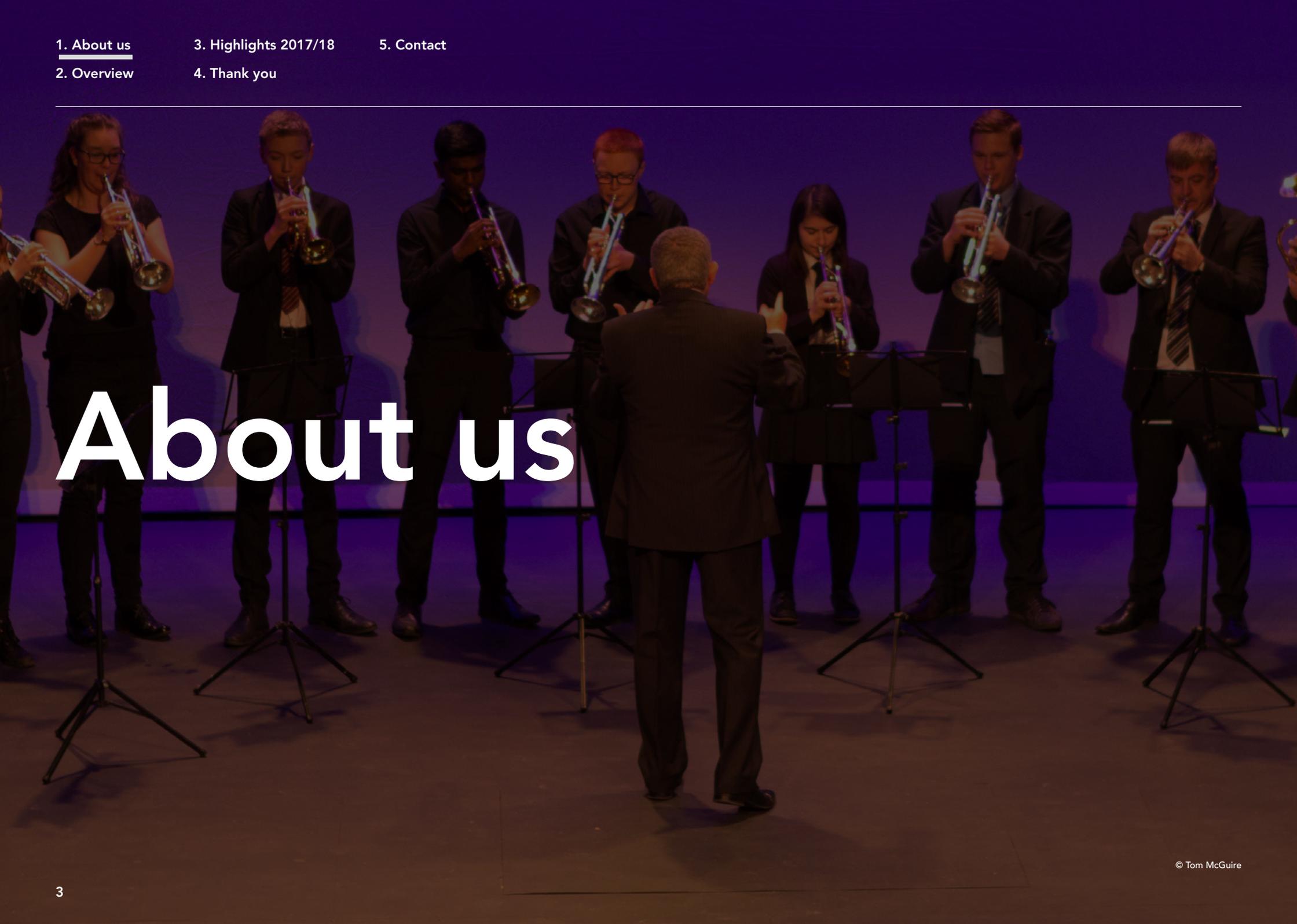


A photograph of an outdoor orchestra performance. The orchestra is on a stage with a large purple inflatable archway behind them. In the background is a brick building with a bell tower. A large audience is seated in front of the stage. The text "ORCHESTRAS *Live* Annual Review 2017/18" is overlaid on the image.

ORCHESTRAS *Live*
Annual Review 2017/18

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

About us



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
- leveraging 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

Overview

An overview of the year



2017/18 has been a remarkable year for Orchestras Live and we're delighted to report on some of our proudest achievements in this Annual Review.

