

New Conducting Scholarship 2011-12

The trustees and conductor of Schola Cantorum of Oxford have announced a new Conducting Scholarship. Working with Oxford University's prestigious chamber choir under the mentoring of their conductor, James Burton, the scholarship will be appointed to an exceptional musician who shows great promise in conducting. The Scholar will be a member of Oxford University and the post is tenable for one year.

The Scholarship offers participants the opportunity to work with some of Great Britain's finest young choral talent within a choir which commands an extremely diverse and wideranging repertoire. The Schola Cantorum Conducting Scholar will benefit from the guidance of an established, prof-

essional conductor in a practical choral setting, whilst gaining performance experience at the highest level. It is hoped that such a scheme will continue to attract the best talent to the study of music at the University of Oxford.

Said James Burton, "I am delighted to be launching this scholarship. This is a unique opportunity for a talented student at Oxford to be involved heavily in the artistic direction of a busy, accomplished ensemble, which sings at the highest level. It is my hope that the scholarship will bring benefits not only to the scholar, but to the choir as well."

Schola was founded in 1960 by Laszlo Heltay, and is the University of Oxford's longest running chamber choir. Schola's

commitment to the development of young talent is evidenced by the number of former singers who have gone on to a professional career, including Ian Bostridge, Emma Kirkby and Christine Rice. Schola's continual success stems from a long line of eminent conductors including Andrew Parrott, Nicholas Cleobury, Ivor Bolton and Jeremy Summerly. The choir is proud of its association with the University, and has sung in many college chapels and churches in Oxford and beyond. Recently Schola toured to China, Mexico and Argentina. Schola has an impressive recording history, and released a CD of the Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara, and in 2009 music by Randall Thompson both on the Hyperion label.



Queen
Sonja of
Norway

The Queen Sonja International Music Competition of Norway

The 2011 Queen Sonja International Music Competition will take place in Oslo, Norway between 16 and 26 August. The Competition is open to all singers born after 1 January 1979

The jury is chaired by Anne Gjevang, Casting Director at the Norwegian National Opera and includes singers Ileana Cotrubas, Siegfried Jerusalem and Sir John Tomlinson; Peter de Caluwe, Managing Director of the Théâtre de la Monnaie and Lenore Rosenberg, Associate Artistic Administrator at the Metropolitan Opera.

In addition to the Competition itself, the participants and general public can experience concerts with former prize winners, lectures and debates. Semi-finalists who do not go through to the final will this year be given the opportunity to participate in master classes given by jury members Ileana Cotrubas and Siegfried Jerusalem as well as stage director and Artistic Director of the Norwegian National Opera, Paul Curran.

Walton from Italy

Paolo Petrocelli a young music manager, violinist and musicologist who received his violin degree from the Conservatory of Santa Cecilia and graduated in musicology from the Università Sapienza where he specialised in the study of European music in the 20th century, produced a thesis on William Walton and the Violin Concerto in England before being admitted to Masters programmes at London's City University and Royal Holloway University.

In 2007 Petrocelli received a research grant from the William Walton Trust. In 2008 'Nuova Rivista Musicale Italiana' published his essay on Walton's Violin Concerto,

and since 2009 he has worked with Vatican Radio to realise a series of episodes on 20th century British music and William Walton. Last year, he published his first book with the Cambridge Scholar Publishing, titled 'The Resonance of a Small Voice. William Walton and the Violin Concerto in England, between 1900 and 1940'.

The Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library of Yale University has awarded Petrocelli the annual Beinecke Library Visiting Fellowship, to support his research project on the Walton Symphonies and Concertos Beinecke Manuscripts, the research to be



Paolo Petrocelli

conducted at the Beinecke Library in March 2012. Whilst in America, Petrocelli will collaborate with the British conductor William Boughton, joining his William Walton Project with the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, the first recordings of which Project have been released on the Nimbus label. We look forward to the results.