Saturday 17 May 2014 Snape Maltings Concert Hall

Aldeburgh Music Club

A Night at the Opera



Aldeburgh Music Club founded by Benjamin Britten in 1952
Aldeburgh Music Club is a Registered Charity No 1000990

WELCOME

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

A very warm welcome to you all!

Tonight's concert is something rather different for both us and you!

A NIGHT AT THE OPERA is certainly secular and takes us far from the realm of religious music, but opens our ears to the wonderful world of opera with choruses, arias and duets from a wide range of music that is much loved by audiences all over the world.

It is a delight for me to be working again with Linda Richardson and James Edwards and their wonderful voices will thrill and soothe you in equal amounts.

I do hope you enjoy tonight and that you will go home with many of the melodies ringing in your ears.

Edmond Fivet

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This final concert in our 2013/14 season will transport you from ancient Egypt to New York in the 1950s by means of many much-loved operatic choruses, arias and duets. With two wonderful soloists and the talented Prometheus Orchestra, we are looking forward to a very special evening. We hope you enjoy the concert.

Aldeburgh Music Club is indebted to the generous help and support of over 120 Patrons, to our corporate sponsors Big House Holidays and Suffolk Cottage Holidays, and for many donations and gifts.

David R Smith





Saturday 17 May 2014 at 7.30pm Snape Maltings Concert Hall

A Night at the Opera

Verdi La traviata

Mozart The Magic Flute

Verdi *Nabucco*

Puccini Gianni Schicchi

Puccini La bohème

Verdi Aïda

Interval (20 minutes)

Wagner Lohengrin

Dvořák Rusalka

Donizetti Lucia di Lammermoor

Donizetti L'elisir d'amore

Offenbach The Tales of Hoffmann

Bernstein Candide

Bernstein West Side Story

Tchaikovsky Eugene Onegin

Aldeburgh Music Club Choir Prometheus Orchestra

Edmond Fivet conductor

Linda Richardson soprano
James Edwards tenor
Graeme Kay narrator





MUSIC

La traviata

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Synopsis: Paris, the second half of 19th century. A beautiful courtesan Violetta abandons her happy but empty life and falls in love with a young nobleman Alfredo.

Prelude orchestra

Toast (Brindisi)

chorus, soprano, tenor

ALFREDO

Let's drink to the pleasures of youth and happiness, filled with delight and with rapture;

For life is fleeting, so let us capture the moments of joy and bliss.

Let's drink to all the trembling hearts that love awakes to passion;

There's one who rules in her fashion no other heart than this.

Let's drink, for with wine all the joys of love more delightful will grow with each kiss.

ALL

Ah! Let's drink to love's delight, here's to the wine that fires ev'ry kiss.

VIOLETTA

With you, with you I could spend my life in a whirlwind of joy and laughter;

Live for each moment and not for hereafter, drink of the cup while you may.

Rejoice in love's sweet happiness, a flower to keep and cherish;

For soon its blossom will perish, its beauty fade away.

Rejoice, rejoice, hear the voice of love: 'come to me' it seems to say.

ALL

Ah! Rejoice, for tonight we'll make merry with wine;

All around there'll be laughter and singing;

In paradise swiftly the hours go winging, and thus we shall greet the new day.

VIOLETTA ALFREDO

Our life was made for pleasure... If love brings in no confusion...

VIOLETTA ALFREDO

Don't talk of mere illusion. Fate holds me in its sway.

ALI.

Ah! we'll rejoice and make merry with wine, all around there'll be laughter and singing; In paradise thus we shall greet the new day!

One happy day (Un dì felice)

ALFREDO

For more than a year.

One happy day you flashed lightly into my life and since then I lived in tremulous possession of that unspoken love, the pulse of the whole world, mysterious, unattainable, the torment and delight of my heart.

VIOLETTA

If that is true, then leave me.
Friendship is all I can offer you.
I don't know how to love,
I couldn't feel so great an emotion.
I'm being honest with you – sincere...
You should look for someone else, then you wouldn't find it hard to forget me.

GASTON

Well now! What the devil are you up to?

VIOLETTA

We are talking nonsense.

GASTON

Ha, ha! Splendid! Go on!

VIOLETTA

So no more about love. Is that a promise?

ALFREDO

I'll do as you say, I'll go.

VIOLETTA

So it's come to that already!

Take this flower.

ALFREDO Why?

VIOLETTA

So that you can bring it back to me.

ALFREDO When?

VIOLETTA

When it's withered.

