As Summer 2015 approaches, the RNCM prepares for one of its most monumental concerts to date. This is an historic moment for the College and I am honoured and thrilled to be welcoming Krzysztof Penderecki to conduct the UK première of his magnificent Seven Gates of Jerusalem at The Bridgewater Hall in June. This will be the apex of our celebration of Polish music, very kindly supported by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, as part of the Polska Music programme. In a merging of soundworlds, we create an ever-changing kaleidoscope of performances, presenting one of our broadest programmes to date. Starting with saxophone legend David Sanborn, and entering the world of progressive fusion with Polar Bear, the jazz programme at the RNCM collabrates once more with Serious as well as with the Manchester Jazz Festival to bring The Hot Sardines, Stuart McCallum, The Pepper Street Orchestra and the Robert Glasper Trio to Manchester. The RNCM Big Band works with Colin Towns, our Jazz Collective goes to Hollywood, and our Session Orchestra takes to the stage twice this term! Looking at the music of various countries, we explore the music of Poland with the works of Lutosławski, Gorecki, Szymanowski, Zubel and Penderecki; the music of France through Debussy, Milhaud, Ravel, Saint-Saëns and Poulenc; and the music of Russia through our Keyboard Festival, presenting a very rich programme based on Russian fairytales and ballet music with works by Scriabin, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov, Stravinsky and Shostakovich. We are also very lucky to be welcoming Noriko Ogawa, Stephen Hough, Jean-Efflam Bavouzet as well as Dmitri Alexeev this Summer. Dance and multimedia form an essential part of our focus this term as we collaborate with KSDance Ltd as well as the Manchester School of Art to present interactive and multi-sensory theatrical experiences. Film music takes centre stage once more, with the suite to the soundtrack of the film Ran by Takemitsu and live organ improvisation for the iconic horror film, Nosferatu.

Our orchestral concerts are some of our most colourful ones, and more fairytales come to life with Kodaly’s Hary Janos and Bartók’s Miraculous Mandarin as well as with an RNCM Family Day, where we join forces with MMU’s Manchester Children’s Book Festival to bring together a feast of music and stories for all ages with puppetry, story-telling, live music and more. RNCM Youth Perform is back on stage with Bernstein’s award-winning musical On the Town, and our Day of Song brings the world of Cabaret to life. We present music from around the world with Taiko Meantime Drumming, Taraf de Hadiaouks, Tango Siempre, fado singer Gisela João and singer songwriters Eddi Reader, Thea Gilmore, Benjamin Clementine, Raghu Dixit, Emily Portman and Mariana Sadovska (aka ‘The Ukranian Björk’). Contemporary music forms an important part of the RNCM’s artistic programme, and we are proud to partner BBC Radio 3 on a Young Artists’ Day based on composition. The Summer season is peppered with works by composers such as Berio, Sciarrino and Boulez, and we also welcome Sir Harrison Birtwistle and Michael Finnissy to the College, while the RNCM Percussion Ensemble creates an adventurous programme with John Cage, Varese and Hesketh.

I look forward to welcoming you to our events and hope that you will join us for our Gold Medal Competition showcasing ten of the RNCM’s most brilliant performers on 13 June.

Dr Michelle Castelletti – Artistic Director
Friday 17 April
7.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall

**Polar Bear**

Polar Bear have once again marked themselves as one of the most exciting and progressive bands of their generation with a recent second nomination for a Mercury Music Prize. The band, led by three times Mercury nominee Seb Rochford (Paul McCartney, Brian Eno, Beck, Yoko Ono) on drums, has continued to innovate and transcend genres, connecting with jazz, rock, hip-hop, electronic and mainstream audiences alike. Saxophonists Pete Wareham (Acoustic Ladyland) and Mark Lockheart (Django Bates) together possess a broad emotional vocabulary, yet here they appear translucent, elusive. Bassist Tom Herbert is irresistible when he plays inside the groove, but does so only occasionally, giving these moments rare power. All this is combined and melted together with the magic touch of electronic wizard Leafcutter John. This Manchester show follows the release of their sixth album Same as You on 30 March.

Tickets £15  £10
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 18 April
7.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall

**Taiko Meantime**

with special guest Chieko Kojima

In a unique collaboration with the world-renowned Chieko Kojima of Kodo, Taiko drumming returns to the RNCM in a show that tells the dramatic Japanese legend of ‘Dojoji’ through drums, flute and dance.

Tickets £15  £10
Concessions available
Promoted by Rhythmworks Ltd

Tuesday 21 April
11.30am  RNCM Concert Hall

**A Concert to Celebrate the Opening of the Ida Carroll Walkway**

Formal Opening by Sir Harrison Birtwistle

The newly-named Ida Carroll Walkway recognises the Ida Carroll Trust’s generous donation to the Concert Hall campaign and its longstanding support of the RNCM. In this celebratory concert, artists including Anthony Halstead (horn), Thomas Verity (clarinet), John Wilson and Peter Lawson (piano duo), John Turner (recorder), the Solem Quartet and the Manchester Chamber Ensemble perform works by Grieg and Schubert, and new works by a host of eminent British composers.

Free admission, by ticket only
Promoted by Ida Carroll Trust and RNCM

Tuesday 21 April
7.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room

**Masterclass with Noriko Ogawa**

Christopher Rowland International Masterclass

Continuing our focus on French piano music, Noriko Ogawa works with RNCM pianists on French repertoire ahead of the next recital in the Piano Series with Stephen Hough on 30 April.

Tickets £8
Concessions available
Supported by Christopher Rowland Masterclass Fund www.mcm.ac.uk/pianoseries
Promoted by RNCM

Wednesday 22 April
7.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall

**RNCM Brand New Orchestra**

Piero Lombardi Iglesias, Harish Shankar, Jan Wierzbowski conductors

Hear newly composed music for symphony orchestra, as RNCM composers unveil their latest work.

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

6.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room

**Spotlight:** Rhythmic Conjunction – Modern works for saxophone quartet

Free admission, no ticket required
Thursday 23, Friday 24 and Saturday 25 April
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

On the Town
RNCM Youth Perform
Music by Leonard Bernstein
Book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green
Based on a concept by Jerome Robbins
Caroline Clegg director
Stuart Overington musical director
Stewart Bartles lighting designer
New York, New York, it’s a helluva town! So says the most famous song from this award-winning musical about the adventures of three sailors in the city that never sleeps. With 24 hours of shore leave they’re eager to experience all the city has to offer…and hopefully find the girl of their dreams. Full of sharp dialogue, electrifying dance and lush music, this Broadway hit, set against the background of the war, now drops anchor in Manchester with the RNCM’s talented Youth Perform.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Limited.

Tickets £12
Concessions available
Supported by Eric and Margaret Kinder Trust
Promoted by RNCM

Thursday 23 April
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM Percussion Ensemble
Music to include:
Edgard Varèse: Ionisation
John Cage: Third Construction
Kenneth Hesketh: Polygon Windows (after Aphex Twin)

Scored for 13 percussionists, Ionisation was the very first work to be composed for a stand-alone percussion ensemble. Don’t miss the opportunity to hear this key work, plus a selection of works that followed it, performed by the RNCM’s virtuoso players.

Tickets £7
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

+ 6.30pm RNCM Studio Theatre
Spotlight: The Happy Workshop – Strauss’ second wind symphony
Free admission, no ticket required

Friday 24 April
7.30pm RNCM Studio Theatre

Mariana Sadovska
Making Tracks
In her home country she is known as the ‘Ukrainian Björk’. Through her furious performances the singer, actress and composer Mariana Sadovska crosses all borders: Archaic midsummer night invocations, wedding songs and migrant chants from remote villages of rural Ukraine get a singular turn and morph into contemporary sound that spans from folk to avant-garde. Creating innovative compositions and arrangements in dialogue with ancient traditions, Sadovska approaches each piece with a fresh and uniquely personal vision. With a voice of impressive power and range, her stage presence is a tour de force that oscillates between fragility and defiance. For this show she has teamed up with German percussionist and electronica specialist Christian Thomé, creating an ever-changing collage of ancient Ukrainian folk songs and contemporary electro-acoustic sounds.

Tickets £14
Concessions available
www.makingtrackslive.org
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 25 April
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Altrincham Choral Society
Handel’s Messiah
Lancashire Chamber Orchestra and organist Jeffrey Makinson join Altrincham Choral Society in Handel’s masterpiece, over 250 years since its first performance.

Tickets £12.50
Concessions available
Promoted by Altrincham Choral Society

Saturday 25 April
7.30pm RNCM Studio Theatre

Andy Irvine
Musician and singer-songwriter Andy Irvine has been a world music pioneer and icon for traditional folk music and musicians for over 40 years. He is the founding member of bands such as Sweeney’s Men, Planxty, Patrick Street and Mozaik and has been hailed as ‘a tradition in himself’ and ‘Woody Guthrie’s representative on Earth’ by the magazine Hot Press.

