ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC



VENUE HIRE

The Royal Academy of Music moves music forward by inspiring successive generations of musicians to connect, collaborate and create.
Charity number 310007
Company registration number RC000438

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

MARYLEBONE ROAD, LONDON NW1 5HT
RAM.AC.UK

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Set in the heart of London, the Royal Academy of Music offers an exceptional collection of spaces for hire, from elegant recital halls and a striking theatre to intimate performance venues, rehearsal rooms and teaching spaces. At the heart of the Academy stands our magnificent Edwardian building, completed in 1911, with its sweeping staircase, stained-glass windows and marble mosaic flooring creating a distinctive setting for any event.

Whether you are planning a performance, conference, reception or private event, our experienced Venue Hire team will work closely with you to deliver a seamless experience. We welcome a diverse range of events and are dedicated to ensuring every guest enjoys our unique and inspiring venue.

All our spaces are equipped with pianos, and details of audio-visual equipment are included in relevant venue information page.

The venue hire service operates on Saturday evenings (6.30-10pm), Sundays and outside the Academy term dates. All-day hire on Saturdays is available when Junior Academy is not in operation. Please enquire for further details.

VENUE HIRE CONTACTS

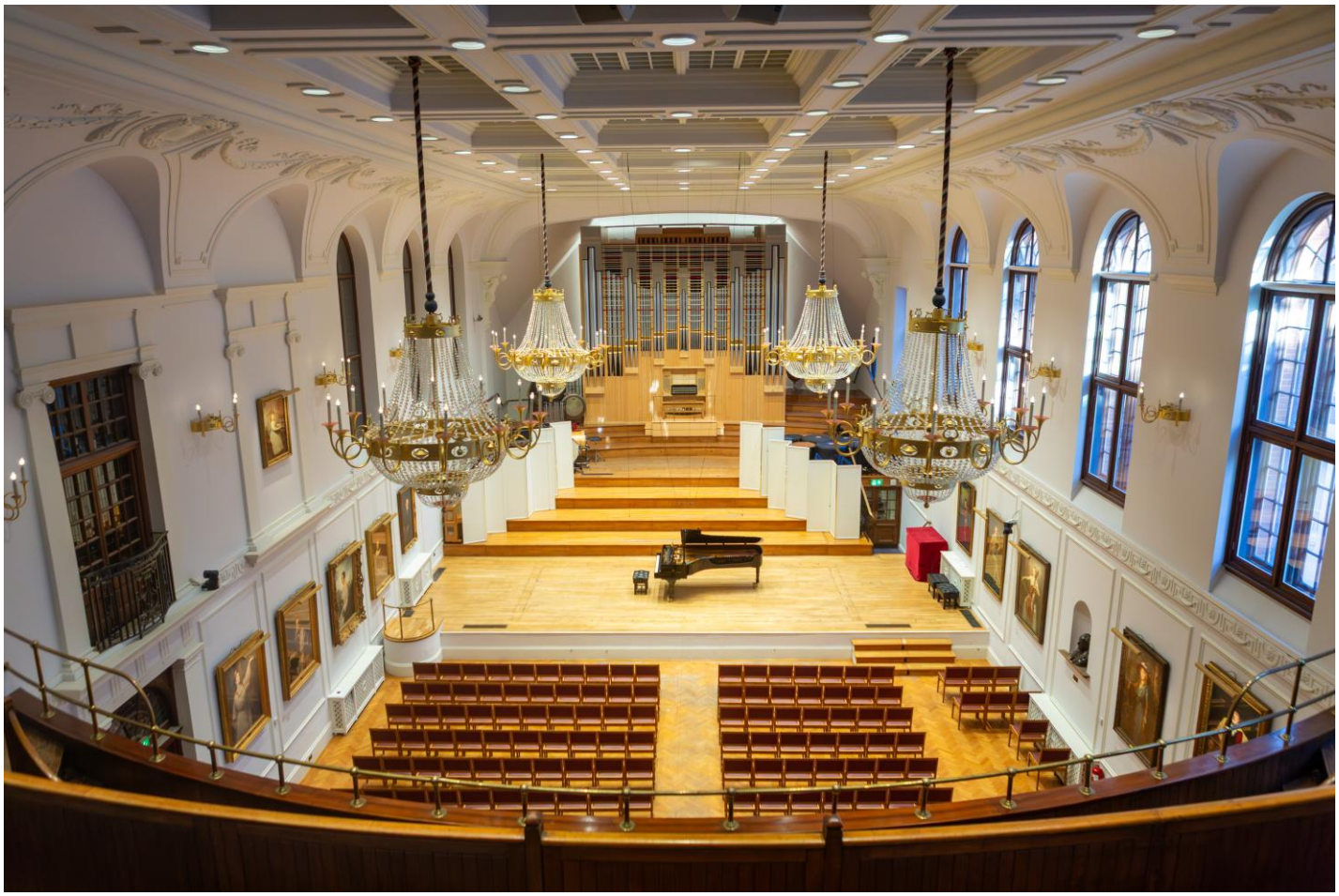
Performance Venues Manager
Gemma Waring
g.waring@ram.ac.uk
020 7873 7473

