GARSINGTON OPERA
AT WORMSLEY

CELEBRATING OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY
2019 SEASON
THE BARTERED BRIDE
Bedřich Smetana

DON GIOVANNI
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

FANTASIO
Jacques Offenbach

THE TURN OF THE SCREW
Benjamin Britten

VESPERS OF 1610
Claudio Monteverdi
In celebration of our 30th Anniversary we will feature four brilliant, contrasting works, all with new productions, and the launch of a new partnership with The English Concert.

*The Bartered Bride*, Smetana’s vision of a great, new authentic comedy, full of sparkling music, provides the ideal opening for this significant milestone in our festival’s history, played by the Philharmonia Orchestra.

The Garsington Opera Orchestra performs the other three operas commencing with a new production of Mozart’s darkly comic *Don Giovanni*, the definitive telling of the Don Juan myth in the second of Mozart’s three collaborations with Da Ponte.

Garsington has been renowned for presenting premieres of lesser-known works by well-known composers and this year brings the UK stage premiere of Offenbach’s enchanting and gently poignant *Fantasio* in a new English translation by Jeremy Sams.

Our fourth production is Britten’s chilling classic *The Turn of the Screw*. This great masterpiece, based on the Henry James novel, has a score bursting with incredible colour, gripping tension and dramatic intensity.

The season of celebration ends with the Garsington debut of one of the world’s leading ensembles for Baroque and Classical music using original instruments, The English Concert. Three concert performances of Monteverdi’s choral masterpiece *Vespers of 1610* mark the start of their residency with us – a beautiful way to conclude our 30th Anniversary.

We hope you will join us at our home at Wormsley for many more magical evenings of the highest artistic quality.

Douglas Boyd, Artistic Director
In 1989 Leonard Ingrams had the vision and inspiration to create Garsington Opera, with the very first *Le nozze di Figaro* at Garsington Manor. From those brave beginnings on an open-air stage with just two performances, the festival extended to 21 nights and three productions by 2010; now in 2019 we offer four new opera productions and three concerts with 39 performances.

Following Leonard’s untimely death at the age of 63 in 2005, and with the support of Rosalind Ingrams and her family, the Board took the bold decision to continue elsewhere. We were so fortunate that our search led us to Wormsley, and in 2011 we celebrated the opening of our award-winning, light-filled Opera Pavilion and the start of our relationship with Mark Getty and his family. We remain so grateful for the incredible loyalty and trust of our members whose support enabled us to create the opera experience we all enjoy today.

The commitment and friendship of our members and supporters has been a constant encouragement throughout our 30 years. Indeed, there are still 650 members who joined as Founder Friends or have been with us for over 20 years.
We now look forward to the next 30 years with all our supporters, whether you have been with us since the beginning or have recently discovered Garsington.

The heart of our mission is to produce entertaining, thought-provoking productions of great artistic quality. We have a thriving outreach programme involving the local community all year, a waiting list for our vibrant Under 35s scheme, and our Alvarez Young Artists’ Programme, which is recognised as one of the most innovative in the country.

Join us by raising a glass to celebrate our 30th Anniversary Festival. You will notice in this brochure a number of dates when we will be holding special events including:

- Two pre-performance talks to look back over highlights of the first 30 years
- A special exhibition of 30 years of Garsington in the New Gallery
- A shared table in the restaurant on selected dates, hosted by members of the Garsington team
- Opportunities for us to recognise the loyalty of our Founder Friends and those who continue to help us achieve our vision

Further details are highlighted with the logo on pages 7, 9, 17 and 26.
THE

BARTERED

BRIDE

Bedřich Smetana
In this story of thwarted love and arranged marriage, the spirited heroine, Mařenka, has to use every last ounce of determination, charm and cunning in order to marry the man she loves. This is a joyous celebration of Czech culture and identity, reimagined into the heart of the English countryside, above all represented by dance rhythms and deliriously infectious tunes. Dance is at the heart and soul of this piece, from the gloriously vibrant overture to a riotous and festive polka. There’s a circus, an escaped bear, heart-stopping love duets and a rousing drinking song. It’s an irresistible combination.

Natalya Romaniw (Eugene Onegin, 2016) returns as Mařenka with Paul Curran (Death in Venice, 2015) to direct; Jac van Steen (Pelléas et Mélisande, 2017) conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra.

