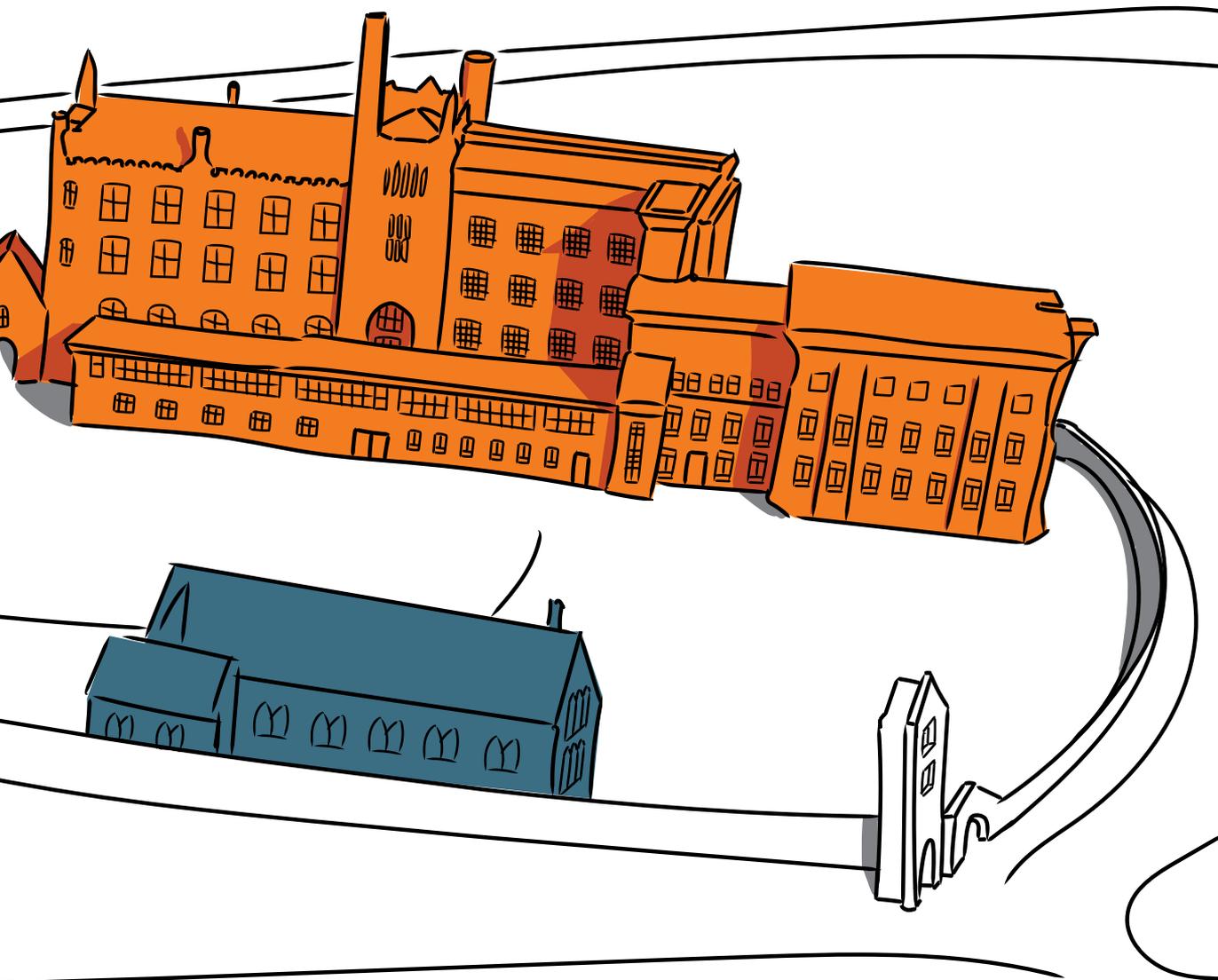


# Chetham's Annual Review

2018/2019





“Chetham’s School of Music is the UK’s leading music school and a cultural gem that the whole country should be proud of.”

