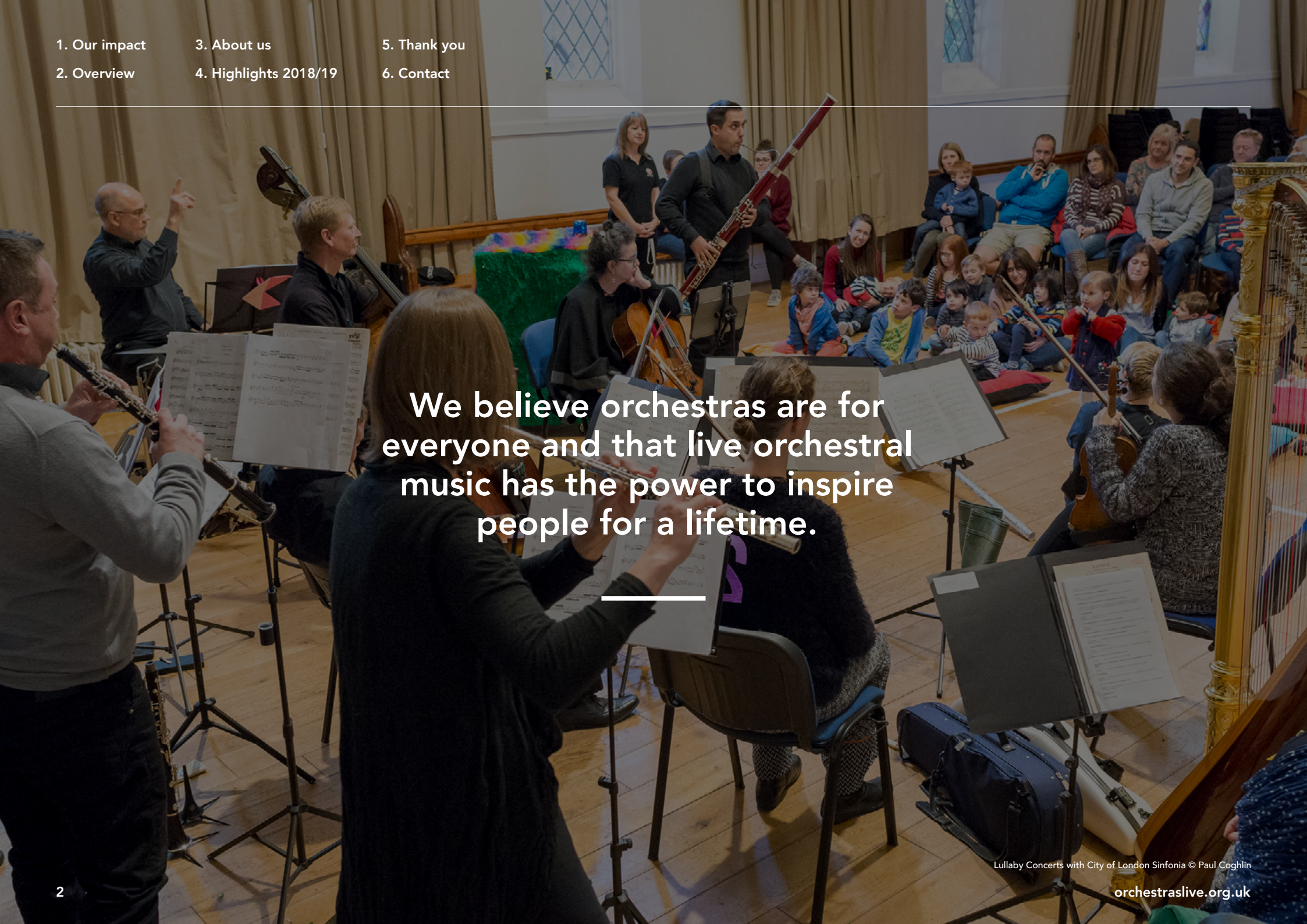




ORCHESTRAS *Live* Impact Report 2018/19



We believe orchestras are for everyone and that live orchestral music has the power to inspire people for a lifetime.

