

Masterclass: Tuesday 17 September | 11.30am **Peter Pears Recital Room** Duration: 90', with no interval

Open Rehearsal: Thursday 19 September | 2pm **Britten Studio** Duration: 90', with no interval

End of Course Recital: Sunday 22 September | 4pm **Britten Studio** Duration: 90', with no interval

Composition & Performance

The Britten Pears Young Artist Programme (BPYAP) was founded in 1972 by Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears and offers early-career professional musicians high-level, specialised performance-training from some of the world's finest performers, teachers and creatives.

Established in 1992 by Oliver Knussen and Colin Matthews, the Composition & Performance course has been supporting for decades the development of composers and performers specialising in contemporary music. This year's course directors are composers Colin Matthews and Mark-Anthony Turnage, and soprano Claire Booth, who will lead the intensive nine-day series of activity. They are supported by a group of expert tutors: Jonathan Berman (conductor), Jacqueline Shave (strings), Rosa Campos Fernandez (woodwind), Richard Watkins (brass), George Barton (percussion) and Sonya Knussen (course support).

Twenty-seven exceptional composers, singers, instrumentalists and an assistant conductor make up this year's cohort of young artists. During the course, the composers will write a new work from scratch, supported by 1:1 mentoring from the course directors, and daily workshop sessions with the ensemble of musicians.

The ensemble will explore and rehearse a range of core repertoire from the 20th and 21st centuries, including works by Elliott Carter, Oliver Knussen, Helen Grime and Anton Webern. The singers and pianists will work on contemporary opera arias, including music by Kaija Saariaho, Unsuk Chin and George Benjamin.

The course features three public events: a masterclass on Tuesday 17 September offers a deep dive into Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire*, with expert interpreters Claire Booth and Jonathan Berman. On Thursday 19 September, audiences can observe the creative process in real time during an Open Composer Reading Session. The course concludes with a performance at 4pm on Sunday 22 September, showcasing the new works in progress alongside some of the core repertoire on which the young artists have been working.

We are grateful to
The Boltini Trust and The Radcliffe Trust
for their support of this course

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is made possible with the generous support of
Trusts & Foundations and individual supporters



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ENGLAND

*Tutors:***Claire Booth** course director/vocal tutor**Colin Matthews** course director/
composition tutor**Mark-Anthony Turnage** course director/
composition tutor**Jonathan Berman** conductor**Sonya Knussen** course support**Jacqueline Shave** strings tutor**Rosa Campos Fernandez** woodwind tutor/
clarinet**Richard Watkins** brass tutor**George Barton** percussion tutor*Young Artists:***Hy-Khang Dang** composer**Jasper Eaglesfield** composer**Mingdu Li** composer**Sam Rudd-Jones** composer**Alex Tay** composer**Liucil  Vilimait ** composer**Jennifer Kreider** soprano**Joanne Evans** mezzo-soprano**Violetta Suvini** violin**Amalia Young** violin**Dominic Stokes** viola**Gabriel Francis-Dehqani** cello**Cole Morrison** double bass**Karen Wong** flute**Joseph Jordan** oboe**Rowan Jones** clarinet**George Bailey** bassoon**Euan Scott** trumpet**Bar Zemach** horn**Gunnar Helgason** trombone**Rosie Murphy** harp**Meadow Brooks** percussion**Roberto Boschelli** piano**Szymon Paruzel** piano**Christine Wu** piano**Claudia Fuller** conductor**Hy-Khang Dang** *composer*

Hy-Khang Dang currently works as a composer, performer and conductor. He completed his studies in saxophone, orchestral conducting and composition at the Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussels, at the Conservatoire National Sup rieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris and at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. His works have been performed by various ensembles, including Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra and Luxembourg Chamber Orchestra in collaboration with conductors such as Duncan Ward, Marie Jacquot and Chlo  Dufresne. His most recent compositions have been performed by EXAUDI, Plus-Minus Ensemble and London Contemporary Dance School. He is currently working on a commission for the Luxembourg Philharmonic Academy and United Instruments of Lucilin, along with reading sessions and performances at Mixtur Festival in Barcelona, Festival POTE in Besan on and Philharmonie Luxembourg.

