

## Samling welcomes acclaimed mezzo-soprano Angelika Kirchschlager

April sees the return to Samling of one of world's great classical artists, mezzo-soprano Angelika Kirchschlager, to lead our second Masterclass Week this year.

In a double coup for Samling she will be joined by her fellow Austrian, the celebrated pianist Helmut Deutsch. With Christopher Glynn and Patricia MacMahon, they will guide eight exceptional young singers and pianists through a week's intensive study of opera and song.

The public Masterclass on Wednesday 17 April in Hall Two at The Sage Gateshead will offer a 'fly on the wall' insight into the work that goes on in private all week. This increasingly popular event will appeal to anyone who enjoys seeing how young artists can take on board new ideas and advice to turn a good performance into an outstanding one.

Angelika and Helmut have performed and recorded together many times, including a CD of lieder by Schumann. The German Romantic composer also inspires a selection of solo and ensemble performances in the Samling Concert, showcasing the newest members of Samling's renowned group of Scholars. The programme will also contain opera arias and ensembles by Mozart, Bizet and Gounod.

Take advantage of our special ticket offer for both events in Hall Two at The Sage Gateshead – just £22 – and please note the earlier start time of 4pm for our concert on Saturday 20th April. (Full details on page 4)

'Samling Masterclasses are unique. I have never experienced anything like this before.'  
Angelika Kirchschlager



Photograph © Nikolaus Karlinsky



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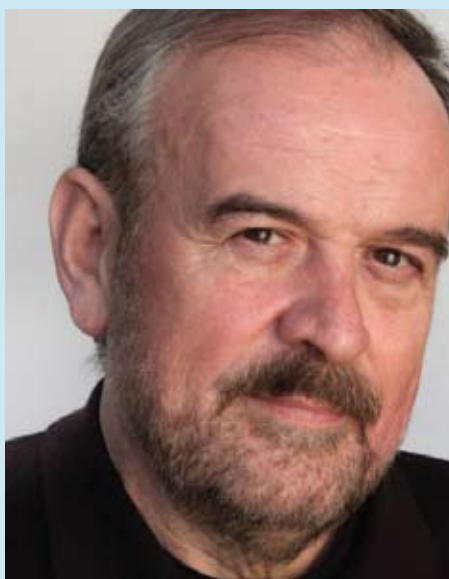
'What we do here is of the highest international standard and it is indeed unique and it is the

## Helmut Deutsch joins Samling's Leadership Team

Samling is delighted to welcome for the first time the distinguished Austrian pianist Helmut Deutsch. He has accompanied a host of famous musicians from the outset of his career with Irmgard Seefried to present day stars such as the tenor Jonas Kaufmann and of course his fellow Samling Masterclass leader Angelika Kirchsclager.

For twelve years, Helmut was the regular partner of the celebrated baritone Hermann Prey. He has made very many prize winning recordings and is a frequent guest at international music centres and festivals throughout the world.

Now he combines performance with teaching, holding professorships at conservatoires in Munich, Nuremberg and Frankfurt and regularly gives masterclasses in Europe and Japan.



'I'm honoured to be part of Samling. I look forward to coming to where so many of my colleagues have taught and to England, the place where German song is performed the most and celebrated all year long.'  
Helmut Deutsch



Ana Fernandez Guerra and Alex Banfield

Photograph © Jen Hart

## Samling Academy Opera

**In Benjamin Britten's centenary year, Samling will present a new production this summer of his comic masterpiece of English village life, *Albert Herring*.**

The opera tells the tale of Albert, a shy lad in a grocer's shop, who is forced into the limelight when the village committee decides to crown him 'May King'. This title, usually given to a 'May Queen' is bestowed as no young woman of good character in the village could meet the exacting standards of Lady Billows, so poor Albert is chosen. The virtuous Albert's crowning does not go according to plan however in this timeless coming of age story based on a novella by the French writer Guy de Maupassant.

Three Samling Scholars are leading this production, with Miranda Wright as director, pianist James Baillieu as director of music and baritone Johnny Herford will join members of the Academy to perform the role of Sid.

Auditions took place in February and tenor Alex Banfield has been cast in the title role of Albert. Alex, from Newcastle, has won a place at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester starting in September and sees this opportunity as great preparation.

