

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama	12 May 2014
<b>Subject: Principal's General Report</b>	
<b>Report of: Principal</b>	<b>Public</b>
	<b>For Information/Consideration</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Summary</u></b></p> <p>This report updates the Board on a number of current issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awards and Prizes</li> <li>• Milton Court</li> <li>• Taught Degree-Awarding Powers (TDAP)</li> <li>• Student recruitment</li> <li>• Brand Review</li> <li>• Fundraising</li> <li>• Guildhall Young Artists</li> <li>• Service Based Review</li> </ul> <p>Recommendation: that the Board receives the report and notes its contents.</p>	

## **Main report**

### **1 Awards and Prizes**

Chloe Schaaf (Guildhall Artists Masters, student of Sue McCulloch)

- Accepted onto the prestigious Opera Programme at Amsterdam

Alison Rose (Guildhall Artist Masters, student of Gary Coward)

- Awarded Miriam Licette Scholarship

Bethan Langford (Mezzo-Soprano, Guildhall Artists Masters, student of Kate Paterson) & Ben San-Lau (Piano Accompaniment, Guildhall Artists Masters, student of Eugene Asti & Caroline Palmer)

- Winners of the Musicians' Company Concert Award supported by Concordia Foundation

Gerard Schneider (Opera Course Year 2, student of Yvonne Kenny)

- Accepted onto the Young Artist Programme at the Salzburger Festspiele

Phoebe Haines (Guildhall Artists Masters, student of John Evans)

- Accepted onto the Britten-Pears Young Artist Programme

Patrycja Mynarska (BMus Year 1, student of Krzysztof Smietana)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize in the American Protégé International Strings and Piano Competition

Matilda Lloyd (Junior Guildhall)

- Winner of the BBC Radio 2 Young Brass Award

Peter Gane and Guildhall Trombone Ensemble

- Winners of the British Trombone Society Ensemble Competition

Marta Fontanals-Simmons (Opera Course Year 2, student of Marilyn Rees)

- Finalist in the Kathleen Ferrier Competition

## **Alumni and Staff**

### **Alumni**

Olivier Awards

Tim Lutkin (alumnus) & Finn Ross (Technical Theatre Artist-in-Residence) won the White Light award for Best Lighting for *Chimerica* at the Almeida Theatre & Harold Pinter Theatre

Fellow Alumni nominated for Oliviers included:

**Hayley Atwell:** Best Actress for *The Pride* at the Trafalgar Studios

**Andy Nyman** (co-written and directed): Best Entertainment and Family for *Derren Brown: Infamous* at the Palace Theatre

**Simon Baker:** Best Sound Design for *The Light Princess* at the National Theatre, Lyttelton

BAFTA TV Award Nominations

**Dominic West:** Best Actor for *Burton and Taylor*

**Sarah Lancashire:** Best Supporting Actress for *Last Tango in Halifax*

**Shirley Henderson:** Best Supporting Actress for *Southcliffe*

### **Staff**

Simon Fischer has been awarded ESTA's 'In Celebration of a lifetime contribution to string teaching' award.

## **Institutional awards**

The School has been shortlisted in the category ‘Outstanding Leadership and Management Team’ by the *Times Higher*’s Leadership and Management Awards 2014. The winner will be announced on Tuesday 17 June.

The School has also been nominated for a *Times Higher* Award in the category Excellence and Innovation in the Arts.

The School has been nominated for the CASE Circle of Excellence Awards in the following categories:

- Special Issues – the Autumn/Winter 2014 magazine for its Milton Court coverage
- Special Events, Single Day – the opening of Milton Court

Milton Court has been shortlisted in the RIBA awards 2014. The winners will be announced on Tuesday 6 May.

The School and Stage Electrics are finalists in two categories of the InstallAwards, a leading award scheme in the stage technology industry. The winners will be announced on Thursday 12 June.

## **2 Milton Court**

As at 28 April 2014, 150 snags remained of the 6,098 that were formally identified at Practical Completion. In order to close out the remainder, Sir Robert McAlpine (SRM) and selected sub-contractors continue to remain in the building, with most work taking place at night so that the School has unimpeded access during the day. With one or two exceptions, the outstanding snags now fall into just a few significant categories. For example, more than 50 of the remaining snags relate to the specialist acoustic ceilings in many of the foyer and front-of-house areas. These ceilings have worked exceptionally well in terms of acoustic isolation, but in many instances the aesthetic finish is less than perfect, and the material is extremely difficult to work with after it has been applied. Once a solution has been agreed and implemented for this one category of problem, more than a third of the remaining snags will have been resolved.

Formal monitoring of snags and defects continues to take place on a fortnightly basis at a meeting attended by the School, Heron, SRM, relevant sub-contractors, the quantity surveyor and contract administrator, the architects and other relevant members of the design team as appropriate.

In terms of the two most serious defects that are still outstanding, a new solution to resolve the issue of excessive heat in the Theatre fly tower has been implemented. Further investigation needs to be carried out of some of the new heat sensors that have been installed, as they may not be working correctly. However early indications suggest that the mean temperature in the fly tower has reduced. It has also been identified that some (but not all) of the most heat-sensitive elements of the automation control systems can be re-located to an adjacent ‘amps’ room, a move that will significantly reduce the risk of the automation system failing. Once it is confirmed that the sensors are working properly, that the relocation work is complete and that there is a level of comfort that the temperature levels are reducing as expected, a further heat stress test will be carried out to assess the effectiveness of the combined solutions.