Our impact in 2018/19



57

investing
partners



50,074

live orchestral
experiences



176

projects and
concerts



21

professional
orchestras



42%

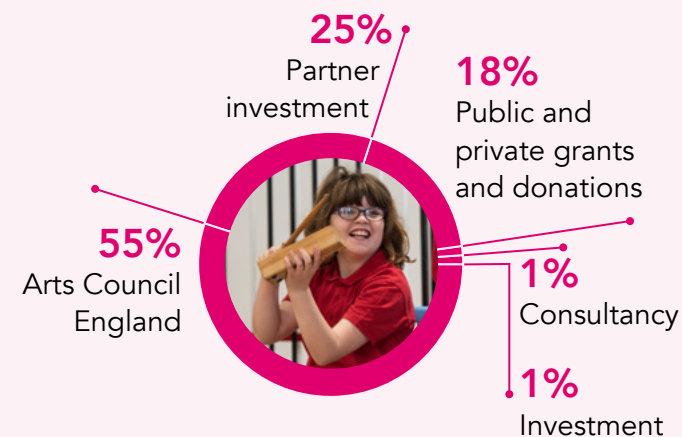
of concerts
featured
work by living
composers



£245,409

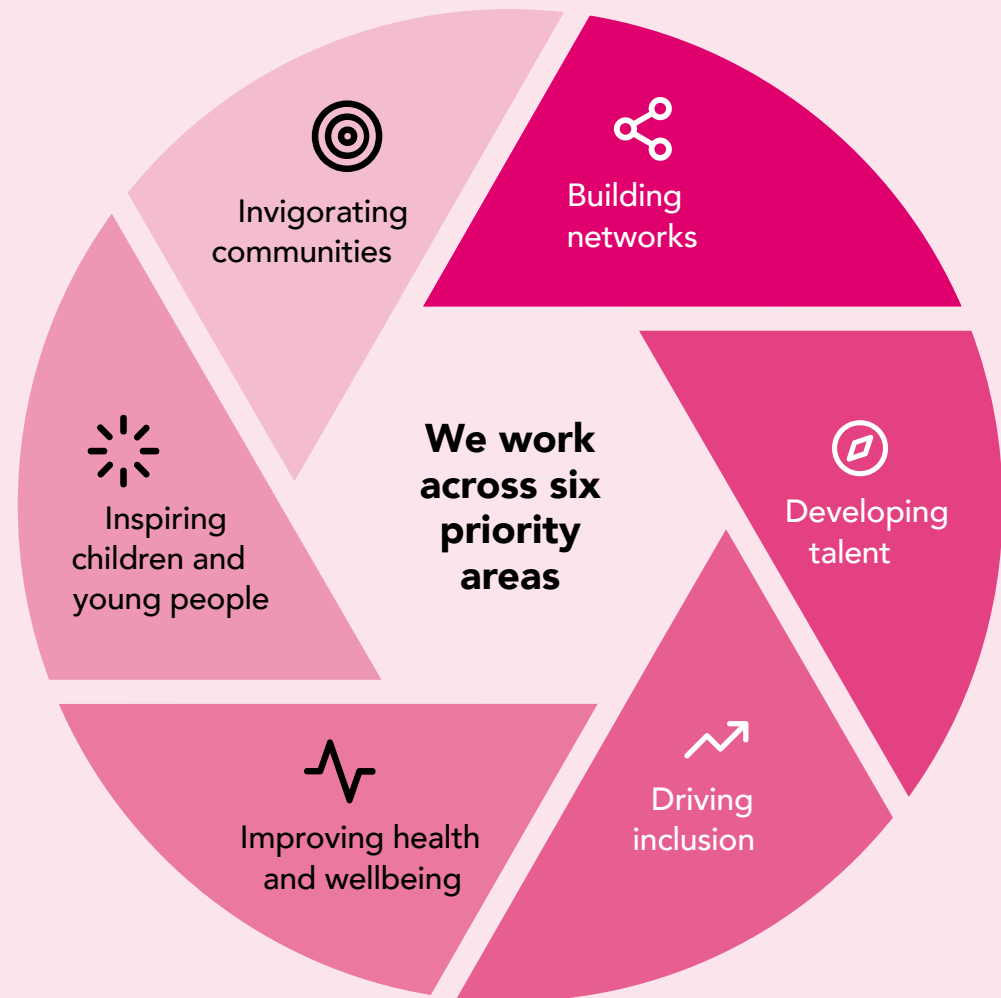
additional external
funding levered into
local communities

Total income
£867,361



Orchestras Live is a registered charity reliant on a wide range of income sources to deliver our work. We are delighted to be one of Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations, an integral part of the country's cultural infrastructure.

