



Philharmonia

Artist in Residence

2024/25 & 2025/26 Overview



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Philharmonia Orchestra

Artist in Residence 2024/25 & 2025/26

[Online application form](#)

Our Artist in Residence (AiR) programme

The Philharmonia seeks a socially engaged artist to collaborate with the Orchestra, to explore and combine two differing artforms, and celebrate the artistic creativity and relevance to existing and new audiences to whom that fusion may speak. We are interested in collaborating with artists from across the cultural world, including but not limited to: music of all genres (excluding classical), dance, theatre, literature, spoken word, visual arts and circus, to diversify our artistic offer and challenge us to work in new ways.

We want to create events and content that authentically represent and engage with the UK's diverse communities and want the artist to take an inclusive and critical approach to our work and provide perspectives not already seen without our seasons. This will be reflected in the art presented, the identities of the artist, and the communities and audiences that they intend to reach.

Our inaugural Artists in Residence, House of Absolute, described the programme as “... *a powerfully rich collaboration between House of Absolute and the Philharmonia with both entities' incredible resources: the Orchestra's irrefutable expertise in symphonic performance, digital innovation, and outreach, and our company's technical dexterity and proficiency in traversing artistic disciplines including dance, music, theatre, writing, spoken word and digital art.*” **Saskia Horton, Creative Producer, House of Absolute.**

We are aiming to appoint two artists; one for our 2024/25 season, and a second for our 25/26 season. Applications are to be made through our online [Application Form](#).



Our vision and mission

We want to create the orchestral experience of the future, to push boundaries and challenge ourselves, and the industry, to develop new ways to engage with existing and new audiences.

We believe our Artist in Residence programme offers us one way of many to develop and test those new experiences.

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About the Philharmonia

Principally based in London at the Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, the Philharmonia seeks to create the next generation of orchestral experiences, rooted in artistic excellence and innovation. Through its network of residencies, the Orchestra has a national footprint, serving communities across England both in performance and through its extensive outreach and engagement programme.

Founded chiefly as a recording orchestra in 1945, and about to celebrate our 80th anniversary, we use the latest digital technology to connect with audiences beyond the concert hall and are sector leaders in the production of immersive experiences and online media.

The Philharmonia has appointed three Artists in Residence to date: House of Absolute, Love Ssega, and Soumik Datta.

The Philharmonia is a registered charity. It relies on income from a wide range of sources to deliver its programme and is proud to be generously supported by Arts Council England.



The Philharmonia in concert at the Royal Festival Hall in 2018 © Beth Walsh

Role brief

The Artist in Residence will create new artistic experiences across our programme of activity that champion their own lived experiences, contribute to a commitment to change the face of classical music, and challenge the Philharmonia to work and think in new ways.

We seek an artist that can produce and programme live experiences whilst being willing to work in agile ways, leading collaborations with members of the Orchestra. The AiR will be excited by the prospect of working with a symphony orchestra, will see the emotional and social potential the Philharmonia, and will want to collaborate with our players and management team to widen and deepen access to orchestral music and their own art-form across our residencies and wider work.

Whilst the AiR will retain intellectual copyright over any works produced, the Philharmonia will retain the right to display/exhibit/perform the works during the residency and beyond as joint producer of the works created, as well as using images and coverage of the programme for evaluation, reporting, and marketing purposes during the residency and into the future.



© Camilla Greenwell

We are willing to take risks with this role. We want to champion the voices of artists that have been historically excluded from our work. We want you to challenge us and the industry. You do not need experience of working with orchestral music or musicians, but you must see the potential in collaboration.

We would like to tie the Artist in Residence programme as closely as possible to our existing programme and will look for opportunities to connect their work to our London and residency concerts, our marketing and communication plans, and our wide-reaching Learning & Engagement programme. We would like to see specific reference in cover letters and artistic challenge responses to our potential work in education and/or our upcoming celebrations around our 80th anniversary.

“Making music is an act of service for me. To be able to ignite human imagination and allow audiences to project their thoughts, feelings and worries onto my music fills me with gratitude and purpose. Now, as Philharmonia’s Artist in Residence, I hope to expand that fabric of sound, challenging myself and the Orchestra to hold our diverse listeners in a warm, inclusive, sonic embrace.”

Soumik Datta, AiR 2023/24

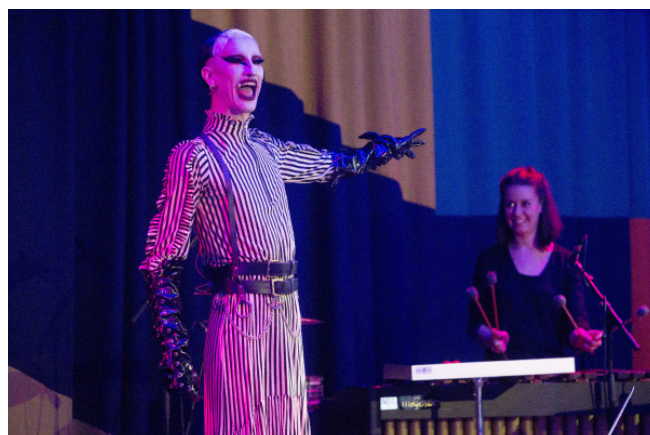


© Marina Vidor

Purpose

The Artist in Residence will:

