

## **Resonate Now**

**December 2020**

Hello everyone

It's been a chilly end to the year so the Resonate team have been wearing our cosy woollen attire and drinking hot chocolate! We've also been busy completing our online Opera for Thought project this month with Opera Holland Park and continuing to connect with our lovely community via phone, post and video call.

If you have access to a computer or smartphone, join us for a special festive celebration on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, see the end of the letter for more information! We are also planning non-digital and online projects for the new year across music, poetry and museums so do keep a look out for more details coming soon.

This month in our activity letter we meet RAM fellow Melissa Youngs who we are delighted to have join us for some projects this year.

You may know that we have a small group of 5 Trustees who beaver in the background to run Resonate Arts. As this strange and challenging year morphs into a new one we all want to wish you every strength and joy in 2021. In April this year we adopted the motto "safe and imaginative" and that is our hope for you for Xmas and for 2021.

If you fancy flexing your imagination find our 'Flake of Hope' activity below and, if you can, post or send a picture of your snowflake to us. We'd love to hear from you!

Happy Resonating

Julie and Jude

You can **contact Julie** on:  
0300 030 7212 | 07483 433 616  
[julie@resonatearts.org](mailto:julie@resonatearts.org)



## Festive songs

We couldn't write a December activity letter without including a few festive favourites!

### White Christmas

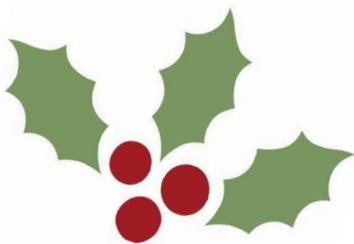
I'm dreaming of a white Christmas  
Just like the ones I used to know  
Where the tree tops glisten  
And children listen  
To hear sleigh bells in the snow, oh, the snow

I said, I'm dreaming of a white Christmas  
With every Christmas card I write  
May your days be merry and bright  
And may all your Christmas' be white

### Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the snowman was a jolly happy soul,  
With a corncob pipe and a button nose  
And two eyes made out of coal.  
Frosty the snowman is a fairy tale, they say,  
He was made of snow but the children know  
How he came to life one day.

There must have been some magic in  
That Old top hat they found.  
For when they placed it on his head  
He began to dance around...



### Winter Wonderland

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening?  
In the lane, snow is glistening  
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight  
Walking in a winter wonderland  
Gone away, is the bluebird  
Here to stay is a new bird  
He sings a love song  
As we go along walking in a winter  
wonderland

In the meadow we can build a snowman  
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown  
He'll say, "Are you married?"  
We'll say, "No, man,  
But you can do the job when you're in  
town."  
Later on we'll conspire, as we dream by  
the fire  
To face unafraid, the plans that we made  
Walking in a winter wonderland

### Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

You better watch out  
You better not cry  
You better not pout  
I'm telling you why  
Santa Claus is coming to town

He's making a list,  
He's checking it twice,  
He's gonna find out who's naughty or nice  
Santa Claus is coming to town

## Artist of the Month

### This month we meet:

Melissa Youngs

**Artform / Interests:** Clarinettist and Open Academy Fellow at the Royal Academy of Music



**Where are you living at the moment?** I live in a house in Acton with 3 music students. It can get pretty loud!

**Tell us what you can see:** I'm sitting at the table looking at the flowers I got for my birthday. They're green, pink, purple, and orange, and they're stood in my favourite big yellow teapot.

**What's keeping you busy at the moment?** I don't have too many musical things at the moment because of the lockdown, but I'm keeping busy with lots of other creative bits like knitting, drawing, and painting.

**Tell us your favourite thing about practising your art form?** My favourite thing about being a musician is the variety of people I get to meet and play with. Communicating through music gives a different level of connection and it is something that I am very much missing at the moment. I'm looking forward to returning to playing in an orchestra and being a tiny part of a huge team.

**What is your favourite music?** I like a lot of different music! My favourite orchestral works are Brahms' *Symphony No. 3* and Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloe*, my favourite small ensemble works are Stravinsky's *Octet* and Mozart's *Gran Partita*, and my favourite clarinet music is Debussy's *Premiere Rhapsodie*. I'm also a big fan of 80's hits and jazz!

