

## Looking to the future

**In spite of chilly winds – both seasonal and financial – Samling is working harder than ever to fulfil our aims as a charity and offer the best in musical education to young people of all ages.**

We have three Masterclass weeks planned in 2012, with the first in February led by Australian soprano Yvonne Kenny, and Iain Burnside who we welcome back to Samling (full details inside). We are looking forward to our Patron Sir Thomas Allen leading a week in May with Roger Vignoles – bound to ignite the creative spark in the eight young Scholars they will guide, sharing insights and their artistry along the way with audiences at King's Hall, Newcastle University and The Sage Gateshead.

And the final week, in November, will see the great German baritone Olaf Bär and David Syrus, Director of Music at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, again come together for Samling in a combination which was so successful two years ago.

Auditions for all three Masterclass Weeks took place last summer over four days in London and Glasgow and twenty four young artists have been chosen from well over a hundred who were recommended to us. Struck once again by the musical excellence of those who won places, we are confident that the standard of student we are admitting to our courses is in no danger of falling.

In September Samling has accepted an invitation to make its debut at Kings Place in London as part of their Festival and will present three concerts involving ten Scholars, including pianist Joseph Middleton and introduced by Sir Thomas Allen.

2012 also sees the launch of 'Young Samling', a new Outreach project with young musicians in the North East. At the invitation of Newcastle University and The Sage Gateshead, Samling is offering a new project that will provide an opportunity for aspiring young singers and pianists here in the North East to work with our professional team. (More details inside.)

Our annual fundraising 'Party in the Garden' in Tynedale is planned for Sunday July 1st with non-stop music, home-cooked barbeque lunch and afternoon tea and an exhibition of original art for sale. And to round off a busy year we will once again present our annual Showcase at Wigmore Hall in London on Thursday 6th December.

Full details of all these events can be found on the back page of this newsletter and in 'Dates for your Diary'.



Roger Vignoles, who joins us again in May, photographed at November's Masterclass with Australian soprano Suzanne Shakespeare.

Photograph: Mark Pinder

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"I can honestly say that it was definitely the best week of my eight years of training! I am SO



Yvonne Kenny in Masterclass at The Sage Gateshead with soprano Eduarda Melo

## February's line-up

**The first Masterclass of 2012 in February sees the return of Australian soprano Yvonne Kenny to Samling.**

Particularly associated with her interpretations of Mozart and Handel, she is equally accomplished in repertoire that ranges from great classical works to Viennese operetta and song.

It has been two years since Yvonne was with us and her disappointment last year when she was unable to perform at our Gala Concert in Carlisle was only matched by the disappointment of the audience. 'So when the opportunity arose to present the concert at the end of Masterclass Week in Carlisle I was delighted,' she said 'and am looking forward immensely to performing there for the first time.'

Joining her to coach eight young artists – six singers and two accompanists – will be Iain Burnside and

pianist Caroline Dowdle and vocal consultant Paul Farrington.

As before, the public Masterclass with sopranos Anna Anadarajah, Anna Patalong and Kim-Lillian Strebel, mezzo-soprano Rebecca Afonwy-Jones, tenor Thorbjørn Gulbrandsøy, baritone Koji Terada and pianists Belinda Jones and Jo Ramadan will be held on Wednesday 29th February at 2pm at The Sage Gateshead.

And on Saturday 3rd March at 7pm they will all come together in a special Concert of opera arias, ensembles and songs in the beautiful St. Cuthbert's Church, Carlisle.

This concert will be followed by dinner with the artists in the medieval Tithe Barn and as this event is expected to be very popular we advise early booking by calling Samling on 01434 602885.

**Full details on the back page >>**

## Welcoming Iain Burnside



**Carrying young artists across that 'potentially scary divide from being the brightest and the best student to constant work and the very imaginative way Samling bridges that gap' is just one of the reasons why Iain Burnside says he is looking forward to co-leading our February Masterclass.**

Iain enjoys a unique reputation as pianist and broadcaster and we are delighted that he has accepted our invitation to join us once again.

As a regular broadcaster and an acclaimed programmer, Iain has forged, through his commitment to the song repertoire and his collaborations with leading international singers, a most varied and successful career. In particular he has devised a number

of innovative recitals combining music and poetry, presented with huge success in Brussels and Barcelona with the collaboration of actors such as Fiona Shaw, Harriet Walter and Simon Russell Beale.