Tickets £15
Concessions available
www.andyirvine.com
Promoted by RNCM

+ 6.30pm Carole Nash Recital Room
Spotlight: The Starfish Duo – Original compositions and collaborative arrangements for two celtic harps
Free admission, no ticket required
Sunday 26 April

RNCM Day of Song
Cabaret!
Join us for a day of cabaret-inspired song, ranging from the revolutionary beginnings of Le Chat Noir and Kabarett, to Broadway and beyond. This year’s performances will showcase final year undergraduate singers and culminate in a theatrical extravaganza featuring the RNCM Cabaret Band.
For full details, visit www.rncm.ac.uk/dayofsong

HIGHLIGHTS
1.15pm  RNCM Concert Hall
Hommage au Chat Noir
A tribute to Paris’ first modern cabaret club, featuring music by Satie, cabaret-inspired songs by Francis Poulenc, and a tribute to a heroine of French Cabaret, Edith Piaf.
Tickets  £6
Concessions available

2.15pm  Carole Nash Recital Room
The Truth About Love
Themes of infatuation and love’s frustrations abound in Britten’s Cabaret Songs, alongside cabaret-inspired songs by William Walton and new ones commissioned from RNCM composers.
Tickets  £6
Concessions available

3.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room
Berlin, Brecht and Beyond
A programme of Brecht-inspired German Kabarett, with music by Kurt Weill, Hanns Eisler and Arnold Schoenberg.
Tickets  £6
Concessions available

4.30pm  Forman Lecture Theatre
Film Screening
The Torchbearers (USA 2015, world première) directed by Cheryl E Grant
The Torchbearers is a new film which blends documentary and musical forms, shedding light on the vital role that the art of cabaret has played: introducing new social concepts and values to the mainstream, putting politics into perspective, and serving as a platform for some of the best and brightest talent.
Tickets  £6
Concessions available

6.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall
Life is a Cabaret! with the RNCM Cabaret Band
In cabaret-inspired music of more recent times, this exciting finale to our Day of Song features a selection of witty cabaret songs by William Bolcolm in music for the stage. Highlights include selections from The Threepenny Opera and the hit musical Cabaret!
Tickets  £10
Concessions available

8pm  RNCM Café
Post-concert Event – Cabaret Recreated
Join us at the end of the day for a thrilling real-life cabaret experience in the RNCM Café and bar!
Free admission, no ticket required
Day Ticket  £25
Promoted by RNCM

Monday 27 April

7.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room
270415
Michael Finnissy  Gershwin Arrangements
Aaron Parker  Now (no more)
Luciano Berio  Chemins II for viola and nine instruments

ddmmmy concludes its trio of events at the RNCM with a concert exploring acts of collaboration between composers and soloists. The world première of Aaron Parker’s Now (no more)/chalk/slicer/for flutes, ensemble and electronics forms the centrepiece of the evening, alongside Finnissy’s virtuosic re-imagining of jazz in his Gershwin Arrangements and Berio’s relentless Chemins II.
Tickets  £6
Concessions available
www.ddmmyseries.com
Supported by Sound and Music
Promoted by RNCM

Tuesday 28 April – Saturday 2 May

7.30pm  RNCM Studio Theatre
Saturday 2 May
2.30pm  RNCM Studio Theatre
The Mikado
This production sees the original Mikado set in modern day Japan where Hello Kitty, wasabi, sushi and karaoke rule!
Tickets  £10 opening night, £13 all other performances
No concessions
Promoted by South Manchester AOS

Wednesday 29 April

7pm  Carole Nash Recital Room
Piano Recital Prize
Talented students from the RNCM School of Keyboard Studies play a variety of piano repertoire to compete for this prize, which this evening is adjudicated by Peter Donohoe.
Tickets  £7
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM
Thursday 30 April
7.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall

Stephen Hough
RNCM Piano Recital Series

Claude Debussy  La plus que lente; Estampes; Children’s Corner; L’isle joyeuse
Frédéric Chopin  Ballades Nos 1 – 4

Named by The Economist as one of 20 Living Polymaths, RNCM alumnus Stephen Hough returns to the College for the second recital in our series that explores French piano music. Tonight’s programme includes Debussy’s Estampes, considered by many to be the point of departure for the composer’s exploration of new sounds for the piano, plus Chopin’s Ballades, some of the most challenging pieces in standard piano repertoire.

The final recital of the Piano Series features Jean-Efflam Bavouzet and takes place on Saturday 23 May.

Tickets £17  £14
Concessions available
www.rncm.ac.uk/pianoseries
Promoted by RNCM

Friday 1 May
1.15pm  RNCM Concert Hall

Friday Chamber Series
Notos Quartet
RNCM Waverly Junior Fellows in Chamber Music

Johannes Brahms  Piano Quartet in C minor Op 60

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

Friday 1 May
7.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM Symphony Orchestra

Zoltán Kodály  Háry János Suite
Keiko Abe  The Wave (Marimba Concerto) (UK première)
Toru Takemitsu  ‘Ran’ Suite
Béla Bartók  The Miraculous Mandarin Op 19

Matthew Coorey  conductor
Harish Shankar  assistant conductor
Le Yu  percussion

For its first concert of the Summer season, the RNCM Symphony Orchestra presents Bartók’s most aggressive score. The tale of three thugs who force a young girl to lure passers-by into a room where they attempt to rob them, The Miraculous Mandarin exudes tangible claustrophobia and an almost suffocating sexual tension. The composer evokes a modern vision – an alienating cityscape of glaring lights and blaring klaxons. However, the nightmarish and percussive violence of the score is made bearable by the richness of the orchestral colouring which, although consistently sinister, has several sensuous moments.

The programme also features the UK première of Keiko Abe’s The Wave. Originally commissioned to commemorate the 400-year relationship between Japan and the Netherlands and the resulting cross-cultural influences, this is only the second time that this piece has ever been performed, and we’re thrilled to welcome our award-winning alumnus Le Yu as guest soloist.

Tickets £15
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

9.45pm  Carole Nash Recital Room
Late-Night Spotlight: Sound Pictures – An Imagined Exhibition
Free admission, no ticket required

Sunday 3 May
7.30pm  RNCM Theatre

Crystal Chords

Crystal Chords celebrate 35 years of barbershop harmony, performing along with friends and guests to create a magical evening of a cappella music.

Tickets £15
Concessions available
Promoted by Crystal Chords Ladies Barbershop Harmony Club

6.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room
Spotlight: Harmonopoly Quartet – A showcase of traditional and modern barbershop music
Free admission, no ticket required
Monday 4 May
7.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room

BBC Radio 3
Young Artists’ Day

On May 4, BBC Radio 3 is celebrating the UK’s creative youth with a Young Artists’ Day. There will be a series of audio snapshots of some of today’s young artists already making a mark in their chosen artistic field, and music played throughout the day will focus on great recording artists and composers in their younger years. The RNCM is proud to collaborate with the BBC on this project.
Free admission, by ticket only
Promoted by RNCM in association with BBC Radio 3

Tuesday 5 May
7.30pm  RNCM Studio Theatre

rarescale
plus special guests from the RNCM

Music to include:
Salvatore Sciarrino  Muro d’orizzonte
Michael Oliva  Apparition and Release; Night Crossing
Adam Gorb  New work (world première)
Patrick Nunn  Maqamat
Paul Goodey  At the Speed of Days and Nights (world première)
Carla Rees  flutes
Paul Goodey  oboe, cor anglais
Sarah Watts  bass clarinet
Michael Oliva  electronics
with
Lynne Dawson  soprano
Catherine Yates  viola
Chris Hoyle  cello
Graham Scott  piano
David Bainbridge  guitar
Jan Wierzba  conductor

Rarescale is a contemporary chamber music ensemble which since its formation by Carla Rees in 2003 has gained an international reputation for its work promoting and creating new repertoire for alto and bass flute. Tonight’s concert features world premieres by Paul Goodey and Adam Gorb. We’re also delighted to welcome special guests Lynne Dawson, Chris Hoyle and Catherine Yates.
Tickets £6  £24.50  £19.50
No concessions
Promoted by Band on the Wall

Thursday 7 May
Doors 7.30pm  RNCM Theatre

Magma
The Endless Tour

French rock group Magma have captivated listeners with an explosive fusion of rock, jazz and classical composition since their debut album in 1970. Cited in Rolling Stone’s Best French Rock albums list for their 1973 album, Mekanik Destruktiv Kommandöh, their outlandish and experimental sound has earned them cult status.
Tickets £27.50  £24.50  £19.50
No concessions
Promoted by Band on the Wall

