

Jette Parker Young Artists Programme – Ballet Conductor/Pianist Auditions

Auditions will be held on 28-29 March 2018, when the Programme will be looking for a ballet conductor or a ballet pianist to join at the beginning of September 2018. Applicants should be extremely gifted individuals at the start of their professional careers, with a music degree and some experience in performance. Conductors are expected to have sufficient experience to be able to work as assistant conductor on Royal Ballet productions. Pianists should ideally have some experience of playing for ballet and are expected to have sufficient experience to improvise extensively in the context of a ballet class. There is no fixed age limit for the Programme, but applicants should bear in mind that when choosing candidates for audition, the panel will consider the stage the applicants have reached in their careers and where they will be in terms of career development and age after two years on the Programme.

Applications are only accepted via the YAP Tracker website. A complete application must include all the following items to be considered:

- A curriculum vitae or biography (no longer than two pages)
- A photograph
- A photocopy of the information page of the applicant's passport, driver's licence, birth certificate or identification card, showing date of birth. This information will not be made available to the audition panel, but is required to ensure that the Royal Opera House meets its legal obligations under the Asylum and Immigration Regulations 2004.
- A completed JPYAP Equal Opportunities questionnaire. This information will not be made available to the audition panel, but is required to enable the Royal Opera House to monitor that it meets its equal opportunities and diversity objectives.
- Two confidential recommendations uploaded by the referees directly to YAP Tracker in response to an email from the website. They must be written by a music or theatre professional, but not the applicant's regular teacher. If either of the recommendations are written by the applicant's teacher, the application will be rejected. The recommendations must be written specifically for the application and two recommendations must be received by the deadline.

Conductors may also upload up to three recorded examples of their work, although this is not an application requirement. Recordings must be accompanied by the titles of the pieces, the date they were recorded and (if relevant) orchestra and company.

The closing date for applications will be Friday 19 January 2018. The **complete** application, including two recommendations, must have been uploaded to the YAP Tracker website by the closing date, otherwise it will be rejected. The status of the application appears on the website and it is the applicant's own responsibility to ensure that it is complete by the deadline; the Programme does not chase missing elements. Applicants are strongly advised to allow plenty of time.

Applicants will be notified as soon as possible after the deadline whether or not they have been selected for audition. It is not possible to audition every applicant nor is it possible to enter into correspondence about the choice of candidates for audition. All auditions are held at the Royal Opera House. The Programme is unable to provide any financial assistance towards attending the auditions.

Ballet conductors

Round One Wednesday 28 March 2018

MacMillan Studio

A maximum of 12 candidates will be heard. Each audition will last for maximum 30 minutes. The panel will consist of Koen Kessels (Music Director, The Royal Ballet), Barry Wordsworth (former Music Director, The Royal Ballet), David Gowland (Artistic Director, JPYAP) and Rob Clark (Head of Music Staff, The Royal Ballet). Candidates should prepare the following:

Stravinsky: *The Rite of Spring* – rehearsal figure 142 to end
Ravel: *Daphnis and Chloë* – from start to choral interlude
Adam: *Giselle* – Act II pas de deux (nos. 19, 20, 20A, 21, 21A, 21B, 21C)

Candidates will be asked to conduct a work (with Rob Clark playing).

Ballet pianists

Round One Wednesday 28 March 2018

MacMillan Studio

A maximum of 12 candidates will be heard. Each audition will last maximum 30 minutes. The panel will consist of Koen Kessels (Music Director, The Royal Ballet), Barry Wordsworth (former Music Director, The Royal Ballet), David Gowland (Artistic Director, JPYAP) and Rob Clark (Head of Music, The Royal Ballet). Candidates should prepare the following:

Liszt: *Sonata in B minor* - page 23 in the Peters Edition (*allegro energico*) to end
Stravinsky: *The Rite of Spring* - page 28 in Schirmer Solo Piano Edition (transcribed Leyetchkiss), Sacrificial Dance to end
Tchaikovsky: *Swan Lake* - Act III, Odile's variation

Piano scores for the *Rite of Spring* and *Swan Lake* excerpts will be sent to those invited to audition. Candidates will be asked to play (with Koen Kessels or Barry Wordsworth conducting *Swan Lake*), to sight-read and to improvise.

Round Two Wednesday 28 March 2018 (afternoon)

Music Room

A maximum of four shortlisted pianists will each have a coaching session with Nicki Williamson on playing for ballet class, lasting at least one hour.

Round Three Thursday 29 March 2018 (morning)

MacMillan Studio

The shortlisted candidates will be asked to improvise further to the Round One panel, joined by Nicki Williamson. The audition will be preceded by a meeting with Elaine Kidd (Head of Programme, JPYAP) and Richard Hetherington (Head of Music, The Royal Opera)

All information subject to change.