At the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, he is Research Associate, staging specially conceived programmes with student singers and pianists. He has given masterclasses throughout Europe, at New York's Juilliard School and the Banff Centre, Canada. Iain's broadcasting career covers both radio and TV and he has been honoured with a Sony Radio Award.

His recording portfolio reflects his passion for British music and other recent acclaimed releases include songs by Beethoven, Korngold

and Liszt on Signum, and Richard Rodney Bennett on NMC (Daneman/Bickley/Williams).

'It is so important for young singers and pianists to receive different input from their weekly studies with their regular teachers and coaches and they are more than ready to take on other points of view,' Iain said.

'The fact that Samling's net now extends so far means that they get the chance of meeting and working with colleagues, not only from other colleges here in the UK, but also from overseas. The experience is rich not only in language terms, for after all languages are key to classical singing, but they also absorb cultural influences and extend their professional friendships.'

## SPECIAL APPEAL

Please become involved  
in Samling's work.  
Your support is vital to  
our work in the future.



For sixteen years Samling has been working to inspire musical excellence in young people of all ages and in particular young classical singers and pianists. We believe no digital connection can replace direct contact with great people.

Through our internationally recognised Masterclass programme we are able to offer young singers and accompanists a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to receive coaching from the best in the world. This comes at a time when they most need it – on the cusp of their professional careers. In turn these young artists – Samling Scholars – work with us in schools with children of all ages. Both aspirational and inspirational, these projects encourage young people from all backgrounds to experience and reach a deeper understanding of classical music and to discover the joy of self expression through great music. This provides genuinely life changing experiences.

But to do all of this we need your help. However you choose to help Samling, be that through attending our concerts and events, following the careers of our Scholars, or with a donation, we promise that your generosity now will be repaid in every young person who finds a voice on the international stage, in their school choir or simply within themselves.

**Sir Thomas Allen**  
Patron

### How you can help...

Your support is vital to Samling's work in the future as Samling receives no statutory or regular funding. Our funding is made up of support from Trusts and Foundations, philanthropy and through our own fundraising efforts.

We gratefully receive all donations, which can be gift-aided. You can also help by encouraging your friends to join our mailing list and spread the word about our work and events. In return, your name will be entered into a prize draw where you could win a pair of tickets for our annual Showcase at Wigmore Hall next year. Just ask your friends to tell us that you recommended them.

## Young Samling

**Samling is internationally known for its work with emerging young professional singers and pianists. Our week-long courses offer them an exceptional environment to study, reflect and create, working alongside some of the greatest artists and coaches in the world today.**

But now we would like to focus on the next generation here in the North East: the young singers and pianists who may be inspired to follow in their footsteps.

Young singers have to wait for their voices to mature before they can begin to pursue a career in classical singing. This new project will provide a taste of 'what it takes' to be a performer and inspire its participants towards their future goals, increase their confidence and address issues of technique, performance and stage-craft.

The programme will also be open to young pianists hoping to gain skills in accompaniment, something which is not often taught outside of the conservatoire environment yet is such an important skill for every aspiring pianist.

Young Samling will involve the International Centre for Music Studies at Newcastle University and The Sage Gateshead's Weekend School singers, including pupils of Miranda Wright. Miranda is a Samling Scholar, having participated in Masterclass in 1999. She realised early on in the years that followed her calling lay in teaching rather than performance and is committed to training young voices, in particular here in the North East.

'I am delighted to be able to support Miranda's professional development through this project and it is fitting that we are now seeing, coming through the ranks, Scholars who are able to become leaders in their turn and in this way pass on their craft and insight,' said Director Karon Wright.

It is hoped that the project will become an annual focus for classical singing in the region and enable The Sage Gateshead and Newcastle University to forge a link, through Samling, in classical performance. Links between the University and The Sage Gateshead exist in folk performance and in contemporary composition, but not in classical performance.

'All these young musicians will not only get the opportunity to work with Samling's masters but also learn from working alongside the other young people involved,' said Karon Wright.