Venue Hire Operations Coordinator
Reuben Topzand
RTopzand@ram.ac.uk
020 7873 7305

Please direct any general enquiries to venuehire@ram.ac.uk.

DUKE'S HALL

The Academy's flagship concert hall, suitable for orchestral rehearsals and concerts, recitals, recordings and receptions.



Audience Capacity: Up to 319* (stalls 239, balcony 80), plus 3 wheelchair spaces.

*Any technical or recording equipment located in the auditorium or use of a stage extension will affect the total audience capacity.

Orchestral Capacity: Approx. 80

Standing Reception Capacity: 200

Seated Dinner Capacity (round tables): 100

Piano: Steinway model D (a second piano may be available depending on the date of the event).

Organ: Kuhn Orgelbau, 2013. Use of the organ is subject to approval.

Stage Measurements: Front section: 1370cm x 510cm, 3 x wind and brass risers: 1210cm x 120cm, Percussion riser (curved): 1370cm x 296cm (at widest point), Choir risers at the back of the stage leading to the organ.

A stage extension providing an additional 1m depth to the front section may be available depending on the date of the event.

The piano remains on stage but can be moved to any area of the front section.

The Academy's stock of percussion remains on stage but can be screened off so it is not visible to the audience or guests.

Stage Access: The Duke's Hall stage is accessed via stairs located stage left, leading to a backstage area. Additional access is possible upstage to either side of the organ.

Auditorium Measurements: 14.5m x 13.5m approx. (ground floor)

Auditorium Access: Access to the ground floor auditorium is via the Academy's main foyer, while entry to the balcony is via the first floor. The balcony is accessible by lift, but the seating is not suitable for individuals who require step-free access.

Backstage: There is a small backstage area behind the Duke's Hall. Additional changing/green room/storage space will be required for large events and orchestral concerts.

Dressing Rooms: There are nine single/dual occupancy dressing rooms shared between the Duke's Hall and Susie Sainsbury Theatre. The Venue Hire team can advise on availability.

Audio/Visual: The Duke's Hall has a PA system, and handheld and belt pack/lapel microphones are available. The PA is operated from the backstage Stage Manager position. The Duke's Hall PA system is designed to amplify spoken word (introduction or speeches) and is not suitable for use with live music performances. A portable sound system and mixing desk can be provided, subject to availability.

The Duke's Hall does not have a projector or screen, but portable equipment can be provided, subject to availability.

Recording: A control room is situated on a mezzanine floor at the rear of the auditorium. Use of the control room is subject to approval from the Academy's Recording Team.

Equipment/Furniture: The hire fee includes use of chairs and music stands as required, plus a conductor's podium and stand.

Lighting: There is a fixed rig, which provides a choice of pre-set lighting states.