'I am very excited about the whole thing. I get to work with James Baillieu, an amazing musician, with Johnny Herford a professional singer and Samling Scholar, we have direction and coaching from Miranda Wright. All of that and I get to work and perform with friends I made at Samling – Amazing!' said Alex.

'By bringing back established Samling Scholars to work alongside Academy students who are beginning to 'find their feet', in a production from and for the North East, Samling completes a virtuous circle, embodying all that we were hoping for in founding our Academy,' said director Karon Wright.

'Along the way I am sure that they will not only learn a lot from the experience but have fun as they discover the humour and humanity in their characters.'

**Three fully staged and costumed public performances of *Albert Herring* are planned – one at Saltburn Community Theatre, where most of the rehearsals will take place, and two in Hall Two at The Sage Gateshead on Wednesday 14, Friday 16 and Saturday 17 August respectively.**

# Friends and fundraising



**Following the successful launch of our new Friends' scheme, we are hoping that many more will join this year.**

Your support will help underpin our work with young people by giving them the opportunities they need to develop their potential at critical stages in their lives.

Membership is simple and not expensive, at just £30 for single membership, and offers many benefits, including the opportunity to meet our artists at post-concert receptions over a glass of wine.

Our Friends tell us that the greatest reward of membership however, is knowing that they are part of the Samling 'family' through supporting an artistic enterprise of the highest standard internationally.

**'Working with world class professionals and being taught by them on an approachable level...! It's been fantastic.'**

Emily Burnett, Samling Academy 2012

**£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.

### Join

Please complete and return the enclosed membership form with payment.

Full instructions are given on the form.

Membership can also be given as a gift – please contact us to discuss this option.

**'I still count my time at Samling as one of the most important musical weeks of my life. I'm 100% certain that what I learned there has greatly influenced the way I approach my music making and will continue to do so.'**

Ronan Collett, Samling Scholar 2008

### Get in touch

We look forward to welcoming you as a Friend and to answering any question you may have.

**Please contact our general manager Claire Murphy on 01434 602885 or email [enquiries@samling.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@samling.org.uk)**

**'Samling is seen as something very special. When you know that someone is a Samling Scholar it tells you straight away that they are of a very high level and also an exceptional calibre of singer.'**

At the Royal College of Music everyone aspires to win a place. There was a real buzz when I told colleagues of mine I had been accepted. You only realise after the course just how much you have learnt; through the classes but also organically just spending time with such inspirational mentors – a life-changing and truly memorable week that will stay with me forever.'

Annabel Mountford, Samling Scholar 2013

## Samling on film

Over the past year or so we have been building up a collection of short films on our website and the most recent – an introduction to Samling – is on our homepage.

'We produced this latest short film for those who visit our site not knowing anything about Samling and our work,' said director Karon Wright. 'This film very quickly captures the spirit of who we are and what we do and through it we hope we will inspire people to support us and get involved.'

**Visit [www.samling.org.uk](http://www.samling.org.uk) to see these films about our work.**



**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**  
**Sunday 14 – Sunday 21 April**

Angelika Kirchschrager, Helmut Deutsch, Patricia MacMahon and Christopher Glynn join together to lead eight of the brightest young artists.

Louise Alder	Soprano
Sophie Junker	Soprano
Catriona Morison	Mezzo-soprano
Jung Soo Yun	Tenor
Morgan Pearse	Baritone
Bradley Travis	Bass-baritone
Manon Ablett	Piano
James Sherlock	Piano

**Samling Masterclass**

**Wednesday 17 April, 2-5pm**  
Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead

**Samling Concert**

**Saturday 20 April, 4pm**  
Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead

**Tickets**

Available now from The Sage Gateshead  
0191 443 4661 or [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)  
Masterclass £10 Concert £15  
Ticket for both performances £22

**VERDI MESSA DA REQUIEM**

**Saturday 20 April, 7.30pm**

Hall One, The Sage Gateshead

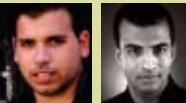
Samling Scholars:

Meeta Raval	Soprano
Madeleine Shaw	Mezzo-soprano
Luis Gomes	Tenor
Michel de Souza	Baritone

Newcastle upon Tyne Bach Choir  
Newcastle University Symphony Orchestra & Choir  
Eric Cross: Conductor

**Tickets**

Available now from The Sage Gateshead  
0191 443 4661 or [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)  
£24, £18, £14, £10 (£2 reduction for concessions)

**SAMLING ACADEMY OPERA****Albert Herring**

Samling Academy presents Benjamin Britten's bittersweet comic masterpiece in this fully staged production, led by Samling Scholars - director Miranda Wright, pianist James Baillieu as music director and baritone Johnny Herford in the role of Sid. They join a cast of outstanding young North Easterners – all participants in Samling Academy – to tell this coming-of-age story.

