

St Martin's Voices Fellowship Scheme April to November 2018

St Martin-in-the-Fields is delighted to announce the **St Martin's Voices Fellowship Scheme 2018**. The Fellowship scheme provides an opportunity for eight singers to enjoy an intensive, focused period of training with others of a similar standard and interests and is an integral part of the exciting choral music programme at St Martin-in-the-Fields. The scheme is aimed at choral singers who have held choral scholarships or similar at university and elsewhere, are in the first stage of a professional career in singing, and wish to develop their skills as choral and consort singers to a high level.

Alongside working with Andrew Earis, Director of Music at St Martin's, the Fellows will work with other leading choral directors, receive vocal coaching, and perform with ensembles including the Southbank Sinfonia and Brandenburg Sinfonia. The scheme also includes a performance at the Greenbelt Festival in August 2018 and a tour to Scotland in November 2018. The singers will generally perform as a standalone ensemble of eight singers, however, they will sometimes join with other members of St Martin's Voices for larger scale repertoire.

The St Martin's Voices Fellowship Scheme 2018 is an eight month programme from April to November 2018, during which time there will be eight projects.

St Martin-in-the-Fields

St Martin-in-the-Fields is a hospitable, vibrant and forward-thinking church, which has a long history of opening its doors to people from all walks of life and from all faiths or no faith at all. The first religious broadcast was made from St Martin's and we regularly broadcast church services as well as the annual BBC Radio 4 St Martin-in-the-Fields Christmas Appeal. Pioneering work with homeless people started in the First World War and continues today with the Connection at St Martin's. Amnesty International was conceived at St Martin's and Shelter and the Big Issue were launched on the church steps.

Music has always played a central part in the life of St Martin-in-the-Fields. The Academy of St Martin in the Fields was founded here in 1958 by Sir Neville Marriner and the then Master of Music, John Churchill. The breadth of musical activity at St Martin's is astonishing. In addition to the regular pattern of music in worship, St Martin's hosts three lunchtime concerts a week, the longest running free recital programme in the UK, and at least three ticketed evening concerts each week.

The Music Department at St Martin's embraces both music in worship and commercial music making. Alongside the regular pattern of choral worship, we have recently launched the *Sound of St Martin's* Concert Series, thirty concerts each year given by our own choral and instrumental ensembles. Our ground-breaking *Great Sacred Music* Series, a sequence of words and music on different themes each week, began in 2013, and will form a key part of the Fellowship programme.

We have a number of choral ensembles at St Martin's:

- **St Martin's Voices** is our flagship vocal ensemble of emerging professional singers, based at St Martin-in-the-Fields in Trafalgar Square, who come together to sing world-class concerts and special services at St Martin-in-the-Fields and beyond.
- The **Choral Scholars** have an essential musical role at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Each year up to ten scholars many of whom are music college students or graduates are appointed to sing at midweek services at St Martin's during term time. They also gain concert experience through our lunchtime and evening concert series, and benefit from an extensive programme of training in different aspects of church and choral music.
- The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields is an outstanding liturgical voluntary choir of 25 singers, rooted in Sunday worship at St Martin's. In addition, they sing for the worship services at

all the major church festivals, including Advent, Christmas, Holy Week and Easter. The Choir is well known for its broadcasts on BBC Radio and TV recordings, tours and concerts.

- **St Martin's Chorus** is the newest choral ensemble at St Martin-in-the-Fields, founded in April 2015. It is a voluntary chamber choir, drawing from a pool of around thirty singers, that performs concerts of both major choral works and more intimate, small-scale works.
- The **Children's Voices of St Martin-in-the-Fields** was formed in 2014 and has quickly become an integral part of the St Martin's musical community. This choir of 7-13 year-olds has joined our existing ensembles to regularly enhance our music-making at church services and concerts whilst providing invaluable musical training for its young singers.