**What would you like to share today?** Here is a link to a YouTube video that I recorded a couple of years ago at the Royal College of Music (where I studied for my undergraduate degree) with my friend and piano accompanist, Beth. We love performing together and particularly enjoy this work, Schumann's *Fantasiestucke*. Beth is currently studying in Budapest and I'm missing her a lot, so it seems like a nice time to reminisce and share this video with you: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0GVCJB-WFrY>

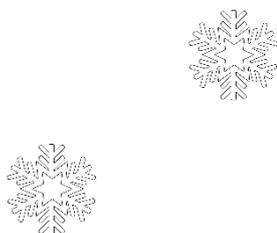
## A flake of hope for 2021

On the next page you will find a large template of a snowflake and below are some suggestions for what you can do!

### Step 1

Find some materials

You can do this exercise with just one pen or pencil. If you can find crayons, paint or materials for collaging (old mags, scissors and glue) or any sparkly bits and pieces these can broaden your possibilities



### Step 2

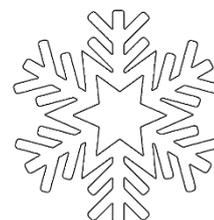
Decorate the snowflake!

There are no rules here – just do what you fancy, knowing that every snowflake is unique and perfect. You could try colouring or just have a good old doodle about

### Step 3

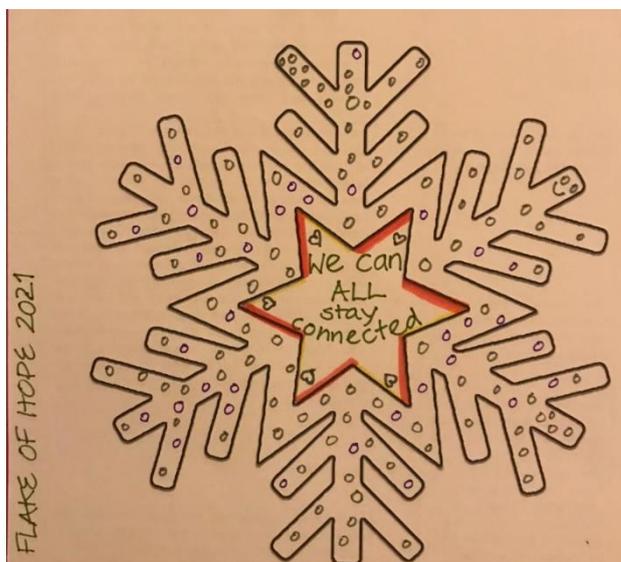
Write your message of hope somewhere on it

