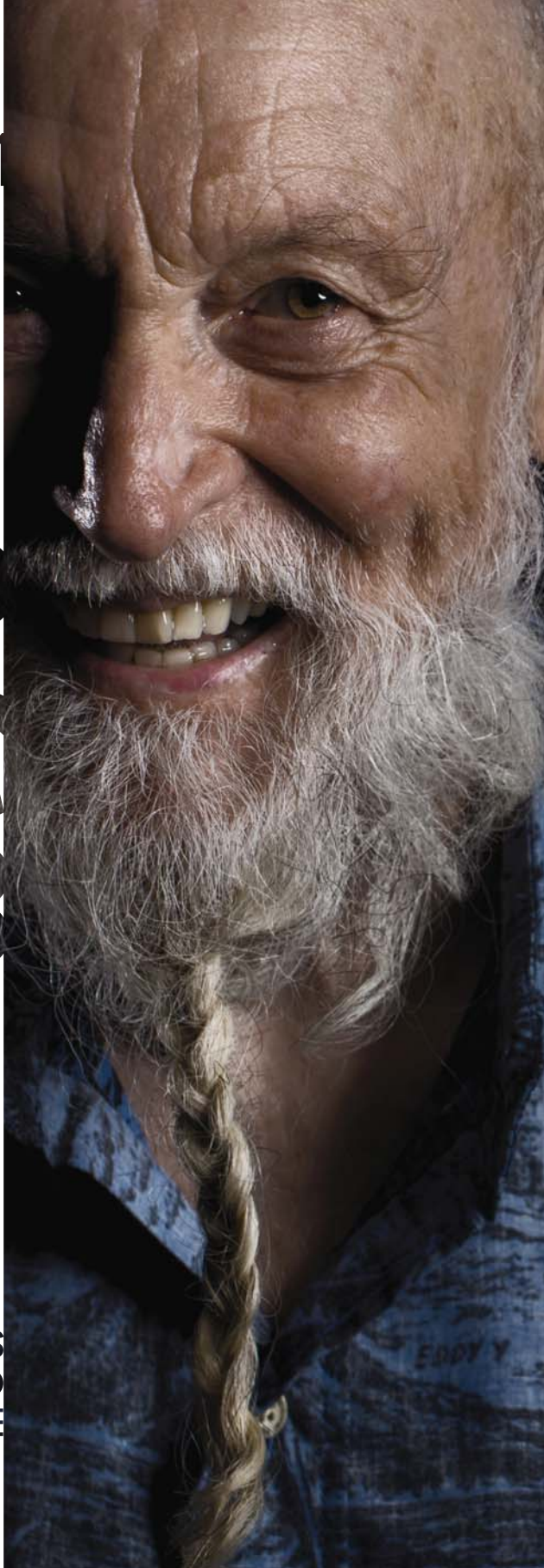
RNCM

SEP -DEC 18

EVENTS
AND
PERFORMANCE



original

ə ˈrɪdʒɪn(ə)l,ɒ ˈrɪdʒɪn(ə)l/

adjective
adjective: original

1.
not dependent on other people's ideas; inventive or novel.
"a subtle and original thinker"

SOUNDS ORIGINAL?

What makes something original?

Does originality actually exist or do we all simply build from what we have seen and heard?

What enables us to dare to be different from others or independent of the context in which we are working?

What does the future of music look like?

www.rncm.ac.uk**/soundsoriginal**

CHILLY GONZALES

Thu 06 Sep // Doors 7pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

LEE ANN WOMACK

+ SUPPORT: CHARLIE WORSHAM

Lee Ann Womack showcases her album *The Lonely, The Lonesome and the Gone*, a breath-taking hybrid of country, soul, gospel and blues.

Tickets £24.50 advance
No concessions

Promoted by C2C & SJM Concerts

Tue 11 Sep // 8pm // RNCM Concert Hall

CHILLY GONZALES

This Grammy-winning Canadian pianist is known as much for the intimate piano touch of his best-selling *Solo Piano* albums as for his showmanship and writing for artists such as Jarvis Cocker, Feist and Drake. Gonzo, as he is known to his close collaborators, aims to be a man of his time, approaching the piano with classical and jazz training but with the attitude of a rapper. This show will be an intimate hour of pieces from the *Solo Piano* cycle, after which he'll be joined by cellist Stella Le Page and drummer Joe Flory to perform hits and some surprises, interspersed with playful explanations about how music works.

Tickets £25
No concessions

Promoted by Serious in association with RNCM

Tue 28 Aug // Doors 7pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

BENDELACRÈME'S INFERNO A-GO-GO

Best known as Miss Congeniality from Season 6 of *RuPaul's Drag Race*, BenDeLaCreme's fan-base has since sky rocketed her to the show's 15 Fan Favourite Queens of All Time. This extravaganza comes hot on the heels of its Off-Broadway success…

Tickets VIP £55, Platinum £35, Standard £27.50

Promoted by The MJR Group

Wed 12 Sep // Doors 7pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

STEPHEN LYNCH

THE MY OLD HEART TOUR
+ SPECIAL GUESTS

An evening of musical-based comedy from the man who has been described as *'the Beyoncé of Scandinavia'* even though he was born in Pennsylvania!

Tickets £24
No concessions

Promoted by AEG

Sat 15 Sep // Doors 8pm
Sun 16 Sep // Doors 7.30pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

NOW WAVE PRESENTS GRUFF RHYS

+ PICCADILLY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

This Autumn, Manchester-based promoters Now Wave will be ten years old. To celebrate, they're going to announce ten very special shows. The RNCM is home to the first, when long time Now Wave favourite and all-round gent Gruff Rhys joins the Piccadilly Symphony Orchestra to perform tracks from his orchestral pop masterpiece, *Babelsberg.*

Tickets £25
No concessions

Promoted by Now Wave

GRUFF RHYS

Mon 24 Sep // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MANCHESTER CHAMBER CONCERTS SOCIETY

DORIC STRING QUARTET

Béla Bartók String Quartet No 5
Joseph Haydn String Quartet in B minor Op 33 No 1
Franz Schubert String Quartet in G major D 887

Tickets £25, platform seats £12.50

Promoted by Manchester Chamber Concerts Society

Fri 28 Sep // 6pm // RNCM Concert Hall

CARMINA BURANA

FATE AND FORTUNE IN 40 MINUTES

Carl Orff Carmina Burana (excerpts)

Clark Rundell *conductor*
Stuart Overington *chorus director*
Eliza Boom, Lauren Coulter, Stephanie Poropat *soprano*
Lachlann Lawton, Peter Lidbetter, Patrick Relph *bass*

Free admission, no ticket required

+

7pm // Brodsky Restaurant

DISCUSSION: Does Originality Matter?
- Have your own say in this informal discussion to launch our *Sounds Original?* season

Free admission, no ticket required

Mon 01 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Jonathan Dove Five Am'rous Sighs; Cut My Shadow

Phoebe Rayner *mezzo-soprano*
Rachel Routledge *soprano*
Jay Carroll *piano*

Aram Khachaturian Two Pieces; Sonatina

Iyad Sughayer *piano*

Free admission, no ticket required

‘I can’t really go back to just playing piano in a normal way - whatever that means - but I also think the classical establishment is facing a lot of changes. But with the provocation, more than in provoking the establishment or provoking the audience, I want to provoke myself because that’s how I keep making art and that’s how I get inspired to go on and just not repeat the stuff that I’ve done before.’

Francesco Tristano

I WANT TO PROVOKE MYSELF BECAUSE THAT’S HOW I KEEP MAKING ART

Tue 02 Oct // 8pm // RNCM Concert Hall

ORIGINAL VOICES
FRANCESCO TRISTANO (piano)
THE GOLDBERG CITY VARIATIONS

Music, art, architecture, technology.

Harnessing a forward-thinking approach to classical music, this is Bach as you have NEVER heard - or even seen - him before (*this is the first UK performance of this ambitious project).

Performing Bach’s *Goldberg Variations*, Francesco Tristano takes the audience on a journey of discovery, building a digital cityscape in real-time using piano and computer.

The idea of the ‘Cosmic City’ first appeared in *Music and Architecture*, a seminal publication by engineer/composer Iannis Xenakis. In *Goldberg City Variations*, the Greek pioneer’s imagination of future urban re-development is fuelled by Bach’s notes and grows via a projection on the stage behind the pianist.

Tickets £18 / students/under-18s £5 FS

+

9.30pm // RNCM Mezzanine

SPOTLIGHT: An Unexpected Duo - An unusual journey through music, from Vivaldi to Gorillaz

Free admission, no ticket required

Photo credit: Marie Staggat

Thu 04 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM CONCERT ORCHESTRA

W A Mozart Die Entführung aus dem Serail Overture K 384
Joseph Haydn Symphony No 100 in G major 'Military'

Mark Heron, Tjeerd Barkmeijer *conductors*

Free admission, no ticket required

+

12pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

TALK: Harems and Soldiers - With Martin Harlow (RNCM)

Free admission, no ticket required

Fri 05 Oct 8pm
Sat 06 Oct 4pm // 6.30pm // 9pm
Sun 07 Oct 1pm // 3pm // 6.30pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

TAPESTRIES

A MULTI-SENSORY CONCERT CREATED BY BITTERSUITE

Question - can we 'deepen' the way classical music is 'heard' by creating multi-sensory experiences to match and enhance the music as it is being performed?

Tapestries will attempt to find out…

As one of 20 guests, you will be paired individually with a dancer who will lead you through a concert for the senses, putting you at the centre of the performance.

This 90-minute experiment interweaves an ingenious re-working of Janáček's String Quartet No 1 performed by the Phaedra Ensemble with original choral spoken poetry, for a one-of-a-kind multi-sensory trip.

Fancy being fully immersed in the experiment? Then the Experience ticket is for you. Alternatively, you can choose an Audience ticket, watch the performance unfold and maybe experience a few surprises of your own…

'Disarming and wonderful' Vice

'Music like you've never heard before' i-D Magazine

Tickets £30 (Experience ticket over-18s only) / £15 (Audience ticket 16+ advisory)

Supported by Arts Council England

LIKE YOU'VE NEVER HEARD BEFORE

Manchester Literature Festival
presents

Sat 06 Oct // 2.30pm // RNCM Theatre

AN AFTERNOON WITH JENNI MURRAY

As the presenter of *Woman's Hour*, Jenni Murray has been interviewing and championing remarkable women for the last three decades. We're delighted to welcome her back to discuss her forthcoming book, *A History of the World in 21 Women*. Personally chosen by Jenni from all walks of life, the women featured stood up, spoke out, broke moulds and fought for change. They range from political leaders and heads of states such as Angela Merkel, Benazir Bhutto and Hillary Clinton via activists Wangari Maathai and Anna Politkovskaya to the writers and artists Toni Morrison, Margaret Atwood and Frida Kahlo. Join us to celebrate the lives, struggles and achievements of women who have helped shape our world. Jenni will be in conversation with host Alex Clark.

