

Welcome to the Spring  
issue of the RNCM  
Alumni e-bulletin!

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[rncm.ac.uk/alumni](http://rncm.ac.uk/alumni)

**RNCM**  
ROYAL NORTHERN  
COLLEGE of MUSIC

In this edition, as RNCM students rehearse for our forthcoming production of *The Pilgrim's Progress*, we'll take you back through the last three decades to celebrate past RNCM Opera productions of the RVW classic. We'll also introduce you to one of our Honorary Associate Artists, and give you the details of events coming up over the next couple of months.



### The Pilgrim's Progress – Then & Now

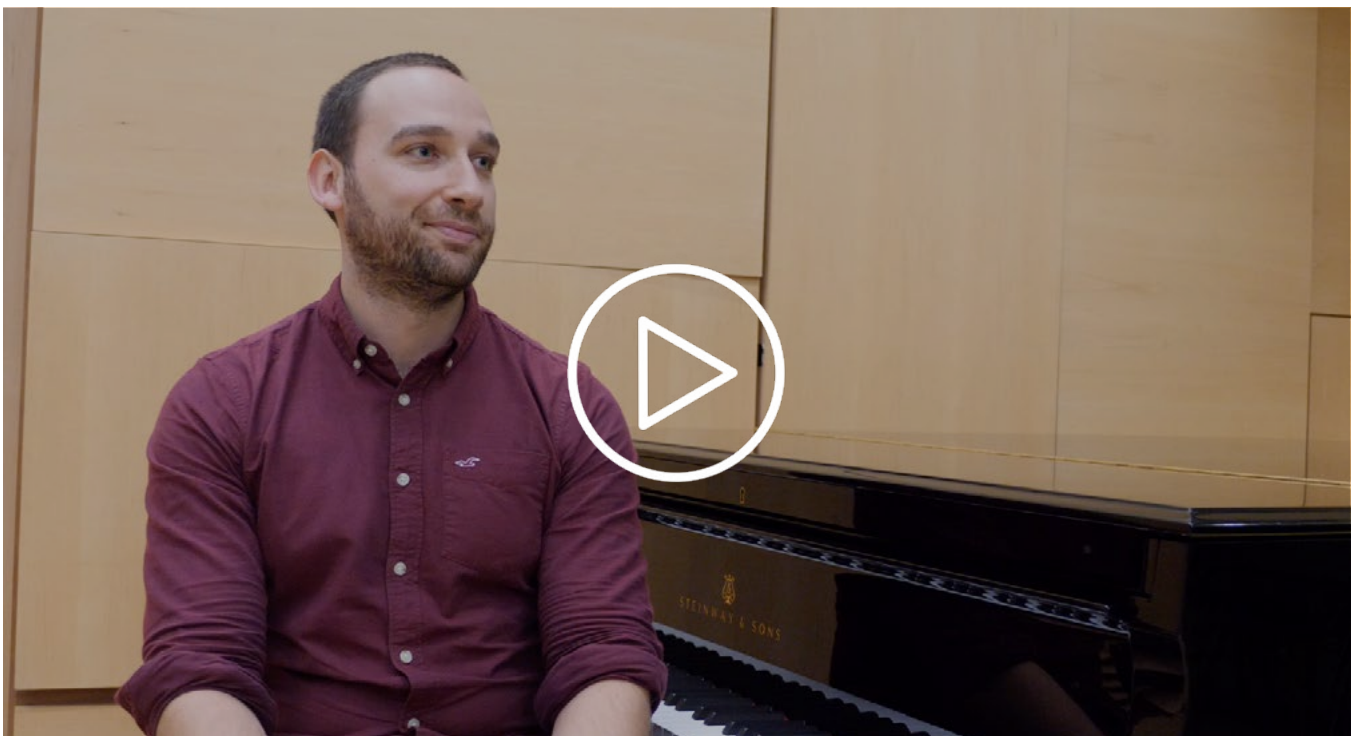
As we prepare to present the latest RNCM production of *The Pilgrim's Progress*, we've delved into our archives and found programmes, photos and reviews from not only the 1992 production, but also the Northern School of Music's staging of the opera in 1970. Click [here](#) if you were in the cast, chorus or orchestra to spot your name in the programme, or maybe you're in one of our photos! We'd love to hear your memories.

