

philharmonia orchestra

PRODUCER, Audience of the Future

JOB DESCRIPTION

Reports to: Head of Innovation & Partnerships

Term: Fixed-term contract (18 months with possibility of extension)

Background:

The Philharmonia Orchestra's in-house Digital team has been creating cutting-edge, award-winning work for more than a decade, from its [web, video and audio content](#) to iPad app [The Orchestra](#), through to large-scale [digital installations](#) RE-RITE, *Universe of Sound* and MusicLab, which have toured the world. More recently, the Orchestra moved into Virtual Reality in early 2015, and has created three VR experiences to date, which have toured internationally. Their second VR film – *Beethoven's Fifth* – won a Raindance Film Festival Award for *Best VR Music Experience* in late 2017, and was showcased at SXSW in March 2018. Their third film, *Mahler's Third*, premiered in London in September 2018, and is now touring internationally.

The Philharmonia Orchestra recently secured a two-year grant from ISCF's *Audience of the Future* R&D Demonstrator fund, entering a brand-new consortium with Arts partners (Royal Shakespeare Company (lead partner), Punchdrunk Theatre, Manchester International Festival, Marshmallow Laser Feast), technology firms (Epic Games, Magic Leap and Intel) and research partners (NESTA, i2 Media, De Montfort University, University of Portsmouth). The goal of the project is to work with immersive media such as VR, AR and MR to reimagine live performance.

Role Summary

The successful applicant for this role will be the Orchestra's lead Producer for this new 2-year R&D project, reporting to the Head of Innovation & Partnerships. The project will have two phases – a first year of R&D, focusing on three specific strands, before moving into a production phase in the second year. In the second year, the Orchestra will work with the other consortium partners, led by RSC, with the end goal of putting on a Demonstrator showcase for the project in 2020.

- To act as lead Producer for the Philharmonia Orchestra's strands of the two-year R&D project, *Audience of the Future*.
- To project manage the Orchestra's three key R&D strands for the project. These are:
 - **Located Audio:** Develop a new workflow for integrating captured and live musical performances to embed with immersive technologies. The candidate will be responsible for recording sessions, mixing and post-production, then working with partners to build a workflow and create proofs-of-concept with other consortium partners, using immersive technologies including AR, VR and MR.

- **Create a new location-based sound experience for Mixed Reality.** Work with consortium partners – including Magic Leap – to develop a new location-based sound experience for multiple audience members wearing AR / MR headsets, drawing on content created by the Philharmonia Orchestra and other partners.
- **Commission composer and performers for Demonstrator.** The Orchestra will commission a composer and conductor to compose or re-interpret a musical piece for the lead Demonstrator performance, led by RSC, to be showcased in 2020. The Producer will be responsible for project-managing the commission of players, conductors and composers, then delivering a major showcase – which could include:
 - A large immersive activation, incorporating speakers, projection and AR / MR headsets for multiple viewers, or
 - A large-scale live performance, led by RSC, with the Producer having responsibility for the production of the Philharmonia Orchestra’s performance and / or recording.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Planning and budgeting**
 - Plan all phases of the project from pre-production to testing and delivery
 - Work with the Head of Innovation & Partnerships to shape budgets for the overall delivery of the project
 - Work closely with the Technical Producer to produce budgets, deliverables and schedules as part of the project.
- **Delivery**
 - Drive the creative focus, scope and delivery of the work packages and project
 - Source, manage and lead internal and external freelancers as part of the delivery of the project.
 - Running split site teams and remote working partners and freelancers
- **Content development**
 - Identify new technologies, trends and partners and how this might translate into new experiences for our audiences.
- **Relationship management**
 - Foster a collaborative environment between the Orchestra and its consortium partners.
 - Ensure clear communication between internal and external stakeholders, supporting the Head of Innovation & Partnerships to build the creative network that supports the Orchestra’s digital projects.
 - Support the Head of Innovation & Partnerships in developing new relationships and identifying new business opportunities for the Orchestra.
- **Fundraising**
 - Take responsibility for regular reporting and communication to the project’s primary funders, including the preparation and administration of quarterly reports to the Orchestra’s monitoring officer.
 - Prepare new applications, presentations and pitches for new funding and investment to build on the Orchestra’s digital work.

- Administrative duties:
 - Take responsibility for monitoring resourcing during the project, including the use of timesheets.
 - Raise and process invoices and purchase orders
 - Work closely with the wider Digital department, including the Head of Digital and the Video, Web and Production teams.
 - Ensure up to date record keeping and clear information management.
- Representing the Philharmonia Orchestra at concerts and events in London and elsewhere, as required
- Ensuring that day to day activities embrace environmental sustainability and wherever possible making choices that reduce the impact upon the environment by minimising waste, maximising recycling, saving energy and reducing the Digital department's carbon footprint
- Within the parameters of the role, identifying opportunities to involve members of protected characteristic groups wherever possible
- To undertake such other duties as may reasonably be required by the Company.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL

- Production experience in live performance and / or immersive content and location-based activations.
- Strong budgeting and project management skills.
- Experience in coordinating creative and technical staff to deliver high-profile projects.
- Awareness of upcoming technologies and trends
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Attention to detail.
- Ability to work with processes and funder requirements
- Ability to work alone and as part of a team.
- Willingness to work unsocial hours, including evenings and weekends.
- Willingness to travel, both within the UK and overseas, as required.
- An ability to remain calm, professional and positive when working under pressure.

DESIRABLE

- Expertise in producing projects with advanced technologies, such as show network and control systems, spatial audio, projection-mapping, AR, VR or MR.
- Experience in audio production, specifically spatial audio
- Experience in stage production

- Experience in using Adobe Creative Suite and CAD software.
- A knowledge of the Arts combined with an appreciation for and understanding of classical music.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Salary: £32,000 per annum
- Contract: 18 months fixed term with the possibility of extension
- Hours: 9.30 – 17.30, Monday – Friday (35 hours per week); evening and weekend work will be required (for which time off in lieu will be available)
- Annual Leave: 33 days per annum, inclusive of public and Bank holidays.
- Pension: the Company has a contributory pension scheme into which you will automatically be enrolled (subject to the provisions of auto-enrolment legislation) upon completion of a 3-month qualifying period, and into which the Company will pay 6% of salary

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply, please email your CV and covering letter to luke.ritchie@philharmonia.co.uk

Please also complete our Equality and Diversity questionnaire and return it with your application. The questionnaire can be found on our website: <https://www.philharmonia.co.uk/vacancies>

Please include details of two referees in your application, stating at what point in the recruitment process each of them may be contacted (we will not contact your referees without your permission).

Deadline for applications: **12pm, Monday 29th April**