Tickets £12

Ticket and a copy of *A History of the World in 21 Women* £25

Promoted by Manchester Literature Festival

Sun 07 Oct // 7pm // RNCM Theatre

AN EVENING WITH GRAHAM NORTON

One of Britain's most successful broadcasters, Graham Norton hosts his own popular chat show on BBC1, a radio show on BBC Radio 2 and is the winner of eight BAFTA awards. He's also an acclaimed novelist that won the Irish Independent Popular Fiction Award for his début, *Holding*, at the Bord Gáis Irish Book Awards 2016. Set on the coast of Ireland, his new novel, *A Keeper*, is an equally compelling tale of family secrets and ill-fated loves. Will Elizabeth Keane finally solve the mystery of her father or does the thin pile of ribbon-bound letters at the back of her mother's wardrobe just lead to more wounds? Graham will be joining us to discuss his diverse career alongside his love of stories. He will be in conversation with host Alex Clark.

Tickets £25 including a signed copy of *A Keeper,* Graham's new novel (RRP £20).

Books will be available for collection from the Waterstones bookstall on the night.

Promoted by Manchester Literature Festival

Sat 13 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

AN EVENING WITH SUSAN CALMAN

Comedian, broadcaster and writer Susan Calman drew tears and laughter from the MLF audience at her event to discuss her début memoir, *Cheer Up Love*. Through a searingly honest account of her own experiences, Susan's first book aimed to help people understand depression and mental health issues. Now, after dancing her way across our screens on *Strictly Come Dancing* and winning the Glitterball on the *Strictly Live* tour, Susan's discovered an ability to find joy. It changed her life and she's on a mission to get the nation to join her in defeating fear and negativity. Come and see her discuss her forthcoming book, *Sunny Side Up*, and her quest to persuade us to embrace kindness, joy and community.

Tickets £12

Ticket and a copy of *Sunny Side Up* £25

Promoted by Manchester Literature Festival

GRAHAM NORTON

Mon 08 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Alfred Schnittke Cello Sonata No 1 (excerpts)

Marten Meibaum *cello*
Ethan Mitchell *piano*

Michael Webster Carmen Rhapsody

Phoebe Kam *flute*
YuenLing Liu *clarinet*
Cindy Photina *piano*

Free admission, no ticket required

Mon 08 Oct // Doors 7pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

MARK LANEGAN & DUKE GARWOOD

This Summer, long-time collaborators Lanegan & Garwood release their second album, *With Animals*.

The twelve songs are spectral and sinewy, often defined by the spaces in between the sounds. It's soul music for anyone who's long since left the crossroads.

Tickets £22.50 advance
No concessions

Promoted by SJM Concerts

Thu 11 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM ARKENSEMBLE

Programme to include:
Manuel de Falla Siete canciones populares Españolas
Works by **Steve Martland** and **Barbara Thompson**

Rob Buckland, Melvin Tay *conductors*
Naomi Rogers *soprano*

Free admission, no ticket required

Thu 11 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

BRAND NEW ORCHESTRA

Jack Sheen, Rory Storm, Rebecca Tong *conductors*

The chance to see brand new works by RNCM Composition students before they are performed anywhere else.

Free admission, no ticket required

+

6pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: INCÓGNITO #1 – The visual side of music

Free admission, no ticket required

MARK LANEGAN & DUKE GARWOOD

MAYA YOUSSEF

Thu 11 Oct // 8pm // RNCM Theatre

MAYA YOUSSEF

Maya Youssef *qanun*
Elizabeth Nott *percussion*
Barney Morse-Brown *cello*

Maya Youssef was born in Damascus into a progressive family of writers and artists. She always wanted to be a musician; constantly challenging herself by pushing the boundaries and doing something new and completely outside her comfort zone. This determination also influenced her choice to play and master the qanun, an instrument traditionally played by men, and to share her cultural heritage with the world.

In Syria, music is an integral part of people's lives, and also an ancient tradition that goes back thousands of years. Since the war began in 2011, Maya felt her music was a way to express and come to terms with intense feelings of loss and sadness. Her album *Syrian Dreams* is a personal journey of memories, humanity and the healing power of music.

Tickets £17

Promoted by Sasa Music in association with RNCM

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7pm // RNCM Theatre

TALK: Introduction to the Qanun - Maya Youssef talks about tonight's featured Middle-Eastern stringed instrument.

Free admission, no ticket required

‘Nothing I have done in this life has given me more satisfaction than improvising on these songs with Gyan. Nothing I have done can match the intuitive synchronicity we have shared many times on the stage. Gyan supplies a brilliant counterpoint to the strands and moods of these pieces always surprising me with a virtuosity that serves and energises his musical invention. I could not have dreamed up a better marriage of mind and spirit than this collaboration.’

Terry Riley

Fri 12 Oct // 8pm // RNCM Theatre

TERRY RILEY AND GYAN RILEY

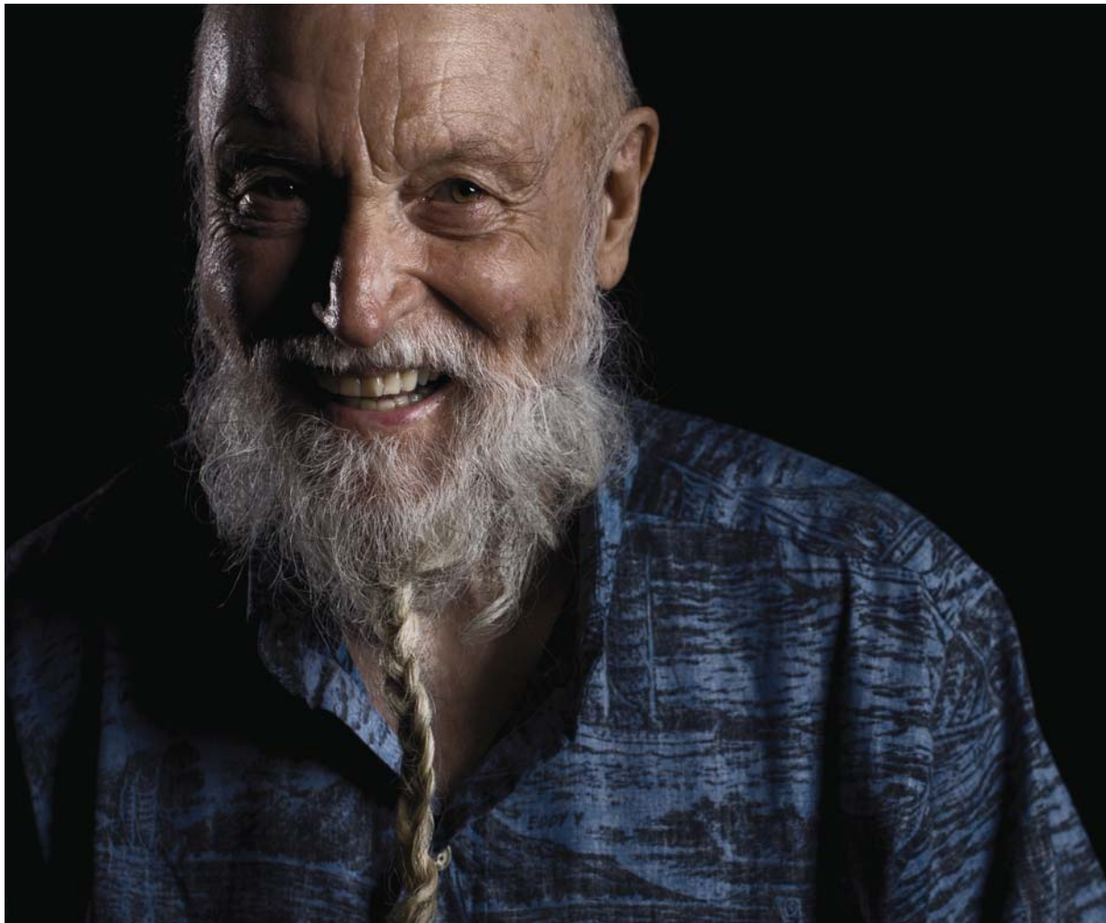
After eight long years, we’re *genuinely* delighted to welcome Terry Riley back to the RNCM, this time sharing the stage with his son Gyan. This evening takes a trip through Terry’s incredible musical output: exploring the intricate and often improvisational structures that contain elements of Minimalism, jazz, ragtime and North Indian raga, the combination of which have defined his diverse and prolific career.

Terry’s influence can be seen in all kinds of places (*Grand Theft Auto IV*, the radio series of *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* and in the music of The Who to name just a few…) But what’s so interesting and unique about this handful of UK dates, is that it’s an opportunity to witness the synergy between father and son. For these intimate, stripped-back shows, the pair adapt the music to suit the venue.

Tickets £25
No concessions

Promoted by Hey! Manchester in association with RNCM

I COULD NOT HAVE DREAMED UP A BETTER COLLABORATION



Fri 12 Oct // Doors 7pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

MARK KOZELEK OF SUN KIL MOON

A return visit from the vocalist and driving force behind Sun Kil Moon and 4AD indie group Red House Painters.

Tickets £25
No concessions

Promoted by AGMP

Sat 13 Oct // 12.30pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

JUNIOR RNCM FORMAL CONCERT

Free admission, no ticket required

Sun 14 Oct // 2pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM YOUNG EXPLORERS CONCERT

HOCUS POCUS

Programme to include:
John Williams Selections from *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*
Paul Dukas The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Edvard Grieg In the Hall of the Mountain King from *Peer Gynt*
Gustav Holst Uranus The Magician from *The Planets*
Modest Mussorgsky Night on a Bare Mountain

Tom Newall *conductor*
Piccadilly Symphony Orchestra

Join our intrepid musical adventurer, Phileas Fox for some good old hocus pocus in this concert for RNCM Young Explorers. Bring your wands, pop on your wizard hats and enter the world of magic and mayhem…

Our Young Explorers concerts are a brilliant way to introduce children to live classical music. These events are family-friendly 'relaxed' performances, specially designed to keep little ones engaged and amused.

