



ROYAL  
OPERA  
HOUSE

## THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS: *OUT LOUD*

*Filling Covent Garden Piazza with Song*

Sunday 4 September | 12–5.30pm | FREE

Covent Garden West Piazza (in front of St Paul's Church)

To mark the start of the 2016/17 Season, the Royal Opera House presents *Out Loud*, celebrating the power of song on a pop-up stage in Covent Garden Piazza.

*Out Loud* is a showcase of song performed by professional and non-professional singers which gives visitors to Covent Garden the opportunity to experience the power of singing through exceptional up-close performances and participation including a 'Big Sing' alongside members of the **Royal Opera Chorus** and a 'Make a Scene' workshop in which audience members form a chorus alongside singers on the **Jette Parker Young Artists Programme**.

Maltese tenor **Joseph Calleja** will perform at the one-day event. He also sings the role of Pollione in Bellini's *Norma*, the opening production of The Royal Opera's 2016/17 Season, which opens on Monday 12 September 2016 and is conducted by The Royal Opera's Music Director Antonio Pappano.

Australian mezzo-soprano **Emily Edmonds**, Irish soprano **Jennifer Davis** and British bass **David Shipley**, members of the Royal Opera's **Jette Parker Young Artists Programme**, will sing extracts from Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, which is performed at the Royal Opera House from Thursday 22 September until 19 October 2016.

*Out Loud* showcases the talents of members of the **Royal Opera Chorus**, the **Royal Opera House Youth Opera Company**, **Thurrock Community Chorus**, **All Together Opera Company**, **Garsington Youth Opera Company** and **Glyndebourne Youth Opera**.

**Joseph Calleja** began singing at the age of 16, first in his church choir and then in formal training with Maltese tenor Paul Asciak. He won the 1998 Caruso Competition in Milan and was a prize-winner in Operalia in 1999. Since then he has appeared at many of the world's leading opera houses. He made his Royal Opera debut in 2002 as the Duke of Mantua (*Rigoletto*), and his recent roles here have included Riccardo (*Un ballo in maschera*), Rodolfo (*La bohème*) and Gounod's *Faust*. He recently teamed up with Malta's Bank of Valletta to form the BOV Joseph Calleja Foundation, which will serve to help children and families in need.

The **Jette Parker Young Artists Programme** is designed to support the artistic development of talented singers at the beginning of their careers. Young Artists are employed as salaried members of The Royal Opera over a two-year period, during which time they are immersed in the life of the Royal Opera House which helps them form their own artistic identities and gives them guidance on their trajectories through the business. The Young Artists participate in a specially-tailored programme which includes extensive daily coaching in languages, stagecraft and vocal techniques, alongside covering principal roles for The Royal Opera, and performing in concerts and smaller roles on the main stage.

The **Royal Opera Chorus** performs in an average of 20 productions each Season in a wide repertory ranging from Baroque opera through to newly commissioned works. There are currently nine nationalities in the Chorus of 48 full-time singers.

The **Royal Opera House Youth Opera Company** is a 50-strong group of diverse, talented children aged nine to 13 years from across London and the South East and from a wide variety of backgrounds. Members have recently appeared in Royal Opera productions including *Carmen* and *Werther*, and will appear in *Otello* later this season in June 2017. The Youth Opera Company will sing a collection of pieces inspired by Shakespeare to celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

**Thurrock Community Chorus** is open to anyone aged eight and over who lives, works or studies in Thurrock. Formed in the summer of 2011, they gave their first public performance in December of that year. The Chorus will perform a variety of repertory, including 'O Fortuna' from *Carmina Burana*, *Lean on me*, *Anthem*, *Falcons* (from *I Claim the Sky*, a newly-commissioned song cycle by composer John Barber and writer Hazel Gould), *Elijah Rock*, 'Purfleet Chorus' (from the community opera *Ludd and Isis*) and the Act II chorus 'Per te d'immenso giubilo' from *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

**All Together Opera Company** comprises around fifty people aged over 65 who have been working with the Royal Opera House's Learning and Participation team on a newly created 30-minute work called 'The Trial of Fire and Water', inspired by Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. The piece has seen creative input from Richard Taylor (composer of West End show *The Go-Between*) and RPS award-winning librettist Hazel Gould. The group will be perform with the baritone soloist Robert Gildon, and two singers from the Royal Academy of Music.

**Garsington Youth Opera Company** is a diverse and energetic group of singers aged 11–21, who formed as a result of outreach work done in local schools. The company brings together young people from different backgrounds who may not normally mix with each other either socially or in education, giving them the opportunity to work with professional creative artists. They will perform *Mighty Oaks Academy*, a 12-minute mini-opera composed by John Barber, originally written for the ROH Youth Opera Company. A group of Acorns are getting ready for the biggest day of their lives: the entrance exam for Mighty Oaks Academy. If they pass, they'll have protection from the Squirrels and guaranteed growth into trees – but who are these mysterious Prefects with bushy tails?

Members of **Glyndebourne Youth Opera** (aged 14–19) will perform extracts from the critically-acclaimed youth opera *Nothing* which had its premiere at Glyndebourne in March 2016. Co-commissioned and co-produced by Glyndebourne and the Royal Opera House, *Nothing* was adapted by composer David Bruce and librettist Glyn Maxwell from a book for young adults by Danish author Janne Teller. It tells the haunting story of a group of teenagers trying to convince their classmate that life has meaning. Things quickly escalate as the adolescents go to ever more extreme lengths to attempt to persuade their friend that there are things worth caring about. Every year Glyndebourne Youth Opera provides young people living locally to Glyndebourne with open-access opera workshops and world-class performance opportunities, many of which take place on its main stage.

The schedule below is subject to change:

**12.10–12.40pm**

Thurrock Community Chorus performance

**12.50–13.15pm**

ROH Youth Opera Company performance

**13.25–13.55pm**

All Together Opera performance

**14.05–14.25pm**

Royal Opera Chorus performance

**14.25–14.50pm**

‘Big Sing’ with members of the Royal Opera Chorus

**14.50–15.05pm**

Garsington Youth Opera Company performance

**15.10–15.35pm**

ROH Youth Opera Company performance

**15.40–16.05pm**

Glyndebourne Youth Opera performance

**16.10–16.25pm**

Garsington Youth Opera Company performance

**16.30–16.55pm**

Jette Parker Young Artists

**16.55–17.10pm**

‘Make a Scene’ with Jette Parker Young Artists

**17.10–17.30pm**

Joseph Calleja

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