The projects described over the next few pages demonstrate a tremendous range of activity. Each one is bespoke, designed in collaboration with partners, and yet unified by four key defining values that bind our work together: excellence, inclusion, relevance and legacy.

We want people to experience world-class orchestral music and our projects are of the highest musical and professional standards. We were thrilled that the Royal Philharmonic Society recognised the *excellence* of our work by awarding Classically Yours (page 12) their Award for Audiences and Engagement. What a way to top off the year!

We aim to engage with the widest range of people and focus particularly on communities that have been excluded from such opportunities due to geographical isolation or social barriers. One of our largest touring projects, Sound Around (page 13), has been a beacon for *inclusion*, judged by the external evaluator to have "*made significant progress in effecting a sea-change in orchestral and venue practice, workforce and staff development*".





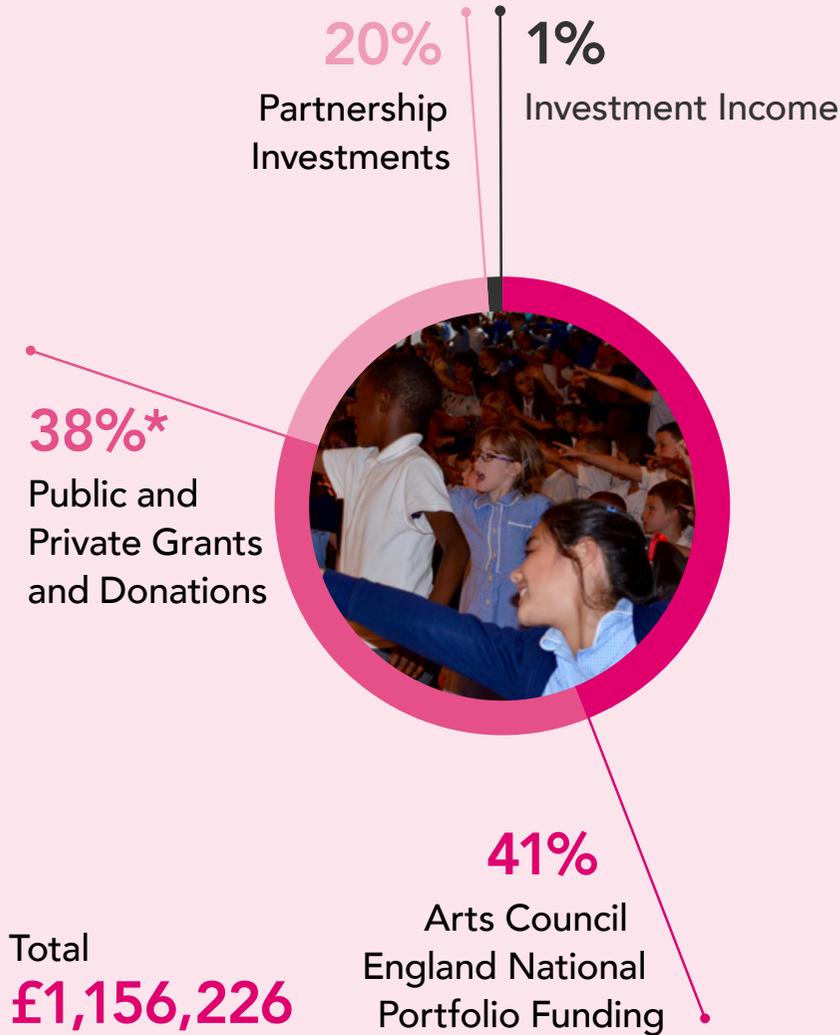
Creating an environment where music and creativity can thrive requires thorough consultation at the outset, so that activities are *relevant* to the needs and interests of communities. The mutual understanding and empathy that develop between musicians and participants are exemplified in our Creative Journeys project (page 14) through which older people living with dementia, carers, families and musicians have shared some revelatory musical moments.

Such moments are cumulative – they effect change through small steps – and it's important to Orchestras Live that our work leaves a lasting *legacy*. Our Disabled Music Leaders Development programme (page 17) shows how small-scale change can be the trigger for sustained progress across the sector; what started with a few musicians and one orchestra has already had an impact on players, orchestras and audiences on a wider scale and the response shows that we have started a positive trend that will have impact.

