

Apollo5 Biography

“A stunning, beautiful sound” BBC Radio 2

“Such clear and lovely voices.” The Swingle Singers

“they gave everything to their audience, and produced an energetic and engaging performance.” The King’s Singers

The British vocal ensemble Apollo5 has been praised for its engaging and entertaining performances. With a repertoire ranging from classical, jazz and pop arrangements to Christmas a cappella, they are adept performers on the concert platform, at festivals, private parties and corporate events.

The group’s performances in London have included St Martin-in-the-Fields, the Royal Albert Hall, Wembley Arena, The Troxy, Café de Paris, the Houses of Parliament, Pizza Express Jazz Club Soho, The Crazy Coqs and Kings Place. Recent UK festivals include The City of London Festival, The London A Cappella Festival, the Petworth Festival and the Aldeburgh High Tide Festival. The five outstanding vocalists also perform internationally, recently touring the USA before singing at the Festival La Folle Journée, France. The group made its Southeast Asian debut in 2016, taking part in the Taipei International Choral Festival. Apollo5 has broadcast live on Resonance FM, BBC Radio 2 and Classic FM. The group has worked in partnership with The Sixteen, The National Gallery and St Martin-in-the-Fields, presenting the exciting new festival, ‘Sounds Sublime’.

Apollo5 is part of the VCM Foundation, and is involved in its innovative education programme aiming to inspire creativity through music. The programme, led by VOCES8, reaches 40,000 young people annually, working in over 300 schools in the UK, France, Sweden, the USA and Asia. The foundation has its home at the Gresham Centre, at St Anne and St Agnes Church in the heart of the City of London. In partnership with the Diocese of London, VCM has established a hub for excellence in education, outreach and the performance of vocal music. Apollo5 is Ensemble in Residence with Surrey Arts. The group works with children and adults with special needs and leads an innovative Young Leaders Programme. Apollo5 leads regular workshops, master-classes, and a children’s concert series at the Gresham Centre, as well as longer term projects and Residency Programmes. The group also oversees an extensive outreach project called the Open Mind Programme in Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Newham. Now in its third year, the Open Mind Programme has received support from Arts Council England, The Merchant Taylors’ Company and the Worshipful Company of Plaisterers.

Apollo5 released their debut studio album ‘With a Song in my Heart’ in 2015. They also feature on former King’s Singer Paul Phoenix’s EP ‘Journey’ released on the new Edition Peters Sounds label. The group’s recent Christmas EP is entitled ‘Let it Snow!’ and they will soon release a disc of previously unrecorded music by the composer Josquin des Prez. ‘With a Song in My Heart’, ‘Let it Snow!’ and the Josquin des Prez discs are on the VCM label. Apollo5 will start to publish its musical arrangements with Edition Peters this year.

The group is grateful for the support of sponsor, Vivien of Holloway.

For further information please visit www.apollo5.co.uk

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Penelope Appleyard, soprano
Alex Haigh, tenor
Oliver Martin-Smith, tenor
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