- Create cross-genre and cross-arts collaborations to enhance, respond, connect to, and challenge our key artistic plans across the artistic season
- Work with and use the Orchestra as a resource to develop new artistic opportunities and widen our reach to new diverse audiences
- Work with the Orchestra and management team to generate and retain new audiences for both orchestral music and the AiR's medium
- Bring with them a loyal audience/fan-base to share with the Philharmonia and be excited to grow their own audience base
- Create work that is replicable within, or can be toured amongst, our UK residency centres



© Belinda Lawley



© Luca Migliore

- Work with our Learning & Engagement team to connect with wider Philharmonia programmes across the country
- Have connections to diverse communities and lived experience of under-represented protected characteristics and communities within the UK's arts sector (we ask you to self-identify as part of the application process).
- Encourage the Orchestra to think and work in new ways, to be a critical friend, and to challenge and support the Philharmonia to develop
- Remain conscious of environmental sustainability and committed to equity and justice



© Luca Migliore

Output

With the support of our musicians and management team, the Artist in Residence will be committed to creating and delivering:

- A minimum of one large-scale pre- or post-concert event at Southbank Centre in collaboration with our musicians as part of our regular concert series that will tour to a minimum of one of our UK residency centres
 - Additional smaller-scale activations utilising the Philharmonia's existing programme and resources
 - Activities and collaborations with our Learning & Engagement team, helping to link this work more closely to the concert platform and work with our residency communities
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Artist description

The artist must:

- Represent an artform that is **not** classical music
- Be excited by the prospect of working with a symphony orchestra and its musicians by seeing the potential to create new work and challenge our status quo
- Represent identities, protected characteristics, and/or socio-economic statuses they feel are under-represented in the UK arts scene¹
- Commit to the ongoing monitoring and evaluation connected to an initiative of this scale including regular updates to the primary liaison and Senior Management Team, availability for interviews and focus groups, and post-activity surveys, reviews and meetings
- Be aged 18 or over by 1 September 2024

The Artist in Residence will receive an artist fee of **£12,000** for this position, equivalent to at least 40 days' work at £300 per day, spread across our respective annual season.

The Artist will have access to further budgets beyond the artist fee to help develop and produce the required activity, films, Learning & Engagement work, and related marketing materials.

Although we are willing to accept applications from collectives or collaborations for this role, our budget for the project and artist fee is set and cannot be changed. Should a larger collective wish to apply for this role, we would ask you to show how you would seek funds from other external sources to help supplement your fee for this role.

¹ We invite artists to self-identify their under-represented identities, protected characteristics, and/or socio-economic statuses in their application.

Timeline

Mon 25 Sept 2023, 5pm	Deadline for applications
w/c 24 Oct 2023	Online interviews for shortlisted applications
w/c 7 Nov 2023	AiR(s) appointed
June 2024	Public announcement of 2024/25 Artist in Residence
June 2025	Public announcement of 2025/26 Artist in Residence

Selection Panel

The shortlisting and interview panels will include (though might be subject to change):

- Staff and Player Members of the Philharmonia Orchestra
- Previous Artists in Residence
- Advisors from our resident community boards
- Members of our Equality Steering Group

Interviews will take place via Zoom.

Please state clearly in your application if you have any access requirements for the interview. Philharmonia will work with individual applicants to ensure an accessible interview process relevant to individual needs.

How to apply

Please complete the online [Application Form](#) by **Monday 25 September 2023 at 5pm**.

This form asks for the following information alongside general demographics of the artist:

- Links to online video footage or examples of two performances, exhibitions or projects that showcase you as an artist. Note that any private links should be made accessible to anyone with the link. The link will be shared with the panel
- Website and/or social media handles
- A cover letter (maximum one page of A4) or audio/visual recording (maximum two minutes) detailing your work as an artist, your previous experience, and what you might bring to the Orchestra
- An idea about how you might collaborate with the Orchestra in response to the Artistic Challenge posed on the application form and listed below. Your submitted response for the Artistic Challenge can be written (maximum of two pages of A4) or you may submit an audio/visual recording (maximum of four minutes)

If you wish to discuss this role further, please contact Teddy Prout via teddy.prout@philharmonia.co.uk

Artistic challenge

As part of the application, the Philharmonia team would like to get a sense of what you might do if you were appointed as our Artist in Residence.

The Philharmonia would like the Artist in Residence to curate a pre- or post-concert event as part of our concert series that champions something important to them, and helps put under-represented identities and communities centre-stage. This could contribute towards, enhance, challenge, or critique our existing work as an Orchestra.

This would be performed/exhibited at Southbank Centre as well as at least one of the Philharmonia's residencies across the UK in spring/summer.

The artist will have access to five to twelve musicians to form a core group of artists, alongside a separate budget for research and development, rehearsals, venue hire, and technical requirements that will be covered by Philharmonia's AiR budget. Please note that we are not requesting artists to provide a proposed budget with this Artistic Challenge.

Your collaboration could focus on live performance, creation of materials for exhibition, or something else that you think might be of interest to our shared audiences. We encourage artists to consider how their artistic challenge might link to our education work, our community work, and, if appropriate, our upcoming 80th anniversary.



© Andy Paradise

You will be asked to complete the Artistic Challenge as part of your [**Application Form**](#) and will need to answer the following questions:

1. What would you create for this pre- or post-concert event, and how would you utilise our musicians?
2. What message would you like to share? How will this connect to you personally as an artist?
3. What audiences would you aim to reach with this event and how might that differ from a regular classical music attendee? Be as specific as you can and please reference your own audiences.
4. Alongside Southbank Centre, to which of the Philharmonia's residency centres could this tour, and why do you think this residency centre is appropriate?