

# HAMPTON S C H O O L MUSIC S O C I E T Y

SUMMER  
TERM  
REVIEW  
2024

## Dear Greatly Appreciated HSMS Members,

The most inspiring way to introduce this summer term review 2024 is to pull out what some of the boys themselves have shared in the write-ups that follow. Milo Band (upper sixth composition recording and concert) beautifully summarises the mixture of 'overwhelming nerves' that co-exist alongside an 'electric sense of excitement' as a new composition receives its debut. Devam Kumarswami (choral concert), on the other hand, cites the tremendous 'sensation of

fulfilment' in those (wonderful!) moments immediately after having delivered a successful performance.

Finally, and further to having enjoyed so many Hampton School concerts over the years, I very much relate to Felix Droy's summary of the leavers' concert performances as being on 'another level'. Congratulations to all the Hampton musicians who feature in this newsletter and best wishes to the 2024 upper sixth leavers in their new endeavours.

*Mark Morrison, HSMS Chair*

## Juniors' Workshop Day Makes Music

The Hampton Junior workshop day welcomed a variety of pupils from the local prep and junior schools to the music department on 21 April 2024.

Everyone was split into groups: choir, strings, woodwind and brass. Some members of ROAR! (a small choir for pupils in years 7-9) and the Hampton concert orchestra and Sinfonia both helped out, and we sang and played alongside our guests.

In the afternoon, everyone joined together to present a concert to parents, showcasing the best from our day's efforts.

The strings played an arrangement of the 'Hungarian Dances' by Brahms; the woodwind and brass played 'The Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines' by Ron Goodwin; and the choir sang two pieces: 'You Will be Found', from the hit musical 'Dear Evan Hansen' by Steven Levenson, and 'Beyond the Sea' by Bobby Darin.

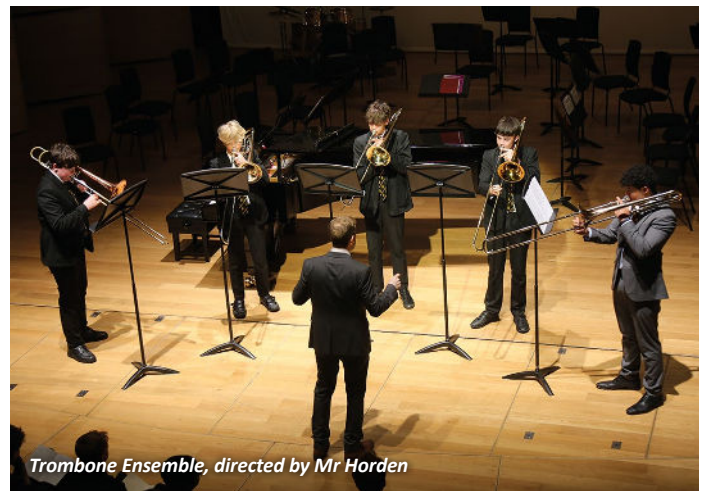
Following on, the strings and woodwind joined together to play the James Bond theme, by Monty Norman, and finally, everyone performed 'Do, Re, Mi' from 'The Sound of Music' by Rodgers and Hammerstein.

It was amazing to meet and perform with so many other young musicians and show them what music at Hampton is all about; I am looking forward to taking part next year.

*James Nunn, Second year*



*Miss Estall immersed in our wonderful junior workshop orchestra*



*Trombone Ensemble, directed by Mr Horden*

## Brass concert

Mr Horden's trombone ensemble opened the brass concert, held on 25 April 2024, with two fabulous performances of 'Bandstand' and 'Route 66', followed by 'Canzona 5' from Daniel Tresidder, one of several beautiful solos performed by musicians from all school years.

As always, Mr Ward's brass quintet astounded the audience with a colourful rendition of a number from 'Brass Quintet No 1', by Victor Ewald, which closed the first half on a very high note.

Opening the second half, was Ralf Sauer, one of the best regarded trumpeters in our school, with 'Trumpet Concerto, Mvt 2: Andante', that was followed by a number of additional solo performances concluding with Aaron Corpaul's performance of 'The Journey, Mvt 3: Allegro' by F. Gulino on the trombone.