Incremental change requires confidence in the future, and Orchestras Live is planning for the long term. In the coming year, exciting organisational developments will deepen our regional impact and foster new ways of working. At governance level, we say a grateful farewell to Mark Bromley, retiring after his full term as Chair and look forward to a smooth transition, thanks to a robust succession plan, as we welcome a new Chair appointment.

Sarah Derbyshire MBE
Chief Executive, Orchestras Live

Income and Investment



Map data ©2018 GeoBasis-DE/BKG (©2009), Google

Key

- Lowest third areas where Orchestras Live did not work¹
 - Lowest third areas in which Orchestras Live did work¹
 - Areas in which Orchestras Live worked that are outside of the lowest third¹
1. Active Lives survey published in 2018 measuring levels of cultural engagement.

*Includes ACE Strategic Touring grant for Sound Around

Orchestras Live in 2017/18

 Created 161 bespoke projects and events

 Reached 39,223 audiences in live orchestral experiences across England

 Inspired 15,706 children and young people

 Included over 900 children with special educational needs in one flagship project, Sound Around

 Developed work with 22 world-leading orchestras, 67 investing partners and 17 music education hubs

 Championed the work of living composers in 59% of concerts

 Levered £254,295 additional funds into local communities

 89% of projects met or fully met the outcome Raising Confidence and Self Esteem
 70% of projects supported Health and Wellbeing¹

 CLASSICALLY YOURS² won the Audiences and Engagement Award in the RPS Music Awards

 SOUND AROUND³ a finalist in the Best Event Sunderland category at the North East Culture Awards

 LULLABY CONCERTS⁴ a finalist in the Excellence in Primary/Early Years Music award in the Music Teacher Awards for Excellence

1. Partner project evaluations 2017/18
 2. East Riding of Yorkshire Council, East Riding Music Education Hub, Manchester Camerata, Sinfonia Viva
 3. Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Doncaster Music Education Hub, Doncaster Culture & Leisure Trust, Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust, Royal & Derngate Northampton, Sunderland Music Hub, Sunderland Empire, Berkshire Maestros, The Hexagon Reading, Cumbria Music Hub, The Sands Centre Carlisle, Suffolk Music Education Hub, Marina Theatre Lowestoft.
 4. City of London Sinfonia, Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils, Essex County Council, Essex Music Services / Education Hub, Forest Heath District & St Edmundsbury Borough Councils, Rochford District Council, Suffolk County Music Service / Music Hub.
 5. Active Lives survey published in 2018 measuring levels of cultural engagement.

Image credits from top to bottom:
 © Stamford Bridge Community Choir, © Charlie Hedley, © Andy McNaughton



89% of our partners reported our relationship had positive impact on their practice¹



92% of project partners reported that their Orchestras Live activity contributed to their Learning and Skills Development strategy¹



35% of work was dedicated to partnerships located in the bottom third of the arts engagement index⁵

Highlights 2017/18

In 2017/18 Orchestras Live has worked with 22 orchestras and a further 84 other collaborators on projects in England. We've engaged with community arts organisations, festivals, schools, libraries, museums and arts organisations in culturally under-served communities the length and breadth of the country.

We have been building relationships with research and academic establishments, Local Enterprise Partnerships, Local Cultural Education Partnerships, social change organisations, social care organisations and healthcare commissioners. Here are a few of our highlights...



© Paul Starr

Classically Yours, East Riding of Yorkshire

Classically Yours won the **RPS (Royal Philharmonic Society) Music Award**, Audiences and Engagement category, acknowledged as the highest recognition in the sector, for outstanding initiatives to engage audiences with classical music.

“Classically Yours set out to engage people with high quality live orchestral music: young people; families; older people; people with disabilities; and voluntary music-making groups living in isolated coastal and rural areas. This project stood out for its clear aims and aspirations, impressive range of local and artistic partnerships, links between participation and concert activities, careful marketing, and its meticulous evaluation.”

Royal Philharmonic Society Citation



Lullaby Concerts, Essex and Suffolk

The Lullaby Concerts series, in partnership with **City of London Sinfonia**, was a finalist in the Excellence in Primary/Early Years Music category of the **Music Teacher Awards for Excellence**.

Lullaby brings inspirational first experiences of live orchestral music to young children in rural and coastal communities whilst developing skills of Early Years practitioners and parents to encourage continued use of music as a means of learning and play. 2017/18's company included Deaf flautist Ruth Montgomery as assistant music leader as part of Orchestras Live's work to develop a more inclusive workforce in the sector.