Sunday 10 May
8pm  RNCM Studio Theatre

Kate Simmons Productions
with the Soundscape Chamber Orchestra

Creation: Life: Death

Darius Milhaud  Création du Monde
Katie Chatburn/Adam Kornas  Life
Camille Saint-Saëns  Danse Macabre
Daniel Parkinson  conductor
Kate Simmons, Peter Parker, Emma Briggs  choreographers

A journey from beginning to end: dancers from KSDance Ltd join forces with musicians from the RNCM in this creative collaboration. Featuring a commissioned score from composers Katie Chatburn and Adam Kornas, as well as music by Milhaud and Saint-Saëns, this dance triple-bill promises to excite, entertain and inspire.
Tickets £10
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

Wednesday 13 May
7.30pm  RNCM Theatre

RNCM Jazz Collective

Jazz at the Movies

Mike Hall  director

Tonight, the RNCM Jazz Collective ramps it up with an evening of instantly recognisable cinematic tunes from the 1930s onwards. From Sing sing sing to James Bond across the decades to the theme from Rocky to The Pink Panther, it’s hooray for Hollywood!
Tickets £10
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 9 May
12.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall

Junior RNCM Formal Concert

A showcase performance featuring talented soloists from Junior RNCM.
Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

Promoted by Band on the Wall
Friday 15 May
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

Taraf de Haidouks
Expect riotous Romanian folk from the world’s greatest gypsy group, Taraf de Haidouks – literally ‘band of outlaws’. Their live shows burst with intense passion and overflowing energy, and with their new Crammed album Of Lovers, Gamblers and Parachute Skirts receiving a raft of four and five-star reviews, the band are truly on top form.

When presenting their BBC Radio 3 award for World Music, long-time admirer Johnny Depp stated: ‘Taraf de Haidouks are the greatest musicians I know – they play a music which expresses the most intense joy, and have this gift to make you feel alive.’

Tickets £20
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM in association with Serious

Saturday 16 May

From 12.30pm Various venues

Junior RNCM
New Music Day
New Music Day showcases the work of Junior RNCM composition students, with concerts featuring solo and chamber works as well as pieces written for the Junior RNCM New Music Ensemble. For full details, please contact the Junior RNCM on 0161 907 5264.

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 16 May

Doors 7pm RNCM Theatre

Eddi Reader
First hitting the limelight with the band Fairground Attraction, Eddi Reader is now established as one of the UK’s leading singer-songwriters. From the traditional to the contemporary, Eddi delivers truly emotional performances with her rare blend of melting vocals and towering romanticism.

Tickets £22.50
No concessions
www.eddireader.co.uk
Promoted by ARC / Gig Cartel

Saturday 17 May
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

The Hot Sardines
Take a blustery brass front line, add salty stride piano in the timeless image of Fats Waller and a frontwoman with the attitude and style of a 30s cabaret diva and you have The Hot Sardines in a seashell. And that’s not to mention the tap dancer!

The Sardine sound is steeped in hot jazz, gypsy swing – a slice of between-the-wars Paris via New Orleans. They’re sure to take the world by storm over the next few years – their debut album was just named in iTunes ‘Best of Year’ list.

London learned about their star quality at the EFG London Jazz Festival. Their two sold-out shows were flashy, fun and had the audience literally dancing in the aisles. The rest of the UK got a glimpse of the magic when they performed on the BBC’s Andrew Marr Show and now they’re back for a UK-wide tour to bring New York hot to halls all over the country.

Tickets £20
Concessions available
www.hotsardines.com
Promoted by RNCM in association with Serious

Saturday 23 May
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Jean-Efflam Bavouzet
RNCM Piano Recital Series
Music to include:
Pierre Boulez  Sonata No 1
Claude Debussy  Etudes Nos 1-5 Book 1
Maurice Ohana  Four Etudes
Maurice Ravel  Oiseaux tristes; Une barque sur l’océan; Alborada del graciioso

For the final concert in our French Piano Recital Series, we welcome Jean-Efflam Bavouzet back to the RNCM.

Following his recent performance with the BBC Philharmonic at The Bridgewater Hall, the Manchester Evening News’ review said that Bavouzet played Liszt’s Second Piano Concerto with ‘virtuoso panache…and alertness to its changing moods, from tenderness to bombast…’ Tonight’s programme includes some of Debussy’s last major works for piano plus Boulez’s Sonata No 1, written when the composer was just 21 years old.

Tickets £17 £14
Concessions available
www.rncm.ac.uk/pianoseries
Promoted by RNCM

+ 6.30pm Carole Nash Recital Room
Spotlight: Ravel and Honegger – 20th century French music for violin and cello duo
Free admission, no ticket required

Wednesday 27 May
5.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Tchaikovsky  Piano Concerto No 1

Promoted by RNCM

+ 8.30pm RNCM Café Bar
Lyre Night
Free admission, no ticket required
Saturday 23 May
8pm  RNCM Theatre

Thea Gilmore

Prolific singer-songwriter Thea Gilmore released her 14th album, Regardless, in 2013. She has collaborated with artists such as Joan Baez, Martha Wainwright, Sting and Eliza Carthy, and her ground-breaking 2011 album, Don’t Stop Singing - comprising settings of words by the late Sandy Denny - included the single London, used extensively in the BBC’s Olympic Games coverage.

Tickets  £22.50  £19.50
No concessions
www.theagilmore.net
Promoted by Edge Street Live

Monday 25 May
Doors 8pm  RNCM Concert Hall

Benjamin Clementine

English singer, poet and pianist Benjamin Clementine achieved cult status as a busker in the Metro stations of Paris. Three years on, he has refined his craft, drawing vocal similarities to Nina Simone and New York avant-gardists Antony and the Johnsons, coupled with the strikingly, sparse and beautiful piano influences of Erik Satie.

Tickets £15  £12
No concessions
Promoted by RNCM and 2 for the Road Events

Saturday 30 May
7.30pm  RNCM Theatre

Tango Siempre

Tangomotion

From virtuoso displays of traditional tango dance to the exquisite sounds of 1930s Buenos Aires and the powerful Nuevo Tango music of Astor Piazzolla, Tangomotion is a breathtaking journey into the heart of Tango Argentino. This show features four of the world’s leading tango dancers (Giraldo Escobar and Maria Tsiatsiani, Leonel Di Cocco and Natellia de Assuncacao) plus live music from Tango Siempre and transports the audience into the steamy salons of Buenos Aires...

Tickets £18  £15
Concessions available
www.tangomusic.co.uk
Promoted by RNCM

Sunday 31 May
8pm  RNCM Concert Hall

Nosferatu

Film Screening with Live Organ Accompaniment

Darius Battiwalla  organ

Following our sell-out screening of Charlie Chaplin’s Modern Times with live score, we present another fantastic film-related event. This time, we’re screening the massively influential 1922 silent classic, Nosferatu. (cert PG).

The mysterious Count Orlok summons Thomas Hutter to his remote Transylvanian castle in the mountains. The eerie Orlok seeks to buy a house near Hutter and his wife Ellen. After Orlok reveals his vampire nature, Hutter struggles to escape the castle, knowing that Ellen is in grave danger.

Tonight’s music will be provided by Darius Battiwalla, a tutor in Organ and Teaching Improvisation at the RNCM, who will improvise a live score on the RNCM Concert Hall’s Hradetsky Four Manual Concert Organ.

Darius has been improvising piano and organ accompaniments for silent films since 2008 and plays regularly at silent film events at the National Media Museum in Bradford.

Tickets £17  £14
Concessions available
www.dariusbattiwalla.com
Promoted by RNCM

Tuesday 2 June
7.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room

RNCM Viola Prize

The RNCM’s leading viola players compete for the annual Viola Prize which tonight is adjudicated by Simon Rowland-Jones.

Tickets £7
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM
RNCM Opera Scenes

RNCM singers further their on-stage experience in these performances of excerpts drawn from a wide variety of operas.
Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

**Thursday 4 June**
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

**RNCM Brass Band and Black Dyke Band**

Music to include:
Johannes Brahms (arr Wright) Academic Festival Overture
Martin Ellerby Concertino for Cornet
Paul Lovatt-Cooper Enter the Galaxies
Karl Jenkins (arr Small) The Armed Man
Ottorino Respighi (arr Snell) Two movements from Pines of Rome
Nicholas Childs conductor
Richard Marshall cornet
Jonathan Bates tenor horn
Christopher Binns trombone
Gary Curtin euphonium

Following their appearance at the RNCM Festival of Brass in January, the Black Dyke Band returns for the first of two shows at the RNCM this season. This bumpier evening of brass band music harnesses the joint forces of the RNCM Brass Band and Black Dyke Band, under the baton of Black Dyke’s Principal Conductor and Music Director, Professor Nicholas Childs.

