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www.oneworldorchestra.uk



ABOUT US

One World Orchestra is a new, ground-breaking music ensemble, drawing on the expertise and musical traditions of diverse musicians from across the planet, living and working in the UK.

Founded in 2023 One World Orchestra blends the captivating rhythms, stories, and energies of British, Colombian, Congolese, Indian, Iranian, Jewish, Kenyan, Lebanese, Palestinian, Syrian, Ukrainian, US, and Zimbabwean traditions. Their spellbinding performances interweave these diverse influences into an exciting and utterly unique experience that touches hearts, challenges thinking, and inevitably has audiences on their feet dancing.

But One World Orchestra doesn't just entertain - we embody a vital vision of an inclusive, multicultural society. Through immersive music projects, we bring together newcomers to the UK with long-term residents, using the universal language of music to forge new bonds and communities.

OBJECTIVES

- To build a professional ensemble of diverse musicians to bring higher profile to the wealth of musical talent in the country and to create a new, multi-cultural sound for 21st century Britain.

Watch us in concert at the Brighton Spiegeltent, May 2024

- To provide regular musical activities for displaced people and local community groups, both separately and together

Hear from participants at our Crawley Creates community event, April 2024

- To identify, train and support talented musicians from diverse backgrounds to provide those activities themselves.



MEET THE ORCHESTRA: <https://www.oneworldorchestra.uk/team>

MEET OUR FOUNDERS



DARREN ABRAHAMS: STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

Darren is a singer, coach, trauma therapist, trainer and project leader in the fields of personal, cultural and community development. He performed internationally as an opera singer for 20 years, but now sings a multi-genre repertoire. Darren is co-founder of The Human Hive, trainer and Wellbeing Adviser for Musicians Without Borders and co-director of the One World Orchestra. He is of British / Israeli descent with heritage from Yemen and Eastern Europe.



JIM PINCHEN: ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Jim is a composer, multi-instrumentalist, songwriter and vocalist specialising in creating music that draws upon cinematic sounds, digital technologies and is inspired by music from around the world. Jim is also an award-winning TEDx speaker, a consensus building leader who ensures all voices are heard, and a practitioner who specialises in the use of music as a tool to support those living in areas of conflict/post conflict.



VICKI BALAAM: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A passionate social justice activist, Vicki Balaam founded StopGAP Dance Company, nurturing a revolutionary approach to dance. Over 2 decades, StopGAP grew from its community roots into an internationally touring professional dance company, employing world class dancers who were people with and without disabilities. With a long track record of changemaking within the arts, she produces work that is informed by lived experiences, and considers artist, management and audience safety.

SONGS FROM HOME PROJECT

Songs From Home, is an expanding musical exploration of the way humanity experiences belonging. Every person, community, nation and culture has a connection with the feeling of Home - whether that's a place, a set of values or an experience of acceptance. In many ways Home is synonymous with Identity.

However according to the UN, in 2023 there were 110 million forcibly displaced people across the world, figures that do not take into account people experiencing homelessness due to socio-economic or mental health issues. Millions of people are on the move across continents and/or sleeping rough on our streets. Home has been taken away and along with it, the right to choose and claim Identity.

With so many people on the move, many people living in host countries have felt an existential threat to their own sense of Identity. As they witness waves of new people moving into their communities this feeling has spurred a wave of nationalist politics which has shifted the political landscape across the globe. To those people Home is changing and they feel they have little control over the speed and direction of transformation.

Songs from Home is a musical reconnection to the feeling of Home for all these people, and a way of bridging the gaps between them. Though the context may be different, people are much the same across the world. For most of us the feeling of Home shares a similar core - a need for safety, belonging and purpose.



WATCH OUR PROMO VIDEO

KEEP IN TOUCH

Website: <https://oneworldorchestra.uk>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@OneWorldOrchestra>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/oneworldorchestrauk>

#songsfromhome

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OneWorldOrchestraUK>

Email: darren@oneworldorchestra.uk

"To see people transformed, to express their joy and sorrow through music, to see them engaged, connect, laughing and smiling was really special"

Welcome Refugees Crawley

"One World Orchestra could have huge national and eventually international impact."

Abigail D'Amore, Arts Consultant

