



In the spotlight this Autumn

Clare Tunney,
Samling Academy 2013

Photograph © Mark Pinder

On Samling's stage this Autumn we have some real gems lined up in the North East and in London.

All those lucky enough to get a ticket for last year's sell-out Academy concert will know that they are in for a treat this year. Twenty five members of **our Academy will be coming together on Sunday 26th October** in a performance at Sage Gateshead which will be built on six days of workshops and masterclasses with our expert leadership team. Together they will present a programme of music from Dowland to Spirituals and the great twentieth century American musical tradition with duets by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Dvořák.

In November we are delighted to welcome two new leaders to our Masterclass programme – the American-born tenor Thomas Moser and celebrated opera and theatre director Tim Carroll. They will be

working with eight young professional singers and pianists who were chosen by audition earlier this year from over 120 young artists who were recommended to us.

'Such is the interest in our programme of Masterclasses now we have a tough job at audition time selecting singers and pianists who we feel are ready for what we have to offer them,' said Samling's artistic and executive director Karon Wright. 'This year was no exception. We auditioned over five days in London and Glasgow and as a result the standard is exceptionally high so audiences at the **public masterclass on 26th November and the concert on 29th November** can look forward to seeing for themselves a cohort of young people who we think are truly outstanding.'

November also sees us once again present our annual Showcase at Wigmore Hall. Lucy Hall soprano, Rachel Kelly mezzo-soprano, Joshua Owen Mills tenor, Ross Ramgobin

'The greatest reward of being a Friend of Samling is to be part of an artistic enterprise of the highest standard and to help young people realise their dreams.'

Paul Stockdale Chair, Samling Friends

baritone and James Sherlock piano will join Sir Thomas Allen and Malcolm Martineau in a programme of music as part of the venue's prestigious Song Series. **A special dinner with all the artists in Wigmore's Bechstein Room after the concert** will round off the evening and full details of this and all our other events can be found on page 4.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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'I have been drawn even further into this art form which offers so much room

Friends' News



We welcome Paul Stockdale as Chair of the Samling's Friends' programme. Paul who rarely misses a performance or event said he was 'absolutely delighted' to take on this new role and is looking forward very much to helping us build and develop the scheme.

'As loyal supporters of Samling, and of its Scholars, I think the Friends have a tremendously important role to play in taking the charity forward,' Paul said. 'I also think it's important that we are able to give the Friends a little extra something as a thank you for their support and I would like to see many more people join us.'

Why not join Samling Friends today?

£30 single annual membership includes:

- Samling Newsletters and events information
- An invitation to join Samling Masterclass Leaders, Scholars and Friends for an informal reception after each Samling Concert, including a complimentary drink
- Acknowledgement in programmes
- Booking assistance, if desired, where Samling has a ticket allocation

We look forward to welcoming you. For full details of membership please contact us on 01434 602885 or email enquiries@samling.org.uk

Caroline Dowdle and Tim Carroll



New to Masterclass

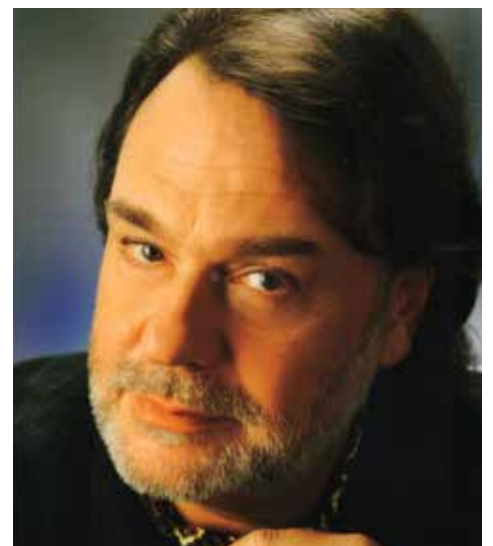
The American tenor Thomas Moser and theatre and opera director Tim Carroll will join Samling for the first time this November to lead our final Masterclass week of the year.

Born and educated in the United States, Thomas Moser made his operatic debut in Graz in 1974 and joined the ensemble of the Vienna State Opera in 1977.