“What a fantastic way to introduce young children to music, the instruments and vocabulary – amazing!”

Audience member, Rayleigh

Image credits from top to bottom:
 © Simon Jay Price. Jan Ford, June Mitchell, Sarah Derbyshire accept RPS Music Award for Audiences and Engagement for *Classically Yours*.
 © East Riding Youth Dance
 © Paul Coghlin





Sound Around

Orchestras Live reached the end of a two-year national tour with the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** to create more orchestral opportunities for children and young people in six culturally under-served locations and a new inclusive model for orchestral audience development.

113 children drawn from special educational needs and mainstream education settings became young producers, working collaboratively with musicians and music leaders in creative teams to produce, programme and present youth-focused schools concerts in public venues. Each venue also hosted a Relaxed concert presented for children and families with additional needs, and a mini tour of Octet concerts visited special schools.

“...a real celebration of creativity and young leadership...Given the current climate we need to be fiercely protective of the arts in schools; Orchestras Live is a fabulous example of that sentiment in action.”

Head Teacher, Ranelagh School, Reading



Between 2016 - 2018 Sound Around performed in Carlisle, Doncaster, Lowestoft, Northampton, Reading and Sunderland



12,544 mainstream and SEN students from over 300 schools attended schools performances



2,584 children, teachers and non-teaching staff in 23 special schools attended 45 concerts



1,303 people attended relaxed concerts held at the 6 venues



113 young producers participated in planning, producing and presenting concerts

Collaborator: Creative Journeys

Building on a highly successful pilot project (Essex Folk, 2015) Orchestras Live and Sinfonia Viva collaborated with older people, care staff and local communities in Brentwood to compose songs celebrating aspects of their lives past and present. The project culminated in a public performance of their new songs alongside the orchestra.

A strand of academic evaluation by Anglia Ruskin University is embedded in the project, supported by a research grant from Arts Council England, and will focus on the benefits of the arts in developing relationships between older people, care workers and their surrounding communities.

“The workshops in the care homes were delivered with great skill by Sam and the team, with great compassion, sensitivity and inclusiveness which resulted in some truly inspiring and moving workshops. The resulting performance was a great celebration and a really uplifting experience.”

Andrew Ward, Essex County Cultural Development

“Each and every one of the 17 residents that I brought to the performance benefited from being involved and I think that it is a huge testament to the power of music for those with dementia as 99% of our residents that came along yesterday suffer from this condition and they were all captivated and attentive when often they would be fidgety and agitated in some cases.”

Feedback from participating care home



This project was part of the wider Creative Journeys programme celebrating the creative contribution of older people in society.



© Paul Starr

Creative Producer: Together to the Workhouse Door

At Orchestras Live, we believe that audiences and participants should have a voice in a production, it's at the heart of our work. We produce projects designed with and by participants, rather than for them. Together to the Workhouse Door exemplifies this approach.

In 2017, 91 school children and community participants from 11 local schools and community groups worked on an ambitious choral and creative writing project, inspired by one of Norfolk's best loved museums: Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse. Commissioned by Norfolk Museums Service, Orchestras Live brought together celebrated composer James Redwood, poet Lucy Sheerman, Sinfonia Viva and singers of all ages from local communities to create an original oratorio inspired by true workhouse stories uncovered within the Gressenhall archives.

Groups of singers joined together to animate different spaces inside the Grade II listed workhouse (one of the most important and best-preserved workhouses in the UK) with all performers coming together for an inspiring open-air performance in the workhouse courtyard.

“We learnt so many skills: how to work together as a team, how to build our confidence on a big stage, lots of history about life in the workhouse, song writing skills, acting skills, how to work with an orchestra, and so much more... it's the best experience we have ever had...”

Foulsham Primary School

© David Kirkham



“...this experience will always be part of our lives and we will always remember it. Thank you.”

Foulsham Primary School



Champion for Audiences: Chelmsford M&G Concert Series

This year we celebrated with partners at Chelmsford Civic Theatre to mark the 30th anniversary of M&G sponsorship of their Classical Concert Series.

Such a long-standing relationship enables real potential for audience development. The series over the years has hosted the BBC Concert Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, Academy of Ancient Music, Sinfonia Viva, Orchestra of the Swan, The Hanover Band, English Chamber Orchestra, European Union Chamber Orchestra, London Mozart Players, Britten Sinfonia, London Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra of St John's, English Sinfonia, Northern Chamber Orchestra and Philharmonia Orchestra.

