



GARSINGTON OPERA  
AT WORMSLEY

**CALLING ALL LOCALS FOR A NEW PEOPLE'S OPERA *SILVER BIRCH* -  
RECRUITMENT WORKSHOPS IN HIGH WYCOMBE**

Garsington Opera's Learning & Participation team are running recruitment workshops in November, December and January, for adults and young people to join the company for next summer's People's Opera, *Silver Birch*. This is an incredible opportunity to work alongside top opera professionals and perform on Garsington Opera's main stage, at Wormsley near Stokenchurch, in three fully-staged performances on 28, 29 & 30 July as part of the 2017 season. Over 150 local people of different ages and experiences who enjoy singing are needed. No specific experience of opera or performing is required.

Roxanna Panufnik's newly-commissioned opera *Silver Birch* is a beautiful original story bringing modern-day themes and issues of war and family to the forefront, with echoes of the past through the poet Siegfried Sassoon, a regular visitor to Garsington Manor during WWI. *Silver Birch* is a production for all the family (aged 8+) about courage, aspiration and aiming high.

Recruitment workshops will take place in High Wycombe. The **Adult Company** workshops are on the evenings of 24 November and 8 December. The **Youth Company** workshop takes place on Saturday 7 January from 10 am – 5pm. This workshop is for a wide age range to include pupils from year 7 of secondary school to school leavers and students, particularly from Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. A core team of young enthusiastic dancers (who also like singing!) are also needed and representatives from local dance schools or individuals particularly experienced in dance are encouraged to make contact.

The **Primary Company** will be formed of pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 with an emphasis on involving children who are newcomers to performing. Led by the opera's director, Karen Gillingham, the creative team will be visiting Millbrook, Lane End, Stokenchurch, Frieth and Chalgrove Primary Schools this November and December.

For further information and to register for auditions, please contact [julian@garsingtonopera.org](mailto:julian@garsingtonopera.org)

Garsington Opera at Wormsley [www.garsingtonopera.org](http://www.garsingtonopera.org)

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**PRESS RELEASE**