

OUR IMPACT

2022-23

“ This really was something different, and totally in keeping with the sense of imagination and adventure Academy of Ancient Music is exuding these days.

Seen and Heard International, *Scherzi musicali*, April 2023



Reflections from our Music Director, Laurence Cummings

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to direct Academy of Ancient Music for another year, a season in which our *'Tis nature's voice* series explored the natural world and humankind's place within it.

As ever, there have been many memorable moments, starting with our second collaboration with digital artist Nina Dunn. Our season-opening performance of Haydn's lesser-known oratorio, *The Seasons*, featured nearly 100 performers on a transformed Barbican Hall stage, beautifully dressed with hand-drawn, digital images depicting the changing of the seasons. The year closed in similarly spectacular style, with nearly 200 performers (!) onstage at the Royal Albert Hall in AAM's long-awaited return to the BBC Proms: Handel's *Samson* with tenor Allan Clayton. And along the way, we celebrated music depicting nature and the natural world directly, we explored the nature of music itself in JS Bach's *The Musical Offering*, we exchanged 'musical jokes' in works by Biber and Schmelzer (including a fully staged presentation of the great Battalia à 10) and we probed the depths of human nature and psychology in Handel's great early oratorio *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno*.

On tour, the orchestra performed Mozart's Great Mass in C minor in Switzerland, returned to Oviedo and Madrid with a new chamber programme tracking the development of the trio sonata, and revived our acclaimed South America programme for AMUZ in Antwerp. UK engagements included collaboration with the BBC Singers in London;

continued partnership with the Royal Hospital Chelsea, King's College, Cambridge and The Queen's College, Oxford; and returns to the Bath Bachfest, Chipping Campden Music Festival and VOCES8's Milton Abbey Summer Music Festival.

We have recently released Volume 11 of the Mozart Piano Concerto cycle with scholar-pianist Robert Levin. We are also looking forward to sharing with you the final two volumes, due for release in the coming months. We were delighted to work with American countertenor Randall Scotting and Spanish tenor Jorge Navarro Colorado on a recording of 17th century love duets earlier in the year. This colourful release is now out on Signum Records.

Our *AAMplify Artists* initiative continued to engage young period-instrument performers with side-by-side projects and masterclasses designed to bridge the gap between music college and the profession. In 22/23 we were delighted to continue our work with the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, as well as to develop a new partnership with the Royal Academy of Music. Further projects are planned in 23/24 with the Royal College of Music and the Royal Northern College of Music, as well as masterclasses focusing on specialist instrumental issues and ensemble work.

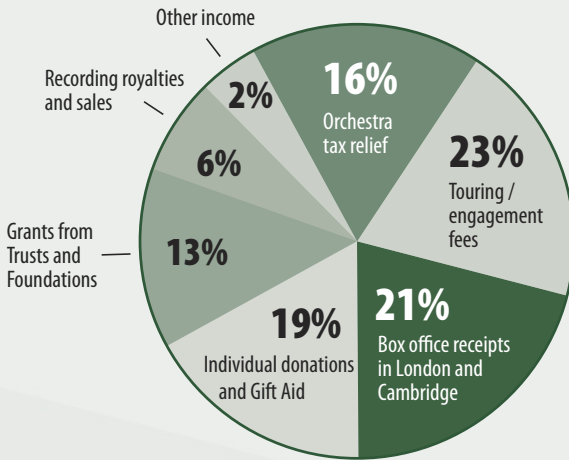
Finally, September 2023 marked a significant milestone for the orchestra, as we began our 50th anniversary season.. We hope that you will be able to join us across the season to celebrate all that AAM has accomplished since 1973, as well as to look to the future. It is only with the support of our family of donors that we can fulfil our mission to delight and inspire audiences across the globe with performances of baroque and classical music of the highest quality. Thank you for all that you've done and continue to do for AAM, and here's to the next 50 years!

