

Galliard Ensemble

Former BBC New Generation Artists, the Galliard Ensemble is established as one of Britain's leading chamber groups, with repertoire ranging from Mozart and Beethoven to Berio and Birtwistle.

Now in its 30th year, the ensemble has performed in many of the world's leading venues and festivals, including Wigmore Hall, South Bank Centre, Bridgewater Hall, Sage Gateshead and at the BBC Proms.

They have also performed in Portugal, Spain, France, Ireland and Slovenia and are frequently broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and around the World.

The Galliard Ensemble is known for its virtuosic, entertaining and distinctive performance style and its recordings have been widely praised; the Sunday Times, BBC Music Magazine, Gramophone, and BBC Radio 3 have all selected a Galliard Ensemble CD as "outstanding" or as Critics' Choice.

They have worked closely with many leading contemporary composers, including György Ligeti and with Sir Harrison Birtwistle, on his quintet *Five Distances* (for their performance at the BBC Proms) which led to their award-winning CD of Birtwistle's chamber music for winds.

In 2013 they ran the 'Galliard Anniversary Composition Competition' to mark their 20th year.

Their latest recording, 'From the Beginning', will be released in the Autumn of 2023 to mark their 30th anniversary.

The Galliard Ensemble is passionate about bringing music to a diverse audience realising the positive impact that music can have on learning and personal development. Their educational work ranges from concerts for children to masterclasses at leading conservatoires and universities such as Royal Northern College of Music, University of Cardiff, Trinity Laban, and at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Individual Biographies

Kathryn Thomas (Flute)



Photo credit: Pip Bacon @ Purple Raspberry

Kathryn Thomas is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music where she studied with Sebastian Bell. She was subsequently awarded an Associateship of the Royal Academy of Music for achieving distinction in the music profession. Kathryn is an established recitalist and chamber musician at venues including the Wigmore Hall, the South Bank Centre, Bridgewater Hall, and at festivals including BBC Proms, Cheltenham, Two Moors and Presteigne. Her CD recordings both as a soloist and with the Galliard Ensemble have been awarded Gramophone Editor's Choice, The Observer CD of the Week, and Critics Choice in BBC Music Magazine. Particular recommendations have been given by Gramophone magazine, The Times and BBC Radio 3 Record Review.

Kathryn has an affinity for contemporary music and has worked with eminent composers and given many world and British premieres. She has also worked with orchestras including the London Sinfonietta, New Queen's Hall Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Music Theatre Wales and City of London Sinfonia and regularly appears as guest principal with the London Concert Orchestra. Her concerto performances include works by Ibert, Honegger, Arnold, Bach, Rawsthorne, Barber, Mozart, Telemann, Cecilia McDowall and Christopher Gunning. Kathryn performs rock flute with the award-winning progressive rock band 'Hats Off Gentlemen It's Adequate'.

Owen Dennis (Oboe)



Photo credit: Pip Bacon @ Purple Raspberry

Owen Dennis read Mathematics at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge and graduated with a first class honours degree in 1995. He then studied at the Royal Academy of Music with Douglas Boyd and at the Rotterdam Conservatoire with Emanuel Abbuhl, winning the Leila Bull prize for oboe as well as the 1999 Royal Overseas League Wind Final. With the Galliard Ensemble, Owen has released many CD's including the first recording of Birtwistle's 'An Interrupted Endless Melody' for oboe and piano. As a BBC Radio 3 New Generation artist, Owen has performed the Mozart Sinfonia Concertante with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and numerous live broadcasts, in particular Britten's 'Metamorphoses after Ovid' for solo oboe in the BBC Proms. In addition to his chamber music, he freelances with the City of London Sinfonia, the London Mozart Players and the London Sinfonietta. Owen continues to develop his mathematics and completed an MSc in Intelligent and Adaptive Systems at Sussex University in 2017, leading to research projects into gender bias and predictive analytics within education.

Richard Bayliss (Horn)



Photo credit: Pip Bacon @ Purple Raspberry

Richard Bayliss is a regular performer with many of the UK's leading chamber ensembles, chamber orchestras and symphony orchestras, including the Royal Philharmonic, London Philharmonic, Philharmonia and BBC Orchestras, and has performed as guest principal with the Royal Opera House, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Norwegian Radio Orchestra, Gulbenkian Orchestra, and the Taipei Symphony Orchestra. As a soloist, Richard has performed with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields and the Taipei Symphony Orchestra. Richard has always had a keen interest in early music, and as a natural horn player he is principal with

the Gabrieli Consort and Players, and has performed as guest principal with the English Baroque Soloists, London Handel Orchestra, Academy of Ancient Music, Hanover Band, and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Also a regular performer in the West End, Richard has held positions with many shows including Shrek, The Sound of Music and Jesus Christ Superstar, and is a deputy on many of the current West End musicals.

Helen Storey (Bassoon)

Helen studied at the Purcell School of Music before continuing her studies with scholarships to the Royal Academy of Music and the Hochschule fur Musik in Vienna, studying with John Orford, Rachel Gough, Milan Turkovic, and David Chatterton. After several years of freelancing Helen took a position in the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra where she has been a member for 21 years, and also enjoys working with the education team 'Resound' which takes RPO musicians into schools, hospitals, day centres and youth clubs. She continues to freelance with groups such as the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Opera House, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and English National Opera alongside her positions in the RPO and the Galliard Ensemble. Helen became a member of the professorial staff at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London in 2010 where she teaches undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as coaching chamber music. Helen has more recently coached the National Youth Orchestra bassoon section.