

**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**

*Monday 22nd February – Monday 1st March*

Led by Yvonne Kenny, Malcolm Martineau and Paul Farrington with pianists Caroline Dowdle and Christopher Glynn and six specially selected young singers and a pianist  
 Sarah-Jane Brandon - Soprano James Geer - Tenor  
 Eduarda Melo - Soprano Michel de Souza - Baritone  
 Diana Haller - Mezzo-soprano Gary Matthewman - Piano  
 Charlotte Stephenson - Mezzo-soprano

*Thursday 25th February, 2 – 5pm*

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
 Samling Masterclass, tickets £10

*Sunday 28th February, 2.30pm*

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
 Samling Concert, tickets A/B: £20.50 C: £14  
 Tickets available from The Sage Gateshead:  
 Box Office: 0191 443 4661 Online: [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)

**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**

*Sunday 21st – Sunday 28th March*

Led by Angelika Kirchschrager and Malcolm Martineau with Patricia MacMahon and pianist Christopher Glynn and six specially selected young singers and a pianist  
 Eleanor Laugharne - Soprano Duncan Rock - Baritone  
 Catherine Hopper - Mezzo-soprano Gerard Collett - Baritone  
 Ginger Costa-Jackson - Mezzo-soprano Daniel Wnukowski - Piano  
 John Pierce - Tenor

*Wednesday 24th March, 2 – 5pm*

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
 Samling Masterclass, tickets £10

*Saturday 27th March, 7pm*

Performing Arts Centre, Royal Grammar School, Newcastle upon Tyne  
 Samling Concert, tickets: £18 (£14 concessions)  
 All tickets available from The Sage Gateshead:  
 Box Office: 0191 443 4661 Online: [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)

**SAMLING OUTREACH**

*Monday 3rd – Wednesday 5th May*

Five Samling Scholars including Peter Gijsbertsen, Richard Latham and James Baillieu and the eight piece Berkeley Ensemble will lead an Outreach project with students of Queen Elizabeth School, Kirkby Lonsdale and pupils from its feeder primary schools, leading to a performance for friends and family.

**SAMLING CONCERT & DINNER**

*Friday 7th May, 7pm*

Samling returns to Carlisle where its Scholars and the Berkeley Ensemble will perform a special fundraising concert at the end of Outreach to be held in St Cuthbert's Church, followed by dinner with the artists in The Tithe Barn.  
 Concert tickets £15. Concert and dinner £60  
 All tickets available from Samling on 01434 602885.

**PARTY IN THE GARDEN**

*Sunday 20th June, 12 noon onwards*

Dilston House, Corbridge  
 Live music, barbecue lunch, afternoon tea, auction and original art to buy.  
 Tickets in advance: £40 per family (2 adults and up to 4 children), £18 per adult, £5 per child  
 Tickets on the day: £45 per family (2 adults and up to 4 children), £20 per adult, £6 per child.  
 All tickets available only from Samling on 01434 602885.

**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**

*Sunday 10th – Sunday 17th October*

Led by Olaf Bär, David Syrus and Paul Farrington, with pianists Caroline Dowdle and Christopher Glynn and six specially selected young singers and a pianist  
 Ruby Hughes - Soprano John Moore - Baritone  
 Kathrin Neubert - Soprano Derek Welton - Baritone  
 Justina Gringyte - Mezzo-soprano James Baillieu - Piano  
 Sam Boden - Tenor

*Wednesday 13th October, 2 – 5pm*

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
 Samling Masterclass, tickets £10

*Saturday 16th October, 7pm*

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
 Samling Concert, tickets A/B: £20.50 C: £14  
 Tickets available from The Sage Gateshead:  
 Box Office: 0191 443 4661 Online: [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)

