## **GUILDHALL HARP DEPARTMENT EVENTS: SPRING TERM 2021**

Music has never been more important, and at Guildhall we are doing our best to light up these dark times. In this latest lockdown we have had students and teachers scattered around Europe, but thanks to the wonders of technology, whether they are in Ireland, Germany, Austria or Estonia, we have kept them close and connected. **Keziah Thomas** has been teaching her new course 'Career Planning in the Digital Age', while **Monika Stadler** has given Jazz workshops from Vienna, and **Andrew Lawrence-King** in Tallinn has given a 7-week course 'HIP for Harps' (Historically-Informed Performance).

The silver lining in this current situation is the possibility of having classes from great practitioners all over the world. Our 'Light Up The Lockdown' series continues this term with two Alexander Technique workshops from **Fiona Tree** from The Netherlands, who has taught AT to musicians for 30 years at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, as well as starting out as a harpist. We also welcome **Maeve Gilchrist** from the US, who will teach her celebrated Rhythm Intensive masterclass.

In January **Lise Vandersmissen** gave a wonderful online recital for the UK Harp Association as a result of winning one of their Emerging Artists awards. Our **Open Day** will be held online on March 1, and will include Lise's recital, as well as a live presentation and Q & As, a live teaching demonstration, virtual tours and a chance to chat to a current student.

In the Autumn term we were back teaching in person, and the students enjoyed playing both chamber music and in larger groups with the Opera Double Bill of Wolf-Ferrari and Mascagni; Janacek and Sibelius in the Symphony Orchestra; Zimmerman in the Ubu Ensemble; and Ravel, Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Franck and Sibelius in the repertoire orchestra. In November we were able to have a live Masterclass with **Keziah Thomas** in our beautiful Milton Court Concert Hall.

During the first lockdown we enjoyed an explosion of creativity with our fantastic 'Light Up The Lockdown' series of online events: **Alex Rider** presenting a class on the music of Marcel Tournier; a Masterclass with **Heidi Krutzen**, Principal Harp of the Philharmonia Orchestra; Inner Harmony with **Manon Browning**; Schafer's Soundscapes with **Eleanor Turner**; **Oliver Wass** on Extended Techniques; and **Keziah Thomas** with her Rite of Spring Technical Workout.

Take a look at our Facebook page for full details of all our activities: @GuildhallHarps