ALFREDO

You mean.... tomorrow?

VIOLETTA

Very well, tomorrow.

ALFREDO

I'm happy.... Oh, so happy!

VIOLETTA

Do you still say you love me?

ALFREDO

How much, how much I love you! I'm happy.... Oh, so happy

VIOLETTA

You're going?

ALFREDO

I'll go now.

VIOLETTA

Good-bye then.

ALFREDO

I ask for nothing more. Good-bye.

ALI.

The dawn is breaking in the sky and we must take our leave; Thank you, dear lady for such a splendid party. The town is still a-revelling; pleasure rolls on its way. In slumber we'll store up again the zest for further joys.

The Magic Flute

Mozart (1756-1791)

Now I know that love can vanish (Ach, ich fühl's)

soprano

Synopsis: A mythical land, evocative of Ancient Egypt. Pamina finds and meets Tamino. Her heart is broken when he refuses to speak to her, not knowing that he has taken a vow of silence in order to pass a test and win her love. When she approaches him and he apparently ignores her, she sings that she feels as if her life is over.

PAMINA

Ah, I sense it has vanished!
The joy of love gone forever!
Hours of delight, you will never come back to my heart again!
See, Tamino, these tears are flowing for you alone, beloved.
If you do not feel love's longing then there will be rest in death!

Priests' chorus

chorus (tenors and basses)

O Isis and Osiris, praise we render!

The gloomy night must yield to daylight's splendour!

This noble youth new life will feel within him; soon for our service we shall surely win him.

His heart is pure, his spirit is free:

Soon, soon, soon for our Order worthy he'll be.

This portrait is bewitching (Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön)

tenor

Synopsis: Prince Tamino is presented with a picture of Pamina, the daughter of the Queen of the Night. He instantly falls in love with the image in this picture, and questions what he would do if she were standing there in-front of him.

TAMINO

This portrait is bewitchingly beautiful, more than any eye has ever seen! I feel it, like this heavenly picture fills my heart with new emotions. I cannot express this feeling.
But I feel it, here, like a burning fire.
Is this feeling love?

Yes, yes, it can only be love.
Oh, if only I could find her!
Oh, if she but stood before me now!
I should – should – warmly and virtuously –
What should I do?

Rapturously I should press her to this ardent breast, and then she would be mine forever.

Nabucco

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Synopsis: Babylon in 587BC on the banks of the Euphrates; the Hebrew slaves are in chains, as forced labour.

Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves

chorus

HEBREWS

Dearest homeland, my thoughts fly towards thee; Wings of gold bear them on to journey's ending, where the sweet scented breezes are blending o'er the green hills and vales of our land. Ah! to stand by the banks of the Jordan and to see Sion's woeful desolation! O dear land, once the joy of our nation, now forever lost by Fate's cruel hand.

Golden harps of the prophets and seers of old, why so silently hang on the willow?
Lift your voice, stir our hearts, let the story be told of the times now so long gone and past.
O Jerusalem, blessed city, when will grief and lamenting be over?
Let our song rise to thee, great Jehovah;
Hear the voice of the people at last, hear the voice of thy people at last.

Gianni Schicchi

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Synopsis: Medieval Florence. Lauretta pleads with her father to enable her to get married to Rinuccio, the love of her life. Lauretta makes it perfectly clear that if dad doesn't come up trumps, she'll commit suicide.

Oh my dear father (O mio babbino caro)

soprano

Oh my dear father, I like him, he is very handsome.

I want to go to Porta Rossa to buy the ring!

Yes, yes, I want to go there!

And if my love were in vain, I would go to Ponte Vecchio and throw myself in the Arno!

I am pining and I am tormented, Oh God! I would want to die!

Daddy, have mercy, have mercy!

MUSIC

La bohème

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Synopsis: Mimì and Rodolfo are getting acquainted fast. Outside, Rodolfo's friends call him to join them. He would rather stay with Mimì, but she shyly suggests they all go out together. 'Tell me you love me' he pleads. She holds back, at first, but as this duet ends, they sing together for the first time, and their first word is 'Love'.

Oh, Lovely girl (O soave fanciulla)

duet

RODOLFO

Oh! Lovely girl! Oh sweet face

I see in you the dream

I'd dream forever!

MIMÌ

Ah! Love, you rule alone

RODOLFO

Already I taste in spirit the heights of tenderness! Love trembles in our kiss!

MIMÌ

You rule alone, O love!

How sweet his praises enter my heart

Love, you alone rule.

No, please!

RODOLFO You're mine!