This programme of popular brass repertoire has an unusual twist, as we see three RNCM brass students performing as guest soloists with the Black Dyke Band and Black Dyke’s Richard Marshall returning the favour with the RNCM Brass Band, with the two bands joining up for an impressive finale.

Tickets £10
Concessions available
www.blackdykeband.co.uk
Promoted by RNCM

**Friday 5 June**
1.15pm RNCM Concert Hall

**Friday Chamber Series**

Amici Bassoon Trio
J S Bach Adagio-Allegro from Sonata No 2 in D major BWV 1028
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Divertimento No 1 in B flat major K 439b
Robin Stevens Two movements from Sonata for three bassoons (world première)
Manuel Martinez Tango for three bassoons

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

**Friday 5 June**
7pm RNCM Studio Theatre

**Arden School of Theatre**

Truths and Lies

Truths and Lies is a re-imagining of Martin Scorsese’s film Shutter Island, newly devised for the live stage. Confusion multiplies as the original script is distorted, but not a single word is added.

Tickets £4
Concessions available
Promoted by The Manchester College

**Friday 5 June**
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

**Offenbach The Tales of Hoffmann**

After bringing the house down at their November 2014 show, the RNCM Session Orchestra returns by popular demand for a two-night residency, performing hits by Michael Jackson, Chic, Al Jarreau, Quincy Jones, Beyoncé, Bruno Mars and more.
Support is provided by Dommylaws and The Boys (Friday) and James Yezor (Saturday), both at 7pm, with the RNCM Session Orchestra taking to the stage at 8pm.

Tickets £10
Concessions available
Limited number of £2 tickets available for under 18s for the Friday night concert
Promoted by RNCM

**Sunday 7 June**
3pm RNCM Concert Hall

**Rob Buckland and Peter Lawson**

**Duality**

Rob Buckland saxophones
Peter Lawson piano
Simone Rebello percussion

Rob Buckland and Peter Lawson celebrate 25 years performing together with the release of their highly acclaimed new CD Duality, featuring music by Tim Garland, Barbara Thompson, Jason Rebello, Graham Fitkin, Andy Scott and Rob himself. A coming together of performer/composers, musicians with experience and understanding of the disciplines and freedoms of both worlds, and a consequent blurring of edges, create a music that defies traditional and outdated labels, and becomes a classical and jazz ‘duality’. This concert will showcase much of the music from the CD alongside some musical highlights from the last 25 years. Rob and Peter will be joined by special guests including percussionist Simone Rebello.

Tickets £10
Concessions available
www.robbuckland.com
Promoted by RNCM

**Tuesday 9 June**
7.30pm RNCM Studio Theatre

**The Joyce and Michael Kennedy Award for the Singing of Strauss**

Senior students from the RNCM School of Vocal Studies and Opera compete in the finals of this prestigious award, each singing a programme of Lieder or arias by Richard Strauss. This year’s adjudicating panel will be chaired by the celebrated baritone, Sir Thomas Allen.

Tickets £10
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

**Saturday 13 June**
7.30pm RNCM Studio Theatre

**Sunday 14 June**
2.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

**City of Manchester Opera**

**Ofenbach The Tales of Hoffmann**

Set against a backdrop of 1930s Berlin, Offenbach’s fantasy opera is bursting with wonderful music, including The Doll’s Song, the famous Barcarolle and the rumbustious students’ chorus. The three performances are fully staged with orchestral ensemble.

Tickets £18
Concessions available
Promoted by City of Manchester Opera
Saturday 13 June
From 10am  RNCM Concert Hall
RNCM Gold Medal Competition
The RNCM’s star performers and composers compete for an RNCM Gold Medal, the College’s most prestigious annual award, in a day of performances in front of a distinguished panel from across the music industry.

Ten performers give a 30-minute free choice programme throughout the day and there will also be the opportunity to hear new works by four selected composers, each written for the most recent winner of the RNCM Chamber Ensemble of the Year, A4 Brass Quartet.

For a detailed schedule including details of performers and programmes when it becomes available, please visit www.rncm.ac.uk/goldmedal

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

Wednesday 17 June
From 6.30pm  Carole Nash Recital Room
Spotlight Triple-Bill
Tonight, as part of our regular student series, the RNCM’s School of Vocal Studies and Opera presents a lyrical trio of concerts, from lutes through to Lieder, finishing with a newly truncated version of Mozart’s Marriage of Figaro!

6.30pm Art Songs of the 16th Century – English and French lute songs arranged for baritone and guitar
7.15pm Ein Liederabend – An Evening of Song at the Schumanns’
8pm Figaro in 50 minutes! – A condensed, modernised take on the Mozart opera

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 20 June
7.30pm  RNCM Theatre
Raghu Dixit
Often hailed as India’s biggest cultural and musical export, Raghu Dixit’s unique brand of infectious, happy music transcends age, genre and even language. His music is strongly rooted in Indian traditions and culture and has a very contemporary, global sound. He has played in numerous settings – from a crowd of over 100,000 people in his home state to every big music festival in India, from Glastonbury to Later… with Jools Holland and even in front of the entire British Royal Family!

Tickets £18
Concessions available
www.raghudixit.com
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 June
RNCM Keyboard Festival
Dancing Fingers: A Portrait of Russian Music
Themes of dance, fairytales, love and passion abound in this year’s festival of keyboard music from the great Russian masters, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov, Stravinsky, and Scriabin. Amongst the highlights are Prokofiev’s Romeo and Juliet with choreography from KS Dance Ltd; the storyteller Jan Blake narrating Peter and the Wolf; three concerts of Russian Preludes by Scriabin, Shostakovich and Rachmaninov; talks by Peter Hill and Sergei Dreznin; and some of the great works of Russian piano music, including Stravinsky’s Petrushka, Prokofiev’s Sonata No 7 and Rachmaninov’s Sonata No 2 and the Symphonic Dances, performed by students from the RNCM, Chetham’s School of Music, the Purcell School, and the Russian pianist Dmitri Alexeev.

For full details, visit www.rncm.ac.uk/keyboardfestival

HIGHLIGHTS
Saturday 20 June
7.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall
Symphonic Dances
Sergei Prokofiev
Cinderella (excerpts) for two pianos; Sonata No 7 in B flat major Op 83; Etude-Tableaux Op 39 Nos 2, 5 and 9; Symphonic Dances for two pianos Op 45
Ryan Drucker, Victor Lim, Egle Sarmaviciute, Yulia Vershinina, Denis Zhidanov piano
Tickets £10
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

Sunday 21 June
11am  Carole Nash Recital Room
Peter and the Wolf narrated by Jan Blake
Sergei Prokofiev  Peter and the Wolf Op 67
Jan Blake narrator
Olga Jegunova piano
Tickets £4 adults. Admission for children is free, by ticket only, accompanied by an adult.

12.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall
Romeo and Juliet with KS Dance Ltd
Sergei Prokofiev  10 pieces from Romeo and Juliet Op 75
Tickets £4 adults. Admission for children is free, by ticket only, accompanied by an adult.

7pm  RNCM Concert Hall
Dmitri Alexeev
Nikolai Medtner  Sonata-Reminiscenza in A minor Op 38 No 1; Improvisation in B flat minor Op 31 No 1
Sergei Prokofiev  Old Grandmother’s Tales Op 31; Sarcasms Op 17
Alexander Scriabin  Mazurkas Op 3 Nos 7 and 9; 4 Preludes Op 22; 2 Poems Op 69; Valse Op 38
Sergei Rachmaninov  Sonata No 2 in B flat minor Op 36
Tickets £15
Concessions available

Festival Ticket £50
Saturday Ticket £30
Sunday Ticket £30
Promoted by RNCM
**Seven Gates: The Music of Poland Explored**

Join the RNCM as it goes on its journey of discovery of Polish Music through seven distinct gates. With works by Penderecki, Lutosławski, Gorecki, Szymanowski and Zubel, as well as film and influences as seen through new compositions reflecting on, and inspired by, Polish compositional thought and research, we enter a world which has changed our perception and use of tone of sound as one of the main parameters of new composition.

For full details, visit [www.rncm.ac.uk/sevengates](http://www.rncm.ac.uk/sevengates)

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**Tuesday 23 June**

**Carole Nash Recital Room**

**Lunchtime Concert**

Paul Patterson  
PPP (Penderecki’s Party Piece)  
Op 1 for violin and piano  
Krzysztof Penderecki  
Three Miniatures for clarinet and piano  
Agata Zubel  
Shades of Ice for clarinet, cello and electronics  
Witold Lutosławski  
Dance Preludes for clarinet and piano

**11.15am**  
Free admission, no ticket required

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**RNCM Studio Theatre**

**RNCM Composers Concert**

A performance of new works by RNCM composers inspired by the music of Poland.