Jasper Eaglesfield *composer*

Jasper Eaglesfield studied at the Royal College of Music under the tutelage of Kenneth Hesketh, Jonathan Cole and Mark-Anthony Turnage. In his time there, he won the RCM Large Ensemble Composition Competition twice. Prior to this he studied composition for four years with David John Roche. In 2020 he was a composer with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. In 2019, Jasper won the SoundWorld Young Composer's Prize and in 2023 he was winner of the audience award in the Clements Prize for composers. Jasper's works have been performed by ensembles including the Bristol Ensemble, Brodsky Quartet, Explore Ensemble, Britten Sinfonia and Fidelio Trio, and in venues such as St George's Bristol, the Barbican Centre, the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge University, St Mary Le Strand and Conway Hall. In 2023, Jasper collaborated with the English National Ballet School on a new one-act ballet.

Mingdu Li *composer*

Born in Beijing, Mingdu Li is a recent graduate from the the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, studying composition under Oliver Iredale Searle. She also holds a BMus in Composition from RCS and a BSc in Maths from University College, London. Next month, she will embark on her PhD in Composition at the Royal College of Music. Recently, Mingdu has concentrated her musical aesthetic on interpreting the 'silent' languages and concepts of maths and quantum physics into 'audible' compositions. Her music delves into the notion of humanity's insignificance in relation to our Creator, and captures the human journey from existential confusion to ultimate questions about cosmic origins and destiny. She believes that this unique approach can serve as a conduit between scientific exploration and spiritual longing.

Sam Rudd-Jones *composer*

John Lawrence Field Memorial Bursary

Sam Rudd-Jones is a composer and pianist based in London. The rhythms of his music are characterised by the use of grooves from rap and electronic music, as well as endlessly accelerating and decelerating tempos. He studied at King's College, University of Cambridge, with Richard Causton (2018–22), privately with Julian Anderson (2023–4), and is now commencing study towards a PhD with George Benjamin at King's College, London, with an London Arts and Humanities Partnership scholarship. He also releases electronic music under his own name.

Alex Tay *composer*

London-based composer Alex Tay read Music at King's College, Cambridge, and Composition at Churchill College, Cambridge. He has studied and collaborated with, among others, Julian Anderson, Malcolm Singer, Colin Matthews, Christian Mason, François Xavier-Roth, London Symphony Orchestra (Panufnik Composers Scheme 2018–19), Brett Dean, Jack Sheen, the LPO (LPO Young Composers' Scheme 2021–22), Britten Sinfonia, Royal Northern Sinfonia, National Youth Choir, Emily Dickens, Ben Parry, Kerry Andrew, Idrîsi Ensemble, Robin Holloway, Richard Causton (at Cambridge), Judith Weir, and the Heath Quartet (at Dartington). His music distills the overwhelm of existence with its pace, hyperactivity and illusions. Alex is currently composing a commission from Wigmore Hall, which will be premiered there by EXAUDI and GBSR Duo in February 2025.

Liucilė Vilimaitė *composer*

Liucilė Vilimaitė is a Lithuanian composer and harpist fascinated by storytelling and performativity in music. She studied harp at Vilnius Dvarionas Music School and discovered her compositional side as a teenager, initially inspired by Penderecki's *Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima*. Her works gained recognition and awards in several national student compositions, and in 2021, her piece *Lost in Time* for harp sextet was premiered at the Dutch Harp Festival in Utrecht. In 2022, Liucilė performed two of her compositions — *Žalčiai* for harp and strings, and *Trilogija* for six harps — at the World Harp Congress in Cardiff. That same year, Liucilė graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of the Hague, where she was taught by pioneering harpists Ernestine Stoop and Sylvain Blassel, as well as composer Trevor Grahl. Currently, Liucilė lives in her hometown of Vilnius and continues to explore contemporary music as both a composer and performer.

George Bailey *bassoon*

George Bailey was born in Oxford, and began playing the bassoon at the age of eight. He is currently studying for his Bachelors of Music at the Musikhochschule Mannheim (Mannheim University of Music and Performing Arts) with Ole Kristian Dahl. George has also studied at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and Chetham's School of Music in Manchester. George has won scholarships and awards including as the Leverhulme Scholarship from the National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain, the Chetham's School of Music Concerto Competition, as well as first prize in the Advanced Bassoonist Category (Asociación de Doble Caña de Sevilla).

