

ADJUDICATORS' BIOGRAPHIES

VOCAL – CHORAL AND SOLO SINGING Sarah Dunstan ARCM

Sarah Dunstan studied at the Royal College of Music as an Associated Board Scholar. Her performing career has encompassed concert work, opera, television and commercial recording. An experienced teacher and performance coach, Sarah's practice includes postgraduate Conservatoire and Oxbridge students and young professionals working in Opera, Film and Theatre. She mentors other singing teachers in the South East and is vocal consultant to several chamber choirs. For many years Sarah taught for Bromley Youth Music Trust and was a member of the audition panel for the National Youth Choir. A member of the British Voice Association, Sarah has a special interest in vocal rehabilitation and has lectured on Performance Strategy for the RCM's Master's Programme.

STRINGS Philippa Mo

"The ingenuity of the writing was quite dazzling: so was the playing – the expertise of Mo's near- instantaneous transitions from one style to another was often startling and always impressive" Classical Source. Philippa Mo has given acclaimed concerto and chamber performances worldwide, including appearances at the Wigmore Hall London, the Deutsches Museum Munich, Lincoln Center New York and Ulaan Bataar Mongolia. She has a longstanding relationship with The Tate St Ives, was concerto soloist with the innovative technology project the Online Orchestra with members of the Philharmonia Orchestra, and has recently launched a solo Bach series at Slader's Yard Gallery, Dorset. A champion of contemporary music, she has given lecture recitals in Almaty, Istanbul, Ankara, Ghent, Strasbourg, Durham, and Beijing. She graduated from the Royal Academy of Music with a Masters degree and also studied at the Central Conservatoire, Beijing. She is the founder member of the unique violin duo Retorica who have toured all over the world to great acclaim. She was appointed Senior Lecturer in Violin at Leeds College of Music and has always taught in leading schools across London, currently at Westminster Abbey Choir School. She was awarded Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM) in 2015.

PIANOFORTE Anna Markland

Anna has had a varied and happy musical career for over thirty years, combining performing careers both as a singer and a pianist with a thriving private teaching practice. She was educated at Chetham's School of Music in Manchester and in 1982 won the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition. Many concerto and recital performances followed, and in 1984 she went to Worcester College, Oxford to read music. During her time there she became a founder member of the now internationally recognised vocal ensemble I Fagiolini. She spent two years as a post graduate at the Royal Academy of Music studying with Philip Fowke, a teacher who continues to inspire her to this day. No two days are ever the same for Anna, and this has resulted in a joy of music in all its forms; whether teaching, playing, adjudicating, recording or singing! Anna is an Adjudicator member of The British and International Federation of Festivals and when not immersed in music, her other passion is vegetable growing on her allotment, and feels that the patience and nurturing required to produce successful produce perfectly mirrors the dedication needed to be a musician.

WOODWIND, BRASS, ENSEMBLES AND ORCHESTRAS Francesca Carpos

Francesca is a lecturer in Professional Development at the Royal Academy of Music. She is a bassoonist and academic, having completed her doctoral thesis at University College, London. Francesca's research combines her wide-ranging performance career, performing with orchestras such as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Russian Philharmonic Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra of India. Francesca is a guest lecturer at Westminster University; a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, a Fellow of Trinity College of Music and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. She is a Governor of the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain.

SPEECH AND DRAMA

Neil Stanley

With over 20 years experience in education, teaching English, Drama and Media Studies, Neil has led successful English, Creative Arts and Languages faculties in a range of challenging secondary schools. Neil now combines his work in the UK and internationally as a LAMDA Examiner with lead inspection duties on behalf of Ofsted and school improvement assignments with Education London. Neil lives in Eastbourne, with his wife, Tanya, and their four young children.

Mary Shackel LRAM LNCSD LUD

Trained at the NCS & D, Mary worked for some years in the professional theatre. Though this proved to be an exciting way to earn a living, the necessity for regular employment led her to drama teaching, which she still enjoys. As well as running her own drama studio, she has taught in several schools, using drama to teach performance skills and as a means of promoting confidence and creativity. She is an experienced adjudicator, and has examined for the Poetry Society Assessments as well as Guildhall/Trinity examinations. Mary has recently started a course for adults struggling to gain employment, often due to lack of confidence.

Lulu Dale BEd (Hons)

After winning the coveted Sylvia Strutt Award for Verse Speaking at the Royal Central School of Speech & Drama, Lulu went on to gain an Acting Diploma at the Richmond Drama School where she was short-listed for a Richmond Drama Award. She then worked as an actress and was a freelance radio artist for the BBC, running her own Performing Arts classes for more than 15 years. Since having her family, she has also taught Drama and Speech & Drama in schools in Sussex & Surrey & is currently the Senior Examiner for the English Board as well as Head of Oracy at Moon Hall College. In her spare time Lulu continues to teach privately, is a voiceover artist and enjoys adjudicating and writing poetry which has been performed at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on the Southbank and which was described by Time Out as, 'at the leading edge of the new wave'. Lulu's Drama interests are not just as a teacher and performer; she has also been involved with the Speech & Drama Section of the Reigate & Redhill Music and Drama Festival for many years and continues to prepare students for auditions for drama schools, National Youth Theatre, National Youth Music Theatre, film, television, theatre and radio.