



# Join us this summer

Mezzo-soprano  
Bethany Horak-Hallett,  
Samling Artist Programme,  
Marchmont House  
Photo: Mark Pinder

**The exquisite Arts and Crafts Music Room at Marchmont House is the setting for the first of a series of concerts we are presenting at this historic venue in the Scottish Borders.**

Samling Artists soprano Haegge Lee and tenor Nicky Spence will be joined by pianist Malcolm Martineau on Friday 20 May for an evening of song in English.

The programme will draw on the house's rich musical associations from past and present to include music by composers who have visited the house – Ralph Vaughan Williams, Charles Villiers Stanford and most recently, Jonathan Dove. In July last year Jonathan joined us at Marchmont as part of our Artist Programme residency when he shared with us the duet cycle *Man, Woman, Child* that we commissioned to mark our 25th anniversary. This will surely be one of the highlights of this early evening concert.

Marking the 150th anniversary of Vaughan Williams, who was a regular visitor to Marchmont, Nicky will be singing *On Wenlock Edge* having just released his recording of the cycle in April 2022 to resounding critical acclaim. Described as one of the 'finest ever' recordings for 'its thrilling assurance, strength of imagination

and rapt instinct' (Gramophone Magazine) this is a special opportunity to hear his 'gift for combining pure tone with direct, daring expression' (The Guardian).

Haegge Lee and Malcolm Martineau are making welcome returns to Marchmont. Malcolm led our Samling Artist Programme there in November 2021, and Haegge was one of the artists on the same course. Along with Amy Beach's settings of Robert Browning, Haegge will sing 'A Soft Day' by Charles Villiers Stanford, who was a close friend of Marchmont's former owner Robert Finnie McEwan and was involved in the design of the house's organ. There will also be songs by Purcell, Elgar, Parry, Bridge and Quilter.

'This will be the first event at Marchmont that we have been able to offer free from the restrictions imposed by the pandemic and we are thrilled that we can finally throw open the doors to our Friends and supporters and share this wonderful venue with them,' said Artistic and Executive director Karon Wright.

The full programme can be found on our website, along with details of a special free return bus transfer for ticket holders from Berwick-upon Tweed station to Marchmont House.

## Samling Academy Sea Pictures



**Rehearsals have just started for our first Samling Academy summer project since the pandemic.**

In a programme of words and music, 'Sea Pictures' will bring to life maritime stories of sailors and the lovers they've left behind, of fishermen and women, of mermaids and myths, and with some traditional seaside fun thrown in!

The concert will be directed by Samling Artists Miranda Wright and pianist Jo Ramadan who will also accompany our Academy Singers.

Performances will take place at Saltburn-by-the-Sea (pictured) on Wednesday 13 July and Sage Gateshead on Friday 15 July.

What better way to spend an evening after fish and chips and a walk on the pier!

We look forward to seeing you very soon.

## WHY SAMLING INSTITUTE?

**'Your visit really opened our students' ears to what for many of them is an entirely new style of singing. They all really enjoyed it and the duet at the end was quite wonderful!'**  
*Cameron Mabon, Principal Teacher, Expressive Arts, Berwickshire High School.*



SAMLING SHORTS

## Haegee Lee

Samling Artist soprano Haegee Lee was born in South Korea and trained at Seoul National University and the Conservatoire National de Région Pierre Barbizet, Marseille. She now studies with Isabelle Vernet. She was a Jette Parker Young Artist at the Royal Opera House and returns there this season to sing Papagena in *Die Zauberflöte*. Next season she makes her debut at English National Opera as Queen Tye *Akhmaten* and sings Musetta *La bohème* for Welsh National Opera.

