank you to all our players, our board, our staff, our supporters and our participants for their insight, their passion and their music.

Cherry Forbes OAE Education Director

2020 - 2021 IN NUMBERS:

17

Concerts

7447

Participants

337

Workshops

620

Hours of Activity

3024

Live Audience



In September 2020, the OAE became the first and only arts organisation in the UK to have a permanent residency in a school. And not just any school, Acland Burghley School (ABS) is an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse comprehensive school in Camden of roughly 1,150 students with 8% of the students on special education learning plans which is higher than the national average.

Through our unique partnership, our orchestra has found a home, a place to live, play and seek resonance in an already culturally rich community. In turn, the school finds revenue and diverse artistic opportunity that inspires across the curriculum, every day access to orchestral music and long-term meaningful work experience opportunities across all aspects of the arts sector.

Through our residency at the school we are making classical music a daily noise in the lives of our community and we are making a deliberate and constant disruption that insists that school should be a place where young people are given the tickets of the great experiences of life, it's where they learn that they do belong, that composers from Barbara Strozzi to Beethoven (and all the rest) were thinking of them when they wrote their music. Everyone has a musician in their soul and we'd like to help our local community and specifically the students at ABS to find theirs.



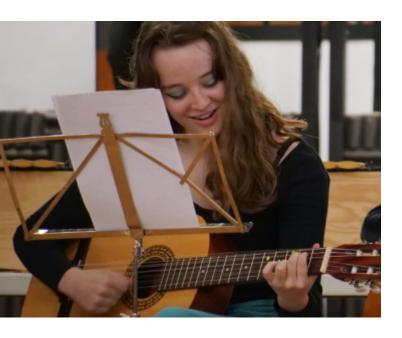
COAEJ COULD PLAY A PIONEERING ROLE BY NURTURING A DIFFERENT SORT OF STATE SCHOOL: ONE THAT UNLOCKS ITS STUDENTS' POTENTIAL FOR CREATIUITY, AND TRANSFORMS ASPIRATIONS AND RESULTS ACROSS ALL SUBJECTS. THAT, IN TURN COULD NOT ONLY INSPIRE OTHER ARTS ORGANISATIONS TO GET INVOLUED IN RUNNING SCHOOLS, BUT PERSUADE THE UK'S EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT TO REVERSE ITS IRRATIONAL DISTRUST OF THE ARTS."

RICHARD MORRISON, THE TIMES

ACTIVITY IN YEAR 0

Despite the challenges of Covid-related restrictions, there has been a rich plan of activity that has engaged students across the campus including a dedicated offer to GCSE and AEN students. This work has established secure foundations for practice that can be expanded and sustained on a routine basis. It is also important to note the crucial strand of cross- curricular activity where students with different interests come together (eg in dance, media and careers).

THE PROJECTS





MUSICAL CONNECTIONS

In the Autumn of 2020 we met with Nicola O'Donnell, Head of Additional Educational Needs and SENCO at ABS and our Musical Connections project was born. Based on the model of Our Band, our national programme of inclusive ensemble work, we invited a mixture of mainstream students and those with AEN from Year 9 and 10 to be part of creative composition ensembles to work with James Redwood and OAE players across the year.

These sessions have built the confidence of students and created a safe space for all to share ideas and build musical skills. In the Spring of 2021 we began preparations for our community opera, The Moon Hares which will be performed at the beginning of the new academic year with dance students from ABS, two local Camden primaries, the OAE, four professional soloists and a chorus.



THE OAE'S WORK IS DYNAMIC, INTUITIVE AND CREATIVE AND IT OFFERS A UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT THAT IS OPEN, FRIENDLY, SUPPORTIVE AND ENGAGING. EVEN IF STUDENTS ARE HESITANT TO BEGIN WITH, THEY WANT TO HAVE FURTHER SESSIONS AND ASK WHEN THEY WILL BE."

ABS AEN LEAD



CROSS CURRICULAR

Our Rameau dance project was a performance collaboration between the OAE and ABS dance students. OAE musicians presented a selection of music to the students and they chose Rameau's 'Danse des Sauvages' from Les Indes Galantes.

This particular dance, with a strong and distinctive rhythmic pulse, sparked enthusiastic discussion and allowed the music and choreography to evolve hand in hand.

Watch the video

Read more about the project



STUDY EVENTS

Throughout the year we have hosted study sessions for GCSE music students. From an exploration of Brandenburg 4 to a demonstration and discussion of baroque masterpieces, GCSE students have been able to get inside the music being performed live in their school hall. KS3 students were also invited to a session with our OAE Experience orchestra to explore a Haydn Symphony up close.







ENCOUNTER SESSIONS

For Year 7, 8 and 9 students in collaboration with the music department we devised days for whole year groups to explore topics they would be studying during the year. Sessions ranged from an introduction to the orchestra for Year 7's, to the blues with Mike Henry for Year 8's to an exploration of improvisation in early music and jazz for Year 9's.



BEFORE, I WASN'T SURE IF I COULD EVER LIKE CLASSICAL MUSIC BUT NOW, I KNOW I CAN LOVE IT. IT IS SO DIFFERENT HEARING IT LIVE IN THE SAME ROOM AS ME. ON OUR WAY TO OUR NEXT LESSON, WE ALL TALKED ABOUT WHICH INSTRUMENTS WE'D LIKE TO PLAY".

YEAR 7 STUDENT, ABS



THANK YOU FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS OF WORKSHOPS, THEY HAVE BEEN EXACTLY (AND MORE) OF WHAT WE HAD ENVISIONED...THE STUDENTS WERE ENGAGED, EXCITED AND HAVE GIVEN SUCH ENTHUSIASTIC AND ENCOURAGING FEEDBACK. THE BLUES PLAYED LIVE...AND OUR YEAR 7S WITNESSING LIVE BAROQUE MUSIC WITH EXPLANATIONS OF THE HARPSICHORD, TRUMPET AND MODERN/OLD VIOLINS IS SOMETHING THEY WILL ALSO HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED BEFORE.

