

# Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and the ARCO Project present

## 11 “live” online Viola Recitals performed by Royal Birmingham Conservatoire students

Recitals include a kaleidoscope of music, including 10 world premieres commissioned specially for this series, composed by South African Monthati Masebe. “Trials that Trail” remembers 10 of the Rivonia Trialists from 1963 who sacrificed their freedom in the struggle against “apartheid” in South Africa. Each viola piece is a personal tribute and will be performed across the series. Monthati hails from Johannesburg, and by a twist of fate she will begin studying at the University of Birmingham in 2020.

On 23 July Andrew Mlangeni, the last of the Rivonia Trialists passed away at the age of 95. With his death ends an era, the era that brought South Africa to a true democracy. We honour these great men with this music.

### Monthati Masebe “Trials that Trail”

‘**Baleka Bob**’ a tribute to Bob Hepple

‘**Backroom Boy**’ a tribute to Andrew Mlangeni

‘**Color me welcome**’ a tribute to Walter Sisulu

‘**Golden**’ a tribute to Arthur Goldreich

‘**Bombs, books and guitars**’ a tribute to Govan Mbeki

‘**Kathy**’ a tribute to Ahmed Kathrada

‘**Madiba, dlomo, Yem-Yemen**’ a tribute to Nelson Mandela

‘**A Healthy Grave**’ a tribute to James Kantor

‘**Unlearning to heal the wounds**’ a tribute to Elias Motsoaledi

‘**Afritechure**’ a tribute to Lionel Bernstein

*(details of which performer is playing each of these world premieres to follow in the detailed programme)*

This series celebrates “live” music, bringing young talent to you from across the globe, whilst at the same time remembering racial injustice and the struggle for equality. During lockdown not only has the entire world suffered from the COVID-19 pandemic, but seismic universal injustice has freshly and rightfully exploded in Black Lives Matter!

These concerts are being held to celebrate the achievements of three young South African classical musicians, all affiliated with RBC’s ARCO Project. These teenagers will begin their studies at three top UK music schools in a few months time. We ask that each audience member donates £5 (or more if you are able) to the ARCO Project via JustGiving to support these brilliant young string players ([click here to donate](#)).

**Sifiso Mbatha (17 yrs, cello, Purcell School)**

**Kamogelo Maraba (18 yrs, cello, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire)**

**Jordan Brooks (16 yrs, violin, Chethams School of Music)**

**Each performer will stream their concert ‘live’ from their personal Facebook page. This will simultaneously be shared on both the ARCO and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Facebook pages.**



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arco bridging the divide  
Morris Isaacson Centre for Music and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire





**Tuesday 4th August, 13:00**

**Gavin Marnoch** - viola  
**Douglas Leadbitter** - piano  
 Brahms: Sonata for Viola and Piano in F minor, op.120, no.1

**Friday 7th August, 11:00**

**Bill Ko** - viola  
**Dr Vivian Cheng** - piano  
 Bowen: Sonata for Viola and Piano in C minor

**Tuesday 11th August, 13:00**

**Yupeng Cai** - viola  
 Bach: Suite No.3 in C Major

**Friday 14th August, 11:00**

**Yujie Wang** - viola  
**Charles Matthews** - piano  
 (pre-recorded)  
 Franck: Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major, arr. viola

**Tuesday 18th August, 13:00**

**Peter Whitehead** - viola  
 Adolfo Busch: Suite for Solo Viola op.16a  
 Xuntian He: Scent Dance II  
 Penderecki: Tanz

**Friday 21st August, 11:00**

**Zian Wang** - viola  
**Franz Chen** - piano  
 Bruch: Romance  
 Marcello: Sonata in E minor  
 Forsyth: Chanson Celtique

**Tuesday 25th August, 13:00**

**Alma Orr-Ewing** - viola  
 Bach: Suite No.6 in G Major, I. Prelude  
 Reger: Suite No. 1 for Solo Viola

**Friday 28th August, 11:00**

**Yuxin Chen** - viola  
**Yang Bai** - piano  
 Vieuxtemps: Sonata for Viola and Piano in B flat Major

**Tuesday 1st September, 13:00**

**Carla Mendoza Trejo** - viola  
 Bach: Suite No.4 in E flat Major

**Friday 4th September, 11:00**

**Aimee Lucas** - viola  
**Josh Lucas** - cello  
 Bach: Suite No.3 in C Major  
 I. Prelude, III. Courante, IV. Sarabande  
 Beethoven: 'Eyeglass' Duo for viola and cello

**Tuesday 8th September, 13:00**

**Maria Do Vale Antunes** - viola  
**Daniela Castro** - dancer  
 Bach: Suite No.4 in E flat Major



Morris Isaacson Centre for Music, Soweto. Murals by SenzoART.