Performances
May 29, 31
June 6, 8, 11, 15, 20, 23, 30
Start time 6.05pm

Insight Talk
Tuesday 14 May, 6.30pm, Oxford

Pre-performance Talks
Friday 31 May, 4.30pm
Sunday 23 June, 4.30pm

Sung in Czech with English supertitles
DON GIOVANNI
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Driven by seemingly insatiable desire, Don Giovanni’s darkly powerful sensuality is at the centre of this tragicomic opera. His list of sexual conquests in Spain alone notoriously adds up to 1,003, and these pursuits lead him to the very edge. This renowned telling of the Don Juan tale encompasses the women he pursues and the ones who pursue him in return, treading with poise the razor-thin line between fascination and revulsion towards the rapacious anti-hero.


**Performances**
- May 30
- June 1, 7, 13, 24, 29
- July 3, 6, 12, 14, 18, 21

Start time 5.45pm

**Insight Talk**
Wednesday 24 April, 6.30pm, London

**Pre-performance Talks**
Friday 7 June, 4.15pm
Wednesday 3 July, 4.15pm

**Cast**
- Don Giovanni: Jonathan McGovern
- Leporello: David Ireland
- Donna Anna: Camila Titinger
- Donna Elvira: Sky Ingram
- Don Ottavio: Trystan Llŷr Griffiths
- Commendatore: Paul Whelan
- Zerlina: Mireille Asselin
- Masetto: Thomas Faulkner
- Conductor: Douglas Boyd
- Director: Michael Boyd
- Designer: Tom Piper
- Lighting Designer: Malcolm Rippeth

Garsington Opera Orchestra & Chorus

Sung in Italian with English supertitles
FANTASIO
Jacques Offenbach
Fantasio is a melancholy, moon-struck dreamer who yearns after an unreachable princess. Can he win her over with his disguise as her beloved jester and fulfil his promise to prevent her arranged marriage to the prince? Secret encounters and mistaken identities are eventually, and sometimes unexpectedly, resolved.

Offenbach was known for his witty and catchy melodies, poking fun at the establishment in tuneful scores of dazzling charm. Celebrating the composer’s bicentenary in 2019, we present the UK stage premiere of this enchanting and gently poignant opera in a specially commissioned new English translation by Jeremy Sams.

We welcome Hanna Hipp (Capriccio, 2018) in the title role, Jennifer France (Le nozze di Figaro, 2017) as Princess Elsbeth and director Martin Duncan (Il turco in Italia, 2017) with conductor Justin Doyle making his Garsington debut.

**Performances**
June 14, 16, 22, 27
July 5, 8, 11, 17, 20
Start time 6.05pm

**Insight Talk**
Tuesday 16 April, 6.30pm, Oxford

**Pre-performance Talk**
Sunday 16 June, 4.30pm

Sung in English with English supertitles
In a new translation by Jeremy Sams
THE TURN OF THE SCREW

Benjamin Britten
A young governess is sent to a remote country house to care for two children. She becomes increasingly disturbed by their behaviour but is under strict instruction never to bother their guardian in London. Are they innocent or wicked, possessed or just high-spirited?

A setting of Henry James’s novella with a libretto by Myfanwy Piper, this is regarded by many as the finest of Britten’s stage works. Described as one of the most dramatically engaging English operas, it has a gripping score full of musical character, suspense and intensity.

Louisa Muller makes her Garsington directing debut and we welcome back Richard Farnes (Falstaff, 2018) to conduct with Sophie Bevan (Don Giovanni, 2012) as the Governess and British tenor Ed Lyon making his Garsington debut as Quint.

Performances
July 1, 4, 7, 13, 15, 19
Start time 6.35pm

Insight Talk
Thursday 2 May, 6.30pm, London

Pre-performance Talk
Thursday 4 July, 5pm
VESPER OF 1610
Claudio Monteverdi
Renowned Baroque and Classical chamber orchestra, The English Concert, makes its Garsington debut for three concert performances of Monteverdi’s *Vespers of 1610*. This atmospheric choral masterpiece was the composer’s first sacred work and one of the most ambitious and extensive to be composed before Bach. Written three years before becoming *maestro di cappella* at St Mark’s in Venice, its brilliant display of style, rich choruses and moving arias showcase Monteverdi’s genius as the ‘Father of opera’. Laurence Cummings (*L’Olimpiade*, 2012) returns to conduct with a stunning cast of principal singers and the Garsington Opera Chorus.

This special project marks the end of our 30th Anniversary Season with an opportunity to enjoy the delights on offer on the Wormsley Estate, including an afternoon cricket match (date t.b.c), tours of the Walled Garden, and Green Theatre recitals showcasing our Young Artists. Premium tickets include the front rows of the Front Stalls, a visit to the Getty Library (on a timed ticket basis) and a reception with the artistic team. Tea will be available overlooking the cricket ground, and dinner can be booked in the restaurant prior to the concert.

