



MEDIA RELEASE

Immediate release

19 May 2014

PLYMOUTH MUSIC ZONE BRINGS WORLD CLASS ORCHESTRA TO OLDER PEOPLE IN PLYMOUTH!

The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment is unlike any other orchestra you've ever known and Plymouth's own community music charity, Plymouth Music Zone, is thrilled to be bringing them back to the city for the third year running.

Musicians from the two organisations will be working with disabled young adults at PMZ's centre in Devonport using a combination of digital music and traditional, period-specific instruments. An exciting new venture this year comes when they'll be touring older people's residential homes which PMZ works with on a regular basis, thanks to funding from Lloyds Bank Foundation. Many of these residents are living with dementia or other disabilities or illnesses, and singing and making music together helps to reduce isolation and lifts their spirits.

Together they'll be inspiring and exciting PMZ participants by helping them compose and perform their music to live audiences.

Cherry Forbes, OAE Education Director says:

We're delighted to be returning to PMZ for another residency. The OAE and PMZ share the same values of giving opportunity and enabling everyone to achieve their potential and it is a pleasure to work with all of the leaders and young adults to form an ensemble. We're taking 'Water' as our theme and will be exploring baroque music, local songs and the local environment to learn something old, create something new and explore different ways of working together. For the first time on Wednesday we will be going around residential homes around Plymouth 'A team' style - we'll need to bring some OAE stickers to add to the PMZ bus!

The OAE are constantly pushing for change and are cherished for their quirks and authenticity and PMZ are committed to their ethos of Music Making a Difference so this is a partnership built on strong foundations.

Plymouth Music Zone Music Programme Manager, Karl Meyer says:

"We have enjoyed three years of working together with OAE, enabling children and young people, whether gifted and talented, and/or with disabilities, to experience and engage in the highest quality orchestral music around. They're not just listening, they're composing, playing and performing and learning through hands-on music-making. We're proud to be able to bring OAE to Plymouth again - it's a massive coup for the city. As well as being incredibly talented musicians they're fantastic people so we're all delighted to be working with them again."

Plymouth Music Zone Ltd

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Company Number - 4653409 Registered Charity Number - 1100878



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The OAE's musicians are joining PMZ's Music Leaders and participants for three days from 19th – 21st May to make some music - with a difference!

Notes to Editors:

Information about Plymouth Music Zone

Plymouth Music Zone's work focuses on using music as a powerful tool to develop skills and the health and emotional wellbeing of participants. For more information visit <http://www.plymouthmusiczone.org.uk> or contact Debbie Geraghty, Executive Director on 01752 213690.

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Information about OAE

Just over two decades ago, a group of London musicians took a good look at that curious institution we call the Orchestra and decided to start again from scratch. They began by throwing out the rulebook. Put a single conductor in charge? No way. Specialise in repertoire of a particular era? Too restricting. Perfect a work and then move on? Too lazy. The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment was born. Since then, the OAE has shocked, changed and mesmerised the music world. Residencies at the Southbank Centre and Glyndebourne haven't numbed its experimentalist bent. Record deals haven't ironed out its quirks. Period-specific instruments have become just one element of its quest for authenticity. Today the OAE is cherished more than ever. It still pushes for change, and still stands for excellence, diversity and exploration. And over two decades on, there's still no orchestra in the world quite like it.

For more information visit <http://www.oae.co.uk>

Information about Lloyds Bank Foundation Older People's Programme:

Support empowerment of older people to live a fuller role in the Community. Programme objectives are to support innovative and proactive work that encourages empowerment and independence of older people living in difficult financial circumstances so that they have improved life choices and chances.

For more information visit: <http://www.cavs.org.uk/lloyds-tsb-older-people-programme/>

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