



INSTITUTE
FOR YOUNG
ARTISTS

news

ISSUE 53 / SUMMER 2019



Nurturing Talent

Our Academy summer concerts and Wigmore Hall Showcase are inspired by gardens, reflecting the essence of what Samling Institute is all about... nurturing the growth of young musicians.

Our Samling Academy Singers are starting preparations for what promises to be an enchanting series of summer concerts at Saltburn Community Theatre, The Witham Barnard Castle and Sage Gateshead. The theme of this year's programme is 'Come into the Garden', with music and poetry inspired by gardens, horticulture and the language of flowers. The semi-staged performances, directed by Samling Artist Miranda Wright, will include Renaissance madrigals, the German Romantics, opera arias and English song and will be accompanied by Samling Artist pianist Ian Tindale.

We continue the 'Come into the Garden' theme for our annual Wigmore Hall Showcase in November, a recital of song and poetry featuring six Samling Artists from across the years.

Spring also saw us looking to the future with auditions for both of our core programmes. After a first online round of applications for the Samling Artist Programme, we held five days of live auditions in London and Glasgow, selecting twelve singers and four pianists for coveted places on our week-long residencies in November 2019 and March 2020.

Reaching out to all schools across the North East we held a 'Taster Day' for Samling Academy

in January at Northumbria University. Students were invited to meet current Academy Singers and course leaders including Music Director Caroline Dowdle and Shakespearean actor James Garnon, and had a chance to find out what they could expect from the programme. Fifteen year-old Ellie Stephenson said: 'It's different. I've seen opera singers and thought: Wow! And how? I was keen to learn a bit more about it'. We received a record number of applications for the Academy this year, and held three days of auditions in March before selecting thirty young singers who will join us in October.

For details of all our events and how to obtain tickets, see the Diary Dates on p4.

Luis Gomes with Simona Mihai
'A Night at the Italian Opera', 9 February 2019.
Photo: Mark Pinder

BBC Cardiff Singer of the World

Four Samling Artists have been chosen for this year's BBC Cardiff Singer of the World. Soprano Lauren Fagan will represent Australia, mezzo soprano Angharad Lyddon will be carrying the hopes of the Welsh audience and tenor Luis Gomes will represent Portugal with baritone Julien Van Mellaerts representing his native New Zealand.

While he was in Gateshead for our 'Night at the Italian Opera', Luis talked to us about the importance of Samling Institute in his singing career. You can watch our interview with Luis and hear clips from his performance at Sage Gateshead on our social media and website pages.

Lauren, Angharad, Luis and Julien follow the success of Samling Artists Catriona Morison, who took the overall title and was a joint winner of the Song Prize, and Louise Alder, who won the Audience Prize in this biennial competition in 2017.

The BBC Cardiff Singer of the World finals run from 15–22 June, and will be broadcast on BBC TV and Radio.



Lauren Fagan, Julien Van Mellaerts and Angharad Lyddon



INSIDE THIS ISSUE Samling Shorts with Ian Tindale, A 'stonkingly great' Night at the Italian Opera, Samling Alumni Success, Samling Artist Programme. Back Page: Dates for your Diary!

WHY SAMLING INSTITUTE?

'How grateful I am for your organisation and dedication in giving young singers and pianists the tools and opportunities needed to build a career. Samling is unparalleled in many ways for its prestige, generosity, and consideration to your artists. I am truly thankful.' *Kunal Lahiry – Samling Artist Pianist 2019*

'Samling is totally unique in its concept and in its care for young singers and pianists.'
Malcolm Martineau, pianist and Samling Artist Programme leader

SAMLING SHORTS



Ian Tindale

Pianist Ian Tindale was a Samling Artist in 2014 and regularly returns to work with us as staff pianist for the Samling Artist Programme, and as pianist and coach for Samling Academy.

Following studies at Cambridge University, Ian studied at the Royal College of Music with Simon Lepper, John Blakely and Roger Vignoles. Recent engagements have included a recital tour of *Die Schöne Müllerin* with tenor Nick Pritchard, recitals in the Oxford Lieder, Ryedale and Buxton Festivals, and appearances on BBC Radio 3 'In Tune' and BBC2 'Proms Extra'. He has collaborated with artists such as Soraya Mafi, Ailish Tynan, Susan Bullock, Christopher Purves, Nicky Spence and Rowan Pierce.

