

# GLYNDEBOURNE

## Jerwood Pit Perfect 2025

The young instrumentalists joining the Glyndebourne Sinfonia in the autumn of 2025



**Anna Brown** *violin* **Joe MacDonald** *violin* **Beth Willett** *viola* **Bella Lorenzo-Giguere** *cello* **Ruohua Li** *bass* **Samantha Rowe** *flute*

**Ross Williams** *oboe* **Lucy Amos** *trumpet* **Gina Gallacher** *harp* **Sehyogue Auy lakh** *percussion* **Eva Lavery** *percussion*



**Anna Brown** *violin*

Anna Brown is a British violinist based in London. She is a versatile musician who performs across many different musical genres. Whilst at the Guildhall School, she led the Opera, Symphony and Baroque Orchestras. Anna is a dedicated chamber musician and leader of her string quartet, Quartet Concrète. Winners of the 2023 St James' Chamber Music Competition, they have performed at venues across Europe, including Milton Court, St James Piccadilly, Holker Hall, and Cité Musicale-Metz. They have appeared in Lake District Music's 2024 Summer Festival, L'Académie Diotima 2025, as well as being selected for Chamber Studio's Hans Keller Forum 2023/24. Anna is also passionate about Historical Performance and has led many ensembles on baroque violin, performing orchestral and opera repertoire as well as giving performances with the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of London at St Martin in the Fields. Anna studied on a scholarship at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in the class of Krysia Osostowicz, as well as baroque violin studies with Oliver Webber.



**Joe MacDonald** *violin*

American-born violinist Joe MacDonald is a first prize winner of the Brockton Symphony Orchestra, Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra, and Harvard Musical Association Achievement Prize, among others. He has performed in numerous renowned venues such as the Symphony Hall in Boston, Carnegie Hall, Wiener Musikverein in Austria, Jordan Hall, and Buckingham Palace as well as other notable venues. Currently, he is in his fourth year at the Royal College of Music under professor Radu Blidar and previously studied with professor Yuri Mazurkevich at Boston University. Joe plays on an Antonio Vinaccia violin and a newly commissioned bow from Benoit Rolland.



**Beth Willett** *viola*

Beth is an enthusiastic chamber musician; during her career with various ensembles Beth has participated in prestigious international festivals including the Aldeburgh Festival (UK, 2025), Winchester Chamber Music Festival (UK, 2024), First Light Festival (UK, 2024), Pergolesi Spontini Festival (Italy, 2024), Lake District Music (UK, 2025 and 2023), Festival Ravel (France, 2023) and Orlando Chamber music Festival (Netherlands, 2019). Beth, as a member of the Aestus Quartet, was previously appointed as a Britten Pears Young Artist (2023-2024) and the RNCM String Quartet Studio (2023-2024). Some performances of note include appearing with Instrumentalist of the year prize winner Jasdeep Singh Deegun at the Royal Philharmonic Awards (2024), and debuting at the Stoller Hall as part of the Manchester Chamber Concerts Society. With the Aestus Quartet, Beth was also awarded the RNCM Weil Prize and was a 2025 Royal Over-Seas League semi-finalist. Alongside chamber music Beth is also a passionate orchestral musician who has performed as a freelancer with the UK's leading orchestras including the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, Northern Chamber Orchestra, and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

Beth plays on a 2004 viola made by Kai-Thomas Roth.



**Bella Lorenzo-Giguere** *cello*

American cellist Bella Lorenzo-Giguere seeks collaboration across artistic discipline and musical genre and aims to create energetic and enriching concert going experiences. As a Southbank Future Artist this year, Bella created and performed a concert in the Purcell Room with guidance from the Manchester Collective. Recently, Bella worked with a singer, composer, and art curators to create a performance at the Courtauld Gallery. Her piano trio, Fiesole Trio, is the Poole Society for Young Musicians Trio in Residence this year, and she recently performed as part of quartets in residence at Waterperry Opera Festival and Musique dans les Gers Festival. Recently, Bella worked on experimental improvisation projects at Vortex Jazz Club and Ikletik London. She has also led the Royal Academy of Music cello section twice conducted by Simon Rattle and Mark Elder. Bella is currently earning a Professional Diploma at the Royal Academy of Music learning with John Myerscough. She also earned a Masters of Arts from RAM and a Bachelor's of Music with Academic Honors from the Cleveland Institute of Music.