For full details, please see
www.rncm.ac.uk/youngexplorers

Suitable for ages 3 and above

Tickets £12, under-16s £6
Family ticket (4 people) £30

RNCM ENGAGE

Mon 15 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Lori Laitman I Never Saw Another Butterfly

Rebecca Reavley *voice*
Tasuku Noguchi *saxophone*

Maurice Ravel Mother Goose Suite (excerpts)
Anže Rozman Little Suite of Mythological Beings

Jack Rainey, Katie Taunton, Carina Udriste, Rachael Watson *flute*

Free admission, no ticket required

Mon 15 Oct // 7.30pm
// Carole Nash Recital Room

THE EARLY MUSIC GROUP OF KIILI

PIOUS AND PLAYFUL

Heili Meibaum *director*
Tõnis Kaumann *baritone*

Tickets £7

Promoted by The Early Music Group of Kiili

Tue 16 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

VOCAL MASTERCLASS WITH ANN MURRAY

A chance to witness the creative process up close as mezzo-soprano Ann Murray works with our vocal students to develop their understanding of the pieces chosen for this public masterclass.

Tickets £8

FS

Wed 17 Oct // Doors 7pm // RNCM Theatre

JOHN OATES WITH THE GOOD ROAD BAND

+ SUPPORT: FERRIS + SYLVESTER

As well as being half of the hugely successful duo Hall & Oates, John Oates is an accomplished solo artist. Tonight, alongside a band of all-star Nashville musicians, he'll be performing music from his 2018 album, *Arkansas*, a project that celebrates the dawn of American popular music from the early 1920s and 30s.

Tickets £30 advance
No concessions

Promoted by Kilimanjaro Live

Thu 18 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM BRASS BAND

Judith Bingham Four Minute Mile
Liz Lane Silver Rose
Herbert Howells Pageantry

David Thornton, Peter Woffenden *conductors*

Free admission, no ticket required

‘I think originality is often a misused term; if you try to be original there is often something suspect about it. I think originality means something a bit different from innovation. For me, the real originality is to seek what is the truest manifestation of who you feel you really are, without side-glancing to the possible effect or trying to be ground-breaking. If you do that, you might shatter some fragile, deep and honest emotions in a quest for originality, which could end up as a more superficial, misconceived cousin of originality. I have belief in everyone since, after all, we are born as originals. We just need to look for our own path, whether it be in art or not.’

Henning Kraggerud

ORIGINALITY IS OFTEN A MISUSED TERM

Thu 18 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

HENNING KRAGGERUD WITH RNCM STRING ENSEMBLE

Ludwig van Beethoven (arr Kraggerud) String Quartet in F minor Op 95 ‘Serioso’
Henning Kraggerud Suite from Equinox
Edvard Grieg (arr Tognetti) String Quartet in G minor Op 27

Henning Kraggerud *director, violin*

Henning Kraggerud’s reputation precedes him. He takes well-known classical pieces and using his own, completely original approach, breaks traditional musical norms and revitalises the music with his enthusiastic interpretations.

We’ve already seen how he connects with our students during performances, working with them - as equals - and encouraging them to express themselves and to be free of convention. His concerts are a very different experience for players and audiences alike, a more collaborative event, as he teases out originality through his performance style and wider ideas. However, while the energy in the Concert Hall means that everybody is part of the creative process, he remains respectful of musical traditions.

As part of this approach, Henning will talk about the pieces being performed during the concert and if you would like to dig even deeper, you can hear him share more of his ideas in the pre-concert discussion.

Tickets £15 / students/under-18s £5 FS

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6.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

Q&A: 15 Minutes with Henning Kraggerud

Free admission, no ticket required

Photo credit: Kaupo Kikkas

Fri 19 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

SWISS AMBASSADOR'S AWARD CONCERT

ORION STRING TRIO

Ludwig van Beethoven String Trio in G major Op 9 No 1
Alfred Schnittke Trio for violin, viola and cello
Thomas Demenga Palindromanie
Ernst von Dohnányi Serenade for string trio in C major Op 10

Soyoung Yoon *violin*
Veit Hertenstein *viola*
Benjamin Gregor-Smith *cello*

Tickets £12 (includes complimentary programme and glass of sparkling Swiss wine)

Supported by Swiss Cultural Fund UK, Pro Helvetia (Arts Council of Switzerland), Migros Culture Percentage Talent Promotion, Presence Switzerland and Julius Baer International.

Sat 20 Oct // Doors 7pm // RNCM Theatre

CMA SONGWRITERS SERIES

Tickets £17.50 advance
No concessions

Promoted by C2C and SJM Concerts

Sat 20 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

KARINE POLWART

Karine Polwart and long-term collaborators brother Steven Polwart (guitars) and Inge Thomson (accordion, percussion) perform music from their new album, *Laws of Motion*.

Tickets £20
No concessions

Promoted by Kilimanjaro Live

Mon 22 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Maurice Ravel La valse

Nadya Kiseleva, Kanako Mizuno *piano*

Felix Mendelssohn Beati mortui Op 115 No 1
Brian Schmidt O Magnum Mysterium
Traditional (arr Erb) Shenandoah
The Crew Cuts (arr Gravenhorst) Sh-Boom (Life Could Be A Dream)

Thomas Ashdown, Harri Graham, Samuel Knock *tenor*
Emyr Jones *baritone*
Samuel Snowden *bass-baritone*
Wilcox Leung *bass*

Free admission, no ticket required

Mon 22 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Theatre

BENEDICT ALLEN

In this brand new show, adventurer/explorer Benedict Allen tells the whole, unvarnished truth of his most recent adventure - a solo expedition to Papua New Guinea.

Tickets £17.50
Promoted by Jo Sarsby

Mon 22 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MANCHESTER CHAMBER CONCERTS SOCIETY

THE GERALD LARNER CONCERT: LIZA FERSCHTMAN (violin) and MARTIN ROSCOE (piano)

Benjamin Britten Suite for violin and piano Op 6
Edward Elgar Sonata in E minor Op 82
Eugène Ysaÿe Sonata for solo violin in A minor Op 27 No 2
César Franck Sonata in A major

Tickets £25, platform seats £12.50

Promoted by Manchester Chamber Concerts Society

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6.30pm // Forman Lecture Theatre

PRE-CONCERT TALK

Free admission to ticket holders

Tue 23 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

THE MUSIC OF THE PRIMES

WITH MARCUS DU SAUTOY (mathematician) and EMILY HOWARD (composer)

For mathematicians, prime numbers are the most beautiful yet enigmatic numbers on the mathematical books. Could music help us to hear these numbers in a new way? In a new collaboration from PRISM, we explore the link between music and maths. But don't worry, you don't have to be a maths whiz to learn something new…

Professor Marcus du Sautoy presents the mathematical story of *The Music of the Primes*. Hear RNCM students respond in their own individual way to the twists and turns of this unfinished mathematical saga, in four new short commissions for instrumental quartets.

Afterwards, du Sautoy will explore how Messiaen's famous piece *The Quartet for the End of Time* exploits fascinating mathematical ideas including an extraordinary example of prime numbers to create a sense of never-ending time.

Read more about PRiSM at
www.rncm.ac.uk/prism

Tickets £6
No concessions

Promoted by RNCM in association with Manchester Science Festival

Thu 25 – Fri 26 Oct

The RNCM and BBC Philharmonic are honoured to welcome to Manchester one of the truly outstanding creative musical minds of our time, the great Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho, for this retrospective of her work. Saariaho's extraordinarily individual soundworld stems from her brilliant work with electronics early in her career, most notably at IRCAM Paris. Her complete command of complicated sonic landscapes and her mastery of blending acoustic and electronic sounds places her as one of the true pioneers of music in the last three decades. And in the *Conversation* session, you can hear about Kaija's ideas and thought processes first hand.

All events are free admission, no ticket required, unless otherwise stated

For full details, please see
www.rncm.ac.uk/saariaho

IN FOCUS: KAIJA SAARIAHO

Thu 25 Oct // 1.15pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM NEW ENSEMBLE

Kaija Saariaho Terrestre
Mark Dyer New work
Kaija Saariaho Solar

Mark Heron, Anna Hartmann, Mark Edwards *conductors*

6pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

EVENING RECITAL

Kaija Saariaho Arabesques et Adages for solo piano
Dennis Tjiok New work for solo piano
Kaija Saariaho Mirrors for flute and cello
Shaun Davies New work for bassoon
Kaija Saariaho Ballade for solo piano

+

7pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

CONVERSATION: David Horne speaks to Kaija Saariaho about her life and work in this fascinating session.

Fri 26 Oct // 1.15pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

LUNCHTIME RECITAL

Kaija Saariaho Frises for violin and electronics
Anna Disley-Simpson New work for clarinet and electronics
Kaija Saariaho Six Japanese Gardens for solo percussion and electronics

7.30pm // The Bridgewater Hall

BBC PHILHARMONIC

LATERNA MAGICA

Kaija Saariaho Laterna magica
Hector Berlioz La mort de Cléopâtre
Hector Berlioz Overture 'King Lear'
Kaija Saariaho Maan varjot (Earth's Shadows)

Ludovic Morlot *conductor*
Jan Lehtola *organ*
Karen Cargill *mezzo-soprano*

Tickets from £12.50 to £40.50 (full) / from £3 (students/under-16s)
To book, please visit
www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk

+

6.30pm

PRE-CONCERT PERFORMANCE

Students from the RNCM perform Saariaho's *Nocturne* for solo violin and *Neiges* for 8 cellos.

Free admission to ticket holders

Photo credit: Priska Ketterer

Fri 26 Oct // 7pm // RNCM Concert Hall

SAFETY LAST! (1923)

SILENT FILM WITH LIVE PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT

Safety Last! (USA, 1923) directed by **Sam Taylor, Fred Newmeyer**
Starring **Harold Lloyd**

+

Short film
One Week (USA, 1920) directed by **Edward F Cline, Buster Keaton**
Starring **Buster Keaton**

Darius Battiwalla *piano*

Safety Last! contains one of the most famous shots in silent comedy, (people still argue about how the stunts were completed without killing off the leading man…) The plot? Country boy promises girl that he'll go to the big city, make good then send for her. He gets a lowly job as a dry goods clerk, but impresses her with such inventive letters that she decides to join him. He poses as the manager of the store, is exposed and decides to risk everything for a $1000 prize offered to anyone who can lure more traffic to the store. His idea? Persuade his roommate (a human fly) to climb the building. And that's where the fun really starts…

For our latest celluloid adventure, Darius Battiwalla has chosen to improvise on the piano to add an extra dimension to Harold Lloyd and Co's comic escapades.

Tickets £15 / students/under-18s £5

+

6pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: Sous Le Ciel de Paris - French chansons from the silver screen

Free admission, no ticket required

Images courtesy of Park Circus/Harold Lloyd

RNCM Photographic Society: Alex Smith

Sat 27 Oct // 11am-5pm // Studio 1

RNCM POPULAR MUSIC KEYBOARD MASTERCLASSES

Featuring some of the finest professional keyboard players in the UK, these sessions will provide the opportunity for players to gain an up-close experience of virtuosic playing, the integration of technology in live performance plus current music industry insight and advice. It's also an excellent opportunity for prospective RNCM applicants to meet current Popular Music students and staff.