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

Led by Yvonne Kenny, Iain Burnside, Paul Farrington and Caroline Dowdle and eight specially selected young singers and pianists:

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Anna Anadarajah       | Soprano       |
| Anna Patalong         | Soprano       |
| Kim Strebel           | Soprano       |
| Rebecca Afonwy-Jones  | Mezzo-soprano |
| Thorbjørn Gulbrandsøy | Tenor         |
| Koji Terada           | Baritone      |
| Belinda Jones         | Piano         |
| Jo Ramadan            | Piano         |



**Samling Masterclass**  
Wednesday 29 February 2-5pm

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, 7pm**

St Cuthbert's Church, Carlisle, Tickets £15.00  
Concert followed by dinner with the artists in the medieval Tithe Barn. Tickets: £60.  
All tickets available from Samling on 01434 602885.  
Concert tickets only, available from Old Town Hall, Carlisle in person or on 01228 625600.



**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**  
Sunday 13 – Sunday 20 May

Led by Sir Thomas Allen, Roger Vignoles, Patricia MacMahon and Christopher Glynn with specially selected young singers and pianists:

- |                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Laura Casey          | Soprano       |
| Katie Bird           | Soprano       |
| Laura Margaret Smith | Mezzo         |
| Stuart Jackson       | Tenor         |
| Andri Róbertsson     | Bass-baritone |
| Rick Zwart           | Bass-baritone |
| Timothy End          | Piano         |



**Samling Masterclass**  
Wednesday 16 May, 3-6pm

King's Hall, Newcastle University, Queen Victoria Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. Tickets £10  
Tickets available from Samling on 01434 602885 or email enquiries@samling.org.uk

**Samling Concert**

**Saturday 19 May, 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 GARDEN PARTY**  
Sunday 1 July, from 12 noon

Dilston House, near Corbridge  
Our annual summer celebration with fabulous food and drinks, live music, original art, exciting auction and more.

Tickets for less in advance: £40 per family (2 adults & up to 4 children), £18 per adult, £5 per child.  
Tickets on the day: £45 per family (2 adults & up to 4 children), £20 per adult, £6 per child.  
Tickets available from Samling on 01434 602885 or email enquiries@samling.org.uk.



**KINGS PLACE**  
Sunday 16th September

Kings Place, London, 2.45pm, 4.00pm and 6.00pm  
Three concerts programmed by Joseph Middleton celebrating the relationship between the music of Schubert and drawings by Martha Griebler. Performed by Samling Scholars and introduced by Sir Thomas Allen.



**YOUNG SAMLING**  
13 & 14, 27 & 28 October

Samling, working with Newcastle University and The Sage Gateshead Weekend School, is initiating a project where 40 young vocal students and three pianists will gain the opportunity to take part in workshops and classes with Patricia MacMahon, Paul Farrington, Samling Scholar Miranda Wright and the project's Music Director Caroline Dowdle. Newcastle University.

**Young Samling Concert**  
Sunday 28 October

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead, Tickets £7  
Following an intensive course over two weekends, the 43 young musicians will all come together in a concert showcasing their work alongside a guest artist and Samling Scholar.  
Tickets will be available from The Sage Gateshead Ticket Office 0191 443 4661 or www.thesagegateshead.org



**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**  
Sunday 11 – Sunday 18 November

Led by Olaf Bär, David Syrus, Paul Farrington and Caroline Dowdle with specially selected young singers and pianists:

- |                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Susanna Hurrell    | Soprano  |
| Joanna Foote       | Soprano  |
| Marie Claire Breen | Soprano  |
| Katie Bray         | Mezzo    |
| Luis Gomes         | Tenor    |
| Ashley Riches      | Baritone |



**Samling Masterclass**  
Wednesday 14 November, 2-5pm

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead. Tickets £10

**Samling Concert**

**Saturday 17 November, 7pm**

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
Tickets A/B: £20.50 C: £14.00  
Tickets will be available from The Sage Gateshead Ticket Office 0191 443 4661 or www.thesagegateshead.org



**SAMLING SHOWCASE**  
Thursday 6 December, 7.30pm

Wigmore Hall, London  
Sir Thomas Allen and Malcolm Martineau lead this Showcase of Samling Scholars.  
Tickets £30, £25, £20 & £15, available from Wigmore Hall Box Office 020 7935 2141 or online www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

Dine with the artists afterwards...  
There are a number of special 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 from Samling on 01434 602885 or email enquiries@samling.org.uk.

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