Long-standing relationships can enable huge civic cultural growth providing audiences with access to national and international musicians, and a range of repertoire from Baroque to Disney's Frozen.

Each year we have extended the range of events including specific programmes to target new and different audiences by introducing new styles of performance including Relaxed Concerts where audience members can move about, sing and dance during the concert, and afterwards meet players and try out some orchestral instruments.



Industry Leader:

Disabled Music Leader Programme

Over the past two years, Orchestras Live has led a significant initiative to develop Deaf and Disabled music leaders, with the aim of providing a long-term training and mentoring pathway for emerging artists in the orchestral sector and beyond.

In partnership with Essex Music Hub, Essex County Cultural Development and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO) we commissioned Drake Music to research existing musicians who identify themselves as Deaf and Disabled living in or around Essex.

Musicians attended a series of taster music workshops where they met and made music with a team from Drake Music and the RPO. A mentoring programme was then tailored to the needs of specific individuals, developed with support from orchestra professionals.

Participants from this programme have already this year been employed by RPO Resound and the Royal Society for Blind Children, and with City of London Sinfonia, contributing to a creative workforce more reflective of this country's broad, diverse society.



“After the morning’s Stowmarket workshop, a teacher of the Deaf came up to me expressing how fantastic it is to see a Deaf person working with the orchestra ... I felt honoured and proud to be involved, with Orchestras Live I felt I was out in the public, promoting a positive message on diversity.”

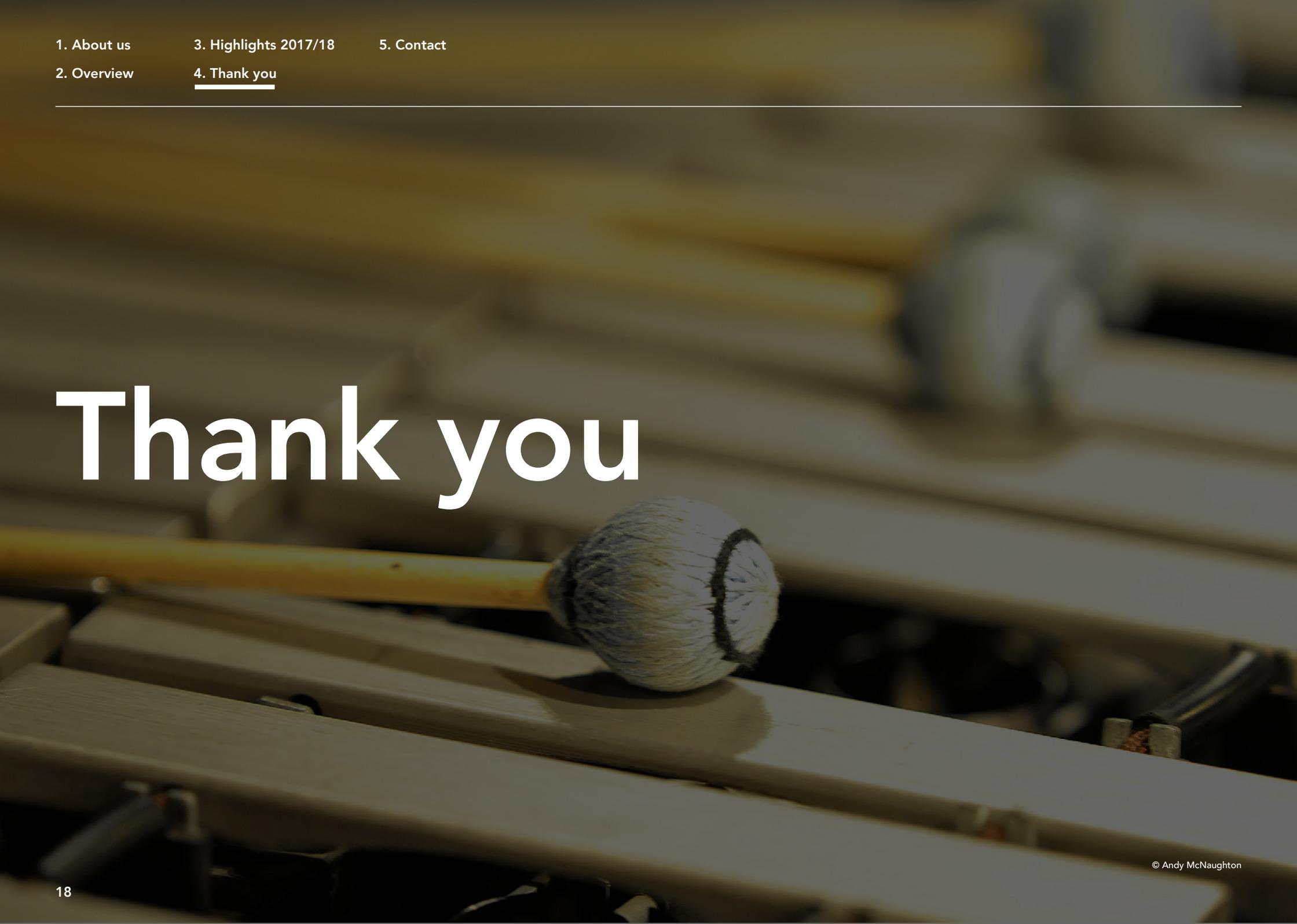
Ruth Montgomery, Assistant Music Leader for Lullaby 2017, Clore Fellow 2018