Free admission by ticket only

For further details and to book, please visit
www.rncm.ac.uk/keyboardmasterclasses

Sat 27 Oct // 7pm // RNCM Theatre

RNCM SESSION ORCHESTRA

+ SUPPORT: RUTH OWENS

Andy Stott *director*
Joseph Judge *assistant conductor*

The RNCM Session Orchestra is a microcosm of what goes on here at the College. You can hear brilliant new arrangements that utilise a large number of musicians and singers, so it gives songs that were originally written and arranged for say a 4/5-piece band a whole new lease of life. This is also the first time that you'll be able to hear original music by RNCM Popular Music students, including artists currently signed to Northern Quarter Records.

'I came to the Session Orchestra with my daughter and her daughter and we were totally blown away by the strength, confidence and professional skills of all the performers… We loved the arrangements, again by students, and were thrilled by the voices of the soloists, if you closed your eyes, Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin were in the room! We can't wait to see them again. In fact, having seen this show, my grand-daughter is seriously considering a change in her future career plans'.

RNCM Session Orchestra audience member

Tickets £15

Sat 27 Oct // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

GORTON PHILHARMONIC

Camille Saint-Saëns Bacchanale from Samson and Delilah Op 37
Edvard Grieg Piano Concerto in A minor Op 16
Gustav Mahler Symphony No 1 in D major

Juan Ortuño *conductor*
Daniel Ropota *piano*

Tickets £12

Promoted by Gorton Philharmonic

Mon 29 Oct // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Henri Dutilleux Sonatine
Frank Martin Ballade

Leila Marshall *flute*
Dominic Daula *piano*

Antonín Dvořák Sonatina in G major Op 100

Jody Smith *violin*
Radu Prisada *piano*

Free admission, no ticket required

Sun 28 Oct // Doors 7pm // RNCM Theatre

CURTIS STIGERS

Curtis Stigers performs tracks from his vast career, alongside material from his last album *One More for the Road*.

Tickets £32.50
No concessions

Promoted by Senbla Ltd

CURTIS STIGERS

BARRY ADAMSON

Mon 29 Oct // Doors 7pm // RNCM Theatre

BARRY ADAMSON

To celebrate the release of his upcoming anthology in October, Barry Adamson returns to Manchester for this intimate homecoming show.

Tickets £19.50 advance
No concessions

Promoted by SJM Concerts

Thu 01 Nov // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM WIND ENSEMBLE

Leoš Janáček Mládí (Youth)
György Ligeti Six Bagatelles

Kevin Gowland *director*

Free admission, no ticket required

Fri 02 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Richard Wagner Tristan und Isolde: Prelude to Act 1
Sergei Prokofiev Piano Concerto No 3 in C major Op 26
Aaron Breeze New work
Modest Mussorgsky (arr Ravel) Pictures at an Exhibition

En Shao, Jack Sheen *conductors*
Anna Denisova *piano*

The concept of 'originality' is turned on its head in this programme. Mussorgsky's tribute to his artist friend Victor Hartmann was composed as a series of piano pieces and the composer never thought to orchestrate the work himself. Several took on that task but Ravel's 1922 orchestral version outstrips its competitors in the brilliance of its colours and sheer ingenuity. Jump forward to 2018 and tonight, we have the chance to hear RNCM composer Aaron Breeze's response to this seminal work as he adds his own new picture to the exhibition.

Wagner is credited with changing the course of Western music with just four notes – the first chord of tonight's opening piece. You can find out more about the 'Tristan chord' and other musical innovations in David Horne's pre-concert talk.

Tickets £5
No concessions

+

6.30pm // Forman Lecture Theatre

TALK: Musical Firsts? - With David Horne (RNCM)

Free admission, no ticket required

+

5.30pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: Stephen Sondheim Showcase - Songs from his most beloved and lesser-known characters

Free admission, no ticket required

Sat 03 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Theatre

RNCM BIG BAND WITH ERIC MARIENTHAL

Mike Hall *director*
Eric Marienthal *saxophone*

Ahead of his headline slot at RNCM Saxophone Day tomorrow, American sax legend Eric Marienthal puts our Big Band through its paces.

This contemporary and fusion saxophonist came into the spotlight through his work with Chick Corea's Elektric Band. You may also have seen him play lead alto sax with Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band – they brought the house down when they played two sell-out gigs at the RNCM last year as part of Wigan Jazz Festival.

Tickets £18 £15

SONIC MCR FS

+

6.30pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: Life is a Cabaret! – The bold, the beautiful, and the broken of Broadway

Free admission, no ticket required

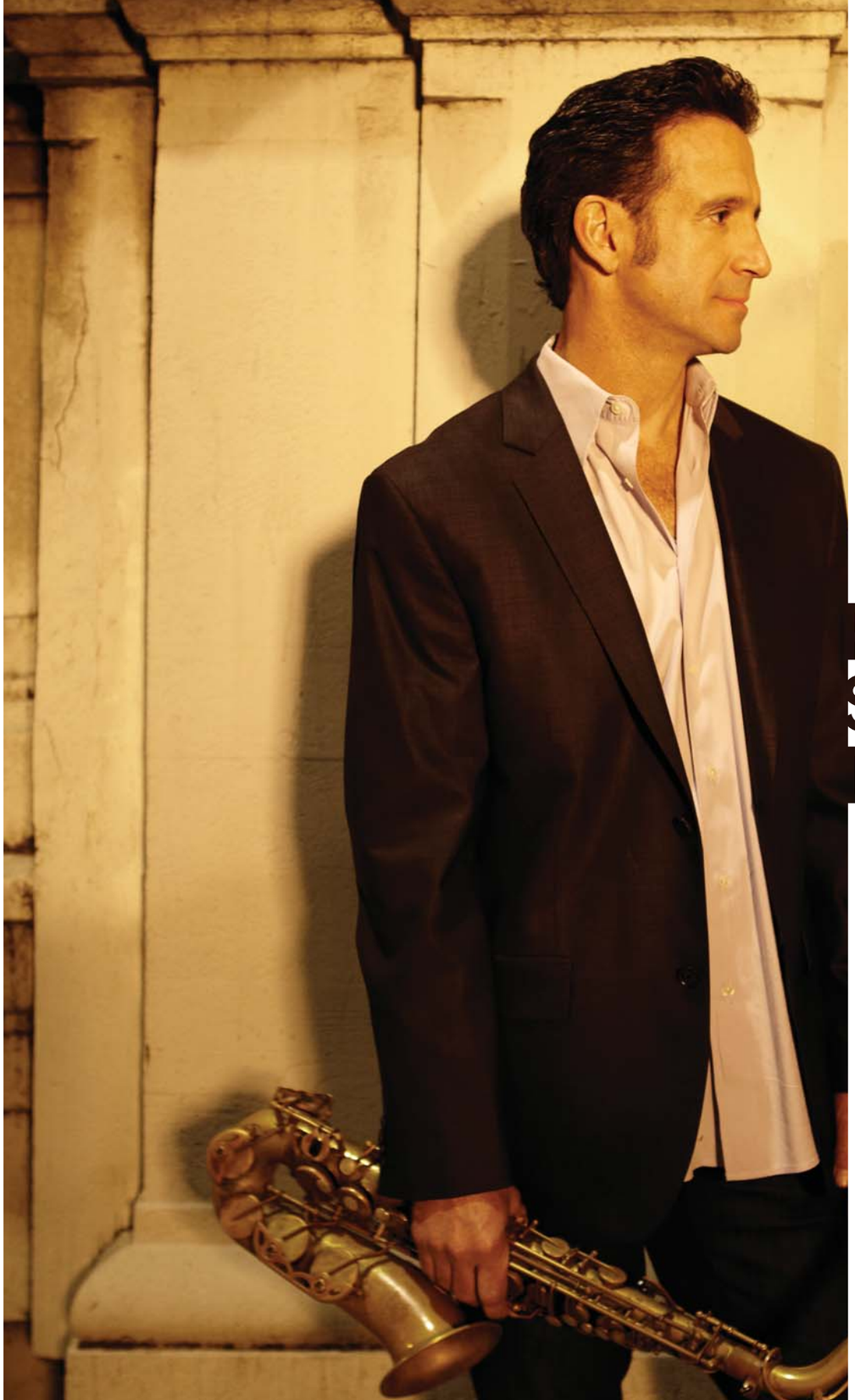
Mon 05 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

ANIMAL FAMILIES AND ME WITH GORDON BUCHANAN

A unique opportunity to hear the globe-trotting recollections of this highly acclaimed television wildlife cameraman and BBC presenter, illustrated with his own film footage and photography.

Tickets £23

Promoted by Jo Sarsby



Sun 04 Nov // from 10am

One of the most popular events we stage here during the year, RNCM Saxophone Day is the UK's largest annual sax gathering. We throw open our doors and welcome players of all ages and abilities and present a day jam-packed with participatory workshops and concerts.

We kick off the proceedings – and give everyone the chance to play – with the now legendary Massed Saxophone Orchestra. This year there are concerts by the Delta Saxophone Quartet and young saxophonists from Conservatório de Música Calouste Gulbenkian de Braga in Portugal. We also welcome our headliner, the Grammy Award-winning American saxophonist, Eric Marienthal.

For full details, please see **www.rncm.ac.uk/saxophoneday**

RNCM SAXOPHONE DAY

To include:

2pm // RNCM Concert Hall

DELTA SAXOPHONE QUARTET

BOWIE, BERLIN & BEYOND

Tickets £10

7.30pm // RNCM Theatre

ERIC MARIENTHAL AND FRIENDS

Tickets £15

Full Day Ticket £36 / student/under-18s £18

Event sponsored by Henri Selmer Paris and Vandoren

‘Originality is a brilliant word… it can either mean the first iteration of something, or the newest. So already we are mired in contradiction. However, I think we all use originality to mean something new, and, of course, bringing newness to the world is very important. Not very far behind repetition is drudgery.

So I think the best we can ever hope to be is ourselves without interrogating too deeply how we are seen by others, and not trying to be seen as something in particular… eg perhaps not trying to be seen as original as a goal in itself.’

Will Gregory

NOT VERY FAR BEHIND REPETITION IS DRUDGERY

Tue 06 Nov // 8pm // RNCM Theatre

ORIGINAL VOICES
WILL GREGORY MOOG ENSEMBLE

Will Gregory, Vyvyan Hope-Scott, Adrian Utley, Georgie Ward, Dan Moore, Eddie Parker, Simon Haram, Ross Hughes, Graham Fitkin, Ruth Wall

As one half of the electronic music sensation Goldfrapp, Will Gregory is passionate about creating new sounds and reinventing old ones. Here, a stellar line-up stretches the possibilities of the Moog synthesizer through newly-composed music, transcriptions of classical works, and their own versions of music from popular culture and film.