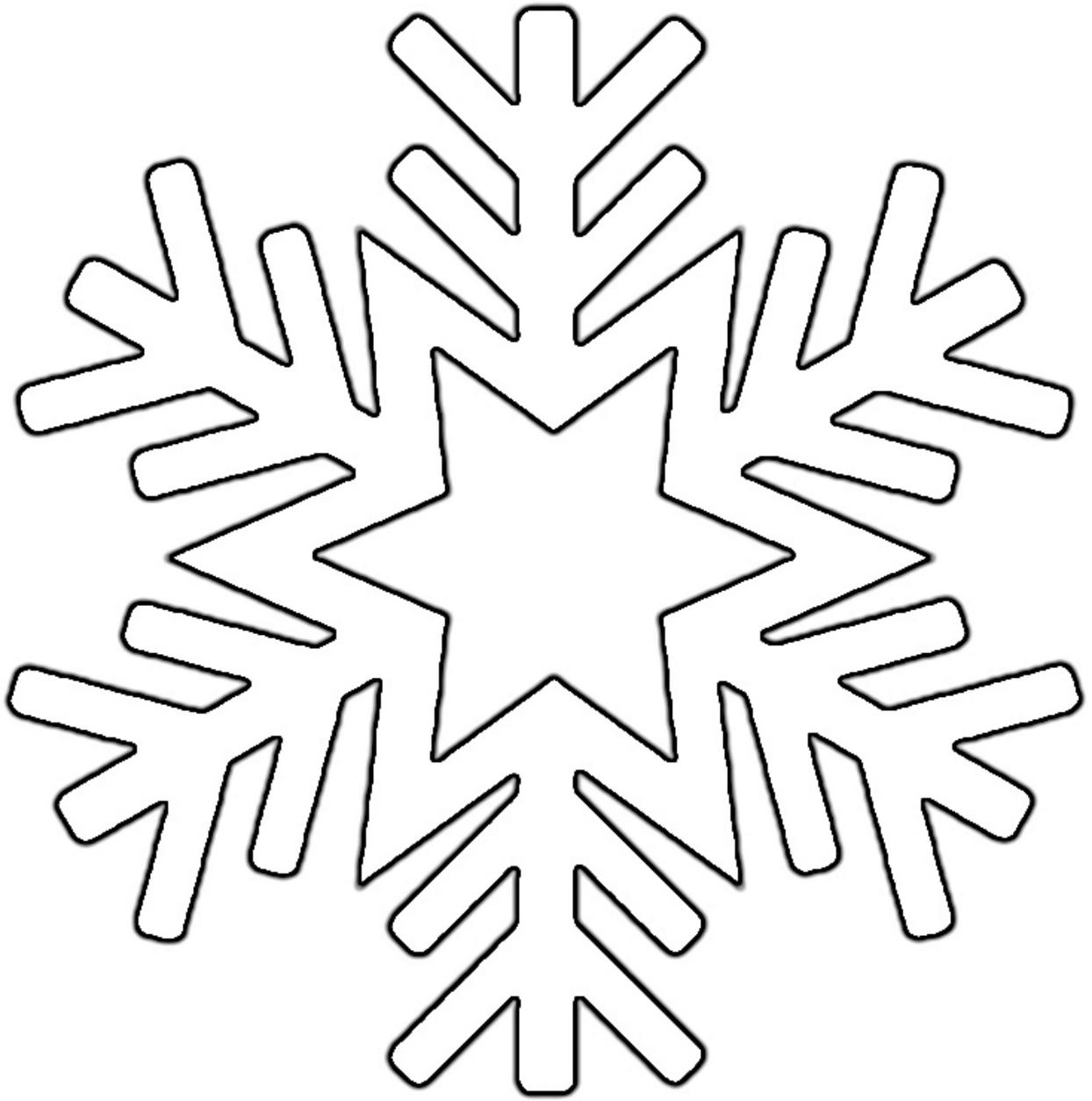
This could be one word, many words, you might even write a poem



Here is Jude's snowflake!

If you would like to share a picture of your snowflake, send to [julie@resonatearts.org](mailto:julie@resonatearts.org)





## A Winter Poem

'It sifts from leaden sieves'

by Emily Dickinson

It sifts from leaden sieves,  
It powders all the wood,  
It fills with alabaster wool  
The wrinkles of the road.

It makes an even face  
Of mountain and of plain, —  
Unbroken forehead from the east  
Unto the east again.

It reaches to the fence,  
It wraps it, rail by rail,  
Till it is lost in fleeces;  
It flings a crystal veil

On stump and stack and stem, —  
The summer's empty room,  
Acres of seams where harvests  
were,  
Recordless, but for them.

It ruffles wrists of posts,  
As ankles of a queen, —  
Then stills its artisans like ghosts,  
Denying they have been.

### Festive Celebration with Wigmore Hall

Join us on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 1.30pm for carols, festive hits, live music and conversation in this one-off session open to all. Taking place on zoom, a link will be emailed to you once you have booked your place. Please **contact Julie** 07483 433 616 or [julie@resonatearts.org](mailto:julie@resonatearts.org) for more information.

**A reminder that for support and advice and to sign up to regular news and information, you can contact the Dementia Advisors:**

Westminster: Terezie - [terezie.wickenden@londoncare.co.uk](mailto:terezie.wickenden@londoncare.co.uk)

Kensington & Chelsea: Mandy - [Mandrews@aukc.org.uk](mailto:Mandrews@aukc.org.uk)

**Wishing you a lovely December from Resonate Arts!**