

# IATL Pedagogic Intervention project report:

## Invited speakers and concert attendance for Science of Music IL016

### Introduction

The Science of Music module (IL016) aimed to introduce students (in all subject areas and with any level of musical, mathematical or scientific expertise) to the relationships between science, music and mathematics. This pedagogic intervention (IL1535) enabled the addition of live demonstrations within the module to promote a better understanding of the topics being studied and to encourage active participation by the students, while the attendance of a live performance at Warwick Arts Centre enhanced the students' understanding of music in the environment, and their appreciation of the cultural diversity of music.

### Project aims and outcomes

Three speakers were invited to speak at different sessions, including an opera singer, a violin maker and a psychologist with experience in the perception of pitch. The students gained a broader understanding of how instruments and the human voice are perceived, with reference to the acoustic environment.

The live performance chosen for the students to attend, 'Yorkston Thorne Khan' showed a collaborative group using guitar, sarangi, double bass and vocals, which demonstrated some of the aspects taught in the module such as pitch, resonance and acoustics. It enhanced the students' cultural awareness of different instruments, and how musical collaboration can work together. Laura Moody, an alternative cellist and vocalist, was an exceptional support act, and her music was used to generate spectrograms in a later session. The social side of attending a concert also helped bring together students from different disciplines, which was of benefit for peer assessment work. Feedback from students indicated that the experimental performance inspired the students in their own performance/presentation assessment.

"a valuable experience", "Laura Moody was exceptional"



Bruno Guastalla from Oxford Violins



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