HEAD OF MUSIC, ABS



THE WORKSHOPS WERE REALLY WONDERFUL, AND I WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED WITH THE WAY THAT YOU ALL MANAGED TO ENGAGE SUCH A DIVERSE RANGE OF STUDENTS. THEY WERE VERY EXCITED AFTERWARDS, AND GAVE GREAT FEEDBACK.

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO YOU AND ALL YOUR AMAZING TEAM.

HEAD TEACHER, ABS



ENSEMBLE DAYS

We have hosted both ensemble sessions for Year 7's and GCSE students and hope to build on these and extra-curricular activities as restrictions ease during 2021-22.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Throughout the year OAE staff and players have been involved in a variety of events such as careers fairs, interview practice and offered work experience opportunities to students so that they can develop skill and experience in a wide range of professionally relevant areas.

PUBLIC EVENTS @ ABS





OAE TOTS @ ABS

In June 2021 we were delighted to host our TOTS Guide to the Orchestra in the Assembly Hall for local families. We plan to host a series of TOTS concerts at the school each year from now on.

ART EXHIBITION

ABS has a strong track record of presenting a wonderful art exhibition each year and this year we joined the school to celebrate the work achieved by ABS students. Trumpeter Adrian Woodward was joined by some of our OAE Experience brass players and Year 7 students from the school to perform brass fanfares in the amphitheatre by the Assembly Hall.



BUSKING AT THE GATES

What a wonderful start to the day to hear a range of music from baroque to classical to folk with spoons – sounds at 8.30am in the morning!

BEYOND THE PROJECTS

A very special part of our residency at the school is what happens every day – the conversations in the playground, the ease of meeting in our office, seeing young people in their learning environment all contribute to the OAE being part of the daily life and vibrancy of a school community which is refreshing and energising for us all.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Plans for future activity include establishing a long-term mentoring programme for students, establishing a Digital Forum for students to advise on digital innovations and cross -curricular activity with the support of some of our external partners including The Institute of Physics, The Oxford Mathematical Institute, and Oxford Botanic Gardens. We also will continue to nurture students through our Musical Connections programme, Encounter Sessions, extracurricular activity as well as broaden our reach in the local community and support students in their own musical development.



THIS PIONEERING INITIATIVE BY ACLAND BURGHLEY SCHOOL AND THE ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT PLACES MUSIC AT THE HEART OF THE SCHOOL, GIVING EVERY CHILD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCOVER AND EXPRESS THEIR OWN CREATIVITY IN THEIR DAILY LIVES. E....] THIS IMAGINATIVE PARTNERSHIP TAKES COLLABORATION BETWEEN PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS AND THE PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM INTO NEW AND EXCITING TERRITORY IN WHICH CREATIVITY HAS A PART TO PLAY IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE CURRICULUM."

NICHOLAS SEROTA, CHAIR ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND







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!

We had planned for concerts to be held at the Royal Festival Hall (RFH) during the 2020-21 season but with closed doors to our concert halls we were unable to host them live so instead we filmed our programme 'A TOTS Guide to the Orchestra' in the Autumn of 2020 at the RFH instead. This meant that in the Spring of 2021, our partner schools could access the concert for their pupils, even if they couldn't attend one of our live events. Again, we adapted the way we work by taking the OAE into schools who were able to welcome us to perform our concerts live, rather than asking schools to travel to central London venues. We are also hoping that our filmed concerts together with teacher resources will feature on the OAE's digital platform OAE Player in due course so many more young people can access these events.

In preparation for the work in schools, we ran an online teacher training session, offered online or live workshops in schools together with resources for staff to use in their teaching. During the concert which was expertly presented by Cecelia Bruggemeyer, we built the orchestra up starting with a solo harpsichord and then met all the different sections of the orchestra in turn.



I JUST WANTED TO SAY HOW GRATEFUL I WAS FOR THE TRAINING THAT THE OAE HAS DELIVERED THIS TERM. I DON'T THINK I HAVE BEEN IN SUCH NEED OF A PICK ME UP AND THE INJECTION OF ENERGY, IDEAS AND QUITE LITERALLY, MUSIC, WAS SO VERY WELCOME! I'M SO SAD THAT I CAN'T PUT IT ALL TO GOOD USE WITH *EVERYONE* IN MY CLASSES STRAIGHTAWAY, DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT THE BOOST IT GAVE ME IN THE INTERIM COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE TIMELY. SO THANK YOU ALL - I HAVE BENEFITTED SO VERY MUCH FROM THE CONTACT AND SUPPORT THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN ME THIS TERM. MORE THAN EVER BEFORE!

MUSIC TEACHER, CAMDEN

NORFOLK DIGITAL TOTS

As part of our residency work in Norfolk, we trialled an online session for EY children with additional needs at Churchill Park Academy in King's Lynn. Some staff had initially questioned whether it could work with such young children but Cecelia once again wove her magic....



THE EARLY YEARS SESSION WAS FANTASTIC.

STAFF QUESTIONED THE CHILDREN'S ABILITY TO

ENGAGE WITH A SCREEN RATHER THAN A REAL

PERSON BUT IT REALLY WORKED FOR THAT TIME. THE

TIMING WAS SPOT ON AND USING FAMILIAR TUNES

AND ACTIONS WAS GREAT FOR THE KIDS AND THE

CONFIDENCE OF STAFF. THERE WAS LOTS OF

FUN, MOST OF THE KIDS WERE ENGAGED AND THERE

WAS DEFINITELY COMMUNICATION BOTH WAYS!"

