



SOUTHBANK SINFONIA 2019 BIOGRAPHY

Southbank Sinfonia is an orchestra of young professionals described by *The Independent* as 'a hugely talented young ensemble whose performances are always theatrical'. It is internationally recognised as a leading orchestral academy, each year bringing together 33 of the world's most promising graduate musicians to provide a much-needed springboard into the profession.

Its annual fellowship provides unparalleled opportunities to gain crucial experience in orchestral repertoire, chamber music, opera, dance and theatre – often in partnership with leading performing arts organisations including the Royal Opera and Academy of St Martin in the Fields. From giving the first ever performance of Mozart's Requiem at Notre-Dame to taking centre-stage in the National Theatre's acclaimed production of *Amadeus*, Southbank Sinfonia ensures new generations uphold a venerable tradition, but also asks anew what orchestras have the power to communicate in the modern world.

Alongside this, specialist development sessions that embrace leadership and communication provide each musician with the professional toolkit required to pioneer their own future musical ventures. To date, nearly 500 musicians have completed the programme, many going on to enjoy exciting careers with leading orchestras worldwide.

Founded in 2002 by Music Director Simon Over, the orchestra is proud to be based at St John's Waterloo, in the heart of London, where its musicians bring their own exploratory impulse to bite-sized Rush Hour Concerts. By virtue of their youth, energy and excellence, Southbank Sinfonia players not only bring fresh resonance to the stage but are also ideally placed to act as role-models who inspire many younger musicians on London's Southbank and beyond.

Enabling players to devote themselves fully to the experience, every place is free and every player receives a bursary. Making this possible is a family of supporters – trusts, organisations and individuals like you – who recognise the players' potential and relish following their remarkable progress and the spirit they exude in performances. To find out how you can support the orchestra and discover more about its next performances, visit southbanksinfonia.co.uk.

Suitable for use in 2019. If you wish to use Southbank Sinfonia's biography after this date, please visit southbanksinfonia.co.uk/press for the latest version.

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