



## Information for applicants

The internationally acclaimed Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE) presents classical music in a fresh and innovative way, its performances characterised by verve, commitment and passion. Founded by a group of players in 1986 the OAE is a freelance, self-governing period-instrument ensemble giving between 90 and 110 performances per year, shared between UK and international venues. The Orchestra works with some of the world's finest conductors and soloists including Principal Artists; Vladimir Jurowski, Sir Simon Rattle and Iván Fischer and runs a comprehensive annual programme of education and community work with the aim of attracting as broad an audience as possible. In 2008 the OAE moved its administrative headquarters to Kings Place, a landmark arts and business development. The development has enabled the Orchestra to add to its main performing residencies at London's Southbank Centre and Glyndebourne with a new combined office and rehearsal space and a community programme at the heart of London's major area of urban regeneration, around King's Cross.

The Melgaard young conductor scheme was established in the 2008/9 season. Philipp von Steinaecker was selected for the year-long position in June 2008. This unique scheme for a young conductor presents an opportunity to work with a closely knit orchestra, utilising the players, international artists and management as assets. Over the course of the appointment, the conductor will have the opportunity to share in rehearsals, performance, planning, management and educational activity, learning from the orchestra about period instrument technique and stylistic issues.

2009/10 is the second year of a confirmed 3 year funding period from *OAE Futures* funders Greg and Gail Melgaard. The one year apprenticeship is supported with a £10,000 Bursary.

In this information pack you will find;

- Participant criteria
- Selection process information
- Audition repertoire
- Application timetable
- The scheme format
- Words from Philipp von Steinaecker, OAE Melgaard young conductor 2008/9
- How to apply
- Frequently asked questions

### Participant criteria

We are looking for one young conductor to take part in the 2009/10 scheme.

Applicants need not be UK residents but if short listed would need to be in possession of a work permit to allow them legitimately to receive the scheme bursary. The work permit would need to be in place by October 2009. OAE can assist with documentation for any applications but not provide financial support for a permit/Visa.

### Selection process information

All potential candidates will be required to submit an application (for full details see the section on how to apply) to be reviewed by the panel, and subsequently 6 candidates will be chosen to come and audition. The practical part of the audition will take the form of a rehearsal/performance day in Hall 2 at Kings Place, London on Thursday 2 July 2009. During the day each applicant will have a 50-minute session to rehearse and conduct a small classical-sized orchestra of approximately 32 players, consisting of OAE players and participants from the 'Ann and Peter Law OAE Experience for young players'. The orchestra will be led by OAE leader, Matthew Truscott. There will be set repertoire to rehearse and perform during the session. The audition panel will observe and review the rehearsals, and will monitor and decide on applications through all stages of the decision process, taking feedback from the audition day orchestra before reaching a final decision on the selection of the young conductor.

The panel will consist of the following OAE players;

- Alison Bury, OAE Leader
- Nicholas Logie, Viola
- Lisa Beznosiuk, Principal Flute
- Roger Montgomery, Co-principal Horn
- Adrian Bending, Co-principal Timpani

They will also be joined by OAE Principal Guest Artist, Vladimir Juroswki.

A small invited audience may be in attendance on the audition day.

The decision of the panel will be final both in selecting the candidates for audition and in selecting the young conductor on the audition day.

### Audition repertoire

There will be 2 pieces to rehearse/perform during the audition session; one from list A and one from list B. On the audition day the panel will select the pieces that you will conduct in your audition. Each candidate should therefore prepare ALL 5 pieces on the repertoire list.

#### List A: Recitative and Aria with Bass soloist

1. JS Bach, from Cantata no. 205  
recit '*Ja! Ja! Die Stunden sind nunmehr nah*' followed by aria '*Wie will ich lustig lachen*'
2. Haydn, from *The Creation*, Part 2, Scene 2  
recit (Raphael) '*Straight opening her fertile womb*' followed by aria '*Now heaven in all her glory shone*' (to be performed in English)

#### List B: First movement from one of the following Symphonies.

1. Mozart Symphony no. 38 in D major 'Prague' K.504: Adagio-Allegro
2. Mozart Symphony no 39 in E-flat major K. 543: Adagio-Allegro
3. Beethoven Symphony no. 4 in B-flat major Op. 60: Adagio-Allegro Vivace

Both pieces will be performed at A=430, to avoid the complications of changing instruments and pitch during the day. NB J.S. Bach would not normally be performed at A=430 by the OAE.

