

# Principal's Public Report

## Main report

### 1. Quality of learning and teaching environment

**Academic Assurance:  
quality of the learning  
experience and employability**

The School continues to have critical success in many areas of teaching and learning both internally and externally within industry contexts. Recent highlights include the work of Production Arts students at Tower Bridge in an immersive sound and light installation and the news that video mapping students have won the competition to mount the last exhibition on the Museum of London's current site. This will be a prestigious event and we are particularly pleased that the students have won this opportunity in competition with industry professionals.

Our recent Undergraduate Open Day welcomed around 800 to experience the Guildhall School learning and teaching environment including talks, workshops, performances and tours of facilities. The target audience was 16 and 17 year old students with parents/carers and many comments complimented the current students and staff for their involvement on the day and obvious commitment to the School.

We have also hosted a number of conferences at Milton Court recently including *The Reflective Conservatoire Conference 2018: Artists as Citizens*, which brought together over 300 leading performers, teachers and researchers from 22 countries across the world to consider how artists, arts organisations and specialist higher education institutions can promote artistic citizenship within contemporary society. Keynote addresses were given by Geoffrey Crossick, Viki Heywood and Helen Marriage.

The National Music Therapy Conference was also hosted by Guildhall School on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Music Therapy course to be offered in the UK at the School. The Principal opened the international conference citing the trailblazing staff at Guildhall who had pioneered the discipline which continues to be an important element of our music programme today.

The Aesop *Arts in Health Conference* was also hosted at Milton Court and opened by the Principal. This was a valuable addition to the School's work, supporting practice where artists and medical practitioners worked together in addressing patient wellbeing with new integrated models of health care. The conference welcomed 400 doctors, healthcare workers, artists and patients and we are currently exploring a future event in partnership with Aesop.

Another recent highlight was the launch of the Leadership Academy and a taster event for its first programme, the *Enriched Leader*. This initiative will harness the school's deep knowledge and expertise in the arts to develop new models of leadership and leadership training for senior decision-makers. Led by Patsy Rodenburgh, the inaugural event featured Cressida Dick and

Catherine McGuinness speaking to an invited audience of corporate, cultural and third sector professionals.

A busy end of year season is envisaged with student productions and presentations, the Gold Medal, the Summer Gala over two evenings and Take to the Stage events to come. Thank you to board members in advance of a very busy summer season. We appreciate your support of our students' work and our development activities. Increasingly, our events are being staged within industry contexts such as the return season of the Philip Venables opera 4.48 Psychosis at the Lyric Hammersmith and the upcoming new opera Mamzer Bastard by Na'ama Zisser, Samantha Newton and Rachel Zisser at the Hackney Empire.

## **2. Partnerships with Barbican and with the City of London**

One of the key objectives of the new strategic plan is the exploration of an enhanced artistic and education partnership with the Barbican Centre to add to the many shared areas of the operational common platform. Vice Principal, Director of Innovation, Helena Gaunt has been working closely with Louise Jeffries and Sean Gregory to spearhead these new developments. Recently the Principal attended the Barbican Board Away Day to present the School's future plans and outline the aspirations of this unique partnership between world leading Conservatoire and Arts Centre.

The Culture Mile distributed model for management and delivery of shared activities has been implemented and a budget to support this work has been agreed by the City of London. In the distributed model, the Guildhall School is leading on partnerships and a part time role will be recruited to support Sian Bird in this area of work. The first Culture Mile event took place during April and featured the video mapping of the Beech Street Tunnel. Despite the weather, this event attracted huge audiences and participants in and around the Barbican and Guildhall School.

The Centre for Music project has now entered an intensive phase of development leading up to the December presentation of the Business Case. The School is a major partner in the proposal for a Centre for Music and has spent considerable time and energy in developing plans for a strong physical and continuous presence within the new proposed Centre. This is envisaged as a Research and Innovation Hub which will allow next generation artists opportunities to explore new ways of making work and engaging with audiences.

## **3. Under 18's Programme**

An Away Day was held for all those staff delivering Under 18 education and training for the School and included Junior Guildhall, London and Regional CYMs, Creative Learning and Short Courses. This was the first time such a meeting had been convened and staff considered a more integrated offer with clear pathways between programmes for students. The draft findings of the Under 18 Review were also presented. We are moving towards a consolidation of the current work

of all CYMs and Junior Guildhall under a Guildhall Young Artist banner and the additional provision of acting and production arts programmes within all.

#### 4. Future Sustainability

We are planning a Graduates' Fair at the end of the 2017/18 academic year, drawing on experience gained from the Employability Week of 2014/15. We intend to open this event up to alumni and external parties to share knowledge and experience with graduates entering the profession. This will also be an opportunity to raise awareness of the School's Alumni offering and secure permissions within GDPR regulations.

**Academic Assurance:  
enhancement of the  
learning experience**

#### 5. International

Auditions have taken place for our second cohort of Chinese drama students from the Central Academy of Drama, Beijing, who will commence in September 2018. We intend to carry out a review of the efficacy of this new course before the end of the calendar year to inform our decisions going forward. The numbers of applicants from abroad continues to increase. Production Arts in particular have seen a rise in US applicants this year.

