

Royal College of Music and UCLA Extension to inaugurate program for performers

For the first time in its history, the Royal College of Music in London will open its doors to part-time students from the United States through a summer program to be inaugurated this year in cooperation with UCLA Extension.

The UCLA Royal College of Music Program will enable American students, teachers, choir directors, performers and composers to study with the distinguished faculty of one of the leading music schools in the world today through courses featuring field trips to cultural and historical sites, some rarely accessible to the general public.

Founded in 1883 by the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, the College has been the training ground for such internationally recognized musicians and composers as Julian Bream, Benjamin Britten, James Galway, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Leopold Stokowski, Dame Joan Sutherland, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Sir David Willcocks.

This summer's program, meeting from July 4 to 25, will feature seven classes:

"Master Class in Piano: Bach, Schumann, Debussy," designed for both teachers and performers, will feature in-depth explorations of these composers' works.

"Choral Conducting," for working and prospective choir directors.

"Music Making in London Through the Ages" will allow teachers and connoisseurs of music to attend performances at famous sites and to take

guided tours behind the scenes of some of London's major halls.

"Purcell and Britten," designed for those with background in historical musicology, will provide a close examination of the English approach to opera and song.

"Authentic Interpretation of Early Music" will feature manuscripts and instruments of the period from 900-1750 to acquaint participants with the latest in modern scholarship regarding the interpretation of early music.

"Master Class in Organ Performance and the English Organ Tradition," for experienced and student organists, will include performance workshops and participation in both the Biennial International Organ Festival and the International Congress of Organists.

"Opera, Song and Piano Accompaniment: The Works of Richard Strauss," a performance practice course designed for singers and accompanists, will culminate in a production of operatic excerpts performed by the class at the Royal College of Music's new Britten Opera Theatre, the most modern opera theatre in London.

The Director of Studies for the UCLA/Royal College of Music Program is Robert A. Rees, director, Department of the Arts, University of California Extension, assistant dean, College of Fine Arts, UCLA.

For further information, please contact UCLA Extension, (213) 825-9496, P.O. Box 24901, Los Angeles, CA 90024.