Marvel at 10 musicians on stage, including Portishead’s Adrian Utley and composer Graham Fitkin, performing works by Bach, John Carpenter, Burt Bacharach and Oliver Messiaen on a fascinating array of vintage instruments.

‘Gig goers were wowed by one hell of a thrillingly unique experience when the Moog Ensemble rolled into Bristol. Will Gregory and his ensemble epitomised the scope of the instrument’s cosmic musical reach, dazzling us with an eclectic, often giddying musical showcase. It’s beautiful and bizarre, terrifying and hypnotic, avant garde and contemporary, subterranean and ethereal, astonishing and totally enthralling.’
365 Bristol

Tickets £20

+

7pm // RNCM Theatre

CONVERSATION: Stuart Maconie talks to Will Gregory and members of his Moog Ensemble.

Free admission, no ticket required

Photo credit: York Tillyer. All images are © 2015 Real World Records Ltd.

Wed 07 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Theatre

SHOW OF HANDS WITH MIRANDA SYKES

JOINT VENTURE TOUR

Show of Hands return to the RNCM, touring with their new album *Joint Venture*. Steve, Phil and Miranda will each play an opening solo set of three numbers before being joined onstage by Cormac Byrne (of the Seth Lakeman Band), whose innovative percussion adds a new dimension to the Show of Hands live sound.

Tickets £25

Promoted by Show of Hands

Thu 08 Nov // Doors 7pm // RNCM Theatre

GONDWANA RECORDS PRESENTS MAMMAL HANDS + STUFF

+ MATTHEW HALSALL (DJ SET)

Gondwana Records turns 10 this year and as part of their celebrations, they present two of their favourite live bands in a unique double-bill, plus a DJ set from label boss Matthew Halsall.

Mammal Hands are driven by their unique line-up of drums, piano and saxophone. Their hypnotic music draws on a rich wealth of influences from Sufi trance and West African music to folk music, contemporary classical, spiritual jazz and electronica.

The Belgium five-piece STUFF specialise in a deep cross-genre groove, spanning from broken hip-hop to more electronic and jazz influenced future funk. Utilising lesser-used instruments like the wind synth, alongside the familiar array of drums and electric bass, synthesizers and turntables, they're able to scatter rhythms, melodies and electronic effects across their canvas with a Pollock-like abandon.

Tickets £16 advance
No concessions

Promoted by Gondwana Records

Fri 09 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Theatre

HOTHOUSE FLOWERS

+ SUPPORT

When Hothouse Flowers step onto the stage, there is a sense of musical adventure, an impulse to reach new heights and depths in music where the unspoken aim is that the band and the audience become one and the world becomes a different place, at least for a while. Tonight, they will perform new material from their forthcoming album, *Let's Do This Thing*.

Ticket £35 £30
No concessions

Promoted by Triple A Entertainment

Sat 10 Nov // 8pm // RNCM Concert Hall

AN EVENING WITH COWBOY JUNKIES

Whether commenting on the fragile state of the world or on personal relationships, Cowboy Junkies' new album *The Wilderness* encourages the listener to take notice. Released on the 30th anniversary of their breakthrough album, *The Trinity Session*, it might also be the most powerful album Cowboy Junkies have yet recorded.

Tickets £25
No concessions

Promoted by Edge Street Live

Sat 10 Nov // 5pm
Sun 11 Nov // 10am
// RNCM Theatre

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF BARBERSHOP SINGERS

QUARTET PRELIMS

National Seniors and Youth Quartets compete to qualify for a place in the National Championships which will be held at the Annual Barbershop Convention in Harrogate 25-27 May 2019.

Free admission, no ticket required

Promoted by BABS

Sun 11 Nov // 7pm // RNCM Concert Hall

OLDHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

ON LAND AND SEA: AN ARMISTICE CENTENARY CONCERT

Karl Jenkins The Armed Man
Charles Villiers Stanford Songs of the Fleet Op 117
Sir Henry Wood Fantasia on British Sea Songs

Nigel Wilkinson *conductor*
Dean Robinson *bass-baritone*
East Lancashire Sinfonia

Tickets £15

Promoted by Oldham Choral Society

Mon 12 Nov // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Nathan Daughtrey Strange Dreams

Paula O'Malley *percussion*
Andrew Broome *clarinet*

Alessandro Marcello Trumpet Concerto in D minor (first movement)
George Enescu Legende
Marcel Bitsch Quatre variations sur un thème de Domenico Scarlatti

Daniel Tarrant *trumpet*
Jasmin Allpress *piano, harpsichord*

Free admission, no ticket required

HAZEL O'CONNOR

Mon 12 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MANCHESTER CHAMBER CONCERTS SOCIETY

JERUSALEM QUARTET

Joseph Haydn String Quartet in G major Op 76 No 1
Claude Debussy String Quartet in G minor Op 10
Dmitri Shostakovich String Quartet in F major Op 73

Tickets £25, platform seats £12.50

Promoted by Manchester Chamber Concerts Society

Wed 14 Nov // 6pm
// Carole Nash Recital Room

PERFORMING AND EDITING COUPERIN

A lecture/recital marking the 350th anniversary of the birth of François Couperin with Denis Herlin (International Chair in Musicology) and RNCM student Dominic Daula (harpsichord).

To include:
François Couperin Selections from Pièces de clavecin Books 1 and 2

Free admission, no ticket required

Wed 14 Nov // 7pm // RNCM Theatre

HAZEL O'CONNOR + BREAKING GLASS

FILM SCREENING, Q&A + SPECIAL LIVE PERFORMANCE

A very special evening with award-winning singer songwriter Hazel O'Connor, featuring a rare film screening of the digitally re-mastered, uncut version of *Breaking Glass* (1980), followed by an intimate Q & A and live performance of some of the film's best-loved songs (and a meet and greet straight after.)

Tickets £26
No concessions

Promoted by The MJR Group

Thu 15 Nov // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM CHAMBER CHOIR

Judith Weir Drop down ye heavens from above
Cecilia McDowell I know that my redeemer liveth
Benjamin Britten Hymn to St Cecilia
Lucy Pankhurst Pankhurst Anthem

Stuart Overington *director*
Joseph Judge *assistant conductor*

Free admission, no ticket required

Thu 15 Nov // 2pm and 7pm // RNCM Theatre

RNCM CHILDREN'S OPERA PROJECT

THE HAMMER OF THOR

Kate Pearson *composer*
RNCM Musicians
Alma Park Primary School
Ribble Drive Primary School
St Francis RC Primary School
St Matthew's CE Primary School

Based on Norse mythology, this year's Children's Opera Project is a tale of power, adventure, ogres and heroes. Asgard, the beautiful kingdom of the Norse Gods, is continually under attack by powerful enemies. Only one thing keeps them at bay – the Hammer of Thor, son of Odin. Thor's hammer is strong enough to defeat the strongest foe. One day, however he realises it has gone missing…

The RNCM Children's Opera project brings together 150 children from Manchester primary schools to create and perform a new opera, guided by a professional composer and supported by RNCM musicians.

Free admission, by ticket only

RNCM ENGAGE

Thu 15 Nov // 6pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM ORCHESTRA LAB

W A Mozart Symphony No 39 in E flat major K 543

Struan Leslie *director*
Rachel Leach *presenter*
Andrew Casey, Mark Edwards, Anna Hartmann, Laurent Zufferey *conductors*

What should an orchestral performance look like in the 21st century? In our first ever Orchestra Lab, we examine traditional performance conventions and explore what happens when the body is fully connected to the music-making.

In the lead-up to this event, choreographer Struan Leslie (previously Movement Director at the RSC) will work with the orchestra, looking at how they use their bodies as they perform and explore the use of the performance space. This is not a 'regular' concert - the dynamic between the conductors and players changes as the format and the use of performance space evolves.

An hour in total, the first half is a Q & A with musical excerpts as Rachel Leach talks to Struan about his approach with some illustrations of his process to give a deeper understanding of his work and of the piece itself. Then comes the full performance of Mozart's Symphony No 39. A second Orchestra Lab project will follow next June.

Tickets £5
No concessions

Photo credit: William Ellis

‘Originality is overrated. Being different just for the sake of being different is not something that I find particularly interesting. We ruthlessly jettison any aspect of the traditional concert experience that we feel is not contributing to the effect we are trying to create.

You can sum up our entire artistic process in two questions:

1) What are you trying to say?

2) How can you best say it?

Originality in art isn’t something you can plan. It’s something that happens as a result of thinking in a different way.’

Adam Szabo from Manchester Collective

ORIGINALITY IS OVERRATED

Fri 16 Nov // 8pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MANCHESTER COLLECTIVE

PIERROT LUNAIRE

Arnold Schoenberg Pierrot Lunaire Op 21

Tim Burke *conductor*
Lotte Betts-Dean *soprano*
Elizabeth Alker *presenter*
Polly Graham *director*
Nate Gibson *designer*
David Pountney *libretto*

The wild, seductive chords of Schoenberg’s masterpiece have intrigued and confounded audiences for over 100 years. Manchester Collective brings this sensual and dangerous world to life, performed in English, in a new translation by David Pountney.

Polly Graham directs this visceral staged production, delving deep into the inner world of the unnamed female protagonist. Acclaimed Australian soprano Lotte Betts-Dean paints a vivid picture of a woman on the edge – inspiration, struggle, ambition and self-doubt.

Pierrot Lunaire is presented by NTS/BBC Radio 6 broadcaster Elizabeth Alker, who will guide audiences through the emotional wreckage of this musical apocalypse.

Manchester Collective’s mission is to create *‘radical human experiences through music, for everyone.’* This is the first chance to see this project before it tours the UK.

Tickets £18 / students/under-18s £5 FS

+

7pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: Keep the Home Fires Burning - Songs and poetry from World War I

Free admission, no ticket required

Sat 17 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

Ludwig van Beethoven Missa Solemnis Op 123

Steven Roberts *conductor*
Emma Morwood *soprano*
Emma Stannard *mezzo-soprano*
Christopher Turner *tenor*
Andrew Greenan *bass*
Altrincham Choral Society
Congleton Choral Society
Manchester Philharmonia

Tickets £15

Promoted by Altrincham Choral Society

Mon 19 Nov // 5pm
// Carole Nash Recital Room

EMMA FERRAND CELEBRATION CONCERT

Programme to include:
Felix Mendelssohn Song Without Words in D major Op 109
Gabriel Fauré Après un rêve Op 7 No 1
J S Bach Prelude and Allemande from Suite No 6 in D major BWV 1012
Maurice Ravel String Quartet in F major (1st movement)

Artists to include:
Ralph Kirshbaum, Ursula Smith,
Philip Higham *cello*
Benyounes Quartet
Simon Parkin *piano*

A concert featuring special guest performers to celebrate Emma Ferrand's many years of teaching at the College.