Parts will be marked up with basic bowings for the strings, but will have no other markings.

### Timetable

The following timetable indicates key dates throughout the application process;

Friday 13 March 2009	Deadline for submission of applications.
Late March – May 2009	Selection panel review of applications, resulting in a shortlist of 6 candidates invited to audition.
Monday 1 June 2009	All candidates (successful or otherwise) to be informed of the panel's decision.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2009	Audition day

### The scheme format

The successful candidate will in essence spend the year 'living' with the Orchestra, working on specific projects and generally being involved in the musical life of the orchestra. The OAE prides itself on sustaining an engaging and supportive environment for its members, and the players will be keen to ensure that young conductors can also benefit from this inspiring atmosphere. By offering them the opportunity to learn by living with an orchestra, and experiencing the life of that orchestra from the inside, participation in this scheme will offer the conductor a new route into the profession. The conductor will benefit from contact with at least one OAE player mentor for each project. The aim of this approach is to offer a different experience from opportunities already available elsewhere, which reflects the changing demands of 21<sup>st</sup> century concert giving.

The young conductor may be invited to be directly involved in the following projects, working alongside the OAE conductor and also having the opportunity to conduct the OAE in preparatory sectional rehearsals. Projects are subject to final confirmation and level of involvement will depend on the individual OAE conductor.

October/November 2009: Sir Mark Elder - Donizetti opera project.

February 2010: Vladimir Jurowski - Beethoven Symphony cycle project.

March 2010: Iván Fischer - Beethoven Symphony cycle project.

April 2010: Sir Charles Mackerras - Beethoven Symphony cycle project.

August 2010: Sir Simon Rattle - Wagner and Berlioz project.

There may be possibilities to be involved in other repertoire for example in Baroque repertoire projects. Participation in all projects will be fully explored with the young conductor once selected.

In addition to involvement on specific projects the young conductor will receive other benefits;

- Observe ANY London rehearsals for other projects in their year with the OAE.
- Tickets to OAE concerts in London & tickets for abroad and regional UK concerts where possible.
- Access to experience the 'behind the scenes' day-to-day management of the orchestra  
This will enable the conductor to understand how the orchestra functions from the inside observing a wide range of aspects – including project management and logistics, education planning and project delivery, finance and budgeting, development (fundraising) operations and learning about marketing and audience development. This will be achieved through introductory meetings with all staff members, invitations to periodic team meetings, future

project planning and staff meetings. The conductor could also be invited to assist with project administration if desired.

- Invitation to be involved with library work, in particular working alongside our librarian marking up parts which will help gain an insight into Historically Informed Performance issues.
- Have the chance to participate in PR for the orchestra; ranging from press interviews, photography, and being an advocate for the Young Conductor scheme and the OAE in general.
- Invitation to join the sponsors of the scheme, Greg and Gail Melgaard at dining club suppers after selected performances.
- As an Alumnus of the scheme, the young conductor will have the opportunity to stay in contact with the OAE, its players, management and conductors.
- Dedicated manager from the office to ensure the smooth running of their whole experience.

The young conductor will receive a £10,000 bursary for their year with the OAE. This bursary will cover all expenses for the year. No claims for travel or accommodation costs will be accepted in addition. However, if travelling with the orchestra on tour is required, the OAE will cover the relevant expenses. The bursary will be paid in instalments throughout the year.

This scheme with its emphasis on the mutual sharing of experience will offer young conductors a unique opportunity which in its depth, comprehensiveness and originality truly represents the spirit of OAE.