This year, Ian is performing throughout Europe with ECHO Rising Star Josep-Ramon Olivé in a programme of Lieder by Schubert, Strauss and Korngold. This summer he joins us again for the Samling Academy 'Come into the Garden' concerts.

The last piece of music I listened to was...

JS Bach's Cantata No.41. I've been listening to the complete cantatas by the Monteverdi Choir, English Baroque Soloists and John Eliot Gardiner on the tube – perfect for ignoring the rest of the world and for clearing the mind.

My three carry-on essentials are...

Noise-cancelling headphones, my iPad and some snacks (preferably chocolatey).

If I wasn't a pianist, I'd be...

Certainly less happy! But probably working for John Lewis... I could spend all day selling sofas.

If I could perform with any singer, alive or dead, it would be ...

Anne Sofie von Otter.

The most underrated song composer is... Stanford.

When I have the day off I...

Go swimming and then cook something lengthy and ambitious for dinner.

The funniest thing that has ever happened to me on stage was ...

When someone stole my trousers for my tail suit from the dressing room, so I did a concert at the Festival Hall in white tie and jeans.

My favourite Samling memory is...

Very hard to pick! A performance early on with Anush Hovhannisyan of Strauss's 'September' was very special; and I've got many wonderful memories from working each July with the Samling Academy students and Miranda Wright, especially our programme from two years ago entitled 'When I was one and twenty'.



Samling Artist Programme

We were delighted to have three new countries represented on our Samling Artist Programme in February, with tenors Satriya Krisna from Indonesia and Andrés Presno from Uruguay and pianist Yi-Shing Cheng from Taiwan adding to Samling Institute's global reach. We also welcomed sopranos Anna Cavaliero, Sarah Gilford and Rose Stachniewska, baritone Jerome Knox and pianist Kunal Lahiry as new Samling Artists.

The singers and pianists spent their residency week in February working with soprano Yvonne Kenny, pianists Malcolm Martineau and Jonathan Ware, and actor Alex Hassell, with support from staff pianist Ian Tindale. The week concluded with a public masterclass and concert at Sage Gateshead.



Photos: Mark Pinder



A Night at the Italian Opera

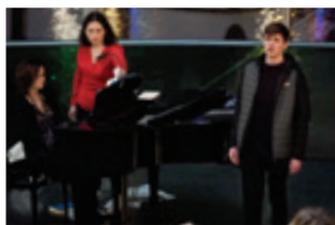
Introducing our 'Night at the Italian Opera' with Royal Northern Sinfonia, Sir Thomas Allen promised the near capacity audience at Sage One, Sage Gateshead that they were in for 'a stonkingly great evening', and judging from the response at the end of the concert, the audience clearly agreed.

Sir Thomas was joined on stage by Samling Artists soprano Simona Mihai, mezzo soprano Heather Lowe, tenor Luis Gomes, baritone Morgan Pearce and a chorus of Samling Academy Singers for a gala concert of arias, duets and choruses from the classics of Italian opera.

Royal Northern Sinfonia, conducted by Paul-Emmanuel Thomas added their sparkle throughout the evening, and gave a spine-tingling delivery of the Intermezzo from Mascagni's *Cavalleria rusticana*. Before the concert, Academy Singers delighted the waiting crowds with an informal pop-up performance on the Sage Gateshead concourse.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of Samling Institute Trustee Robert Bowman OBE (1933–2018). Bob, who was involved with Samling from its very earliest days, strongly believed in the great benefits of singing, and was passionate about supporting talented young people.

Photos: Mark Pinder



Samling Alumni Success

Congratulations to baritone Benson Wilson who won first prize at the 2019 Kathleen Ferrier Awards, held at Wigmore Hall at the end of April. Soprano Samantha Clarke, mezzo soprano Maria Ostroukhova and countertenor Tim Morgan were also finalists in this esteemed competition.

Three recent Samling Artists have obtained places on prestigious young artist opera programmes. Soprano Sarah Gilford joins the Bayerische Staatsoper Opera Studio in Munich, whilst tenors Andrés Presno and Filipe Manu have been selected for the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme at the Royal Opera House.

Rowan Pierce, a Samling Artist in 2016 and a former Samling Academy Singer, has released her debut solo CD, recorded with the Academy of Ancient Music. 'The Cares of Lovers' is a collection of songs by Purcell and is available on Linn Records.