TEACHER, KING'S LYNN



OAE PLAYHOUSE

In the Spring of 2021, we recorded a series of 5-10 minute videos for OAE Playhouse: a new YouTube channel aimed at Early Years, KS1-2 and additionally for SEN. The Early Years videos, presented by Cecelia Bruggemeyer, take a look at different instruments of the orchestra starting with the oboe, recorder, violin and horn. As in OAE Player, the OAE's new digital platform created in 2020, we aim through these videos to 'excite, surprise and delight'. The first set of videos will be launched in Autumn 2021.





A SPRING DAY AT THE POND

In partnership with South Asian Arts UK (SAA - UK), NYMAZ and Orchestras Live, we are developing a set of short films aimed at Early Years settings about travelling to a pond at different times of day and what might be found there.

With a script by Hazel Gould, the films include musicians from the OAE and SAA-UK and are beautifully presented by Kathak Dancer Seetal Kaur. The first four films see us travelling to the pond at Dawn, Morning, Afternoon and Night and the final film to be created later in 2021, will take us in our imaginations to the pond and includes a new commission by Preetha Narayanan for all six musicians to perform together.

At the end of the final film we will hear Seetal saying:



WHEREVER YOU ARE, MUSIC CAN TAKE YOU TO NEW AND EXCITING PLACES — A POND CLOSE TO HOME, OR MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS FAR ACROSS THE SEAS. MUSIC CAN LIGHT UP YOUR IMAGINATION, TELL US STORIES AND TAKE US ON MAGICAL JOURNEYS."

We think that says it all! Thank you Hazel.

YORK EARLY YEARS

In June 2021 we travelled to York to start a new EY and KS1 three-year project with schools across York in partnership with St Peter's school, The National Centre for Early Music (NCEM), the York Music Hub and the OAE. We ran workshops at St Peter's school and are planning to extend the work to other schools from the new academic year.





Each year we run an extensive schools programme for our partner schools across London. In 2021 our KS1 project (for 5-7 year olds) was entitled Opposites and for KS2 pupils (aged between 7-11) we offered a lockdown songbook experience online. Two schools also received workshops in preparation for our community opera, The Moon Hares, to be performed at the beginning of the new academic year at Acland Burghley. Our song Something Special, which we jointly commissioned with Camden Music in 2020, from Raph Clarkson, was rolled out to a further 18 schools across Camden.



IT WAS SO LOVELY TO SEE THE CHILDREN OUT AND ABOUT ON A PROPER TRIP, AND EVEN BETTER FOR IT TO BE SOMETHING THAT WAS THE CULMINATION OF THE OAE PROJECT THAT HAS BEEN ONGOING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. XX WAS SO EXCITED TO HEAR THE SONGS 'IN REAL LIFE'! I'M NOT QUITE SURE I'M GOING TO GET THE OPPOSITES SONG OUT OF MY HEAD..... I WAS REALLY IMPRESSED WITH HOW CALM AND ORGANISED IT ALL WAS TOO."

PARENT, LONDON SCHOOLS CONCERTS





OPPOSITES

This delightful project was based on Telemann's 'Hamburger Ebb und Fluth', with a song specially written by James Redwood which explored different pairs of opposites in music; smooth & spikey, fast & slow, loud & quiet and high & low.

In November 2020 we recorded the concert in our new home at ABS so we would have a copy to send out to schools, with Natasha Bain joining us as the singer alongside James Redwood. After an online teacher training session in January, we delivered a mixture of workshops to schools, either in person or online via zoom – each participating school was given the choice on how they'd like the project to work in their schools which enabled many more children to be able to access the project.

We were able to perform one concert live at Cecil Sharp House with two schools in attendance and we live streamed the performance to other schools.



IT WAS A MESMERISING EXPERIENCE FOR OUR STUDENTS."

CLASS TEACHER, BRENT



"I THOUGHT THE WAY THE EVENT WAS HANDLED CONSIDERING THE CLIMATE AND INCREASED RISK WAS INCREDIBLE. IT WAS INCLUSIVE FOR ALL CHILDREN AND TEACHERS FROM THE INITIAL TRAINING RIGHT THROUGH TO THE CONCERT ITSELF. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE CHILDREN HAD REALLY BOUGHT INTO THE PROGRAMME BY THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE OPPOSITE SONG AND THEIR ENTRANCEMENT WITH THE ORCHESTRA. I WOULD LOVE TO BE INVOLVED AGAIN IN THE FUTURE!"

YEAR 2 TEACHER



THEY ARE LOUING THIS!"

CAMDEN MUSIC TEACHER



LOCKDOWN SONGBOOK

Over the year we have created songs with many of our ongoing groups during lockdown. Through zoom workshops James Redwood and OAE players have helped young people, many with additional needs to create their own music and perform it and share with others around the country. In the Summer of 2021, we invited our partner schools to join us and share these songs more widely. We all had a really good time whether in a studio in London, or in a classroom around the country.



I JUST WANTED TO SAY HOW MUCH THE CHILDREN AND STAFF ENJOYED THE CONCERT YESTERDAY! EVERYONE WAS JOINING IN AND SINGING ALONG. THANK YOU FOR INVITING US TO COME ALONG AND THANK YOU TO JAMES AND THE MUSICIANS FOR MAKING IT SUCH A FUN, INCLUSIVE EXPERIENCE".

MUSIC TEACHER, BRENT

KS2 MOON HARES

Two Camden primary schools learnt the songs for our community opera, The Moon Hares, in the summer term. Written by Hazel Gould and featuring music from Purcell's Dioclesian and new music by James Redwood pupils loved being the children in the village, turning into hares as they look at the moon and saving the teacher from the stocks. Our performances planned for July 2021 had to be postponed but we're looking forward to the shows which are now planned to open the new academic year.





OAE PLAYHOUSE

In Spring 2021 we recorded a series of 5-10 minute videos for OAE Playhouse: a new YouTube channel aimed at Early Years, KS1-2 and for students with additional needs. The KS1 videos, presented by Carina Cosgrave (Double Bass) explore different concepts in music such as high and low, fast and slow, quiet and loud and smooth and spikey. The KS2 videos presented by Oliver-John Ruthven (harpsichord) focus on a wider musical and historical context of the OAE's core repertoire and instruments. As in OAE Player, the OAE's new digital platform created in 2020, we aim through these videos to 'excite, surprise and delight'. The first set of videos will be launched in Autumn 2021.