**Richard Morrison**, Chief culture writer and Chief music critic,  
The Times (2012)

Chetham’s  
Long Millgate  
Manchester  
M3 1SB

0161 834 9644  
hello@chethams.com  
www.chethams.com

Registered Charity Number 526702

# The Hospital and Library in Manchester

Founded by **Humphrey Chetham Esq** and incorporated by **King Charles II**

## Royal Patron

HRH Prince Edward, The Earl of Wessex

## Feoffees

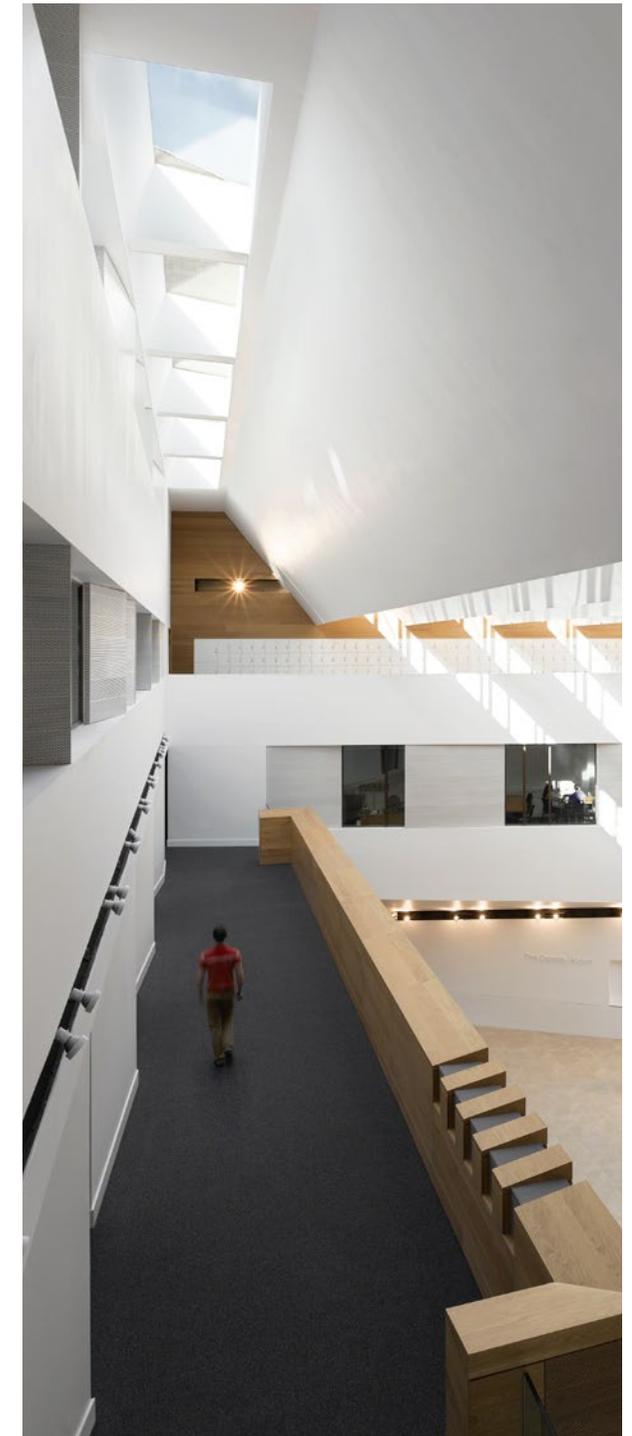
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## Introduction from the Chair of the Feoffees



I am pleased to introduce this report on the activities of the Chetham's Foundation for the last year. In the following pages, I hope you gain a glimpse of the many and varied activities which have marked our year.

Chetham's Hospital and Library was, of course, established under the Will of Humphrey Chetham and began operation in 1655, although Chetham's School of Music as we know it now was only established in 1969.

For hundreds of years, Chetham's has played an important regional and national role in our country. It is now acknowledged as the leading music school in this country, with a growing international reputation. Chetham's Library, the oldest public Library in the country, continues to extend its range of activities.

Chetham's now champions learning through engaging programmes of music and scholarship.

2019 marks the 50th Anniversary of the creation of the modern Chetham's School of Music. This year there will be a series of events to celebrate this milestone. I hope you will be able to join us.

In the following pages, you will see something of our achievements from the last year, whether they be unforgettable performances by our students or wonderful exhibitions in the Library and medieval buildings.

It used to be said that painting the Forth Bridge never stopped because as soon as it was finished, it was necessary to start all over again. That is not now the case with the invention of longer lasting products. We are different, not simply because we have ambition to continue to develop in all our areas of activity, but also because the need to maintain and improve medieval buildings never ceases.

To those of you who already support us, I extend my grateful thanks and the hope that you will continue to help and stay in touch. To others, I encourage you to think about how you, too, might be able to help us.

I hope you will enjoy reading this report. However good it is, it cannot match the experience of actually coming to see us, to hear our music played or to see the displays in our Library. I encourage you to find the time to try to come to see us. Once seen, never forgotten.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

**Paul Lee**



## An educational community

Chetham's is a remarkable and unique school, with a community of over three hundred students and more than four hundred staff, some of whom live and work across this historic site, tucked into the corner of a vibrant and ever-developing city.

We are the only school in the UK where you will see and hear nearly every musical instrument (mostly in their protective cases!) dragged and bumped over cobbles and through a medieval arch. Voices ring out of our cloisters and performing spaces, often in new works created by outstanding composers. Chetham's exists to ensure that musical excellence continues regardless of a child's background or financial circumstances. We also aim to develop the whole person in moral, social, cultural, and spiritual development.

We strive to deliver the school curriculum and aspirational music programme, with the support of the Department for Education (DfE), charitable trusts and foundations, the business community, and many private individuals. Their financial investment enables us to cover the day-to-day operations of the school and other charitable activities. We are grateful for all the support we receive, and continue to identify other sources to enable us to continue our important work.