Closing the night was the brass band, led by Mr Ward and Mr Holden, which played 'A Fantasy of British Sea Songs', arranged by G. Langford and a long-time crowd favourite, and 'Mancini Magic', arranged by A. Fernie.

The annual brass concert is always a great event with musicians demonstrating their remarkable musical talent in a variety of genres ranging from ragtime to classical.

*Filip Lorence, Third year*



*Trumpeter Benjamin*



## Second year Steel Pan Workshop

At the end of April, every second year class participated in a steel pan workshop led by a visiting tutor.

We started off learning about the history of steel pans and the cajún, which is a traditional box-like drum. Steel Pans originated from Trinidad and Tobago and are made from empty oil barrels; the bottoms are hammered in different ways to create lots of pitches.

Throughout the workshop, we rotated around the steel pans, some going on the cajún drum, some on the higher pitched tenor steel pans, and some on the bass pans, which were much bigger than the others.

The workshop leader played along with us with a small drumkit, teaching us a classic Caribbean carnival band song. We especially liked doing this and even got to sing along! Overall, this was an enjoyable experience and we all found a new way to play music.

**Konrad Granberg**



*A group of second year pupils enjoying the uplifting tone of Calypso!*

## Fables and Fairy Tales concert

On 23 May, Mr Oyarzabal put together an amazing piano concert that consisted of his pupils playing pieces related to fairy tales and fables such as Cinderella.

A few weeks before the concert, he asked me to read narrations for each piece to contextualise it for the audience and I am very grateful for this opportunity. Reading out narrations for all the pieces was a truly fantastic experience and one that I will remember throughout my Hampton life. My favourite piece was 'In the hall of the mountain king' as the narration to accompany the exciting music, played by Fred Owen (second year), was great.

The concert was a brilliant experience and a unique one that I will look upon as a great moment in my Hampton life.

**Charlie Donald, Third year**

I was very pleased to take part in Mr Oyarzabal's 'Fables and Fairy Tales' concert in the Hammond Theatre. A cosy, homely atmosphere was created with candlelight and an armchair for the narrator, who introduced each piece with a related poem or reading.

Tales such as Cinderella, Hansel and Gretel, and Little Red Riding Hood were referenced, amongst many others. Mr Oyarzabal had also selected inspiring artwork to accompany the pieces as they were played.

I was absolutely delighted with my performance, but it is always nerve-racking to play the piano on the theatre stage in front of a large crowd even though I had put months of preparation in getting my piece ready.

Some stand-out performers included: Tomás Escobar (U6) who performed a wonderful duet of 'Mother Goose Suite: Laideronette', 'Empress of the Pagodas' & 'The Fairy Garden' by Maurice Ravel with Mr Oyarzabal; Albert Khadzhiev (first year) with his enchanting performance of 'Prelude Op.12, No.7' by Sergey Prokofiev; and finally Louis Chun (second year) with his performance of 'La Belle aux Cheveux d'Or' by Jean-Michael Damase.



*Albert performs beautifully*



*Arya delights with the song of the matador*

*A class of enthusiastic third year musicians tackling the challenging rhythms of Japanese Taiko*



## Third year Taiko drumming workshop

This was a lesson not to forget: one combining history, languages, and music.

We started off learning the basic counting skills in Japanese as we learnt 1 to 4 is Ichi Ni San Shi, which we would later use for rhythmic purposes. Gradually building up step-by-step, in groups we managed to successfully run a piece devised by our Japanese Taiko drumming teacher. There were a lot of laughs too and it was a very memorable and thoroughly enjoyable!

**Xavier Knowles**



*A performance depicting the story of little red riding hood*

Thank you to Mr Oyarzabal for this opportunity. Also, a big thank you to Miss Mattinson of the music department, Mr Eliot and the theatre and events team, and finally Charlie Donald in the third year for his narration of the concert.

**Fred Owen, Second year**

## Summer Rock Concert

The Hampton school summer rock concert 2024 was an electrifying event that showcased what talent and dedication can produce. Held on a balmy Friday evening in the Hammond theatre, the concert brought together students from the first year to the upper sixth for a celebration of some of our favourite songs from across a whole range of styles.

