



THE MUSICIANS' COMPANY LAUNCHES YOUNG ARTISTS'

ONLINE CONCERT SERIES: #MIDDAYMUSIC

The Musicians' Company, one of the UK's oldest and most respected music charities, is launching a new online concert series, to support the careers of young musicians who are part of the Musicians' Company Young Artists' Programme. In this unprecedented time of national crisis, these special recitals, recorded from the artists' homes, will premiere twice a week on the charity's YouTube channel at Midday GMT (+1) on Mondays and Wednesdays followed by a newsletter each week with interviews, Q&As and photographs of the artists and ensembles performing.

Launched in 2000, The Musicians' Company Young Artists' Programme is for musicians who have won one of the Musicians' Company's awards. It supports the finest young musicians during the vital first years of professional practice, with former Young Artists, including Alfie Boe *tenor*, Amy Dickson *Saxophone*, Milos Karadaglic *guitar*, Duncan Rock *baritone* and Ksenija Sidorova *accordion*, going on to enjoy glittering international careers.

In these times, when the livelihood of all musicians is at risk, and with performance engagements being cancelled across the board for the foreseeable future, this very special series of newly filmed concerts of soloists and ensembles aims to provide UK audiences with previously unseen online performances, given by some of the most talented young artists.

The Musicians' Company presents many of the UK's most prestigious music awards among them is the Prince's Prize which will not be presented for the first time in 2020, owing to the coronavirus. The Company has therefore decided to re-distribute the Prince's Prize funds to over 45 Young Artists who will take part in the new concert initiative, enabling the Musicians' Company to support those young artists both financially and creatively.

The Master of the Company, John Nichols, said: *"These are times of exceptional hardship in the world of the arts, as the cancelling of all concerts and events means catastrophic loss of income and livelihood for performers. I am delighted that The Musicians' Company has been able to help its Young Artists to return – albeit virtually – to the concert platform, and that we have been able to give these outstanding performers the widest possible audience"*

The #Midday Music Young Artists' online concert series launches on Monday 8th June 2020 at 12.00 GMT +1 and will be broadcast weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays. This unique concert series will be given by an eclectic group of multi-genre artists and ensembles, artists featured in the first two weeks are: Dinara Klinton (piano), Jonathan Radford (saxophone), Roman Kosyakov (piano) and André Nadais (Percussion). <https://youtu.be/sIDn3UQKg2w>

ENDS...

For All Media Enquiries Contact:

Ian Roberts A Star PR

[**ian.roberts@astarpr.com**](mailto:ian.roberts@astarpr.com)

Tel +44 (0) 208 859 4846

Tel + 44 (0) 7971 191 582

[**www.astarpr.com**](http://www.astarpr.com)

- For over 500 years the Worshipful Company of Musicians has supported the music profession in all its forms.
- Every year the Company gives over £200,000 to support a range of over 30 awards, scholarships and medals, which make a real difference to the lives of outstanding young singers, composers and instrumentalists as they make the transition from study to a professional career in music.
- The John Christie Award is the Company's most renowned award with a distinguished list of past winners. Other awards range from Classical Music to Jazz, Music Theatre, Popular Music, Brass Bands and the Military Schools of Music.
- In addition to their specific award, our winners are invited to join our Young Artists' programme for five years. This entitles them to be considered for a range of performance opportunities, which the Company arranges – probably their top priority as they seek to become known. This year our Young Artists would have given over 75 performances at venues ranging from the Wigmore Hall, where the Company organises its own concerts every year, to major music festivals across the country. Sadly, the events scheduled for dates after the lockdown started have all been cancelled.
- Our Young Artists also take part in an extensive Outreach programme, taking music into schools, hospitals and care settings throughout London. In 2019, our Young Artists worked with 5,000 pupils in 35 schools across London, 4 specialist schools for SEND pupils and the Alzheimer's Society dementia cafes.
- If you would like to learn more about the Company, join us at our events or support our Young Artists, please visit our website,

www.wcom.org.uk/news-events or contact Hugh Lloyd, at clerk@wcom.org.uk.

Twitter
Musicians' Company
@MusiciansComp

- <https://twitter.com/MusiciansComp>

Facebook
The Musicians' Company
@TheMusiciansCompany

- <https://www.facebook.com/TheMusiciansCompany>

Instagram
The Musicians' Company
@themusicianscompany

- <https://www.instagram.com/themusicianscompany>