Fellowship Schedule

PROJECT 1: INTRODUCTION

Mon 23rd Apr 6.30 – 9.00pm Meeting and photoshoot

Thu 26th Apr 2.30 – 5.00pm Rehearsal

Thu 3rd May 2.30 – 5.00pm Choral Workshop

Fri 4th May 3.00pm Rehearsal

7.30pm <u>Evening concert: Fauré Requiem & Poulenc part-songs</u>

PROJECT 2: BACH MOTETS

Mon 21st May 6.30 – 9.00pm Rehearsal Thu 24th May 11.30am Rehearsal

1.00pmGreat Sacred Music2.30 - 5.00pmChoral Workshop

Sat 26th May 3.00pm Rehearsal

6.00 – 7.00pm <u>Evening concert: Bach Motets</u>

PROJECT 3: AMERICAN VOCAL MUSIC

Thu 7th Jun 2.30 – 5.00pm Rehearsal Mon 11th Jun 11.00am Rehearsal

1.00pm <u>Lunchtime concert: American songs and arias</u>

Thu 14th Jun 2.30 – 5.00pm Choral Workshop

Mon 18th Jun 5.00pm Rehearsal

6.30pm Great Sacred Choral Classics: A Journey around the USA

PROJECT 4: ITALIAN CHORAL MASTERPIECES

Thu 5^{th} Jul 2.30 – 5.00pm Rehearsal Thu 12^{th} Jul 11.30am Rehearsal

1.00pm <u>Great Sacred Music</u> 2.30 – 5.00pm Choral Workshop

Mon 16th Jul 4.00pm Rehearsal

6.30-7.30pm <u>Evening concert: Allegri Miserere</u>

PROJECT 5: GREENBELT FESTIVAL

Thu 23rd Aug 11.30am Rehearsal

1.00pm <u>Great Sacred Music</u>

Fri 24th Aug All day Greenbelt Festival (inc. overnight stay)

Sat 25th Aug All day Greenbelt Festival

PROJECT 6: SOUTHBANK SINFONIA

1.00pm <u>Lunchtime concert: Opera arias and ensembles</u>

Thu 11^{th} Oct 2.30 – 5.00pm Rehearsal

6.00 – 9.00pm Rehearsal with Southbank Sinfonia

Sat 13th Oct 3.00pm Rehearsal

7.30pm <u>Evening concert: Southbank Sinfonia</u>

PROJECT 7: AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Thu 1st Nov 11.30am Rehearsal

1.00pm <u>Great Sacred Music</u>

2.30 – 5.00pm Rehearsal

Mon 5th Nov 6.30 – 9.00pm Choral Workshop

Thu 8th Nov 3.00pm Rehearsal

7.30pm <u>Evening concert: Parry Songs of Farewell</u>

PROJECT 8: SCOTLAND TOUR

Mon 12th Nov 6.30 – 9.00pm Rehearsal

Tue 13th Nov All day Scotland tour (inc. overnight stay)

Wed 14th Nov All day Scotland tour

Honorarium

Fellows receive a remuneration of £2000 (equivalent to £250 per project), paid in two equal instalments in July and November.

Throughout the Fellowship period, you will be a Fellow at St Martin's and not an employee. Nothing in this document is intended to create a relationship of employer and employee between you and St Martin-in-the-Fields.

Availability

It is expected that Fellows will attend all scheduled rehearsals and performances for the duration of the programme. However, absences may be granted in exceptional circumstances if the Fellow is offered an opportunity of significant benefit to their future career. This will be subject to a written absence request being approved by the Director of Music. If approved, a suitable deputy will be organised by the Music Department and their performance fee will be deducted from the Fellowship remuneration.

Eligibility and requirements

The scheme is aimed at choral singers who are in the first stage of a professional career in singing, and wish to develop their skills as choral and consort singers to a high level. Candidates for the Fellowship should have a confident and well developed singing voice and an excellent standard of sight-singing ability. Enthusiasm for singing as a member of a team, together with a willingness to develop their musical talent, will be determining factors. Candidates should be able to demonstrate relevant choral training and professional experience.

To apply

Please complete the application form and send, along with a current CV, by email to Sarah Maxted at sarah.maxted@smitf.org or by post to: Sarah Maxted, Music Programme Coordinator, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ

The closing date for applications is **Wednesday 28**th **March at 12 noon.** Successfully shortlisted candidates will be informed by Friday 30th March.

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to perform a solo piece of up to 5 minutes in length, prepare a set piece, and undertake sight-reading, aural tests and a short interview. Auditions will take place on Wednesday 4th, Sunday 8th and Tuesday 10th April. Please indicate your availability on the application form. Applicants will be emailed their audition outcome by Friday 13th April.