Ferrier Award winner Benson Wilson and Karon Wright, Samling Institute's Artistic and Executive Director

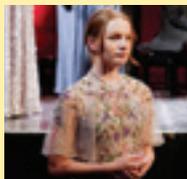


SAMLING ACADEMY SUMMER CONCERTS

'Come into the Garden'

Gardens have been celebrated through the ages as places for love, romance and reflection. In this semi-staged programme, young singers from Samling Academy present song and poetry inspired by the language of flowers.

Directed by Samling Artists Miranda Wright and pianist Ian Tindale.



Saturday 20 July, 7.30pm

The Witham, Barnard Castle
thewitham.org.uk | 01833 631 107

Wednesday 24 July, 7.30pm

Saltburn Community Theatre
saltburnarts.co.uk | 01287 624 997

Friday 26 July, 7.30pm

Sage Two, Sage Gateshead
sagegateshead.com | 0191 443 4661

Tickets £14, £10 student / concession



SAMLING ACADEMY

4 – 6 October and 18–20 October

Starting the new academic year with six days of intensive training, 30 young singers selected by audition will be given the opportunity to work with Samling Institute's team of artists, coaches and experts.



Caroline Dowdle	Music Director
Patricia MacMahon	Vocal Teacher
Miranda Wright	Samling Artist/Vocal Teacher
Mandy Demetriou	Choreographer
James Garnon	Actor

Samling Artist pianists including:

James Baillieu
Somi Kim
Michael Pandya
Jo Ramadan
Ian Tindale
Jonathan Ware

Samling Academy Concert

Sunday 20 October, 7.30pm

Sage Two, Sage Gateshead

Introducing our 2019/20 Samling Academy, this concert gives our young singers the opportunity to put into practice the performance skills they have been developing over their first two weekends of training, in a programme of song and opera.

Tickets £14, £10 student / concession

Available from Sage Gateshead later in the year
sagegateshead.com | 0191 443 4661



SAMLING ARTIST SHOWCASE 'Come into the Garden'

Friday 8 November, 7.30pm
Wigmore Hall, London

Continuing the theme of flowers and growth, Samling Institute makes its annual visit to Wigmore Hall as part of the venue's prestigious Song Series. Samling Artists at different stages of their careers present an evening of song and poetry inspired by gardens, in a programme to include works by Schumann, Wolf, Brahms, Fauré, Debussy, Chausson, Walton, Ireland, Head and Britten.

Simona Mihai	Soprano
Anna Stéphany	Mezzo soprano
Filipe Manu	Tenor
Dominic Sedgwick	Baritone
Joseph Middleton	Piano
Somi Kim	Piano

Tickets £40 £35 £30 £25 £18

Available from Wigmore Hall Box Office
wigmore-hall.org.uk | 020 7935 2141

Sponsored by Brewin Dolphin



SAMLING ARTIST PROGRAMME

Sunday 17 – Sunday 24 November

Six singers and two pianists, chosen through a rigorous process of recommendation and audition, spend a week of intensive training and musical discovery.

Samling Masterclass & Concert

Saturday 23 November

1.30 – 4.30pm and 5.15 – 6.15pm

Sage Two, Sage Gateshead

Take a look behind the scenes of classical music as our eight new Samling Artists polish their musical and dramatic skills with masters of song, opera and theatre. Find out what goes into making a world-class performance, and pick up tips from the experts that you can use in your own singing, listening or public speaking. The masterclass is followed by a short concert, giving you a chance to see future stars of classical music displaying their incredible talents.

Led by soprano Anne Schwanewilms, pianist James Baillieu and actor James Garnon, with staff pianist Somi Kim. Samling Artist singers and pianists to be announced.

Tickets Masterclass and Concert £16.50
£5 (unders 25s)

Available from Sage Gateshead later in the year
sagegateshead.com | 0191 443 4661



SAMLING ARTIST PROGRAMME

Sunday 1 – Sunday 8 March 2020

Mezzo soprano Anna Stéphany returns to Samling as a programme leader, the first Samling Artist singer to do so, completing the cycle of growth and nurturing that is at the core of Samling's values.

Samling Masterclass & Concert

Saturday 7 March

1.30 – 4.30pm and 5.15 – 6.15pm

Sage Two, Sage Gateshead



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