As Deal Music & Arts becomes an increasing force of essential support for arts education in East Kent, so too does its summer festival need to provide outstanding opportunities for engagement and presentation of its year-round work.

2019 marked another shift in DMA's progress toward serving the wider community while ensuring the highest possible standards for its activities. In terms of audience numbers, 2019 saw DMA's largest audience to date, engaging with almost 8,000 attendees.

The programme was widely applauded for its quality and variety, and that variety did not deter regular festival goers from attending many or all events. Similarly, it ensured a very different set of audiences.

The programme encompassed a range of international artists, from Steven Isserlis who performed with Purcell School Orchestra, and gave a masterclass to its students, to Tim Garland and his Weather Walker Trio, who brought world class jazz. Both National Youth Jazz Orchestra of Great Britain and Ronnie Scott’s Jazz Orchestra had headline events, the former offering a platform to Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra as part of the event, thus bringing these talented young local musicians together with their world class peers to inspire their work. Similarly, Academy of Ancient Music worked with students from Guildhall School of Music & Drama’s Historical Performance department saw students and mentors perform side-by-side in a glittering programme of baroque works. Florilegium performed Bach’s complete Brandenburg Concertos on period instruments to a hugely appreciative audience.

Other highlights included performances by leading artists of the younger generation of
musicians, often supported by organisations such as YCAT, Countess of Munster and Cavatina. These included Castalian Quartet, harpist Elizabeth Bass and saxophonist Jonathan Radford with pianist Kaoli Ono. The exceptional pianist Alexander Panfilov returned by popular demand, this time with two other international artists, Sasha Rozhdestvensky and Chistoph Croisé. These concerts allowed for a wide range of repertoire to be explored, including much Twentieth Century and contemporary work.

A mini festival that explored the development of the keyboard involved leading international artists and academics and gave people opportunities to get close to and try a range of instruments from the early clavichord to the innovative Magnetic Resonator Piano and TouchKeys. Pianists and keyboard players included Freddy Kempf, Professor John Irving, Dinara Klinton, Art of Moog and Rolf Hind. Music ranged from Bach and Beethoven to Messiaen, Ligeti and brand new music by Rolf Hind and included virtuoso masterworks by Rachmaninov and Liszt.

The festival included more contemporary work than in previous years, with a careful balance of music by female and male composers. Setting the highest standard in choral singing, Ora Singers under the direction of Suzi Digby performed a programme of 50% renaissance music with 50% new commissions, all of which was hugely well received.

The festival reached out to a wide variety of audiences by offering talks, walks, drama, film, dance and site-specific work. Themes were topical and intentionally thought provoking, as DMA is now actively using the arts as a means to spread greater information re current affairs and historical context. While Linden Hall Studio presented an exhibition of contemporary dance photography by Tony Nandi it also gave physical space to the performance of brand-new music by Colin Alexander and Child Migrant Stories. This human geography project supported by Queen Mary University of London results in a series of films that explain the journeys and lives of many child migrants who have made the U.K. their home. Maurice Nwokeji, from Beafra, explained his journey in person. Other activities included Gavin Esler’s ‘America’ and Sir Antony Beevor talking about Arnhem.

DMA’s contemporary music education programme New Sounds saw side-by-side performances of Lutoslawski and brand new reworkings of J.S. Bach by percussionist Joe Parks, together with
contemporary dance created and performed by DMA’s dance education programme, Let’s Dance. These took place in the ancient surroundings of Deal Castle. There were a number of concerts to support school age learning and enrichment as well as an all-day event at Betteshanger Park to raise awareness of environment issues.

Outdoor events gave free opportunity for all ages to enjoy music in a lively and convivial atmosphere. Reaching out to literally hundreds at each activity, performers were frequently a mix of professionals, semi-professionals and amateurs, often working with young members of DMA’s year-round education programmes.

It is this sense of community and place, combined with wider opportunity and excellence that is seeing a systematically positive increase in audience numbers and appreciation.

*Paul Max Edlin, 2019*
2019 saw over 1,000 children young people and adults involved with Deal Music & Arts education activities, which included public performances and supporting participants artistic and personal development, increasing wellbeing and attainment.

Summary of Deal Music and Arts education work in academic year 2018 - 2019

- 6 core programmes of work: BOLD AS, Jazz Journey, Summer Music School, Let’s Dance, New Sounds and Special Projects.
- Numbers attending activities: 1,134
- Age range: 8 to 75
- Free School Meals / Pupil Premium entitlement*: 27% of participating students have Pupil Premium and/or are entitled to Free School Meals
- Ethnicity: 4% of participating students are Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME)
- Special Educational Needs / Disabilities*: 15% of participating students have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities
- Professional artists involved: 32

(*where collected for specific school-based programmes)

Impact

Where collected, participants involved in our education programmes have shown:

- significant improvement in musical skills and musicality
- increased engagement in other arts and related opportunities
- marked improvement in confidence and happiness
- marked holistic improvement, particularly those students who are considered to be ‘challenging circumstances’
- increased take up of other artistic collaborations and cultural experiences

“Musically she enjoys the experience and now also does piano. Academically she has dyslexia so this is helping with counting & patterns.” Comment from parent of student involved in BOLD AS.

