



GARSINGTON OPERA  
AT WORMSLEY

## FOUR YOUNG SINGERS WIN PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS

Winners of this year's prestigious **Leonard Ingrams Foundation** awards are tenor **Jack Swanson** and soprano **Alison Rose**. These awards support, encourage and nurture the best young artists involved in the creative process of bringing opera to the stage, and are made in memory of Garsington Opera's founder Leonard Ingrams, to ensure the continuity of his vision. Two further awards to rising young artists have also been won: the **Helen Clarke Award** by bass-baritone **Jack Sandison** and the **Simon Sandbach Award** by soprano **Lara Marie Müller**. These awards are made in recognition of their extraordinary talent, musical skill and contribution to the 2017 Garsington Opera productions.

**Alison Rose, Jack Sandison** and **Lara Marie Müller** were part of the **Alvarez Young Artists' Programme** that aims to provide invaluable training and performance opportunities to those selected. They perform on stage in the chorus, in small roles and understudy major roles, working alongside eminent and inspiring principal artists. Further opportunities are given to participate in masterclasses, training seminars on professional development and public recitals.

**Jack Swanson** who sang the role of Albazar and understudied the role of Narciso in *Il turco in Italia* said: *Singing alongside some of the UK's finest talent enabled me to grow as an artist – something I will never forget. I plan to use this award to further my knowledge and understanding of the Italian language as well as delve deeper in the intricacies of the Rossini style of singing.*

**Alison Rose** said: *Performing the role of Barbarina in John Cox's beautiful production of Le nozze di Figaro was a real highlight for me. Garsington is a very special place with a fantastic, supportive team at the helm. This award will enable me both to attend a language course in Italy and to receive coaching in the Bel Canto repertoire*

**Jack Sandison** who understudied the role of Cadmus and Somnus in *Semele* said: *The opportunities available as a member of the Alvarez Young Artists' Programme were highly beneficial to my development as a young singer and with this award I can now make regular trips to Glasgow for singing lessons with my teacher from the conservatoire, as well as pay for coaching in London.*

**Lara Marie Müller** who understudied the role of Yniold in *Pelléas et Mélisande* said: *I am thrilled to have received this award. I learnt a huge amount on the Alvarez Young Artists' Programme including observing the principals in rehearsal, simultaneously rehearsing three operas at once and working alongside wonderful creative teams. This was my first professional job and I am now continuing my Masters at Guildhall. With the help of this award I am able to cover part of my tuition fees for next term, get professional recordings done and pay for extra coaching.*

The 2018 Season that opens on 31 May for a seven week season, features four new productions including the world premiere of *The Skating Rink* by leading British composer David Sawer with a libretto by award-winning playwright Rory Mullarkey, Verdi's *Falstaff*, Richard Strauss's *Capriccio* and Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*.

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PRESS RELEASE