Roberto Boschelli *piano*

Actively involved in the contemporary music, Calabrian pianist Roberto Boschelli graduated from a Master of Performance in Contemporary Piano in 2021 and the Artist Diploma in Performance in 2023, supported by the Myra Hess Award and David Young Piano Prize. Under the guidance of Andrew Zolinsky and Danny Driver, he explored the music from the 1960s such as spectralism, new complexity and minimalism. In 2019, he recorded the Second Piano Sonata by Alessandro Longo, and he played in collaborative/chamber music projects in London performing music by Thomas Adès, Mark-Anthony Turnage, Jo Kondo, George Lewis, Harrison Birtwistle and Kajja Saariaho. He has collaborated with the composer and performer Samuel Loveless from whom he commissioned two pieces for piano, *Guardian*, premiered during the pandemic in 2020, and *Illuni*. Roberto currently lives and teaches in London.

Meadow Brooks *percussion*

Meadow Brooks is a versatile musician, with a career spanning many spheres of performance and education. Passionate about orchestral music, Meadow works regularly as a freelance performer, appearing in concert with ensembles such as the BBC Concert Orchestra, Knussen Chamber Orchestra, Pegasus Opera Company and London Contemporary Orchestra. Known for her work blending genres, she has also performed at the Berlioz Festival, Young Euro Classic Festival, Birmingham Mela and Glastonbury Festival. She has worked closely with the Riot Ensemble and premiered many new works including Bryn Harrison's *A Coiled Form II* and the album *Ways of Watching* for October House Records. As a keen educator, she is committed to the accessible and inclusive delivery of music education, and has been engaged in this sphere by the LSO, OAE, RAM junior department, London Chamber Orchestra, and the NYO.

Joanne Evans *mezzo-soprano*

London-born mezzo-soprano, Joanne Evans is a graduate of the Merola Opera Program, and of residencies at the Ravinia Steans Music Institute and the Festival d'Aix en Provence. As a Vocal Fellow at Music Academy of the West in 2022, she was winner of the Marilyn Horne Song Competition. Elsewhere she took home first place in the 2022 Handel Aria Competition, and was a Boston District winner in the 2022 Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition. She has received awards from the Gerda Lissner Foundation, Premiere Opera Foundation and the Young Texas Artists Music Competition. Most recently Joanne understudied the role of Rosina with Opera San Jose, and has previously been seen in the roles of Olga, Maddalena and Stéphanie. Future plans include the bel canto Voice Academy at Fondation des Treilles later this year, and the role of Flora (*The Turn of the Screw*) with Annapolis Opera in 2025.

Gabriel Francis-Dehqani *cello*

Gabriel Francis-Dehqani studied with Sue Lowe and Guy Johnston, and is now on the Artist Diploma course at the Guildhall, studying with Louise Hopkins and with awards from the Countess of Munster Trust, Help Musicians and Stephen Bell Scheme. In 2024, Gabriel was awarded first prize at the Muriel Taylor Cello Competition and the Irish Heritage UK competition, held at Wigmore Hall. He won first prize at the International Contemporary Music Interpretation Competition (2023) and was invited to perform a recital at the Accademia Filarmonica Romana, playing a world premiere by Deborah Pritchard. Gabriel has broadcast numerous times as a soloist and chamber musician on BBC Radios 3 & 4 and performed extensively throughout the UK, Europe and Asia. Gabriel is a founding member of the award-winning Trio Casella and enjoys work with the Komuna Collective.

Claudia Fuller *conductor*

Claudia Fuller is a conductor and violinist based in Berlin, and is currently studying for an MA in Orchestral Conducting at the University of the Arts. Outside of their studies they have taken part in courses including the Dartington International Summer School 2023 with Alice Farnham, and the International Young Composers and Conductors Academy 2024 with Peter Rundel, where they conducted members of the JACK Quartet and International Contemporary Ensemble in works by composition fellows. In the 2024–25 season Claudia will be a cohort member of the Royal Philharmonic Society's Gateshead Programme for Female and Nonbinary Conductors, taking part in projects with the Royal Northern Sinfonia. They will also take part in the Orquesta Sinfónica del Principado de Asturias' conducting masterclass with Johannes Schlaefli in September 2024.

Gunnar Helgason *trombone*

Gunnar Helgason is a 24-year-old trombone player from Reykjavik, Iceland. Gunnar is currently based in Copenhagen where he works freelance as an orchestra and chamber musician. Gunnar is passionate about contemporary music performance and is developing his career in the direction of modern music.