**SAMLING MASTERCLASS WEEK**

*Sunday 7th – Sunday 14th November*

Led by Sir Thomas Allen, Isobel Buchanan and Paul Farrington with pianists Caroline Dowdle and Roger Vignoles and six specially selected young singers and a pianist  
 Meeta Raval - Soprano Andrew Finden - Baritone  
 Madeleine Pierard - Mezzo-soprano Phillip Smith - Baritone  
 John Pumphrey - Tenor Libby Burgess - Piano

*Wednesday 10th November, 2 – 5pm*

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
 Samling Masterclass, tickets £10

*Saturday 13th November, 7pm*

Hall Two, The Sage Gateshead  
 Samling Concert, tickets A/B: £20.50 C: £14  
 Tickets available from The Sage Gateshead:  
 Box Office: 0191 443 4661 Online: [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)

**SAMLING SHOWCASE**

*Friday 10th December, 7.30pm Wigmore Hall*

Five Samling Scholars will be joined by Sir Thomas Allen and Malcolm Martineau in this annual concert in London.  
 Sarah-Jane Brandon - Soprano James Geer – Tenor  
 Cecelia Hall – Mezzo-soprano Philip Smith – Baritone  
 Daniel Wnukowski - Piano

Tickets £26, £22, £16 and £12, available from Wigmore Hall Box Office: 020 7935 2141 or online: [www.wigmore-hall.org.uk](http://www.wigmore-hall.org.uk)

There are a number of tickets, which include a three-course dinner, wine and coffee with the artists after the concert in the Bechstein Room. These are priced £125 and are available only from Samling on 01434 602885.



INSPIRING  
Musical Excellence  
In Young People

WINTER 2010

# Leading in 2010



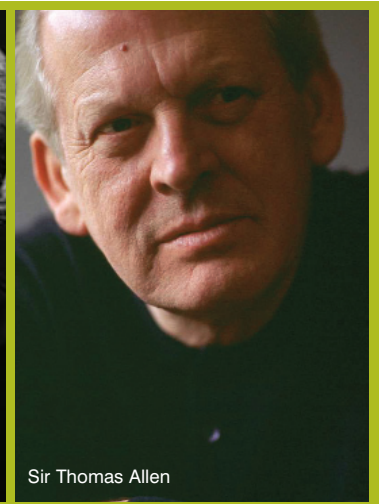
Yvonne Kenny  
Photo: Paul Gosney



Angelika Kirchschrager  
Photo: Nikolaus Karlinsky



Olaf Bär



Sir Thomas Allen

Samling's prestigious residential Masterclass programme goes from strength to strength and 2010 is set to be the best year ever. And what a line-up we have in store for you.

This year we are able, for the first time, to offer four residential weeks for 28 outstanding young singers and pianists. Not only that, but we have some of the most exciting and versatile classical artists in the world to lead them.

These include soprano Yvonne Kenny in February, mezzo-soprano Angelika Kirchschrager in March, the baritone Olaf Bär and Head of Music at the Royal Opera House David Syrus in October and our Patron Sir Thomas Allen, soprano Isobel Buchanan and pianist

Roger Vignoles in November. Along with the mainstays of the programme - Malcolm Martineau, Paul Farrington, Patricia MacMahon, Caroline Dowdle and Christopher Glynn - they will work, mentor and perform with exceptional young professional artists, specially chosen to participate in the weeks.

Last summer the UK's leading colleges and conservatoires recommended to us well over 110 singers and pianists. Our panel sat in intense auditions in London and Glasgow over four days before choosing the future Samling Scholars from North and South America, Africa, Europe and Asia.

What's more, we begin the New Year with a suitably fresh approach to the Samling

Concert. The emerging artists will showcase their talents alongside Yvonne Kenny in a special one-off afternoon Concert at 2.30pm on Sunday 28th February in Hall Two at The Sage Gateshead.

And when it comes to our March Masterclass, Samling will step outside The Sage Gateshead into the new Performing Arts Centre at Newcastle's Royal Grammar School. This unique opportunity to see Angelika Kirchschrager and the team in concert with Samling Scholars takes place at 7pm on Saturday 27th March.

