



**MANCHESTER CAMERATA SOLIDIFIES ITS POSITION AT THE FOREFRONT
OF THE CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL MUSIC SCENE WITH FOUR
PREMIERE PERFORMANCES THIS SUMMER**



Manchester Camerata performing Haçienda Classical © Craige Barker

World premiere of Rushil Ranjan's *Shikwa (Complaint)*, the first symphonic interpretation of Allama Muhammed Iqbal's famous Urdu poem [23 June]

UK premiere of Holly Harrison's *Black Ice* in a late-night performance at The Bridgewater Hall with Daniel Piro as part of MCR: Classical [24 June]

World premiere of Laura Bowler's new orchestration of *The Flying Dutchman* for eight musicians, toured with OperaUpClose [28 June – 23 July]

World premiere of a new work by AFRODEUTSCHE performed at Factory International as part of the Manchester International Festival [5 July]

Manchester Camerata continues to be at the forefront of the UK's contemporary classical music scene with three world premiere performances this summer. The Camerata prides itself on its varied

programming, ranging from its **Mozart, Made in Manchester** series with **Gábor Takacs-Nagy** and **Jean-Efflam Bavouzet** (continuing in the autumn) and **Haçienda Classical** shows through to its cross-genre, boundary-pushing contemporary programmes such as the **UNQUIET** series. The Camerata is performing four premieres by composers **Rushil Ranjan**, **Holly Harrison**, **Laura Bowler** and **AFRODEUTSCHE** this summer.

Samantha McShane, Creative Director of Manchester Camerata, said:

“Innovation, fearlessness, humanity and collaboration are at the heart of our values at Manchester Camerata. Each premiere showcases the depth of commitment that we have towards collaborative work with artists and artistic organisations that align with our values. This summer, we present a diverse array of incredible artists with whom we aim to bring unique, emotive and relevant performances demonstrating that Manchester Camerata is for everyone.”

The Camerata’s summer of new music begins with the world premiere of **Rushil Ranjan’s** *Shikwa (Complaint)*, the first symphonic interpretation of **Allama Muhammed Iqbal’s** famous poem of the same name. The performance, taking place at the **Bradford Literature Festival**, is the first orchestral rendering of any of Iqbal’s work. **Abi Sampa** will perform the work with the Camerata and Ranjan at St George’s Hall, Bradford [23 June].

The Camerata joins together with other leading orchestras and ensembles from Manchester, including Manchester Collective, The Hallé and the BBC Philharmonic, for **MCR: Classical**, a weekend celebrating the city’s rich musical heritage. Conducted by **Agata Zajac**, the Camerata performs a late-night show with violinist **Daniel Pioro**, in a programme that includes two newly orchestrated works from Pioro’s recently released album *Saint Boy*, in addition to the UK premiere of **Holly Harrison’s** *Black Ice* [24 June].

In partnership with **OperaUpClose**, Manchester Camerata performs the world premiere of **Laura Bowler’s** new eight-piece orchestration of Wagner’s early opera *The Flying Dutchman* which will tour waterside venues across England [28 June – 23 July]. Bowler’s orchestration uses an English adaptation of the libretto by **Glyn Maxwell** and will feature recordings of UK community choirs alongside a cast including **Philippa Boyle**, **Timothy Dawkins**, **Carolyn Holt** and **Paul Putnins**.

Manchester Camerata continues its relationship with Manchester-based DJ and composer **AFRODEUTSCHE** with the world premiere of a new work at Factory International as part of **Manchester International Festival** [5 July]. The show is part of the Camerata’s **UNQUIET** series, an ongoing collaboration with critically acclaimed conductor Robert Ames that merges classical, techno, house and electronic music in commissions from innovative and cross-genre composers.

Following on from their recent concert with Artistic Partner and regular collaborator **Jess Gillam**, the Camerata’s other highlights include a tour of **Haçienda Classical** – the classical-electronic shows with Haçienda DJ **Graeme Park** – across the UK including a show at Kew Gardens in London [8 July – 26 August].

Manchester Camerata is committed to working in the local community, bringing music to people of all ages ranging from primary school children through to people in care homes. The Camerata has recently partnered with **Leeds Conservatoire** and **Orchestras Live** for a project called **New Connections**, which aims to support conservatoire students and develop their creative leadership skills whilst forging links with their local communities. Students from a range of disciplines such as

film music, jazz, popular and classical music take part in workshops led by Camerata flautist Amina Hussain, composer James Redwood and other Camerata musicians.

-ENDS-

To find out more about Manchester Camerata's summer projects, please contact Premier:

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Notes to Editors

About Manchester Camerata

★★★★★ "Mad unstoppable energy that really sets the music alight" - *The Daily Telegraph*

★★★★★ "It doesn't get much better than this" - *The Independent*

Manchester Camerata is a registered charity, working and performing in Manchester and worldwide since 1972. With 5-star reviews from *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Independent* and the accolade of 'Britain's most adventurous orchestra' (*The Times*), Camerata has a reputation for doing things differently – be that opening Glastonbury Festival with an orchestral rave, touring and recording Mozart or making a profound impact for people living with dementia. Manchester Camerata believes in the transformative and connecting nature of music. That connection drives them, and they work with the best creative talent to make this happen.

Camerata's inspiration stems from the visionary mindset of Music Director Gábor Takács-Nagy, who believes passionately that 'music is spiritual medicine'. His extraordinary musicianship drives the development of their craft and nurtures the artistic and human qualities of Manchester Camerata's musicians, which in turn gives the whole organisation courage to innovate beyond an orchestra's usual realm. It is these qualities combined which create powerful emotional connections, improving lives. This approach has led them to collaborate with diverse international artists, from New Order to Martha Argerich to Aziz Ibrahim to Lewis Capaldi.

Empowering people to make positive change in their lives is the focus of Manchester Camerata's award-winning community programme. From a child or a teacher in school to a frontline care worker or a person living with dementia, it's about the difference they can make in society through music. All activity is informed by research and fully evaluated, so they can articulate their impact. A social impact plan for Greater Manchester will see the number and diversity of people we reach increase, and that work begins in their home – the Monastery in Gorton.

www.manchestercamerata.co.uk

Summer listings

Allama Muhammed Iqbal's Shikwa at Bradford Literature Festival

23 June – St George's Hall, Bradford

I Was Guided by the Following Vision. at Mcr: classical festival

24 June – The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

The Flying Dutchman

28, 30 June, 1 July – Turner Sims, Southampton

4, 5 July – SS Great Britain, Bristol

7, 8 July – Worthing Pavilion, Worthing

12, 13, 14 July – Grand Junction, London

18, 19 July – Trinity Market, Hull

22, 23 July – Invisible Wind Factory, Liverpool

AFRODEUTSCHE at Manchester International Festival

5 July – Factory International, Manchester

Haçienda Classical

8 July – Castlefield Bowl, Manchester

14 July – The Quarry, Shrewsbury

15 July – Kew Gardens, London

28 July – Newmarket Racecourses Trust, Newmarket

18 August – Hardwick Festival, Sedgefield

19 August – Doncaster Racecourse, Doncaster

26 August – Dreamland, Margate