On our historic site there are eight buildings, including teaching spaces, with ninety nine musical practice rooms, staff accommodation, boarding houses, two new performance venues and a historical Library of national and international importance, housed in medieval buildings, all of which we must maintain. We generate additional income by letting our facilities for weddings and events, when not in use by our students, and even had the occasional filming.

One of our immediate objectives is to develop our medieval buildings, and the Library collections, for visitors. We will do this in a sympathetic and inspiring way, whilst not forgetting that they are working buildings in daily use.

## Where music comes first

Students at Chetham's are proudly supported by funding from the Department for Education (DfE) through the Music and Dance Scheme (MDS). The MDS, started in 1978, set out to help specialist education or training for young musicians and dancers. Now over eight hundred government-aided students receive funding each year, to attend one of the eight MDS schools in England.

Chetham's is one of four specialist music schools in England, and the largest specialist music school in the UK. Currently a total of two hundred and sixty three students are totally or partially funded by the MDS. That's around 90% of our students.

The four specialist music schools are:

<b>Chetham's School of Music</b>	300+ music students
<b>Purcell School</b>	180+ music students
<b>Wells Cathedral School</b>	78+ music students
<b>Yehudi Menuhin School</b>	88/79+ music students

Chetham's is the biggest and broadest in its musical programme, and also has a close association with Manchester Cathedral, by fifteen choristers who maintain the choral tradition of the place. We are one of the sixty schools of the Choir Schools Association, a worldwide association that promotes the values of a choral education, singing locally, nationally, and internationally. We are fortunate to include these young boys and girls in Chetham's community.



"The finesse of the playing was astonishing. This is 'just a school orchestra?' Close your eyes and you couldn't believe it."

**Richard Morrison**, Chief culture writer and Chief music critic, The Times (April 2017)

# Chetham's at a glance



A 100% pass rate with A Level students, nearly 80% of A Level grades at A\*- B



96% of GCSE students have passed with grades from A\*- C



In 2018 more than 68% of our students went on to University or Conservatoires, most notably the Royal Northern College of Music, Royal College of Music, and the Royal Academy of Music



More than 65% of leavers have been awarded music college scholarships

1 : 2

Chetham's has a 1:2 teacher to student ratio

170+ We are the most popular music school in the UK, with more than 170 applications auditioned in 2017/18



The Library, most unusually, holds the death mask of Thomas Dunham Whitaker (1759-1821)

700+

We have regular contact with more than 700 alumni from all over the UK and across the world

250,000+

Chetham's Library holds over 250,000 items, including our oldest and most valuable item, the Flores Historiarum manuscript, dating from the 13th century

A new 482-seater, The Stoller Hall was opened by HRH The Earl of Wessex in April 2017, with a five star review from The Times

482

162

The Stoller Hall hosted 162 performances in 2017/18

100+

We have 60 purpose-built practice rooms and 50 music-teaching rooms (as well as classrooms for other subjects), the envy of Conservatoires across the world!

Annually ten students are awarded positions in the National Youth Orchestra or National Children's Orchestra

6

We have six previous BBC Young Musician of the Year winners (including the two youngest winners, and the very first winner of the Young Jazz Musician award)

20,000

More than 20,000 people attended a performance in The Stoller Hall in 2018

est. 1655

Chetham's Library has been open to the public since 1655, the oldest surviving public library in the United Kingdom

Outreach

In 2018, our Outreach programme has delivered over 19 projects, generating more than 60 events, including workshops, performances and courses

Over 3,400 people have benefited from our Outreach programme

## Stephen Threlfall - Director of Music

What a momentous year in the history of Chetham's School of Music. I am delighted with the launch of fifty special concerts and celebratory events, taking place from January to December 2019 to mark Chetham's 50th Anniversary. Together they showcase a remarkable year for the school, not only for our current students but for former students, staff and friends as well as our loyal and ever growing audiences in The Stoller Hall.

Throughout the year we have welcomed numerous former students back to school as professional artists. Their visits enable us to celebrate outstanding alumni alongside youthful talent, and to showcase the breadth of Chetham's musical community with concerts in Manchester, London, and further afield.

Anniversaries are a moment to look both forward and back. We remember with gratitude the school's founding fathers, and the particular vision of those such as Gerald Littlewood and Ewart Boddington who dreamed of a specialist music school for Manchester. At the same time we develop our own vision of Chetham's rich future, symbolised by the new school facilities of 2012 and the addition of the outstanding Stoller Hall in 2017. These transformations were made possible by the immense generosity of individuals who share our ambition to support and develop the young musicians who come to Chetham's from across the UK and the world.

I am personally thrilled and grateful to the many Chetham's alumni who have readily 'come on board', as well as the number of partners ranging from North West music hubs to colleagues in Norway, Australia, China and Europe who have joined us.

Our new partnership with Manchester Camerata for *Mozart: Made in Manchester*, launched in style last April 2018, and in its first year has seen students leapfrog a generation into playing side-by-side with the orchestra, which included performing alongside the orchestra in Shanghai and Wuhan, China.