The lighting can be operated from front of house or backstage.

Communication: Telephone points are located front of house and backstage to allow communication within the venue.

Power: 13amp power sockets are located around the hall and under trapdoors on the stage.

ANGELA BURGESS RECITAL HALL

A striking 94-seat rooftop venue boasting exceptional, studio-quality acoustics tailored for both recording and live performance. This highly acclaimed space blends cutting-edge design with a bright, intimate atmosphere.



Audience Capacity: 94, inclusive of wheelchair spaces*

*Any technical or recording equipment located in the auditorium will affect the total audience capacity.

Standing Reception Capacity: 80

The atrium directly outside the recital hall makes a perfect breakout venue for refreshments.

Orchestral Capacity ***(for rehearsals only)***: 30

Dimensions: 12.5m x 9.5m (narrows to 7.3m at stage end)

Piano: Steinway model D

The piano is connected to a humidity control system which must remain plugged in. The piano can be moved to other positions within the hall provided it is within reach of a power socket.

Auditorium Access: The Recital Hall is located between the second and third floors of the main building. Step-free access is possible via a dedicated lift; however, advice should be sought if large equipment will be needed within the venue.

Lift Dimensions: Height 199cm, Width 90cm (door), 106cm (interior), Depth 139cm to door
Max occupancy 500kg/5 people

Stage Access: Stage doors are located to each side of the performance area, leading to the side corridor and equipment store/recording control room.

Backstage: There is no dedicated backstage space; nearby teaching rooms can be booked as green rooms or warm-up spaces.

Recording: There is a small recording control room to the rear of the hall with visual access to the performing area.

Audio/Visual: The Angela Burgess Recital Hall has an integrated projector, screen and PA system. Handheld and belt pack/lapel microphones are available although not normally needed. Devices such as laptops can be connected to the AV system via HDMI cable using a panel on the stage right side.

Equipment/Furniture: The hire fee includes use of chairs and music stands as required.

Lighting: There is a fixed rig, which provides a choice of pre-set lighting states:

The lighting is operated from within the auditorium.

The oculus (roof window) and side window can be covered upon request to create a full blackout.

Power: 13 and 16amp power sockets are located around the hall.

Acoustics: Curtains are present on the side walls to alter the acoustic of the space.

Take a virtual tour of the Angela Burgess Recital Hall

AUD & KRISTIAN GERHARD JEBSEN RECITAL HALL

Colloquially known as the *Jebsen Recital Hall,* this elegant space is ideally suited for solo and small ensemble performances and conveniently located for conferences and receptions.
Formerly known as the *David Josefowitz Recital Hall,* this venue is currently undergoing refurbishment and will reopen in January 2027. The below image is an artist's impression.



Audience Capacity: 90, inclusive of wheelchair spaces*

The seating comprises seats at floor level plus tiered seats at the rear on a retractable rostrum.

*Any technical or recording equipment located in the auditorium will affect the total audience capacity.

Standing Reception Capacity: 90

Orchestral Capacity *(for rehearsals only)*: 30

Dimensions: 14.15m x 7.5m

Piano: Steinway model D

Auditorium Access: The Jebsen Recital Hall is located in the basement level between the main building and Jebsen House. Natural light is provided via the semicircular window located above the performance area. Step-free access is possible via the main building lift.

Stage Access: The stage door is located to the left side of the performance area.

Backstage: There is no dedicated backstage space; nearby teaching or practice rooms can be booked as green rooms or warm-up spaces.

Audio/Visual: The Recital Hall has an integrated projector, screen and PA system. Handheld and belt pack/lapel microphones are available although not normally needed. Devices can be connected to the AV system via an HDMI cable.

Equipment/Furniture: The hire fee includes use of chairs and music stands as required.

Lighting: There is a fixed rig which provides a choice of pre-set lighting states.

Power: 13amp power sockets are located around the hall.