MIMÌ

Your friends are waiting

RODOLFO

You send me away already?

MIMÌ

I daren't say what I'd like.

RODOLFO Tell me. MIMÌ

If I came with you?

RODOLFO

What? Mimi?

It would be so fine to stay here.

Outside it's cold.

MIMÌ

I'd be near you!

RODOLFO

And when we come back?

MIMÌ

Who knows?

RODOLFO

Give me your arm, my dear

MIMÌ

Your servant sir

RODOLFO

Tell me you love me!

MIMÌ

I love you.

RODOLFO and MIMÌ

Love! Love! Love!

Aïda

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Synopsis: Entrance gate to the city of Thebes during the reign of the Pharaohs.

Triumphal Scene

chorus

PEOPLE

Glory to Egypt, motherland, Isis, our great defender! King, who reigns in splendour, anthems of praise we sing! Glory! Glory to our king, praise we'll sing. O King, glad hymns of praise to thee we'll sing!

WOMEN

A lotus garland fair in the victors' laurel twining, we'll spread a carpet shining bright with the blossoms of spring. We'll dance, Egyptian maidens, in honour of our great one; Stars circling round the sun who dutiful tribute bring.

PRIESTS

Lift your eyes to the gods above, who alone decide the battle, who granted us the victory; Offer up your humble thanks before their mighty throne on this triumphant holy day.

Lohengrin

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

Synopsis: Antwerp c.900s. Elsa and Lohengrin enter the Bridal chamber, they have just been married.

The Bridal Chorus chorus

Led here in faith, draw near with joy, love's guardian angel watch over you!

Joined in a bond none can destroy; Now you are one in your love ever true.

Virtue's brave champion, step forth with pride! Youth's fairest flower, walk by his side!

Sounds of the feasting now left behind you, may joy and bliss be waiting to find you!

Fragrant and bright, this room deck'd with flowers now will receive you for love's joyous hours.

Led here in faith, now enter in; Love's guardian angel give blessing to you! Keep you in joy, pure, free from sin, now you are one in your love ever true!

United with God's blessing, your lives be bless'd, we pray: Eternal love professing, remember long this day.

Duty is done; now we depart. Love's guardian angel give blessing to you.

MUSIC

Joy in your life, bliss in your heart, now you are one in your love ever true. Champion of virtue, here you'll remain: Youth's fairest flower, love's sweetest gain! Sounds of the feasting now left behind you, may joy and bliss be waiting to find you! Fragrant and bright, this room deck'd with flowers now will receive you for love's joyous hours.

Duty is done; Now we depart. Love's guardian angel give blessing to you! Joy in your life, bliss in your heart, now you are one in your love ever true!

Rusalka

Antonin Leopold Dvorák (1841-1904)

Synopsis: A picturesque lake in an idyllic forest. Rusalka is the daughter of a water-goblin who wants nothing more than to be human after she fell in love with a hunter/prince who frequents the lake in which she lives. Rusalka sings this song asking for the moon to reveal her love to the Prince.

Song to the Moon soprano

Moon high up in the sky, you light up vast distances, you wander through the wide, wide world, looking into the homes of men.

Stay awhile, moon, tell me where my beloved is!

Tell him, silvery moon, that my arms embrace him, so that at least in his dreams he may remember me.

Shine for him in far away places, shine for him, tell him, oh tell him who is waiting here! If he dreams about me, let that remembrance waken him! Moon, don't go away, don't go away, moon don't go away!

Lucia di Lammermoor

Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)

Synopsis: Scotland in the 17th century. In a feud between the Scottish families of Ravenswood and Lammermoor, Enrico (Lord Henry Ashton of Lammermoor) has gained the upper hand over Edgardo (Edgar of Ravenswood), killing his kinsmen and taking over his estates. However, Enrico's fortunes have begun to wane. In political disfavour, he stakes all on uniting his family with that of Arturo (Lord Arthur Bucklaw), whom he means to force his sister, Lucia (Lucy Ashton), to marry. In the great hall of Lammermoor, as guests hail the union of two important families, Arturo pledges to restore the Ashtons' prestige.

Chorus of Wedding Guests

chorus and tenor

GUESTS

Fill ev'ry cup, come celebrate! Joy all around returning, Now you have brought new life and hope, ending our days of yearning. Here will our friendship guide you,

Love ever be your companion, here will our friendship guide you, love ever lead you aright, So bright that no clouds can hide you, star in our gloomy night;

Bright so no clouds can hide you. A star to cheer our night.

