

# **HALLÉ CAREERS**

## **PRINCIPAL DOUBLE BASS (FULL-TIME)**

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Thank you for your interest in the above post. Here below, in summary form, is some information which may be helpful.

#### **The Post**

As Leader of the Double Basses you will take day to day responsibility for leading the section of five players, play the leading role in the recruitment of new players and select those who are engaged as extras. There are five and a half contract Double Bass positions and positions 1-3 are numbered.

The permanent string strength of the orchestra is currently 14 / 12 / 10 / 8 / 6 and these numbers are increased for relevant concerts using freelance players.

The Orchestra's contract guarantees a minimum of 430 sessions or calls in a year. A session will be not more than 3 hours and often less (e.g. a concert which are normally 2 hours). This is also the maximum that you will be required to undertake without your agreement and additional pay. There are checks and balances in place to prevent overwork such as a maximum number of sessions in a day (2), a week (12) and a free day structure which equates to 2 days a week free plus statutory holidays etc. Up to 10% of sessions may be taken off, without pay, by agreement with the Concerts Director. The Orchestra break for 5 weeks paid holiday in the summer, usually in one period.

#### **Salary and Benefits**

The salary for the Principal Double Bass will be £45,710 per annum. Other benefits include an excellent contributory pension scheme and a health insurance scheme. The Hallé also insures members of the Orchestra's instruments.

#### **The recruitment process**

All applicants, wherever possible, will be given an audition. We may be unable to offer auditions to all players who apply and, if this is the case, players' CVs, including references, and past professional experience will be taken into account.

Following a successful audition, applicants will be invited to play in the Orchestra on a trial basis for rehearsals and concerts. This may be for more than one period of work. The successful candidate will, at some stage, have played under the direction of Mark Elder. Some players may also be recruited for trial periods with the Orchestra without audition; however, in such circumstances, they will still be required to give an audition at some point in the selection process (probably during or following one of the trial periods).

During this period, trialists will also be required to have an interview with the Education Director and/or Concerts Director.

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### **BACKGROUND**

#### **The Orchestra**

The Hallé was founded by the pianist and conductor Charles Hallé, and gave its first concert in Manchester's Free Trade Hall in 1858. The Hallé has a permanent contract strength of 80 players (though regularly plays at 90+), and gives around 75 concerts each year in its home, The Bridgewater Hall, some of which are repeated programmes. The Hallé also performs approximately 50 other concerts outside Manchester in venues throughout the UK and overseas. The Hallé has numerous associated ensembles including the Hallé Choir, Youth Orchestra, Youth Choir, Childrens' Choir.

#### **Associated Artists**

Music Director, Sir Mark Elder, only the ninth Principal Conductor in the Hallé's long history, is in his nineteenth season with the orchestra and conducts around 20% of the Hallé's programmes. The Hallé frequently tours abroad and there are future plans for tours to Europe. Jonathan Heyward is our Assistant Conductor and works closely with Sir Mark Elder, taking direct responsibility for the Hallé Youth Orchestra. Lyn Fletcher is the Leader and Paul Barritt is the Permanent Guest Leader.

### **CONTACT US**

Those directly responsible for dealing with your application and trial period etc. are:

- For information on the application process and auditions etc.:
  - Isabelle Orford (Assistant Orchestra Manager)
  - [isabelle.orford@halle.co.uk](mailto:isabelle.orford@halle.co.uk) / 07736 609342
- For information on trial periods e.g. date, fees, etc.:
  - Chris Lewis (Orchestra Manager)
  - [chris.lewis@halle.co.uk](mailto:chris.lewis@halle.co.uk) / 07702 685277
- For any information you require at the later stages of recruitment:
  - Stuart Kempster (Concerts Director)
  - [stuart.kempster@halle.co.uk](mailto:stuart.kempster@halle.co.uk) / 0161 237 7000

10/March 2019