SOMETHING SPECIAL

In last year's review you may remember watching a wonderful video of the Camden New Voices singing Raph Clarkson's fabulous song Something Special. In the Autumn of 2020 Sheena Masson from Camden Music invited a further 18 primary schools to record their versions of the song which was then edited into another wonderful film.

<u>Here</u> you can see again our original video and <u>here</u> you can see Something Special in its latest incarnation!



Our Special needs programme has been ever more important in this year of disruption to school life for thousands of young people with additional needs around the country. During the year we've been running Our Band, our inclusive ensemble work in London, Norfolk, Wiltshire and Plymouth and once again we've joined our partners to create new models of work to keep us all connected from live workshops, to live streaming, to zoom workshops and training sessions with young people and teachers accessing music either from school or from home. We've also been working on our Making a Band project in Ealing, expanded our Young Artists programme, made visits on our Musicians on Call programme and also been part of the national Share Sound project in partnership with Orchestras Live.



THIS HAS BEEN, WITHOUT DOUBT, THE MOST PROFESSIONAL, VALUABLE, AND WELL PLANNED AND ENJOYABLE COLLABORATION I HAVE BEEN PART OF IN MY 16 YEARS OF TEACHING. IT WAS A DAY THAT SHOOK THE SCHOOL OUT OF ITS COVID INDUCED SLUMBER AND BROUGHT OUR HEADTEACHER TO TEARS."

MUSIC TEACHER, EALING

OUR BAND

OUR BAND PLYMOUTH

This year we've loved making make music with our friends at Plymouth Music Zone and City College via zoom We overcame challenges of students taking part from six different classes at college and also a request not to make much noise so as not to disturb senior leaders at the college who were working on the same corridor! We created a beautiful rainbow ukulele song and also worked on songs created in other settings around the country including the wonderful Holiday song written by students at Cricket Green school in Merton. We were also joined by our Young Artist Monty in these sessions and it is wonderful to see how his confidence has grown throughout the year.



OUR BAND ZONE CLUB

We once again joined our wonderful friends at Zone Club for sessions with clubbers joining from home and OAE and Wiltshire Music centre teams joining either on zoom or live from the Wiltshire Music Centre. Having time to share ideas with our partners about new ways of working has been invaluable to us as we navigated our way through the various lockdowns, and working with Zone Club introduced us to Streamyard, which worked really well for live sessions with the clubbers. Raph Clarkson led on the making of a new song – Saving the Girl from the Dragon – the OAE perhaps as you have never heard them before!

We are delighted to welcome Kaye and Alex to our Young Artist scheme and after an introductory session with Raph Clarkson, Katherine Spencer and Alex Lupo back in June we look forward to them joining us to work in special schools during 2021-2022 as we prepare for our Moon Hares residency in Wiltshire in 2022.





OUR BAND CRICKET GREEN

Cricket Green school in Merton is an extraordinary place – full of life, full of laughter and full of creativity. Perhaps the most joyful song created this year was born in online sessions at the school in the Spring of 2021. Two classes shared the lyric writing challenge and came up with the wonderful Holiday song.

As the year developed, we were struck at how we were able to make connections with students and the first time we were allowed back in school in late Spring, students really 'knew' us although some had previously only met us online.

Najah, one of our Young Artists also joined us for sessions both online and live in the school and we were impressed, she and many of the students who had sung with us at the Royal Albert Hall the previous year, remembered the work they had done more than two years previously.

Hearing the whole school singing the Holiday song outside in our end of year celebration was one of the most uplifting things of the year!



THANK YOU FOR THE LOVELY WORKSHOPS. WE REALLY ENJOYED WRITING THE HOLIDAY SONG WITH YOU. WE LOVED SINGING, DANCING AND LISTENING TO YOU ALL PLAY SO NICELY'.

FROM TOPAZ AND INDIGO CLASSES



THANK YOU ALL FOR SHARING YOUR AMAZING TALENTS WITH US. WE ALL LOVED SINGING WITH YOU AND FELT PROUD AND EMOTIONAL.

TEACHER, CRICKET GREEN



THANK YOU — MUSIC IS TRULY GOOD FOR THE SOUL.'

TEACHING ASSISTANT CRICKET GREEN

OUR BAND PERSEID

Perseid school is an inspiring place where students with the most profound needs are cherished and nurtured. Raph Clarkson led our team there in online workshops over the year. Working alongside staff at the school, Raph designed age and ability appropriate activities for students all based on our opera The Fairy Queen: Three Wishes.

In July we took the whole OAE and our fabulous singers Kirsty Hopkins and Timothy Dickinson, to the school to perform our specially adapted story for Perseid students. Due to restrictions we were allowed in the hall at the school but not for students to come in person, so we live streamed the event to the whole school in their respective classrooms - once again anything is possible!



HELEN AND I WANTED TO WRITE TO THANK YOU AND THE MUSICIANS FOR MANAGING TO PULL TOGETHER SUCH A LOVELY CONCERT FOR US TODAY. OUR MUCH-WANTED RESIDENCY HAS BEEN SO BADLY AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC, BUT DESPITE THAT, WE ALL KEPT ON GOING AND AS WE SAW TODAY FROM THE PUPIL PARTICIPATION, IT WAS WORTH IT!