We create environments where music and creativity can thrive. We work with artistic partners across the country to ensure everyone has access to world-class orchestral experiences.





Invigorating communities

8,981 live experiences

- Bringing people of all ages and backgrounds together
- Building local relationships
- Raising aspirations

43% of our Producers' time focused on areas that fell within the bottom third for cultural engagement in England*.

“ [Orchestras Live's] support, has given us the confidence...to engage a wide cross-section of the low-income community which typically has no access to orchestras....together we are opening people's hearts, ears and minds to outstanding music.”

Sarah Armitage, JAM on the Marsh Festival in Kent

In 2018/19: Classically Yours won an RPS Music Award for Audience Engagement, for our work addressing the inequalities of opportunity to access high quality live orchestral music in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

*Arts Council England, Active Lives survey data



Inspiring children and young people

21,524 live experiences

- Providing first-time experiences
- Nurturing creativity
- Engaging family audiences

25% of our partner concerts were for families and children.

“ This project built up the self-esteem of every student who was involved. Your team took some extremely reluctant learners and gave them the confidence to compose their own music, to create and express their own ideas.”

Kirsten Peacock, Teacher at Wyvern Academy, Darlington Hippodrome orchestral series

In 2018/19: A partner Music Education Hub reported a 103% increase in children taking up instrumental lessons as a result of an Orchestras Live project.



Improving health and wellbeing

705 live experiences

- Enhancing participants' physical and mental health
- Increasing intergenerational understanding
- Providing opportunities for the excluded and vulnerable

79% of our project partners reported health and wellbeing outcomes through their Orchestras Live activity.

“ We've had a lot of health problems lately. Going to this helped me, I felt calmer, and the music was great, the company, excellent.”

Project participant, Creative Journeys

In 2018/19: Academic research from our Creative Journeys project showed the direct link between taking part in musical activity and increased communications, and a decrease in isolation for older care home residents.



Driving inclusion

2,506 live experiences

- Diversifying the talent pipeline
- Building confidence
- Ensuring equitable access to orchestral music for everyone

39%

of our projects gave prominence to diverse artists or music leaders.

“

I think it's amazing and new and exciting...just being able to show what we're capable of doing.

Project participant, Able Orchestra

In 2018/19: Our Deaf and Disabled Music Leader Development Programme has directly resulted in two trainee music leaders securing employment with professional orchestras.



Developing talent

6,151 live experiences

- Developing leadership skills
- Sustaining the sector
- Mentoring young musicians

87%

of our project partners reported learning and skills development outcomes through their Orchestras Live activity.

“

I think other players in the orchestra would greatly benefit from taking part in something like this. It could help with their own expression and confidence in front of a different type of audience.

Orchestra musician, Early Years consultancy project for CBSO

In 2018/19: Musician Jess Fisher won The Mighty Creatives Emerging Artist Award and an Inspire Awards Creativity and Innovation Award, following her role as a young music leader in Able Orchestra.



Building networks

10,207 live experiences

- Improving local cultural provision
- Developing audiences
- Connecting partners

99%

of concert audiences surveyed indicated they would be likely or very likely to attend another orchestral concert in the future.

“

[Orchestras Live] has helped [us] think more about how we can be a more flexible ensemble and ... also helped the orchestra connect better with the community. Through [OL] projects we have become more collaborative.

Steve Pickett, Education Director, the Hallé

In 2018/19: We invested in our first Regional Producer – North, furthering our commitment to develop orchestral opportunities in this under-served part of the country.

Overview

From our Chair

This Impact Report sets out the achievements of Orchestras Live over the past year and looks forward to our plans for the coming years. It reflects the very positive relationships we maintain with our many partners, the orchestral sector, local government, charitable and grant-making bodies, a wide range of individual promoters and with Arts Council England. It shows a very positive set of outcomes but does not minimise the challenges that lie ahead.

When this Report is published, I will have had the privilege of being Chair of the Board of Trustees of Orchestras Live for almost a year. I was excited about the opportunity the role offers to play a part in a national organisation, assisting and encouraging the orchestral sector to build on its achievements and ambitions. I feel passionately about the personal and societal value of high quality orchestral music, and that it should be available to everyone in England, regardless of where they live and regardless of where they come from within our communities.

When I started, I was aware of the very wide range of activities that Orchestras Live undertakes and was keen to ensure that these could continue and be expanded, despite the increasing pressures on resources for the sector. It has been really encouraging to see all that has been achieved over the past year (and before that)

including the strides we have made in expanding our presence in the North of England to reinforce our role in respect of under-served localities and communities.

