



## Our Visiting Instrumental Teaching Staff

Vocal: Tracey Hansford and Peter Rice

Piano and Keyboard: Jenny Brookfield, Ray Willis and Teresa Barlow

Strings: Kate Spiller (violin), Liz Holbrook (violin/viola) and Arturo Serna (cello)

Woodwind: Adelaide Brown (flute), Nicole Willis (flute and saxophone),

Anne Perrett (clarinet), James Watts (oboe)

Brass: Richard Colquhoun

Percussion: Steve Jobbins

Guitar: Martin Armand

### Tracey Hansford

Cheltenham-born soprano Tracey Hansford completed a music degree in Bath specialising in performance. She enjoys a varied repertoire of recital, oratorio and opera and performs regularly as a soprano soloist with several local choral societies. She also performs regularly with Operaletta, a Bath-based operatic group and Ad Lib, an 8-piece Barbershop group also based in Bath.

Alongside her commitments as a professional vocalist Tracey is currently running a successful teaching practice in Wells and is the Musical Director both of Cantabile, a ladies choir based in Wells as well as the Glastonbury Male Voice Choir.

Tracey joined BSG in the autumn of 2014 in order to teach singing and to direct the schools' vocal ensembles. She has over 20 years of experience teaching students to ABRSM/ LCM Diploma level and currently conducts a range of secondary-level vocal groups.

### Kate Spiller

Kate started playing the violin at the age of four and was highly influenced by her grandfather the late Max Jaffa. She studied with various teachers including Emanuel Hurwitz whom she partnered in a performance of Bach Double Violin Concerto in D Minor.

She continued her studies at Trinity College of Music and gained a LTCL and a FTCL.

Kate has had a great deal of experience playing professionally, and led the Orchestra do Norte in Portugal for a year as well as freelancing with various Orchestras. She has a String Quartet, and they regularly play at private functions and give concerts

As well as performing, Kate has taught the violin for many years, and whilst living in London taught at Hill House School in Knightsbridge. Since moving to Somerset she has taught at Sandroyd, Clayesmore, and currently teaches at Port Regis.

## Teresa Barlow

Teresa started playing the piano at the age of three and went on to study with Professor John Byrne. At the age of eighteen she discovered the world of jazz and went on to play some high profile gigs around the country.

Teresa then began a career in Theatre, playing and touring on many shows. Her credits include:

Musical Director: Canterbury Tales, HMS Pinafore, Midsummer Night's Dream, The Tempest, The Show Must Go On, Christmas Crooners and Strictly Swing, Aladdin, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves, Jack and the Beanstalk and Cinderella.

Musical Supervision: Over the Rainbow, Popstar the Musical, X Factor the Musical and The Jungle Book.

Youth Theatre projects: Summer Holiday, Oliver, and Little Shop of Horrors. YMT UK (Assistant MD). She was involved as an arranger for the Coronation Street of Dreams project.

Teresa most recently worked as piano consultant and musical arranger for a remake of Mapp & Lucia for the BBC. She also played the part of Anna Chancellor's hands! The show will be screened during the 2014 festive period.

Teresa released her first single at the beginning of the year, entitled It Must Be Love and is due to release a follow-up single at the beginning of 2015.

During her time working in Theatre, Teresa also took the post of Vocal Coach at the Carol Godby Theatre School in Manchester, Jennifer Ellison fame academy in Liverpool and Centre Pointe School of Dance in Denton.

She joined the team at BSG in September 2014 and, outside of her piano teaching, accompanies the choral groups and develops the pop group.

## Arturo Serna

Arturo Serna studied at El Sistema in Venezuela. He studied cello in France, Switzerland and the UK and started his conducting career at the Trinity College of Music in London, where he studied with David Vinden, Gregory Rose and Jonathan Tilbrook. He has attended masterclasses with Rodolfo Saglimbeni, Denise Ham and Toby Purser at the Sherborne Summer Festival. Arturo Serna was appointed Musical Conductor of the Wessex Strings Orchestra last year. This September he took on the conductorship of the Bridport Chamber Orchestra and has been recently offered the same post by Allington Strings, which he will start conducting from January. Arturo is currently studying conducting at Blackheath Conservatoire and has been accepted for a cycle of Masterclasses at RNCM under the guidance of Mark Heron.

A busy and passionate pedagogue, Arturo taught for six years at the Dacapo Foundation in London, where he conducted its senior ensembles. Currently, he teaches in several schools of the area of Dorset and Somerset.

Recent highlights as a cellist include performing the Dvorak Cello Concerto with Gustavo Dudamel's assistant, Joshua Dos Santos, as well as concerts at the Fort Macleod International Festival in Canada, Royal Festival Hall, St Martin in the Fields, St James's Piccadilly, St John's Smith Square, Cadogan Hall and 100Club. Arturo was also part of the Foyle Future Firsts Apprenticeship Scheme of the London Philharmonic Orchestra 2010-2011.

