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**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK****Sunday 6 – Sunday 13 November 2011**

Led by Joan Rodgers, Roger Vignoles, Paul Farrington and Vlad Iftinca with eight of the brightest and best young singers and pianists from across the globe:

Elin Pritchard	Soprano
Suzanne Shakespeare	Soprano
Rebecca Afonwy-Jones	Mezzo-soprano
Martha Jones	Mezzo-soprano
Sipho Fubesi	Tenor
Cozmin Sime	Baritone
Jean-Paul Pruna	Piano
Alice Turner	Piano

**Samling Masterclass****Wednesday 9 November, 2-5pm**

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead. Tickets £10

**Samling Concert****Saturday 12 November, 7pm**Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
Tickets A/B: £20.50 C: £14.00

Available from The Sage Gateshead

Ticket Office 0191 443 4661 or

www.thesagegateshead.org

**SAMLING SHOWCASE****Wigmore Hall, London****Friday 9 December, 7.30pm**

With Sir Thomas Allen and Malcolm Martineau, this Showcase features Samling's Scholars from the earliest days to its most recent graduates – Sally Matthews soprano, Kitty Whately mezzo-soprano, Njabulo Madlala baritone and William Vann piano. Tickets £30, £25, £20 &amp; £15, available from Wigmore Hall Box Office 020 7935 2141 www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

**Dine with the artists afterwards...**

For these limited special tickets priced £125 contact Samling on 01434 602885 or email enquiries@samling.org.uk.

**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK****26 February – 4 March 2012**

Led by Yvonne Kenny, Iain Burnside and Paul Farrington with pianist Caroline Dowdle and six specially selected young singers and a pianist:

Anna Anadarajah	Soprano
Anna Patalong	Soprano
Kim Strebel	Soprano
Louise Lai Ling Kwong	Mezzo-soprano
Andrew Dickinson	Tenor
Koji Terada	Baritone
Belinda Jones	Piano

**Samling Masterclass****Wednesday 29 February**

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead. Tickets £10

Available from The Sage Gateshead

Ticket Office 0191 443 4661 or

www.thesagegateshead.org

**SAMLING CONCERT****Saturday 3 March**

St Cuthbert's Church, Carlisle

Join the stars of the show for a special post-concert dinner in the medieval Tithe Barn next to the venue. Tickets: Concert £15, Concert &amp; Dinner £60 (Includes Concert ticket, 3-course meal and a glass of bubbly on arrival) Table of eight £420 – so 'one guest free'.

All tickets available from Samling 01434 602885

enquiries@samling.org.uk www.samling.org.uk

Tickets for concert only, from Old Town Hall, Carlisle 01228 625600

# Samling welcomes music graduate



Photograph: Mark Pinder

Andrew Novell, a recent graduate from the International Centre for Music Studies at Newcastle University, joins Samling as a Graduate Intern. A trumpet player from Ilkley in Yorkshire, Andrew has spent a year in Salzburg at the Paris Lodron Universität as part of his degree and is planning a career in arts management.

"Having graduated in July, I received a phone call from Samling the following morning offering me the job. I feel incredibly fortunate considering the current unemployment situation, which many graduates find themselves in. I am also grateful that the role is paid as that is very rare these days in other arts organisations," Andrew said.

"This is the first time that Samling has offered an internship," said Samling's Chief Executive Karon Wright, "and we are looking forward to harnessing all the energy and commitment that Andrew is bringing to Samling. He will be helping develop our new website and social media as well as having input in all aspects of our work. As an organisation that works with young people we felt it was important to extend an opportunity to those who want to make their career in arts administration as well as performing artists."

**"Through the varied work at Samling I will gain valuable training and experience within a professional environment, providing me with a strong set of skills which will remain with me throughout my career," Andrew said.**

Samling | Community Centre  
Gilesgate | Hexham  
Northumberland | NE46 3NP  
Tel / Fax: 01434 602885  
Email: enquiries@samling.org.uk  
Website: samling.org.uk  
Patron: Sir Thomas Allen CBE  
Chief Executive: Karon Wright  
Registered Charity No: 1112032  
Company No: 05576907

INSPIRING  
Musical Excellence  
In Young People

NEWS

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AUTUMN 2011

# Samling welcomes the very best



## International soprano Joan Rodgers will lead her first Masterclass for Samling in November.

Awarded a CBE in the 2001 New Year's Honours list, Joan is one of Britain's leading sopranos. Equally established in opera, concert, and as a recitalist, she has appeared with conductors including Barenboim and Rattle. A frequent guest at the BBC Proms, Joan also regularly performs at the Royal Opera House, English National Opera, Glyndebourne, and with other leading companies in Britain, Europe and the USA.