**7.30pm**  
Free admission, no ticket required

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**Wednesday 24 June**

**Carole Nash Recital Room**

**Lunchtime Concert**

Music to include:  
Krzysztof Penderecki  
Violin Sonata No 1  
Karol Szymanowski  
Maski Op 34

**11.15am**  
Free admission, no ticket required

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**RNCM Concert Hall**

**RNCM New Ensemble**

Witold Lutosławski  
Chain 1  
Agata Zubel  
Suites of a Human City  
Krzysztof Penderecki  
Agnus Dei for eight cellos  
Aled Smith  
New work  
Henryk Górecki  
Concerto for harpsichord and string quartet  
Mark Heron, Adam Kornas  
conductors

**7.30pm**  
Tickets £8  
Concessions available

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**Friday 26 June**

**The Bridgewater Hall**

**RNCM Symphony Orchestra, Chorus and Chamber Choir**

Krzysztof Penderecki  
Entrata  
Witold Lutosławski  
Concerto for Piano and Orchestra  
Krzysztof Penderecki  
Symphony No 7 “Seven Gates of Jerusalem” (UK premiere)  
Krzysztof Penderecki  
conductor  
Piero Lombardi Iglesias  
assistant conductor  
Dominic Degavino  
piano

One of Krzysztof Penderecki’s greatest monumental works, his Seventh Symphony calls for massive orchestral forces, offstage woodwind and brass, 3 choirs, 5 soloists and narrator. Commissioned for the third millennium celebration of the city of Jerusalem, this work is rarely performed due to the sheer forces required and remains one of the most powerful and dramatic of Penderecki’s ouvres. We are honoured that tonight, this will be conducted by the composer himself.

**Tickets £18  £15**  
Concessions available  
Supported by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute as part of the Polska Music programme  
Promoted by the RNCM
Thursday 25 June
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

Black Dyke Band and New York Staff Band of the Salvation Army

Edward Elgar Nimrod
Paul Lovatt-Cooper Fire in the Blood
Arr Goff Richards Breezin’ Down Broadway
Peter Graham Shine as the light
Martin Cordner Americana
Bruce Broughton Alone yet not alone
Chick Corea La Fiesta

These two renowned bands from either side of the Atlantic Ocean perform their own programmes before sharing the platform for an historic finale of brass band music.

Tickets £12
Concessions available
Promoted by Black Dyke Band

Friday 26 June
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Emily Portman Trio

Emily Portman is the 2013 holder of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Award for Best Original Song, an accolade which reflects her power to lure listeners into a complex and darkly surreal netherworld, conjuring a dark and brooding realm. Her ethereal voice and the trio’s enchanting harmonies belie a world of dark storytelling, cruel deeds and sordid city landscapes, part inspired by traditional balladry and part by rich literary sources, from the myth of Leda and the Swan to the magical realism of Angela Carter. The trio, featuring Emily, Lucy Farrell and Rachel Newton bewitches audiences with sirenic harmonies and haunting arrangements for harp, concertina, banjo, strings and saw.

Tickets £15
Concessions available
www.emilyportman.co.uk
Promoted by Senbla Ltd

Saturday 27 June
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

Ron Sexsmith

Enchanting Canadian singer-songwriter Ron Sexsmith celebrates 20 years since the release of his self-titled debut album.

Tickets £29.50
No concessions
www.ronsexsmith.com
Promoted by Senbla Ltd

Saturday 27 June
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Manchester Beethoven Orchestra

Carl Maria von Weber Der Freischütz Overture
Edward Grieg Piano Concerto in A minor Op 16
Antonín Dvořák Symphony No 5 in F major Op 76

Tickets £10
No concessions
Promoted by Manchester Beethoven Orchestra

Sunday 28 June
11am – 4pm Various venues

RNCM Family Day
Musical Tales

For our Summer Family Day we’re delighted to be joining forces with MMU’s Manchester Children’s Book Festival to bring you a feast of music and stories for all ages. Join us for an interactive day of creative activities, talks from children’s authors, storytelling, face-painting and live music that will have you tapping your feet all the way home.

For full details, visit www.rncm.ac.uk/summerfamilyday

Tickets £5 adults. Admission for children is free, by ticket only, accompanied by an adult.
Suitable for ages 3 and above
Promoted by RNCM in association with Manchester Children’s Book Festival

Sunday 28 June
3pm RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM Alumni Reunion Concert

Former members of the School of Vocal Studies and Opera reunite in a special gala concert of much-loved opera arias and ensembles.

An illustrious cast including sopranos Julia Meliniek, Anne O’Byrne, Helen Ogden, Gail Pearson, Mary Plazas and Linda Richardson, mezzo-sopranos Sian Wyn Gibson, Madeleine Gray, Julie Mellor, Sara Louisa Parry and Kate Radvilovic, tenors Michael Bennett, Cato Fordham and Hugo Mallet, baritones Carl Donohue, David Ellis and Wyn Pencarreg, and bass Richard Wiegold are joined by former RNCM student accompanists David Fisk and Robin Humphreys. Proceeds from the concert will be donated to the RNCM’s Student Awards Fund, which supports the next generation of world-class musicians by providing scholarships and bursaries.

Tickets £10
Concessions available
Promoted by David Fisk and RNCM

Monday 29 June
7.30pm Carole Nash Recital Room

Christopher Rowland
RNCM Chamber Ensemble of the Year

Tonight’s competition brings together the winners of each of the RNCM’s chamber music prizes, held over the course of the academic year, to compete for this prestigious annual award. The proceeds from tonight’s competition go towards the Christopher Rowland International Masterclass Fund.

Tickets £9
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM
Wednesday 1 July
7.30pm  RNCM Studio Theatre

Life Stories
An Opera Double-Bill
by Tim Benjamin

Three centuries apart, two lives and two deaths: lives lived well or lives wasted?

We present a double-bill of new one-act operas by Tim Benjamin with words by Anton Chekhov and Anthony Peter, featuring the sensational voices of Taylor Wilson and James Fisher and performed by Radius, creators of Emily and Madame X.

Tickets  £12
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM

Thursday 2 July
7.30pm  RNCM Concert Hall

Mise en Scène
A Staged, Interactive and Multi-sensory Triple-Bill
Berlioz, Poulenc, Vaughan Williams

Hector Berlioz  Les nuits d’été
Francis Poulenc  Sinfonietta
Ralph Vaughan Williams  Songs of Travel

Clark Rundell  conductor
RNCM Chamber Orchestra
Saoirse Higgins, Fabrizio Cocchiarella  MMU concept design co-ordinators
Nick Ware  lighting designer

A new interactive sensory experience with atmospheric effects, projections, images and light that will transport and enhance a unique theatrical concert experience of Berlioz’s Les Nuits d’été, Vaughan Williams’ Songs of Travel and Poulenc’s Sinfonietta. This is a unique collaboration with the art and design students of Manchester School of Art to reinterpret the works for our RNCM Concert Hall on 2 July.

As rehearsals and creative ideas develop leading up to the performance, the MSOA students will reinterpret the operatic songs in immersive city interventions along the transport network. This will culminate in a live theatre event with the RNCM that travels the city transport network in collaboration with Transport for Greater Manchester as part of the Manchester After Hours Festival on 14 May.

Tickets  £18  £15
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM in association with Manchester School of Art, Manchester Metropolitan University and Transport for Greater Manchester

Friday 3 July
7.30pm  RNCM Theatre

RNCM Big Band
with Colin Towns
Sound and Vision

For our Summer Big Band show, we welcome back a prolific musician/composer/arranger/big band leader – Colin Towns – for a fascinating evening made up of two very different projects.

The show opens with a performance of Towns’ The Orpheus Suite which was written in 2004 for Birmingham Royal Ballet. Choreographer David Bintley took the Orpheus story and adapted it to Duke Ellington – so the Argonauts were transformed into a jazz band, the original ship became the train that Duke and his band used as a hotel when touring the South and the snake poison became the drugs sometimes used by the musicians.

Colin’s second set is based on his work Hamburg Harbour Sound & Vision. Originally written for the NDR Bigband, this multi-media project is a tribute to the port of Hamburg and explores the city as a living organism. The RNCM Big Band will perform the piece in front of the backdrop of the original film, under the baton of the composer himself.

Tickets  £18  £15
Concessions available
www.colintowns.com
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 4 July
From 10.15am  Various venues

Junior RNCM Performance Day

Performance Day profiles the work of the full range of Junior RNCM ensembles, including Symphony Orchestra, Brass Band and Foundation Section as well as Wind, Vocal, Percussion and Jazz Ensembles. For full details, contact the Junior RNCM on 0161 907 5264.