We are increasingly driven by the imperative of inclusivity, to make sure that in all aspects of what we do there is the widest opportunity and encouragement for participation for people from all backgrounds. The significance of orchestral music and other creative activity in promoting individual and community health and wellbeing is also increasingly being acknowledged by government and policy makers. This is something that Orchestras Live has long recognised and continues to be a growing feature of our work for the past year and will become even more significant in the future.

I also hope that we will be able – in partnership with others – to continue to provide leadership and direction for the orchestral sector. It has become clear to me that alongside high quality musicianship there is a desire among orchestras in England both to achieve more in the concert hall and increasingly to reach out into a wider society. Orchestras Live will work to place communities and participants at the heart of the creative process, so that we can collaborate with orchestras to deliver relevant and engaging projects. We will work with other arts organisations and opinion formers and changemakers to improve life chances and civic pride in deprived areas of England. And we will assert and demonstrate the value of orchestral music across England as a whole and the importance of musical awareness, education and performance in a healthy society.



Tony Stoller
Chair, Orchestras Live

From our CEO

This time last year, I wrote in our annual review that “incremental change requires confidence in the future”. No one can deny that in the year since then, confidence in knowing what the future has in store has grown increasingly hard to come by, and in that context I’m particularly proud that Orchestras Live has not only maintained strong local and regional partnerships across the country but developed new ones and deepened the impact of our work.

This has been possible because our planning looks to the long term, scoping out opportunities that relate to our core priorities. We are creative, agile and collaborative in developing new relationships – with participants, audiences, partners and funders. Many people are surprised that such a small team delivers such a breadth and depth of work. In the past year we have undertaken an organisational review and restructure that enables our dedicated, expert and energetic producers to focus on developing partnerships that extend and deepen impact, supported by high level project and insight co-ordination to gather and disseminate evidence.

That same review resulted in the creation of a brand-new position at Orchestras Live: Regional Producer – North. Becky West, who took up the post at the beginning of 2019, strengthens our presence in the North of England, where we have been building

new partnerships in recent years, and increases our ability to respond to local and regional needs and opportunities.

These targeted developments, undertaken in response to evidence from our own and others’ research, help us to future-proof Orchestras Live and grow sustainably.

Orchestras Live’s expertise is increasingly in demand. As well as adding value to our ongoing producer partners’ work, we have engaged with organisations outside the orchestral sector, providing leadership and advocacy at national conferences on topics such as arts, health and wellbeing, disabled musicians and the impact of digital technology, co-creation with local communities and Celebrating Age. Our publication *[From Bingo to Bartok](#)*, commissioned by the Baring Foundation, highlights the innovative work that orchestras are doing to engage older people in live orchestral experiences, the benefits that brings and research evidence to demonstrate the case. We have been engaged as consultants to advise on orchestral musicians’ presentation and skills development in Early Years settings.

The coming year will see Orchestras Live continuing to drive change for the better in the orchestral sector and those areas of our society where orchestras can have such a transformative impact.



Sarah Derbyshire
Chief Executive, Orchestras Live

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About us

We believe orchestras are for everyone. We create environments where music and creativity can thrive. We work to ensure communities across the country have access to world-class orchestral experiences.

Orchestras Live is...

A champion for audiences

- Transforming cultural opportunities for people in their local area
- Bringing world-class professional orchestras to rural, coastal and under-served urban communities
- Inspiring the young and rejuvenating the old, giving all ages a voice in shaping their experience

A creative producer

- Selecting the best individuals, assembling creative teams, and harnessing their imagination for the many
- Awakening new ideas and testing musical concepts
- Curating relevant and inspirational live work in unexpected spaces
- Levering funds into the local cultural economy

A collaborator

- Connecting partners to originate collaborative work
- Joining communities and generations in award-winning projects
- Developing talent to increase quality, diversity and sustainability of music delivery and participation, forging dialogue both within and outside the orchestral sector

An industry leader

- Occupying the heart of the orchestral world, leading thought, learning new approaches, stimulating debate and driving change
- Expert and generous across the music industry, developing professional skills that ripple across the sector



Image: Northamptonshire SEND schools project with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra © Samantha Gostner