From Dire Straits to Nirvana and even Queen, the night was jam-packed with something for everyone. Having worked through rigorous auditions each band brought their own flavour to the night, including iconic indie tunes and intricate Polyphia guitar parts.

However, it wasn't just bands that took centre stage: whether it was a solo act from Bailey Hornsby Clifton performing 'Time after Time', or Harry Skeffington debuting his own composition, the stage was set alight by individual acts as much as by the bands.

Special thanks to Mr Ferrier, Mr Thompson, Mr Walden, the Hammond theatre staff and to all those involved for such a memorable evening.

**Ben Williams, Lower Sixth**





*Tomas introduces his programmatic work for wind instruments*



*Milo and his peers perform his spiritual*



*Milo introduces his piece for string ensemble*

## UPPER SIXTH COMPOSITION RECORDING AND CONCERT

In 2022 I set about writing two compositions for my A level music course – one for voices, and one for a string quintet.

Two years later, I am on stage performing my very own piece with some of my dearest friends in front of an audience of proud teachers and parents. After countless re-drafts, intense and gruelling workshops and a copious amount of feedback, the feeling of watching or performing your own compositions on stage is like no other. During the concert, I was filled with a mixture of overwhelming nerves, but also an electric sense of excitement, as I saw the finished product of all our hard work.

I was privileged enough to be able to work with 10 of my immensely talented fellow pupils across the two pieces, as well as the invaluable help of Mr Roland, Mr Ferrier, and Mr Thomson, who I justifiably placed all my trust in a very important concert and recording. My faith was well warranted, as they pulled off two incredible performances that I will never forget. The dedication and passion for music involved across both the choir and the string quintet was there for all to see, and I will be forever grateful for their help - they truly did my compositions justice and a fantastic way to mark the end of my A level music course.

**Milo Band**

I was looking forward to being able to hear everybody's composition live - Sibelius definitely doesn't do a great impression of musical instruments – and it was a pleasure to hear them played by the performers. I was especially pleased to be able to have such great performers play my pieces; Ms Hurton, who played the piano, and the members of the string quartet, were amazing. Being able to watch and hear how they added expression to the notes on the page was fantastic. I also got to perform with the ensemble that played Sam's piece - it was a great experience to be exposed to his compositional style, and it was fun to play such a catchy piece.

**Tom Whitehill**

Our A level music class was fortunate enough to have the opportunity for our compositions to be performed, with the music department arranging an informal composition concert to showcase our pieces.

It was a unique experience hearing the wind quartet that I had been working on for so long played by my peers and teachers, and I discovered some improvements that I could have made in writing for some of the instruments, which will help me with compositions going forward.

It was also very special being able to perform my own piano piece to an audience, something which I had never done before, and it created an added layer of emotion by performing a piece that I had created and that represented my artistic visions.

I also enjoyed being able to hear my peers' compositions, and admire their work, as well as appreciate the collective effort which we had put in.

**Tomás Escobar**



*Our wonderful VMTs form a string quartet to perform the A Level compositions*

The composition concert was perhaps the perfect conclusion to our final few weeks of academic music. On top of having the privilege of hearing the compositions played by an incredible group of professionals, it was also wonderful to see and hear our peers' compositions and all their intricacies come alive. Paired with a small audience of our parents and teachers, the atmosphere proved to be a particularly special one.

**Zac Dowlatshahi**

After spending the last two years working on three compositions, as part of A level music, I was incredibly lucky to hear two of them performed live, alongside my classmates' creations. It was a wonderful experience to hear these pieces transformed from hearing little snippets coming out of each other's headphones into full-bodied performances on stage reminiscent of composers from Rachmaninoff to Haydn, yet still reflecting the distinct voices of my peers. This is, of course, in addition to hearing what I've been working on in Sibelius, listing to midi sounds for the last year and a half, suddenly realised in front of me - an experience altogether different from anything I could have imagined.

**Sam Moshi**



*The trebles and altos delight an appreciative audience at All Saints, Hampton*

### Choral concert

After having prepared every week for almost a term the main choir performed in a service at All Saints church in late April 2024.

We sang two songs by John Rutter; the first being our rendition of 'The Beauty of the Earth', followed by four songs by Jonathon Dove, with each one being about a season and the climate of the Earth.

