

London Basses

Newsletter No.6 / July 2018

Sunday 8th July 2018
St Paul's School (Barnes, London)

The latest London Basses workshop was held on Sunday 8th July and bassists of all ages and abilities came from across England. Directed by Eloise Riddell with guest tutor Katy Furmanski, the action packed day featured an innovative new orchestral workshop directed by Katy, in which participants learnt to play Sibelius' Finlandia, as well as massed bass orchestra, smaller ensembles, orchestral workshop and open lessons. The final concert included massed bass, ensemble and solo repertoire from the 18th century to present day featuring music by Bartok, Chester Minkler, David Heyes, G.F Handel, Michael Montgomery, Tony Osborne and Peter Warlock.



What they say...

"Thank you so much for hosting yesterday's workshop! James very much enjoyed himself."

"You will be certainly seeing James again" (parent)

"Rohan had a wonderful time at the bass day, thank you for running it" (parent)

"We really enjoyed it and look forward to your October course" (parent)



News

London Basses has now gone live! I am thrilled to announce our new website and Facebook page where you can find updated information about all our upcoming and past workshops, download workshop application forms, read example schedules, have a browse through our gallery and plenty more. Please go to <http://eloise-riddell.co.uk/london-basses/> for more information.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Next London Basses workshop

Sunday 28th October 2018

Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School

Director **Eloise Riddell**

Eloise is a passionate and versatile musician, who studied at the Royal Academy of Music where she obtained an MA, BMus (Hons) and LRAM teaching diploma. She is currently a busy freelancer, most recently touring in 'Rhondda Rips it Up' with Welsh National Opera and playing with other notable orchestras such as BBC National Orchestra of Wales, London Contemporary Orchestra and London Symphony Orchestra. As a pioneer of new music and chamber works, she has commissioned and premiered numerous solo and chamber music works for the double bass. She has recorded music for feature films, animation, popular music artists and contemporary organisations such as Nonclassical.

Eloise is currently Principal Double Bass of the Street Orchestra of London, who's motto is 'Music for All'. She is also passionate about outreach and teaching, currently the bass tutor on the Junior Guildhall's String Training Programme and teaching in leading independent schools such as City of London School for Girls and Kensington Prep as well as tutoring on London music courses and teaching a number of private pupils of all ages from beginners through to experienced players. She has also worked with the outreach departments of Academy of St Martin's in the Fields, Spitalfields Music, English National Opera and English Chamber Orchestra and has worked for Creative Futures as a workshop leader.

Our next guest tutor will be **Katy Furmanski**

Katy studied at the Royal Academy of Music, graduating with a Bachelors degree in 2011. She is currently a busy freelance double bassist, playing with the most of the major London orchestras (LSO, LPO, RPO and ENO to name just a few). She also enjoys playing chamber music and is the double bassist for a number of ensembles (such as the Bottesini Ensemble, London Concertante, Arnold Camerata and Barbican Ensemble).

Education work is an important strand in Katy's career and was a fantastic guest tutor at the London Basses' July workshop, delivering expert orchestral guidance. She teaches the double bass for Bromley Youth Music Trust where she has coached their Youth Symphony Orchestra, one of a number of junior orchestras she has coached. She teaches at several leading independent schools, is a deputy double bass teacher for the Guildhall and Royal Academy junior departments and has worked on outreach projects with the education department of the London Philharmonic Orchestra as well as with Ignite at the Wigmore Hall.

Spartan Press provide London Basses with music for our workshops, including music from Yorke Edition, Recital Music, Mctier Music, Four Bass Music and Vamoosh Music to name but a few. At every workshop we have a small music shop where participants can buy Double Bass music at a reduced price. Participants can request individual sheet music or tutor books before the workshop date which will be ready on the day.

Website: www.spartanpress.co.uk



London Basses workshops are kindly sponsored by **Thwaites Fine Stringed Instruments**, who's director, Bill Pamplin and colleagues, provide fascinating Q and A sessions at most workshops.

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We are thrilled to announce our newest sponsorship with Stoneleigh Youth Orchestra. Wimbledon-based Stoneleigh Youth Orchestra has more than 170 players aged 8-18 in its two orchestras. The Training Orchestra caters for players who are Grade 4-6, while the Main Orchestra comprises players who are Grade 7+. It rehearses on Sunday afternoons during school term time and performs three concerts a year in some of London's leading venues. The Main Orchestra also undertakes a European tour each July. Auditions are held in September, January and April. Please contact Julian Hardwick (vicechairman@stoneleighyouthorchestra.org.uk) for further details



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