#### 6. Awards and Prizes

##### External

Callie Brennan, Guildhall Artists Masters

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Ernest Read Symphony Orchestra (ERSO) concerto  
*(Prize: Performance of the Walton Violin Concerto with the Orchestra at St John's Waterloo)*

Tamaki Sugimoto, BMus, student of Evan Rothstein

- Winner of the North London Festival's D'Addario String Prize 2018  
*(Prize: £500 cash)*
- Winner of the Stephen Bell Charitable Trust Award 2018-19

Harriet Burns, Vocal Studies Masters, student of Yvonne Kenny and Susan McCulloch

- Winner of the Oxford Lieder Young Artist Platform  
*(Prize: As part of the award these Young Artists are each given recitals at the Oxford Lieder Festival, as well as a number of paid song recital engagements around the country.)*

**Academic Assurance:  
employability**

Michael Pandya, Piano Accompaniment, Masters, student of Julius Drake & Peter Bithell

- Winner of the Oxford Lieder Young Artist Platform  
*(Prize: As part of the award these Young Artists are each given recitals at the Oxford Lieder Festival, as well as a number of paid song recital engagements around the country.)*
- *Winner of the Accompanist Prize at the Kathleen Ferrier Awards*

Dylan Perez, Artist Diploma, Piano Accompaniment, student of Eugene Asti & Andrew West

- Winner of the Oxford Lieder Young Artist Platform  
*(Prize: As part of the award these Young Artists are each given recitals at the Oxford Lieder Festival, as well as a number of paid song recital engagements around the country.)*

## **Juniors**

Thomas Nielsen

- Winner of the Radio 2 Young Brass Award  
*(Prize: The prize for the winner of The Young Brass Award will be a trophy, a feature session on Listen to the Band and a broadcast performance with an established group)*

## **Emma Demetriades (Violin)**

- Grand Prize Virtuoso Competition (Musikverein, Vienna, Austria), September 2017,  
*(1<sup>st</sup> Prize)*
- Euterpe International Music Competition (Corato, Italy), October 2017,  
*(Absolute First Prize)*
- Rotary GB “Young Musician”, Northern district semi-final (Leicester), March 2018,  
*(Winner)*
- Rotary GB “Young Musician”, Northern district final (Market Harborough), April 2018,  
*(Winner of the intermediate instrumental section)*
- Anton Rubinstein International Violin Competition, Dusseldorf, April 2018,  
*(Finalist Diploma)*

## **Sofia Demetriades (Violin)**

- Grand Prize Virtuoso Competition (Musikverein, Vienna, Austria), September 2017,  
*(1<sup>st</sup> Prize and Most Promising Young Musician Prize)*
- Euterpe International Music Competition (Corato, Italy), October 2017,  
*(Absolute First Prize)*
- Rotary GB “Young Musician”: Northern district semi-final (Leicester), March 2018, winner; Northern district final (Market Harborough), winner and “Best Instrumentalist”; Regional Final (Doncaster), April 2018, instrumental winner (advanced to the National Final in Edinburgh in May 2018).
- Anton Rubinstein International Violin Competition, Dusseldorf, April 2018,  
*2<sup>nd</sup> prize (John Dodd 1800 bow)*

## **Alumni**

### **New Years Honours List**

Cleveland Watkiss (Music): Awarded an MBE for services to music

Julia McKenzie (Acting): Awarded a CBE for services to drama

Anthony Marwood (Music): Awarded an MBE for services to classical music

### **BBC Audio Drama Awards**

- Nikesh Patel – Winner (Best Actor for *Midnight's Children* by Salman Rushdie)
- Paapa Essiedu – Nominated (Best actor, *Wide Open Spaces*)
- Julia McKenzie – Nominated (Best actress, John Finnemore's *Double Acts: Mercy Dash*)
- Kate Phillips – Nominated (Best actress, *Gudrun's Saga*)

### **Olivier Awards 2018**

- Roderick Williams – Nominated ('Outstanding Achievement in Opera' category for his performance in The Royal Opera's *The Return Of Ulysses* at the Roundhouse.)
- Thomas Ades – Nominated (*The Exterminating Angel* nominated for 'Best New Opera Production' category)
- Monica Dolan – Nominated ('Outstanding Achievement in Affiliate Theatre' category for *The B\*east*s)
- Shirley Henderson – Winner (Best Actress in a Musical for her role in *Girl from the North Country* at the Old Vic Theatre)

William Thomas (Graduated 2017, Bass Masters Vocal studies, student of John Evans)

- Winner of the Kathleen Ferrier Music Awards  
*(Prize: £12500)*

Helen Kay (Saxophonist, Graduated 2016)

- Winner of the Peter Whittingham Jazz Award  
*(Prize: £5000)*

Jessica Dandy (Contralto, student of Gary Coward and Susan McCulloch, graduated 2016)

- Winner of the Oxford Lieder Young Artists Platform with Dylan Perez  
*(Prize: As part of the award these Young Artists are each given recitals at the Oxford Lieder Festival, as well as a number of paid song recital engagements around the country.)*

Dominic Sedgewick (Baritone, Graduated 2015)

- Chosen as an Askonas Holt Rising Star

Raymond Yiu (Composition, Graduated 2014)

- Nominated for RPS Music Award in the 'Large-Scale Composition' category for *The World Was Once All Miracle*

Alison Balsom (Trumpet, Graduated 2011)

- Awarded Freedom of the City at a Ceremony on 26 April 2018

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