The first song was 'Fire' which is my personal favourite among the songs, which was followed by 'Music on the Waters,' which at one point had four separate parts between the trebles and altos, and after rounds of applause, we sang 'Snow,' which changed the mood to a calmer atmosphere, and ended with 'Summer.'

Finally, towards the end of the service we sang our second Rutter song, 'The Lord Bless You and Keep You,' which had lyrics originating from the Book of Numbers in the Bible.

As we walked back to Hampton, we felt a sensation of fulfilment, after another successful performance.

**Devam Kumarswami**





Monti singing his heart out



The renowned Jazz Band entertain a full house

## Leavers' Concert

On 8 May, the upper sixth musicians entered the Hammond Theatre for what, for many of them, would be their last performance at Hampton. It was both an immensely enjoyable and poignant evening that I'm sure will be remembered by all for years to come.

The audience were treated to a range of genres in the concert, from classical and jazz to funk and rock, including several own compositions from the performers. Rohan and Zac both masterfully performed their own pieces on piano, and the funk band's original creation was stunning.

Some highlights for me were the performances by the jazz band. Each member played so passionately and really added their own flair to the pieces, and their extraordinary musical talent was clear to see. I also really enjoyed Milo's rendition of Finzi's 'Fear No More the Heat of the Sun'; he sang with great emotion and sensitivity. Another spectacular (and loud!) performance was that of Monty, Freddie, Zac and James with their version of 'Claudeland' by Highly Suspect; they really knew how to put on a show!

All in all, it was an amazing concert and all performers and staff involved deserve a massive thank you for all they do and have done for music at Hampton. Thank you.

**Ivo Meldrum**

The evening started with a bang as the jazz band performed 'Caravan' by Art Blakey – arranged by Tomas Escobar – featuring numerous drum solos; the night continued as Ivo Meldrum, Henry Hughes and Ben Hawkins treated us to some exceptional performances on voice, tuba and oboe respectively.

I think many of us were surprised as Ishaan Das began to play violin, which is yet another instrument to add to his mountainous collection. Zac Dowlat certainly did surprise us on the piano with his piece labelled simply in the programme as 'Surprise'.

Theo Webb and Tomas played an exceptionally challenging Brahms clarinet sonata. James Abrahart played, what I think to be Chopin's best Nocturne, Op 27 no. 2 in D flat major, incredibly. So much so that my parents begged me to learn it after hearing it.



Logan on Sax, Milo singing, Henry on the Tuba



After this, it was my turn. It was my first time performing piano in concert and I decided to do Scriabin's 'Valse Op. 38'. This is a middle period Scriabin piece where he is beginning to delve into his more sophisticated harmonic language. While it is called 'Waltz', it is almost unidentifiable due to the peculiar polyrhythms. Right, I'll move on now (I could talk about Scriabin all day).

The wind quartet then performed 'Blue Moon' and were then followed by the funk band playing an original piece which featured some iconic melodies. After this, Monty Fletcher and Sam Moshi would perform 'Red House' by Jimi Hendrix and this piece acted as a prelude to the intensity to come.

After the interval, Tom Whitehill and Mr Willmott faced off in an epic drum duet. Aitor McConnell played a serene interpretation of 'I Remember Clifford'. Sam Ho played Gliere's horn concerto and would be followed by Milo Band's performance of 'Fear No More the Heat of the Sun' by Finzi, an incredibly powerful song.

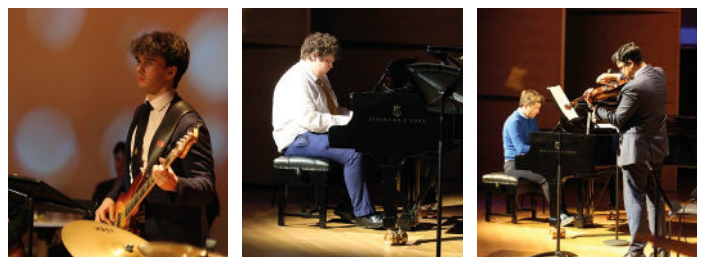
There were two more jazz renditions; the first by Sam Moshi performing the classic 'Blue in Green', followed by Logan Herries performing 'Tenderly' by Webster.