ARTURO

No darkness shall disguise again, your star renowned in story; Gladly I see it rise again to greater light and glory. In token give your hand now, this heart of mine is true; I vow beside you, I'll stand now as brother and friend to you.

GUESTS

Fill evr'y cup, come celebrate! Joy all around returning,

Now you have brought new life and hope, ending our days of yearning.

Here will our friendship guide you,

Love ever be your companion, here will our friendship guide you, love ever lead you aright,

So bright that no clouds can hide you, star in our gloomy night;

Bright so no clouds can hide you. A star to cheer our night....

ARTURO

I shall be there beside you as brother and defender, I shall be there beside you as brother and as your friend.

I vow to stand by you, as brother steadfast I shall stand.

The Elixir of Love

Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)

Synopsis: A small village in the Basque country at the end of the 18th century. Nemorino is in love with Adina, but she is not interested in a relationship with an innocent, rustic man. To win her heart, Nemorino buys a love potion with all the money he has in his pocket. That love potion is actually a cheap red wine sold by a traveling quack doctor. But when he sees Adina weeping, he knows that she has fallen in love with him and is sure that the 'Elixir' works.

A furtive tear (Una furtiva lagrima)

tenor

A furtive tear welled up in her eye – those carefree girls she seemed to envy - why should I look any further?

She loves me, yes, she loves me. I can see it, I can see it.

To feel for just one moment the beating of her dear heart! To blend my sighs for a little with hers! Heavens, I could die. I ask for nothing more. I could die of love.

The Tales of Hoffmann

Offenbach (1819-1880)

Synopsis: Venice. Hoffmann, a young poet, falls in love with the courtesan Giulietta and thinks his affections are returned. Nicklausse is Hoffmann's companion.

The Barcarolle 'Belle nuit, ô nuit d'amour'

chorus

NICKLAUSSE

Joyous night, oh night of love, your mystic shadows bless us! Starry heavens high above, Oh joyous night of love!

NICKLAUSSE and GIULIETTA

Time is fleet and bears away the passions that possess us, far from this enchanted shore, returning never more. Enjoy while you may your beloved's caresses, before the dawn of day speeds the moment away, far away. Ah!

Joyous night, oh night of love, your mystic shadows bless us! Starry heavens high above, joyous night of love! Starry heavens above! Ah! Night of ardent caresses smile on us, oh night of love! Ah!

Candide

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Synopsis: Paris in the 18th century. After escaping the war that destroyed her family, Cunegonde, the daughter of a baron, is forced to maintain her lifestyle by sharing herself with several important Parisians. She sings that she must conceal her unhappiness by laughter and cheerful demeanor.

Glitter and Be Gay soprano

Glitter and be gay, that's the part I play:

Here I am in Paris, France, forced to bend my soul to a sordid role, victimized by bitter, bitter circumstance.

Alas for me! Had I remained beside my lady mother by virtue had remained unstained until my maiden hand was gained by some Grand Duke or other.

Ah, 'twas not to be; harsh necessity brought me to this gilded cage.

Born to higher things, here I droop my wings,

Ah! Singing of a sorrow nothing can assuage.

And yet of course I rather like to revel, ha ha!

I have no strong objection to champagne, ha ha!

My wardrobe is expensive as the devil, ha ha!

Perhaps it is ignoble to complain...

Enough, enough of being basely tearful!

I'll show my noble stuff by being bright and cheerful!

Ha ha ha ha! Ha! Pearls and ruby rings...

Ah, how can worldly things take the place of honour lost?

Can they compensate for my fallen state, purchased as they were at such an awful cost?

Bracelets... lavalieres... can they dry my tears? Can they blind my eyes to shame?

Can the brightest brooch shield me from reproach?

Can the purest diamond purify my name?

And yet of course these trinkets are endearing, ha ha!

I'm oh, so glad my sapphire is a star, ha ha!

I rather like a twenty-carat earring, ha ha!

If I'm not pure, at least my jewels are! Enough! Enough!

I'll take their diamond necklace and show my noble stuff by being gay and reckless! Ha ha ha ha! Ha!

Observe how bravely I conceal the dreadful, dreadful shame I feel. Ha ha ha!

West Side Story

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Synopsis: Two rival teenage gangs, the Jets (Caucasian) and the Sharks (Puerto Rican), struggle for control of the neighbourhood somewhere in the Upper West Side of New York City in the 1950s. The young protagonist, Tony, one of the Jets, falls in love with Maria, the sister of Bernardo, the leader of the Sharks.