**Performances**
July 24, 25, 26
Concert starts 8.30pm. Dress code is informal as for a summer garden party.
Ahead of your visit in the summer, discover more about this season’s operas with our series of Insight Talks combining historical context from leading scholars and musical excerpts performed by singers on the Alvarez Young Artists’ Programme.

**Insight Talks**

- **Fantasio**
  - **Tuesday 16 April**
  - Leonard Wolfson Auditorium, Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford OX2 6UD

- **Don Giovanni**
  - **Wednesday 24 April**
  - David Josefowitz Recital Hall, Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5HT

- **The Turn of the Screw**
  - **Thursday 2 May**
  - Killik & Co., 46 Grosvenor Street, London W1K 3HN

- **The Bartered Bride**
  - **Tuesday 14 May**
  - Leonard Wolfson Auditorium, Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford OX2 6UD

All Insight Talks cost £15 and start at 7pm with guests invited to join us for a glass of wine from 6.30pm. The illustrated talks last approximately one hour.
**Pre-Performance Events**

**Pre-Performance Talks** Garsington Opera Pavilion £12

Join us before the performance for an audience with the creative team. Hear more about the creative process, followed by questions from the floor, in an informal discussion. Each talk lasts approximately 45 minutes.

- **Friday 31 May** 4.30pm  
  The Bartered Bride
- **Friday 7 June** 4.15pm  
  Don Giovanni
- **Sunday 16 June** 4.30pm  
  Fantasio
- **Sunday 23 June** 4.30pm  
  30 Years of Garsington
- **Wednesday 3 July** 4.15pm  
  30 Years of Garsington
- **Thursday 4 July** 5pm  
  The Turn of the Screw

**Walled Garden Recitals**

Each Saturday (weather permitting) members of the Alvarez Young Artists’ Programme present a free, informal recital in the stunning surroundings of the Walled Garden’s Green Theatre. These performances are an opportunity to hear more from our outstanding young singers whilst offering them the chance to explore new repertoire. There will also be recitals before all performances of Monteverdi’s *Vespers of 1610*.
“This was my first visit to Garsington and it was a revelation – utterly breathtaking.”

Audience member 2018
Arrival  Guests are encouraged to arrive from 3.30pm to enjoy the gardens and grounds of the Wormsley Estate before performances begin in the early evening.

Make the most of your visit  Enjoy traditional afternoon tea overlooking the famous Wormsley Cricket Ground in the Long Room Restaurant; take a short journey in a complimentary vintage bus to the beautiful 18th century Walled Garden, a favourite spot for a glass of champagne; admire the spectacular views across the Deer Park and lake from the Champagne Bar or explore the exquisite flower borders of the Opera Garden.

Interval  The dinner interval lasts approximately eighty-five minutes. During this time the Long Room Restaurant offers a range of sumptuous dining options using locally sourced ingredients. If guests prefer to picnic they are welcome to order a hamper or bring their own. Complimentary Scout porters and chauffeured golf buggies are available to assist with carrying picnics.

Performances  start in the early evening. As the light begins to fade at the end of the interval, performances resume ending by 10.15pm when candelelit pathways and the glow of the Opera Pavilion light the way across the spectacular Chiltern landscape.

Getting to Wormsley  Under an hour from London (30 minutes from Oxford) by car and 25 minutes by train with transfer buses and taxis available.
“To produce and serve that quality of food is exceptional.”

Audience member 2018
DINING AT GARSINGTON OPERA

Relax and enjoy the long dinner interval, a central feature of the Garsington experience.

**Dine in the restaurant** Take in the view across the most beautiful cricket ground in England while enjoying a delicious three-course dinner. With menus designed by Michelin Star chef, Michael North, our spectacular Long Room Restaurant was designed by Robin Snell, architect of the Opera Pavilion.

**Bring a picnic** Pick a table by the beautiful lake, book a picnic tent in the Deer Park, enjoy a private party in the Granary or the Chairman’s Tent, admire the view from the upper terrace of the Opera Pavilion or find a table in one of our shared tents.

**Order a picnic** Treat yourself to a gourmet or traditional picnic served in a wicker hamper waiting at your table during the interval. A table overlooking the Cricket Ground is reserved free-of-charge, or guests can choose to book a tent in the Deer Park for a small additional charge.

**Pre-performance** Pick the perfect spot for afternoon tea and scones in the Long Room Restaurant, order champagne and canapes at the Champagne Bar overlooking the Deer Park or visit the Champagne Bar in the Walled Garden.