Rohan Crowe then impressed us all with his own composition, 'Intermezzo in F minor' in an incredibly lush, late romantic style. Then, there was Monty Fletcher's main event, 'Claudeland' by Highly Suspect. This was a barrage of sound and left the audience with grins across their face – it was a very nice contrast to the more classical and jazz focus of the concert.

Tomas performed Ravel's 'Jeux d'Eau', a personal favourite of mine (a piece I'd be lucky to even try and attempt in my lifetime!). The evening concluded with another jazz band performance of Herbie Hancock's 'Hang Up Your Hang-Ups'.

Overall, the night was incredibly memorable. The quality of performance was on another level. It will go down as one of my favourite concerts during my time at Hampton. I will be sad to leave as it is unlikely I will be in a room with as many talented people as there were that night.

**Felix Droy**



Felix on the bass, Sam on the piano, Ishaan on the violin, accompanied by Mr Oyarzabal

# LEAVERS' MEMORIES:

## *Talented, Passionate, Encouraging*

The music department has been integral to my time here at Hampton ever since I joined the choir in my first week, and that resulted in an unforgettable tour to Barcelona the following summer, with the chance to sing at La Sagrada Familia.

Aside from the incredible choir tours, which also included Italy, and Edinburgh with the Voices of Lions, a real highlight for me has to be the incredible concerts arranged by Mr Roland and the music department, including the opportunity to play Schumann's piano concerto.

I have also particularly enjoyed the themed concerts put on by Mr Oyarzabal, and the experience of playing in the pit for 'Guys and Dolls' and 'Little Shop of Horrors' has been invaluable, as have the jazz cafes. There have been almost too many musical opportunities to count, even despite the lockdown hiatus, and I am extremely thankful for the continued friendliness and support of the department throughout my time at Hampton.

**Tomás Escobar**

A key memory from my musical time at Hampton was in the fifth year whilst making our compositions for our GCSEs. After asking Miss Mattinson for some advice on my main melody, she said I might want to adapt it to something more exciting. This was good advice but as I put my headphones back on, I could hear her walking out the room, humming the melody!

On a serious note, I've loved my time with music at Hampton, I've had the privilege of playing in one of the best school orchestras and been a part of so many amazing concerts. Thank you so much to the whole department.

**Ben Hawkins**

Music has been one of the most important and thoroughly enjoyable parts of my experience at Hampton over the past five years, from singing with the boys' choir (who have now rebranded to ROAR!) to performing internationally, I have loved every moment I've spent with the music department. I have made excellent friends, had amazing experiences performing in an array of different concerts and developed my musicianship far beyond what I hoped.

It would be impossible to pick a favourite musical moment, but there are a few particularly memorable ones: singing Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral with the chamber choir was superb; going on the choir tour to Italy was great fun (and hot!); and I'll never forget how good it felt performing at the Fringe with Voices of Lions.

It goes without saying that every Hampton concert has been hugely enjoyable – with special mention going to the St Cecilia's dinner and the Leavers' Concert – and being able to perform so regularly has been such a privilege.

The space I have here is not nearly enough to give the music department the praise it deserves, but I would like to express my immense gratitude to all members of the department, both past and present; and especially a massive thank you to Mr Dennis for all his guidance and support in my singing lessons!

**Ivo Meldrum**

Talented, Passionate, Encouraging: three words which encompass my music experience at Hampton. From the extraordinary talent of my fellow peers to the passion, hard work and encouragement shown by not only the pupils, but from every teacher within the music department.

I joined Hampton in the third year, and one might say that I had a

### **Summer Concert**

We participated in the fantastic annual summer concert this week, playing saxophone for the swing band and singing in Voices of Lions ahead of the Edinburgh fringe festival this summer.

Swing band played 'El Gato Gordo', a fast-paced song with solos from Devan Banerjee (saxophone) and Daniel Tresidder (trumpet), followed by 'Bridge over Troubled Water'.

It was incredibly satisfying to play on a stage and hear the audience's applause after months of rehearsing. Amongst the wealth and breadth of performances, one of our highlights was the Voices of Lions set, starting with the well-known and emotive song, 'Can't Help Falling in Love' and



somewhat toxic and complicated relationship with the French horn - my principal instrument. I would struggle to do the practice required to really thrive and fulfil my potential. Having said that, I joined the symphony orchestra and was able to work alongside some of the best musicians that Hampton has ever produced.