**Please see our diary page for full details.**

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

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**BACK PAGE:** Diary Dates 2010

# Dreams can come true!



Royal Opera House  
Photo: Mike Hoban

Samling Scholar Lucy Crowe has fulfilled a lifetime ambition by taking on her first major role at the Royal Opera House in Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier* to rave reviews.

'The most exciting element of the evening was the Sophie of the young British soprano Lucy Crowe, floating through the ecstasy of the Presentation of the Rose with silvery clarity and painting a totally plausible figure of a gauche, gold-digging minx. Here is an outstanding talent,' wrote the Telegraph, and the Times was equally enthusiastic, describing this 'delightfully animated Sophie' as 'a mesmerising turmoil of fluctuating emotions, warming up to some luscious singing, especially above the stave in Act III'.

In the first of an occasional series by our Scholars, Lucy writes...

'I was eleven when I first went to Covent Garden. My grandfather took me to see Swan Lake. It was at this point that I realised I simply had to perform there - it became my goal. I always knew I wanted to be a singer and singing along to Maria Callas as a little girl, I knew it had to be opera.

My dream was realised in March in the small role of Belinda. But it was during the opening night of *Der Rosenkavalier* that I really felt like I'd achieved it. No wonder I was so emotional! My whole family was there, as was my first singing teacher who taught me from the age of ten. It was a very special day.

Sophie is quite a daunting role, mainly because of how exposed those high pianissimo notes are, especially in the presentation of the rose. There's no hiding anywhere and no room for frogs in the throat. Unfortunately emotions got the better of me and I gargled a number of notes on the opening night!

It is also a tricky role dramatically. She experiences many emotions; shock, anger, jealousy, love, but as a teenager. So time to reflect on my adolescent years, past boyfriends, being bullied, tantrums.

I met and worked with Sir Thomas Allen for the first time whilst still a student through Samling and British Youth Opera. Now we are arguing as father and daughter on the stage at the ROH. This is what dreams are made of!

## Masterclass in focus

Almost exactly a year on from leading her inaugural Masterclass for Samling, we are delighted to announce the return of celebrated Australian soprano Yvonne Kenny in February.

Having led a remarkable international career, Yvonne brings a special grace and warmth that proved extremely popular with audiences at The Sage Gateshead. Since she has been with us, Yvonne has been busy, including giving performances at Sydney Opera House as Dido in *Dido and Aeneas* and Blanche Dubois in *A Streetcar named Desire*.

Malcolm Martineau, Paul Farrington, Caroline Dowdle and Christopher Glynn will complete the February line-up in Hall Two at The Sage Gateshead on Thursday 25th in a public Masterclass and in concert on the afternoon of Sunday 28th at 2.30pm.

And we are thrilled to announce that the second Masterclass of 2010 will be led by Austrian mezzo-soprano Angelika Kirchschrager in March. Angelika is one of the most in-demand artists of her generation, dividing her time between recitals and

opera in Europe, North America and the Far East. Her roles in the last two busy seasons have included Hansel in Humperdinck's *Hänsel und Gretel* at the Royal Opera House with our Patron, Sir Thomas Allen and Samling Scholars Pumeza Matshikiza and Simona Mihai and in the same role at the Metropolitan Opera New York, as well as the roles of Orlofsky at the Bavarian State Opera and Octavian and Clairon at the Vienna State Opera.

Angelika will conduct a public Masterclass at 2pm on Wednesday 24th March in Hall Two of The Sage Gateshead and there will also be a very rare opportunity to hear this Salzburg-born artist in the intimate setting of the Performing Arts Centre at Newcastle's Royal Grammar School on Saturday 27th March at 7pm, alongside the Scholars. They will be joined onstage by Malcolm Martineau, soprano and teacher Patricia MacMahon and pianist Christopher Glynn.

For full details please see our diary page.