Maria tenor

TONY

Maria . . . The most beautiful sound I ever heard: Maria, Maria, Maria, Maria . . .

All the beautiful sounds of the world in a single word . .

Maria, Maria, Maria . . . Maria!

I've just met a girl named Maria, and suddenly that name will never be the same to me. Maria!

I've just kissed a girl named Maria, and suddenly I've found how wonderful a sound can be! Maria!

Say it loud and there's music playing, say it soft and it's almost like praying.

Maria, I'll never stop saying Maria! The most beautiful sound I ever heard. Maria.

MUSIC

One hand one heart duet

Synopsis: Tony and Maria dream of their wedding.

TONY

Make of our hands one hand, make of our hearts one heart, make of our vows one last vow:
Only death will part us now.

MARIA

Make of our lives one life, day after day, one life.

BOTH

Now it begins, now we start one hand, one heart; Even death won't part us now.

Make of our lives one life, day after day, one life. Now it begins, now we start one hand, one heart, even death won't part us now.

Eugene Onegin

Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Synopsis: A ballroom in St Petersburg in the 1820s. A ball is being given in honour of Tatyana and Onegin is dancing with her. Onegin is irritated by gossip and annoyed that he has been persuaded by Lensky to attend the ball. He decides to get his revenge by flirting and dancing with Olga, Tatyana's sister.

Waltz scene chorus and tenor

GUESTS

This is superb! We never had expected such splendid company, and dancing to a band! We seldom see parties such as this one. What glorious food! What glorious wine! So tasteful, so well planned! Yes it's splendid, simply delightful! What a party! Not for years have we seen such a party; ev'ry one should enjoy it while they can!

ELDERLY GENTLEMEN

Here in the country we live in seclusion; festive occasions and dancing are rare. Hunting is really our only diversion; makes a nice change from the hound and the hare!

ELDERLY LADIES

That's all our menfolk consider amusing, just shooting and fishing and up with the sun; and then in the evening they're always exhausted, yet we who've been working could do with some fun! Yes, do with some fun!

YOUNG GIRLS

Oh, Captain Petrovich, we beg you to tell us the name of your regiment!

CAPTAIN

YOUNG GIRLS

Certainly! But why aren't you dancing?

Well, no one has asked us to.

In that case, dear ladies, the pleasure is mine!

ELDERLY LADIES

Look at them! Look at them! Now what could be plainer!

She must find a husband. That's him for sure!

How sad for Tatyana, for once they are married she'll find he's a tyrant.

He gambles, what's more!

He's most discourteous and conceited; the things he says can't be repeated!

He's a freemason, so they say, and ends up drunk on wine each day.

ONEGIN

So that's your verdict! No more of this! I'm tired of hearing their dreary gossip!

Serves me right, though, for coming.

Whatever brought me here to this confounded ball? Yes, what?

I can't forgive Vladimir for persuading me to come, so I'll dance again with Olga for that will make him jealous. Here she is Allow me!

LENSKY

ONEGIN

But you had promised me this dance!

You're mistaken there, my friend!

LENSKY

She's smiling at him! I must be dreaming! Olga! What's wrong with me?

GUESTS

Such a party! Such a surprise! What delightful dancing!

The party's at its height. How delightful!

This is superb! We never had expected such a splendid company, and dancing to a band!

Yes it's splendid; simply delightful! What a party, what an evening of perfection!

Beyond all expectation!

Hail to music, hail to song! We'll dance and feast the whole night long!

Hail to pleasure, to feasting and dancing!

We'll dance and we'll feast the whole night long!

How delightful! How delightful!

PERFORMERS



EDMOND FIVET

conductor

Edmond Fivet has been a major force in British music education, having been Director of the Royal College of Music Junior Department and serving, for eighteen years, as Principal of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Since retiring to Suffolk he has become increasingly involved in local music making, first conducting the Aldeburgh Music Club Choir in May 2007 in a programme that included Beethoven *Mass in C*, followed by a performance of the Mozart *Requiem* with the Phoenix Singers in November. Edmond was appointed Music Director of Aldeburgh Music Club in 2008 and was Music Director of the Phoenix Singers from 2009 to 2012. Concerts have included Handel *Messiah*; Mozart *Mass in C Minor* and *Coronation Mass*, Rossini *Petite Messe*; Walton *Belshazzar's Feast*; Haydn *Creation*; Fauré *Requiem*; Haydn *Nelson Mass* and Schubert *Mass in G* and *Mass in E flat*; Orff *Carmina Burana*; Lambert's *Rio Grande*; Mendelssohn *Elijah* and Verdi *Requiem*.