After, what I may describe as a two-year sabbatical, I re-joined the symphony orchestra at the start of lower sixth and from then on, I have been able to thrive much more than I ever have due to the opportunities presented at Hampton.

Falling truly in love with the French horn for the first time in my life was when we played 'Danzón No.2' by Arturo Marquez: it gave me an exhilarating feeling of being part of a wonderful music group and established a sense of community and drive to achieve a common goal.

Furthermore, in the L6, I also had the privilege to be part of the brass quintet and brass band and in the U6 I felt I truly embraced all aspects of Hampton music life. I joined a wind quintet and a piano quintet and they both provided me with the opportunity to perform in regional music competitions, school concerts and to the elderly in care homes. Here, I must give a moment of gratitude to Miss Estall who has endeavoured to push me to the best of my ability on the French horn, and works incredibly hard to improve and support every one of her pupils she teaches.

From dread to love: the Hampton music department has transformed my perspective when it comes to playing music and participating with others in collaborative work; whether that's a simple duet or more complex chamber music. Every teacher, bar none, in the department has strived to make me the best musician I can be through positivity and encouragement. As a result, I have been given the incredible privilege to be able to play a concerto with the symphony orchestra in my final days at Hampton, as well as now working towards my first diploma.

Referring to my original three words - talented, passionate, encouragement - it has been an honour and a privilege to be under the tutelage of so many amazing, supportive and encouraging teachers. I will carry with me some extraordinary memories for the rest of my life and I will endeavour to draw from the inspiration and passion for music that has never been amiss from any aspect of music life at Hampton school.

**Sam Ho**

Over the years, I've had so many great experiences of music at Hampton, starting at the end of the first year with the choir tour to Barcelona, singing in incredible settings such as the La Sagrada Familia are certainly memories I'll never forget, and also the choir tour to Italy and more venues such as cathedrals in Florence.

Above all, the tours to the Edinburgh fringe stand out as my personal highlight of music at Hampton, performing every day in a church, to audiences we attracted ourselves through handing out flyers is certainly a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I am very thankful to have been able to have.

**Dylan Rutter**

then 'Drunken Sailor' which was in complete contrast with its fast-pace, high energy and choreography.

The concert – which also showcased a couple of ensembles in the cloisters in intervals - was a celebration of the department's full co-curricular programme. It also served as a celebration of the upper sixth leavers, with mention to Sam Ho who played a movement of Strauss' 'Horn concerto No.1 in Eb major'; and Milo Band, who sang 'Der Doppelgänger' accompanied by the symphony orchestra, conducted by Mr Roland.

We hugely enjoyed the concert and it was an apt conclusion to a successful year in Hampton music.

**Aarav Desai and Ryan Wigneshweraraj, Third year**



# STAFF INTERVIEW

## with Peter Thomson



### **Please tell us a little bit about yourself.**

Before I start, I want to say that I've had a wonderful first week here at Hampton. I have felt warmly welcomed by friendly colleagues and pupils alike and very much look forward to getting to know the wider Hampton community in time: please don't hesitate to introduce yourselves when the opportunity arises.

Although I have been teaching music for some time, this is only the second school I have worked in, and I was delighted to find that the lovely people at my previous school in Truro weren't an exception! I've thoroughly enjoyed my music and teaching journey so far and can't wait to find new opportunities here. As well as my musical interests (more below) I also love running and football.

### **What were your musical experiences growing up, and how did you become a teacher?**

I was very fortunate to have access to lots of music through a really vibrant musical community in Yorkshire, where I grew up. As well as taking part in many school choirs and bands, I also sang in the choir at Leeds cathedral and took part in weekly Saturday rehearsals within a vibrant county music programme. I quickly learnt that music is not only a lot of fun, but also one of the best ways to meet some of the nicest people. Meeting and engaging with existing music teachers, combined with a keen interest in music direction, led me to explore teacher training, and I haven't looked back.