**Wednesday 14 August**

Saltburn Community Theatre

**Tickets** £10/£8

Available from Saltburn Community Theatre  
01287 624997 or [www.saltburnarts.co.uk](http://www.saltburnarts.co.uk)

**Friday 16 and Saturday 17 August**

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead

**Tickets** £12 (£10 concessions)

Available from The Sage Gateshead  
0191 443 4661 or [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)

**SAMLING ACADEMY**  
**11 – 13 & 18 – 20 October**

Samling, in partnership with Newcastle University, Durham University and The Sage Gateshead Weekend School, aims to set new standards for young singers and pianists from or studying in the North East. Together we have established Samling Academy to give talented young musicians the chance to work intensively with members of Samling's network of elite artists, teachers and experts, as well as our outstanding professional Scholars.

**SAMLING ACADEMY CONCERT**  
**Sunday 20 October, 7.30pm**

Northern Rock Foundation Hall, The Sage Gateshead  
A celebratory concert rounding off Samling Academy 2013 with a showcase of talented young singers and pianists in the North East. Together with Samling Scholars they will perform a programme of arias, ensembles and song.

**Tickets** £7

Available from The Sage Gateshead  
0191 443 4661 or [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)

**SAMLING SHOWCASE**

**Tuesday 5 November, 7.30pm**

Wigmore Hall, London

Sir Thomas Allen and Malcolm Martineau are joined by Scholars Kate Valentine, Helen Sherman, Luis Gomes, Ben McAteer and pianist John Reid. Programme will include *Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*, Aaron Copland; *Das iridische Leben* and *'Urlicht'*, Gustav Mahler; *Cinco canciones populares argentinas*, Ginastera; and *'Silent Noon'*, *'The Watermill'* & *'Linden Lea'*, Ralph Vaughan Williams.

**Tickets** £30, £25, £20 and £15

Tickets available from Wigmore Hall Box Office  
T: 020 7935 2141 or [www.wigmore-hall.org.uk](http://www.wigmore-hall.org.uk)

*Dine with the artists after the concert...*

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 each. Available from Samling only on 01434 602885 or by email to [enquiries@samling.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@samling.org.uk).

**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**  
**Sunday 17 – Sunday 24 November**

Bringing Joan Rodgers, Roger Vignoles, Vlad Iftinca and Audrey Hyland together to teach and inspire specially chosen young artists.

Louise Kemény	Soprano
Katie Lowe	Soprano
Lynda-Jane Nelson	Mezzo-soprano
Andrew McTaggart	Baritone
James Platt	Bass-baritone
Andrew Dunlop	Piano

**Samling Masterclass**

**Wednesday 20 November, 2-5pm**

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead

**Samling Concert**

**Saturday 23 November, 7pm**

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead

**Tickets**

Available from The Sage Gateshead  
0191 443 4661 or [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)  
Masterclass £10 Concert £15  
Ticket for both performances £22

**HANDEL MESSIAH**

**Sunday 1 December, 7pm**

Hall One, The Sage Gateshead

Samling Scholars and Samling Academy students come together with Northern Sinfonia to celebrate Northern Sinfonia Chorus's 40th Anniversary, conducted by Alan Fearon.

**Samling Scholars**

Ruth Jenkins	Soprano
Helen Sherman	Mezzo-soprano
Joshua Owen Mills	Tenor
Ben McAteer	Baritone

**Samling Academy**

Rowan Pierce	Soprano
Polly Leech	Mezzo-soprano
Alex Banfield	Tenor
Nicholas Morton	Baritone

**Tickets** £10-£33

The Sage Gateshead  
0191 443 4661 or [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)