CONCERT ROOM

Recently refurbished, the Concert Room is equipped with cutting-edge virtual acoustic technology and two grand pianos, making it perfect for rehearsals, recording, workshops, and unique performances.



Audience Capacity: 60*

*Any technical or recording equipment located in the auditorium will affect the total audience capacity.

Orchestral Capacity ***(for rehearsals only)***: 25

Pianos: Steinway model B & Bosendorfer 214VC

Dimensions: 10.52m x 7.69m (at widest point)

Auditorium Access: The Concert Room is located on the lower ground floor level. Step-free access is possible via a dedicated lift; however, advice should be sought if large equipment will be needed within the venue.

Lift Dimensions: Height 199cm, Width 90cm (door), 106cm (interior), Depth 139cm to door
Max occupancy 500kg/5 people

Stage Access & Backstage: The stage door is located to the right of the performance area. There is no dedicated backstage space. Nearby teaching or practice rooms can be booked as green rooms or warm-up spaces.

Equipment/Furniture: The hire fee includes use of chairs and music stands as required.

Audio/Visual: The Venue has an integrated projector, screen and PA system. Devices can be connected to the AV system via an HDMI cable.

The Ambience acoustics system by L-Acoustics allows you to virtually alter the acoustics of the room and can be controlled via a touch panel inside the venue.

The venue also has an Immersive hyperreal spatial audio system for live object-based mixing. Use of this technology can be discussed with the Venue Hire team.

Lighting: There is a fixed rig which provides a choice of pre-set lighting states.

Power: 13amp power sockets are located around the venue.

FORSYTH ROOM

Suitable for a range of events, including solo or chamber music rehearsals and performances, workshops, lectures, and receptions.



Audience Capacity: 40

*Any technical or recording equipment located in the auditorium will affect the total audience capacity.

Standing Reception Capacity: 40

Piano: Yamaha S7 grand

Harpsichord: William Dowd French double manual, 1985, A415 (A440), Valotti, 61 note, FF-f3. Availability of the harpsichord and conditions for use should be checked with the Venue Hire team.

Dimensions: 1,120m x 725m (narrows to 525m at stage end)

Auditorium Access: The Forsyth Room is located on the first floor of the main building. Step-free access is possible via the main lift.

Backstage: There is no dedicated stage door or backstage space. Nearby teaching rooms can be booked as green rooms or warm-up spaces.

Audio/Visual: The Forsyth Room has a wall-mounted screen with speakers and hi-fi. Devices can be connected to the screen via an HDMI cable.

Equipment/Furniture: The hire fee includes use of chairs and music stands as required.

Lighting: The venue has soft lighting which illuminates the space but does not provide extra functionality.

Power: 13amp power sockets are located around the venue.

SUSIE SAINSBURY THEATRE

An award-winning 309-seat venue featuring a fully equipped stage and orchestra pit. Its innovative architecture and state-of-the-art technology make it the perfect setting for large-scale productions, including fully staged operas.



Audience Capacity: 309, plus 3 wheelchair spaces

Stage Dimensions: 10m x 8m

Full technical specifications for the Susie Sainsbury Theatre are available upon request via venuehire@ram.ac.uk.

TEACHING AND PRACTICE ROOMS

The Academy has a variety of teaching and practice rooms available for hire which can be used for auditions, practice or rehearsals for individuals and small ensembles.

All teaching and practice spaces have pianos, with the majority containing grand pianos, further details can be provided upon request.





MEETING ROOMS AND OTHER SPACES

Two meeting rooms are available and portable A/V and hybrid meeting equipment can be provided.

Soundbites Café is available to hire on selected dates and is an ideal space for receptions, casual meals, or as an additional breakout space.





Please enquire for further details: venuehire@ram.ac.uk

EQUIPMENT

Use of the resident pianos, chairs and music stands is included in the cost of hire. Additional equipment is listed below; please consult the Venue Hire team for details of availability and price. Please do not hesitate to enquire about any equipment not listed.