'Thomas's repertoire extends from Tamino to Tristan, having appeared at all the world's leading opera theatres, as well as being equally renowned as a concert performer and recitalist, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming him and Tim Carroll to our Masterclass leadership team,' said director Karon Wright.

Tim Carroll's career has taken him all over the world but he is perhaps best known for his award-winning work with the Globe Theatre and his own company The Factory in London. This year he received a Tony nomination for his celebrated production of Twelfth Night with Mark Rylance and Stephen Fry on Broadway.

'Tim has a unique way of working with actors and singers that really challenges them to be spontaneous and completely honest and 'in the moment' in a performance. Audiences are going to love seeing the ways in which he provokes, entices and draws from our Scholars performances that ring true,' Karon said.



Caroline Dowdle will join Tim and Thomas to lead the week, alongside pianist Joseph Middleton who has the honour of being the first Scholar to return to us as part of the leadership team on our Masterclass programme.

For full details of the Public Masterclass on Wednesday 26 November and Concert on Saturday 29th November – both at Sage Gateshead – please see back page.

Commonwealth anthem

One billion people watched Samling Scholar Pumeza Matshikiza sing a freedom anthem at the Commonwealth Games launch this summer. The South African soprano's stunning performance of a Scottish folk classic silenced Celtic Park during the opening ceremony.

The song – which calls for freedom, equality and an end to war – makes reference to the township of Nyanga, where Pumeza grew up in Cape Town.

Pumeza became a Scholar in 2006 and over the years has returned to Samling to take part in our Outreach programmes with schools and to make her Wigmore Hall debut with us in 2009. Currently at Stuttgart Opera, Pumeza has just signed a contract with Decca releasing her first album 'Voice of Hope' this summer. The album, a mix of Mozart and Puccini arias with neatly orchestrated Xhosa, Swahili and Zulu songs, includes the anthem she performed as part of the opening ceremony and songs that she taught to hundreds of schoolchildren in the North East.

Scholar Helen Sherman was also chosen to perform at another great sporting event this summer in Yorkshire at the opening ceremony of the Tour de France. Helen sang Bizet's 'Habanera' from *Carmen* with the Opera North chorus and orchestra conducted by Justin Doyle at the Leeds



Pumeza Matshikiza

Arena to an audience of ten thousand people which was televised internationally on itv 4 and Eurosport.

'It was an exhilarating experience to sing in front of such an enthusiastic audience and to show my support to these elite athletes who devote their lives to perfecting their skills, in much the same way we as singers do,' Helen said. 'What made it even more special was that one of the cyclists, Mark Renshaw, has the same home town as me; we even attended the same primary school!'

'I don't think I have come across an album like this where you have South African songs then opera on the same album, so it is quite something special.'
Pumeza Matshikiza

Saying goodbye and thank you

All at Samling were deeply saddened to lose Jen Bowman this summer. Jen, along with her husband Bob, has been involved with Samling since its earliest days eighteen years ago, and was a Trustee and company secretary for the past sixteen of those years.

Jen gave generously of her time and talents to help further the aims of the charity, was passionate about young people and seeing them reach their full potential through the study of music and

performance. She rejoiced when our young artists did well and welcomed them to our masterclasses, always solicitous for their well-being and comfort.

Over the years she has supported our events in every way she could, hosting our young artists – including memorably an entire orchestra for a weekend in her home – and generously organised opportunities for the charity to raise funds and grow.

Samling also lost a great Friend this summer in Trevor Shears OBE, who along

with his wife Lyn and through their family Trust – The Shears Foundation – has been one of Samling's cornerstones.

Trevor passionately believed that young people just had to be given the chance, and by catching them doing something really well, and building on that talent you could give them an opportunity not only to realise their potential, but also change lives.

Jen and Trevor will be greatly missed.



SAMLING ACADEMY

10-12 and 24-26 October

Newcastle University and Sage Gateshead
Samling Academy is setting new standards for young musicians from or studying in the North East. This project, in partnership with Newcastle and Durham Universities and Sage Gateshead, gives talented young singers and pianists unique opportunities to work with our inspirational leaders.