Free admission, no ticket required

+ 6.30pm  RNCM Studio Theatre
Spotlight: Gravity Percussion – A World of Rhythm
Free admission, no ticket required
Saturday 4 July
1.30pm RNCM Theatre

RNCM Concert Orchestra
Dmitri Shostakovich Festival Overture
Alberto Ginastera Estancia
Stanley Myers Concerto for Soprano Saxophone
George Gershwin Strike Up The Band
Garry Walker conductor
Daniel Parkinson assistant conductor
Michael Jackson saxophone

For this Saturday lunchtime event, the RNCM Concert Orchestra is joined by RNCM alumnus Michael Jackson, who will perform Stanley Myers’ swansong, a piece that demonstrated the rich possibilities of symphonic jazz at the end of the 20th century. Originally written for John Harle and receiving its world première in Florida in 1992, Mike contacted Harle directly when he was having difficulty choosing a piece for the RNCM Concerto Competition. Harle agreed to send over the score and saxophone part for Mike to audition with, which had been in storage since it was recorded in 1995 and hadn’t been played publicly since.

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by RNCM

Saturday 4 July
7pm RNCM Concert Hall

Macclesfield Youth Brass Band

The combined forces of Macclesfield Youth Brass Bands and Drum Corps perform a programme including a new work by Lucy Pankhurst, specially commissioned to celebrate their 10th anniversary.

Tickets £5
Concessions available
Promoted by Macclesfield Youth Brass Band

Sunday 5 July
12.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

China Xi’an High-Tech International School Wind Band

Free admission, no ticket required
Promoted by Xi’an High-Tech International School

Tuesday 7 – Thursday 9 July
7.15pm RNCM Concert Hall

One Education Music Showcase
This series of concerts showcases the musical talent of local school groups and ensembles from One Education’s out-of-school activities programme.

Tickets £5
Concessions available
Promoted by One Education Music

Friday 10 July
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Wigan Youth Orchestra

This symphony orchestra is one of Wigan Music Service’s senior ensembles, serving to provide its members with a high quality orchestral training experience.

Tickets £7
Concessions available
Promoted by Wigan Music Service

Saturday 18 July
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Cantare and Greater Manchester Police Male Voice Choirs

Bob Chilcott A Little Jazz Mass
Gabriel Fauré Requiem in D minor Op 48
Chris Roe Visions of Paradise

Two local choirs come together to perform two contrasting pieces of the choral repertoire alongside a specially commissioned work by emerging composer Chris Roe.

Tickets £15
Concessions available
Promoted by Cantare and Greater Manchester Police Male Voice Choirs

Sunday 19 July
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

Sun Kil Moon
Ex-Reverend Painters’ vocalist and guitarist, Mark Kozelek, returns to the UK after last year’s critically acclaimed and beautifully crafted album, Benji.

Tickets £25
No concessions
Promoted by DHP Family

Tuesday 4 August
8pm RNCM Theatre

Stuart McCallum
Support: Alice Zawadzki
Manchester Jazz Festival

Stuart McCallum guitar
Robin Mullerkey bass
Richard Spaven drums
John Ellis keyboards
+ String quartet and special guest vocalists

Alice Zawadzki voice, violin
Alex Roth guitar
Pete Lee piano, synthesizer
Tom McCredie bass
Jon Scott drums
+ String quartet

The first of this year’s series of mjf concerts unites two fast-rising stars of the contemporary UK jazz scene – artists who hold close affiliations with Manchester and who have made the city a core part of their current artistic output. They have each chosen to enrich these performances of their recorded work with lush new string arrangements for mjf.

Opening the evening, Alice’s love song to Manchester, China Lane, is influenced by magic, fairytales, obsession, the whimsical, mischief, inebriation, loss, exodus and above all, love itself. Alice creates an atmosphere where listeners can sail into a place where fantasy meets reality, and where total stillness meets night-time beats.

For the second half, Manchester’s Stuart McCallum launches his new Naim Label album; written by McCallum and produced by drummer, Richard Spaven, whom McCallum met playing with the Cinematic Orchestra, it moves away from the lush, layered loops of his last recording, Distilled.

Using grooves that blend contemporary jazz and bass-heavy down-tempo electronics, McCallum’s new work leaves your head nodding and feet tapping, with its layered guitar harmonies, synth pads and soulful vocal lines from some very special surprise guest vocalists.

Tickets £15 £25
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM and Manchester Jazz Festival

+ 6.30pm RNCM Studio Theatre
RNCM/mjf introduces: James Girling Quintet
Sponsored by Manchester Arndale
Free admission, by ticket only
Thursday 6 August
8pm RNCM Concert Hall

Iain Ballamy and The Pepper Street Orchestra with Matthew Sweeney and Dave McKean: An Ape’s Progress
Manchester Jazz Festival

Iain Ballamy saxophones
Emilia Mårtensson voice
Kit Downes piano
Stian Carstensen accordion, banjo, pedal steel
Matthew Sharpe cello
Matthew Sweeney poetry
Dave McKean film, visuals

To celebrate the 20th Manchester Jazz Festival and the 10th Manchester Literature Festival, the festivals have joined forces to present the world premiere of a major new commission. In what is sure to be an unmissable festival highlight three established and critically acclaimed artists come together for this unique, multi-media performance which combines words, music and visual art/film to mesmerising effect.

Saxophonist and composer Iain Ballamy – known abroad as ‘the fantastic Englishman’ – is internationally recognised as an original, free-thinking and uncompromising musician producing work that is eclectic, contemporary and unencumbered by formality and tradition. Matthew Sweeney is an acclaimed Irish poet and consummate storyteller. His work is famed for its strong sense of noirish filmic narrative and his poems for this piece are inspired by time spent in Manchester absorbing and reflecting on its people and places. Dave McKean is an illustrator, photographer, comic book artist, graphic designer and filmmaker. His work incorporates drawing, painting, photography, collage and sculpture and his collaborators have included Richard Dawkins, Alice Cooper, Neil Gaiman, Tori Amos and Michael Nyman.

The music – marked by Ballamy’s trademark lyrical and spacious melodies and warmth of tone – is realised by an international group of distinctive voices, including the remarkable, dazzling Norwegian virtuoso Stian Carstensen, the pure-toned Swedish vocalist Mårtensson and the young British Mercury contender and keyboard maestro Downes.

Tickets £17  £12
Concessions available
Supported by The Foyle Foundation and Granada Foundation
Promoted by RNCM and Manchester Jazz Festival in association with Manchester Literature Festival

6.30pm RNCM Studio Theatre
RNCM/mjf introduces: KalaKuta
Sponsored by Manchester Arndale
Free admission, by ticket only

Saturday 8 August
8pm RNCM Theatre

Robert Glasper Trio
Manchester Jazz Festival

Robert Glasper piano, voice
Vicente Archer bass
Damion Reid drums

Robert Glasper has emerged in recent years as a massively influential musical force, as jazz expands its horizons for a new generation. Pianist, bandleader, composer, producer, he combines the language of the jazz mainstream with an edgy command of the urban music landscape. A string of recent recordings for Blue Note – including the Grammy-winning Black Radio 1, have set a new benchmark for jazz in the 21st century, featuring collaborations with hip-hop and R’n’B stars ranging from Jill Scott and Emeli Sandé to Snoop Dogg, Lupe Fiasco and Common. In 2015, Glasper returns to the acoustic piano trio format that characterised his early breakthrough with a brand new recording that creates a dynamic and hypnotic tension between his free-wheeling improvisation and tight and irresistible grooves.

Glasper’s rich musical journey began in Houston Texas, growing up in a household where Motown, R’n’B and gospel were constant companions. His mother sang and played piano in church, whilst indulging her love for blues and jazz around the local club circuit – soon joined by her pre-teen son, who went on to study and perform as a sideman with Christian McBride and Terence Blanchard as well as Maxwell and GTip. His breakthrough as a leader came with 2005’s recording for Blue Note, Canvas.

Tickets £20
Concessions available
Promoted by RNCM and Manchester Jazz Festival in association with Serious

7.45pm RNCM Concert Hall
International Choral Gala

An evening of choral music performed by the Academic Students’ choir of the Ural Federal University, York University’s The 24, and Cambiata North West.

Tickets £20 £15
Concessions available
Promoted by ABCD

Saturday 29 August
2pm RNCM Concert Hall

Association of British Choral Directors
Come and Sing with John Rutter

Singers of all ages and experience are invited to join John Rutter in an exploration of his music and other favourites.

Tickets £10, Free for under 18s
Concessions available

7.45pm RNCM Concert Hall
International Choral Gala
COMING SOON

Thursday 15 October
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Colin Towns Mask Orchestra
Theatre and drama form the inspiration for bandleader Colin Towns’ latest project with his Mask Orchestra, with a line-up featuring a who’s who of jazz’s finest alongside hand-picked players of the new generation. Inspired by and featuring original music from productions of classic plays including One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest, Equus and Macbeth, to contemporary work including Terry Johnson’s Hysteria, this live show proceeds an album due for release in September.

