



The Royal Musical Association 150th Anniversary Fellowships

Given the extremely challenging environment facing Early Career Researchers, the RMA is establishing a programme of single-year postdoctoral fellowships (the RMA 150th Fellowships; £3,000 each). The fellowships, open to applicants in all music sub-disciplines, will facilitate completion of a major musical research project by scholars *not* holding full-time, open-ended Teaching and Research academic posts in Higher Education. Major projects include (but are not limited to) books, articles, and substantial compositions or research-related concerts and events.

In the first instance, the RMA seeks to raise £30,000 to support the fellowship scheme for three years (2025-2028), awarding three fellowships each year. Ongoing fundraising and applications to foundations, though, will ensure the continuation of the scheme beyond the initial period.

Eligibility

Successful applicants will be at work on projects of compelling academic excellence. They will be members of the RMA and will have obtained a PhD in the last 5 years; will be either independent scholars, or not currently in a full-time teaching-research academic post in Higher Education; will be carrying out research in a recognised music sub-discipline (e.g. musicology, ethnomusicology, performance, composition, music psychology, music education, music management); and will be either UK citizens, UK permanent residents, or non-UK citizens holding a PhD from a UK institution.

Funds will be used for legitimate research expenses associated with a project. Receipts or other evidence will be required. Expenses can include, but are not limited to the following: travel/accommodation costs associated with research trips to undertake project work; travel/accommodation/registration costs for trips to conferences to present and receive feedback on research; costs associated with concerts and other events at which research is disseminated; and costs of procuring essential research materials.

Application Process

Applications will comprise a one-page project proposal, an indicative budget outline, and a two-page curriculum vitae. Successful candidates will be selected for the academic excellence of their proposals, and external markers of achievement, such as previous publications, compositions, performances, and prizes received.

Candidates will be selected by a five-person panel comprising: the RMA President, or their designate (chair); an RMA Vice-President; and three members of the RMA in good standing, approved by the RMA Council (the governing body of the organisation) who collectively represent a broad range of musical sub-disciplines.

Fellowship recipients' projects will be showcased at special events during RMA Annual conferences.

Simon Keefe
RMA President