### **Ruohua Li** *bass*

Ruohua Li finished her Artist Diploma at the Royal College of Music under Rodrigo Moro Martin and Enno Senft in July 2024. She received her Master degree at the Royal Academy of Music and her Bachelor degree from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. She is now a freelance performer.

Whilst studying in the Royal College of Music, she was chosen for the LSO String Experience Scheme and the BBC Symphony Orchestra Scheme. Ruohua also has had the opportunity to play alongside with Philharmonia Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Royal Birmingham Ballet and Welsh National Opera. She has played with the Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective and participated in many important music festivals such as the Lammermuir Music Festival and the Hatfield House Music Festival etc. In 2022, with the Royal Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra, Ruohua performed Mahler Symphony No.3 with Semyon Bychkov in Royal Festival Hall. She also recorded her first Bach Partita album with the Royal Academy of Music Chamber orchestra conducted by Trevor Pinnock.

Ruohua has taken part in Masterclasses with Matthew McDonald, Lorraine Campet, Nikita Naumov, Catalin Rotaru, Edicson Ruiz, Thierry Barbé, Giuseppe Ettorre, Timothy Cobb, Giuseppe Ettore, Artem Chirkov, Alberto Bocini, Petru Luga & Milos Gajdos.



### **Samantha Rowe** *flute*

Originally from Cornwall, Samantha Rowe is a professional flautist, piccolo player and soprano who trained at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama with Sarah Newbold, IanClarke and Christopher Green (piccolo), graduating with First-Class Honours. She is now completing a Master's degree at the Royal College of Music under the guidance of Sue Thomas and Emer McDonough.

As an orchestral and chamber musician, Samantha has performed with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, and Scarborough Spa Orchestra. She regularly appears in solo and chamber recitals across the UK, and her competition successes include first prize in the Orchestral Artistry Award (Liverpool Flute Academy), second prize in the Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra Young Soloist Competition and finalist in the Guildhall Needlemakers Woodwind Prize.

Also in demand as a lyric soprano, Samantha has sung roles including Susanna (Le nozzedi Figaro), Euridice (Orfeo ed Euridice), and performed as soprano soloist in Fauré's Requiem and the UK premiere of Dan Forrest's Creation. She made her solo debut at Birmingham Symphony Hall in 2022 and continues to develop a broad career in opera, recital, and oratorio under the tutorship of Alison Wells and Theresa Goble. Thanks to versatile vocal training in her younger years, she also regularly performs musical theatre, pop and jazz. Passionate about community engagement, Samantha delivers outreach work in schools and care homes and is an enthusiastic music educator and charity concert organiser.



### **Ross Williams** *oboe*

Oboist, Ross Williams, graduated from the Royal College of Music with a master's in performance with distinction, where he studied under Juliana Koch, Olivier Stankiewicz, Rosie Jenkins and Christine Pendrill. Before that he studied at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, graduating with a first-class bachelor's degree in music. During his time studying he began his freelance orchestral career, which now includes playing with orchestras such as the LSO, CBSO, BBC National Orchestra of Wales and RSNO. Ross has a strong passion for opera and theatrical music, which he discovered during a tour in Sicily with the Mediterranean Opera Studio Festival.



### **Lucy Amos** *trumpet*

Lucy Amos is a graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where she specialised in trumpet performance with additional training in natural trumpet and Kodály methodology. She is currently continuing her studies at the Brass Academy Alicante under Rudi Korp and Martin Angerer.