Friday 30 October
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

RNCM Symphony Orchestra
Music to include:
- Maurice Ravel: Piano Concerto in G major
- Alexander Scriabin: Poème de l’extase Op 54
- Igor Stravinsky: The Firebird

Culminating a focus on the music of Alexander Scriabin, our first Symphony Orchestra concert of the year features the composer’s evocative Piano Concerto in G major, culminating with a focus on the music of Alexander Scriabin, our first Symphony Orchestra concert of the year featuring the composer’s evocative Piano Concerto in G major, depicting the trial and execution of Joan of Arc.

Saturday 31 October
7.30pm RNCM Theatre

RNCM Big Band
Directed by Mike Hall, the RNCM Big Band pays tribute to the American jazz legend Billy Strayhorn in his centenary year.

Tuesday 24 November
7.30pm RNCM Concert Hall

Orlando Consort
La Passion de Jeanne d’Arc (1928)
The world-renowned vocal consort performs a live soundtrack of 15th century music to Carl Theodor Dreyer’s 1928 silent movie, La Passion de Jeanne d’Arc, depicting the trial and execution of Joan of Arc.

Wednesday 2, Friday 4, Sunday 6, Monday 7, Thursday 10, Saturday 12 December
RNCM Theatre

Street Scene
Kurt Weill
Our December opera production is the American composer Kurt Weill’s 1946 ‘Broadway Opera’ Street Scene. Weill considered the score his masterpiece, and The Arts Desk describes it as ‘An exhilarating blend of Puccini-esque melody, bright, brassy, impudent jazz, brooding blues and sparkly Broadway showtunes… This is a pungent, gutsy work of music theatre, pulsating to the relentless rhythm of irrepressible urban life.’

Keep in touch with updates on www.rncm.ac.uk/whats-on

RNCM on the Road
RNCM ensembles and soloists perform regularly at prestigious venues and festivals throughout the UK. Over recent years, our musicians have performed at The Bridgewater Hall, Wigmore Hall, Royal Festival Hall, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Royal Albert Hall, and at major festivals including Huddersfield, Deal, Buxton, Chester, Lichfield, and Salisbury, as well as providing musicians for ongoing series at Buxton Opera House and Nottingham Theatre Royal.

Here are the highlights of our travels this Summer:

Monday 27 April
1pm St Martin-in-the-Fields, London

Abbandonata
Abbandonata – a baroque ensemble made up of RNCM performers Cally Youdell, Matthew Fields, Emma van Schoonhoven and Thiago Santos – perform at London’s iconic St Martin-in-the-Fields as part of a festival of Handel’s music.

Saturday 30 May
3pm Salisbury Methodist Church

Sullivan Quartet
The RNCM’s Sullivan Quartet perform Dvořák’s String Quartet No 11 in this recital as part of the Aegeas Salisbury International Arts Festival.

Thursday 4 June and Saturday 6 June

RNCM International Artist Diploma Artists
with Manchester Camerata
The RNCM’s annual showcase at the MBNA Chester Music Festival, featuring the RNCM’s top conductors and International Artist Diploma soloists.

Thursday 4 June
8pm Chester Cathedral

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Symphony No 26 in E flat major K 184/161a; Piano Concerto No 24 in C minor K 491; Piano Concerto No 23 in A major K 488; Symphony No 36 in C major K 425

Harish Shankar, Jan Wierzęba conductors
Alexander Panfilov, Denis Zhdanov piano

Saturday 6 June
8pm Chester Cathedral

Joseph Haydn: Symphony No 49 in F minor Hob I:49 ‘La Passione’
C P E Bach: Flute Concerto in D minor Wq 22
Malcolm Arnold: Concerto No 1 for flute and strings Op 45
Franz Schubert: Symphony No 5 in B flat major D 485

Stefan Morris, Daniel Parkinson conductors
Felix Niël, Kathryn Williams flute

Tickets from www.chestermusicfestival.co.uk

The RNCM also provides musicians for regular concert series at Emmanuel Church in Didsbury, St Ann’s Church in Manchester City Centre and Whitworth Art Gallery on Oxford Road.

Didsbury Coffee Concerts
Emmanuel Church, Didsbury
Concerts take place on Saturday mornings at 11am
25 April, 27 May, 23 June, 20 June, 4 July, 18 July

St Ann’s Piano Recital Series
St Ann’s Church, Manchester
Concerts take place on Saturday afternoons at 3pm
2 May, 9 May, 27 June

St Ann’s Chamber Music Series
St Ann’s Church, Manchester
Concerts take place on Wednesday lunchtimes at 1pm
29 April, 20 May, 10 June

Whitworth Art Gallery
RNCM/Gina Miller Series
Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road
Concerts take place on Sunday afternoons at 3pm
26 April, 10 May, 24 May, 14 June

Looking for musicians?
The RNCM’s Professional Engagements team co-ordinates a large number of engagements on behalf of music societies, clubs, companies and individuals throughout the year. Performances range from formal recitals, soloists for choral societies and for concerts, through to background music for weddings and events, and incorporate a wide range of styles from classical to jazz.
Contact the Professional Engagements Team on 0161 907 3352 or janet.dunnett@rncm.ac.uk for further details.

For further information:
www.rncm.ac.uk
Support the RNCM
On 31 January, John Wilson and friends performed the third ‘Piano Spectacular’ concert in support of the John Wilson Junior Fellowship in Accompaniment. We raised over £12,000, which goes directly to supporting talented young students of piano accompaniment.
Piano accompaniment is a crucial and highly specialist area of expertise which benefits students from all areas of the conservatoire, from auditions and classes to final assessed recitals. The Junior Fellowship supports accompanists at a most vulnerable time, when they are stepping out of full-time conservatoire education and working to establish their career. This is a time when talent is easily lost to us, as young people struggle to balance generating an income with gaining experience, making connections and honing their skills.
If you were not able to attend the concert but would still like to donate to the Fund, please contact linda.begbie@rncm.ac.uk or call 0161 907 5338.

RNCM Postgraduate Student Final Recitals
Various Venues
Friends are warmly invited to attend the final recitals of the following outstanding students.
Friday 15 May 5.05pm Rosanna Harris (UK, soprano)
Thursday 21 May 3pm Michaela Parry (UK, soprano)
Wednesday 27 May 3.30pm Mikhail Nemtsov (Russia, cello)
Wednesday 27 May 4.40pm Abel Selaocoe (South Africa, cello)
Thursday 28 May 5.10pm Alexander Mitchell (UK, viola)
Free admission. RSVP linda.begbie@rncm.ac.uk or call 0161 907 5338. Booking essential.
Saturday 30 May 5.30pm RNCM Theatre
Tango Siempre
Tango Siempre are the UK’s leading tango company. Since 1998 they have toured projects that range from traditional tango dance shows to vibrant collaborations with orchestras, contemporary dance companies and internationally acclaimed jazz musicians. Ahead of the evening’s performance in the RNCM Theatre, join Tango Siempre at the end of their afternoon rehearsal in the RNCM Theatre and learn more about what drives their distinctive, collaborative, colourful style. Friends are invited to enter the Theatre from 5.30pm to watch the group work. Rehearsal will finish at 6pm, when Tango Siempre will greet Friends and chat informally until 6.30pm.
Free admission, by ticket only.
Tickets available from the RNCM Box Office.

RNCM Friends Events
Wednesday 29 April
2pm Carole Nash Recital Room
Stephen Hough Piano Clinic
Join students from the School of Keyboard Studies as they are coached by the RNCM International Chair in Piano Studies, who himself studied at the RNCM. Stephen Hough is now a world-renowned poet, painter, thinker and writer, as well as distinguished concert pianist.
Free admission, by ticket only. Tickets available from the RNCM Box Office.

