

MUSIC AT FITZ

Fitz has an active and sociable musical life, and the College Music Society warmly welcomes members of varied genres and levels of experience. **The Freshers' Concert, an informal concert for undergraduate and graduate freshers alike, will be on Monday 10th October at 7pm in the Chapel,** and you absolutely don't have to be slickly prepared or world-beatingly competent – it's about meeting people. Concerts at Fitz occur once or twice a week during termtime and provide a musical social hub as well as a performance context. These take in formal and informal concerts by students and by visiting professionals in as well as gathered events such as jazz in the College Bar and the popular termly Graduate Salon of Music & Poetry.

The annual fully-staged opera is a chance for musicians and theatrical types of all levels of experience to involve themselves in a large-scale event. 2022's



hilarious English version of Mozart's romantic comedy *Così fan tutte* involved over 40 Fitz students as principals, chorus, orchestra and assisting in production, publicity, costume, hair, make-up, lighting and stewarding.



Fitz Barbershop, the Fitz Sirens (sometimes united in the form of the MixBillys), the Gospel Choir, Fitz Swing and the Orchestra-on-the-Hill are all stable, student-led musical endeavours, and each year a variety of smaller bands and chamber ensembles form. Support is available to students wishing to establish ensembles. The Choir sings a diverse range of sacred and secular music both within and outside the College Chapel, and usually comprises 24-28 singers of varied musical backgrounds. It tours once a year (2022: Rome) and has just recorded an album (available on iTunes and Spotify)

and in physical form from September) called *the stalk had no knots*. Auditions are informal and the atmosphere is friendly – if you're interested in joining, you should email music.director@fitz.cam.ac.uk as soon as possible.

Instrumental and vocal lessons and masterclasses are an important part of Fitz musical life, and are subsidised for musicians of all levels and reading for all subjects and not just those reading for the Music Tripos. We have an in-house piano accompanist and teacher, and voice and instrumental teachers visiting regularly, and have enjoyed a recent masterclass in contemporary string playing from violinist Mandhira de Saram of the Ligeti String Quartet; next up is improvisation with Rosie Bergonzi of Boubakiki handpan and saxophone duo.



Fitz has a fine auditorium and a beautiful chapel, practice rooms both large and small, three grand and several upright and digital pianos, two organs, several harpsichords and a drum kit, as well as violins, cellos and guitars for loan to international students and amplification for bands. There are small scholarships available in solo and collaborative piano, organ, string playing, choral singing, instrumental playing, solo saxophone playing and conducting & musical leadership.



The Director of Music, Catherine Groom is always delighted to hear from prospective students with an interest in music in College. She can be reached at music.director@fitz.cam.ac.uk