

Crescendo

The Official Magazine of The Purcell School for Young Musicians

JULY 2019



INSIDE PURCELL: LET'S TALK OUTREACH

It has been a busy year for Purcell Outreach with trips to Antigua and Norfolk

SOUND IMAGE MOVEMENT

Finishing off the Summer Term with a truly memorable event

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

Hugo Max and Lydia Cochrane take over as the new Head Boy and Head Girl

LOWER SCHOOL COMPOSITION COMPETITION

Year 6, 7 and 8 students took part in 'Comp Comp' and we now have the results in!

PURCELL STUDENTS SHOW OFF THEIR CREATIVITY

Our incredible GCSE and A Level Art students showcase their final works

2018/19: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Looking back on the highlights from Purcellians past and present

WELCOME TO THIS YEAR'S FINAL EDITION OF CRESCENDO

It has been a wonderful, exciting year for The Purcell School and Principal Paul Bambrough has a few words to round off 2018/19!

It seems remarkable that the academic year is drawing to a close. In some ways it feels like I have only been at the School for a few weeks and yet, in many other ways, it feels like I have never been anywhere else! It has been an extraordinary year, with so many memorable performances, events and daily achievements. It has been a truly humbling and inspiring year, in which I found myself ever more convinced that this is a remarkable place full of remarkable people.

As always, at the end of an academic year we say goodbye to number of people, both students and staff. For all those students moving on from

us, whether it be to take up a place at a conservatoire or university or whether they are moving to a new school, we thank them for everything they have contributed to the School and wish them well.

We are also saying goodbye to a number colleagues and on behalf of the School, I would like to thank them all for their dedication, commitment and all they have contributed to the School.

Whether they have been with us for a year or thirty eight (!), each can move on from here knowing that they have played a significant part in shaping and enriching the lives of our talented young people.

Our thanks go to:

Mr Goldie-Scott, (Music, 1 year)
Mr Hall, (Maths, 1 year), Mr Buttler, (Music, 1 year), Mr Bosch, (Music Instrumental, 1 year), Mr Ahmed (Maths, 1 year), Miss Dyer (Practice Supervisor, 2 Years), Miss Hermer (Practice Supervisor, 2 years), Mrs Burrell (EAL, 4.5 years), Mr Harding (Deputy Head/Acting Head, 5 years), Mr Hathway (Head of Wind, Brass and Percussion, 12 years), Mr Veith (Estates, 20 years) and finally, Mr Elliott (Head of German, former Deputy Head/Acting Head, 38 years)

I wish you all a happy and restful summer vacation,

Paul Bambrough



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2019/20...

A NEW YEAR MEANS NEW LEADERSHIP

With this in mind, the School is extremely proud to announce our new Head Boy; Hugo Max and Head Girl; Lydia Cochrane!



Following a rigorous interview process with the Senior Leadership Team, in which all candidates performed brilliantly, the School has appointed Hugo Max and Lydia Cochrane as our new Head Boy and Head Girl!

“I feel hugely honoured to have been chosen as Head Boy and am incredibly excited to work alongside Lydia and the whole team to make a positive change at The Purcell School over the next year. I cannot wait to put into action the hands-on ideas of our imaginative student voice. I hope to focus my energies on getting as many musical projects off the ground as possible. Over the year I would like to increase performance opportunities through frequent trips to care homes in the local area, as well as work with as many people as possible

to bring together different academic departments, for instance art or science, to create interesting collaborative concerts. I am already eagerly awaiting next March where my Haydn Festival is planned: the culmination of my personal project of playing all 68 of Haydn’s String Quartets.

Furthermore, I aim to work with the new head of pastoral care to find positive, practical ways of approaching mental health - a topic which is key to the welfare of the student body and demands more focus than ever before. This is going to be a thrilling final year of school for me and my wonderful year group, filled to the brim with musical ventures and hopefully the creation of a couple of arthouse films along the way...”