“Orchestras Live leads the way nationally in inclusive and accessible approaches to Orchestral music”

Essex Music Hub

© Paul Coghlin

Thank you



Thank you to all our project partners and supporters

Academy of Ancient Music
Access to Work
Arts Council England
ArtsForward
Attitude is Everything
Aurora Orchestra
Babergh District Council
Barrow Borough Council
BBC Concert Orchestra
Berkshire Music Maestros
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
Brandenburg Sinfonia
Brentwood Borough Council
Britten Sinfonia
Broadland District Council
Buxton Festival
Cambridge Live
Cambridgeshire Music
Chelmsford City Council
Chesterfield Borough Council
Chineke! Foundation
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
City of London Sinfonia
Cockermouth Music Society
Cumbria County Council
Cumbria Music Education Hub

Darlington Hippodrome
Deal Music & Arts
Derby City Council
Derbyshire County Council
Drake Music
Durham & Darlington Music Education Hub
Earley Charity
East Riding of Yorkshire Music Education Hub
East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Enjoy Great Yarmouth
(Cultural Education Partnership)
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Essex County Council
Essex Music Education Hub
European Union Chamber Orchestra
Fiori Musicali
Forest Heath District Council
Foyle Foundation
Ganzoni Charitable Trust
Garfield Weston Foundation
Geoffrey Watling Charity
Hallé Concerts Society
Haverhill Town Council – Youth Fund
Inspire Culture
(Nottinghamshire Music Education Hub)
Ipswich Regent Theatre
John Armitage Memorial Trust (JAM)

John Ellerman Foundation
Keswick Music Society
King's Lynn and
West Norfolk Borough Council
Kirby Laing Foundation
Leicester-Shire Music Education Hub
Lincoln Drill Hall
Lincolnshire Music Education Hub
London Mozart Players
London Sinfonietta
Magna Vitae (East Lindsey)
Manchester Camerata
Marina Theatre Trust (Lowestoft)
Mid Suffolk District Council
Music on the Quantocks
Music Sales Charitable Trust
Norfolk Museums Service
Norfolk Music Education Hub
North Norfolk District Council
Northamptonshire Arts Management Trust
Northamptonshire Music
and Performing Arts Trust
Northern Chamber Orchestra
Nottingham Theatre Royal
and Royal Concert Hall
Orchestra of The Age of Enlightenment
Orchestra of the Swan
Orwell Housing Association

Peterborough Music Education Hub
Philharmonia Orchestra
Rochford District Council
Royal Northern Sinfonia
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Scarfe Charitable Trust
Shropshire Music Trust
Sinfonia Viva
South Holland District Council
South Kesteven District Council
South Northamptonshire Council
Southend Theatres
St Edmundsbury Council Locality Fund
Stroud District Council
Suffolk Community Foundation
Suffolk Music Education Hub
Thaxted Festival
The Apex, Bury St Edmunds
The Courtyard, Hereford
The English Concert
The Michael Tippett Musical Foundation
The Mix (Luton Music Education Hub)
The Thistle Trust
Turner Sims, Southampton
Uttlesford District Council
Wiltshire Music Centre

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