



# St Martin-in-the-Fields

## Emerging Artists Programme

### September 2025 to June 2026

St Martin-in-the-Fields is passionate about offering development opportunities for young artists across the UK, aiming to nurture the next generation of talented ensemble singers and choral conductors.

The **St Martin-in-the-Fields Emerging Artists Programme 2025–26** offers six talented singers an intensive and focused year of training alongside peers of similar experience and interests. This scheme is a key part of the vibrant choral music programme at St Martin's and is designed for early-career professionals looking to develop their skills as choral and consort singers to a high level.

Participants will work closely with **Andrew Earis**, Director of Music, and **Olivia Tait**, Assistant Director of Music, and will also benefit from workshops with other leading choral musicians. Over the course of the year, the Emerging Artists will engage in a wide range of projects, developing skills in areas such as consort singing, close harmony, orchestral collaboration, and solo performance.

In a new innovation this year, rehearsals will be based at **St George the Martyr** on Borough High Street in Southwark, and each rehearsal will conclude with a short service of Compline, enabling the Emerging Artists to develop their consort singing skills.

In addition to performance experience, the programme supports the development of key professional skills, including audition and recording preparation. There are approximately three workshops each term with visiting artists and practitioners. While the group will often perform as an independent ensemble, they will occasionally join members of the professional vocal group **St Martin's Voices** for larger-scale repertoire.

*"It's been an amazing experience being on the Emerging Artists programme this year. At its core you get to be a part of a small consort of talented ensemble singers, rehearsing week by week for various projects - which is already a welcome contrast from the usual short rehearsal schedules so common in the choral singing world - but there are so many other incredible opportunities as well. Whether it's performing in one of London's busiest music venues, getting step out solo experience, or going on overseas tours, the Emerging Artists programme really has so much to offer."* (Mark Zang, tenor)



### **Past projects have included:**

- Collaborations with the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields and Southbank Sinfonia
- Tours to the USA, Scotland, Belgium, and the Netherlands
- Live broadcasts on BBC Radio 4
- Performances in venues across London including the Houses of Parliament, Lambeth Palace and the Brunel Museum

### **Recent workshops have included:**

- Patrick Russell – polyphony and 16th century repertoire
- Neil Ferris – consort singing and communication
- Laurel Neighbour – working with children's choirs
- Jamie Wright – a cappella and close harmony singing



## **Schedule**

The St Martin-in-the-Fields Emerging Artists Programme 2025–26 is a 32-week initiative running from September 2025 to June 2026. Throughout the programme, participants will engage in a diverse range of performance opportunities, including recordings, concert appearances, and a tour.

Regular rehearsals and workshops will take place on a Thursday afternoon at [St George the Martyr SE1 1JA](#) during term time. This will be followed by Compline at 5.45pm which is a contemplative evening service incorporating plainsong and a range of one-per-part self-directed choral music.

### **A typical Thursday schedule will be:**

2.30 – 4.30pm: General rehearsal for upcoming projects, or choral workshop  
4.30pm: *Break*  
5.00 – 5.30pm: Compline rehearsal  
5.45 – 6.30pm: Compline

## **Key Dates 2025-26**

We will notify you of performance dates as early as possible, and the current list of performances and projects planned for 2025-26 are below. Whilst this list is not exhaustive, by applying to this programme you are agreeing that you are available for all performance dates listed below.

### **Term dates:**

Autumn	w/c 15 <sup>th</sup> September – w/c 1 <sup>st</sup> December ( <i>12 weeks</i> )
Spring	w/c 19 <sup>th</sup> January – w/c 23 <sup>rd</sup> March ( <i>10 weeks</i> )
Summer	w/c 20 <sup>th</sup> April – w/c 22 <sup>nd</sup> June ( <i>10 weeks</i> )

## Key performance/project dates:

- **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2025** (Gloucestershire)
  - Tour: Compline, concert and choral workshop
- **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025** (Leicester)
  - Concert: Music and contemporary poetry with Jay Hulme
- **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025** (St Martin-in-the-Fields)
  - Online recording: A Concert for St Cecilia
- **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025** (St Martin-in-the-Fields)
  - Concert: Christmas Lunchtime Concert
- **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2026** (St Martin-in-the-Fields)
  - Concert: Close harmony music for Valentine's Day
- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026** (St Martin-in-the-Fields)
  - Concert: Renaissance music for Lent
- **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2026** (St Martin-in-the-Fields)
  - Concert: Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* with St Martin's Chamber Choir
- **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026** (Utrecht)
  - Pre-tour concert at St Martin's (**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May**)
  - Tour: Utrecht, Netherlands
- **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026** (St Martin-in-the-Fields)
  - Online performance: Contemporary composers project
- **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2026** (St Martin-in-the-Fields)
  - End-of-year concert: Combined choral groups

## Availability

It is expected that Emerging Artists will attend all scheduled rehearsals and performances for the duration of the programme. However, absences may be granted in exceptional circumstances if the Emerging Artist is offered an opportunity of significant benefit to their future career. This will be subject to a written absence request being approved by the Music Programme Manager. If approved, a suitable deputy will be organised by the Music Department and an agreed amount will be deducted from the termly remuneration.

## Honorarium

Emerging Artists receive a remuneration of £3,500 for the year, paid in six equal instalments at the end of each half term. Throughout the programme, you will be a St Martin-in-the-Fields Emerging Artist at St Martin's and not an employee. Nothing in this document is intended to create a relationship of employer and employee between you and St Martin-in-the-Fields.





## Eligibility and requirements

The scheme is aimed at choral singers who are in the first stage of a professional career in singing and wish to develop their skills as choral and consort singers to a high level. Candidates for the Emerging Artist Programme should have a confident and well-developed singing voice and an excellent standard of sight-singing ability. Enthusiasm for singing as a member of a team, together with a willingness to develop their musical talent, will be determining factors. Candidates should be able to demonstrate relevant choral training and professional experience.

## To apply

Please complete the application form and send, along with a current CV, by email to Alicia Hinchliffe at [alicia.hinchliffe@smitf.org](mailto:alicia.hinchliffe@smitf.org) or by post to: **Alicia Hinchliffe, Music Programme Manager, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ.**

The closing date for applications is **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.**

## Auditions

Auditions will take place during the following times:

- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2.00pm – 4.30pm
- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 6.30pm – 9.00pm
- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 11.30am – 3.00pm

Please indicate your availability on the application form. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to perform a solo piece of up to 4 minutes in length, undertake sight-reading, vocal and aural exercises and will be given a short interview.

