

Working with Cambiata Voices Day

Timetable

Arrive from 9.45 for tea & coffee

10.15 – 11.30: Repertoire for Cambiata
Voices/Basic Conducting Skills

11.30 – 11.45: Tea & Coffee

11.45 – 1: Repertoire for Cambiata Voices/
Basic Conducting Skills

1 – 1.45: LUNCH

1.45 – 2.45: Talk on Cambiata Voices

2.45 – 3: Tea & Coffee

3 – 4.15: Cambiata in Practice

4.15 – 4.30: Opportunity for questions and
discussion

Talk on Cambiata Voices: **"From camp fire to Albert Hall. The elegant genius of cambiata."**



The origins of the cambiata movement in the United States will be covered briefly as a background to how its principles impact upon choral work with boys in the UK today. Using live boys “volunteered” as examples (unrehearsed!), as well as a large database of recordings, this session will explore and demonstrate the types of male voice to be found across the 10 – 15 age range. There will be a significant focus on how to identify voices, manage them safely and plan for progression. Similarities and differences between cambiata parts, SATB parts and sixteenth century vocal parts (when boys sang in lower ranges than today) will be demonstrated by the boys in order to explore differences in vocal timbre and the management of emerging baritone voice quality. The session will draw on lessons learned from the presenter’s most recently published research into the recording of the OUP Emerging Voices series for which he is series editor.

About the Presenter

Martin Ashley PhD is Emeritus Professor of Education at Edge Hill University, UK. He has published four books and numerous academic papers on boys’ singing, delivering the training that set up the original ABCD Cambiata North West initiative. Trained originally as a middle school music teacher he worked with boys’ choirs in a variety of school and church contexts including four years at Lincoln Cathedral School in the 1980s. In 1996 he moved into university work, progressing to Reader in Education at the University of the West of England Bristol. He was awarded an Arts and Humanities Research Council fellowship for a postdoctoral study of male adolescence and singing whilst managing the Bristol Cathedral Chorister Outreach Programme. After moving to Edge Hill and tutoring PGCE music, he was awarded a further large AHRC research grant to work with the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain on approaches to choral singing with adolescent boys. He has subsequently worked in collaboration with a paediatric specialist and phoniatician on the timing of puberty and voice change. His current work is on boys’ singing ranges in sixteenth century choral polyphony.



Cambiata in Practice

This session will cover warm-ups, practical approaches and top tips for running fun and effective rehearsals/workshops for cambiata choirs.

About the Presenter

Ian Crawford is a composer, conductor and teacher. He is Director of Music at a leading secondary school and Musical Director of Cambiata North West, abcd's regional programme for boys whose voices are changing. He regularly leads cambiata workshops and singing days for schools and music organisations across the UK.

Basic Conducting Skills

This practical workshop will cover basic conducting skills including posture, beat patterns, cueing and how to start using gesture to influence sound.



About the Presenter

Stuart Overington is an accomplished conductor, vocal animator and composer working between Manchester and London, UK. Having trained as a singer and conductor at the Royal Northern College of Music he is known for his engaging, informative and inclusive style and works with a wide and diverse range of ensembles.

Stuart has established and directed a number of junior, youth and community choirs across the country. He is currently the director of choirs at the Royal Northern College of Music, the Hallé Orchestra's Youth Choirs director and Chethams School of Music Chamber choir as well as regularly running community choir workshops and events across the country. In 2019 he also began working with the National Children's Choir, leading their Green choir.

Alongside his choral work, Stuart regularly works on music education projects for various companies including Royal Opera House, Opera North and the Voices Foundation. He is increasingly being recognised as a leader in the field of singing with children and young people.

Repertoire for Cambiata

This repertoire reading session will comprise of music suitable for boys with changing voices, including accessible material for those starting a new group and pieces specially written for cambiata voices. It will also outline how you can make your own arrangements for cambiata groups.

About the Presenter

Andy Brooke is a composer and arranger, specializing in choral music, and an experienced writer on matters of music education. He is co-editor of OUP's Emerging Voices, a series of choral music aimed at boys' changing voices. He was a member of Howard Goodall's singing advisory group which led to the creation of Sing Up in 2007, and Andy is a regular contributor to the Sing Up website and magazine. Andy's music is published by OUP and Sing Up.

A schoolteacher for 25 years, Andy has taught music in state and independent schools to primary, secondary, and post-16 age groups. He directs a large community choir and has worked with the remarkable Cambiata NW since it was founded in 2011. He is also a passionate advocate for vulnerable children and his current role is that of special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) in a large pupil referral unit on the Fylde Coast.