Rowan Jones *clarinet*

Rowan Jones is a London-based clarinettist with a dynamic career in classical and contemporary music. She studied first at the RAM and in 2023 completed a Masters in Performance at the RCM. She has performed with ensembles such as the ENO orchestra, Orchestra of Opera North, Brixton Chamber Orchestra, and Wild Arts Opera for its 2023 and 2024 tours. An advocate for contemporary music, she was a London Sinfonietta Academist (2023/24) and has collaborated with Explore Ensemble and Tangram Collective. Her recording projects include pieces for the free app Music for Trees (a collaboration between RAM students and the Royal Parks), Isabella Gellis' *With Glory and His Scissors Glinting* (Shadwell Opera) and Rafael Marino Arcaro's *Concerto Apinayé*. She has participated in chamber residencies with the Tunnel Trust on the Isle of Coll and Ferrandou Musique, and is an Instrumental Fellow with Orpheus Sinfonia.

Joseph Jordan *oboe*

Joseph Jordan is an oboist and composer who always seeks to challenge the creative limits of his personal and artistic background. He holds a Masters in Oboe Performance from the Juilliard School where he studied with Elaine Douvas and received additional instruction from Linda Strommen, Nathan Hughes, and Scott Hostetler. Upon graduating, he was the recipient of a Benzaquen Career Advancement Grant in recognition of his outstanding musicianship and ambitious commitment to contemporary music. In 2023, Joseph began a two-year fellowship with Ensemble Connect, a programme based at Carnegie Hall that combines classical and contemporary chamber music performance with an emphasis on educational outreach across New York City, including tuition, chamber concerts, and interactive performances for public schools of all ages and special-needs support centres.

Jennifer Kreider *soprano*

Jennifer Kreider is currently based in Minneapolis, USA. This summer she was a Gerdine Young Artist with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis where she sang the role of Sagredo and jumped in as a cover for the lead role of Maria Celeste in Philip Glass' opera *Galileo Galilei*. In 2023, Jennifer won second place in the Upper Midwest Region of the Metropolitan Opera's Laffont Competition after being named a winner of the Minneapolis district. Additionally, in 2023 she premiered the featured role of Mrs Edith Frank in the world premiere production of Shulamit Ran's and Charles Kondek's opera *Anne Frank*, and covered the role of Erika in Samuel Barber's *Vanessa* at the Spoleto Festival USA. Jennifer received her artist diploma from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, her MM degree from Rice University in Houston, Texas, and her BM degree from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

Cole Morrison *double bass*

Cole Morrison is Canadian double bassist currently living and working in the United Kingdom. He is particularly interested in performing the music of living composers and exploring alternative concert formats and programming. Projects that have allowed for significant improvisation and extensive collaboration with artists from other disciplines have shaped Cole as an individual, and it is these experiences that have led to him performing, teaching, and collaborating in a variety of settings across Europe, Asia and North America. Past associations include the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, the Alberta Foundation of the Arts, the Banff Center for the Arts, Grafenegg Academy, as well as various orchestras and small ensembles.

Rosie Murphy *harp*

Rosie Murphy is a classical harpist and composer who is currently an undergraduate student in the Royal Conservatoire of Music in The Hague studying with Ernestine Stoop. She began learning the harp at the age of nine with Emer Kenny. In 2015, she was awarded a music scholarship to Wesley College Dublin and began to travel to London for private harp lessons with Sioned Williams, the principal harpist of the BBC Symphony Orchestra. In 2018, she performed Debussy's *Clair de lune* for President Michael D. Higgins and the Irish Rugby Team in Áras an Uachtaráin in celebration of their Grand Slam win. In 2019, she performed Britten's *Sinfonia de Requiem* with the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra in Milton Court Concert Hall, London. In 2021, she secured the place of principal harpist in the Ulster Youth Orchestra and the Irish Youth Baroque Orchestra. She is the composer and harpist for '21 Artists for the 21st Century' mentorship programme.

Szymon Paruzel *piano*

Szymon Paruzel was born in Łódź, Poland. He graduated from Academy of Music in Cracow in 2021, where he studied with Gajusz Kęska, and from Chopin University of Music in 2023, where he studied with Jerzy Sterczyński. He has also received lessons from Andrzej Jasiński, Ingolf Wunder and Peter Jablonski, among others. His repertoire ranges from modern music to Baroque solo and chamber music, often using historical instruments such as the clavichord and harpsichord. Szymon's interest in modern and contemporary music has resulted in a number of first performances of pieces by composers from younger generations, both in his home country and abroad. As an advocate of 20th-century Polish music he has played works by virtually every major composer of that time, and plans to write a PhD thesis on Alexandre Tansman's piano sonatinas.

