



ROYAL  
OPERA  
HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 2012

PRESS RELEASE

## THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

**Will Tuckett's magical family show returns to the  
Royal Opera House this Christmas**

12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, December, 2, 3, 4, January at 7pm

15, 22, 29, 30, 31 December, 5 January at 12.30pm

27, 28, December, 2, 3, 4 January at 2pm

15, 22, 29, 30, 31 December, 5 January at 5pm

Tickets £24, £19, £17, £11 standing. £14 Students and under 16s.

Box office: 020 7304 4000 / [www.roh.org.uk](http://www.roh.org.uk)

**PRESS NIGHT: 13 December at 7pm**

Director and choreographer **Will Tuckett's** critically acclaimed *The Wind in the Willows* makes a welcome return to the Linbury Studio Theatre for the festive season. Based upon **Kenneth Grahame's** timeless classic, the adventures of four woodland friends are retold through dance, song, music and puppetry.

From a dusty old attic a wonderful tale unfolds. The serenity of the river bank is rocked by a speeding car, a galloping caravan, a racing train and criminal deeds cooked up in the depths of the Wild Wood.

Set to a wonderful score by **Martin Ward** that draws inspiration from the music of Edwardian composer George Butterworth, the escapades of the reckless Toad and his long-suffering friends Ratty, Mole and the wise Badger are wittily brought to life by a cast of some of the best dance-actors around.

Original cast members **Will Kemp** (who reprises his role as Ratty) and **Luke Heydon** (Chief Weasel) are joined by **Cris Penfold** as Toad, **Sam Archer** as Badger, **Clemmie Sveaas** as Mole with **Paul James Rooney**, **Kayleigh Gore** and **Sonya Cullingford**.

Through Tuckett's choreography with a narrative from Poet Laureate **Andrew Motion**, read by actor **Anthony McGill**, the Linbury Studio Theatre becomes the magical setting for the story. Designs from **The Quay Brothers** and **Nicky Gillibrand** bring to life the eccentricities and peculiarities of Grahame's characters in a beautifully realized theatrical experience. *The Wind in the Willows* promises to entertain and charm audiences from ages 5 to 105.

The first Christmas production commissioned and produced by ROH2 ten years ago, *The Wind in the Willows* has delighted audiences young and old alike, both in London and across the UK.

For further information please contact:

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