



Philharmonia

Composers' Academy Application Pack

2022/23

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Philharmonia Orchestra

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[Application form](#)

Academy Overview

For classical music to endure, it must be relevant to the widest possible audience. We must foster the talent and audiences of the future, supporting new works to be written and platforming diverse voices which can have a wider reach, as well as widening the talent pool, to ensure that the very best of classical music is being developed and shared.

Composers' Academy is an established programme for exceptional, diverse, young musicians who are looking for the opportunity to develop their skills as composers and to **create a new 10-minute piece** as part of the Philharmonia's flagship *Music of Today* contemporary music series.

The programme will begin with a series of workshops and masterclasses from Autumn 2022, leading to working closely with members of the Philharmonia to create and rehearse the new commission. Your programme journey will culminate in a **live performance** at Southbank Centre and a **professionally produced recording**.



Who are we looking for

Vitality, you should be at a stage where you are able to demonstrate a genuine commitment to establishing a career as a composer, both in what you write in your application and also in the proficiency of the examples you submit. We recognise that composers pursue many different routes, so we look forward to hearing your individual story.

We warmly welcome applications from composers of all backgrounds, and are committed to providing opportunities to underrepresented composers. We are particularly interested to hear from people from minority ethnic backgrounds, female and/or non-binary artists, and people with disabilities and/or additional needs. We invite you to let us know if you belong to one or more of these groups in your application, though this is not compulsory.

If you feel that any part of our offer - or the experience in applying for it - could inhibit you or a candidate from applying, please let us know (our contact details are below), and we will do what we can to address this.

What we offer

- The Composers will each receive a fee of £3,000 for this position to support the costs of attending the programme activities and producing the commissioned composition
- An additional access budget may be available for the Composers if required
- A series of masterclasses and workshops covering composition, industry insights, and advice from professional musicians and contemporary composers including Anna Clyne, our 2022/23 Featured Composer.
- 1:1 support throughout the programme from Composers' Academy alumni and mentor, Christian Mason
- Dedicated time to rehearse your composition

with an ensemble of Philharmonia musicians, a conductor and your mentor and to receive feedback on the process

- Your commission to be performed at a world renowned concert hall
- Your commission to be professionally recorded and released through NMC Recordings

What is the process?

Complete our [online application form](#) and submit three of your compositions for consideration by our panel – details of how to do this can be found in the 'How to Apply' section below. Selected applicants will be invited to an interview in September 2022 to talk more about your music and aspirations.

Interviews will be held in person at our offices in London, however remote interviews can be arranged where travelling is not possible or difficult.

There is **no application fee or cost** to those who apply to the programme.

Eligibility

- UK residents only and aged 18 or over by 1 September 2022.
- Not open to those studying at Undergraduate or Masters level. Composers working towards a PhD are welcome to apply.



Timeline

Monday 5 September 2022, 9am	Deadline for applications
w/c 12 September 2022	Interviews for shortlisted applicants
w/c 19 September 2022	Applicants informed of decision
October 2022	Public announcement of new cohort
October 2022 – May 2023	Composers' Academy programme

How to apply

Please complete the online application form linked below by **Monday 5 September 2022 at 9am**.

This form asks for the following information alongside general demographics of the artist:

- Links to three compositions (both sound file and score). Please note that any private links should be made accessible to anyone with the link. The link will be shared with the selection panel.
- Website and/or social media handles
- A cover letter (maximum 1,500 words) detailing:
 - o Your background and work as a composer
 - o Challenges you have faced in becoming a composer
 - o Why you are applying to this programme
 - o What specific benefits do you hope to gain from the programme

If you would like to discuss the programme or any aspects of the application further, please contact contact our Emerging Artists inbox at emergingartists@philharmonia.co.uk. Find out more on philharmonia.co.uk/composers-academy.

[Application form](#)

About the Philharmonia

Based in London at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, the Philharmonia creates thrilling performances for a global audience. Through its network of residencies, the Orchestra has a national footprint, serving communities across England both in performance and through its extensive Learning & Engagement programme.

Founded chiefly as a recording orchestra in 1945, the Philharmonia continues to work in the studio - recording movie scores and game soundtracks, and a huge range of classical and commercial projects. With a truly international presence, the Philharmonia uses the latest digital technology to connect with audiences beyond the concert hall and is a sector leader in the production of immersive experiences and online media.

The Philharmonia is a registered charity. It relies on income from a wide range of sources to deliver its programme and is proud to be generously supported by Arts Council England.

philharmonia.co.uk
