



The Purcell School
for young musicians

CONCERT GUIDE

SPRING 2017
JANUARY - MARCH

"I am very proud to be a Patron of The Purcell School, which provides such excellent opportunities for young musicians to achieve their goals."

Vladimir Ashkenazy,
Patron of The Purcell School

THE PURCELL SCHOOL

The Purcell School based in Bushey, Hertfordshire, is Britain's oldest specialist school for talented young musicians. It is a co-educational boarding and day school for ages 9-18, and celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2012. The School holds the UNESCO Mozart Gold Medal in recognition of its unique contribution to music, education and international culture. The School's Patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, accepted the award at a special ceremony at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

An education at The Purcell School is available to everyone. Entry is by musical audition only. The School exists to provide young musicians of exceptional promise and talent with the best possible teaching and environment in which to fulfil their potential, irrespective of their financial background. The School is funded by the Government's Music and Dance Scheme and the School's own scholarships and bursaries fund.



Photograph: Sky Arts Guitar Star 2016

The curriculum allows pupils to study a full range of subjects with a special emphasis on Music. Being on the edge of London, the School takes advantage of all that the city has to offer, but enjoys a semi-rural environment. The proximity to London gives access to the eminent international musicians who comprise the instrumental teaching faculty.

The School has exceptional facilities; state-of-the-art classrooms, a professional recording studio, superb practice rooms and a recital hall with exceptional acoustics.

Pupils are given outstanding opportunities for performances. We hold lunchtime concerts every weekday, and all pupils perform at these. Chamber music and orchestral concerts take place regularly, and every year performances are given at the Southbank Centre and Wigmore Hall. Visiting conductors have included Sir Simon Rattle, Paul

Daniel and John Rutter. In recent years masterclasses have been given by Vladimir Ashkenazy, Zakhar Bron, Andras Schiff, Natalia Gutman and Craig Ogden among others.

All pupils are encouraged to share their love and passion for music with the wider community, be it participating in one of our many evening performances, free lunchtime concerts at the School, or in our UK and overseas outreach programmes.

Most Purcell pupils go on to music college and some take up places at Oxbridge or other universities. We are very proud of our former students who have enjoyed national or international success. Just a few of our distinguished alumni include Oliver Knussen CBE; Catrin Finch; BBC Young Musician of the Year winners, Nicholas Daniel, Lara Melda, and Martin James Bartlett.



If you would like further information regarding Purcell School concerts please see our website www.purcell-school.org

The Purcell School, Aldenham Road, Bushey, Hertfordshire WD23 2TS
Tel. 01923 331100 info@purcell-school.org
Follow us on Twitter @PurcellSchool

Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales
President: Sir Simon Rattle CBE
Registered Charity No 312855

THURSDAY 19 JANUARY VOICES BEYOND DIVISIONS

7:00pm

St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London, W1J 9LL

Tickets: £4 - £10 available online at www.voicesbeyonddivisions.org

Young singers and musicians from four contrasting communities come together to sing for peace for children in Syria.

A major peace event mounted by concerned teenagers through the Beyond Divisions Education Trust, featuring the first performance of *What War?* composed by Purcell pupil **Asha Parkinson**, with 70 children from Jewish, Islamic and Christian schools, plus musicians and chamber choir from The Purcell School and players of Middle-Eastern oud and ney. The concert will include songs and stories of peace from all three major Middle Eastern traditions.



JANUARY

WEDNESDAY 11 JANUARY ROBERT COHEN: THE BACH CELLO SUITES EXPLORED

WORKSHOP: 4:00-6:00pm

PERFORMANCE: 6:30pm

Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall

Admission Free

The second of three events exploring the Bach Suites with Purcell alumnus Robert Cohen
Bach Suites No. 3 in C and No. 4 in E flat

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY THE PURCELL CHAMBER CHOIR

1:00pm

St Martin-in-the-Fields

Trafalgar Square London WC2N 4JJ

Suggested donation of £3.50

Holst Rig Veda

Palestrina Missae Papae Marcelli

Bruckner Motets: Locus Iste and Ave Maria

WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY NEW MUSIC CONCERT

7:00pm

Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall

Admission Free

Exciting new music written by first-study composition students.

WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY PERFORMANCE PLATFORM: SENIOR SCHOOL

7:00pm

Purcell School | Recital Room

Admission Free

FEBRUARY

WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY LUNCHTIME CONCERT

1:00pm
St Peter's Church, St Albans AL1 3HG
Admission is free. Retiring collection for
Rennie Grove Hospice at Home

WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY PERFORMANCE PLATFORM: LOWER SCHOOL

7:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY LUNCHTIME CONCERT

1:00pm
St. Mary's Church, Watford WD18 0EG
Admission Free

THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY SENIOR CONCERTO COMPETITION FINALS

4:00-6:00 / 6:30-8:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

The culmination of our annual competition for pupils in year 11 and the sixth form. A chance to hear the six finalists perform their chosen concerto with piano accompaniment. The winner will perform with The School Symphony Orchestra in 2018.



PHILOMEL ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR: NOAH MAX

Programme:

Stravinsky Concerto in D for String Orchestra
Nielsen At the Bier of a Young Artist
Verdi (arr. Robert Max) String Quartet arranged for string orchestra

Philomel is a string orchestra comprising young musicians from The Purcell School, conducted by Purcell pupil, Noah Max.

WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY
7:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Tickets: £5 on the door

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY
3:00pm
St George's, Bristol, BS1 5RR
Tickets: £10, £6 U18s (plus fees), Family Ticket available. £1 administration fee charged per transaction plus £1 card transaction fee and 70p postage where applicable.

Box Office: 0845 40 24 001 or online
www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk

MARCH

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH LUNCHTIME RECITAL LEEDS INTERNATIONAL CONCERT SEASON

1:05pm
The Venue, Leeds College of Music, LS2 7PD
Admission is free

Programme to include:
Ysaye Poème élégiaque, Op. 12
Van Eyck Short pieces for recorder
Chopin Ballade No. 4, Op. 52

MONDAY 6 MARCH PURCELL JAZZ AND BIG BANDS

7:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

Featuring the music of Troykestra with special guests Kit Downes and Chris Montague.

WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH ROBERT COHEN: THE BACH CELLO SUITES EXPLORED

WORKSHOP: 4:00-6:00pm
PERFORMANCE: 6:30pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

The last of three events exploring the Bach Suites with Purcell alumnus Robert Cohen
Bach Suites No. 5 in C minor and No. 6 in D

FRIDAY 10 & SUNDAY 12 MARCH BAROQUE OPERA VENUS & ADONIS BY JOHN BLOW

7:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

The Purcell School's Baroque department presents a staged performance of John Blow's opera Venus and Adonis.

MONDAY 13 MARCH THE COMMONWEALTH SERVICE

A PEACE-BUILDING COMMONWEALTH
1:45pm
Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA
Tickets by application: www.thercs.org

The largest multi-faith celebration in the U.K. Purcell pupils will take part in the Commonwealth Festival Choir and Orchestra and songs will be performed from The Purcell School Outreach project 'Write a Song and Sing It' with the Apollo Youth Choir and the Dulwich Harris Academy.

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH COMMUNITY FESTIVAL CONCERT PRESENTED BY YEAR 11

4:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

A showcase of the musical talent and progress of two local primary schools who have been working with our Year 11 students for their Gold Arts Award.

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH PERFORMANCE PLATFORM: MIDDLE SCHOOL

7:00pm
Purcell School | Recital Room
Admission Free

TUESDAY 21 MARCH SCHUMANN - WORKS FOR PIANO

7:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

The Purcell School Piano Department presents an evening of music by Robert Schumann.

MARCH

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH GCSE CHAMBER MUSIC

7:00pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

Year 10 pupils perform in chamber groups as part of their GCSE Music examination.

THURSDAY 23 MARCH SOUND IMAGE MOVEMENT

7:30pm
Purcell School | Constance Pilkington Hall
Admission Free

Take your imagination for a walk – experience the eclectic, the electric, film scores, multi-media and improvisation.

MONDAY 20 MARCH 7:30pm

PURCELL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR: DOMINIC GRIER
CELLO: YONG JUN LEE

Berlioz Roman Carnival Overture

Dvořák Cello Concerto

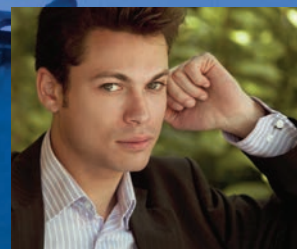
Shostakovich Symphony No.5

plus **Seized!** a short new work composed by Purcell pupil, Zakia Fawcett

Tickets: £20, £17.50, £15, £12.50
Encore members: £5 off top price tickets
Concession (students/under 18s) £5 off

* All orders are subject to a transaction fee, except if made in person. See venue website for details, payment methods and delivery options.