Regarding the rain water ingress into the basement plant areas, which are thought to be caused largely by leaking pavement lights, it has now been suggested by Barbican Estates that some of the pavement lights are needed to provide emergency smoke ventilation to the car park underneath Speed House. This mitigates against the easiest solution, which would have been to remove them entirely and pave over. The Highways Section of the Department of the Built Environment is currently examining the available options before deciding how to proceed. The Chamberlain has agreed that this is a City cost and has suggested that it should be added to the City’s Milton Court project costs.

### **3 Taught Degree-Awarding Powers (TDAP)**

The School’s application for taught degree-awarding powers was finally approved and the order signed on 3 April 2014. This completes a scrutiny process that has lasted some eighteen months. A consultation meeting with students will be held on Wednesday 7 May to inform them of the implications for their own degree awards. No change is possible for students graduating in 2014, but it is intended that the School will award its own degrees for the first time in 2015.

A great many individuals have assisted in the process – staff, students and other stakeholders – and a small celebration will be held on Tuesday 20 May. The School is particularly indebted to the support of the Board of Governors throughout the scrutiny process.

### **4 Student Recruitment**

Student recruitment for entry in September 2014 is progressing well. At the time of writing, the second ‘reality check’ showed that offers and acceptances in music were slightly above target at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels with a number of

applications still to be determined. A record number of applications are being processed for drama.

## **5 Brand Review**

Following reviews of the School's brand values and visual identity, the School is in the final stages of agreeing new design principles with Pentagram. An implementation programme has been drawn up, starting with the new *Guide for Prospective Students* to be published in the early summer. Some illustrative artwork for the new visual identity will be available at the Board meeting.

## **6 Fundraising**

The Head of development circulated his latest monthly report on 15 April 2014. The headline points were as follows:

- Fundraising for the **Campaign for Milton Court** continues and £10,757,289 of the original fundraising target of £13.5million has been secured so far. This leaves £2,742,711 to be raised.
- The number of livery companies who have pledged or made donations in support of the **City Livery Companies Bar** at Milton Court stands at 66 companies.
- 280 seats have been taken through the **Take Your Seat** appeal and the amount raised in cash and pledges now stands at £326,739 including Gift Aid.
- The School has received over £2,500,000 in philanthropic cash income since the beginning of the current academic year (1 August 2013). This amount includes donations towards the Scholarships Fund for 2013/14, the establishment of endowments within the Guildhall School Trust, and the Campaign for Milton Court as well as Gift Aid on these donations.

## **7 Guildhall Young Artists**

Regional Centres in Norfolk and Somerset have both now opened and are running successfully. Norfolk (NCYM) opened in September 2013 with c. 60 students and the current roll is approaching 100. The county Intermediate Orchestra (the training band for Norfolk County Youth Orchestra) will move from sessional provision to weekly Saturdays at NCYM from September. This will raise standards and increase ensemble diversity in the Centre as well as increasing numbers further.

Individual lessons have started and continue to grow by demand and ensembles have been established in strings, woodwind, guitar, percussion. There is also an improvisation group (jazz), musicianship training, samba band, all ability singing and auditioned chamber choir.

Visits to City of Norwich School and NCYM have been made by a brass quartet, postgraduate wind duo, and piano trio. These have been extremely well received and it is clear that our students are excellent ambassadors for music and for Guildhall. A composer in residence will be piloted during the summer term.

Esmée Fairbairn provided a £15k bursary as pump priming in March 2014, and the centre is now generating a small surplus.

Hestercombe CYM finally opened on March 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 with a roll of 30 students that has now increased to 50. 60+ are expected to enrol in September. Operational issues and accommodation have been largely resolved including necessary adaptations to comply with health and safety and safeguarding.

Ensembles have been established in strings, woodwind, brass, guitar – singing, aural perception and history/composition classes. Individual lessons started with just piano, but the range is growing in response to demand.

Budgeted rent has been reduced by agreement with the landlord while the centre becomes established and the lease is under review by the CoLC legal team. The centre is currently running at a controlled deficit which will move into surplus as student numbers grow.

Approaches have been received from a number of other potential centres, and these will be pursued as appropriate. HMG is proposing that all funding for music education should lie with the newly-established HUBS (currently in the third and final year of funding). This is a considerable worry to music educators if support for music services is withdrawn by local authorities. However, it could represent an opportunity for the School to work more closely with providers in other parts of the country.

## **8 Service Based Review**

The City of London Corporation has announced a review of all services with the intention of identifying up to £20m of savings from which up to £13m could be implemented. The process and timescale have been announced on the City Corporation's website:

<http://colnet/Pages/News/Service-Based-Review-March-2014-Update.aspx>

The Principal was invited to a preliminary meeting with the 'Star Chamber' on Monday 31 March and will take part in a further challenge meeting on Wednesday 21 May.

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