MORE MUSIC:
REIMAGINING THE
ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC
The Royal College of Music deservedly attracts the best young talent from across the world. It is a privilege to work alongside today’s leading pedagogues and tomorrow’s leading artists. These new facilities at the heart of the College and in the heart of London will open up even greater opportunities for this century’s greatest musicians.

Mark Messenger FRCM, Head of Strings

Above
RCM Double Bass Festival
THE RCM’S TRANSFORMATION HAS BEGUN

I am delighted that after eight years of planning and preparation, building work for our More Music development project is well underway.

Extensive improvements have already been made to student facilities, including an expanded Student Union area, twelve additional practice pods and refurbished teaching and storage rooms. We have also installed a stunning new organ, commissioned by the renowned Dutch organ builder Flentrop Orgelbouw, in the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall. It looks, and sounds, magnificent.

An important aspect of music’s spirituality is undoubtedly its ability to bring people together, promoting unity rather than division. With a student cohort numbering some 60 nationalities, the Royal College of Music is determined to play its part. More Music will touch all aspects of the RCM: teaching, research, innovation and public engagement, together with the vital infrastructure that supports all of these.

When HRH The Prince of Wales founded the Royal College of Music in 1882 as part of the legacy of the Great Exhibition of 1851, he wanted it to be nothing less than the recognised centre of the musical world, encouraging, promoting and leading the cultivation of music on the international stage. 135 years on, the RCM remains a natural first choice for talented students from around the world.

I am thrilled that together we are making a huge difference to the lives of future generations of students. Our project will be the biggest change to the College’s estate since it moved to the present Blomfield Building in 1894. The influence of More Music will extend well into the next century and beyond.

Thank you for joining us on this journey and for being a much-valued member of the RCM family.

Yours Sincerely

Professor Colin Lawson, Director
CBE, MA (Oxon), MA, PhD, DMus,
FRCM, FRNCM, FLCM, HonRAM
OUR IMPACT

The Royal College of Music’s influence on the development of music is incalculable. Generations of gifted students have forged their careers at the College. Our graduates are equipped to succeed, are eminently employable and progress to the very top of the profession as performers, composers, conductors, scholars and teachers.

CELEBRATED ALUMNI:
Sir Thomas Allen
Alfie Boe
Benjamin Britten
Natalie Clein
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Dame Sarah Connolly
Sir Colin Davis
Gerald Finley
Sir James Galway
David Helfgott
Gustav Holst
Alina Ibragimova
Andrew Lloyd Webber
Anna Meredith
Dame Joan Sutherland
Ralph Vaughan Williams

RECENT VISITING MUSICIANS:
Vladimir Ashkenazy
Imogen Cooper
Chaya Czernowin
Bernard Haitink
Vladimir Jurowski
Lang Lang
Sir Roger Norrington
Murray Perahia
Steve Reich
Dame Kiri Te Kanawa

Opposite
Lang Lang with RCM pianist Oliver Poole

TRAINING THE MUSICIANS OF THE FUTURE

RCM students and graduates enjoy success in major competitions around the globe and our graduates go on to work in a wide range of careers at some of the most prestigious ensembles, venues, educational institutions and opera companies in the world. The RCM is dedicated to preparing our students for the world after graduation.

Our Creative Careers Centre gives graduates and students access to a wealth of job opportunities as well as offering support and careers advice.

LEAGUE TABLE RECOGNITION

The Royal College of Music is one of the world’s greatest conservatoires. We are proud to have nurtured some of the most exceptional musical talent of the last 135 years and recent league table results reflect our commitment to excellence.

In 2017, the RCM was ranked top institution for Performing Arts in the UK and Europe, and second in the world according to the QS World University Rankings and named top UK conservatoire in the Complete University Guide’s Arts/Music Institution League Table.

IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

Research at the RCM embraces the creative, cultural and scientific study of music. Our thriving community of researchers works on a diverse range of projects in musicology, performance science, music education, composition and performance. With access to fantastic resources, staff and students are able to work on research projects that embrace themes including creative practice, history, music psychology and health and wellbeing. The RCM had the highest percentage of world-leading research of all London conservatoires in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

The Centre for Performance Science, an ambitious collaboration between the RCM and Imperial College is aimed at tackling major challenges of performance across a wide array of domains, with partnerships spanning the arts, medical engineering, natural sciences and business.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

The RCM has close relationships with leading musical organisations around the world including the Moscow Conservatory in Russia, Princeton University and Boston University in the USA and Lang Lang Music World in China.

In January 2017 we signed an historic agreement with the Shanghai Conservatory of Music (SHCM) to establish a Joint Institute in China. The institute, named the SHCM and RCM London Joint Institute, represents the first such partnership of any UK music conservatoire.

