



The Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

Music Director, Royal Opera: Jakub Hrůša

Music Director, Royal Ballet: Koen Kessels

Concertmasters: Vasko Vassilev, Magnus Johnston, Sergey Levitin

The Orchestra of the Royal Opera House is seeking to appoint to the position of:

Sub Principal Percussion

We invite applications from outstanding players with considerable recent relevant professional experience. The successful candidate will be a musician of the highest calibre who is self-motivated, reliable and versatile with the ability to work under pressure as part of an established team.

The terms and conditions of employment for this position offer some flexibility in workload and schedule. This is a permanent salaried position.

We actively encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds and value the positive impact that difference has on our teams. In line with the *'Hiring and recruitment in UK Orchestras; Good practice recommendations, 10 point action plan'* developed by Black Lives in Music, the Musicians' Union, and the Association of British Orchestras, we will be conducting screened first round auditions to encourage and promote undiscovered talent.

Auditions will be held in London as follows:

First rounds: 2nd & 9th December 2025.

Second rounds: 11th & 13th February 2026.

Our preference will be to hear first round candidates in person, but should you be unable to attend on the scheduled dates we will accept a recorded audition to be submitted by 28th November 2025 (full instructions will be sent to shortlisted candidates).

Second round auditions will be in person only.

All applications will be anonymised for shortlisting purposes.

The format of the auditions will be:



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First round (behind screens): Excerpts from Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake (Act 3 Mazurka on Tambourine); Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet (on Snare Drum); and Stravinsky's Firebird (on Xylophone). There will be sight-reading given during the audition.

Second round (unscreened with piano accompaniment. RBO will provide an accompanist, but candidates should bring their own piano part).

The closing date for applications is: 10am on 12th November 2025.

Please note we will aim to contact shortlisted candidates by the end of 18th November 2025.

Should candidates who are shortlisted for trial work or offered permanent employment not have current UK work authorisation, RBO will provide support in obtaining the necessary permission to work depending on individual circumstances. Please contact us at the relevant point in the recruitment process if this applies to you.

If you have any questions regarding this position please e-mail Orchestra.Auditions@roh.org.uk