2008 also saw the formation of the Prometheus Orchestra, which Edmond conducts, and which has given concerts in Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds, Aldeburgh, Orford, Framlingham, Woodbridge and Snape Maltings. Programmes have included a range of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven symphonies, Elgar, Grieg, Wagner and Schubert. Prometheus Orchestra played a major part in the 2011, 2012 and 2013 William Alwyn Festival.

Edmond has conducted many talented youth orchestras and ensembles including performances of Shostakovich's Fifth and Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphonies, and has conducted two major chamber orchestra tours, including Bach's Violin Concertos with the then young Daniel Hope. In 2007 he conducted two performances of Britten's *Noye's Fludde* in Cardiff. A widely experienced adjudicator, examiner and consultant, Edmond has worked at home and overseas.

Edmond is Chairman of the Bury St Edmunds Concert Club and the national Chair of Making Music's Concert Promoters Group.

He was appointed a CBE in the Queen's 2008 Birthday Honours for services to music and education.



LINDA RICHARDSON

soprano

Linda Richardson studied at the Royal Northern College of Music, where she was a Peter Moores Foundation Scholar and winner of the Frederic Cox Award, and then at the National Opera Studio.

An English National Opera Company Principal between 1997 and 2005, her roles there have included Virtue *The Coronation of Poppea*, Fiordiligi Così *fan tutte*, Lauretta *Gianni Schicchi*, Micaela *Carmen*, Gretel *Hansel and Gretel*, Gilda *Rigoletto*, Zerlina *Don Giovanni*, Sophie *Der Rosenkavalier*, Mimi *La Bohème*, title roles *The Fairy Queen* and *Alcina*, Violetta *La Traviata*, *Woglinde Rhinegold*, Helena *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Donna Anna *Don Giovanni*. Elsewhere she has sung Karolka *Jenufa*, Mimi, Nanetta *Falstaff*, Pamina *Die Zauberflöte*, Violetta and Gilda with Opera North, Lisetta *La Vera Constanza* at Garsington, Norina *Don Pasquale* for Clonter Opera, Fairy Queen in Barcelona, First Niece *Peter Grimes* at Netherlands Opera and Amina in Opera Holland Park's *La Sonnambula*.

She performs extensively on the oratorio and concert platform, and is a frequent recitalist, having sung at the Newbury, Three Choirs and Arundel Festivals. She was a regular soloist with the English Haydn Festival where she sang in world and British premieres of Haydn's unknown works. Other concert work includes *Missa Solemnis*, Brahms *Requiem* with the Northern Sinfonia, *Messiah* with the English Chamber Orchestra in Spain and Britten's *Les Illuminations* with the Netherlands Radio Chamber Orchestra. Recent concerts include an Italian Gala with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra conducted by Carl Davis, *Carmina Burana* at the Royal Festival Hall and she has appeared as a guest soloist on *Friday Night is Music Night* on BBC Radio 2. Linda appeared as Annie in Jonathan Dove's TV opera *When She Died* on Channel 4. Recordings include *Hearts and Flowers*, a collection of Victorian Parlour Songs, and Oscar *Un Ballo* in *Maschera* for *Chandos*.

Recent and future work includes title role *Anna Bolena* (Welsh National Opera), Violetta *La Traviata* (Welsh National Opera and Scottish Opera), Countess *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Alice Ford *Falstaff*, and Rosalinde in the Party Scene from *Die Fledermaus* throughout the UK and France with Diva Opera, the title role in Longborough Opera's *Madama Butterfly*, *Katya Kabanova* with ETO, Mimi *La bohème* and Alice Ford *Falstaff* with Opera Holland Park and Mrs Coyle Owen *Wingrave* at the Kammermusikfestival Nürnberg.