Joan has received international praise for her interpretation of Russian songs, particularly those of Tchaikovsky,

Mussorgsky, Prokofiev and Rachmaninov, and for her performances in operas by Mozart and Handel.

Joining her are celebrated pianist Roger Vignoles, vocal consultant Paul Farrington and we also welcome for the first time pianist Vlad Iftinca from the Metropolitan Opera, New York.

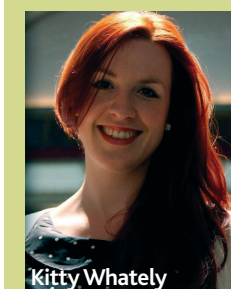
Following auditions earlier this year in London and Glasgow when our panel heard over one hundred young artists who were recommended to us, six singers and two pianists will travel to Cumbria from across the globe for a week of intense study and performance.

They are sopranos Elin Pritchard (Wales) and Suzanne Shakespeare (Australia), mezzo-sopranos Rebecca Afonwy-Jones (Wales) and Martha Jones (England), tenor Sipho Fubesi (South Africa), baritone Cozmin Sime (Romania) and pianists Jean-Paul Pruna (France) and Alice Turner (England).

Completing the Masterclass week will, as always, be the Samling Concert at The Sage Gateshead from 7pm on Saturday 12th November. Combine this concert with the Public Masterclass, which takes place midweek on Wednesday 9th November, and audiences will be treated to a rare opportunity to see how opera and song are transformed from the page into outstanding live performance.

**For details of how to buy tickets, please see back page.**

## Samling Scholars' Competition Success



Kitty Whately



Meeta Raval

Photograph: BBC Wales

**Samling Scholar Kitty Whately, participant in 2010's November Masterclass, was awarded first prize in Britain's most prestigious singing competition.**

Founded in 1953 in memory of the much-loved contralto, the Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Scholarship Fund awards a young singer sufficient funds to cover the cost of a year's study and general support. The first competition was held in 1956 and it has continued to provide outstanding young singers each year since then with the opportunity of making a start in what is a most difficult and demanding career.

In the fifteen years since Samling's inception, ten of our Scholars have won first prize in the Ferrier competition, six have received second prizes and, since we introduced young pianists to the Masterclass programme four years ago, three first prizes have been awarded to accompanists.

Congratulations also to Scholars Meeta Raval who represented England at BBC Cardiff Singer of the World and John Pierce who represented Wales. Meeta, who is a soprano, won her round and went on to compete in the final, receiving excellent reviews, with the Guardian describing her as 'a fearlessly dramatic and accomplished performer'.

Kitty Whately is taking part in Samling's Showcase at Wigmore Hall (see diary dates for details).

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## WHY SAMLING?

On her success at the Ferrier Awards, Scholar Kitty Whately said, "The Samling course was invaluable to my preparations. As there are just a few singers on each course you really feel that you are part of something very special, it's a thrilling experience and a shame you can only do it once!"



# Fifteen Years of Samling Excellence

To round off our fifteenth year we are celebrating at Wigmore Hall with our annual Showcase on Friday 9th December, part of the venue's prestigious Series. The evening, with Patron Sir Thomas Allen and Malcolm Martineau, will feature Scholars from the earliest days to the present.

Soprano Sally Matthews, who became a Scholar in 2000, shot to fame straight after leaving us when she was asked to sing at the last minute the role of Nannetta in *Falstaff* with Bernard Haitink, which she was covering at The Royal Opera House. The reviews were glittering and she has never looked back. Her current and future plans include her Vienna Staatsoper debut as Donna Anna *Don Giovanni* and Countess *Le Nozze di Figaro* for the Glyndebourne Festival and The Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

She will be joined by South African baritone Njabulo Madlala, who took part in a 2006 Masterclass and won the Kathleen Ferrier Competition last year, mezzo-soprano Kitty Whately and

pianist William Vann, both of whom took part in Masterclass last year.