Staff

Sarah Derbyshire

Chief Executive

Stuart Bruce

Senior Creative Producer

Nancy Buchanan

General Manager

Jan Ford

Senior Creative Producer

Tom Foster

Administration and
Communications Assistant

Alex Marshall/Jane Macpherson

Communications Strategist

Karys Orman

Production and Insight
Coordinator

Caroline Porter

Funding Development Manager

Becky West

Regional Producer – North

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Vice-Chair

David Bray

Catrin Griffiths

Matt Littlewood

Neil Mathur

Rebecca Saunders

Dan Watson

Jane Williams

Simone Willis



Hear and Now in Bedford with the Philharmonia Orchestra © Nikolaj Schubert



Able Orchestra and THEPETEBOX © Mark Nelson – Inspire Culture – Nottingham TRCH

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Highlights 2018/19

Collaborator: SHINE

Region: Midlands

SHINE was part of our on-going partnership with Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub. Together with Sinfonia Viva, **we developed new ways of delivering the music education and instrumental tuition** in Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) schools.

The project enabled us to **combine our extensive knowledge of the orchestral sector, music technology and artistic partners with our partnership approach**, to support the Music Education Hub in providing the right support and opportunities for inclusive music making.

Two lead musicians – Ben Sellers from Transformance Music and Jack Ross from Sinfonia Viva – worked with students aged 10-14 years from four SEND schools, supporting them to compose and perform new work. In their weekly band sessions, they used both traditional acoustic instruments and iPads, which utilised apps to support students in composition and improvisation. The project culminated in various public performances including at De Montfort Hall in Leicester as part of Leicestershire schools' annual celebration of music.

Impact

The project resulted in the music service developing a specific music curriculum for SEND schools in the county, as well as the creation of practical guides and resources on how to create iPad bands in mainstream primary schools. We worked collaboratively with our partners to increase the amount of music tuition, as well as improving teacher knowledge and skills in music making in SEND schools.

The SHINE project was produced in partnership between Orchestras Live and Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub with Sinfonia Viva.

Image: SHINE project in Leicestershire with Sinfonia Viva
© Chris Webb



“This project has changed my life...It has helped me with my confidence and meant that I can do things that I never thought possible.”

SHINE project participant

Creative Producer: Requiem – An Act of Remembrance

Region: East of England

One of our hallmarks is a **creative and collaborative approach to producing** work that is **relevant and meaningful to local communities and audiences**.

We worked in partnership with Norfolk Museums Service and other organisations connected through the Local Cultural Education Partnership, to design and co-produce Requiem: a large-scale orchestral project, to mark the First World War Centenary.

Over 100 young people were involved in the creation of digital projections, music, art and poetry, including two large-scale performances at the Hippodrome Circus Theatre. We brought together 49 young people with composer Sarah Freestone and players from the BBC Concert Orchestra, to create and rehearse musical material which would be integral to the new piece. A touring Requiem digital exhibition created by the young participants has engaged more than 6,500 local people.

Led by Orchestras Live and Creative Collisions the project was produced in collaboration with Norfolk Museums Service, Norfolk Music Hub, National Centre for Writing, Norfolk Library & Information Service, Norfolk Record Office, Norfolk Youth Orchestra, Hippodrome Circus Theatre, Enjoy Great Yarmouth (LCEP), Historic England and IWM Centenary Partnership.

Image: Requiem project in Great Yarmouth with the BBC Concert Orchestra © Norfolk Museums Service

“

We found the event genuinely moving and it was fantastic to see talented young musicians and singers performing alongside musicians of the calibre of the BBC Concert Orchestra.

”

Colin Stott, Learning Manager,
Norfolk Museums Service



Impact

Requiem has laid the foundations for a new programme of orchestral activity in Great Yarmouth to include visiting professional orchestras, a mentoring programme for local emerging musicians and promoters, and the introduction of professional orchestral concerts at St George's Theatre. It also provided a vital opportunity for young people to learn new creative skills by working alongside industry professionals.

Champion for Audiences: Darlington Hippodrome Orchestral Series

Region: North East England

As part of our growing presence in the North East, our vision in Darlington is to **sustain and grow an annual orchestral series, where learning and participation activity is integrated with concert performances.**

Following the extensive refurbishment of Darlington Hippodrome in 2017, we worked with local stakeholders to **devise a new way to embed orchestral activity to help build and broaden audiences**, while sharing skills and helping to **develop the town's cultural infrastructure.**

Each invited orchestra delivered a mixture of interactive events for young children and families, and engaged with local young instrumentalists, composers and music leaders, as well as performing public concerts at the Hippodrome. Young saxophonist and presenter, Jess Gillam also performed a new piece alongside local young musicians and musicians from the Royal Northern Sinfonia.