Free admission by ticket only

Mon 19 Nov // 6.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

SIR JOHN MANDUELL COMMEMORATION CONCERT

Richard Strauss Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks Op 28
Giuseppe Verdi La Traviata Act 2 Scene 2
Béla Bartók Concerto for Orchestra

Duncan Ward *conductor*
Linda Richardson *soprano*
Paul Nilon *tenor*
David Kempster *baritone*

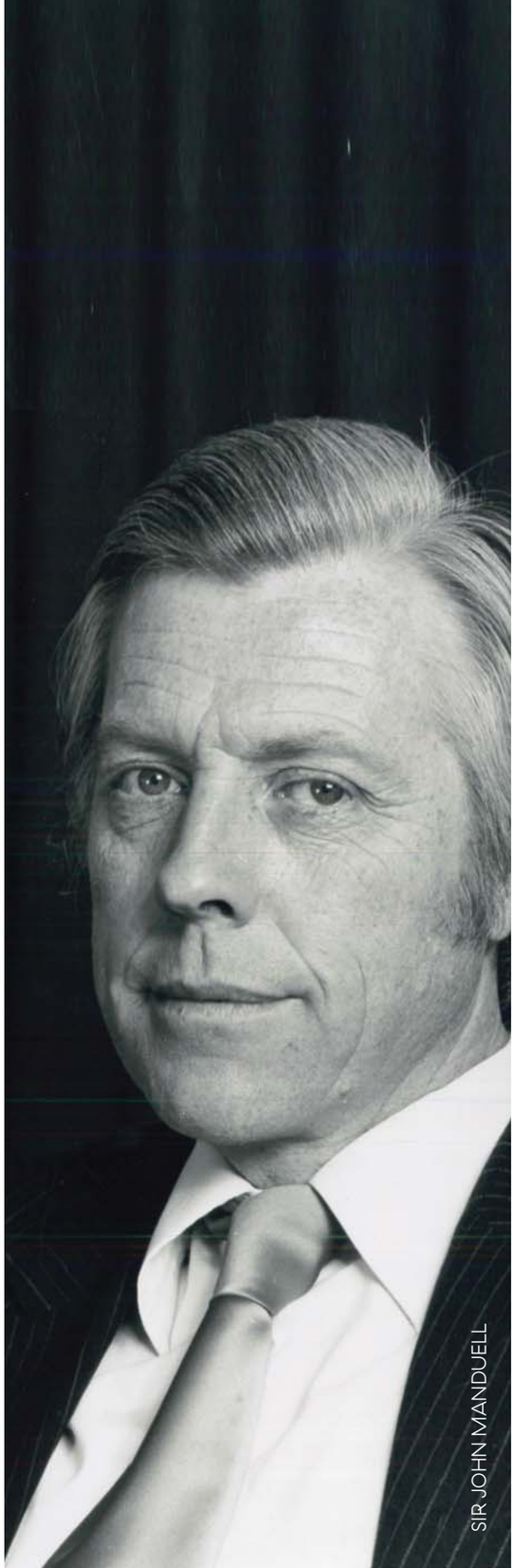
This concert is a memorial to Sir John Manduell, our Founding Principal, who died in October 2017.

It's fair to say that without the influence and inspiration of Sir John, the RNCM would not exist. At the helm from the moment we opened our doors in 1973 until his retirement in 1996, our first (and longest serving) Principal was instrumental in creating a music college that not only provided the highest education to young musicians, but one that found its place at the heart of a city renowned for its musical offering the world over.

We welcome back Duncan Ward to conduct a combined orchestra, chorus and soloists of RNCM alumni, staff, and students.

Tickets £20

All profits from this evening go to support the Sir John Manduell Prize


SIR JOHN MANDUELL

Wed 21 Nov // 7.30pm
// Carole Nash Recital Room

BARBIROLLI PRIZE FOR CELLO

Jo Cole *adjudicator*

Tickets £7

FS

Wed 21 Nov // 7.45pm // RNCM Concert Hall

THESE DAYS

THE MANCHESTER PEACE SONG CYCLE

Told through the eyes of the beloved and ancient Heaton Park lions, *These Days* takes us on a beautiful journey sharing the laughter and the tears of war and peace across our region over the last 100 years.

The libretto is by poet Tony Walsh, dramaturgy and direction by Caroline Clegg and the music is especially composed for solo voices and choirs by ten female composers.

Tickets £15 / students/under-18s £5

Promoted by Caroline Clegg with Feelgood Theatre in association with RNCM

‘To us, originality means creating our own path in the music we make and finding our own answers. More and more, we are conscious of the paths that were paved before us and are conscious of building on this work, but in the end, we try to look at the music we want to make - both the music we create ourselves and the music that is created for us by others - and find our own answers to age old questions.’

Sō Percussion

CREATING OUR OWN PATH

Tue 20 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

ORIGINAL VOICES
SŌ PERCUSSION

Steve Reich Music for Pieces of Wood
Caroline Shaw Taxidermy
Bryce Dessner Music for Wood and Strings
Jason Treuting Amid the Noise

Sō Percussion’s manifesto: *‘to create a new model of egalitarian artistic collaboration that respects history, champions innovation and curiosity, and creates an essential social bond through service to our audiences and our communities.’*

This American quartet is all about innovation and re-invention. Performing pieces by Steve Reich, the National’s Bryce Dessner and Caroline Shaw - watch out for some very strange instruments indeed - they also present to the world the chord stick (*a brand new instrument that’s a cross between a dulcimer and an electric guitar.) And to finish the show, RNCM percussion students join the group on stage to perform a hypnotic suite of pieces by the quartet’s very own Jason Treuting, blending Reich, Brian Eno and Aphex Twin.

Tickets £18 / students/under-18s £5 FS

+

6.30pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: The Dolce Flute Quartet – From whirlpools to Riverdance

Free admission, no ticket required

Thu 22 Nov // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM BAROQUE ENSEMBLE

Jean-Féry Rebel Les élémens
C P E Bach Symphony in D major H 663

Roger Hamilton *conductor*

Free admission, no ticket required

Thu 22 Nov // Doors 7pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

MADELEINE PEYROUX

+ SUPPORT: TOM BAXTER

Madeleine Peyroux continues to explore beyond the ordinary with *Secular Hymns*, a spirited and soulful masterwork delivered in a captivating blend of funk, blues and jazz. This is a collection of songs that have their own hymn-like stories of self-awareness and inner dialogue, a communal consciousness and a spiritual essence.

Tickets £39.50
No concessions

Promoted by The MJR Group

Fri 23 Nov // from 6.30pm
// Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT TRIPLE-BILL

Three short concerts which explore the role of women over the centuries and champion their creative output.

6.30pm **Women of the Baroque Era** – Lute song from Barbara Strozzi to Francesca Caccini

7.10pm **Defiance** – A collaborative piece for piano trio and dance

7.50pm **The Future is Women** – Music for piano duo

Free admission, no ticket required

Fri 23 Nov // Doors 7pm
// RNCM Concert Hall

AFRO CELT SOUND SYSTEM

Afro Celt Sound System is a ground-breaking, European and African-based collective that innovatively combines folk traditions of different cultures to breath-taking effect.

Tickets £25
No concessions

Promoted by Kilimanjaro Live

Photo credit: Shervin Lainez

Photo credit: R Marrison

Sat 24 Nov // 11am–4pm (exhibitions)
// Lower Concourse
12pm // 2pm // 4pm (performances)
// Carole Nash Recital Room

EMBODIED SOUNDS

This event explores unusual connections between instruments and the body through a sequence of performances and interactive exhibitions. This will include music that changes as you sing while eating the score; flute pieces limited to a single breath; music performed while and transformed by unusual activities or extreme exercise; music made from ruined instruments and music that explores the way people interact as they perform.

Part of *Being Human Festival 2018* and in association with the RNCM's Experimental and Exploratory Music Research Centre, this event includes music from James Saunders, Larry Goves, Claudia Molitor, Annie Hui-Hisn Hsieh, Kathryn Williams, Mark Dyer, and Bofan Ma, performed by The House of Bedlam.

Free admission, no ticket required

Sat 24 Nov // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

ST GEORGE'S SINGERS

Leonard Bernstein Chichester Psalms
Howard Goodall Eternal Light
Sasha Johnson Manning War's Embers (world première)

Neil Taylor *conductor*
Léonie Maxwell *soprano*
Joseph Judge *countertenor*
Terence Ayebare *baritone*

Tickets £16

Promoted by St George's Singers

Mon 26 Nov – Sat 01 Dec

RNCM JAMES MOTTRAM INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

Media partner CLASSIC fM

Event partners Yamaha and RLPO

Our major biennial piano competition returns for its sixth edition, as we welcome young pianists from all over the world in this week of masterclasses and performances. We will be joined by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and conductor Robert Spano, who will accompany the soloists in the competition final in the RNCM Concert Hall - which will be recorded for broadcast on Classic FM.