“New Experiment, Making Connections, Something great to put on my music CV” Young musician, New Sounds
BOLD AS is a year-round music education programme led by Deal Music and Arts, in partnership with Kent Music, which introduces school students in East Kent to learn brass instruments, with the use of plastic instruments in their first year. The programme is being co-ordinated with the in-school first access “MusicPlus” sessions (provided by Kent Music) and children receive an enriched musical experience throughout the year through BOLD AS visiting musicians, public concerts, online resources, special projects and schools concerts. The programme is led by Phil White from the Philharmonia Orchestra. Each year the young players are given the opportunity to perform with professional musicians and at DMA’s annual Deal Festival in July. East Kent was once host to coal mines and collieries, and still has some active brass bands from those communities. Deal Music & Arts is aiming to reignite this important link to our local brass banding heritage through the BOLD AS programme, by encouraging children and young people to pick up a brass instrument, have fun and begin a lifelong love of music.

Over the last 3 years BOLD AS has been supported by Catalyst Funding from Arts Council England (and match funding from our other funders). In this time, BOLD AS has:

- Worked with 7 primary schools, 2 secondary schools, and 1 Special Schools in East Kent, with 7 of these schools being provided regular BOLD AS enrichment workshop
- Over 3 years, total of 691 children have learnt brass instruments through BOLD AS
- Students participating in BOLD AS have shown improvements in confidence, musical skills and behaviour

**Participant data**

- A total of 691 students have learnt a brass instrument as part of BOLD AS from 2016 to 2019
- The participating children are aged between 9 - 16 years old
- 27% of participating students have Pupil Premium and/or are entitled to Free School Meals
- 15% of participating students have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities
- 4% of participating students are Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME)
- Learning in 2016-2017: Total of 272 students
- Learning in 2017-2018: Total of 185 students
- Learning in 2018-2019: Total of 234 students

**BOLD AS workshops and performances**

- 270 creative brass music sessions across the participating BOLD AS schools
- 8 introductory brass music assemblies, including live music for the whole school
- 7 in-school end of term performances, to the whole school and invited parents
- Over 600 hours of direct delivery of music activities to young people
- There have been seven public concerts by BOLD AS students, and six public concerts by the professional BOLD AS Quintet ensemble, watched by audiences of more than 2,000 people
Feedback and evaluation from the participating schools suggests that BOLD AS participants have shown:

• increased engagement in other arts and related opportunities
• marked improvement in confidence and happiness
• significant improvement in musical skills and musicality
• improvement in behaviour in and out of BOLD AS sessions
• marked holistic improvement, particularly those students who are considered to be ‘challenging circumstances’

Feedback and evaluation from the BOLD AS musicians, Deal Music & Arts management team, BOLD AS students and families suggests that:

• aspirations and experiences of participating schools, students and families have been widened as a result of BOLD AS
• there has been marked improvement of musical skill development and engagement in cultural experiences
• BOLD AS has improved DMA’s engagement and relationship with the community, and DMA’s ability to run sustainable year-round educational programmes that feed into and out of the annual Festival
• Key improvements can be made to improve progress and engagement, to include ongoing funding, adapting the format of some workshops, improving engagement with families and secondary schools, offering more out-of-school activities, and overall improved communication

“I love Bold As and I want to carry on” Student

“It was a chance of a lifetime” Student

Participants, parents and schools alike have shown that there is a demand for BOLD AS. School teachers have told us that students participating in BOLD AS have shown improvements in confidence, musical skills and behaviour.

We asked parents if BOLD AS made a positive impact on their child:

¥ 96% answered that BOLD AS has a positive impact on their child **musically**
¥ 85% answered that BOLD AS has a positive impact on their child **socially**
¥ 75% answered that BOLD AS has a positive impact on their child **academically**, and
¥ 62% answered that BOLD AS has a positive impact on their child **behaviourally**.

“B o l d  A s  B r a s s  i s  C O O L ! ”

**Student**

A full report about BOLD AS is available upon request
JAZZ JOURNEY focuses on jazz music education in the East Kent area, and as such represents the only major jazz music education programme with schools in Kent. Deal Music and Arts are in the privileged position of working in partnership with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra on this programme. Jazz Journey provides an opportunity for secondary school students to work and perform alongside world-class jazz musician mentors. Jazz Journey Musical Director is jazz musician Joe Browne, supported by National Youth Jazz Orchestra Ambassador, Arthur O Hara.