ONE OF THE THINGS OUR PUPILS HAVE TOLD US ON RETURNING TO SCHOOL FOLLOWING THE LOCKDOWNS, IS THAT THEY WANT MORE MUSIC AND ARTS PROVISION BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT THEY HAUE MISSED. THAT, TO ME, MAKES TODAY'S CONCERT EVEN MORE MEANINGFUL. IT WAS WONDERFUL TO HEAR LIVE MUSIC WITHIN THE SCHOOL AGAIN, AND FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT AND PERSISTENCE, WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

TINA HARVEY, EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER



OUR BAND KING'S LYNN

Churchill Park Academy in King's Lynn was one of the first schools who welcomed us back in to run live workshops with their students and we started our year of activity there with two days of workshops in September 2020. We also contacted Springwood secondary school and invited their Year 10's to join the programme to work towards performances of The Moon Hares in 2021. We worked with both schools throughout the year either in live or online sessions and even at one point, with live and online at the same time with two of the OAE team in the room and others in Brighton and London. It was really interesting for the OAE team in the room to experience in real time what it was like for students to access the work online.

After a term of online work where we wrote a new Space song, we then moved on to learn songs in readiness for the lockdown songbook celebration in July 2021. Staff identified students who had really shone or come out of themselves in the online workshops and additional new students were invited to join for the Moon Hares project in the Summer term.

We were due to perform our Moon Hares community opera on July 1 at Springwood Academy but two weeks before our planned performance the decision was made by the school not to host any events inside or outside, so we once again adapted



THE FEEDBACK FROM HS3 AND HS4 STAFF WAS
THAT THE WHOLE PROCESS WAS A REALLY POSITIVE
ONE. THE WORKSHOPS WERE WELL RECEIVED AND
ALTHOUGH THE TECHNOLOGY SIDE CAN CAUSE A FEW
ISSUES GENERALLY ALL WENT SMOOTHLY AND
EVERYONE WAS HAPPY AND CONFIDENT. THE MOST
FREQUENT COMMENT WAS THE INCLUSIVITY AND
THE FACT THAT SEVERAL STUDENTS REALLY SHONE
AND WERE OBVIOUSLY GAINING SO MUCH FROM THE
WHOLE EXPERIENCE. INTERESTINGLY THEY WOULD
PROBABLY NOT HAVE BEEN HANDPICKED AS
POTENTIAL STUDENTS FOR SMALL GROUP WORK BUT
STAFF ARE RE-EVALUATING THE CRITERIA FOR
CHOOSING STUDENTS FOR THESE SESSIONS".

TEACHER, CHURCHILL PARK ACADEMY

our plans and instead ran the performances at Churchill Park Academy and transformed the school hall into a theatre. It was a very special day indeed and it seemed a fitting way to end our year at the school with our whole company joining students to perform at school. We filmed the show which was then sent home to parents.





OUR BAND NEWHAM

Newham was the final borough to join us in 2021 for Our Band and what a treat it has been to work at Tollgate primary with their school orchestra and a charming group of pupils with additional needs. In February during lockdown we were due to do online workshops but the school asked us to come into school in person, and they would then invite children into to school to join us. The school are fantastic at nurturing their children and felt a live session would benefit everyone, which it certainly did, and set the scene for some amazing sessions there with Raph Clarkson. As in our other Our Band settings we were working on our Fairy Queen: Three Wishes opera but the results are different wherever we go. In Tollgate we wrote a new overture, a lullaby to send Kirsty to sleep, an Argument song and new parts with dancing to accompany the OAE in the beautiful Chaconne by Henry Purcell.

In July we spent a week performing our Fairy Queen: Three Wishes opera in Merton, Ealing and Newham. Kirsty Hopkins and Timothy Dickinson, our brilliant soloists adapt to any given situation and bring something new to every show. James Redwood and Raph Clarkson inspire our young audiences and the OAE play their hearts our every time – it is such a joyous way of making music with young people and we are privileged at the OAE to have these experiences as part of our musical lives.



I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE THE OVERWHELMING IMPACT THAT THE OAE HAD ON OUR CHILDREN, STAFF AND THE OVERALL SCHOOLING ENVIRONMENT LAST TERM. BOTH THE WORKSHOPS AND THE PERFORMANCE WERE ABSOLUTELY EXCEPTIONAL AND THERE ARE NO WORDS TO ARTICULATE JUST HOW MUCH THE PERFORMANCE MEANT TO THE CHILDREN INVOLUED - BOTH THE SEND GROUP AND INSTRUMENTALISTS. THEY REALLY WILL REMEMBER THEIR INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION FOR A LIFETIME AND SO ON BEHALF OF ALL THE STAFF AT TOLLGATE, THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH".

TOLLGATE TEACHER

EALING BUILDING A BAND

During 2020-21 we worked in three Ealing special schools: Belvue, St Ann's and Mandeville. All three have students with very different needs and we adapt our work accordingly. We never assume one size fits all and pride ourselves that all our work is bespoke for the groups we work with.

BELUUE SCHOOL



TO HEAR MY STUDENTS SINGING SOLOS
ACCOMPANIED BY ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S LEADING
ORCHESTRAS IN OUR SCHOOL HALL WAS
SIMPLY BREATH-TAKING."

"A PROFESSIONAL COMPOSER HAD TAKEN A MELODY AND WORDS THE STUDENTS HAD CREATED AND TURNED IT IN TO A MOST WONDERFUL, COLOURFUL AND MAGICAL ORCHESTRATION."

"THE MUSICIANS PITCHED THE PERFORMANCE JUST RIGHT AND EVERYBODY RESPONDED WITH A THUNDEROUS OVATION - EVEN THOSE WHO WOULDN'T NORMALLY LIKE SHOW IT!"

BELUUE STAFF COMMENTS





SINGING TO OTHER CLASSES - THEY ALL PROUD OF ME. THE ORCHESTRA LAST WEEK - I PLAYED ON THE PIANO AND FELT BRAVE ABOUT IT. I WANT THEM TO COME BACK BECAUSE THEY'RE NICE."

"IT WAS AMAZING BECAUSE I WAS SINGING AND PLAYING ON THE KEYBOARD. BEFORE I WAS SCARED BUT NOW WHEN I SEE EVERYONE CLAPPING IT MAKES ME HAPPY. I WAS SUPER-HAPPY?"