(Hugo Max, Head Boy)

“I’m hugely grateful and excited to have been chosen to be Head Girl next year! I can’t wait to be working as part of the prefect team to make changes in the School that I feel strongly about, like an increase in study space, awareness about hearing loss and other music related injuries, and a decrease in plastic use in the school, as well as other more exciting focuses such as second study concerts, sports clubs, and bringing individual musical departments closer together with big projects such as a potential musical.

I hope the next year brings new opportunities for The Purcell School and everyone in it to continue to grow as musicians in an environment that supports this so well.”

(Lydia Cochrane, Head Girl)

INSIDE PURCELL: LET'S TALK OUTREACH

We sat down with Alison Cox (Head of Composition and Outreach) to discuss the projects from the past year and the importance of musical outreach

In 2003, Purcell students **Mica Levi** (BAFTA winning composer and producer known by her stage name 'Micachu') and **Kit Downes** (BBC Jazz Award Winner and Mercury Prize Nominee) came up with an idea to help other young students through the power of music. The first outing was a trip to the Michael Faraday School in South London where Purcellians worked the young students on music composition, and thus **'IMPULSE'** was born.

Following this, Purcell students continued on organising outreach projects to local primary schools and, with the help of Purcell staff offering sessions on interactive teaching, were able to demonstrate their

love for music through their instruments and inspire other young musicians.

On a recent trip to the Oxhey Wood Primary School, staff said **"Thank you to the incredible students from The Purcell School for your performance this afternoon. Your manner with our children was so warm and your enthusiasm for music is so catching!"**

Using the skills gained from working with the local schools, the most proactive Year 12 Purcell students were chosen to take part in (what is now an annual event) the 'IMPULSE Musical Outreach Tour'.

This years' tour, sponsored by The Arts Society of North

West Norfolk, lasted four days and included two full-day workshops along with four concerts. The first concert of the tour was at St Andrew's Church in Thursford (and was sponsored by their local Estate Agent, Sowerby's. The second concert was at Christ Church in Fulmodeston and the third took place at The Yorke Trust. The final concert in All Saints, Bale, was dedicated specially to the memory of John Schofield, a great supporter of the IMPULSE Concerts for many years, who sadly passed away earlier this year.

The entire project to this day is completely student led, from creating the lesson plans for each of the workshops to organising the concert venues, programme, performers, stage



management and promotion. Alison would like to give special recognition to the Year 12 students who took control of running the concerts; Bradley, Tristan, James and Carmen who handled all aspects of the concert management with incredible passion and professionalism.

“At first, students were quite nervous about putting together and running an entire concert by themselves. A lot of the aspects of organising a tour such as scheduling rehearsals, reaching out to the local audience, dealing with legal issues including child protection, designing the programmes etc, were challenges our students had never had to think about before, but once they had started making their lists of everything they had to do and started dividing the tasks amongst themselves they quickly realised just how capable they really are.”

(Alison Cox)

Some feedback from the Christ Church performance in Norfolk included one student's mother saying “We absolutely loved it, the children especially! My nephew intends to go to The Purcell School and has done ever since they visited his primary school a few years back!” Another parent said “Just wanted to say on behalf of us all thanks so much for including us! We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and the boys were so impressed with the musicians, who were really lovely young people. The boys



have already asked if we can go again next year!”

Taking outreach one step further, one a global scale, Alison has just led Purcell students on the first outreach trip to Antigua! The trip came about through The Purcell School's connection to Karen Mae Hill, the High Commissioner of Antigua and Barbuda. An avid pianist herself, Karen expressed a vision for Antigua and Barbuda to have every child learning to play an instrument and have better access to music education. With this in mind, 10 of the Year 13 Purcell students jetted off to Antigua on Saturday through their own individual fundraising along with the incredible generosity of the Royal Society of St George (pictured), The Commonwealth at 70 and Stephen Brown.