As a performer, Lucy has played principal trumpet with the Amadeus Academy, Esker Festival Orchestra, and the Imperial Classical Ballet's German tour of The Nutcracker and Swan Lake. She has performed with ensembles including the RCS Symphony Orchestra, Amicus Orchestra, and worked alongside the RSNO. She has appeared in major venues including Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Usher Hall, and Leipzig's Gewandhaus, and performed in an internationally broadcast service at the Scottish Parliament for the Motion of Condolence. Lucy won the 2024 Governors Recital Prize for Chamber Music, and received high commendation in the David James Brass Prize alongside her trio Eala Brass. She is excited to join the Glyndebourne Sinfonia Pit Perfect scheme 2025.

Lucy is also an Ambassador for the Benedetti Foundation, a member of Soundcastle's Sparking Change Program. As a committed educator she has mentored for the English Schools Orchestra and lead workshops across Scotland with performances for Scottish Parliament.





**Gina Gallacher** *harp*

Originally from the North-East of Scotland, Gina Gallacher began her musical journey on the Scottish Harp, learning from the amazing network of musicians in the Clarsach Society. A particular turning point was when her secondary school music teacher introduced her to works such as Salome and the Ring Cycle - Gina was captivated and was determined to get involved in this musical world so began learning the pedal harp!

Gina completed her Bachelor of Music from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where she was taught by Sharron Griffiths and Pippa Tunnell and she recently graduated with a Masters of Arts from the Royal Academy of Music under the tutelage of Catherine White. She enjoys collaborating and performing in a mixture of solo, orchestral, chamber and community projects. A recent highlight was being a finalist in the inaugural BBC Radio Scotland Young Classical Musician of the Year Competition where she performed a concerto with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

I am extremely grateful for this wonderful opportunity and I cannot wait to work alongside the fantastic musicians of the Glyndebourne Sinfonia.



**Sehyogue Aulakh** *percussion*

Sehyogue Aulakh is a versatile percussionist currently completing her postgraduate studies at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire under the tutelage of Toby Kearney, Matt Hardy, Grahame King, Marney O'Sullivan, Andy Herbert, Owen Gunnell, Sophie Hastings, Cormac Byrne, and Malcolm Garrett.

She is currently part of the Royal Ballet Sinfonia training scheme, where she has had the opportunity to rehearse for productions such as Swan Lake, Cinderella, and The Nutcracker.

Sehyogue has performed with a range of ensembles including Third Culture Collective, The Listening Project, Chineke! Orchestra and alongside the Welsh National Opera, Orchestra of the Swan, and Birmingham Contemporary Music Group. She has also taken part in sit-in sessions with the BBC Concert Orchestra, Birmingham Royal Ballet, BBC Symphony Orchestra, and a training scheme with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

A passionate advocate for community music and education, Sehyogue regularly collaborates on projects with National Orchestra for All and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, sharing her love for music across diverse communities.

Sehyogue's studies and artistic development are generously supported by the Cherubim Music Trust, UMSKSF, and the Royal Philharmonic Society. She has also received support from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Awards for Young Musicians, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Plymouth Music Accord, and the EMI Sound Foundation.

Sehyogue is excited to be on Glyndebourne's Jerwood Pit Perfect Scheme and is really looking forward to learning and exploring operatic repertoire, performing, and collaborating with other members!

Alongside her musical life, Sehyogue enjoys swimming, hiking, and tending her allotment.



**Eva Lavery** *percussion*

Eva is a London-based percussionist and timpanist, graduating with a first-class undergraduate degree from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire in 2024. Eva is a proud alumni of Haringey Music Service and is currently enjoying a freelance career including performances with City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Ulster Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra and Orpheus Sinfonia. In January 2025, she completed a tour to China with the National Symphony Orchestra as principal timpanist.

Other performance highlights include performing in the St Magnus Festival in Orkney (2024), CBSO Centre Stage Percussion Showcase (2023) and 'Amaechi' at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

During her studies, she was awarded the annual Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Percussion Prize. She has also been awarded training on career development programmes with Royal Ballet and Opera House, London Musical Theatre Orchestra, Orpheus Sinfonia, Ulster Orchestra and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

Eva is looking forward to joining the Glyndebourne Pit Perfect Scheme later this year and is grateful to have the opportunity to work with this esteemed organisation.