Euan Scott *trumpet*

Euan Scott is a Glasgow-born trumpet player based in London. He recently completed his Masters of Performance from the RCM, studying with Jason Evans, James Fountain, Niall Keatley and Kate Moore. Euan began playing the trumpet when he was eight years old and received a place at the Douglas Academy Music School where he studied with Robert Baxter. He then attended the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, junior and senior departments, and during his third year of undergraduate studies, travelled to the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Leipzig as part of the Erasmus+ programme where he studied under Guido Segers and Felix Wilde. Euan has worked with many notable orchestras such as the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, BBC SSO, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Manchester Camerata, BBC Concert Orchestra, Philharmonia, and with Deutsche Opera Berlin at the Edinburgh International Festival.

Dominic Stokes *viola*

Dominic Stokes is a violist and composer who has established a reputation as one of London's leading young contemporary artists. His passion and musical facility for all things contemporary has led him to work with groups at the forefront of the new-music scene, such as Riot Ensemble, Manchester Camerata, and O/Modernt. Alongside his quartet, Quartet Concrète, he received first prize in the St James Chamber Music Competition and has performed recitals across London. The ensemble is currently part of the Hans Keller chamber forum. Dominic is the director of Rothko Collective, a contemporary music group dedicated to creating immersive, inspiring experiences. It has commissioned over 20 new works, was awarded first prize in Nonclassical's award for best emerging artist, released two albums, and appeared on BBC Radio 3.

Violetta Suvini *violin*

Irish-Italian violinist Violetta Suvini studied French and Italian literature at St Hilda's, Oxford, and graduated from a Masters in Violin Performance at the Guildhall in 2023, where she studied with Stephanie Gonley. She has taken part in masterclasses with, among others, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Ralf Gothoni and Ensemble Intercontemporain. Recent awards include first prize at the Premio Internazionale Il Suono Giovane 2024 with pianist Henry Lewis. She is a member of Komuna Collective, a group of contemporary musicians and artists supported by Arts Council England, TORCH Oxford and PRS Foundation. Her engagement with contemporary music has included working with ensemble uBu for BBC Radio 3's Frank Zappa 'Total Immersion' broadcast. She is grateful to the Harrison Frank Family Foundation for the loan of an old Italian instrument, and to the Humphrey Richardson Taylor Trust which continues to provide valued support.

Amalia Young *violin*

Amalia Young is a violinist and improviser based in south-east London, specialising in the performance of classical and experimental music. She completed her BMus at the RAM, where she also received the Doris Faulkener violin prize upon graduation, and holds Masters degrees from Oxford University and Goldsmiths, University of London, where she has developed academic interests in embodiment and practice research. She has recently been involved in concert and recording projects with Apartment House, having played on its critically acclaimed recording of Morton Feldman's Violin and String Quartet. Her ensemble projects also include the Kavinsky Trio (violin/sax/piano), and the Komuna Collective, which has brought programmes of contemporary and avant-garde string quartet music to nightclubs in Oxford and London. As an improviser, she has performed with folk, pop and free improv groups across London.

Karen Wong *flute*

Karen Wong is a member of the Sinfonia Smith Square 2023/24 and has recently worked with the LSO, Northern Ballet Sinfonia, Scottish Ballet Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, and Taipei Music Academy & Festival Orchestra, and side-by-side with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House and the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. In 2022, she won the British Flute Society Young Artist Competition and the 2nd Prize in the Tampere Flute Fest Piccolo Competition (Finland). Her recent concerto engagements include performances with the Klangkollektiv Wien (Austria), at the Anghiari Festival (Italy) and at the London Handel Festival. Her solo and chamber career has taken her around the UK and Hong Kong, and to the US, Belgium, Italy and Germany. She graduated from the Guildhall with distinction in both her artist diploma and her Master of Performance in Orchestral Artistry.