Throughout the trip, each of our Purcell students (for which there is one instrumentalist

per section of the orchestra) will be coaching two or three members of an the Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra and finish the week with a final concert performance. Along with working with the ABYSO, our students will be performing a special concert for the Governor General and Minister of Education of Antigua and Barbuda. The concert will feature Purcell's String Quartet, Wind Quintet, Brass Trio plus an original composition written specifically for the trip.

The benefits of the Purcell Outreach programme not only provide our students with skills they will take with them for the rest of their musical career but also give other young students who didn't necessarily get the opportunity to find a creative outlet the same way Purcell students do, the chance to learn and experience music in a fun and exciting way.

PURCELL STUDENTS SHOW OFF THEIR ARTISTIC CREATIVITY

Purcell's incredible GCSE and A Level Art students recently showcased their final projects

Following the School hosting an Art Exhibition showcasing the talented work of our GCSE and A Level Art students, we sat down with **Hannah Capstick (Year 13)** and **Eva Serksnaite (Year 11)** to discuss everything from exploring their themes and mediums to the links between creativity through music and creativity through art.

When discussing the theme of her work and how she got to the end result, Hannah said "I wanted to paint musicians, but create portraits that were more 'alive' than simply copying how performers appear in real life. Through this, I developed my 'looser' style, which focused on the use of colour and impressions of the movements of the

players to create the sense of a living painting, expressing how performers express their music as much through their body language as through their sound."

Hannah chose to use a few different mediums for her end pieces most being oil based paints.

"I chose to use oil paints, as I could use different mediums to add to the paint to create different effects. Furthermore, oil paint has a long drying time, thus I could keep coming back over several days to work on my painting. I applied paint so thick in places, that I came back the next day and could continue to 'sculpt' the paint, creating a three dimensional effect in

some of my paintings. I added fast drying medium to the base layers, as this made the paint glossier and runnier, creating the dripping effect underneath the more detailed sculptural aspects."

Having just graduated from Purcell, Hannah is moving on to study Music at Oxford University, however her passion and expression through art will not stop here!

"My closest friends at home are both artists, so I think I will never quite escape it! Art has been a part of my life longer than music, and I will definitely continue with it through university. However, I feel that the type of art I will create will be different than before taking A Level!





Before, most of my art was in small sketchbooks, and was fairly timid and small scale, but now I feel that I will be experimenting with more larger scale works in my free time – something I would not have considered before experimenting with size and medium through my A Level.

I once read that music is art through time, whilst visual art is art through space: though in many cases we, as artists, try to express similar emotions and statements through music and art, they are opposites in their methods. A painting will exist outside of time – you can explore the space it occupies, spend moments looking at each section, even mentally move across its space through the artist's brushstrokes and line work.

Music is the polar opposite – it exists in a second, and then it is gone, moved on to the next thought or idea. One cannot mentally rewind

a performance, it forces the listener into experiencing a sequence of thoughts in a set order.

Interestingly, violinist Hilary Hahn says that there is a close relationship between music and the arts – she describes the intra-personal aspects of conveying a story or series of emotions through music as being very similar to that of the visual arts.

Indeed, she said that she would have been a painter were she not a musician, though she admitted that through art she would have lost some of the elements of direct communication that you experience whilst performing a piece of music."

GCSE student Eva took a very different approach to her final project and worked mainly through photography and experimented with adding creative elements by digitally editing and enhancing her pictures.

"I used a black backdrop and got my friends to hold a big piece of black card that was wrapped around them as they were holding their item. I took photos with them holding it in different positions and I just chose the one that I thought looked the best.

I had two lights on either side of them to eliminate shadows. I then put the photos on Photoshop and adjusted the brightness and contrast. Once I was happy with that, I saved two version, one as colour and one black and white (using the black and white option on Photoshop and adjusting the colours).

They were both as hard as each other to edit, and editing definitely took over 8 hours. For black and white, I used the magic selection tool and had to carefully select all the background (everything but the hands) and once I had done this I turned the brightness all the way down and the contrast all the



way up. This was to make the background as dark as possible and for us to only see the hands. The selection took the most amount of time by far.