PERFORMERS



JAMES EDWARDS

tenor

James Edwards began singing as a chorister at St Paul's Cathedral, continuing his studies at the Royal Northern College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music. He made his Royal Opera, Covent Garden, debut as an Apprentice in Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg in 2002, later joining the Young Artists Programme. Other roles have included the title role in Albert Herring at the Salzburg Landestheater, Novice *Billy Budd* for English National Opera, Push by David Bruce for Tête-à-Tête, Sempronio *Lo speziale* in Tel Aviv, Mr Erlanson A Little Night Music at the Théâtre du Châtelet, Pirelli Sweeney Todd and Tom Rakewell The Rake's Progress for the Gothenburg Opera, Lensky Eugene Onegin for opera by definition, Roderigo Otello for the Opéra Royal de Wallonie, Mas de Daumas Gassac The Lovely Ladies at the Buxton Festival and First Brother The Seven Deadly Sins for the Royal Ballet. Recordings and broadcasts include The Carmelites for Chandos and Friday Night is Music Night for BBC Radio 2. He made his BBC Proms debut in 2006, and his concert engagements have included Beethoven Choral Symphony with the Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra, Gounod St Cecilia Mass with the Huddersfield Choral Society, The Creation with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Mozart Requiem with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Szymanowski Love Songs of Hafiz with the BBC Philharmonic, Verdi *Requiem* at the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea and the National Concert Hall, Dublin, *Opera Galas* for Longborough Festival Opera, the Mikkeli City Orchestra, the Orion Symphony Orchestra and the Sussex Symphony Orchestra, *Proms in the Park* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Christmas Galas and Last Night of the Spring Proms for Raymond Gubbay Ltd, The Battle Proms 2009 at Althorp Park and the 2012 Classical Open Air Concert at Leeds Castle. His recent diary has included Don José Carmen at London's Royal Albert Hall, Casta Diva – The Life and Loves of Maria Callas at the National Concert Hall, Dublin, Beethoven Choral Symphony with the Oxford Philharmonic, the Peninsula Doctors' Orchestra and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Mass in C at the Kilkenny Arts Festival, Britten Nocturne on tour with the Israel Camerata, Messiah with the Royal Choral Society, the Nelson Mass with the Brighton Philharmonic Orchestra, Verdi Requiem with the Wexford Sinfonia, Classical Spectacular and Last Night of the Christmas Proms for Raymond Gubbay Ltd, Summer Spectacular and Last Night of the Proms with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, a Christmas Gala with the Ten Tors Orchestra and Viennese New Year with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Future engements include Classical Open Air Concert at Leeds Castle and La Boheme and Madam Butterfly at the Royal Albert Hall.

In 2011, James Edwards was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music by the Governing body of the RAM for distinguishing himself in the field of Opera.



GRAEME KAY

narrator

Anglican chant, plainsong and organ playing provided Graeme Kay's early musical education – his father was a Canon in the Scottish Episcopal Church. The opera bug – and his exposure to the music of Britten – struck early when he was cast in a school production of Britten's *Noyes Fludde*, performed in the medieval nave of Dunfermline Abbey. And on a lifechanging summer vacation from modern languages and law degree courses at Queens' College, Cambridge, he took an electrician's job at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, during the 1975 Festival, working on Deutsche Oper Berlin productions of *Lulu* and *Salome*, the latter originally designed and directed by Wieland Wagner; also in the Festival that year were Scottish Opera's world premiere production of Robin Orr's *Weir of Hermiston* and Geraint Evans's famous production of *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Ileana Cotrubas, Teresa Berganza, Heather Harper and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, conducted by Daniel Barenboim. Graeme subsequently joined Scottish Opera.

After spending ten years in arts management with Scottish Opera, Manchester City Council, Southern Arts Association and London Contemporary Dance Theatre, he switched to journalism, successively editing Classical Music, Opera Now and BBC Music magazines; he contributes to every issue of Choir & Organ magazine, and has a monthly column in the Japanese equivalent of Gramophone: The Record Geijutsu. For Rose Bruford College, he wrote and tutored a foundation degree course in opera studies; his publications include a 4-CD audio-music biography of Beniamino Gigli, available on the Naxos label.

Graeme joined BBC Radio 3 full-time in 2000 as one of its founder Interactive producers. During his time at the BBC, Graeme has worked as a continuity and concert presenter, also producing radio documentaries, 'Discovering Music' and masterclass videos, and televised Prom concerts for BBC 4; his most recent films include a guided tour of Ravel's house near Paris, and a feature on places in London associated with the poet Dylan Thomas. He is currently working on a series of BBC iWonder guides for the 2014 Proms.