Impact

So far over 1,700 people have engaged with the visiting orchestras including the Hallé, Royal Northern Sinfonia and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. 42 local young musicians have also taken part in composition workshops with the visiting orchestral professionals.

The Darlington Hippodrome orchestral series was produced by Orchestras Live in collaboration with Darlington Hippodrome and Durham Music Service with support from Foyle Foundation and Creative Darlington.

Image: 'Sax score' project with the Royal Northern Sinfonia and Jess Gillam in Darlington © Scott Akoz Photography



Projects that encourage and involve young musicians are essential to ensuring that young people have the opportunity to express creativity and experience music.

Jess Gillam, Project Guest Soloist

Industry Leader: Able Orchestra

Region: Midlands

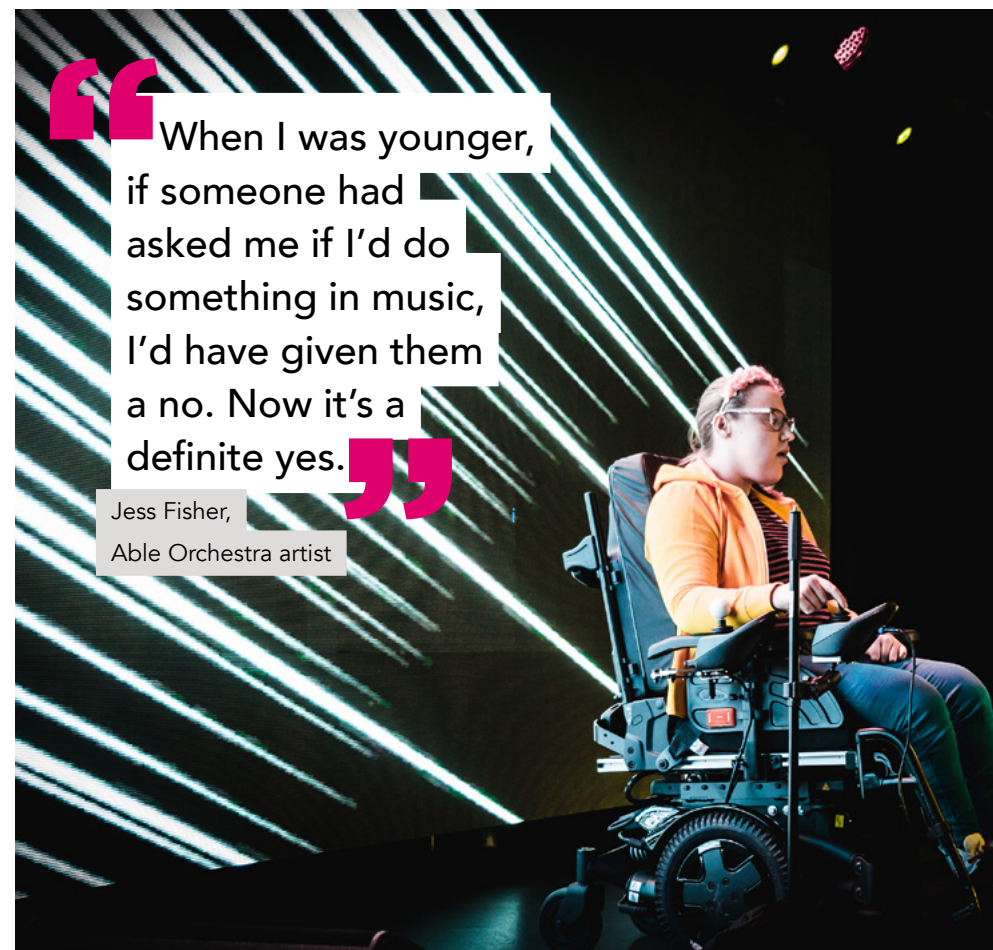
Our ambition for Able Orchestra is to **create a totally inclusive ensemble of disabled and non-disabled musicians**, which enables people to **create and perform music on equal terms**, regardless of their physical dexterity or musical experience.

From its origins as an iPad orchestra for profoundly disabled students in North Nottinghamshire, Able Orchestra has expanded to bring together diverse young musicians and emerging music leaders with world-class professional artists from a range of music and digital genres. Utilising cutting edge technology has enabled young musicians to join acoustic instrumentalists, professional sound and digital artists, and orchestral players in creating new work.