The annual Chetham's International Piano Summer School was once more oversubscribed, doubtless a testament to the programme and the close proximity to many outstanding artists and teachers. We also welcomed the return of the Concerto Competition for young pianists, with the finals kindly supported by Manchester Camerata.

With my final year as Director of Music at an end, it has been my pleasure and privilege to work with such wonderful colleagues, students and friends. I know Chetham's will continue to look ahead to expand its horizons, to celebrate dedication and creativity, and to play a leading role in the musical landscape of our nation and beyond.



“At Chets you may think the days are very long but because you are doing the subject that you love, they fly by. What I find brilliant is that all the teachers and students love music as much as I do!”

**Katie**, 13





## ...because we love to perform

We are excited to have embarked on an ambitious five-year project with Manchester Camerata, an internationally renowned orchestra, to perform and record all of the Mozart piano concertos. The performance and recording cycle will feature world-renowned artists such as Gábor Takács-Nagy and Jean-Efflam Bavouzet with students from Chetham's joining the orchestra. This will be the first time each concerto will be paired with Mozart's Opera overtures, and will be the first time they have been recorded in Manchester.

This joint venture, enabled by our new state of the art performance and recording facilities at The Stoller Hall, will enrich the musical lives of our students, giving them opportunities to engage with the wider community in Manchester's newest dedicated, and world-class performance space.

Amongst our generous donors, we are enormously grateful to the Trustees of the Haworth Trust for their support of a Masterclass series. With their support we are able to bring leading artists and musicians to Chetham's from across the world. When they are in residence, they work with our students, advising on technique and musical style. These are invaluable opportunities for our students to gain an insight, over and above their regular teaching, and for our audiences to gain an understanding into the learning and practice behind music performance.

Our Masterclass programme has so far included Tasmin Little, Simon Callaghan, Soon-mi Chung, Craig Ogden, Cordelia Williams, Angela Barnes, Christoph Richter, Fionnuala Hunt, Stephen Hough, Oliver Janes, Ole Eirik Ree, Iain Ballamy, Thomas Riebl, Joshua Batty, Marcus Farnsworth, Stephan Picard, James Willshire and Raphael Wallfisch.

Each term Chetham's students participate in a dedicated 'Music Course'. This is a rigorous week of rehearsals leading up to major performances for our ensembles and orchestras. They also allow us to provide opportunities for students who have excelled in their musical teaching, for example, the three winners of the previous year's 'Concerto Competition' obtained highly-coveted soloist positions at our major ensemble performances.

A year or more ago, as we began making plans for Chetham's 50th Anniversary, it seemed irresistible and tantalising to consider programming Mahler's unsurpassable Symphony of a Thousand. This momentous work presented a unique opportunity to celebrate this landmark in the School's history, on a scale which unites many generations of musicians.

July's performance included many former students, solo artists and partner institutions, each playing their part in an uplifting symphonic journey. We were fortunate to have our patron the Earl of Wessex join us on the night, and for the entire concert to be recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3. It was particularly fitting for the BBC presenter to be our very own Tom Redmond, soon to be Director of Music at Chetham's, from September 2019.

"It is the "thousand" musicians gathered on the stage of the Bridgewater Hall that is really what this School and the future is all about"

**HRH The Earl of Wessex KG GCVO**, July 2019

## Breaking boundaries

We are delighted that, against a background of changing priorities, our Outreach work has never been more popular, or in demand. The work is funded exclusively by external support from charitable trusts, including an annual regular donation from the Zochonis Charitable Trust. We continue to create engaging opportunities for young musicians to develop their skills.

Learning is at the heart of what we do, and our Outreach programme continues to grow and develop. We now engage over three thousand members of the community every year, through a series of activities including workshops, Masterclasses and school visits. Our work is often delivered in collaboration with a number of strategic partners, including the Greater Manchester Music Hub (comprising of music services in nine of Greater Manchester's ten boroughs), Accent Music Hub, MyHub and Manchester Camerata. This has a significant impact on the lives of young people in the North West.

Throughout 2018/19 our Schools and Family concerts have pushed boundaries and explored new and exciting ways to enhance learning through music. *Around the World in Music* concerts were a great success with over a hundred and fifty students attending. Audiences were taken on an interactive world-wide trip by the Chetham's Outreach Ensemble, exploring various sections of the orchestra, discovering instruments and hearing music from each country. Students were introduced to musical terms and styles and encouraged to get involved with the musical experience.

Our Schools and Family concerts have been designed to be engaging and appropriate for children at primary school, particularly Key Stage 2. Previous performances have included *Sound Sums*, *A Voyage Through the Orchestra* and *A Musical Menagerie*. These concerts last approximately one hour and are performed by a professional chamber orchestra in The Stoller Hall. The concerts are presented by members of the chamber orchestra, with each 'set' consisting of three performances - two for schools and one for families. These are open and inclusive, with nearly two thousand people attending over a year. We are excited to take these concerts on tour to Cumbria during July 2019, in partnership with the Music Hub for that area.

