

Paul Archibald - Full Biography

Paul's work as a performing artist is focussed towards his long established relationships with four London-based chamber orchestras, Brandenburg Sinfonia, Britten Sinfonia, London Mozart Players and Orchestra of St John's. As principal trumpet of these orchestras he regularly performs the solo trumpet repertoire and contributes to their creative educational and community-based projects.

His itinerant life as a musician regularly takes him to Asia and the Middle East - performing, teaching and creating new partnerships for his educational organisations, English Music Academy and English Brass Academy. As part of his work with English Music Academy and English Brass Academy, Paul has collaborated with Julie Edwards to develop a range of specialist chamber music courses for young musicians alongside courses specifically focused towards the requirements of the graded music examination system. He works with UK schools and international organisations in many countries including Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Japan, Dubai, Poland and Ukraine.

An active conductor, Paul is Music Director of Regent Brass, one of the finest brass bands in the U.K. Under his direction the band performs original repertoire by contemporary writers, with a particular emphasis on commissioning young talent to compose for the medium.

Paul is currently working on an extended recording project: a new commission by Rebecca Dale and Selina Nwulu entitled STAND, an ambitious new work aimed at crossing cultural boundaries, highlighting the role music has to play in providing a positive message of hope and inspiration. The recording features the London Mozart Players and a host of choirs from around the world alongside guest solo artists. The release of STAND in 2019 will also act as the launch for the work of a new charity founded by Paul - Harmony: Action Through the Arts - bringing benefit to young people who are socially and economically disadvantaged through activity in a range of musical projects.

Paul has been a principal player in the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London Sinfonietta and BBC National Orchestra of Wales and as a chamber musician was a member of the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble and English Brass Ensemble. He is currently a member of the innovative chamber ensemble, Fibonacci Sequence and regularly performs duo repertoire with the pianist Kathron Sturrock.

His career as a trumpeter has covered many genres: classical, contemporary, commercial, film, pop and folk music, working with many popular artists including Barbara Streisand, Shirley Bassey, Sir Paul McCartney, Bloc Party and Oasis. His film work includes Batman, Gladiator, Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter and Shrek and his interest in folk music stems from his work with the iconic folk group, Brass Monkey and the folk-rock band, Home Service.

As a teacher Paul has been a professor at the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music and was Head of Wind, Brass and Percussion at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He regularly gives masterclasses and every year organises the brass course at the Dartington International Summer School. His arrangements and compositions are published by Brass Wind Publications and he is the editor of two series of brass music: English Brass Collection and the Paul Archibald Collection.

His recording of the Shostakovich Concerto No 1 op 35 for trumpet, piano and strings with Alain Lefèvre (piano), Mathias Bamert (conductor) and the London Mozart Players was awarded Canada's prestigious JUNO award for best Classical Album in 2010. In 2003 he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, London, limited to 300 former Academy students, and awarded to those musicians who have distinguished themselves within the profession.