The project has **resulted in the creation of new technology in the form of Control One**, an innovative MIDI controller designed by lead artist Si Tew of Digit Music, which won the Accessibility Award in the 2019 Tech4Good Awards. Able Orchestra artist Jess Fisher was one of the first musicians to use Control One, which led to her winning an Emerging Artist award from The Mighty Creatives, and a Creativity and Innovation Award at the Nottinghamshire Inspire Awards in 2019.

Able Orchestra is produced by Orchestras Live and Inspire Youth Arts in partnership with The Hallé, Nottinghamshire Music Hub and Inspire Culture.

Image: Able Orchestra artist Jess Fisher © Mark Nelson – Inspire Culture – Nottingham TRCH



“When I was younger, if someone had asked me if I’d do something in music, I’d have given them a no. Now it’s a definite yes.”

Jess Fisher,
Able Orchestra artist

Impact

We have worked with our partners to facilitate high profile performance opportunities for the Orchestra including at the 2016 BBC Ten Pieces Proms. During the year, we shared our learning at six conferences and events to help educate the sector about the important opportunities technology can provide to enable more inclusive music making.

Thank you



Our partners and supporters 2018/19

Orchestras Live is a creative producer of inspirational orchestral experiences for communities across England. Our collaborations with orchestras, educators, venues, promoters and communities are at the heart of our work, supported by active relationships with an ever-growing range of artistic, producer, funder and consultancy partners.

Academy of Ancient Music
Access to Work
Allerdale Community Grants Fund
The Apex, Bury St Edmunds
Arts Council England
The Austin & Hope Pilkington Trust
Babergh District Council
The Baring Foundation
Brandenburg Sinfonia
Britten Sinfonia
Broadland District Council
Buxton Festival
Cambridge Live
Cambridgeshire Music
Chelmsford City Council
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
City of London Sinfonia
Cockermouth Music Society
The Courtyard, Hereford
Creative Darlington
Cumbria County Council
Cumbria County Council Neighbourhood Fund (Copeland committee)
Cumbria Music Education Hub

Darlington Hippodrome
Deal Music & Arts
Derby City Council
Derbyshire County Council
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
Durham & Darlington Music Education Hub
The English Concert
East Riding of Yorkshire Music Education Hub
East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Enjoy Great Yarmouth (Cultural Education Partnership)
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Essex Community Foundation
Essex County Council
Essex Music Education Hub
European Union Chamber Orchestra
Forest Heath District Council
Forest Heath Locality Fund
Foyle Foundation
Friends of Bedfordshire Music
Friends of Luton Music
Garfield Weston Foundation
Grassroots (Colchester & Tendring Community Trust)
Hallé Concerts Society

Haverhill Locality Fund
Heritage Orchestra
Hertfordshire County Council
Inspire Culture (Nottinghamshire Music Education Hub)
Inspiring Music (Central Bedfordshire Music Education Hub)
Ipswich Regent Theatre
John Armitage Memorial Trust (JAM)
Keswick Music Society
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council
La Serenissima
The Leche Trust
Leicester City Council
Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub
Lemos & Crane
Lincoln Drill Hall
Lincolnshire Music Education Hub
London Mozart Players
London Sinfonietta
Manchester Camerata
Marina Theatre Trust (Lowestoft)
Mid Suffolk District Council
The Mix (Luton Music Education Hub)
Multi-Story Orchestra
Music for Bedford Borough
Norfolk Museums Service
Norfolk Music Education Hub
North Norfolk District Council
Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust

Northern Chamber Orchestra
Norwich City Council
Nottingham Theatre Royal and Royal Concert Hall
Orchestra of The Age of Enlightenment
Orchestra of the Swan
Penrith Music Club
Peterborough Music Education Hub
Philharmonia Orchestra
Re-Imagine CIC
Royal Northern Sinfonia
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Shropshire Music Trust
Sinfonia Viva
South Holland District Council
South Kesteven District Council
South Northamptonshire Council
Stowmarket Locality Fund
Stroud District Council
Suffolk Locality Fund
Suffolk Music Education Hub
Thaxted Festival
Turner Sims, Southampton
Uttlesford District Council
Wiltshire Music Centre
The Wixamtree Trust

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Registered charity number 1117211



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