Instruments:

- Celeste
- Harpsichord (including digital options)
- Chamber Organ (including digital options)
- Digital keyboards (transposing)
- Drum kit (no snare or cymbals)

Use of these instruments is subject to availability. The Academy will arrange tuning for historic keyboards using our approved list of tuners, with the cost settled directly between the tuner and the hirer. Unauthorised tuning of the instruments is not permitted, but the Venue Hire team are happy to discuss any specific arrangements.

Equipment:

- Portable TV screens
- Hi-fi/speakers
- Portable speakers and mixing desk
- Projector and screen
- Extension cables
- Tables (various sizes)
- Whiteboards
- Internet connected screen with camera for online or hybrid events
- Sign holders
- Additional staging
- Screens for blind auditions

RECORDING

An inbuilt recording system is available in the Duke's Hall, Angela Burgess Recital Hall, Jebsen Recital Hall, Concert Room, Forsyth Room and Susie Sainsbury Theatre. The static cameras and microphones are designed to capture a high-quality recording of events taking place within the performance area.

The equipment is pre-programmed to start and stop at agreed times, saving the on cost of on-site recording personnel. The service provides a single wide shot covering the performance area and does not include any editing or post-production.

Quotes for bespoke engineer-led recordings and use of the Duke's Hall control room can be provided upon request. Please enquire via venuehire@ram.ac.uk.

Independent recording of events by hirers is permitted at no additional cost, provided all copyright and data protection requirements are in place and any free-standing equipment is positioned in the approved locations.

CATERING

The Academy's in-house caterer, Absolute Taste, will be delighted to discuss any catering requirements for your event.

The Academy Café and bar are typically closed at weekends but can be made be available on request with a minimum spend system in place.

Catering options, including the use of external caterers, can be discussed with the Venue Hire team via venuehire@ram.ac.uk.

BOX OFFICE

The Academy can provide a box office service for ticketed events. The box office service includes a listing on the Academy website, online sales and telephone sales within the box office opening times. On the day of the event the on-site box office counter will open one hour before the performance and will close 30 minutes after the scheduled start time. Please enquire with the Venue Hire team for further details and cost. venuehire@ram.ac.uk.

Hirers are able to provide their own box office service if preferred. However, we do ask that a dedicated ticketing representative is on site from 90 minutes prior to the performance start time until the end of the event.

PIANO TUNING

Academy pianos are tuned regularly and pianos in the Duke's Hall, Angela Burgess Recital Hall and Jebsen Recital Hall are usually tuned at least twice a week in term time. Tuning can be arranged specifically for any event via the Academy's Piano Technical Services department. Please enquire for details and cost.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Staff: The Academy will provide a Stewarding Team for any events which are open to the public or have over 50 attendees. Performances will be allocated a Stage Manager to assist with stage changes (excluding performances in the Susie Sainsbury Theatre).

Booking Process: Enquiries should be submitted to venuehire@ram.ac.uk and a member of the team will be happy to advise on venue availability and suitability. Site visits are encouraged, and the Venue Hire team can advise on dates and times.

A booking form will be issued to gather details of the event and will form the basis of a quote.

Once the date, venue and quote have been approved, a contract will be issued. Once this is signed, the Academy will issue an invoice for the hire fee (either a deposit or full payment, depending on the details of the event). Payment can be made by bank transfer or credit/debit card.

Provisional bookings can be held for up to three weeks. Following this period, provisional bookings can be extended with agreement from the Academy, however if a competing enquiry is received, you may be given up to three days to confirm your booking before the date is released to the other party.

HIRING ACADEMY MUSICIANS

Performance is a way of life at the Academy, and a vital part of our students' training.

If you're planning a wedding, party or corporate event, talented musicians from the Royal Academy of Music will make the occasion truly memorable.

Our classical soloists, string quartets, pianists, jazz musicians, singers and more can provide standout performances or background music to complement the event.

You will experience and support the next generation of musical talent and we will work with you to select the musicians most suited to your event and ensure a stress-free process. For more details and contact information, please visit our website.