### **My earliest musical memory is...**

*Playing a very easy piano version of 'Twinkle, twinkle little star' next to my Mum when I was three years old, and my first stage experience was when I was seven, singing a Christmas cantata in the Korean church.*

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

*My favourite music is jazz. Nowadays I'm falling in love with Enzo Orefice Trio.*

### **My three essential travel items are...**

*Noise-cancelling headphones, coffee and thriller books.*

### **The place in South Korea that everyone should visit is...**

*Gyeongbokgung. This is a very lovely old palace in downtown Seoul. It was built over 600 years ago, but most halls and pavilions were destroyed during the Japanese colonial rule in the 19th century because the old palaces were symbolic places representing Korea as an independent nation. This lovely palace was finally restored to its original state in the 1990s. This place is really historical and if you love K-Drama on Netflix, it's the setting for 'Kingdom'.*

### **When I have a day off, I like to ...**

*Go to galleries and museums in London. My favourite places are the Courtauld Gallery, Tate Modern and White Cube. When I moved to London in 2017 my friend told me that most of the galleries and museums are free of charge so I am trying to visit them all! And I love to try to memorize opera scores while I walk in the gallery.*

### **My dream role would be ...**

*Lucia from 'Lucia di Lammermoor'. But my first dream when I was 13 was to sing Carmen*

*because I saw the New York Metropolitan Opera 'Carmen' with my Mum, and that was why I started to study opera. But years later, my professor explained that I'm a very high soprano, so I couldn't sing Carmen and that first dream role was gone with my crying. But my next dream was Gilda, because my professor bought me a score of 'Rigoletto' when I started high school. I studied this role a lot and finally performed it in 2019 at Welsh National Opera with Alexander Joel just after I graduated from JPYAP. It was such a fabulous experience to sing a role I had dreamed of so much.*

### **If I weren't a singer, I would be ...**

*An archaeologist. I love history, culture and adventure.*

### **The best memory of my Samling Artist Programme week was ...**

*Every single moment with the leaders Joan Rodgers, Malcolm Martineau and James Garnon. They taught me some important skills but also they taught me the reality of music and how I can make my songs more alive and clear and sound more beautiful. So I was thinking lots of things about music and what I am singing about.*

## Samling Futures

Timing is everything in opera and Dominic Sedgwick put this to the test when he joined us recently for our Samling Futures school visits. Could he finish his last aria as Marullo in *Rigoletto* at the Royal Opera House, get out of his costume and cycle across London in time for the last train to Newcastle?

Happily, Dominic rose to the challenge and made it north to join fellow Samling Artists mezzo-soprano Heather Lowe and pianist Lana Bode and five Academy Singers for three days of workshops.

Our team visited state secondary schools in Gateshead, Durham and Berwickshire, giving a lively introduction to classical singing through masterclasses with our Academy Singers and students from each school. Heather and Dominic used group activities to give students a 'tool kit' for singing and at the end of each session they treated the audience to a performance of Mozart's duet 'La ci darem la mano' from *Don Giovanni*.



Samling Artists Heather Lowe, Dominic Sedgwick, Lana Bode and Academy Singers Megan Moffitt and Boris Baros with students at St Leonard's School, Durham. Photo credit Mark Pinder.

'I feel that I've come away with a great tool kit to tackle new repertoire which I will cherish and apply for years to come.' *Samling Artist tenor Dafydd Jones*



## Samling at Leeds Lieder

Samling Artists Shakira Tsindos, Dominic Sedgwick and Ian Tindale opened this year's Leeds Lieder Festival with the mezzo-soprano and baritone premiere of Jonathan Dove's *Man, Woman, Child*.

Jonathan explained in a pre-concert talk how the songs came to life and shared memories about how he came to be a composer of vocal music.

In a programme that ranged from flamboyance and fun to ravishing stillness, the concert included music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Roger Quilter, Frank Bridge and Rebecca Clarke, alongside Dove's cycle.

The concert and Jonathan Dove's talk are both available to view free of charge online until the end of July, and can be found on our website at [samling.org.uk](http://samling.org.uk)



## Welcoming our new Samling Artists

Eight young artists enjoyed intensive coaching and shared music-making on our most recent Samling Artist Programme at Marchmont House. The week was led by soprano Patricia MacMahon, pianist Caroline Dowdle and actor James Garnon. Actor and French coach Hervé Goffings joined us for the first time and shared his insights into French drama with the audience at our public masterclass. Staff pianist Samling Artist Ian Tindale supported the leaders and artists throughout the week.



*'My week with Samling gave me some much needed mental space to breathe fresh life into my tried-and-true repertoire and to delve into layers that were still unexplored in new works. I left with a deeper sense of connection and grounding, with a heart full of gratitude for my new colleagues and our generous leaders. It really has been an experience I'll never forget!'*  
Olivia Boen

Our new Samling Artists are sopranos Olivia Boen, Bridget Esler and Emily Christina Loftus, mezzo-soprano Bethany Horak-Hallett, tenor Dafydd Jones, baritone Daniel Barrett and pianists Ilan Kurtser and Michael Sikich.