This academic year saw the second annual ‘Creative Jazz Orchestra’ at Goodwin Academy, working in partnership with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra. Participating schools in 2018-2019 include Chatham House & Clarendon Grammar School (Ramsgate), Dane Court Grammar School (Broadstairs) and Dover Grammar School for Girls, as well as musicians of all ages and abilities joining for the weekend orchestra course. The course was well attended and hugely successful all round.

I loved experimenting with different ideas” Student

A film of the course was made. Filming by Peter Cook, edited by Laura Callaghan: https://vimeo.com/312914893

This year, members of the programme undertook regular in-school workshops and were invited to participate in the Deal Festival 2019 performance at Goodwin Academy, with a themed concert of Female Jazz.

Key points: In the academic year 2018-2019, the Deal Music & Arts JAZZ JOURNEY programme has:

• Worked with 3 secondary schools, providing regular jazz workshops led

“Two students have had difficulties and have been reluctant learners. However they are enjoying the opportunities that they are being offered musically and are now

Orchestra Ambassador, Arthur O Hara.
by Musical Director Joe Browne and Music Leader / NYJO Ambassador Arthur O Hara

• Engaged over a hundred students aged between 8 to 75 years old in jazz music education
• Students participating in JAZZ JOURNEY have shown improvements in musical skills and musical confidence, and in artistic collaboration

Feedback from Jazz Journey student:
“If somebody had told the young me (and even the 50 year old me) that one day I would attend a jazz orchestra workshop and play alongside wonderful jazz artists of all ages, I would not have believed it. Yet it happened! A subconscious, well-hidden yearned-for dream came true and you and Laura and all the others made that happen. So I thank you with all my heart. It is so important what you do. Giving people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds the opportunity to learn, to share and more importantly to believe in themselves is one of the best gifts a human being can give to another. You generously and repeatedly gave that gift over the weekend and I have no doubt you will long continue to do so.” Participant, Creative Jazz Orchestra

A full report about JAZZ JOURNEY is available upon request
Summer Music School

The Deal Music and Arts Summer Music School in Dover took place for the first time at the Duke of York's Royal Military School from Monday 12th August to Friday 16th August. This week-long course was attended by over 102 students of all ages and abilities from the age of 7 to retirement age and beyond. Approximately 25% of students were adults. Eight students and two teachers attended from a Performing Arts Academy in Fumel, France. Seventeen educational institutions were represented: Dover Boys Grammar, Dover Girls Grammar, Goodwin Academy Deal, Sir Roger Manwood’s Sandwich, St Edmund’s Catholic School Dover, Simon Langton’s Boys Grammar Canterbury, Kent College, Northbourne Park School, St Lawrence School Ramsgate, Folkestone Girls Grammar, St Faiths School Ash, Dover Technical College, River Primary School, Whitfield Aspen Primary, St Edmund’s Canterbury, Norland College and Warden House Primary.

Each day consisted of full group ensembles, individual section rehearsals and small group ensembles, with also a composer in residence (Peter Cook) who stimulated ideas in improvisation and how to develop them. Fun in music making was had by all; and new friends and new music were being developed each day. A chance to demonstrate to parents and friends what had been achieved came on the Friday evening at the course-end Concert. Everyone was delighted and couldn’t believe just what they were hearing from such a large wide ability group.

Summer Music School report by Graham Harvey, Musical Director.

Students think that Summer Music School is... “Amazing, Stimulating, Cool, Fantastic, Creative, Unforgettable, Brilliant, Inspiring, Enriching, Instructive, Rewarding, Uplifting, Unbelievable, WOW, Fun, Magical, Enlightening”
New Sounds is a bespoke contemporary music ensemble, which combines young professional musicians with local, young and talented musicians. It was established in 2018 to foster, support and promote the performance of contemporary music in Kent. By creating a bespoke side-by-side ensemble, it means that New Sounds can respond to its applicants as well as the appropriate repertoire. Michael Foyle and Maksim Štšura co-lead New Sounds as joint directors. The New Sounds ensemble undertook two major projects in 2019. Project 1: In Spring 2019, the New Sounds Ensemble were led by Paul Edlin in a composition workshop and performance within the installation of the Philharmonia Orchestra’s “Virtual Orchestra”. The young musicians had the opportunity of working alongside Stina Wilson (flautist), Maksim Štšura (pianist), and Colin Alexander (‘cellist). They created 'links' based on material from Lutoslawski’s Chain 1 and Bach’s preludes and fugues together with ideas of planetary movement. They also had the opportunity to play along in Holst’s ‘The Planets’ within the installation itself. It was a unique opportunity for professional and young musicians alike. Young musicians reflected on the experience, and described their favourite moments: “Making improvisation based on The Planets. It was an interesting new way of improvisation” / “Free Composition - it stretched me as a musician and my ability to think on my feet”. Improvisation was new to the vast majority of students; they learnt about improvisatory techniques, improved sight reading, and all understood more about contemporary music by the end of it. Project 2: Bach To The Future: New Sounds and Let’s Dance worked together to create a chain of music and movement throughout the enigmatic and mysterious spaces and chambers of Deal Castle. The
results of the work during the Philharmonia project were created, rehearsed, performed and recorded for use by Let’s Dance dancers, as part of the Deal Festival 2019 performance of New Sounds and Let’s Dance at Deal Castle. This was a very special and memorable event. Lutoslawski’s Chain 1 and a new arrangement of Bach’s Preludes & Fugues (by Joe Parks) were performed by New Sounds and 5 “Chains & Links” improvisatory compositions by the New Sounds ensemble formed links between physical spaces and between the musical interludes of the Bach / Lutoslawski. 13 young musicians and 8 professional musicians were involved, including co directors Michael Foyle and Maksim Štšura. Conductor Paul Edlin. The musical content challenged the young musicians, but all rose to the occasion.