For full details please see
www.rncm.ac.uk/jmipc

Mon 26 – Tue 27 Nov
from 10am // RNCM Concert Hall

ROUND ONE

Wed 28 and **Fri 30 Nov**
from 10am // Carole Nash Recital Room

PUBLIC MASTERCLASSES

Thu 29 Nov
from 10am // RNCM Concert Hall

SEMI-FINALS

Sat 01 Dec
7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

CONCERTO FINAL

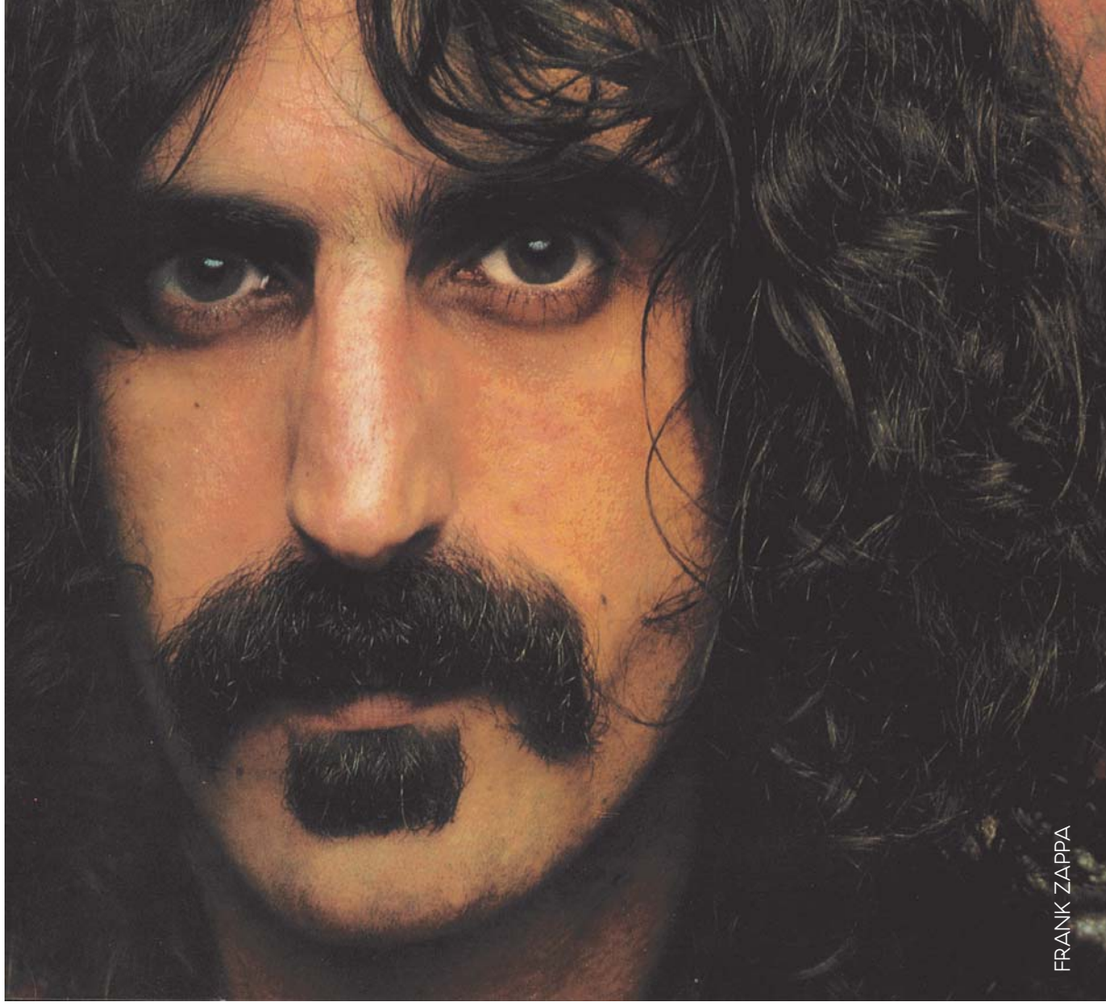
WITH ROYAL LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Robert Spano *conductor*

Tickets £18 £15

Admission to all events is free, no ticket required, unless otherwise stated

Supported by James Mottram Bequest



Fri 30 Nov // Doors 7.30pm // The Union, Manchester Metropolitan University

FRANK ZAPPA

TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF WHEN YOU DANCE (*OPTIONAL)

Clark Rundell, Andrew Casey, Laurent Zufferey *conductors*

We leave the confines of our Concert Hall and head across the road to MMU's new venue, the Union, to navigate uncharted territory, as we unleash brand new arrangements of Frank Zappa's genre-defying instrumental works.

Zappa died 25 years ago and we wanted to mark the occasion in fitting style. Students from our Pop and Classical courses will perform new interpretations of Zappa classics alongside works that influenced his own eclectic musical style.

Tickets £12

Zappa, Frank Zappa, and the are marks belonging to the Zappa Family Trust.
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Sun 02 Dec // 10am // 1.30pm // 5pm // RNCM Concert Hall

TRAFFORD MUSIC SERVICE

WINTER CONCERTS

Tickets £9, concessions £5
Family ticket (2 adults and up to 2 concessions) £23

Promoted by Trafford Music Service

Mon 03 Dec // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Emily McArthur Thirteen; Homage to Mulligan

Emily McArthur *saxophone*

Johannes Brahms Selected Pieces Op 76

Radu Prisada *piano*

Free admission, no ticket required

Mon 03 Dec // 7.30pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

DECONTAMINATION #15

THE UNASSESSABLES

For the latest in our *Decontamination* contemporary music series, RNCM students and staff explore music that might be considered 'challenging' and 'unassessable'.

This one-off programme exists within the intersection of performance art and music and will include works that are unconventional, maverick and potentially offensive. This show includes guest artist/composer/performer Andy Ingamells, whose unorthodox methods blur the line between composer and performer.

Featuring nudity and material that some audiences may find offensive. Over-18s only.

Tickets £8 FS

Mon 03 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MANCHESTER CHRISTIAN UNIONS

CAROL SERVICE

Tickets £5

Promoted by Manchester Christian Unions

Wed 05 Dec // 6pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

RNCM BAROQUE SOLOISTS

Giulio Caccini Songs from *Le nuove musiche*
Francesca Caccini Songs from *Il primo libro delle musiche*
Élisabeth Jacquet de La Guerre Semelé
François Couperin La Françoise from *Les Nations*

Roger Hamilton *director*

This anniversary concert marks the death of Giulio Caccini and the birth of François Couperin, as well as celebrating two of the finest female composers of any age.

Free admission, no ticket required

Thu 06 Dec // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM STRING AND WIND ORCHESTRAS

Sally Beamish The Day Dawn
Antonio Vivaldi Concerto in G Major RV 151 'Alla rustica'
Torstein Aagaard-Nilsen Dirty Dancing
Kenneth Hesketh Vranjanka

Chris Hoyle, Mark Heron, Andrew Casey *conductors*

Free admission, no ticket required

Thu 06 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

JOHANNES BERAUER'S HOURGLASS

Thomas Gould *violin*
Mike Walker *guitar*
Gwilym Simcock *piano*
Martin Berauer *bass*
Bernhard Schimpelsberger *drums, percussion and Konnakol*

'I believe that originality happens when you are able to turn off the voices in your head that try telling you what you are supposed to do and rather pursue what you love to do.' Johannes Berauer

Tonight's event celebrates the new recording *Hourglass* by young, cool Austrian composer Johannes Berauer - his first project for small jazz ensemble. This newly-formed quintet was put together specifically for this album and tour and features a couple of Manchester jazz favourites, Mike Walker and Gwilym Simcock. Johannes described the line-up as a *'dream band'*.

This album is a genre-busting creation, jazz-based but with influences including Bach's counterpoint, Messiaen's sense of harmony and M C Escher's paradox views of reality.

In the opening set, members of the quintet are joined by RNCM students to play a mix of tunes spanning The Impossible Gentlemen, Indian percussion and chamber jazz.

Tickets £18 £15 SONIC MCR FS

+

6.30pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: A Journey Through the Balkans – An array of exciting new and old folk music

Free admission, no ticket required

Fri 07, Mon 10, Wed 12, Thu 13 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Theatre
Sun 09, Sat 15 Dec // 3pm // RNCM Theatre

SUOR ANGELICA
GIANNI SCHICCHI
GIACOMO PUCCINI

Martin André *conductor*
Robert Chevara *director*
Nicolai Hart-Hansen *set and costume designer*
Jack Sheen *assistant conductor*
Kevin Thraves *chorus master*
RNCM Opera Orchestra
RNCM Opera Chorus
Linda Richardson *Suor Angelica**
Quentin Hayes *Gianni Schicchi**
***SVSO Artists in Residence**

Puccini's trio of one-act operas, *Il Trittico*, highlights the dramatic, tragic and comedic best of this giant of Italian opera. In December, to celebrate the centenary of the world première, RNCM Opera will perform two of the operas from this stunning work.

Suor Angelica is a heart-wrenching tale set in an austere convent. It contains moments of harrowing drama and unequalled redemptive beauty. This will be followed by the scintillatingly devilish comedy of *Gianni Schicchi*, in which a family of hypocrites are duped out of their inheritance.

These two works are a devastating combination, beautifully linked by a common thread – a tragic opera about death, followed by a witty farce that explores the same theme.

Both are accessible operas that remain acutely relevant in the 21st century. They share an Italian setting and tell very different and intriguing stories about death. After the delicate tragedy of *Suor Angelica*, the Tuscan colour and larger than life characters of *Gianni Schicchi* explode onto the stage to provide a comic finale.

Suor Angelica contains some of Puccini's most adventurous writing, including the heart-breaking soprano aria *Senza mamma*. Meanwhile, *Gianni Schicchi* displays a kaleidoscope of different musical styles and contains one of the most popular of all operatic arias *O mio babbino caro*.

This production will be sung in Italian with surtitles.

SPECIAL UNDER-18s TICKET OFFER

If you are under 18, you can save 50% on your tickets.

Tickets £34 £28 £21 (weekdays)
Tickets £36 £30 £23 (weekends)

+

Thu 13 Dec // 6.30pm // Forman Lecture Theatre

TALK: Saints and Sinners - With Alexandra Wilson (Oxford Brookes University)

Free admission, no ticket required

Fri 07 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

ROOF ST PETERSBURG

ANNUAL CHARITY CONCERT

Manchester and St Petersburg come together this evening with the unique Kalinka Balalaika Orchestra and guest soloist Ivan Prasolov.

Tickets £7.50

Promoted by ROOF St Petersburg

Sat 08 Dec // from 10.15am // Various Venues

JUNIOR RNCM PERFORMANCE DAY

Contact the Junior RNCM on **0161 907 5264** for full details.

Free admission, no ticket required

Mon 10 Dec // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MONDAY RECITAL SERIES

Bohuslav Martinů Duo No 1 for violin and cello
Donald Grant Ban-Bhuidseach Leanachan (The Witch of Leanachan)

Andrew Birse *violin*
Chloe Randall *cello*

Astor Piazzolla Oblivion; Libertango
Folk Music Medley from Brazil, Wales, Nigeria and Lithuania

Levare Quartet
Didier Osindero, Mateus Dandalo *violin*
Emily Davies *viola*
Julius Jonušas *cello*

Free admission, no ticket required

Mon 10 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MANCHESTER CHAMBER CONCERTS SOCIETY

QUARTETTO DI CREMONA

W A Mozart String Quartet in G major K 80 'Lodi'
Ludwig van Beethoven String Quartet in F minor Op 95 'Serioso'
Anton Webern Langsamer Satz
W A Mozart String Quartet in C major K 465 'Dissonance'

Tickets £25, platform seats £12.50

Promoted by Manchester Chamber Concerts Society

+

6.30pm // Forman Lecture Theatre

PRE-CONCERT TALK

Free admission to ticket holders

Thu 13 Dec // 1.15pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM CONCERT ORCHESTRA

WITH PRINCIPALS FROM MANCHESTER CAMERATA

Igor Stravinsky Suite No 2 for Small Orchestra
Robert Schumann Symphony No 1 in B flat major Op 38 'Spring'

Tjeerd Barkmeijer, Rita Castro Blanco, Rory Storm, Melvin Tay, Peter Woffenden *conductors*

Free admission, no ticket required

Fri 14 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

MANCHESTER INSPIRATIONAL VOICES

JOY! A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION II

Wayne Ellington *director*

The Manchester Inspirational Voices choir returns to the RNCM to bring the sounds and energy of gospel music to our end of year celebrations.