For the colour, I had to print out an A3 sized version of the picture and trace it on high gsm paper to minimise bleed. I then scanned it back in and imported it into Photoshop with the picture. This layer was then selected to become 'multiply' so that white would appear see through and black would appear as an outline.

From then I just 'eye dropped' the colour I wanted and drew it in. The hardest one was the one of Verity with the hair clip because there were so many reflections and details I had to do."

As challenging as the work was, The Art Exhibition stood as at one of Eva's highlights from the past year as it gave her a chance to showcase all her efforts over the past two years and it was also one of the first times, her work has ever been displayed for the public!

"I liked seeing the difference from the beginning to what I have now, which i think is such a huge improvement. It is really interesting to see how I have grown not only as a person but with my art."

When asked about how the idea of the her photographs came about, Eva said "people have their own personalities, so I gathered three volunteers and asked them to bring an item that they were drawn too or they thought

describes part of them or their personality in some way. I wanted to do a black and white and colour version after taking inspiration from Julian Opie, he has a sort of cartoon manner to his work, but you can still see the features and elements of who the person is. One of his projects was an animated photo of different people walking down the street. You can still see what sort of clothes they are wearing and what items they are holding but not their faces. I wanted to try and mirror this aspect with people choosing the items that represent them.

For me, my instrument is part of who I am, I can't imagine myself without it and so I think showing art like this is really important."



LOWER SCHOOL COMPOSITION COMPETITION



On Thursday 27th June, the Lower School treated audiences to three concerts, each entirely led, arranged, composed and performed by Year 6, 7 and 8 students.

Each concert had its own theme; 'Karma of our Actions' which looked at endangered species and climate change, 'Family Music Mix' and 'The Comp Comp Crisis' which took a unique 'meta' twist on their theme being the difficulty of choosing a theme!

The competition was adjudicated by four of our first-study Year 12 composers (Peadar Hay, Sasha Scott, Rio Harada-Parr and James Sparkes) along with Alison Cox (Head of Composition) and Sam Buttler (Composition Assistant).

When commenting on the quality of composition and performance that came out of the competition, the student adjudicators said **"not only were the concerts extremely enjoyable but we saw incredible some musicianship from the Lower School and aside from the music, each group explored some really interesting concepts to accompany their pieces, overall just really well done to all those who participated"**.

The **overall winning group** and theme of the competition was one of the **Year 8** groups with **'Family Music Mix'**, where each piece represented a different member of an extended family. It was a mixture of arrangements and compositions, all presented beautifully by Tifany Rodas.

The group, led by Da In Kim, worked incredibly well together and constantly checked that everyone was both happy and doing their respective jobs. In the end, this resulted in a very slick concert with some amazing playing. Also part of the winning group, Elise Furber stood out as the one of the best individual performers of the entire competition.

Following the performances, the School hosted the **'Comp Comp Oscars'** for special recognition throughout the competition process.

Each category had four of five nominated students, there were Oscars for Teamwork, Presentation, Cheerleading, Professionalism, Costume, Production Design, Most

Supporting Student, Crisis Management, Ambition, Score Presentation, Multi Instrumental Performance, Individual Performance, Musical Arrangement and Musical Composition.

The students chosen as winners in each category were as follows:

Teamwork - contributing the most to their group whilst also going above and beyond their individual role - **Chloe Jiang (Year 8)**

Presentation - not only presenting extremely well in their own concerts but also delivering fantastic performances outside of the music - **Tiffany Rodas (Year 8)**

Cheerleading - being immensely supportive to everyone in their group, bringing people up when they might have been feeling down or stressed - **Rebecca Nicolas (Year 7)**

Professionalism - treating the competition and performance as if they were working with a professional orchestra and

musicians - **Polina Matyusheva (Year 7)**

Costume - putting the most effort into their own costume and the overall ideas for their group - **So-Hee Han (Year 8)**