Best wishes

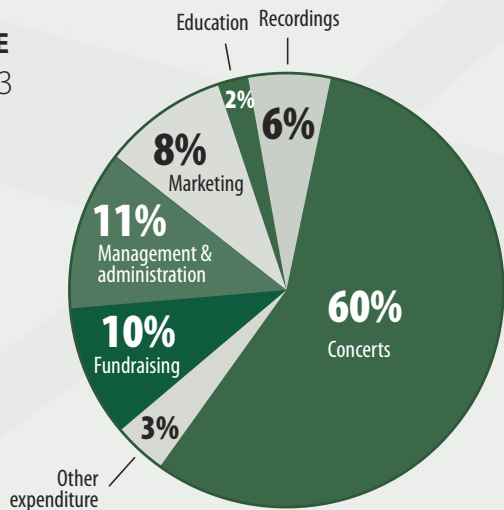
Laurence Cumming

How your support has made a difference

We simply couldn't continue our music-making without the gifts of generous supporters and funders. Below is a summary of how your support has made an impact over the past 12 months.



INCOME
2022-23



EXPENDITURE
2022-23



Critical reviews

'This was a performance to gladden the heart...'

Opera Now, September 2022 *The Seasons*

'This Messiah was lit by a continuous stream of electricity.'

Seen and Heard International, December 2022

'... radiant and full of life ... a kaleidoscope of colour and texture: a wriggling solo oboe, a cello plunging right down into the depths, a pair of misty recorders, a chamber organ suddenly starting into gleaming, bell-life life.'

The Arts Desk, May 2023 *Il Trionfo del Tempo*

'... this was one of those performances where it felt as though we were listening for the first time, such was level of detail that the clarity of the playing revealed.'

Early Music Reviews, July 2023 Beethoven and Mendelssohn



Musicians in rehearsal for *Scherzi musicali*

Audience feedback

'It was so beautiful it moved me to tears. The reprise of Lascia la spina with ornamentation was one of the most beautiful things I have ever heard.'

May 2023 *Il Trionfo del Tempo*

'I'm a devoted follower of Laurence Cummings and the AAM performers but even by their standards this was outstanding.'

June 2023 Beethoven and Mendelssohn

Mozart Piano Concertos – completing the cycle



During 2022–23, we released the first two new albums in our complete Mozart Piano Concerto cycle with scholar-pianist Robert Levin in more than two decades.

‘These performances are a breath of fresh air – and the resumption of the concerto cycle is a clear cause for celebration. The combination of scholarship and joy in performance, writ large by Levin’s superb improvisations, is in itself a modern-day miracle.’

International Piano, Mozart Piano Concertos volume 9, April 2023

‘... marvellously satisfying performances that are always full of surprises ... Levin is the leading exponent in recreating the Mozart style on the spot.’

Financial Times, Mozart Piano Concertos volume 9, 5*, February 2023

‘The piano dances and sparkles under Levin’s featherlight touch.’

BBC Music Magazine, Mozart Piano Concertos volume 9, 5*, May 2023



AAMplify Artists

In 2022–23 we worked with over 100 music students through our *AAMplify Artists* programme. This offers the opportunity for talented young musicians to perform alongside, and learn from, AAM's professional musicians. Feedback included the following:

'This project was easily one of the best I have taken part in during my time at music college. It was incredibly useful and inspiring and has resulted in me wanting to pursue historically informed performance in the future.'

'I learn the best from working side-by-side with professionals and have felt such a difference after just two days in this workshop. It was just wonderful – please come and do more!'



Our impact in numbers



109,000



We now have 48,500 Facebook followers, 8,800 followers on X, 4,400 Instagram followers, and 47,300 YouTube subscribers.



1,092,000

We've achieved over 1 million monthly listeners on Spotify, 82,000 on Amazon Music, and 10,000 average daily listeners on Apple Music.

28

concerts in the UK and overseas, reaching an estimated audience of 17,500

17

composers whose works were performed across the season

103

music college students who took part in our education programme, *AAMplify Artists*

13

pre-concert talks offered in Cambridge and London

15.9
million

4.9 million listeners reached globally through performances broadcast on the radio, along with a further 11 million listeners reached via features, previews and reviews on BBC Radio 3, Classic FM, Cambridge 105 and international stations



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All details correct at time of printing

Associate Ensemble at the Barbican Centre, London
Associate Ensemble at the Teatro San Cassiano, Venice
Orchestra-in-Residence at the University of Cambridge
Orchestra-in-Residence at Milton Abbey Summer Music Festival
Orchestra-in-Residence at The Apex, Bury St Edmunds
Artistic Partner to London's Culture Mile
Design by SL Chai

barbican

Associate Ensemble



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