

*2008 Elman Poole Music Fellow, Anastasiya Filippochkina*

Anastasiya Filippochkina graduated from the University of Canterbury School of Music in 2003, before studying for a Master of Music at the Eastman School of Music in the USA.

At the time of writing (March 2008), Anastasiya reports that she is having a great experience being in London and working with the Southbank Sinfonia.

"South Bank is a fantastic organisation that gives many various opportunities for young professional musicians. We get to perform a new programme every week, that we have to learn in three days no matter how easy or difficult it is," she says.



"Throughout the year, we will be given a chance to perform in many major concert venues of London; we get to work together with such professional orchestras, as the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields and the Royal Opera orchestra."

Orchestra members are also given the opportunity to observe opera and ballet rehearsals, and must attend regular Professional Development sessions presented by actors, conductors and accountants who give tips on how to develop professionally and survive financially.

There are many more exciting projects coming up for Anastasiya. "I especially look forward to our two week tour in Italy."

"In terms of living in London, I couldn't wish to be in more exciting place, where I can see a fantastic performance or attend a rare exhibition any time I want. There is so much to see and learn here! I feel that I am doing what I should be doing with my life and for my career, and it is a great feeling. I am very grateful for this opportunity. Thank you to the Link foundation, Dunedin Sinfonietta, the South Bank Sinfonia and of course Dr. Elman Poole.