Production Design - making sure that their concert had a good aesthetic all round from posters to tickets to programmes - **Phoebe Papandrea (Year 7)**

Most Supporting Student - helping their team stay together, on target and offering their help in any way they could, being there for every member of their team - **Theadora Griffiths (Year 8)**

Crisis Management - keeping cool and collected when a problem or issue occurred within their group - **Gabriella Delia (Year 8)**

“Gabriella in particular stood out for the ‘Crisis Management Oscar’ due to her group’s programmes going missing on the morning of the competition. This seemingly urgent matter was only a minor hitch as

Gabriella sprung into action and completely re-created a brand new gorgeous programme with only three hours to go before they were set to perform!” (Sam Buttler, Composition Assistant, ‘Comp Comp’ Adjudicator)

Ambition - taking personal risks whilst also trying to include everyone within their group in each of their pieces - **Louis Richardson (year 8)**

Score Presentation - having the neatest, most accurate and professional score - **Hana Shah (Year 6)**

Multi Instrumental Performance - having a hand in many aspects / instruments of the musical performance - **Arunima Peshwe (Year 6)**

Individual Performance - giving an outstanding performance throughout their entire concert in every piece they featured in - **Elise Furber (Year 8)**

Musical Arrangement - arranging a pre-existing piece of music for their group - **Antonia Zadrag (Year 8)**





Musical Composition - writing an original piece - **Theadora Griffiths (Year 8)**

Aside from each of the awards for which multiple students were considered, the Composition Department also wanted to give a notable mention to individual students for specific elements of their work throughout the competition:

Charity Fundraising - **Phoebe Papandrea (Year 7)** raised more than any other student throughout the competition for Southeastern Guide Dogs, the charity chosen for this event by **Yazdi Madon (Year 7)**

Composition for Harp - **“an incredibly difficult instrument to compose for, however, the end result was beautifully written, simple but extremely effective”** (Rhian Dyer, Practice Supervisor, Harpist) - **Melody Jiang (Year 7)**

Concert Management - **“Da In just had everything under control with such ease, both in the lead up and on the actual concert she was always on top of everything without any help needed from myself or Alison”** (Sam Buttler, Composition Assistant, ‘Comp Comp’ Adjudicator) - **Da In Kim (Year 8)**

Marketing and Publicity - selling tickets and generating an audience for the concerts, presenting and delivering not one but two assemblies in front of the whole school - **Ashton Hunt (Year 8)**

Score Book Presentation - the best design and most aesthetically pleasing presentation of their group’s score - **Phoebe Papandrea (Year 7)**

Special Effects / IT - not only producing purely electronic music but also producing films

to go alongside - **Rocco Dal Cin (Year 8)** and **Elijah Tolefe (Year 8)**

Comedy - going above and beyond with props and comical voices throughout their performance - **Ashton Hunt (Year 8)**

Leadership - not only leading their team effectively but always checked in when they weren’t available, made sure everyone was on top of exactly what they were doing, that their theme was consistent and if something wasn’t working then finding the right person to re-work it efficiently - **Da In Kim (Year 8)**

SOUND IMAGE MOVEMENT

We finished off the Summer Term with a truly memorable event showcasing the creative breadth of our talented Purcellians

Early on in the concert, Sasha Scott stunned the audience with her immense soundscape, Adrenaline, for electronic backing and 4 saxophones. Huge swathes of coruscating sound immersed the audience in a sonically gripping tour de force. This came after a Glitch-encrusted opening by Rio Harada-Parr with grinding urban sounds accompanying his equally entrancing graphics.

After this immersive spatial onslaught, the first half then unfolded with a mind wrenching alternation of original indie rock and contemporary classical compositions. Included here were a rhythmically driven amplified string quartet by Jasmine Morris and an angular, highly percussive solo piano piece by James Sparkes accompanying a beguilingly edited 1948 film of the Red Shoes intercut with footage



of contemporary dance sequences. A remarkable feature of this set was the range of voices presented; all were accompanied by bands and live orchestra provided by the now mandatory SIM strings. Conducted live by Alicja Herma, this ensemble has now become an essential feature of SIM events.

