

Crescendo

The Official Magazine of The Purcell School for Young Musicians

December 2018



CONGRATULATIONS TO FIORE O'SULLIVAN

The winner of the 'Name the new School Magazine' competition! #Crescendo!

ESSENTIAL ADVICE FROM SIR SIMON RATTLE, CBE

Seven essential pieces of advice for young musicians in 2018 from our President

THE PURCELL SCHOOL'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA

Another fantastic gala in aid of the School, an evening of fine-dining and great music



THE PURCELL SCHOOL FUNDRAISING GALA 2018

An evening of fine dining and wonderful music to help raise vital funds for the School

On Tuesday 27th November, The Purcell School hosted its annual Fundraising Gala at Drapers' Hall. An evening such as this gives us the opportunity not only to celebrate all that is good about the Purcell School but also to reflect a little on what it is that makes it truly special.

Those who attended the event witnessed some magnificent performances throughout the night by Purcell students. The 'Vocal Group' consisting of Jaison Jeyaventhana, Gayatri Nair, Emily Price, Elissa Street and Ka Youn Yoo led by Edward Longstaff (Staff) gave a stunning performance of Debussy *3 Chansons de Charles d'Orléans* and Passereau *Il est bel et bon*.

Violinist Octavian Pirlea, accompanied by Deborah Shah (Staff), gave a wonderful rendition of Ysaÿe *Caprice d'après l'étude en forme de valse de Saint-Saëns, Op. 52 No. 6*. The Purcell 'Wind Quintet' consisting of Francesca Biescas Rue, Verity Burcombe, Joseph Longstaff, Elissa Street and Ellen Wilkinson gave an incredible performance of Taffanel *Wind Quintet* which was followed by an Introduction by Principal Paul Bambrough and 'Reflections on Purcell' by current student Gayatri Nair and alumnus Andrew Garrido.

"Building on everything The Purcell School does well, my vision is of a school which is recognized throughout the

world as the place of first choice for any prodigiously gifted young musician. It will be a place which continues to empower and enable young people to be the very best versions of themselves, where students rub shoulders with the finest teachers in the world, where they receive guidance from the most distinguished musicians in the world, where their studies are supported by a range of exceptional performance opportunities hosted by the best venues in the world and broadcast by the finest broadcasters of the world.

Most of all, I want to see a School which feels like one large extended family, a place where all who contribute feel they belong, whether they are current or former students, staff, visiting artists, valued supporters, audiences, partners or parents.

I want all who encounter The Purcell School to be transformed by it."
(Principal, Paul Bambrough)

The latter part of the evening saw the 'String Quartet', which included Natalya Gilfillan, Abigail James, Yasmin Strevens-Chen and Jasmine Blackshaw-Britton, performing Schumann *String Quartet No.1 in A minor* and the 'Jazz Quartet', Daniel Higham, Miles Mindlin, Lorenzo Morabito and Jack Thomas, perform *It Could Happen To You, On The Sunny Side of The Street* and *Beautiful Love*. Both performances were outstanding and received great praise from all those who attended.

Closing the performances, and the evening, was Purcell's Gala Scholar Yumeka Nakagawa. Her performance of Ravel *La Valse* was nothing short of spectacular and was met with many a round of applause.

"My previous school didn't specialise in music and so, when I was offered a place at Purcell I was delighted! It has given me the opportunity to flourish and significantly increase my knowledge and enjoyment of music. As a student at Purcell I'm able to develop, not only as a soloist, but also as a chamber musician and accompanist. Music is so important to me and it constantly amazes and inspires me. Receiving such a rich and broad musical education, alongside my academic studies is a challenging, but life-changing experience. The fundraising focus of the evening is to raise much needed funds to support the Gala Bursary. Without



the help of this bursary and indeed the money raised at the Fundraising Gala events, I would be unable to experience life at Purcell."
(Yumeka Nakagawa)

The School is incredibly proud of all those who performed throughout the course of the evening and are honoured to be represented by such talented young musicians. Many guests of the evening have said the performances this year were by far the

best they have seen at any Purcell fundraising event and were extremely impressed by the overall high standard of musical performance.

By all accounts, the night was a tremendous success and the School would like to thank everyone involved; the generous 2018 Gala Benefactors, all those who attended and supported the event, and all those who donated raffle and auction prizes.



COMING UP

Senior Soloists

Wednesday 16th January
19:00

The Purcell School, Recital Room

Lea Kozokaro- Harp
Yenglik Karassartova- Piano
Carl Davis- Trombone
Hugo Max- Violin
Sofia Matviienko- Flute
Admission is free

Milton Court Showcase

Sunday 20th January
19:30

Milton Court Concert Hall,
1 Milton Street, EC2Y 9BH

Brian Luo- Piano
Alexandra Peel- Violin
Elissa Street- Voice
Cherry Ge- Harp
Chea Woom Lee- Piano

Tickets: £15
miltoncourt.eventbrite.co.uk
01923 331109

Lower School Ensembles

Wednesday 23rd January
19:00

The Purcell School, Constance Pilkington Hall

Programme to include the Junior String Ensemble performing Rautavaara's The Fiddlers, and works for Oboe Trio, flute, piano and harp.
Admission is free

Purcell Chamber Choir

Monday 28th January
13:00

St Martin-in-the-Fields,
Trafalgar Square, WC2N 4JJ

Programme to include:
Copland- In the Beginning
Parry- My Soul, There Is A Country
Admission is free with a suggested donation of £3.50

Romanian Connection

Tuesday 29th January
13:00

St Martin-in-the-Fields,
Trafalgar Square, WC2N 4JJ

Rebeca Lazar- Violin
Radu Stoica- Piano
Ioan-Octavian Pirliea- Violin
Kira Frolu- Piano
Iohan Coman- Violin
Admission is free with a suggested donation of £3.50

Thomas Hancox Flute Recital

Wednesday 30th January
13:20

The Purcell School, Constance Pilkington Hall

Thomas Hancox works regularly as guest principal flute with the UK's leading orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Admission is free



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