### **Please tell us about your music degree / education.**

I had a wonderful time studying music at Durham university, where I was fortunate to supplement my degree with a choral scholarship at Durham cathedral, as well as through the wide range of co-curricular opportunities afforded to students who study there. As well as the many performing and conducting opportunities I had, I really valued the time my degree allowed me to read and explore my academic musical interests.

Following a few years teaching at Truro school, I was fortunate to be granted an opportunity to complete a masters degree in music education at Boston university. I would strongly recommend taking an opportunity to live and study abroad - I was fortunate to meet a whole range of wonderful people, and thoroughly enjoyed a return to academic study alongside observations and work in a very different school and university music culture.

### **What led you to join the music department at Hampton?**

I was immediately taken with the warmth of welcome I received from all the staff on an interview day, and the clear commitment and ambition found within this department, epitomised by Mr Roland. I was also lucky to conduct the consort of voices as part of the interview, which only confirmed the calibre

of musicians found at Hampton and persuaded me to accept when I was offered a role within the department.

### **What are your responsibilities?**

My main role at the school is as a teacher of music, helping to deliver and shape a curriculum to inspire the boys who take music, whether it's those who come to lessons with a wealth of musical experiences, or those just starting out on their musical journeys. At this early stage, the excitement at the moment is not knowing exactly what my role will look like beyond that, as I work alongside Mr Roland and Miss Mattinson to discover where I can be most effective within and in addition to the curricular and co-curricular offerings.

### **Do you take any whole-class music lessons?**

I am lucky to be teaching across every year group, which is really valuable as I build a picture of the whole musical journey a boy takes through the school.

### **How are you involved in music outside school?**

Having only just moved to London, I am excited about searching for the many opportunities London has to offer (I've already been to an excellent funk gig in the Hampton hub!). In Cornwall, I was lucky to be involved in a wide range of music making, including regular singing with the Truro cathedral choir, working as an accompanist with the Truro choral society, and playing trumpet with the Penzance orchestral society, to name a few.

### **Tell us about your musical journey growing up.**

I have always done my best to satisfy a wide range of musical interests, from jazz to choral music to rock to Mahler. Although various stages of my life have perhaps favoured different styles at different times, I have found that teaching music is one of the best ways for me to share and continue exploring the fullest range of my own musical and life interests.

### **Is there a musician you particularly admire?**

There are far too many to mention, but various musical heroes and idols of mine (in no particular order) include Charlie Parker, Mahler, Stevie Wonder, Shostakovich, Mozart, Berg, Byrd and Messiaen.

### **If someone wants to learn a musical instrument, what advice would you give?**

Get started – learning a new instrument is one of the most exciting things you can do. Then find someone great, a friend or mentor, to guide you with it further.

### **Are there any top tips for those wanting to pursue a professional music career?**

My biggest tip is to be guided by what you love, not by what you feel people expect you to do. My next tip is to keep broadening your musical experiences, the more things you find you love, the more opportunity to find where you fit.

### **Do you still get an opportunity to perform?**

I am lucky to have continued to regularly sing and play to a high level alongside my job. I continue to be inspired by music and musicians I encounter, and that only inspires me further to find paths for new generations of musicians. I look forward to finding new musical opportunities here in London.

### **What advice would you give to a boy who wants to study music?**

Take time to listen to the music you love, both at home and where you can find it live. Meet and share your love with fellow musicians. Talk to those who have taken musical journeys you might be interested in, and see what their experiences were like, and how that might help to guide your own journey and choices.

### **What artists have inspired you?**

I have mentioned a few above, but I might add Billie Holiday as a special extra, for being a truly inspirational human being.

### **Which one piece of music would you choose for your Desert Island?**

If I can choose an album, it'd probably be Giant Steps.

### **And your Desert Island luxury?**

A piano.

## News and Information...

To keep updated with the wealth of musical performances and achievements from Hampton boys please look to the following for up to date information and images between now and the next edition of the newsletter: [www.hamptonschool.org.uk/music](http://www.hamptonschool.org.uk/music)

Music Department can be found on twitter [@Hampton\\_Music](https://twitter.com/Hampton_Music) and as a webpage <http://twitter.com/HamptonSchool>

## Accessing online...

This edition and past copies of the Music Society's newsletters are now available as downloadable pdfs on the school's website.

Scan the QR code from your phone or tablet to go straight there.



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