Christine Wu *piano***Mary Mackintosh Award**

American pianist Christine Wu received both her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees at the Juilliard School, where she was a student of Hung-Kuan Chen and Julian Martin, and holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Yale School of Music, where she studied with Peter Frankl, Christopher Elton and Peter Serkin. She is currently based in Cologne, Germany, where she studies with Pierre-Laurent Aimard. As someone who believes in the importance of playing both classical and contemporary music, Christine has a wide range of experience as a solo and ensemble player of new music. She is a former member of the Frankfurt-based International Ensemble Modern Akademie, and has played in major new-music festivals including the Lucerne Festival, ManiFeste Paris and Time of Music Festival in Viitasaari, Finland, and has premiered over 20 new works.

Bar Zemach *horn*

Bar Zemach is an Israeli horn player based in Berlin. He made his German debuts as a soloist in the Berliner Philharmonie and in the Konzerthaus Berlin. He is a member of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra as a principal horn and is a former member of the Düsseldorfer Symphoniker. As a chamber musician he has recorded Richard Strauss' complete works for chamber music with winds with the Staatskapelle Berlin, and plays with the West-Eastern Divan Ensemble and the Pacific Quintet, including in the Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival. He frequently performs new music and commissions, including with the Boulez Ensemble and as guest with Ensemble Modern Frankfurt. He is the first horn member of Giora Feidman Klezmer Virtuoso quartet. Bar is also passionate about playing the shofar as a classical music instrument and next year will premiere a new concerto for shofar and orchestra in the Berliner Philharmonie.

George Barton *percussion tutor*

Percussionist George Barton brings a rigour and intensity to the broadest range of musical contexts, from free improvisation to orchestral work to film sessions. He is a member of both the Colin Currie Group and Riot Ensemble, and is busy as a freelancer with groups including the LSO, CBSO, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Britten Sinfonia, Aurora Orchestra, London Contemporary Orchestra, Explore Ensemble and Apartment House. With pianist Siwan Rhys, George forms GBSR Duo, whose repertoire ranges from Ustvolskaya to Harold Budd via Michael Pisaro and Barbara Monk Feldman, and whose collaborators range from the LA Philharmonic and 12 Ensemble to leading improvisers and experimental pop artists such as Angharad Davies and CHAINES. Their recordings include a critically acclaimed binaural recording of Stockhausen's *Kontakte*.

Jonathan Berman *conductor*

Jonathan Berman is an internationally renowned conductor whose open-minded approach to music-making is reflected in his impressively broad repertoire, including over 40 operas. He has worked with orchestras including the Cleveland Orchestra and LPO and has conducted at the Tanglewood Festival and BBC Proms. He is recognised for his thoughtfulness and insight, feeding into the unique and creative ways in which he connects to his audiences, including the nine award-winning films he has made on Bach, Satie, Stravinsky, Ravel and a documentary series *Postcards From Vienna*. A fearless advocate of contemporary music (with over 75 world premieres), he is equally well versed in the music of the Classical and Romantic periods, specialising in music from Vienna. His recent box-set, *Franz Schmidt: The Symphonies* with the BBC NOW in celebration of the composer's 150th anniversary has won international universal acclaim.

Claire Booth *course director/vocal tutor*

British soprano Claire Booth is renowned for her breadth of repertoire, her vitality and musicianship, and a fearless commitment to the music of the present day. Recent performances include *Pierrot lunaire* and other works at this year's Aldeburgh Festival. Highlights of the 2024–25 season include the premiere of Helen Grime's *Folk* with BBC SSO, appearances at Wigmore Hall in a solo recital 'Cabaret!' with Jâms Coleman, and concerts celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Nash Ensemble. She releases two new recordings commemorating Schoenberg's 150th anniversary: a survey of his lesser-known song repertoire *Expressionist Music*; and *Portraits of Pierrot* with Ensemble 360, featuring *Pierrot lunaire* alongside works inspired by the Pierrot character from composers including Korngold, Amy Beach and Thea Musgrave. She also performs the composer's songs at the Oxford Song Festival, the Glasshouse (with Royal Northern Sinfonia), and at the Arnold Schönberg Center in Vienna.

Rosa Campos Fernandez *woodwind tutor/clarinet*

Rosa Campos Fernandez was born in Vigo, Spain, and studied clarinet and piano at the Conservatorio Superior de Musica de Vigo, then clarinet and bass clarinet at Birmingham Conservatoire with Anthony Pay, Joan Enric Lluna and Michael Harris. After leaving the Conservatoire she took classes with Hans Deinzer and Pascal Moragues. She joined the Hallé orchestra in 2004 as co-principal clarinet with E flat, where she still holds a full-time position. Rosa has also performed with other orchestras and ensembles including the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Europe, London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Northern Sinfonia, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Academy of St Martin in the Fields, Orquesta de Cadaqués, Real Filarmonía de Galicia (Santiago de Compostela) and London Winds.