#### **Phillip von Steinaecker, OAE Melgaard Young Conductor 2008-9**

“The Melgaard OAE conducting fellowship has been a huge and wonderful experience for me. Already the audition process was extremely well organised and really gave us all quite a large amount of time to work with a top orchestra which is something very hard to come by as a conducting student. I had had experience with period instruments but when I started working with the OAE it was eye-opening to gain insight into the way the orchestra works and the way their musicians think about musical styles and playing.

Finally it's been incredibly inspiring to assist some of the world's finest conductors and watch them work from up close. They were all so very generous in letting me conduct the orchestra and sharing their experience, knowledge and advise with me that I feel I have learned invaluablely much about conducting, music in general and about performing it. I am very grateful to the OAE and Mr. Greg Melgaard to have made this wonderful program possible, it has certainly left a huge mark on my life and on my music-making and I'll always cherish it as one of my most forming experiences”

## How to apply

To apply for the scheme you will need to provide us with the following components in English.

### 1. In electronic format to [ceri.jones@oae.co.uk](mailto:ceri.jones@oae.co.uk)

- **Application form** (available in Microsoft word to download from our website or from Ceri Jones direct)
- **CV** (Curriculum Vitae).
- **A covering letter** introducing your application to the scheme and briefly outlining why you are applying.
- **Short testimonial from a referee** in support of your application to the Melgaard young conductor scheme. This must be specifically written for this application. A secondary referee (name and contact details only) must also be provided on the application form.

Notes regarding referees.

- The referees must be established professional musicians (conductor OR performer).
- The referees must not be from the selection panel i.e. Adrian Bending, Lisa Beznosiuk, Alison Bury, Vladimir Jurowski, Nicholas Logie, Roger Montgomery.
- Both referees must be prepared to be contacted by the selection panel.

Please do not send any of the above components by post.

### 2. By post (to the OAE at the address below)

- One piece of unedited **audiovisual** material (e.g. DVD) of your conducting work from a live or continuous performance.

As a back-up to posting a hard copy of audiovisual material you may wish to upload any material onto a website such as [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) or other internet file sharing website. Please provide full details in the relevant section of the application form.

Please send all of the above components by **Friday 13 March 2009** to;

Ceri Jones  
Projects Manager, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

E-mail: [ceri.jones@oae.co.uk](mailto:ceri.jones@oae.co.uk)  
Address: Kings Place, 90 York Way, London, N1 9AG

Any queries please call (+44) 20 7239 9376

### Frequently Asked Questions

1. Q. I do not live in London; will the OAE provide travel or accommodation for me?  
A. No, you will be responsible for organising and paying for this yourself, for both the auditions and whilst taking part on the scheme. The only exception shall be travel with the OAE on an agreed project.
2. Q. I have little or no experience of working with period instrument orchestras -can I still apply?  
A. Yes.
3. Q. Can my testimonial be sent in separately to my CV, covering letter and application form?  
A. Yes, so long as it is received by the deadline of 13 March 2009, and is sent via e-mail to [ceri.jones@oae.co.uk](mailto:ceri.jones@oae.co.uk). If you do not send in all the components of your application by this date your application will not be considered.
4. Q. Can my audiovisual material be returned after submitting my application?  
A. Yes, please indicate if you would like this returned, otherwise the OAE will retain it.
5. Q. I do not have any audiovisual material, can I still apply?  
A. No, this is a compulsory requirement.
6. Q. When will I find out if my application has been successful?  
A. See information pack for details. Please do not contact us before the advertised notification date.
7. Q. If I am unsuccessful in securing an audition, will I receive feedback on my rejected application?  
A. Due to the large volume of applications it will not be possible for all applicants to receive personalised feedback.
8. Q. On average, how many applications are received for the scheme?  
A. 2008-9 was the first year of the scheme and 128 applications were received.
9. Q. The scheme is for a 'young' conductor, is there an age limit for this?  
A. No.
10. Q. I was unsuccessful last year; can I apply again this year?  
A. Yes.