



### Dear Queens' Alumni & Supporters,

It is our great delight to share with you the first issue of this new termly e-newsletter. This academic year brings many new beginnings for Queens' music. **Mr Nicholas Morris (2011)**, former Queens' Organ Scholar, returns as Director of Music, *The Hickox Prize* has been endowed to award exceptional musical leadership in College, renovations are underway in the music practice rooms to improve sound-proofing, and our fully refurbished harpsichord will soon return to its home in the President's Lodge.

Thank you to all those who support the musical life of the College, to our *Friends of Queens' Music* and audience members!

We hope that you enjoy the first *Musical Bridge* and wish you a melodious term ahead.

### MagSoc

Michaelmas 2022 was a busy term for MagSoc! It culminated in our West Road Concert on the 30th November, featuring works by Lili Boulanger and Emilie Mayer, and an outstanding performance of Strauss' Horn Concerto No.1 by second-year history student **Georgia Burr (2021)**.



Image: Soloist, **Georgia Burr** (second from the right), holds up the mouthpiece for her horn alongside fellow performers for the MagSoc Concert.

MagSoc is generously supported by The Farrant Fund for The St Margaret's Society of Queens' College, named in honour of Mr Stephen Farrant (1956), who established the Fund through The Friends of Aliko Vatikioti for Music & The Arts.

2022 also featured a first for the MagSoc Chorus - breaking from tradition and from the MagSoc Orchestra, they concluded the term with their own concert in Queens' Chapel. The gambit was a success and they performed music by Sting, Vaughan Williams and Bruckner to a full chapel of family and friends. Revitalised under the leadership of **Georgia Edwards (2020)**, **Katja Ruda (2020)** and **Matthew Mayes (2020)**, the Chorus is at long last regaining healthy numbers since the pandemic.

Our vibrant weekly recital series in Old Hall and Chapel continues on Sundays at midday and this term featured performances from the Queens' College Graduate Choir, the Queens' Quartet, the *Aliko Vatikioti Senior Organ Scholar Benjamin Markovic (2020)*, pianists **Lottie Butler (2021)** and **Xavier Khalid (2021)** and a Freshers' recital.

*"Each recital was very well-attended - perhaps influenced by the free cake provided after each performance!"*

MagSoc established a new 'informal' orchestra which rehearsed weekly under the leadership of **Matthew Mayes**. It also allowed several Queens' students to try conducting an orchestra for the first time, taking on film music from the *Pirates of the Caribbean* and the *Lord of the Rings*.

A final highlight of the term was an Open Mic night in QBar, MC'd by **Gabriel Margolis (2021)** held in collaboration with the Cambridge University Green Week initiative.

We are very proud to have such a lively musical community at Queens' and are looking forward to putting on more concerts in Lent Term!

*Alice*

Alice Drury (2021), MagSoc President



Image: Hayley (far right, front row) and Fleur (far right, standing) with the cast, crew and band at *Paradise Green* theatre in Edinburgh.

### STUDENT NEWS

**Hayley Canham (2020)**  
*Medea the Musical* at the  
Edinburgh Fringe Festival

Actress, director, singer-songwriter and final year Classics student **Hayley Canham** wrote and starred in 5 star hit production *Medea the Musical*. The show made its Cambridge debut at the Town and Gown Theatre in March 2022 before heading up to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

The show was musically directed by **Fleur Gardner-Wray (2020)**, a third-year engineering student choral scholar at Queens' who also played the keys.

As a singer-songwriter, Hayley is known as *cannibal*. Amassing over a million streams on Spotify, her singles have been played on BBC Radio and she has gigged in the UK and US, including at Henley Festival and Cambridge Big Weekend for *BBC Introducing*. Hayley's song *Let Them Rain* was BBC Cambridgeshire's Track of the Week and one of their Top Picks for 2022.

## Queens' College Chapel Choir



Image: Queens' College Chapel Choir at the Alumni Carol Service at Chelsea Old Church.