“The performance was timeless and interesting” Young musician

“My favourite part was the Bach - it was out of my comfort zone” Young musician
Let's Dance a programme providing exceptional Contemporary Dance education to young people in schools in East Kent, this year working specifically with Goodwin Academy, Deal. Let’s Dance offers students a sense of ownership and possibility within the creative process, allowing space for play and experimentation. Goodwin Academy added this programme to their school day to extend their otherwise limited dance curriculum contact time. Their Senior Management Team have approved this time out of other subjects as they recognise the benefits. The Let’s Dance students worked with professional dancers, led by Director Vanessa Michielon, for a full academic year (in-school workshops) to build toward a collaborative cross art form performance at Deal Festival. In 2019, as part of DMA's Deal Festival, the students from the Let’s Dance programme participated in an amazing collaborative performance at Deal Castle, called ‘Bach to the Future’. The performance involved the coming together of professional and student contemporary dancers (from the Let’s Dance programme) and professional and student musicians (from DMA's contemporary music education programme, New Sounds). The musical works performed by the New Sounds ensemble (a reimagining of Bach’s Preludes & Fugues and Lutoslawski’s Chain 1) became the framework for new contemporary dance pieces, performed by Let’s Dance students and professional dancers. The performance was mesmerising. It saw the Bach works in effect becoming a ‘chain’ as audience members walked around the gallery/castle to see and hear the newly created pieces of contemporary music and dance. It was performed in the various chambers of the castle, and was received brilliantly by audiences. There were two performances executed on the final Friday of the Festival; both performances saw a completely new audience to other Deal Festival events. The students and teaching staff alike enjoyed the experience, and cited that the unusual location and collaboration between musicians and dancers made the project memorable and improved their overall performance.

“I loved The Chain - it pushed my boundaries as a musician” Young musician

“I learnt about working with a live orchestra and about different styles of dancing” - Student

“Being able to perform in a beautiful location - it made our performance better” - Student

“An amazing opportunity to share exciting new work with students. Three words for Let’s Dance: Challenging, Fun, Motivational” - Teacher
Special Projects: Every year, Deal Music & Arts sees a whole host of world-class performers and artists arriving for the annual Festival. We make the most of them being in town. Many of them hold masterclasses and workshops with local schools or get involved in our education programme in other ways. This year, we provided the following Special Projects.

1) YOUNG FILM PROGRAMMERS: We worked in collaboration with Film Hub South East and Linden Hall Gallery in Deal, to begin a Young Film Programmers group. The group was attended by a small group of local students and young adults aged 16-25, who met up at Linden Hall to plan and put on film screening. Three films have been shown to date: Broken / Minions / Pride, with a total audience of 75. The programme is going well and has been reviewed in August 2019 and will relaunch in the academic year 2019-2020.

2) STEVEN ISSERLIS WORKSHOP: International artist Steven Isserlis performed with Purcell School Orchestra, and gave a masterclass to its students. The feedback from those attending included: “Absolutely inspirational for the students attending” and “Amazing”.

More about Deal Music and Arts Education

As part of our year round work, Deal Music & Arts provides:

★ Live performances for schools & families, in schools and in community venues
★ Free or discounted tickets for participants of our education programme and young people
★ Participatory workshops
★ Support for young people working toward their Arts Awards
★ Platforms for young and local artists & musicians
★ Talks about music and arts education
★ Rolling, year-round programmes of work covering brass music education, jazz music education, contemporary music education, and contemporary dance education, as well as an annual Summer Music School and Special Projects
With thanks to all of our funders and supporters


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