As an avid chamber musician, Arturo enjoys an active performance schedule with pianist Ana Laura Manero. Their ensemble, Duo Teresa Carreño, also champions music from the American continent, as well as masterpieces from the standard repertoire. Together, they have performed extensively in England and Venezuela.

## Jenny Brookfield

After graduating with a BA in Performance Art (Mus) in 1980, Jenny went on to take part in musical theatre groups, performing and teaching with The Ever Expanding Theatre amongst others, while continuing to teach piano, flute and music theory both in schools and privately. Jenny then spent six years as a class teacher in London, before relocating to Somerset in 1993 in order to bring up her twin daughters. She continued to tutor in schools in Somerset and Dorset, teaching piano and arranging and composing music for various ensembles, including Bruton Preparatory Orchestra. Jenny took up the 'cello in September 2012 and takes part in regular rehearsals and performances with the Sturminster Newton Orchestra, and continues to compose and perform with smaller ensembles.

## Ray Willis, ARCM., ARCO.

Ray studied organ and piano in London in the 1960's with H.A. Bate and Dr. George Thalben-Ball, also theory and composition with Dr. Arthur Pritchard, followed by conducting with George Badacsonyi at London University Opera where he was repetiteur and assistant conductor. A highly experienced conductor, player and teacher having taught piano, organ and harpsichord on the professorial staff at the Blackheath Conservatoire, he was Head of Keyboards with Montgomeryshire Education Authority and, more recently the Somerset County Music Service.

For the last twenty-six years he has been one of the specialist visiting music staff at the Wells Cathedral Music School and from 2015 until the end of 2017 was Musical Director of the Exeter University Choral Society. Previous appointments include teaching at the I.L.E.A. Croydon Specialist Piano School, Organist to the Royal Russell School, Organist and Master of the Choristers at Shrewsbury Abbey, and Organist at St Cuthbert's Church in Wells. He was also chorus-master to the Bath Georgian Festival, accompanist to the University of the West of England Choral Society and Chamber choir, and also accompanist to the City of Wells Bach Choir. In a lighter side he was mentored by Bobby Pagan and Vic Hammett, and was a house pianist with Geraldo Orchestras. In the 1960's he was featured many times on TV for his performances of light classical music on the organ at the ABC cinema in Torquay and, in the 1980's gave a solo organ concert on the five manual organ at the Odeon Theatre in Leicester Square, London. He was also one half of the piano duo "Twos Accompany" and pianist with the Nightingale Trio, and has toured as an accompanist in France, Germany, Italy and Russia. He was pianist for the

premier performance of Peter Skellern's childrens opera "Trolls", keyboard player for a recording of the WWF feature "Yananomo", and repetiteur for the first complete British performance of Marschner's opera "Hans Heiling".

As well as his work at BSG he is currently Organist at Yeovil Parish Church and at the Bishop's Chapel at Wells Cathedral. In September 2018 he takes up a new appointment as a Consultant at the Wells Cathedral Music School.

## Liz Holbrook

Liz studied at Dartington College of Arts and the Rolle College, gaining a music teaching qualification. She then went to the London School of Music and Drama to study piano and viola, gaining an A.R.C.M. She began her teaching career at Leweston School, before moving to St Mary's, Calne. This was followed by a spell holding simultaneous posts at Sherborne School for Girls, Hazlegrove Prep School and King's, Bruton. Liz also completed twenty years of work with the Somerset County Music Service as a peripatetic member of staff, before joining BSG in 1990. Aside from her teaching work, Liz works locally as an organist, piano accompanist, and plays as a member of the Wessex String Orchestra, based in Sherborne.

## Nicole Willis

Nicole Willis began her musical career as a Junior Exhibitioner at the London College of Music. She went on to study Flute, Piccolo and Piano at Trinity College of Music where she was also awarded the Friends of New York Prize.

After leaving college Nicole took up the Saxophone, which enabled her to broaden her musical horizons, and to be involved in a greater variety of music.

As a freelance performer Nicole has played Principal Flute and Piccolo in various orchestras but also maintained an interest in chamber music, playing in a wind quintet for a number of years and also several saxophone quartets. She was a member of a professional flute quartet which gave concerts all over the country and regular BBC radio broadcasts and was the flautist on the CD Shakespeare & Love. As a doubler Nicole has played in many musical shows; and as a tutor and performer she has frequently toured abroad, giving concerts and taking part in international music festivals.

