

Trinity Laban
Viola Update September-October 2019

We're back once again for another exciting year at Trinity Laban, with a lovely new bunch of violists joining us in both undergraduate and postgraduate programs, and we have welcomed back returning viola students into the Master's programs.

This scholastic year began like all the others, with blind auditions to filter us into projects, which this term includes String Ensemble, conducted by head of Department Nic Pendlebury, a side-by-side project with the Philharmonia with William Bender as the viola tutor, a side-by-side project alongside TL staff, and the end of term Symphony Orchestra performing Symphony No 2 by Grace Williams conducted by Matthew Coorey.

In other news, Trinity Laban held an open day on the 4th of October for prospective students to come and take a look at the facilities, meet the faculty and observe a mock audition. In the mock audition, I was asked to perform the viola repertoire requested by the majority of British Conservatoires to a panel made up of Nic Pendlebury and Richard Crabtree, along with an interview and a discussion at the end of the audition with the visiting students about audition preparation and etiquette. It was a delightful experience to be able to help new students in preparation for the next big step in their careers as musicians, as well as to be reminded of how I felt four years ago when preparing for the next stage in my musical training. I wish them all the best of luck.

Peter Fenech