Another initiative identified by the Outreach team were GCSE listening papers, which are a real challenge to students, nation-wide. Research has found that these papers can be difficult to access in terms of content, and students have low confidence and expectations in relation to this element of the examination. Chetham's engaged with Loreto High, and William Hulme Grammar School in Manchester. Through a series of discussions and rigorous processes we worked with music teachers in both schools and identified elements, of the paper, which were a particular challenge to students. We delivered four workshops for students to enhance listening skills. As part of this process we provided live listening experiences at The Stoller Hall, and at the Royal Northern College of Music in partnership with Manchester Camerata.

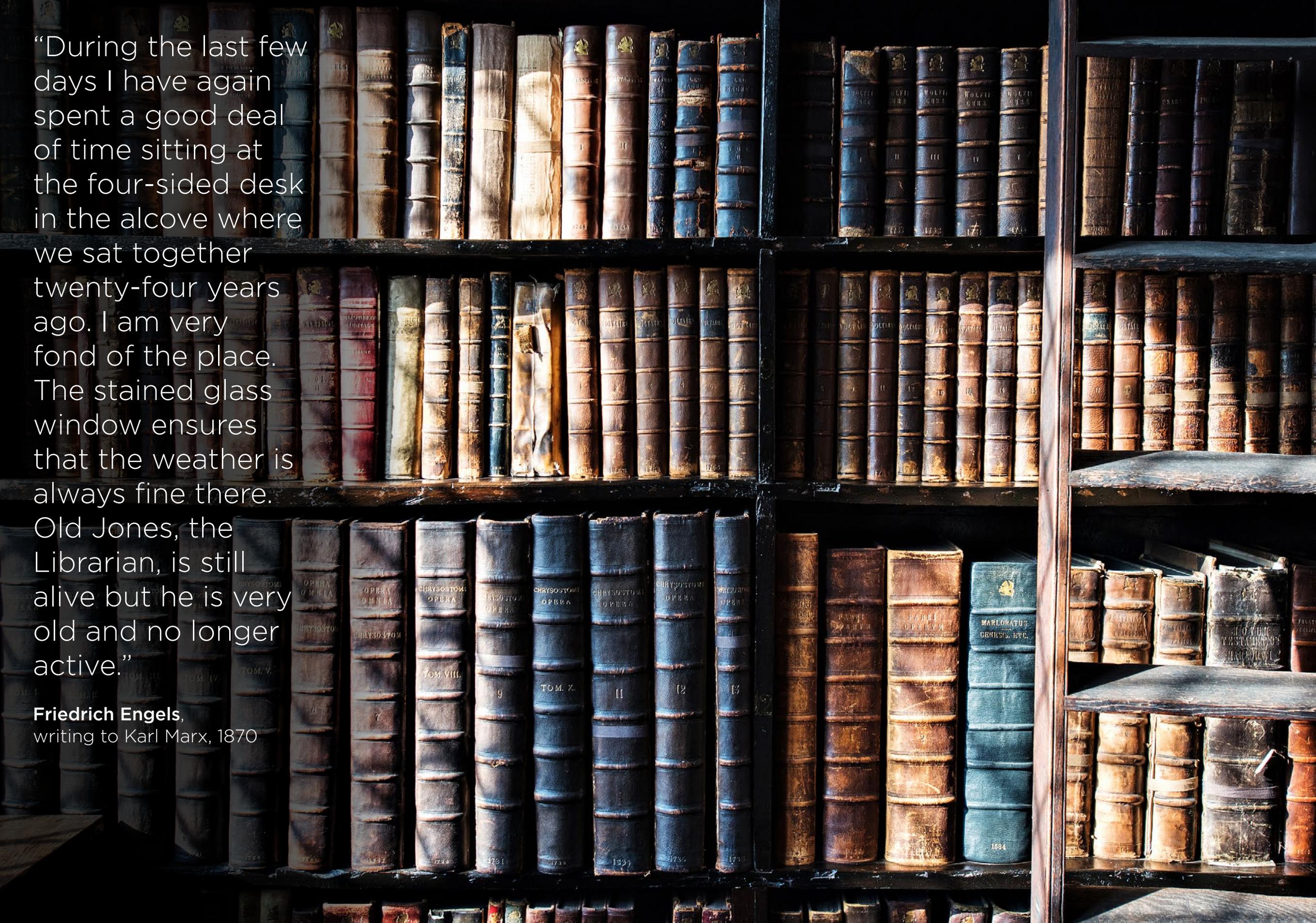
As a result of this initiative students completed a questionnaire. The results were encouraging:

- 90% of respondents said they would find it easier to recognise and identify instruments
- 82% felt they were more involved in music at school as a result of this project
- 82% said they would find it easier to recognise musical / instrumental techniques, and identify a single part from an ensemble, and recognise the historic periods of classical music when listening.