Photos: Mark Pinder



## 'MAN, WOMAN, CHILD'

**Friday 20 May, 7.30pm**

**Marchmont House**

Greenlaw, Berwickshire, TD10 6YL  
marchmonthouse.com



Haegge Lee soprano  
Nicky Spence tenor  
Malcolm Martineau piano



Join us in the arts and crafts music room at Marchmont House, a space perfectly suited to the intimacy of a song recital.

The programme includes the duet cycle *Man, Woman, Child* by Jonathan Dove and songs by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford and Ralph Vaughan Williams, both of whom were frequent visitors to this beautiful home in the Scottish Borders.

A free bus service is available from Berwick-upon-Tweed station. Details of times can be found on the booking page.

**Tickets** £30, [samling.org.uk/events](http://samling.org.uk/events)



## SAMLING ACADEMY 'SEA PICTURES'

Our Samling Academy Singers present a semi-staged concert of songs, ensembles and poetry inspired by the sea.

**Wednesday 13 July, 7.30pm**

**Saltburn Arts, Saltburn-by-the-Sea**

**Tickets** £15, available from  
[saltburnarts.co.uk](http://saltburnarts.co.uk)

**Friday 15 July, 7.30pm**

**Sage Two, Sage Gateshead**

**Tickets** available soon  
[sagegateshead.com](http://sagegateshead.com) | 0191 443 4661



## SAMLING ACADEMY

**Friday 7 – Sunday 9 October**

**Friday 21 – Sunday 23 October**

Thirty young singers, chosen by audition from across the North East, embark on a year of musical discovery and development supported by our Samling Artists and leadership team, including:

Caroline Dowdle	music director
Patricia MacMahon	vocal teacher
Miranda Wright	Samling Artist vocal teacher
Joan Rodgers CBE	soprano
James Garnon	actor
Mandy Demetriou	choreographer

and Samling Artist pianists including Jonathan Ware, Jo Ramadan, Michael Pandya, Ella O'Neill, Leo Nicholson and Ilan Kurtser



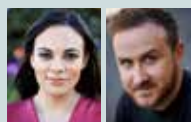
## SAMLING ACADEMY CONCERT

**Sunday 23 October, 3pm**

**Sage Gateshead**

Following six intensive days of workshops and masterclasses, we introduce our 2022/23 Samling Academy Singers in a joyful afternoon concert of song and opera, accompanied by our Samling Artist pianists.

Booking information and tickets available soon from Sage Gateshead.



## SAMLING ARTIST SHOWCASE 'SEA PICTURES'

**Wednesday 9 November, 7.30pm**

**Wigmore Hall, London**

Madison Nonoa	soprano
Angharad Lyddon	mezzo-soprano
Nick Pritchard	tenor
Julien Van Mellaerts	baritone
Jonathan Ware	piano
Kunal Lahiry	piano

Based around song cycles with a maritime theme, the programme includes Sibelius' *Luonnotar* based on a Finnish creation myth, Rimsky-Korsakov's rarely performed cycle *U Morya*, Fauré's *L'horizon chimérique* and Elgar's *Sea Pictures* in the composer's version for piano.

**Tickets** £16 – £40 available from 24 May  
[wigmore-hall.org.uk](http://wigmore-hall.org.uk)



## SAMLING ARTIST PROGRAMME

**Sunday 27 November –**

**Sunday 4 December**

An intense week of coaching and musical discovery that many previous participants have described as 'life-changing'.

## Samling In Masterclass

**Saturday 3 December**

**1.30 – 4.30pm**

**Marchmont House**

Greenlaw, Berwickshire, TD10 6YL  
[marchmonthouse.com](http://marchmonthouse.com)

Introducing eight new Samling Artists in a public masterclass led by mezzo-soprano Dame Sarah Connolly, pianist Samling Artist Joseph Middleton, conductor Paul-Emmanuel Thomas and with staff pianist Samling Artist Jo Ramadan.



## Samling Institute for Young Artists

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