Sonya Knussen *course support*

Sonya Knussen is a music educator, singer and artistic director based in Baltimore, Maryland. Her teaching career spans both the UK and US, where she has taught classroom music, led choral programmes and outreach initiatives. As founder and artistic director of Go Compose North America, she offers online and in-person workshops that nurture creativity and empower composers of all levels and abilities. A passionate advocate for new music, Sonya connects composers, performers and learners to foster inclusivity in the arts. She launches the first season of Pitch Craft Collective in 2024–25, where she curates innovative music programmes performed by Baltimore's most versatile musicians. Sonya has been involved with Britten Pears Arts' Contemporary Composition & Performance Course throughout the years, from attending rehearsals and workshops with her father, Oliver Knussen, to coaching musicians and offering course support.

Colin Matthews *course director/composition tutor*

Colin Matthews founded the Composition & Performance Course at Britten Pears Arts with Oliver Knussen in 1992. He worked with Britten and Imogen Holst in the 1970s and has been associated with Britten Pears Arts in its various forms since 1986. He has been associate composer with the London Symphony and Hallé orchestras, and his music includes many orchestral and ensemble works and six string quartets. He is the founder of NMC Recordings, executive director of the Holst Foundation and has been composition director of the LSO's Panufnik Scheme for young composers since 2005. He holds honorary posts with several universities and is Prince Consort Professor of Composition at the Royal College of Music. His new opera *A Visit to Friends* will open next year's Aldeburgh Festival.

Jacqueline Shave *strings tutor*

Jacqueline Shave received her formal training at the RAM but drew her particular performance inspiration and her love of chamber music from her time at the Britten–Pears School (now BPYAP) at Snape Maltings. She has since been in constant demand as a leader, beginning with English Touring Opera on leaving her studies, and subsequently guest leading many of the UK’s orchestras including the London Sinfonietta, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, RPO, BBC Scottish, BBC Symphony and the Nash Ensemble. She is former leader and director of the Britten Sinfonia, and was a member of the Brinidisi Quartet for 15 years. Currently she is leader of the Red Note Ensemble, Scotland’s leading contemporary music group, and gives concerts regularly as violinist in the Britten Oboe Quartet. She led the chamber group for Thomas Adès’ music for the film *Colette* and for *Final Portrait*, directed by Stanley Tucci.

Mark-Anthony Turnage *course director/
composition tutor*

Mark-Anthony Turnage is one of the most significant creative figures to have emerged in British music of the last three decades. His first opera, *Greek* (1988), established his reputation as an artist who dared to forge his own path between modernism and tradition by means of a unique blend of jazz and classical styles. *The Silver Tassie* was premiered by ENO in 2000, winning both the South Bank Show and the Olivier Awards for Opera. *Anna Nicole* played to sold-out houses at Covent Garden in 2011 and has been staged in Germany and New York. *Coraline* was staged by the Royal Opera at the Barbican Theatre in 2018, travelling on to Freiburg, Lille, Stockholm and Melbourne. Future projects for premiere in 2025 include a new opera, *Festen*, for the Royal Opera House, and a guitar concerto for his long-time musical colleague John Scofield, with the LSO and Simon Rattle.

Richard Watkins *brass tutor*

Richard Watkins is one of the most sought-after horn players of his generation and is well-known as a concerto soloist and chamber music player. Richard is closely associated with promoting contemporary music for the horn. He has given premieres of concertos by Maxwell Davies, Osborne, Lindberg, Muldowney, Lefanu, and Colin and David Matthews. Notable premieres include *Bleak Moments* by Mark-Anthony Turnage for horn and string quartet, Colin Matthews’s *Time Stands Still* for horn, violin and piano, a performance of Colin Matthews’ Horn Concerto (2006 BBC Proms), and a horn quintet by James MacMillan (2007 Cheltenham International Festival). Most recently he played Eleanor Alberga’s *Shining Gate of Morpheus* at the 2019 Arcadia festival and recorded the work for Navona shortly afterwards.