

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra would like to invite applications for the position of Co-Principal Double Bass (No.2).

Suitable candidates should have considerable front desk orchestral experience and/or other professional successes. The ideal candidate will be a double bass player and musician of the highest calibre with the ability to lead, inspire and work collaboratively with the section and within the wider orchestra.

By way of application, candidates should complete a portfolio form on the Musicalchairs portal by the closing date **15/07/2026**. Applicants will be notified by 22/07/2026 if they have/have not been selected for a First Round audition. Candidates with the relevant orchestral experience *may* be selected for an automatic Second Round.

Candidates selected for audition should prepare the following which should all be played in Orchestral tuning.

First round (anonymised unaccompanied video audition)

- Exposition of a Classical concerto with cadenza.
- Selected orchestral excerpts (available on Musicalchairs):

Beethoven: S7 mvmt. 1 – m. 275-299

Mozart: S40 mvmt. 1 - m. 115-138 & 191 – 226

Strauss: Ein Heldenleben - fig. 9 to 6 after fig. 12.

The entire audition should be unaccompanied and recorded in one continuous take, moving swiftly from piece to piece on a normal device, such as a phone or laptop. No credit will be given for using more advanced recording equipment, and no editing facilities may be used. You must remain in shot at all times and a clock/stopwatch should be visible in the background. All videos will be verified and redacted to an audio recording before being submitted to the panel.

Second round (unscreened and unaccompanied) initial date to be held in London on 18 September

- Contrasting piece to First round (with cadenza as appropriate)
- Orchestral excerpts (available on Musicalchairs portal) NB some of these excerpts *may* be accompanied by Section Members.
- Prepared sight reading
- Please note that candidates selected for an automatic Second round audition will also be asked to play the exposition of a Classical concerto, with cadenza.

The RPO is unable to reimburse candidates' travel costs. Candidates must have the right to work in the UK. Any international candidates, who are unable to travel to the UK for a live audition, should indicate this with their application and, if shortlisted for a Second round, will be asked to submit a recorded audition.

The RPO is committed to hear all applicants from global majority backgrounds and those with disabilities who have the relevant professional playing experience and indicate this by completing the EDI (Equality, Diversity, Inclusion) form in the online application.

For any queries, please contact Rebecca Rimmington (Rimmingtonr@rpo.co.uk)