## Become involved

Supporting outstanding young artists of all ages can be extremely rewarding. Every individual who makes a donation to Samling plays a vital role in enabling the organisation to nurture young musicians through our internationally recognised Masterclass programme, projects and through our work in schools.

We would like to strengthen our relationship with our individual supporters and to involve them more in what they love about Samling and our work with young people. Individuals may make a donation to support the general work of Samling, join our Friends' scheme, which offers generous benefits, or become a Samling Scholar Partner.

Our scheme offers three levels of membership - £50 for Silver, £150 for Gold and £500 for Platinum - and through it we have developed lasting relationships with individual supporters who have helped to realise our work over many years.

As a Silver member you will receive our regular Newsletters, invitations to special Friends' events, complimentary tickets to our popular Masterclasses and acknowledgement for your support. In addition Gold members also benefit from complimentary tickets to our annual Party in the Garden and Showcase concert in London. If you become a Platinum member you will be given complimentary

tickets to all our events including dinner with the artists following our London Showcase, as well as our Newsletter and recognition in our programmes.

Samling Scholar Partners invest in and support young, individual classically trained singers and pianists with a gift of £5,000. By giving to this new programme and supporting a Samling Scholar you will enjoy a position of partnership with Samling and the development of exciting new voices on the international stage. You will be given an invitation to join the Samling team for a private session of Masterclass followed by lunch and free tickets to attend both public events as part of Masterclass Week and informally meet all the Samling Scholars afterwards as well as having a Samling Scholar perform in a private venue by special arrangement (full details on request).

However you choose to support Samling, your support now will be repaid in every young person who finds a voice on the international stage, in their school choir or simply within themselves. It is an investment in tomorrow.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Claire Murphy by telephone 01434 602885, email enquiries@samling.org.uk or visit our website for more information about us www.samling.org.uk.

## Return to Cumbria

Samling is taking its next Outreach project to Cumbria in May to Queen Elizabeth School (QES), Kirkby Lonsdale. Following two years of lively and inspiring work with seven schools in County Durham, Samling will bring five outstanding Scholars of its Masterclass programme and the Berkeley Ensemble to work and perform with students.

Having been involved in both education projects central to Samling Opera's *Così fan tutte* in 2005 and *Don Giovanni* in 2007, as well as our choral workshops for school choirs over several years, we are keen to engage with this enthusiastic secondary school once more.

During the residency Samling will provide pupils with the opportunity to learn from and perform alongside the young professional musicians working towards a concert when the pupils will perform with the professionals at QES.

We could not return to Cumbria without visiting a venue that has hosted so many wonderful concerts and events for Samling since 2004.

St Cuthbert's Church with its beautiful interior and fine acoustic will be a perfect setting for a special fund-raising performance by five Samling Scholars and the eight-piece Berkeley Ensemble, all alumni of Britain's orchestral academy, Southbank Sinfonia.

The concert will be followed by a three-course meal with the artists in the stunning medieval Tithe Barn.

Tickets for the concert are £15, tickets for the concert and dinner are £60 and are available only from Samling on 01434 602885.

Watch out for more details.



## Amy Black



Photo: Mark Pinder

All at Samling were greatly saddened to hear of Amy's death in November. Born and brought up in the East Riding of Yorkshire, Amy became a Samling Scholar in 2003. A fine mezzo-soprano, she went on to take part in our London Showcase at St John's Smith Square with Sir Thomas Allen the following year and she also sang at our Party in the Garden (pictured).

Amy, who was 36, sang with English Touring Opera both in England and France, Wexford Festival Opera, European Opera in Switzerland and Germany, Scottish Opera and had seasons at Glyndebourne and with English National Opera at the Coliseum, including appearing in the popular revivals of *On the Town* and *Kismet*.

With a keen intelligence and terrific sense of humour (more often than not at her own expense), Amy charmed everyone who came into contact with her. She had just returned to her singing career following major heart surgery in Spring last year and will be greatly missed.