BELUUE STUDENT COMMENTS



ST ANN'S

We returned to St Ann's in the summer term and finished the term with a quartet in full PPE performing with the young people their own version of the Fairy Queen.

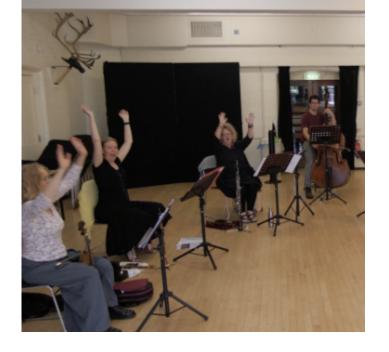


THANK YOU FOR ORGANISING THIS SESSION FOR US. EVERYONE ENJOYED IT TREMENDOUSLY. WE HAUEN'T HAD UISITORS FOR OVER A YEAR SO THE MUSICIANS JUST MADE OUR SCHOOL BRIGHT AGAIN THIS AFTERNOON... WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT SESSION".

CLASS TEACHER, EALING

MANDEVILLE

We also ran workshops and a small sharing at Mandeville special school. Mostly online, these sensitive workshops led by Raph Clarkson really touched the lives of the young people involved through music.





Najah - OAE Young Artist

LOCKDOWN SONGBOOK

Over the year we wrote many songs with our inclusive ensembles and in July we invited everyone to join us for a celebration workshop to share our music together. It was a joyous occasion where we combined a Hello song, Gimme Funk, the Holiday song and many others with lovely moments of music by Henry Purcell performed by the OAE.

OAE YOUNG ARTISTS

2020-21 saw us expanding our work with our Young Artists; Grace, Monty, Najah, Jack, Alex and Faye. These talented young people from Suffolk, Plymouth, London and Wiltshire are joining us to work alongside the OAE's delivery team in Our Band settings across the country. They also have started working as an ensemble in their own right with online workshops where they have worked on their own compositions with James Redwood, Raph Clarkson and players from the OAE. Our Young Artists have a range of additional needs and their expertise has brought a new dimension to our working practice, which has benefitted our participants, the Young Artists themselves as well as OAE players.



THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO THE LOCKDOWN SONGBOOK EVENT THIS MORNING... IT WAS LOVELY TO SEE HOW EXCITED THE STUDENTS WERE AROUND THE MUSIC, ESPECIALLY THOSE AT CRICKET GREEN SCHOOL, AND TO SEE THE LOVELY RELATIONSHIP THAT JAMES AND THE OAE HAS BUILT UP WITH THEM ALL".

GRACE , YOUNG ARTIST

MUSICIANS ON CALL

We have continued our work with Musicians on Call despite the issue of the pandemic meaning we can't visit care homes as easily as before. We ran a lovely session at Florence Court in Wiltshire and have explored a postcard project and now are looking forward to a rejuvenated scheme across the country in 2021-2022.





OAE EXPERIENCE SCHEME

Our year-long mentoring scheme for exceptional young musicians continued during 2020-21 with two separate weekend courses at Acland Burghley, both on the symphonies of Haydn. Led by Margaret Faultless, players explored ways of developing a Haydn performance style, discovering the musical language and evolving a playing style related to what Haydn might have expected to hear. At the end of the second course students delivered a study session for KS3 students at the school and will be performing some of the works they studied at the Wiltshire Music Centre in the Autumn.

Brass and Percussion students on the scheme were joined by OAE players for a day to work and explore repertoire led by Phil Dale, Richard Thomas, Adrian Bending and Martin Lawrence.

As part of the scheme, students are offered the chance to take part in our education work and opportunities have included filming our TOTS and KS1 concerts and our operas The Fairy Queen: Three Wishes and The Moon Hares as well as being involved in live concerts and workshops. All students were offered lessons or mentoring sessions with OAE players either online or in person. Our current cohort of students will be with us until the end of December 2021 and we look forward to welcoming new students from January 2022.



THANK YOU AGAIN FOR A FANTASTIC TWO DAYS.I BELIEUE I LEARNED MORE IN TWO DAYS ABOUT HAYDN SYMPHONIES FROM MAGGIE, THE OAE MEMBERS, AND MY COLLEAGUES THAN IN THE PREVIOUS 5 YEARS! IT'S RARE THAT WE GET A CHANCE TO FOCUS SO INTENTLY ON ONE TYPE OF PIECE AND ONE COMPOSER AND I THINK THAT'S SO USEFUL IN THE PROFESSIONAL WORLD. I ALSO REALLY APPRECIATE OAE'S EFFORTS TO MAKE SURE WE WERE SAFE AND TAKEN CARE OF IN THE PANDEMIC CIRCUMSTANCES".

OAE EXPERIENCE STUDENT



I'M SO SO HAPPY THAT I WAS INVITED TO PLAY FOR SUCH A WONDERFUL OAE EDUCATION PROJECT. I HAD A BRILLIANT TIME AND REALLY OPENED MY EYES TO HOW IMPORTANT IT IS GIVING SCHOOLS THIS KIND OF EXPERIENCE. REALLY MEANS A LOT TO HAVE TAKEN PART, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!"

OAE EXPERIENCE STUDENT

Being on the OAE Experience Scheme has been a goal of mine for some years and I'm sure it would have been an incredibly worthwhile experience in any year. However, to have been part of the OAE during one of the most universally testing times in living memory has been an immense privilege, lifeline and joy. Living up to its name, the orchestra's response to these challenges has been enlightened, staying, as ever, true to its musical ideals but reacting to, communicating with, and representing the world in which we live. Witnessing the never-ending supply of creativity, resourcefulness and kindness has been an added, unexpected, education and has cultivated my mindset and determined the type of musician I wish to be for the rest of my career.