Emily Price enthralled us with her ukulele-accompanied and wonderfully poignant voice followed by a number

with pre-recorded electronic backing and vocals. She also featured in an original track by Illia Lisak which brought the audience to its feet when Elijah Tolefe emerged from the wings to deliver a rap, blisteringly powerful in its intensity. Chelsea Becker entranced the audience with her vocal intensity in her own composition.

The first set concluded with a couple of Latin numbers presented with great humour



and panache by Daniel Garvin followed by Elijah's own band featuring some stunning vocal pyrotechnics from So-Hee Han, Elise Furber and Gabriella Delia.

The evening's entertainment did not pause for the interval; a spectacular art exhibition in the art rooms took the audience further into aesthetic explorations; audience members emerged bewitched by the work of the leaving upper 6th.

The second half of the concert began with a galvanising Afro-beat tune, Yé arranged and accompanied with an insistent beat by Josh Davis on drums. For the first time in the evening we heard the powerfully melismatic voice of Gayatri Nair who then went on to deliver Jack Thomas's arrangement, for band plus strings, of Street Life, one of the Crusaders tracks from the late 70s. The energy of the evening was now being well and truly ratcheted up as Cody Moss had taken charge of the band, bringing in ex-Purcellian, Charlie Heywood Snell to



super charge the funk rhythms bursting forth from the guitar section. The approaching final excitement was put on hold by a finely judged drop in tempo as we were mesmerised by the wonderfully warm and mellifluous voice of Simone Qiu in a captivating rendition of Eloïse's hit, You, Dear, beautifully accompanied by the finely modulated harmonies of backing singers Emily Price and Sofia Lisak. This was the precursor to a rip-roaring final set by the Cody Moss Experience with the astonishing Gayatri who gave their all in a sequence of Gospel, Soul and Funk hits.

An outstanding feature of the final set was the immaculate playing of the horn section, popping out the high notes that left the audience gasping. Driving to an ecstatic ending with a medley of Beyoncé tunes, the band riveted the now mesmerised audience.

As the energy level spiralled ever upwards, those listening could not contain themselves. Led by years 7 and 8, people burst on to the floor turning the concert into a huge dance fest and bringing the evening to an epic, joyful and richly celebratory ending.



THIS YEAR'S PURCELLIAN HIGHLIGHTS

A few notable moments from the past year from Purcellians both past and present... (There has been so much success but we couldn't include them all so make sure to keep up to date with futures edition of 'Crescendo' and our 'Weekly Highlights' through our website and social media!)



STUDENT NEWS:

Zara Williams (Year 11) was awarded First Prize in the Piano category of the Golden Classical Music Awards as part of the **New York International Music Competition** which led to Zara making her **Carnegie Hall (New York)** debut

Lewis Isaacs (Year 11) was a finalist in 2019's **Young Drummer of the Year Competition** which took place at Yamaha HQ where he spent the day with three world famous drummers; Steve White (The Who, Paul Weller), Donovan Hepburn (ELO, Adele, Sam Smith) and George Daniel (The 1975)

This year's **National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain**

includes 8 Purcell students; **Yasmin Strevens-Chen (Year 13, Co-Leader Violin 1)**, **Lily Harwood (Year 12, Principal Violin 2)**, **Isabelle Norwood (Year 13, Double Bass)**, **Joseph Longstaff (Year 13, Horn)**, **Bethany Caswell (Year 12, Principal Harp)**, **Alexander Papp (Year 13, Composer)**, **Sasha Scott (Year 12, Composer)** and **Rhys Concessao (Year 11, Rotational Orchestra Keyboard)**

Daniel Garvin (Year 12) was recently appointed the leader of the **NSSO Main Orchestra**