If you'd like to come along to one of the performances, we're offering £10 tickets to Alumni on Tuesday 2, Wednesday 3 and Friday 5 April. You can book online here:

[Tuesday 2 April](#) | [Wednesday 3 April](#) | [Friday 5 April](#)

or phone the RNCM Box Office on **0161 907 5555** and please quote '**PROG 10 ALUM**' or '**Alumni Offer**'\*.

\*Please note that we are unable to give refunds on any tickets already purchased at full or discounted price.



### Honorary Associate Artists return to College

Composer Tom Harrold (2009 - 15) visited us in the Autumn Term to present a workshop for RNCM composition students. During the session, they discussed several of Tom's works, including *Nightfires* written for and premiered by BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Afterwards, Tom spared some time for an interview in which he discussed his student experiences and how they prepared him for life after College.

In January we also welcomed back pianist and Honorary Associate Artist Alexandra Dariescu (2004-07) for her extraordinary and enchanting performance of *The Nutcracker and I* in the Theatre. The sell-out concert was a huge hit with the audience. Our interview with Alex will be coming soon...



### £10,000 and counting

We're thrilled that this year we've had the most successful Annual Appeal to date. With your help, we've raised over £10,000 to support student health and wellbeing at the College. That's enough for 67 confident performer, 200 counselling or a fantastic 417 Alexander Technique sessions. We want to say a very big thank you to everyone who's donated.

Suzie Thompson, RNCM Director of Development, said: *'We've been completely overwhelmed by the response to this year's Annual Appeal. The health and wellbeing of our students is something that we take extremely seriously, and it's wonderful to know that so many people in our extended family share that commitment and are helping to improve the resources we offer.'*

Our Appeal continues throughout the year and should you feel able to support, you can click [here](#).

### Stay in touch

If you'd like to get in touch to share your memories of your student days, to find out more about how you can get involved, to update your contact details, or maybe even to find former College friends, contact Lisa, Alumni Relations Manager, on [alumni@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@rncm.ac.uk) or **0161 907 5392**.

We hope to hear from you and welcome you back to the College very soon!

All best wishes from the Alumni Team.

### Forthcoming events

Thursday 28 March at 7.30pm

RNCM Gold Medal Winners at the Wigmore Hall  
36 Wigmore St, Marylebone, London W1U 2BP

Tickets can be booked through the Wigmore Hall Box Office on **020 7935 2141**

Saturday 30 March from 2pm

RNCM Reunion

RNCM, Manchester

Tickets: £12.30 (buffet lunch)

Alumnus David Christie (1993 - 97) is hosting a reunion at the College and would like to invite you to join him and your fellow graduates for a day of nostalgia and reliving memories of your student days!

David was a student in the 1990s but would love to welcome back alumni from any era. The event begins at 2pm, with plenty of time to share your news and stories over lunch, at the exhibition and during the tour, and finishing up with drinks in the bar!

You can book your place [here](#) by 23 March

Sunday 6 April at 7pm

A Celebration for Sir John Manduell

Martin Harris Centre, University of Manchester

Tickets: Free admission

Featuring performances by RNCM alumni Rachel Speirs (voice), Peter Lawson (piano), John Turner (recorder) and Craig Ogden (guitar), and RNCM Principal Linda Merrick.

For more information click [here](#)

Sunday 21 April at 7pm

Nina: An Orchestral Rendition

NIAMOS (formerly The Nia Centre),  
Manchester

To celebrate the first year of NIAMOS, The Untold Orchestra with special guests, present the music of Nina Simone. Formed by RNCM alum Sam Davies, The Untold Orchestra is a collaborative 'pop' orchestra comprising many current and former RNCM students.

For more information and to book tickets click [here](#)