We also continue to offer a ground-breaking degree programme with the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore, with a unique pathway for world-class arts education.
All pioneering cultural and educational institutions must continue to evolve. In developing its already iconic and exceptional facilities, the Royal College of Music has committed to ensuring a world-leading experience for future students and visitors. I send my best wishes to my friends at the RCM and whole-heartedly support this wonderful project.

Lang Lang  HonDMus
OUR VISION

More Music: Reimagining the Royal College of Music has at its heart a new vision of access and excellence to safeguard and enhance the future of music. The Campaign will allow us to increase access to music and strengthen our facilities. We will invest in new performance and practice spaces, create an interactive museum for our collections and expand our scholarship and bursary programmes.

OUR HOME

Throughout the RCM’s 135-year history some of the world’s most exceptional musicians have been taught and trained in our elegant Victorian building.

Our exciting plans will develop new state-of-the-art facilities within the main campus at Prince Consort Road, complementing our existing spaces and opening up the entrance to the building to facilitate access to our events and collections.

The new development will radically enhance our building, transforming the way students and visitors experience the RCM.

OUR STUDENTS

Support of the best talent is crucial to our mission. Teaching music at the highest level requires intensive one-to-one tuition. By expanding our Scholarship Fund and broadening our outreach efforts we will attract and nurture musically gifted students, regardless of their financial circumstances.

OUR GLOBAL REACH

Ensuring the best possible experience for our visitors is just one aspect of our public outreach. In addition to improving the experience for the public in our building, we will invest in online distance learning and install advanced recording facilities to allow us to broadcast to a global online audience.

OUR INNOVATION

Enquiry and innovation is the backbone of the learning experience for all our students. The RCM’s research environment enables undergraduates to work alongside leading professors in music education, performance researchers and with other scholars and scientists.
“We are ever so thankful to the RCM Sparks programme. Despite our financial status and no musical knowledge, the programme has given both our children and the family as a whole the opportunity to engage in music-making.”

Parents of an RCM Sparks student
OUR GOALS

STRENGTHEN FACILITIES

Our home in South Kensington is at the heart of Prince Albert’s vision of access and excellence and we remain committed to preserving its iconic character. Architect John Simpson’s design will make best use of RCM space and will ensure our heritage is safeguarded for future generations.

Our plans include:

• A flexible venue to stage concerts and masterclasses
• An intimate performance space to host smaller-scale events
• A café enclosed by a glass atrium and courtyard area
• Bright new practice rooms to supplement our current facilities
• Improvements to our recording facilities to maintain high industry standards
• A modern, interactive museum to share our outstanding collections
• A rebuilt entrance hall, welcoming the public to events
• Enhanced step-free access for students and visitors
• Replacing the non-functioning organ in the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall

SUPPORT THE MOST TALENTED

The Royal College of Music has a rich heritage of musical patronage. Scholarships form the core of this tradition and allow our donors to connect with young musicians as they develop their talent at and beyond the RCM.

The generosity of our donors means we already offer scholarship support to over 60% of our students. In the next five years, we aim to increase this provision to support 75% of students, which will require expanding our scholarship funding by £750,000 a year. Our ultimate goal is to provide financial assistance to all students, thus honouring the intentions of our founders.
We are delighted that our new Chairman, Lord Black of Brentwood, has joined us as we continue this exciting period of transformational change.

The Royal College of Music holds a unique place in Britain’s musical and cultural life. Today we are on the cusp of by far the most exciting and far-reaching development in our proud history – The More Music Campaign will completely transform the College and the lives of all who study with us for generations to come.

I am privileged and honoured to take on the role of Chairman at this pivotal moment. Our Council, including myself, have pledged to support the Campaign. Together we can complete the transformation of our College, and make sure its future – a future of More Music – is as dynamic and exciting as its distinguished past.

Lord Black of Brentwood, RCM Chairman

WIDEN ACCESS

Access for All
The Royal College of Music proudly fosters musical development in the broader London community.

RCM Sparks is our ground-breaking learning and participation programme which allows everyone to learn about music regardless of their financial means. During the year 2016/17 RCM Sparks ignited creativity in over 3,000 members of the community and trained over 188 RCM students.

The Sparks Juniors programme creates a pathway to allow children from underrepresented groups in the local area to access the excellent teaching and learning resources of the College.

Bursaries for Potential
Every Saturday, 400 highly talented students up to the age of 18 attend the Royal College of Music Junior Department. Many travel for hours each weekend to receive one-to-one tuition with highly regarded teachers. For those who cannot afford the fees, there are a limited number of bursaries.