Tickets £18

Promoted by Manchester Inspirational Voices

Fri 14 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Theatre

RNCM BIG BAND WITH PETE LONG

BENNY GOODMAN NIGHT: JINGLE SWING, SWING, SWING!

Mike Hall *director*
Pete Long *clarinet*

Five years ago, Pete Long raised the roof of our Theatre when he re-created Benny Goodman's landmark 1928 Carnegie Hall concert with our very own Big Band. Our students loved it, the audience loved it, we talked about it for weeks to come…

So we're beyond excited that Pete is coming back for another Benny Goodman festive blowout!

He's worked with everyone… from Scott Walker, to Jools Holland's Rhythm & Blues Orchestra, to Ray Davies and Ute Lemper. Our Christmas Big Band shows are notoriously good fun and a great night out. And there's no-one better than Pete to get the party started, trust us…

Tickets £18 £15

SONIC MCR FS

+

6.30pm // Carole Nash Recital Room

SPOTLIGHT: The Ministry of Silly Sounds - Internet oddities for tenor horn quartet

Free admission, no ticket required

Sat 15 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

SALFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

George Frideric Handel Messiah

Tom Newall *conductor*
Louise Wayman *soprano*
Lucy Vallis *alto*
Luke Horner *tenor*
Thomas Hopkinson *bass*
Northern Baroque Sinfonia

Tickets £18

Promoted by Salford Choral Society

Sun 16 Dec // 11am–4pm // Various Venues

RNCM CHRISTMAS FAMILY DAY

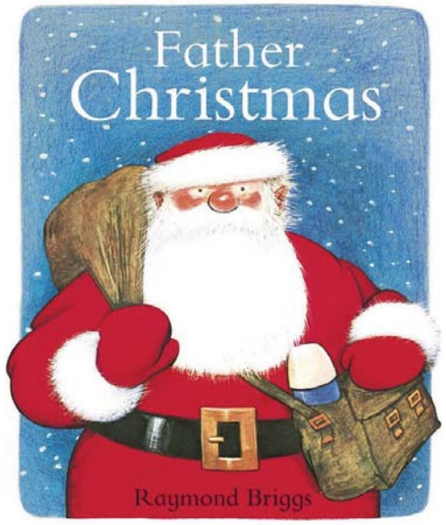
Come and join us for a day of festive activities, interactive workshops and musical treats including a screening of Raymond Brigg's classic film *Father Christmas* with actors and live orchestra. Meet the Snowman, Rudolf and Santa himself on this special day to get you into the Christmas spirit - dressing up is seriously encouraged!

For full details, please see
www.rncm.ac.uk/christmasfamilyday

Suitable for ages 3 and above

RNCM ENGAGE

Tickets £8



Mon 17 Dec // 7pm // RNCM Concert Hall

CHEADLE HULME SCHOOL

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Tickets £8

Promoted by Cheadle Hulme School

Tue 18 Dec // 7.30pm // RNCM Concert Hall

XAVERIAN COLLEGE

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Tickets £10

Promoted by Xaverian College

Wed 19 Dec // 8pm // RNCM Concert Hall

RICK WAKEMAN

CHRISTMAS PIANO ODYSSEY TOUR

Rick Wakeman returns to perform tracks from both his best-selling release *Piano Portraits* and his latest album, *Piano Odyssey*.

As per usual, the music will be accompanied by Rick's hilarious memories and anecdotes about the tunes, plus a few musical surprises. And as we're in the festive period, the set-list will be given a distinctly seasonal twist.

Tickets £29.50
No concessions

Promoted by Kilimanjaro Live

COMING SOON

Sat 12 – Sun 13 Jan

RNCM STRINGS FESTIVAL

A weekend of masterclasses, recitals and concerts from eminent artists and students. RNCM students join the BBC Philharmonic for the closing gala concert.

Fri 15 – Sun 17 Mar

RNCM CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

JOSEPH HAYDN: INNOVATION AND INSPIRATION

Sun 31 Mar, Sat 06 Apr // 3pm
Tue 02, Wed 03, Fri 05 Apr // 7.30pm

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Tickets on sale now
www.rncm.ac.uk/pilgrim

Supported by The Vaughan Williams Charitable Trust

Liberty Living
student accommodation

'There is a unique sense of community with the convenience of living next door. It's safe here. The security is very thorough. I am on the social committee here so I get to organise the parties too!'

Charlotte, RNCM student
and Sir Charles Groves Hall resident

Liberty Living is home to approximately 23,000 students across nineteen UK cities including Manchester where we have five student residences; including Sir Charles Groves Hall next to the RNCM, Liberty Point next to Manchester Piccadilly train station and the 34 storey Liberty Heights in the city centre. We are delighted to sponsor a scheme to enable all of our Manchester-based students access to free tickets to key RNCM performances throughout 2018/19.

For more information on how to secure your free ticket, Liberty Living students should visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/libertyliving**, contact the RNCM box office on **0161 907 5555** or speak to their reception team.

GET INVOLVED

RNCM ENGAGE

Each year we offer great opportunities for families and young people to enjoy music-making with us via RNCM Engage. Initiatives such as our Young Projects series for five to 18-year-olds, our annual Children's Opera Project (see p36), our Young Company musical theatre group for teenagers, and our family-friendly Young Explorers concerts and Christmas Family Days (see p16 and p55) enable us to make music accessible and fun for lots of people. Learn how you can get involved at **www.rncm.ac.uk/engage**

RNCM is grateful for the support of the Ernest Cook Trust, Eric and Margaret Kinder Charitable Trust, the Lauriston Trust, the Leverhulme Trust and the Zochonis Charitable Trust.

The Sir John Manduell Research Forum Series

Our Research Forums are FREE and open to the public with no ticket required. The talks last about 45 minutes and then the floor is open for questions and discussion. Read more at **www.rncm.ac.uk/researchforums**

RNCM Historic Instrument Collection

Opening hours can be found at
www.rncm.ac.uk/instrumentcollection

RNCM on the Road

RNCM ensembles and soloists perform regularly at prestigious venues and festivals throughout the UK and further afield. For future events, visit
www.rncm.ac.uk/ontheroad

HIRE OUR VENUES

The RNCM has a wide selection of excellent purpose-built spaces to hire for every type of event, performance or conference.

For Performance enquiries please contact our Events Manager, Paul Cobban on **0161 907 5289** or **paul.cobban@rncm.ac.uk** or for full venue information and technical specifications, visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/hire**

For Conference enquiries please contact our Conference and Catering Team on **0161 907 5353** or **hospitality@rncm.ac.uk**

LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS?

From weddings to corporate events and more, contact the Professional Engagements team on **0161 907 5352** or **rebecca.parnell@rncm.ac.uk**

FOOD AND DRINK

Brodsky (*open from 17 Sep)

Open from 11am-4pm Monday to Friday with our popular lunchtime menu available from 12noon.

Pre-theatre dining is also available Monday to Saturday from 5pm (on performance evenings) with two courses costing just £16.50 and £21 for three courses. Reserve your table in advance by calling **0161 907 5353**.

Brodsky will be closed for the Christmas vacation from (17 Dec)

Concert Bar

The Concert Bar lite-bite menu is available from 5pm-7pm (during term time) simply order at the bar. Please note this menu is not available on Sundays. You can also pre-order your interval drinks prior to the start of the concert.

Café

Enjoy a wide range of drinks, snacks and delicious cakes from our Café.

Hospitality at the RNCM

The RNCM can also provide catering for social functions, events and private dinners. Contact our Conference and Catering Team on **0161 907 5353** or **hospitality@rncm.ac.uk**

All food items and menus are subject to availability. Outside of term time and at weekends, opening hours are dependent upon the performance programme.

For full details of menus and opening hours, please call **0161 907 5353** or **5252** or visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/foodanddrink**

BOOKING INFORMATION AND GETTING HERE

Booking by phone

0161 907 5555

Booking in person or by post

Box Office, RNCM, 124 Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9RD

Booking Fees

A booking fee of £1 per ticket applies to most transactions. No booking fee applies to tickets bought in person at the Box Office.

Enquiries by email

box.office@rncm.ac.uk

Box Office opening hours

11am - 6pm Monday to Saturday (later on performance nights)

Sunday 1 hour before performances (closed on non-performance Sundays)

For full terms and conditions visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/whats-on/terms** or contact the Box Office.

For a detailed layout of our venues, visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/seatingplans**

Ticket Exchange & Refunds

For full details on ticket exchanges and our refund policy please visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/exchanges** Please note, refunds are only made in the case of a cancelled performance.

Concessions

For events promoted by the RNCM, concessions are available to under-18s, students, over 60s and claimants (in receipt of JSA or ESA). Disabled patrons who require an essential companion in order to attend, can claim up-to-two tickets for the total value of a single full price ticket. Please note proof of concession may be required. For full details of visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/discounts**

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For as little as £30 a year, enjoy a host of benefits including priority booking, £15 RNCM Opera tickets and discounts on selected performances. For further details, visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/members**

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Save 15% or more on your tickets by creating your own Flexible Series. Simply choose at least 3 concerts you'd like to attend (marked with FS logo). For full details, visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/flexi**

Group Discounts

Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more for all events promoted by the RNCM. For more information, contact the Box Office or visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/groups**

Sonic Manchester

Sonic Manchester is a free scheme for students run by the RNCM, The Bridgewater Hall, BBC Philharmonic and Manchester Camerata. It gives students the opportunity to buy tickets from as little as £3. For more information, visit **www.facebook.com/sonicmanchester**

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Sign up to hear more about What's On at the RNCM, including the latest events, festivals, exclusive offers and how to support the RNCM at **www.rncm.ac.uk/mailinglist** or contact the Box Office for full details. To read our privacy information visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/privacy**

Access

All public spaces and facilities are accessible to wheelchair users (via lifts). Free parking is also available for disabled patrons, reserve your space with reception on **0161 907 5300**. Please contact the Box Office or visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/access** for detailed access information.

Getting Here

For the latest information about public transport and parking options, plus a map of how to find us, visit **www.rncm.ac.uk/visit**

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