AN OPEN CALL FOR MUSIC CREATORS INTERESTED IN WRITING THE FUTURE

London Sinfonietta is seeking music creators from diverse genres to make new work and build a creative working relationship with this world-renowned ensemble. Writing the Future is a scheme offering three music creators a chance to explore their own practice with some of music’s outstanding instrumentalists and sound designers culminating in a public performance as part of the London Sinfonietta programme.

London Sinfonietta

London Sinfonietta is the lodestar for adventurous contemporary music. It’s earned an unrivalled reputation for pioneering work over many years by names like Steve Reich, Harrison Birtwistle, Toru Takemitsu, Judith Weir, Iannis Xenakis and championing the work of new generations of composers like Mica Levi, Jonny Greenwood, Tansy Davies, Anna Meredith, Philip Venables and Matthew Herbert. It has opened new music to new audiences in its home at the Southbank, at a variety of music festivals (including Glastonbury), in old cinemas, Stonehenge and many other found spaces. London Sinfonietta regularly collaborates with artists from dance, video, theatre and visual arts. It is open and willing to explore ideas.

Writing the Future

We are offering three music creators the resources of the London Sinfonietta to develop a new performance idea culminating in a public performance. You could engage with other art forms, work with a particular community, create for different platforms – live and/or digital – it's up to you.

The piece can involve up to six London Sinfonietta musicians and/or sound designers. We are open to project ideas that would expand the possibilities for a contemporary music ensemble.

To support you as you develop your idea, we will offer a tailored set of opportunities for your needs, including:

- Bursary of up to £2000 to develop and create your new work.
- London Sinfonietta producer offering you administrative, production and training support.
- Production budget of up to £3000 managed by the producer to support the development of the work. This will be in response to your needs but could include workshop opportunities with musicians to evolve new ideas, as well as research and training opportunities.
- Artistic Mentoring from established music creators. London Sinfonietta has existing relationships with a wide spectrum of music creators from composer George Benjamin to songwriter/composer Mica Levi, to electronica artists Mira Calix and Squarepusher and jazz artist Marius Neset.
- Practical Resource such as help from a professional arranger or copyist as required.
- Be part of the London Sinfonietta community and our network of musicians, artists and collaborators. This would include access to London Sinfonietta rehearsals, concerts and receptions; an ongoing relationship with the ensemble; the advice of our members of our team who have experience in promotion, producing, outreach, finance and fundraising.
- Showcasing of the completed work in the London Sinfonietta’s upcoming programme.
- Digital capture of the final performance.
If you need support towards travel, accommodation and/or access needs please let us know.

Integral to Writing the Future is evaluation and documentation so we ask that you allow your materials to be documented and allow them to be used for evaluation, educational and promotional purposes and that you’re willing to be a part of the evaluation.

Who Can Apply?

Our call is open to all music creators, whether or not you are familiar with music notation. We are looking to work with music creators from all cultural and musical backgrounds who are passionate about their music and would like the opportunity to apply that experience to writing for a contemporary ensemble. We are particularly interested in relationships with artists from a non-classical background such as sound artists and improvising musicians, as well as music creators from historically under-represented groups or communities. The London Sinfonietta is signed up to the PRS for Music Foundation’s Key Change initiative and is committed to achieving gender balance in its new work and commissioning programmes by 2021. Participants must be 18 or over and be resident in the UK throughout the duration of the scheme. There is no strict age limit but the objective is to help music creators in the early stages of their career.

How To Apply

To apply for the scheme please submit the following to Natalie Marchant (Head of Concerts & Production) writingthefuture@londonsinfonietta.org.uk / 0207 239 9340) - Applications are now open:

- Completed application form
- Tell us about your new project idea for working with us that could be developed and created through the scheme
- Include at least three examples of works you have created which demonstrate your style (scores, Soundcloud, Youtube and Bandcamp links are all acceptable)
- Provide details of two referees
- Video of no more than two minutes telling us about: you and the music you create; why you are interested in London Sinfonietta; how you think our input can specifically support your development.
- Completed Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form. This is not used in the selection process and is kept in an anonymous format for monitoring purposes only.

The deadline for applications is Friday 17th April 2020.

Discuss Your Ideas With Us

If you’re not yet sure whether this scheme is right for you, or if you would like to discuss any ideas you have for a project before deciding to apply, or if would just like to know more about us, please:

- Come and meet us in an open informal discussion on Saturday 14th March 2020 4pm-5pm at the Foyle Pavilion, Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre SE1 8XX. You may like to stay on and watch our London performance of Philip Venables and Ted Huffman’s Denis and Katya, 7.45pm at the Purcell Room, and/or arrive early at 3pm to attend a Composer Collective talk by Philip Venables and Ted Huffman.
- Send us your queries to writingthefuture@londonsinfonietta.org.uk

Timescale For The Project

- Application deadline: Friday 17th April 2020
- Successful applicants informed by late May 2020
- Project scoping May-July 2020 and developed Autumn 2020 onwards
- Deadline for completed work: April 2021
- Performance outcomes identified: May-July 2021

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The London Sinfonietta is a registered charity, number 255095

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