After just 30 minutes of rehearsal to allow the new Director of Music and choir to get to know one another, the term began with a robust matriculation service with anthems by Parry and Wood. Thankfully both sides agreed that the relationship could continue, so after a pizza evening in Old Hall the choir settled into its new pattern of Evensong at 6.30pm on Wednesdays and 6pm on Sundays, alongside a 9pm Compline on Friday evenings (followed by port and doughnuts for singers and congregation...)

The choir continues to play a central role in the life of the College, contributing to the Service of Commemoration for the life of Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and the annual Service of Remembrance and Reconciliation on the morning of Remembrance Sunday. The term ended with carol services in the chapel and at Chelsea Old Church, where we were delighted to be welcomed by former chaplain, Max Bayliss.

**Mr Nicholas Morris, Director of Music**

## From the Archives

The MagSoc Archives, nestled in the eves of the MagSoc cupboard, are easily overlooked - two dusty boxes amongst the detritus of abandoned drum-kit parts, odd pages of sheet music strewn across the ground like fallen leaves (which, some say, when disturbed rustle with a hum of long-forgotten tunes from the days when real jazz was allowed at 'Jazz and Cocktails'). But if you look beyond their sad exterior, you will find that these boxes contain the frustrations, successes and "overdue payment" notices of many generations of MagSoc committees.

### ITEM 4(C) FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 3/4/1999

To discuss those well know parlour games:

0. "Hunt-the-music-stands"
1. "Get-an-orchestra"
2. "More-singers-for-the-chorus"
3. "Pin-the-posters-on-the-wall"

There are some MagSoc traditions in which we take great pride - for example, undertaking enormous choral works in West Road Concert Hall and the well-supplied afterparties which ensue (sorry - err - we mean, "Post-Concert Gatherings", of course...). But these aren't the only things that never change. As Alex's meeting notes remind us, generations of MagSoc Committee members have torn out hairs over elusive music stands and oboists.

## QUEENS' COLLEGE ORGAN RECITALS: LENT 2023

EVERY SATURDAY AT 1:15PM IN CHAPEL

21ST JANUARY - 11TH MARCH

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT  
CAMBRIDGECONCERTS.COM

## MAGSOC RECITAL SERIES

LENT TERM 2023

SUNDAYS AT 12PM IN  
OLD HALL / CHAPEL

### 22ND JANUARY

Katja Ruda (2020, *Estelle Choral Scholar*),  
Oliver Anderson-Shah (Lucy Cavendish),  
Jonathan Watts (John's), Rhys Lewis (Trinity)  
- Franck string quartet

### 29TH JANUARY

Millie Clark (2022) & Benjamin Markovic  
(2020, *Aliki Vatikioti Senior Organ Scholar*) -  
flute and piano recital

### 5TH FEBRUARY

Kate South (Trinity) - soprano

### 12TH FEBRUARY

*The Tyro Prize*

### 19TH FEBRUARY

Holly Sheridan (2021) - piano

### 26TH FEBRUARY

Eleanor Medcalf (2018) & Sophie Ellis (2018),  
Queens' alumnae - British and French music  
for solo harp and harp & voice

### 5TH MARCH

Charlotte Johnston (Fitzwilliam) - organ

### 12TH MARCH

Katya Bungay-Hill (Sidney Sussex) - vocals  
and acoustic guitar, folk-centred, reflective  
solo performance

*Recital venues and performers are subject to change. Visit @magsocqueens on Facebook or Instagram for up-to-date details prior to events.*

All are  
welcome to  
attend  
Queens'  
recitals and  
concerts

## DATES FOR THE DIARY - LENT 2023

### SATURDAY 11TH MARCH, 7:30PM IN QUEENS' CHAPEL

The Fairy Queen: a semi-opera by Henry Purcell with the Queens' Graduate Choir and friends

### WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH, 7:30PM AT WEST ROAD CONCERT HALL

The MagSoc Lent Term Concert

### SATURDAY 15TH APRIL, 12PM IN QUEENS' CHAPEL

575 Organ Recital - organ scholars past and present play to celebrate the 575th anniversary of the College's founding