Research Forums at the RNCM
Come along for some refreshing mental stimulation, hopefully in an area of musical activity that you may not be that familiar with yet. Research Forums are FREE and open to the public, RNCM staff and guest speakers give presentations on an aspect of their work - whether it’s musicological, creative, educational, music-psychological or other kinds of research. The talks last about 45 minutes and then the floor is open for questions and discussion.
This Summer, we’ll be exploring:
Wednesday 25 March
5.15pm Forman Lecture Theatre
Dr Emily Howard (RNCM) and Dr Matthew Sergeant (RNCM)
m62: From Liverpool to Leeds via Paris

Wednesday 22 April
5.15pm Forman Lecture Theatre
Dr Michelle Castelletti (RNCM)
Re-discovered = Re-constructed = Re-born Mahler’s 18th Symphony

Wednesday 29 April
5.15pm Forman Lecture Theatre
Dr David Vickers (RNCM)
Handel’s Last Prima Donna: Rediscovering and Exploring the Repertoire of Giulia Frasi

Wednesday 6 May
4pm Forman Lecture Theatre
Research Students’ Symposium

Research Students’ Symposium
Wednesday 13 May
4pm Forman Lecture Theatre
Research Students’ Symposium

Wednesday 20 May
4pm Forman Lecture Theatre
Research Students’ Symposium
Open to all, free admission, no ticket required. You can read more about these sessions at www.rncm.ac.uk/researchforums

Learning and Participation
The Learning and Participation team engages with the RNCM’s wider community through a year-round programme of events including an annual Children’s Opera Project, Family Days which are held termly, and the Youth Perform musical theatre group which runs on Wednesday evenings and is a low-cost, non-audition group for all young people of secondary school age. In addition the Learning and Participation team designs bespoke projects for a range of community groups and is always happy to discuss new ideas.
To find out more about any of our projects contact Fiona Stuart on 0161 907 5281 or communityoutreach@rncm.ac.uk or visit www.rncm.ac.uk/communityoutreach.
The RNCM Learning and Participation team is grateful for the support of the Eric and Margaret Kinder Charitable Trust.

Mahler’s 10th Symphony
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Booking Information

Booking online
www.rncm.ac.uk/whats-on

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.

Payment
Payment can be made by cash, Mastercard, Visa or Maestro.

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.

Concessions
Concessions are available for events where the RNCM is the promoter. For all other events please contact the Box Office for precise details of concessions as they vary according to the event promoter. All concessions are subject to availability and it is advisable to book well in advance to ensure the seats you require are available. Please note that proof of concession will be required. For further details please check with the Box Office or visit www.rncm.ac.uk/discounts

Ticket Exchange & Refunds
Exchanges may only be made under current guidelines. Contact the Box Office or visit www.rncm.ac.uk/exchanges for full details. Refunds are only made in the case of a cancelled performance.

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

Flexible Series
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 logo).

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 to a diverse range of concerts from as little as £3. InB Tickets are subject to availability and prices may vary depending on the event.) For more information and to sign up for the latest offers, please visit www.facebook.com/sonicmanchester.

Email & Mailing List
Keep in touch with events at the RNCM by joining our free mailing list for regular updates. Sign up at www.rncm.ac.uk/mailinglist or contact the Box Office for details.

RNCM Historic Instrument Collection
The RNCM Historic Instrument Collection is located in the basement of the Library part of the College building (to the left of the main entrance on Booth Street West). It can be accessed using the staircase behind the Box Office or by the lift situated opposite the RNCM Library. Summer 2015 opening hours can be found at www.rncm.ac.uk/instrumentcollection

Artists and programmes are correct at the time of going to press and we reserve the right to change artists and/or programmes without notice if necessary.

We aim to deliver a quality events programme with efficient and courteous service. If you have any comments please contact Head of Marketing & Communications, RNCM, 124 Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9RD.

Artistic Proposals
We are always interested to hear your suggestions for future programming. If you have an artistic proposal you would like us to consider, please email Richard Collins, Programming Manager, at richard.collins@rncm.ac.uk

Access
All public spaces and facilities (with the exception of the balconies within the Concert Hall) are accessible to wheelchair users (via lifts).

Large print and audio versions of this brochure are available from 0161 907 5555 or box.office@rncm.ac.uk

Guide dogs are welcome, please inform the Box Office when booking your ticket. The RNCM Concert Hall and RNCM Theatre are fitted with hearing assistance systems and receivers (available from the Front of House team on request). Receivers can be used in conjunction with a standard hearing aid in the ‘T’ position or an earpiece provided. The RNCM Studio Theatre, Carole Nash Recital Room and Forman Lecture Theatre are fitted with induction loops (hearing aids should be switched to the ‘T’ position). Free parking is 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.

How to find us
The RNCM is located on the corner of Oxford Road and Booth Street West. Oxford Road connects the RNCM by bus to the City Centre, Piccadilly and Victoria train stations. Oxford Road station is a 15 minute walk away. Go to www.tfgm.com for details of public transport in the Greater Manchester area.

Parking
(1) The RNCM car park is located next to the College in the basement of the Sir Charles Groves Hall of Residence, off Rosamund Street West. Open from 5pm weekday evenings and anytime over weekends and bank holidays, costing £3.50 (payable on entry). Closed at 11.30pm.

(2) The University of Manchester Booth Street car park is situated off Booth Street West. Open 6am - midnight.

(3) The Aquatics Centre car park is situated off Booth Street East. Open 6am - 11pm.

www.rncm.ac.uk/seatingplans
Looking for a venue?

The RNCM has a wide selection of excellent purpose-built spaces to hire for every type of event, performance or conference. Following a £7.1 million refurbishment project completed in November 2014, our largest spaces have now been revitalised with excellent back of house facilities and the latest technical set-up including a new lighting rig and sound equipment.

Our venues:

The **RNCM CONCERT HALL** has been completely refurbished with additional seating capacity, air conditioning, new interior and an updated technical fit out. The new space has a variety of flexible options for your event with layouts including 445 capacity seating on Level One, 610 capacity seating with our new Balcony and Oglesby Balcony open, or even up to 730 capacity seating with a reduced stage size for amplified bands and small ensembles (NB – please speak to our Events Manager for further details about the 730 layout). This unique octagonal performance space also contains a Hradetsky Four Manual Concert Organ, a variety of dressing room spaces suitable for very large ensembles and a private soloists’ room, a separate lighting box area, new discrete multicore runs and fly motors for ease of rigging equipment, all with easy access for a flat floor load—in and parking for buses and trucks.

The **RNCM THEATRE** boasts one of the largest black box stages in Manchester with ample wing space, orchestra pit, lighting box area and space for a sound desk in addition to the seated capacity. Along with these features, it also benefits from the newly refurbished backstage area including access to all the new dressing room spaces, technical equipment and loading area. There are 607 seats in the Theatre with an option to place additional audience seating over the orchestra pit, taking the total maximum capacity to 657 seats.

The **RNCM STUDIO THEATRE** is a flexible black box space which has an audience capacity of up to 140 seats. The space is equipped with projector, screen and a flexible lighting rig, suitable for a variety of events from theatre to talks to music performances. It has two private dressing rooms attached to the space and can be configured in a variety of set-ups from Theatre Style, Cabaret or even In The Round.

The **CAROLE NASH RECITAL ROOM** is a stunning shoebox venue which has up to 110 seats in a Theatre Style configuration. The room has a wonderful acoustic making it a great venue for smallscale performances as well as being a beautiful room for conferences and catering receptions. It is equipped with one private dressing room, projector, screen and a small lighting rig.

The **FORMAN LECTURE THEATRE** has a 150 capacity and has been completely updated following the refurbishment project. It comes equipped with projector, screen and is ideal for pre-concert talks, discussions and presentations.

The RNCM also has a wide range of smaller spaces suitable for social functions, events, dinners, rehearsals or conferences.

For dates and rates regarding performances, workshops and public events, please contact Paul Cobban on 0161 907 5289 or paul.cobban@rncm.ac.uk or visit www.rncm.ac.uk/hire

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

Eating and Drinking at the RNCM

There are refreshment facilities available at the RNCM with the Cafe, Brodsky Restaurant and Bar and the Concert Bar offering a range of fresh, home cooked and locally sourced food from just a coffee and a pastry to a three course meal.

During term time, Monday to Friday, the Cafe is open from 8am until the interval for performance nights; Brodsky is open from 11am with last food orders at 7pm and the Concert Bar is open from 5pm until 11pm.

On Junior School days during term time the Cafe is open from 8am until 3.30pm or until the interval of the evening performance. At other times the Cafe is open one hour prior to the performance time until the interval for events in the Concert Hall or Theatre.

During vacations the Concert Bar opens one hour prior to the performance time.

Outside term time and at weekends opening hours are dependent upon the performance programme. Please call 0161 907 5353 or 5252 or visit www.rncm.ac.uk/brodsky for full details of menus and opening hours.

Brodsky and the Concert Bar are Cask Marque accredited.

All food items and menus are subject to availability.

Afternoon Tea

Having enjoyed a lunchtime concert, why not treat yourself to afternoon tea in Brodsky? Priced at £9.95 per person, afternoon tea is available Monday – Friday and must be pre-booked. Please call 0161 907 5353 or 5252.

Hospitality at the RNCM

The RNCM can also provide catering for social functions, events, dinners, training events, meetings and conferences in our venues. Please contact our Conference and Catering Team on 0161 907 5353 or hospitality@rncm.ac.uk for further details.
Sponsors and Supporters

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