"I am a teacher and have been to lots of events such as this. This was my first time here. I thought it was outstanding. For children of such a young age - being able to relax and enjoy the music whilst being engaged was great. Thank you to all the orchestra/ensemble who were prepared to make 'fools' of themselves. My six year old loved it and we will be back."

**Audience member**, May 2018





“During the last few days I have again spent a good deal of time sitting at the four-sided desk in the alcove where we sat together twenty-four years ago. I am very fond of the place. The stained glass window ensures that the weather is always fine there. Old Jones, the Librarian, is still alive but he is very old and no longer active.”

**Friedrich Engels,**  
writing to Karl Marx, 1870

## A Designated Outstanding collection

The site and buildings of Chetham's have great historical significance in themselves. This is the site on which the City of Manchester began, and much of the original city wall is still intact. The buildings are older than the foundations of the Charity itself, built in 1421 to provide accommodation for the warden and fellows of the Collegiate Church of Manchester (now Manchester Cathedral).

Chetham's Library was established in 1653 under the will of Humphrey Chetham (1580-1653) a prosperous Manchester textile merchant, banker and landowner, and is the oldest of the UK's surviving independent libraries.

The Library began acquiring books in August 1655, and now contains over a hundred thousand books, of which sixty thousand were published before 1851. The collection of early printed books are particularly strong in theology, history, science, medicine and the classics. The Library collection also holds a wealth of ephemera, manuscript diaries, letters and deeds, prints, paintings and glass lantern-slides.

Arts Council England has designated Chetham's buildings, books, archives, furniture and paintings a collection of national and international importance. One of thirteen in the North West, and of one hundred and forty nine in the whole of England. The Library is also an accredited museum.

Today the Library team works to bring these collections to new audiences. Scholars are still welcome to study and research today, and the Library continues to strengthen its access for all through a range of displays, events and links to universities, schools, community groups and cultural organisations to bring the collection to life both for those who visit in person, and for those using our collections around the world via digitisation online.

The strength and breadth of its collections, coupled with its rich history being housed in Manchester's only substantially medieval building ensures the Library continues to be both a significant centre for research and a deservedly popular place to visit.

### Michael Powell 1955-2019

It was with heavy hearts that Chetham's announced the death of our beloved colleague and friend in March 2019. Michael was Chetham's Librarian for thirty five years. It was through Michael's vision, intellectual brilliance and charisma that the Library was transformed. When he took over in the 1980's, the Library was a cold place; readers were tolerated rather than welcomed and catalogues were hopelessly out of date. During Michael's long tenure, and with a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), restoration of the building was funded and an electronic catalogue created. The Library moved from a little-known curiosity to an internationally respected academic library and a visitor destination.



## Manchester's oldest library

The Library launched its online catalogue of manuscripts and archives thanks to a three-year partnership with the Booth Charities of Salford. Eighteen thousand five hundred records have so far been uploaded to the catalogue, including fifteen thousand individual archival items and over four thousand images illustrating the history of Salford and its surrounding communities.

As part of the project, work has also been done with Salford based volunteers to record personal stories of the area inspired by items in the collection. A series of events, both on site and elsewhere, is being organised to encourage engagement with the new catalogue, and to enrich it with improved data. It will be a permanent resource for the future.

In 2018 we received a scrapbook into which text and images have been contributed by Manchester-based antiquary Thomas Barritt (1743-1820), architect John Palmer, and other Manchester artists. Tucked between the leaves are illustrative and descriptive material, letters and bills by the Manchester bookseller William Ford (1771-1832) mainly concerned with his attempt to publish a history of Chetham's based on the unpublished manuscript history of John Greswell. For this, Ford arranged for the architect John Palmer to produce scale drawings and sketches, and raised subscriptions for the book. In the end the book did not see the light of day and Palmer's sketches were engraved by Charles Pye and eventually incorporated into *History of the foundations in Manchester of Christ's College, Chetham's Hospital, and the free Grammar School* (Manchester: T. Agnew and J. Zanetti, 1828-1848). But Palmer's pencil sketches are probably the earliest surviving drawings of Chetham's, making this a hugely valuable addition to our Library and the history of Manchester.

The Library saw the completion of the Arts Council England funded *Ballad of Chetham's Library*. This project allowed us to digitise our entire ballads collection and share it with the public online. As part of the project, we staged a lecture series from the English Folk-Dance and Song Society, an academic conference based around the ephemera of the Peterloo magistrate W.R. Hay, a workshop on block printing based on the ballads, and a storytelling event for children. The digitisation element of this project has seen over six thousand rare and unique items made available and accessible online through the Library's printed items catalogue, and includes the nationally important Halliwell-Phillipps collection of ballads and broadsides, the Axon and Holt 19th-century ballad collections, and the Peterloo-related items of the W.R. Hay portfolio.

In June 2019, the Library welcomed back Dr Jacqueline Riding, consultant historian on Mike Leigh's feature film *Peterloo* (2018) and author of *Peterloo: The Story of the Manchester Massacre* (2018). Jacqueline first visited us to consult the large collection of primary source material relating to Peterloo held here at Chetham's Library and came back to give a lecture, in a sold out event, about her research methods and the process she used to transfer the history of Peterloo from page to screen.

