

Monteverdi Choir | English Baroque Soloists | Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique
Artistic Director: Sir John Eliot Gardiner

Apprentices Programme 2016/2017 for instrumentalists

The Monteverdi Choir & Orchestras are pleased to announce the launch of the Monteverdi Apprentices Programme for 2016/2017.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The aim of the Apprentices Programme is to recruit the most promising young performers – those on the verge of entering the profession – and introduce them to the musical tradition of the Monteverdi ensembles and the working practices of Sir John Eliot Gardiner through a year-long apprenticeship, involving participation in the English Baroque Soloists and Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique projects, as well as additional mentoring and coaching sessions with the Monteverdi musical staff.

The benefits of participating in the Apprentices Programme include:

- **An introduction to the highest level of period instrument performance** available in the UK and on the international scene;
- **Spending time working on and performing a wide repertoire** with the English Baroque Soloists, Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique, Sir John Eliot Gardiner and the Monteverdi Choir, by participating in rehearsals and observing projects;
- **Receiving an excellent preparation for a performing career**, learning at an early stage of development about the exacting demands and working practices of an internationally renowned ensemble;
- **Additional educational benefits** ranging from individual mentoring and coaching to audition technique seminars;
- **Learning to work in a team** within the multi-national environment of the Choir and orchestras; **there may also be an opportunity to participate in MCO educational projects**, communicating your enthusiasm for classical music to those who have had no experience of it.

PROJECTS 2016/17

Monteverdi Choir & Orchestras will appoint up to eight instrumental Apprentices for the year 2016/17, who will be invited to take part in several projects with the orchestras and choir. They will be asked to perform concerts in the UK and on tour and to attend rehearsals. In addition, they will take part in other projects such as chamber music concerts and educational activities. The Apprenticeship will culminate in a London-based showcase concert, to be held in November 2017.

Exactly which projects the successful applicants participate in will be decided after the auditions and as the year progresses but successful applicants should be prepared to be called for any of the following periods:

2016:

4-7 November	Workshops
8-19 November	Brahms: Serenade no. 2 in A (Op. 16); Beethoven: Piano Concerto no. 4 in G (Op. 58); Schubert: Symphony no. 5 in B flat (D. 485)
25-27 November	Workshops
28 November – 12 December	Bach: <i>Magnificat in Eb</i> BWV 243a; <i>Lutheran Mass in F Major</i> BWV 233; <i>Cantata "Süßer Trost"</i> BWV 151

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2017:

1-7 February	Workshops
18-28 May	Monteverdi: <i>L'Orfeo</i>
3-11 June	Bach: <i>Cantatas</i>
3-10 August	Berlioz: <i>La damnation de Faust</i>

N.B. dates, projects and repertoire are subject to change. Not all instrumentalists may be included in every project.

Throughout the course of the year Apprentices will be welcome as observers at rehearsals for projects in which they are not taking part. At the end of the year they will be asked to write a brief report on their experience and they will be considered for further professional engagement by the Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra.

All touring expenses including per diems will be covered, and Apprentices will also be paid a half-fee for each project in which they participate. (Candidates who are not London-based must note that unfortunately any expenses incurred to travel to and stay in London for rehearsals and local concerts cannot be covered).

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should send their curriculum vitae and a recommendation letter from their instrumental teacher to **Andrew Thomson via admin@monteverdi.org.uk**. Please notify us if you already know you will be unavailable for some of the projects.

Applications close at 17:00 on Monday 15th August 2016
First round auditions will take place on 8-9th September 2016 in London
Second round auditions will take place on 10th September 2016 in London

These will be overseen by Sir John Eliot Gardiner, with individual members of the orchestras in attendance. A piano accompanist will be provided. Successful applicants will need to prepare three audition pieces: one piece from the period 1650-1760; one piece from the period 1760-1850; and one contrasting piece of their choice. The audition panel may request to hear either or both of these pieces at their own discretion. The audition may involve a short sight-reading excerpt. It will not be necessary to perform anything from memory, but you may be asked to speak briefly about why you are applying for the programme and what you hope to get out of the apprenticeship.

After a first selection based on curriculum vitae/recommendation letters, we will let you know if you have been shortlisted for the auditions and, if so, arrange an audition time that is convenient for you.

CONTACT US

Prospective applicants will likely be familiar with the work of the Monteverdi ensembles but for more information, or details of our current and recent projects, please see our website: <http://www.monteverdi.co.uk/>

Should you require any further information, please email admin@monteverdi.org.uk.