

Olwen Miles is a rising star in the world of classical music, known for her vibrant performances and technical excellence. At just 23 years old, she has already made a significant mark as an emerging talent. She is currently pursuing her Master's degree at the Royal Academy of Music under the guidance of So-Ock Kim, where she recently completed her Bachelor's degree with First Class Honours.

Based in London but born and raised in Palermo, Sicily, Olwen studied with Iuliu Hamza and Remus Azoitei, and developed as a unique and passionate performer with a deep interest in bringing unheard repertoire to new audiences.

Olwen is a versatile musician, equally at home performing solo recitals, chamber music, and orchestral works. In 2019 she performed at Wigmore Hall as a soloist, where she returned in 2022 when chosen as a "rising star" to perform the chamber orchestra arrangement of Mahler 4<sup>th</sup> symphony by the Royal Academy of Music for the Bicentenary Celebration. She has performed as a soloist with the Maidenhead Symphony Orchestra, Brescia Masters Orchestra, and Watford Symphony Orchestra and performed at the Peles Castle in Romania. In 2021 she collaborated with M<sup>o</sup> Andrea Dieci in a performance of Piazzolla's "Histoire du Tango" at the Livorno Music Festival.

Olwen has performed in masterclasses from numerous notable musicians, such as Prof. Marco Rizzi, Alina Ibragimova, Jack Liebeck, Paola Tumeo, Gregory Sandomirsky, Kirill Trousov and James Ehnes. In 2026 she was accepted into Gerhard Schultz's class at IMS Prussia Cove.

Her orchestral experience includes participation in the LSO Strings Experience Scheme and various Royal Academy projects, such as performing Strauss's "Metamorphosen" with the leaders of the Berlin Philharmonic and playing alongside LPO members at the Royal Festival Hall. She was also invited to take part in a performance with the Knussen Chamber Orchestra at the 2025 Aldeburgh Festival. She has led the Royal Academy Symphony Orchestra on multiple occasions, under the baton of Sir Mark Elder, with whom she performed Ravel Ma Mère l'Oye and other works, and two performances under Roderick Cox of Shostakovich's 10<sup>th</sup> symphony and the UK Premier of Unsuk Chin's "Alaraph", both at the Academy and the Aldeburgh Festival. In February 2026 she led the Orchestra under the baton of Jonathon Heyward in works by Respighi and Grace-Evangeline Mason and in June she will return to this position for a performance at the Aldeburgh Festival under the baton of Ryan Bancroft.

Alongside her performing career, Olwen has also earned a variety of prizes from National and International Competitions among which are: the youngest ever winner of the Premio S. Francesco di Paola 2016; First Prize at the 36th National Music Competition a.m.a. Calabria 2015; First Prize at the XXIII International Competition Gianluca Campochiaro 2014, being awarded a solo performance at the Teatro Massimo Bellini in Catania. In 2020 she won the Arthur Felsenstein Leavers Award at the Purcell School. She is generously supported by the LSO Conservatoire Scholarship, the Help Musicians Ian Fleming Scholarship, the Harrison Frank Family Foundation award and the RPS Emily Anderson Violin Prize.

Olwen has been a member of the Regency String Quartet since 2022, performing across the UK and winning several prizes, including the Wolfe Wolfinston String Quartet Prize at RAM. They represented the Academy at the Hong Kong Music Festival through the Elton John Global Exchange Program, and have performed at the Aldeburgh Festival alongside the Ligeti Quartet. In 2025 they were selected as Kirckman Concert Society Artists and were awarded the first prize at the Royal Overseas League String Ensemble competition. They recently performed at King's Place and attended IMS Prussia Cove under the guidance of Kim Kashkashian. She also regularly performs with the London Concertante Chamber Orchestra and other groups.

She currently plays a 1767 Testore violin on generous loan from the Royal Academy of Music Strings Museum.