It is difficult to know where to start to illuminate my kaleidoscopic experience with this orchestra. In equal measure it's been the huge career highlights like speaking on Radio 3 and the more low-key



interactions such as the valuable chats with other players as we travel from school to school delivering workshops to various age groups that have made this time so incredibly rich. Fuelled by the music, my experiences have been vast and far reaching from Haydn weekends with Margaret Faultless at Acland Burghley, violin lessons with Huw Daniel, recording for OAE Playhouse including online adaptations and live performances of OAE TOTS concerts, Moon Hares and Fairy Queen, meeting young artists with additional needs from around the country to form an online band – music-making, exploration and human connection at the heart of it all.

The OAE's new online initiatives OAE Player and OAE Playhouse are a valuable creative response to

the pandemic which will not only act as a legacy for this time but will continue to have an important place within our cultural diet. Of course, for many others, the online experience has been a painfully pale



imitation of the vibrant artistic life they once led, and it is important to recognise the grief and loss that many experienced over the last few years. As we rush to return to 'normal', it is my hope that Cherry Forbes' pandemic motto of 'online, on stage – both!' remains across the industry to continue the progress of making the Arts accessible for all. For me, this year's highlights have included projects that ran in a hybrid state using the positives of both online and live settings to their advantage. Working in collaboration with Orchestras Live to produce Suffolk Share Sound, a project working with various special schools in Suffolk to create a composition alternating baroque ritornelli with their creative episodic responses, we benefitted from the opportunity to visit the schools both online for workshops harvesting material, and then in person to record material and celebrate the complete composition. I found great value in using this mix of platforms to build relationships and explore my own role – from support musician to workshop leader on the recording day to performer in the final composition. Revisiting one of the schools, I noticed that one of the participants was not present at the second workshop. Supported by the staff, I was able to visit their classroom and successfully reinclude them. These relationships take time to build and online workshops afforded a slower but more consistent approach..

Alice Poppleton OAE Experience Violin



SHARE SOUND

We were invited by one of our national partners, Orchestras Live, to take part in their ground breaking project Share Sound, and the OAE were involved in two of these projects in Durham and Suffolk. Share Sound was a unique opportunity to create new inclusive ensembles where young people could compose, curate, rehearse, perform and record new music digitally, working alongside music professionals.

From Orchestras Live:

"Six of our partner Music Hubs were involved - Cumbria, Durham and Darlington, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Nottinghamshire a nd Suffolk - along with professional orchestras Chineke! Orchestra, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. A team of music leaders, orchestral players, Music Hub tutors and freelance musicians

from other genres supported a series of online creative workshops with the participants in each area. As Artistic Director of Share Sound, experienced music leader James Redwood led and mentored the artistic teams whilst exploring connections between each Hub area and their creative work. Each Music Hub project has its own identity, structure and timescale and produced an enormous breadth of creative work produced by the young people."

The project culminated on 7 July 2021 in an online grand finale when the digital productions from all six areas were premiered with everyone involved and their audiences. including the Share Sound Fantasia.

James composed drawing on musical ideas from across the project. <u>Listen to what the participants felt about taking part.</u>







DURHAM SHARE SOUND

In Durham we worked with the Durham Music Virtual Orchestra (DMVO) inspired by the dance OAE players took part in online, DMVO rehearsals and masterclasses in the Autumn, to introduce our baroque instruments and baroque techniques that students then put into practice as they worked on Corelli's Christmas Concerto.

During the spring, DMVO explored new repertoire including Florence Price's Juba Dance from Symphony No. 1 and used this as inspiration for a new composition 'Forged by Fire' written by the students together with James and OAE players

The students wrote parts for beginner instrumentalists with OAE players visiting each primary school to coach their ensembles. Watch Forged by Fire and Juba Dance.

SUFFOLK SHARE SOUND

In Suffolk we worked with three schools in Ipswich – Northgate secondary and Thomas Wolsey schools and Stone Lodge Academy. We were also joined by Grace our Young Artist. Together we wrote 'Calling Our to You', a beautiful song celebrating the power of music and how it helps us through difficult times.



WORKING WITH THE OAE AND PARTICIPANTS ON SHARE SOUND HAS BEEN FANTASTIC AND I DO NOT WANT IT TO END. THERE HAS BEEN PROFESSIONALISM, COMMUNITY, FRIENDSHIP, AND SIMPLY FUN, ALL ROLLED UP INTO ONE PROJECT. ORCHESTRAL MUSIC IS NOT JUST ABOUT STRING INSTRUMENTS AND RELAXATION... SOME ORCHESTRAS LIKE TO DANCE AND HAVE FUN AND GET THEIR AUDIENCES TO DO THE SAME. THE OAE IS VERY CLEAR ABOUT THIS AND IT DOES NOT DISAPPOINT. IT IS AN ORCHESTRA LIKE NO OTHER AND HAS TAUGHT ME SO MUCH ABOUT ORCHESTRAS WHICH I WOULD LOVE TO EXPLORE FURTHER IF I CAN. THANK YOU OAE AND ORCHESTRAS LIVE FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROJECT... IT REALLY HAS BEEN A BLAST AND I AM NOT READY TO SAY GOODBYE YET

GRACE, OAE YOUNG ARTIST

We are delighted to say that Grace has now become a Young Ambassador for the OAE so alongside her work with us as a Young Artist, her journey has only just begun!

BRENT DOUBLE REEDS

Last year we worked alongside music hub staff from Brent to run a massed recorder project. This year saw the second tranche of the project with an OAE oboe band delivering assemblies to over 400 children in Brent with the aim of recruiting 16 young people to start learning the oboe or bassoon. We look forward to joining these bright new players in the Autumn for a celebration of all things wind!