Music Director Caroline Dowdle

Teacher Patricia MacMahon

Samling Scholars:

Teacher Miranda Wright

Pianist James Baillieu

Pianist Jonathan Ware

Pianist Jean-Paul Pruna

Soprano Ruth Jenkins-Róbertsson

Actor Colin Hurley

Choreographer Mandy Demetriou

Samling Academy Concert

Sunday 26 October, 7.30pm

Northern Rock Foundation Hall, Sage Gateshead
Celebrating the third year of Samling Academy, this concert showcases 25 young singers and pianists (aged 14-22) from across the North East. Together they will present a programme of music from Dowland to spirituals and the great twentieth century American musical tradition with duets by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Dvořák.

Tickets £12

Available from Sage Gateshead

0191 443 4661 or www.sagegateshead.com



WIGMORE SHOWCASE

Wednesday 12 November, 7.30pm

Wigmore Hall, London

Samling's annual Showcase never fails to demonstrate why it has established an international reputation for nurturing outstanding singers and pianists and bringing them to public attention. In this recital of song and opera you will see why Patron Sir Thomas Allen can say 'What we do at Samling is unique and it is the best you can get'. Lucy Hall soprano, Rachel Kelly mezzo-soprano, Joshua Owen Mills tenor, Ross Ramgobin baritone and James Sherlock piano will join him and Malcolm Martineau. For full programme details www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

Tickets £30, £25, £20 and £15

Available from Wigmore Hall Box Office

020 7935 2141 or www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

Dine with the artists after the concert

There are a number of tickets that include a three-course dinner, wine and coffee with the artists in the Bechstein Room. These are priced £95 and are available exclusively from Samling on 01434 602885 or by email to enquiries@samling.org.uk.



SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK

Sunday 23 – Sunday 30 November

Led by Thomas Moser, Caroline Dowdle, Tim Carroll and Joseph Middleton.

Anush Hovhannisyan	soprano
Eirlys Davies	mezzo-soprano
Kamilla Dunstan	mezzo-soprano
Johannes Kammler	baritone
Adam Marsden	baritone
Frederick Long	bass-baritone
Finnegan Downie Dear	piano
Ian Tindale	piano

Samling Masterclass

Wednesday 26 November, 2 – 5pm

Hall Two, Sage Gateshead

American tenor Thomas Moser and Broadway celebrated theatre and opera director Tim Carroll lead this world class workshop in vocal technique, artistry and performance with Caroline Dowdle from Royal Opera House Covent Garden.

Samling Concert

Saturday 29 November, 7pm

Hall Two, Sage Gateshead

Bringing eight international young artists together with their mentors Thomas Moser, Caroline Dowdle and Joseph Middleton. In an evening of opera and song – the climax of Samling's week of intensive training.

Tickets

Masterclass £10 Concert £15

Available from Sage Gateshead

0191 443 4661 or www.sagegateshead.com

Ticket for both performances £22 call 0191 443 4661



SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK

Sunday 22 February –

Sunday 1 March 2015

Led by Yvonne Kenny, John Fisher, Christopher Glynn and James Baillieu

Galina Averina	soprano
Marie Jaermann	soprano
Hermione Wu	soprano
Gyula Rab	tenor
Nick Pritchard	tenor
Benjamin Lewis	baritone
Lana Bode	piano
John Cuthbert	piano

Samling Masterclass and Showcase

Saturday 28 February, 1.30pm - 4.30pm and

5.15pm – 6pm

Hall Two, Sage Gateshead

Australian soprano Yvonne Kenny heads up this masterclass week introducing eight young artists in a public masterclass and showcase.

Tickets

Tickets: £15 / **Concessions:** £13 / **Students:** £10

Available from Sage Gateshead

0191 443 4661 or www.sagegateshead.com



Samling | Community Centre | Gilesgate |

Hexham | Northumberland | NE46 3NP

Tel / Fax: 01434 602885

Email: enquiries@samling.org.uk www.samling.org.uk

Patron: Sir Thomas Allen CBE |

Artistic and Executive Director: Karon Wright

Registered Charity No: 1112032

Company No: 05576907