Financial difficulties should not prevent any child from attending the RCM. Bursaries for children are an effective, means-tested way of enhancing access to the RCM. This initiative will increase our Junior Bursaries Fund and nurture early potential.

PROMOTE INNOVATION

Academic Initiatives
The Royal College of Music will add new academic appointments, including endowed professorships, and will continue to invest in musical research. Doctoral studentships and post-doctoral research fellowships will expand our research capacity to strengthen learning and artistic innovation.

Digital Futures
The digital revolution provides us with a world of new opportunities by putting us in touch for the first time with a global audience for our talented musicians.

We will develop online resources for student learning and provide a virtual collection of our manuscripts and historic items, which students and visitors will be able to access from anywhere in the world. By harnessing the power of digital technology, we will expand our role as a truly global conservatoire.

Vladimir Ashkenazy
HonDMus

The exciting development at the Royal College of Music will offer the very best performance spaces and opportunities, befitting of a world-class conservatoire, and will support the further artistic development of students to inspire future generations.
Our plans will transform our campus, developing state-of-the-art facilities to complement our existing spaces and facilitate access to key areas of the college for our students, staff and visitors. After the development is complete the Royal College of Music will offer:

- **A NEW ORGAN** for our Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall
- **NEW VISITOR FACILITIES** and **OPEN PUBLIC SPACES** including a new café, bar and restaurant
- **ENHANCED STEP FREE ACCESS** for students, staff and visitors
- **A REBUILT ENTRANCE HALL**, welcoming the public to events in our range of performance spaces
A NEW ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC MUSEUM, OFFERING A PERMANENT AND INTERACTIVE SPACE FOR OUR INTERNATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS

INCREASED PROVISION TO OVER 100 MULTIPURPOSE TEACHING, REHEARSAL AND PRACTICE ROOMS FOR STUDENTS TO HONE THEIR CRAFT

ADDITIONAL RECORDING AND BROADCASTING CAPABILITY, ENABLING INCREASED ACCESS FOR GLOBAL AUDIENCES

IMPROVED ACCESS AND INTUITIVE CIRCULATION BETWEEN KEY PUBLIC SPACES

TWO NEW FLEXIBLE PERFORMANCE SPACES
**CAMPAIGN PROGRESS**

Thanks to our friends and supporters we have reached over 70% of our overall target of £40 million*.

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*Figures as of August 2017
The strong history of philanthropy at the Royal College of Music is inspiring. As HRH, Prince of Wales, our President of the College and Patron of the Campaign has said, every great institution, no matter how glorious its past, must look to the future.

We are committed to the most exciting and far-reaching development in the College’s history. It is essential to raise the standard of our facilities to match the excellence of our training, thereby securing the future of our student’s contribution to the musical heritage we all share and wish to continue.

The Campaign has reached a critical phase. My Council colleague Bob Wigley has been instrumental in helping us get to this milestone. As the new Chairman of the More Music Campaign, I have the role of ensuring that we reach our goal and raise the remaining 30% needed to realise our vision.

Engaged philanthropy at the RCM is essential. The generous support of our donors provides students with the facilities, scholarships, instruments and innovative teaching for success as world-class musicians. But excellence requires continual investment.

I add my personal gratitude to everyone who have given generously to More Music and thank in advance those who will support us on this final stage of our journey.

Geoffrey Richards, HonRCM
Chairman, More Music Campaign
TOP RCM FACTS

TOP INSTITUTION FOR PERFORMING ARTS
IN THE UK AND EUROPE
SECOND IN THE WORLD
QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2017

840 STUDENTS
FROM MORE THAN 60 COUNTRIES

MOST YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS AND VIEWS
OF ANY UK CONSERVATOIRE

FIRST CONSERVATOIRE IN THE WORLD
TO JOIN GOOGLE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

96% OF RCM SURVEY RESPONDENTS
WERE FOUND TO BE IN EMPLOYMENT OR FURTHER STUDY SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATING*

*according to a Higher Education Statistics Agency’s survey 2016
RANKED TOP LONDON CONSERVATOIRE FOR WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH IN THE LATEST RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (2014)

MORE THAN 60% OF STUDENTS BENEFITTING FROM FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM AN ARRAY OF SCHOLARSHIPS

CONCERTS AND MASTERCLASSES WATCHED IN 150 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE VIA THE RCM’S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

GOLD RATING FOR OUTSTANDING TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE LATEST TEACHING EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK 2017 (TEF)
Patron
Her Majesty The Queen

President and Patron of the Campaign
His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

Chairman
Lord Black of Brentwood

Director
Professor Colin Lawson CBE FRCM

Chairman, More Music Campaign
Geoffrey Richards HonRCM

Director of Development and Alumni Engagement
Lily Harriss