I LOVE WORKING WITH JASON AND THE CM STUDENTS, CREATING AND COLLABORATING IN NEW WAYS. ... WE HAD ALL LOOKED AT PICASSO'S 'GUERNICA 'AS OUR STARTING POINT AND THE STUDENTS THEN CAME UP WITH WONDERFULLY RICH AND POWERFUL WISHES THAT THEY WANTED THE CLARINET, VIOLIN AND VIOLA TO PORTRAY. FINDING HOW TO MAKE SHAPES AND SOUNDS OF THEIR REQUESTS FOR 'WHITE LIGHT', 'PANICKED HORSES' 'SCREAMS'...'WALKING TURNING TO RUNNING BENEATH A GREY SKY'......THE TALENTED STUDENTS THEN WOVE SOME OF OUR SOUNDS TO THEIR TRACKS AND THE RESULTS WERE ALL SO INDIVIDUAL AND POWERFUL, FULL OF TENSION AND SUSPENSE.

KATIE HELLER, OAE VIOLIN/ VIOLA

cm music

We joined students from CM in East London to sample instrumental sounds for their compositions inspired by Picasso's intense painting 'Guernica'.





A NOTE FROM...

OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Our move into Acland Burghley School in North London was a landmark in the life of the OAE. It was an unprecedented statement about our belief that the arts should sit at the heart of education and be a central, cohesive influence in the community. It is not enough to assume that the signal of benefit will radiate successfully from the concert hall and reach all those we aim to serve. Too often it does not even penetrate the walls of the auditorium.

But that step of residency was in fact the natural continuation of an educational project which has established itself over the years as a community routine in so many parts of the country. One of those communities is Camden where the OAE has a close working relationship with so many primary schools, nurturing a relationship that can then evolve through the secondary curriculum.



In all things that we do therefore, education is fundamental. We believe that arts depending on reception can only be served by a mission whose deliberate commitment is to access and emancipation.

Crispin Woodhead, OAE Chief Executive

OUR CHAIRMAN

We are now only really in the foothills of understanding of what effect music, and musical fellowship has on us emotionally, and in a more holistic sense. No art

is as intrinsic to the human experience as music. Meaningful connection to music has been more difficult to achieve over the past year, but at the OAE we have tested the limits of technology and extended our reach in imaginative and inclusive ways.

Cherry and the team have been nothing if not heroic, and have responded to recent challenges joyfully and creatively with the communities that OAE Education serves. None of it would be possible without the generosity and belief of those individuals and Trusts which understand OAE Education work as absolutely vital and transformative. Education is understood by everyone at the OAE to be fundamental to all we do: our move into Acland Burghley School in 2020 profoundly speaks to

that.

As 2022 hoves into view, I think we can be proud of all that we have achieved against such an uncertain recent canvas. We are undiminished in our commitment and vigour, and emboldened to reach further, to bring meaningful artistic encounters to yet more people.

LOOKING AHEAD...



2021-2022

With the OAE's 2021-22 season entitled Wilderness Pleases, we have a season planned in OAE Education exploring themes of nature, the environment, our communities and our heritage. From TOTS through to schools and community events, we will take the OAE repertoire as our inspiration to create bespoke work that inspires those we work with to reflect the places they live, our natural world and our place in it.





Ruth Alford

Hugo Arteaga

Marina Ascherson

Natasha Bain

John-Henry Baker

Nicola Barbagli

Rachel Beckett

Charmian Bedford

Rosie Bowker

Jordan Bowron

Cecelia Bruggemeyer

Christopher Bucknall

Ellen Bundy

Rachel Chaplin

Carina Cosgrave

Philip Dale

Huw Daniel

Daniel de Souza

Steven Devine

Timothy Dickinson

Carina Drury

Leo Duarte

Daniel Edgar

Gavin Edwards

William Edwards

Margaret Faultless

Dominika Feher

Cherry Forbes

Jacob Garside

Robert Gildon

Russell Gilmour

Katie Heller

Claire Holden

Kirsty Hopkins

Sarah Humphrys

Annette Isserlis

Martin Kelly

Julia Kuhn

Joanna Lawrence

Martin Lawrence

Nia Lewis

Rebecca Livermore

Katie Lodge

Max Mandel

Jonathan Manson

Ursula Paludan Monberg

Roger Montgomery

Emma Murphy

Claudia Norz

Joe Qiu

Ionathan Rees

Rodolfo Richter

William Russell

Oliver-John Ruthven

Mark Seow

Zoe Shevlin

Isaac Shieh

Sophie Simpson

Katherine Spencer

Henry Tong

Kinga Ujszaszi

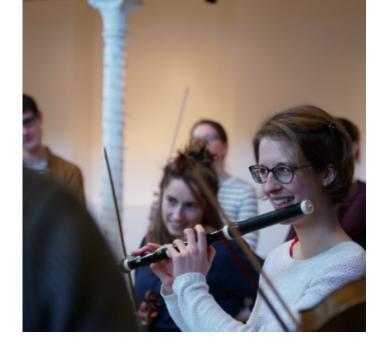
Helen Verney

Andrew Watts

Henrietta Wayne

Adrian Woodward

42 | OAEDUCATION





OAE EXPERIENCE MUSICIANS

Darina Ablongina

Julio Blanco Badiola

Eleonora Biscevic

Sarah Bleile

Elia Celagato

Nicholas Cowling

Bernat Gili

William Gough

Elliot Gresty

Josie Jobbins

Katie Lewis

Georgina McKay Lodge

Sophie Longmuir

Rodrigo Checa Lorite

Peter Moutoussis

Esther van de Ploeg

Alice Poppleton

Pedro Henrique de Souza Rosa

Eugenio Solinas

Anne-Linde Visser

Elise Van der Wel

Stephen Williams

Andrew Wong

Adam Wood

ANIMATEURS, COMPOSERS, PRODUCERS

Natasha Bain

Raphael Clarkson

Hazel Gould

Mike Henry

Preetha Narayanan

Yshani Perinpanayagam

Alice Phelps

James Redwood

OUR SUPPORTERS

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

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