Finally, we were pleased to add a large local history collection to the Library, the life's work of a notable local historian of Prestwich, Ian Pringle. Through generous gifts and a final bequest, Mr Pringle's whole collection is now at the Library. Volunteers have sifted through hundreds of documents and thousands of photographs, as well as maps, prints, engravings, plans and postcards. The documents are now largely listed and stored, and we look forward to working further on the interpretation and sharing of this significant collection with users and visitors in the coming years.



All the books were amazing, I loved the displays and all the photos. It's amazing how you've kept all of the books. It was really mysterious.

Eliza, 2017

## Where small is beautiful

The Stoller Hall remains one of the most acoustically advanced concert halls in the country. The Hall provides a musical experience unlike any other, for both audiences and artists alike, and welcomes acclaimed performers from across the world. With support from audiences and benefactors we will develop and grow the Hall's artistic programme, thereby enhancing our impact, and reputation, on the cultural landscape of Greater Manchester and the nation.

Built with £8.7m funds, the concert hall boasts a four hundred and eighty-two seated acoustically advanced auditorium. Sound engineers from Arup ensured there are no vibrations or interrupting sounds from the neighbouring Victoria Station, and asymmetric solid oak panelling provides the perfect finish to reflect the music most effectively. Above the seats are a series of banners which can be retracted to change the reverberation of the space by nearly a second – a huge amount of time in orchestral terms, and underneath the stage is a humidity controlled storage area for its Steinway piano. The Stoller Hall is an outstanding performance space for a variety of ensembles and genres: from chamber music, choirs and symphony orchestras, to contemporary and jazz music, comedy and the spoken word. The Stoller Hall provides Chetham's students with a rehearsal hall and performance space that is the envy of the world.

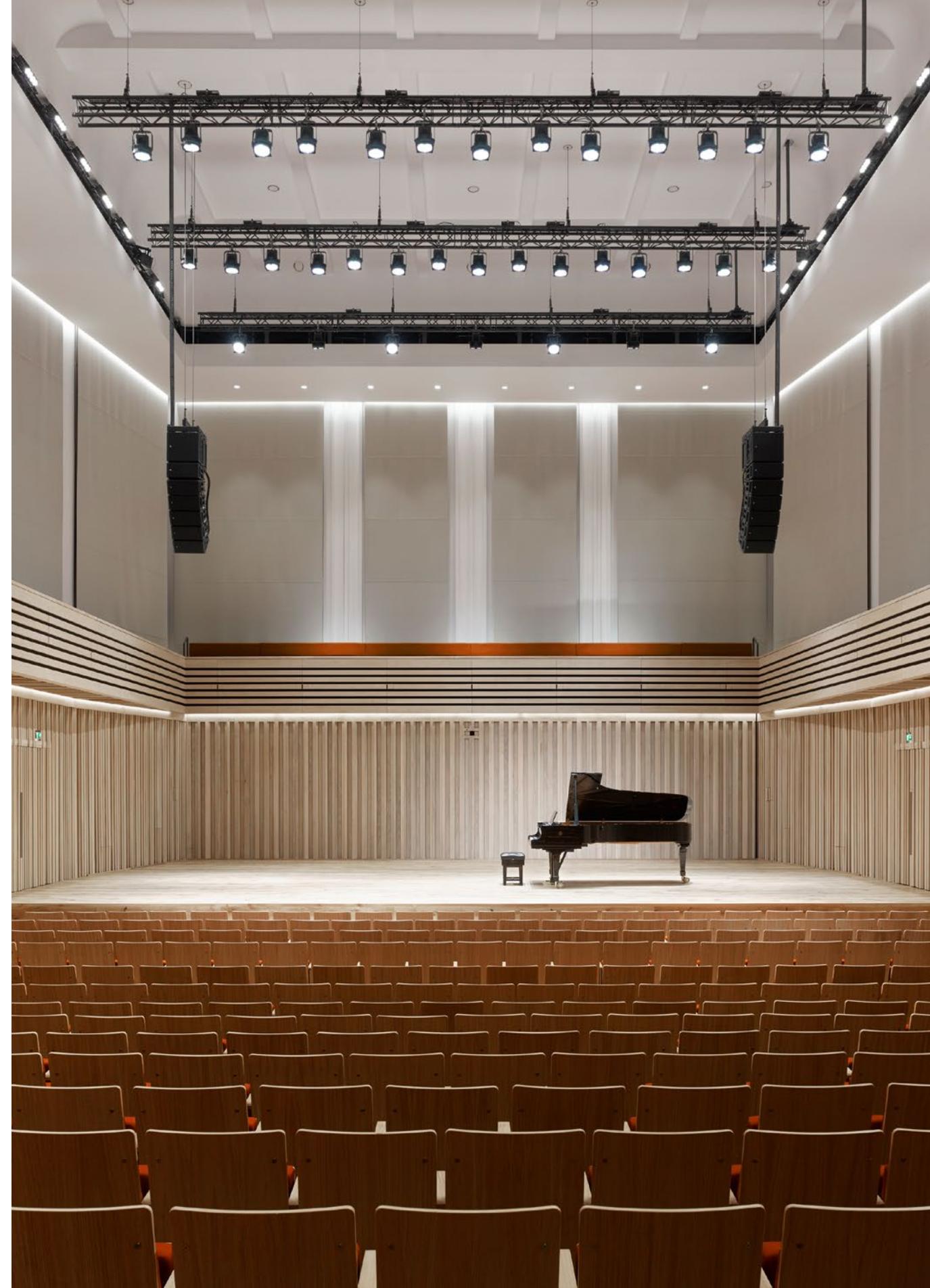
The 2018/19 year was our second full season of events in The Stoller Hall, and as Chetham's celebrates its 50th Anniversary we have welcomed a range of top quality international performers from across a wide variety of musical genres with a programme of fifty concerts over the course of the year, representing everything that Chetham's is today.