Magdalen Ho (Year 10) made her **Prom's debut at St Jude's** (playing with former Purcellian Jack liebeck) under the baton of Robert Max

Four of our very own composers **Asli Emre (Year 11)**, **Sasha Scott (Year 12)**, **Alex Papp (Year 13)** and **Josh Mock (Year 13)**, made their **World Premieres in Turkey** along with flute soloists **Hannah Capstick (Year 13)** when they travelled to Turkey for the **Adalar Tour** in collaboration with members of The Turkish National Youth Philharmonic Orchestra

Tom Waters (Year 12), **Jack Thomas (Year 13)** and **Cody Moss (Year 13)**, who make up the **Tom Waters Trio**, embarked on a **seven-city tour through Canada** over their Easter break

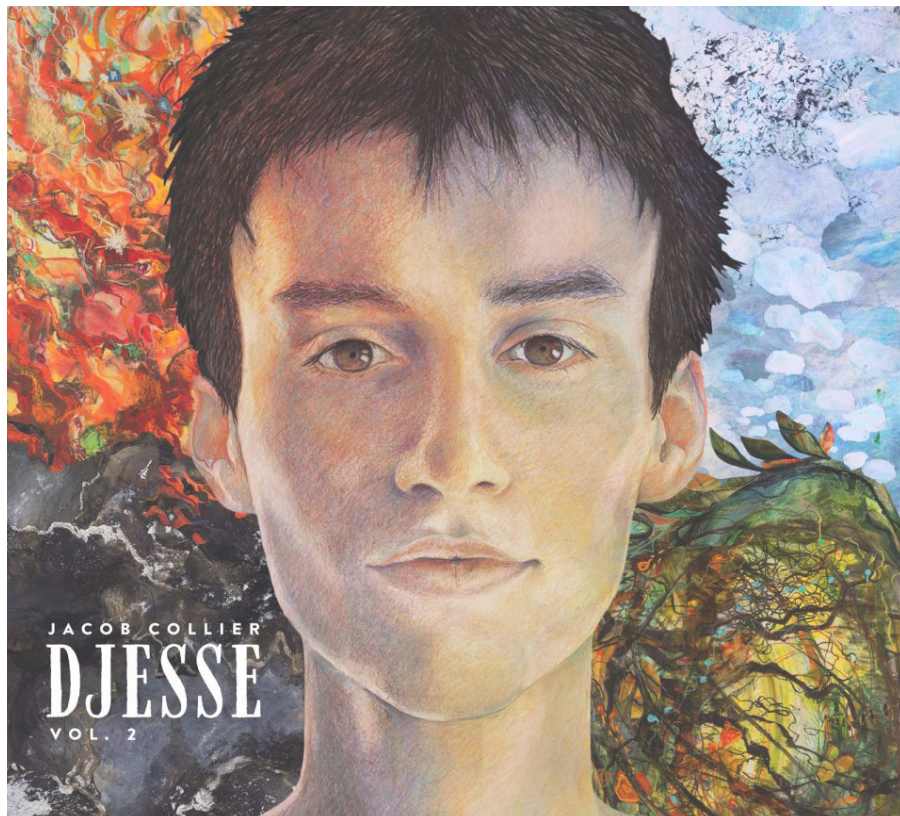
We saw tremendous academic success for our recent graduates with **63% of our**

Year 13 students receiving scholarship offers to their first choice of study with students moving on to study at RCM, RAM, Guildhall, Trinity Laban and Oxford University amongst others

ALUMNI NEWS:

Former BBC Young Musician of the Year winner **Martin James Bartlett** signed a record deal with Warner Classics and released his debut album 'Love and Death'. In its first week of release, the album was named as Classic FM's 'Album of the Week' with the first two singles charting in Apple Music and Spotify's most popular classical music playlists and the first single reaching over 1.2 million streams on Spotify