The programme will offer many delights, not least songs by Duparc, Debussy, Bachelet and Michael Head, duets by Purcell and Mendelssohn and opera arias by Mozart and Massenet.

"All great singers were young once; all had their way to make. Samling takes young artists, gives them an experience which is probably unique in the world and gives its audience the chance to say, in years to come when these young people are among the greatest international names, at their debut 'I was there!'"

Sir Thomas Allen.

There are a limited number of tickets, which include a three-course dinner, wine and coffee with the artists after the concert in the Bechstein Room. These are priced £125 and are available exclusively from Samling on 01434 602885 or by email to [enquiries@samling.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@samling.org.uk)



# Honouring a lifetime support for the arts

**Bob Bowman, Chairman of Carlisle Music and Drama Festival and Trustee of Samling was awarded the OBE in the Queen's New Year Honours for services to music and philanthropy.**

Bob, pictured here at Buckingham Palace with his wife Jen, who is also a Trustee of Samling, is a retired pharmacist, and has spent a lifetime supporting the arts. Carlisle Music Festival alone annually gives about 2,000 young musicians, dramatists and speakers a chance to perform.

With a fine tenor voice, Bob became a soloist performing classical music when he was in his twenties and thirties, singing at venues including Newcastle, Edinburgh and Manchester. Inspired by his father, who was a choirmaster, he was 'steeped in singing and music from an early age,' he said.

"When I first got the letter about the award I thought it was a tax return and I showed little interest but then it dawned on me and I got more excited and surprised."

He received the award this summer from the Queen, accompanied by Jen, his daughter Gillian and granddaughters Alice and Sarah.



## A group of children in green school uniforms are singing from a large book titled 'Benedictine' in a church setting. The children are looking up and singing with their mouths open. The book they are holding has 'Benedictine' written on it in a large, stylized font. The background shows the interior of a church with stone walls and arches. The photograph is credited to Mark Pinder.

# A Knight at the Opera

**Samling's Outreach project this year with seven schools in the TyneValley has proved to be a lasting success.**

It seems that our project in March inspired the theme for the school's Leavers' Concert at Sele First School where parents and governors were 'staggered and amazed' at the 'challenging repertoire' managed by the children. Over 180 took part, singing the opera choruses they had learned and performed with our Scholars and the Berkeley Ensemble during the project.

Head Teacher Maggie Anderson of Sele First School remarked "How many children in the UK take part in an operatic experience? How many children ever get to sing alongside such inspirational and talented young people? Clearly not enough...there are 180 more [pupils] than before, still singing the same songs – powerful stuff."

A pupil who took part in the project from Year Four wrote "Sele First School wants to thank [Samling] for bringing joy to the hearts of children...it was a great experience, a challenge, but it was worth it."

Samling has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from all those involved in the project. Phil Rosier Head of Music at St Joseph's Middle School wrote, "Without a doubt Samling succeeded in giving young people a really positive and inspiring experience of classical music and opera. The variety of workshops gave a truly positive learning experience which we couldn't recreate ourselves at school. The tuition gave the students a different perspective on music and because of the well chosen programme the pupils could also participate in quite serious music instead of simplified arrangements. As a school we are grateful to Samling for giving our students an outstanding musical experience."

The feedback has been collated into a 'word cloud' which highlights the most frequently used words describing the schools', children's and parents' responses.



# Summer High

Once again, the weather was on our side for Samling's annual Party in the Garden, kindly hosted by Trustee Roger McKechnie and his wife Eileen on 3rd July. A vital opportunity to raise funds for Samling, this year's event enjoyed cloudless skies and warm sunshine.

We are pleased to say that we have raised over £12,000 through ticket sales, an auction, raffle and original art sale. The day was deemed to be 'one of our best yet' and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who came along.

Organising this event would simply not be possible without the hard work and support we have been so fortunate to receive over the eleven years of the event at Dilston House from our friends, families and colleagues.

A huge thanks to all our guests who came along to enjoy the live music and barbeque lunch and help us raise funds for our work inspiring musical excellence in young people. We hope to see you all again next year!

