



ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS: LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES Information for Prospective Applicants

About the Series

St Martin-in-the-Fields has welcomed exceptional musicians to this central London performance platform for over 60 years. Situated on the corner of Trafalgar Square at the heart of London, St Martin-in-the-Fields is England's most famous Parish Church and a renowned concert venue. The main aim of the Lunchtime Concert Series is to provide performance opportunities for young and emerging British and international talent.

Lunchtime concerts are held nearly every **Monday, Tuesday and Friday** at **1.00pm**. The concerts are free for the audience and no tickets are required. The proceeds of the retiring collection go towards the costs of running the series and the general work of the church; we are therefore unable to offer any fee or travel expenses to musicians participating in the series. However, audiences regularly number between 200 and 300, and so a recital here offers both valuable experience and a great opportunity for publicity.

How to Apply

The 2012 Season is now full. Applications for the 2013 season will be accepted between 01 January 2012 and 31 March 2012. Applicants should use the official application form available to download from the SMITF website www.smitf.org/concerts from November 2011. Please do not send original documents with your application as we are unable to return any application materials. Applications sent outside of the dates cannot be held and will not be considered.

Applicants should receive acknowledgement of receipt of their application within 1 month of the 31 March 2012 closing date. The application will then be processed and auditioned by the panel. This process can take several months and we ask for applicants patience and understanding during this period. Please note that the audition panel's decision is final. If your application is unsuccessful we regret that we are unable to enter into any correspondence though you are welcome to re-apply for the following season.

Please note: in order to offer a performance opportunity to as many people as possible, we ask that you do not apply for a performance within 12 months of performing here. After 12 months we welcome re-application following the normal procedure. Applicants who have not previously performed at St Martin's will normally be given priority over dates.

About your Application

In addition to consideration of the quality of the applicant's recorded performance, the panel will also consider programming suggestions and the section outlining why the applicant has chosen to apply. It is important to us that performers care as much about their performance here as we do. Applicants should demonstrate a good knowledge of the venue and a proactive approach to making the most of their concert opportunity.

Your proposed programme should last no longer than 45 minutes, including encores and breaks between pieces. We also encourage performers to talk about their programmes if they wish, and this should be included in the 45 minutes' duration of the recital. Please note that

we reserve the right to advise on a change of programme should we feel that it is not suitable for inclusion in the concert series. The concerts attract a wide variety of people, from musical critics and regular concert-goers, to businesspeople and tourists who are there to be entertained during their lunch-break. The ideal programme would be well-balanced, and should appeal to all groups.

Allocation Procedure

The Concert Department has a set number of lunchtime concert dates to allocate each year and these are divided into two categories; Allocations to organisations and allocations to individual applicants. The former are long-standing partners of the series including the major London music colleges and other non-profit organisations supporting and promoting emerging musical talent such as the Royal Over-Seas League, Concordia Foundation and Park Lane Group Arts. Half the available dates will be allocated to these organisations. Students of the RCM, RAM, Trinity and Guildhall should see their external engagements liaison person to enquire about a performance.

The other half of the available dates is reserved for individual applicants. You may make a general application, or may choose to apply for a specific series:

Pianists of the World: Last Friday of each month, performers should include a work in their programme by a composer from their native country.

New Music Series: Composers and/or performers may submit programmes which should include at least 15 minutes of original composition.

Handel Month: St Martin's holds an annual Handel festival – performers should include works by Handel in their programmes for consideration for inclusion in the festival.

Please note: All enquiries and applications for the St Martin-in-the-Fields Organ Series should be directed to Assistant Organist Martin Ford
martin.ford@smitf.org.

Please address all correspondence and enquiries to:

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OR

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