

Newsletter

January 2024



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2024 with a roundup of last year's activities and news of our plans for the coming year.

I am delighted to welcome the mezzo soprano Helen Charlston as a Patron of La Folia. Helen has worked in different La Folia projects, one of them being [Continuing the Conversation](#)

Described in Gramophone Magazine as *one of the most exciting voices in the new generation of British singers*, Helen enjoys a varied career in opera, concert and recital work. She is an advocate for contemporary music and regularly commissions new composers. Beyond her performing life, Helen is an artistic advisor for York Early Music Festival and a Vice President for the Rodolfus Foundation.

We said goodbye to two trustees last year, Alison Pascalidis and Debbie Rigg who have been extremely supportive over a long period, and we are very appreciative of their valued work. We are currently recruiting further La Folia trustees who will help to broaden the expertise and range of the board.

The financial security of the charity remains a constant focus for the board, especially in generating income to meet the charity's core costs, which are not always possible to include in grant applications. La Folia has remained a success because of the continuing loyalty of our Friends and the generosity of benefactors. As is mentioned later in this Newsletter, we need to increase the grass roots support of La Folia, so please engage with people you know who may be persuaded to join the Friends. Other ways of raising funds for our essential core costs and for projects are also included here and on the website.

I particularly look forward to the 2nd July this year, and the third collaboration of this kind between La Folia and Salisbury Cathedral. The previous occasions have been powerful and moving – so please note this date in your diary and be sure to bring other people along to experience what this charity succeeds in doing.

With best wishes
John Cox
Chair, La Folia

2023 ROUNDUP



Howard Moody working with Winton Academy students

We have had yet another successful and rewarding year in which we ran 4 different projects:

Voices in the Landscape
Planets
Musical Offerings Winton
Academy

In 2023 we engaged with:

- 227 young people of which 50 had special needs 46 staff/carers
- 27 musicians
- 70 audience members
- We held 19 workshops and gave 1 concert

We couldn't have wished for a more productive year all made possible by the very generous donations from our friends and supporters - YOU!

2024 Projects

Voices in the Landscape:

The song book is now ready to go to print and there is an end of scheme celebration planned for July 2024. The song book will be available to download from the Cranborne Chase website. For further information about where, when and how to come to the celebratory event in July, do check our website [HERE](#) and the Cranborne Chase website [HERE](#)

Evening Songs 2024

We are very excited to start our first workshops at the end of January with Exeter House students from the junior and senior schools. Howard will be working with both verbal and non-verbal students, initially in very small groups, to discover what each individual student can contribute. No one will be left out even if they make just one very small sound.

Workshops with the Salisbury Cathedral boy and girl choristers will start in the Summer term, culminating in the Evening Song service itself at **5.30pm on 2nd July 2024**. In 2019 the cathedral was full to capacity with 800 people in the congregation, so please do put the date in your diaries as you are all very welcome. To remind you of how inspiring Evening Songs is, please click on the video below.

Winton Community Academy Workshops:

We held our final workshop with the school's Year 10 and 11 GCSE music students in November 2023, culminating in a special sharing event with the students' peers, staff and parents. We hope to bring more exciting music workshops to the school in the future, and to help them to offer a Music Arts Award to their students.



BECOME A LA FOLIA TRUSTEE

We are currently looking for Trustees to join the Management Board of our unique and innovative charity.

La Folia's Trustees play a vital role in delivering the charity's objectives and are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation. You will be expected to challenge and contribute to ensure that our governance is robust, transparent, and compliant with legislation.

We seek to improve the diversity of our Board and seek new Trustees from a variety of backgrounds, culture and experiences. We would welcome a Young Trustee to ensure that we have a fresh perspective for our future. We would particularly benefit from adding those with the following core skills and experience to the current Board:

- Finance/accountancy
- Legal/compliance
- Data protection

Please don't be put off from applying if you don't have these skills, or if you have never been a Trustee before. The most important qualities for our Trustees are enthusiasm, engagement and a desire to be involved and make a contribution to the charity, as well as a belief that the arts can be a catalyst for social change.

The closing date for applications is **31st January 2024**

For more information and how to apply [**CLICK HERE**](#)

SUPPORT US

We are still looking for funds for our future projects and in particular for **Bee Fest**, our weekend of film, music and poetry dedicated to the bee which we aim to put on in 2025. We rely entirely on donations from individuals and grants from Trust Funds and Foundations, and without this generous support we could not keep La Folia's vision alive, to bring professional music making to young people and adults who might not otherwise have the opportunity to experience it.

We are extremely grateful for all the continued support we have been given by our Friends and benefactors, and are always hoping to encourage new people to become Friends of La Folia. To find out more about how to become a Friend, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Other ways to support La Folia:

* **SHOP & GIVE** * (The Giving Machine)



A very easy and simple way to generate donations for La Folia is while you shop online. If you sign up to The Giving Machine and select La Folia as your charity of choice, a percentage of what you spend will automatically be gifted to La Folia - at no extra cost to you! There are over 2,000 participating retailers, including Waitrose, John Lewis and Amazon. Find out more and sign up [HERE](#).

* **JustGiving** *



To make a donation directly to La Folia via **JustGiving**, [CLICK HERE](#).

For more information on how to **DONATE** to La Folia [CLICK HERE](#). Your donations can support specific projects, or can be used to fund our core costs and the day-to-day running of the charity.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to email cesca.eaton@lafoliamusic.org.

Thank you.



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