

VOCATIO: RESPONSIO

Euro 2021 final...

ITALY 1-1 ENGLAND

(3-2p)

...through 18th Century eyes

Monday 27th October 2025, 8pm
Holywell Music Room, OX1 3SB



£5 tickets @ www.ticketsource.co.uk/vocatio-responsio



PROGRAMME

FIRST HALF

Francesco Geminiani (Lucca, 1687 — Dublin, 1762)

Concerto Grosso in D Major, Op.7 No.1

1. Andante
2. L'Arte della Fuga. Presto.
3. Andantino
4. Allegro moderato

Georg Friedrich Handel (Halle, 1685 — Westminster, 1759)

Concerto Grosso in B-Flat Major, Op.7 No.6

1. Largo
2. Allegro
3. Largo
4. Andante
5. Hornpipe

SECOND HALF

William Hayes (Gloucester, 1706 — Oxford, 1777)

Concerto Grosso in G Minor, (W)6:004

1. Affettuoso
2. Allegro
3. Andante larghetto
4. Pastorale

Charles Avison (Newcastle, 1709 — Newcastle, 1770)

Concerto Grosso in D Major, Op.3 No.1

1. Andante
2. Allegro
3. Amoroso
4. Allegro assai

Concerto Grosso in G Major, Op.4 No.6

1. Adagio
2. Fuga da Capella. Allegro moderato
3. Fuga del Teatro. Allegro spiritoso
4. Largo — Affettuoso
5. Aria Pastorale. Andante

Violins

Samuel Oliver-Sherry (director)

Music @ St Anne's College

Leader, L'pool Phil Youth Orchestra (2022-23)

Member of Early Music Youth Orchestra

Leader, Oxford University Philharmonia (2024-25)

Belle Worster

Music @ Trinity College

Violinist, Oxford University Philharmonia

Former member of National Youth String Orchestra

& City of Birmingham Symphony Youth Orchestra

Ella O'Shea

English @ Mansfield College

Associate Leader, Oxford University Philharmonia

Member of NYO Inspire (2018-21)

Violinist & Arranger, The Hot Mess Quartet

Theo Acha

Music @ St Anne's College

Violin/Viola, Chineke! Junior Orchestra

First Violinist, South London Youth Orchestra

2025 Bernstein Composition Winner

Violas

Nick Raptakis

Graduated from Hertford College, 2025

Co-Founder, Warwick Festival Orchestra

Violinist & Violist, Odyssey Festival Orchestra

Composer for 'The Death of Ivan Ilyich' (2024)

Cello

Celeste Pan

Asian & Middle Eastern Studies @ Balliol College

Cellist, Oxford University Philharmonia

Cellist, Orchestra VOX

Performed with Oxford Student Opera Society

Cornelius Nowicki

Music @ Magdalen College

Cellist, The Back Quad Quartet

Member of the Bate Collective

Academical Clerk, Magdalen College Choir

Harpsichord

Alexander McNamee

Music @ St Hilda's College

Former member of Edinburgh Youth Orchestra &

National Youth Jazz Orchestra of Scotland

Pianist, Oxford University Jazz Orchestra

VOCATIO:RESPONSIO



Looking to make a difference in the way classical music is consumed, Vocatio:Responsio is a project-based ensemble operating in the University of Oxford directed and founded by Merseyside-based violinist Samuel Oliver-Sherry, currently in the third year of his undergraduate music degree at St Anne's College. The ensemble operates on intensive rehearsal weekends spread throughout the University of Oxford's term calendar, culminating in high-quality concerts that challenge the detached stigma of classical music performers in relation to their audiences.

As a performing ensemble, Vocatio:Responsio's main emphasis is on devising unique and compelling programmes that invite audiences to engage with wider musicological discourse within the familiar context of a performance setting. With its Latin name translating to mean 'Call:Response', the aim is to break the staunch barrier between performer and audience, creating an informal space for anyone to join in with musical discussion and immerse themselves as part of the concert experience.

Vocatio:Responsio are ultimately committed to making classical concerts accessible to all, while also encouraging its audiences to think critically about the music they're listening to, no matter their experience. With cheap concert tickets (£5 for all), the ensemble believes that anyone should be able to enjoy and appreciate classical music, with the ensemble aiming to give that space to everyone in its audience.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This event would not be possible to put on without the warmth and support of **Warwick Cole** and **Simon Heighes**. Warwick is best known for being the founder of the Corelli Chamber Orchestra, while Simon is a musicologist specialising in the lives of Phillip and William Hayes. In particular, Simon completed his PhD on the brothers at St Anne's College in 1990, the same college as myself. I was extremely touched to receive some scores from Warwick containing two concerti grossi by Hayes which appeared on his CD released in February earlier this year, as well as advice and encouraging words from Simon. Without asking for any fee, they went above and beyond to realise this concept, one that had in the back of my mind ever since V:R started.

They'd like me to tell you that they are Team Hayes' biggest supporters!

Warwick's Hayes recording: <https://www.heritage-records.com/shop/chamber/heritage-chamber/william-hayes-instrumental-music/>

Simon's published dissertation: <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/mono/10.4324/9781315050942/life-work-william-philip-hayes-simon-heighes>

In addition, thanks go to Wing Hei Woo for his continued support as Vocatio:Responsio's publicity officer and poster designer: you can contact him at winghei.woo@st-annes.ox.ac.uk for any commissions or enquiries about his work.

As a music student, I think I speak for us all when I say how very grateful we are to the University of Oxford's Faculty of Music, who have kindly sponsored this concert through its scheme of allowing music students to book the Holywell Music Room at discounted rates during term time. Read more about the faculty (especially its move to the Schwartzman centre) and what it's cultural programme offers for students in Oxford at www.music.ox.ac.uk

Finally, thanks to my endlessly and unremittingly supportive (and at this point, possibly long-suffering) family for their tireless help with turning these ideas into reality, whether through managing publicity and promotion around Oxford, stewarding the concert or recording the event. I owe everything to you.

Samuel Oliver-Sherry

Watch this space for announcements over our next event! In the meantime, here's where else you can find us.



Throughout the year, you can expect more content on our social media pages: whether it's gearing up to our next event or a bit of fun content, we're looking to revamp our online presence to gain a greater student following next year, so keep a look out for that.



Alternatively, you can visit our YouTube channel as well, which posts highlights from our concerts as they happen. We already have several videos on there at the moment from our first season, so do take a look and consider subscribing so you never miss an upload!



Finally, for all the latest news on the ensemble, visit us on our new look website. Here you can also find archival programmes, as well as ways to donate to the ensemble to keep us going and allow us to put on even bigger and more ambitious events for you!