For a special occasion consider booking the stunning Island and Cricket Pavilions or the Chairman’s Tent with dining options tailored to your requirements.
Booking is open from mid-October. Members are welcome to return their booking forms as soon as they like but please note the relevant dates below. Confirmation of tickets will be sent out following these. Please remember to provide as many alternative dates and amounts as possible.

**Ingrams Circle, Constellation** and **Patron** deadline **Tuesday 27 November 2018**.

**Special Friend** and **Friend** deadline **Tuesday 8 January 2019**.

**Affiliate Members** booking opens at 10am on **Tuesday 19 February 2019**, online and by phone.

**GO≤35 Members** booking opens online at 10am on **Tuesday 12 March 2019**.

**Public booking** opens online and by phone from 10am on **Tuesday 19 March 2019**.

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**Die Zauberflöte**

“Jonathan McGovern is one of the most purely lyrical Papagenos I’ve heard.”

*The Spectator*
Members are able to submit their priority booking request electronically via the Garsington Opera website at priority.garsingtonopera.org. Upon submission, members will receive a confirmation email. In due course, once allocation is completed, the Box Office will email confirmation of dates and tickets, with an invitation to provide payment details.

Members wishing to continue to use the traditional paper booking form are very welcome to do so. They will receive confirmation of their tickets in due course, once allocation is completed.

**Guidance**

- Please return your booking form online or by post as soon as possible, but please be aware that booking forms will not be processed until the relevant booking deadline has been reached.
- Some evenings are more popular than others, particularly Saturdays, so we would ask that you specify as many alternative dates and ticket amounts as possible in order that we can process your booking more quickly.
- Ticket allocations are prioritised by membership level and, within that, the date of submission of booking forms.
- If you would like seats allocated next to friends, please ensure both paper booking forms are submitted together, in the same envelope. If you are submitting your booking form electronically, please specify your seating requirements in the Notes section of the form.
- Please keep a copy of your booking form for your records. If you are submitting a booking form electronically, you will receive a confirmation email for your records.
Accessibility
Please inform us at the time of booking if you or your guests have restricted mobility or special requirements. We have a number of Wheelchair spaces and seats in the Orchestra Stalls and Front Stalls that are accessible with very few stairs; a lift is available to the first level of the auditorium. It is not suitable for people with limited mobility to sit in the Rear Stalls and Boxes. There are a limited number of parking spaces solely for the use of those with accessibility requirements. These must be booked in advance through the Box Office. Our Long Room Restaurant has step-free access.

Conditions of sale
Tickets are not refundable. However, subject to availability, tickets may be accepted for resale. All requests must be received in writing or by email. This facility is subject to a £10 per-ticket administration fee.

Please see our website for full details.

All tickets are sold subject to the right of the Management to make any alterations to the published operas, dates or casts which may be necessary owing to illness or other unavoidable circumstances.

Photography, filming and sound recording of any kind are strictly prohibited. By entering the Wormsley Estate you agree to being filmed or photographed which may be used for marketing or promotional purposes.

Data protection
By giving Garsington Opera your information you agree to us using the information you provide in accordance with our privacy policy (garsingtonopera.org/privacy-policy/). In addition to our supporter newsletter, we would like to send you information about our events and services. You can opt out of receiving our marketing information at any time, please let us know by writing to us at Garsington Opera, The Old Garage, Great Milton, Oxford OX44 7NP or by email to office@garsingtonopera.org.

Donations
We aim to keep ticket prices as low as we can so that as many people as possible can enjoy our Festival. Garsington Opera receives no public subsidy, so we are very grateful to the majority of our audience for including the suggested donation with their tickets which goes towards the quality of the productions you enjoy on our stage. We are also committed to offering subsidised tickets to Under 35s and have a thriving outreach programme for the local community. Thank you so much for your support.
SEATING PLAN & TICKETS

All details correct at time of going to print. Photos: Clive Barda, Vernon Cassin, Julian Guidera, Alice Pennefather, Johan Persson, John Snelling, Stephen Wright. Design: Franks and Franks

For a more detailed seating plan visit garsingtonopera.org/seating-plan

**TICKETS**

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<th>BOXES</th>
<th>Band A Mon, Tues, Weds</th>
<th>Band B Thurs, Fri, Sun</th>
<th>Band C Sat</th>
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All opera tickets include a suggested, but non-obligatory, donation of £70. *All Vespers tickets include a suggested donation of £30. **Premium tickets include the front rows of the Front Stalls and a visit to the Getty Library on a timed basis (please enter Premium in the relevant section of the booking form). See page 15.
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“All the twists and pace of a TV thriller matched with music equally direct and striking.”

The Times