Two-time Grammy Award winner **Jacob Collier** released his second album **Djesse - Vol 1** and embarked on world tour with sold out shows in London, New York and Nashville and is set to release **Djesse - Vol 2** on July 19th, Vol 3 later on this year and Vol 4 anticipated for a 2020 release



Also this year, Jacob picked up the coveted PRS for Music 'Gold Award' at the Jazz FM Awards

This year's Royal Academy of Music Honours included two Purcell alumni; **Kit Downes** (Jazz Piano - Fellow, FRAM) and **Jacob Collier** (Song Writing and Multi-Instruments - Associate, ARAM)

Purcell alumna and former BBC Young Jazz Musician of the Year winner **Alexandra Ridout** was awarded the 'Rising Star Award' at the 2018 BBC British Jazz Awards

The Delegates, led by former Purcellians **Sam Every** and **Seth Tackaberry** launched their debut album 'Home from Home' with a sold out London show. The album has features from current and past Purcellians; **Gabriel Davies**, **Alexandra Ridout**, **Didier Osindero**, **Annie-May Page**, **India Blackshaw-Britton**, **Jasmine Blackshaw-Britton** and special guest **Simon Allen** (Head of Jazz)



To share news with The Purcell School, get in touch via email at publicity@purcell-school.org

COMING UP

Tuesday 10 September

RUSH HOUR RECITAL: Beethoven Piano Sonatas

5:00pm | The Purcell School

[Free admission](#)

Beethoven Piano Sonatas Op 2 no 1 in F Minor, Op 10 no 2 in F Major, Op 13 in C Minor (*Pathétique*)

Jianing Kong launches a complete season series of Beethoven Piano Sonatas to mark the 250th anniversary of the composer's birth

Former Purcell student, acclaimed international soloist and current member of the teaching staff, **Jianing Kong** has embarked on a new journey of recording and performing the complete Beethoven piano sonatas. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to showcase them chronologically through the school year

Thursday 19 September

LIVE AT LUNCHTIME

1:00pm | YouTube (Online) / The Purcell School

[Free admission](#)

Following the success of three live streamed concerts last term, Purcell returns with our 'Live at Lunchtime' concert series. The performances can be watched live on our YouTube channel (The Purcell School)

Tuesday 24 September

RUSH HOUR RECITAL: Beethoven lecture

5:00pm | The Purcell School

[Free admission](#)

Beethoven Symphony no 5 - from Minor to Major

This lecture promises to unlock some of the secrets of Beethoven's most well-known symphony in a way that engages professionals, amateurs and students alike

Edward Longstaff, a long-standing member of The Purcell School staff, has entertained and educated many generations of Purcell students with his expert analysis of musical scores

Wednesday 25 September

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCERT

7:00pm | The Purcell School

[Free admission](#)

Featuring solo and ensemble performances from Year 9, 10 and 11 students

For further information on the programme, keep in touch with The Purcell School online through our website and social media

Wednesday 1 October

RUSH HOUR RECITAL: Beethoven Piano Sonatas

5:00pm | The Purcell School

[Free admission](#)

Beethoven Piano Sonatas Op 2 no 2 in A Major, Op 14 no 1 in E Major, Op 27 no 2 in C# Minor (*Moonlight*)

Jianing Kong continues his cycle of Beethoven's piano sonatas

Wednesday 2 October

SENIOR SCHOOL CONCERT

7:00pm | The Purcell School

[Free admission](#)

Featuring soloist and ensemble performances from Year 12 and 13 students

For further information on the programme, keep in touch with The Purcell School online through our website and social media

Saturday 28 September

HATFIELD HOUSE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL FAMILY CONCERT: CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS

1:00pm | St. Etheldreda's Church, Hatfield

Tickets: £12 (£6 for Under 18's)*

<http://hatfieldhousemusicfestival.org.uk/family-concert-carnival-of-the-animals/>

*A booking fee applies of £1.50 per transaction



The Purcell School students will be performing alongside internationally renowned pianists Katya Apekisheva and Charles Owen, conducted by Paul Hoskins

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