Box Office: 020 7730 4500
www.cadoganhall.com
Cadogan Hall
5 Sloane Terrace
London SW1X 9DQ



SUMMER 2017 SAVE THE DATES!

A look ahead to summer - Tickets on sale soon!

CHAMBER ENSEMBLES MINI-SERIES

Hour-long concerts featuring the very best of our chamber music ensembles at some of London's best-loved recital venues.



SATURDAY 22 APRIL COFFEE MORNING CONCERT

11:30am
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street
London W1U 2BP



FRIDAY 23 JUNE LUNCHTIME CONCERT

1:00pm
St. James', 197 Piccadilly, London,
W1J 9LL

MONDAY 19 JUNE LUNCHTIME CONCERT

1:00pm
St-Martin-in-the-Fields
Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ

TUESDAY 27 JUNE PROMS AT ST. JUDE'S FESTIVAL

12:45pm
St. Jude's, Central Square, Hampstead
Garden Suburb, London NW1 7AH

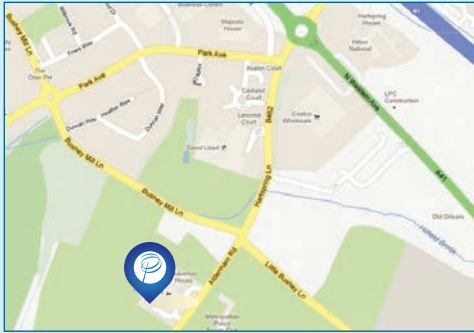
THURSDAY 6 JULY CHOIRS AND ORCHESTRAS OF THE PURCELL SCHOOL

7:30pm
Duke's Hall, Royal Academy of Music

Mozart Symphony No. 38 'Prague'
Mozart Requiem
Conducted by Edward Longstaff



HOW TO FIND US



By Car: Leave the M1 at junction 5, then at the roundabout take the exit onto the A41 (signposted C. London). At the next roundabout, take the third exit onto Hartspring Lane – B462 (signposted Watford (South), Oxhey). The Purcell School is half a mile on this road, on the right. Once inside the School Gates, follow signs for parking.

By Rail: There are regular services to Bushey and Watford Junction mainline stations and Stanmore and Watford Met tube stations. We recommend getting a taxi from these stations to the School – fares range from £6-10.

Recital Room: located on the first floor of the New Music Centre which is situated at the rear of the original Victorian building. Ample parking is available in the School car park adjacent to Bushey Mill Lane with limited disabled parking immediately outside the New Music Centre. When entering from Aldenham Road, turn right and follow the drive around to the rear. Fork right to reach the car park.

Constance Pilkington Hall: located at the front of the main School building. Please park in the Bushey Mill Lane Car Park or, when indicated, the Metropolitan Police Club car park opposite the School.

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

These take place during term time in the Constance Pilkington Hall on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at 12:20pm. Please contact the Concerts Office to check that the concert is taking place: 01923 331109 / 38

Information is correct at the time of publication – December 2016. Full concert listings and up to date information can be found on our website:

www.purcell-school.org

[@PurcellSchool](https://twitter.com/PurcellSchool)



NURTURING THE MUSICIANS OF THE FUTURE - FRIENDS OF THE PURCELL SCHOOL

Have you thought about becoming a Friend of The Purcell School? Whether you play a musical instrument yourself or simply enjoy music for relaxation, this is a real opportunity to touch the lives of some very remarkable young people.

Friends receive a pair of complimentary tickets to our annual symphony orchestra concert, discounted tickets to all other concerts, as well as a complimentary ticket for masterclasses held at the School.

Masterclasses have recently been given by András Schiff, Robert Cohen and Charles Rosen.

The annual membership fee is £60 (£40 concession for those over 60 or under 25 years of age), or £80 for joint membership.

For more information on joining the Friends scheme contact :

Emma McGrath
The Purcell School, Aldenham Road
Bushey, Hertfordshire WD23 2TS
e.mcgrath@purcell-school.org
Tel 01923 331131

KEEP IN TOUCH

To receive the Concert Guide and updates and offers by email, please send your full contact details to info@purcell-school.org