Notable alumni included pianists Leon McCawley and Peter Donohoe, as well as multi-talented singer/songwriter Olivia Chaney. In March 2019 we celebrated female composers, with a world premiere by Emma-Ruth Richards as the centrepiece to International Women's Day. *This Woman's Work* was generously supported by external charitable trusts. We have developed strong relationships with various organisations, including Northern Chamber Orchestra, Manchester Camerata and our Ensemble in Residence - Manchester Collective (an exciting new group with a mission to create radical human experiences through live music).

Working with soloists and visiting ensembles through The Stoller Hall has brought unique opportunities for our students, with side-by-side performance experience, Masterclasses and engagement with live performances.

The Carole Nash Hall is home to our free lunchtime concerts series providing invaluable performance experience for our students, and The Stoller Hall and Carole Nash Hall are finding new uses, for example Outreach activities, filming and recording, performance competitions, and as the new home for Chetham's International Summer School and Piano Series. Supporting our artistic programme, our new spaces are also proving to be popular conference and event spaces and are being used by a wide range of organisations from Craghoppers and ICAEW through to The Christie and The BBC.

As we move into our third full year of events in 2019/20 we are developing the thread of our programming, widening our audience reach, and increasing access to live music through our fabulous venue. We are becoming a key cultural destination in Manchester.



# Supporting Chetham's

It has been a busy and productive year for the Development Team, whose main aim is to generate additional income for the three separate and distinct charities that together make up the Chetham's Foundation.

## Chetham's Hospital

### Chetham's School of Music

includes The Stoller Hall, and Outreach

### Chetham's Library

A key aspect of this work is to raise funds for bursaries so that every young musician can attend Chetham's based on their musical talent and not on their ability to pay. Although we receive funding from the Department for Education's (DfE) Music and Dance Scheme (MDS) this does not cover all the students who require financial support to study at Chetham's, for example our growing commitment to international students.

A major objective for Chetham's Hospital Charity has been to continue to fulfil its stated aims, including progressing Chetham's Capital Projects. Fundraising has never been more crucial to ensure funds are available to the Project, having raised and committed £42.million so far.

During 2018/19 Chetham's committed to the extensive refurbishment and improvement of accommodation for our senior students, in the top floors of the Millgate Building. With the first phase of work to be completed in September 2019, ready for the students return, there will be ten brand new four-bed rooms, split across two levels with a new mezzanine in each of the rooms. Individual study areas and storage will provide space for academic work and better communal spaces.

Fundraising will be a priority to enable works to continue over this five year building project. This first phase has been generously supported by The Oglesby Charitable Trust.

Preparations have begun for the final phase of the committed Capital Project, with an additional £12.million needed to provide an enhanced visitor experience of the Library and medieval buildings, with an aim to create a separate visitors entrance, improve the Library's overall sustainability, and provide urgent restoration and conservation work on the delicate buildings.

The Development Team has other targets including generating funds to support Outreach, artistic and Masterclass programmes in The Stoller Hall, as well as conservation and digitisation projects in the Library.

We are enormously grateful to all those people who continue to support our work and activities.

If you would like further information about ways you might like to support Chetham's, including legacy giving please contact the **Development Team**, on 0161 838 7202 or [development@chethams.com](mailto:development@chethams.com)

# Benefactors and Donors

Thank you to everyone who supports Chetham's through membership, patronage or donations, or by donating their time. Much has been accomplished in 2018/19 and it is only right that we celebrate our success with all of you who have made this possible.

"Chetham's is one of the jewels in Manchester's crown and to now see the building complete with its very own concert hall is heart-warming for everyone but particularly for the students. These fantastic musicians will be able to flourish within the Hall and The Stoller Charitable Trust is incredibly proud to have played a part in this."

**Sir Norman Stoller** CBE



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And all donors who wish to remain anonymous, those who have given gifts under £1,000 and those who have left a gift to Chetham's in their will.