Before moving to Somerset Nicole maintained a busy teaching practice in London and Surrey, working for two music services as well as several private schools. She enjoyed coaching on many music courses, running a variety of ensembles and was the conductor of the Kingston Wind Band for fourteen years.

Since settling into her new musical life in Somerset Nicole now teaches for Banes Music Service and at several other schools in the area both in the state and private sector. She is again conducting a wind band as well as saxophone and flute ensembles, all of which give regular concerts in the area.

Nicole is a dedicated teacher and performer passionate about making music and sharing her enthusiasm and experience with others.

## Anne Perrett

Anne Perrett (nee Scolding) studied clarinet and piano at Coventry School of Music before accepting a place at Trinity College of Music, London, studying under John Stenhouse (bass clarinetist with the L.S.O.).

After graduating with Fellowship and Licentiate Diplomas she won an award from South-East Arts for advanced study with Jack Brymer and John McCaw. In 1984 she became a winner of the S.E. Arts' Young Musicians' Platform, making her debut at the Wigmore Hall to critical acclaim. Concerts followed throughout the south of England, including recitals at Sutton Place, Leighton House, Prussia Cove and the Fishmongers' Hall. It was during this time that she was heard by the pianist Alan Kogosawski, who was inspired to schedule a series of concerts at Sotheby's Showrooms, in which Anne and Alan performed with prominent artists including Felicity Lott, Barry Tuckwell and Patricia Rosario. Anne has taught in schools, colleges and universities in London, Brighton, Bristol and Bath. She has also performed with a number of orchestras and chamber ensembles and has broadcast on radio and as guest artist for 'Friday Live' with Nick Bailey on Classic FM. She is currently performing with her wind quintet The Roaring Fork and with her piano and clarinet duo Mandeville.

## James Watts

James Watts was born in Sheffield and started learning the recorder with his godmother when he was 6 years old, moving onto the oboe when he was 10. Through the years of school he became increasingly drawn to the creative arts, and it was this desire to work creatively coupled with the wonderful social experiences of playing in youth orchestras that led him to study at the Royal College of Music in 2000. There he studied under Gareth Hulse and took an active part in the musical life of the College, playing also baroque oboe and cor anglais, in musical styles old and modern. The study of the Alexander Technique and playing the Javanese Gamelan were particular extra-curricular highlights.

Since finishing studies James has been continuing to learn music through exploration of different instruments in musical styles and traditions including the Duduk (Armenian double reed pipe) and Mbira (Zimbabwean thumb piano). He loves recording, composing and improvising music, plays in a composers ensemble, a world music/folk fusion band "Ombivolum", conducts 2 community choirs and works locally with theatre groups and story tellers as well as chamber groups and orchestras. He moved to the South West about 8 years ago and now lives in Frome.

## Richard Colquhoun

Richard Colquhoun is an award-winning trumpet player from Somerset. He grew up in Wells and began playing the cornet in the local brass band at the age of eleven. He started performing solos with the band after only two years and quickly rose to the position of Principal Cornet by the age of fourteen. At the age of sixteen he successfully auditioned to study music at the Wells Cathedral School where he studied under the direction of Paul Denegri.

After leaving school Richard went on to study at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales' Principal Trumpet Philippe Scharz, among others. During this time he won the Linda Mowat Prize for Brass and successfully auditioned for a placement scheme with the BBC NOW. Upon graduation he received the Principal's Award for valuable contribution to the work of the college.

Since leaving education Richard has worked as a freelance musician and teacher in the Bristol, Somerset and South Wales areas. He frequently performs in orchestras, musical theatre, Latin, jazz, and function bands and on studio recordings. He is well versed in a variety of musical styles and has specialised in all high brass including Piccolo Trumpet, Cornet and Bugle.

## Steve Jobbins

Steve is a local session and professional musician. He teaches both at local schools and privately at his studio near Warminster. Originally trained as a Military percussionist - studying at Kneller Hall, London - but since leaving the forces and moving to the West Country, has also been in demand for his drum kit playing. He has toured internationally, playing percussion alongside some of the world's finest orchestras and on drum kit backing many international artists. Recently, Steve has had a busy year playing all genres of music including Rock, Pop, Musical Theatre, Gospel and his main focus Jazz. Clients and recording sessions have included Moet & Chandon, L'Oreal, the opening of the Bath International Music Festival, WOMAD, Bristol Balloon Fiesta and sessions for BBC 3.

Teaching continues to be a real passion with kit students studying many different styles from 'Metal' and 'Rock' to 'Jazz'. Although not all students will suit the examination route, all exam syllabuses are taught including Guildhall School of Music, The London College of Music and Rock School. Playing for fun is a real factor within lessons but technique, reading music/charts and regular master classes ensure that students make the most of their potential.

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