PERFORMERS

soprano

ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB CHOIR

alto

sopiano	ano	ttiiti
Helen Baxter	Sylvia Binning	Christopher Booth
Lesley Bennion	Janet Bryanton	Charles Burt
Juliet Brereton	Jean Clouston	Ben Edwards*
Sylvia Catchpole	Elizabeth Donovan	Peter Fife
Hazel Cox	Rosemary Draper	Bob Gee*
Diana Crawford	Sheila Griffiths	Peter Howard-Dobson
Elizabeth Fivet	Jean Hickson	Perry Hunt
Pris Forrest	Gwyneth Howard	Ian Kennedy
Shirley Fry	Anita Jefferson	Alan Thomas
Philippa Godwin	Rosemary Jones	
Jan Green	Philippa Lawrence-Jones	bass
Melinda Hartley	Auriol Marson	Christopher Bishop
Brenda Hopkins	Sally Myers	Humphrey Burton
Camilla Haycock	Frances Osborn	Kenneth Cordeiro
Christine Ive	Judith Payne	Charles Fear
Penny Kay	Elspeth Pearson	Jack Firman
Anne Lonsdale	Norma Pitfield	Christopher Gill
Linda Martin	Heather Richards	David Greenwood
Zoe Readhead	Bev Steensma*	Tim Hughes
Sandra Saint		David Madel
Louise Sant		Chris Mattinson
Trudi Saunders*		Adrian Nicholson

tenor

Michael Pearce

David Smith

Hunter Smith

Robin Somerset

Michael Speer*

John Tipping

Angela Williams Anthony Utting
Carol Wood David Walsh*
Trevor Wilkinson

Patricia Schreiber

Sarah Somerset

Lizzy Simms*

Sylvia Taylor

Sara Viney*

Janet Warnock

^{*}Guest singers

The lists of performers were correct at the time of going to press.

PROMETHEUS ORCHESTRA

violin cello horn Joanne Green Jeremy Hughes Kay Dawson Hattie Bennett Marian Hellen Felicity Broome-Skelton Jessie Ridley Nick Parry Martin Childs Natasha Holmes Gill Harritt Harry Stone Stephen Weale Claire Hollocks Jane da Costa Helen Stanley trumpet Isobel Reaville John Jermy Christina Everson Ian Abbott bass Vince Taber Janet Rowe Philip Simms Carol Hawkey Alastair Hume Helen Taber Angela Chillingworth trombone Rosie Lowdell Clare Larkman Stephanie Dyer Paul Beer Clare Varney flute/piccolo Mike Tatt Molly Craxton Stephanie Wingham Kate Livermore Claire Hynd tuba Margaret Catchpole Ken Fitzhugh Sonia Lewington oboe/cor'anglais Shinaine Wykes **Rob Rogers** timpani Sue Thomas Mel Tricker Gary Kettel Chris Gibson Gabriel Anderson clarinet/bass clarinet percussion Cliff Wybrow Lizzie Thompson viola Laura Scales Will Renwick Graeme Scott

harp

Rachel Wick

Hayley Chisnall
David Ogden
Steve Lock

Wendy Poulston
Paul Davis
David Keleel

Patrick Crooke

ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB

Aldeburgh Music Club celebrated its 60th anniversary year in 2012 and Britten's Centenary in 2013. The Club, founded by Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears, has evolved over the years into one of East Anglia's leading choral societies with approximately 100 members and 120 patrons. The choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings from September to May. We always welcome new singers. Our purpose is to share the enjoyment of making music to the highest possible standard. The Club organises three major concerts a year in which we are joined by professional soloists and orchestras, and is a regular visitor to Snape Maltings Concert Hall.

Our repertoire includes a broad portfolio of oratorio and religious music, contemporary and commissioned works.

Aldeburgh Music Club is a registered charity, a member of Making Music, and a member of the Britten 100 Familiar Fields project to celebrate the centenary of Benjamin Britten in 2013.

ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB COMMITTEE 2013-2014

Chairman	David Smith	President	Humphrey Burton CBE
Vice Chairman	Chris Mattinson	Vice Presidents	Alan Britten CBE
Hon Treasurer	Perry Hunt		Robin Leggate
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Marketing	Penny Kay	Orchestral Manager	Liz Page
Patrons Administrator	Peter Howard-Dobson	Rehearsal Accompanist	Christian White
Social Secretary	Juliet Brereton	Vocal consultants	Zoë Bonner
Concert Manager	Penny Kay		Robin Leggate
		Vocal coaches	Maggie Menzies
			Kit Prime
			Christian White

PRESIDENTS		DIRECTORS OF MUSIC	
1959-86	Peter Pears	1952-61	Imogen Holst
1988-2010	Rae Woodland	1961-62	Monica Venn
2010-	Humphrey Burton	1963-64	John Boyce
		1964-71	Rosamund Strode
VICE-PRESIDENTS		1971-79	W H Swinburne
1959-76	Benjamin Britten	1979-86	Monica Morland
1959-84	Imogen Holst	1986-2001	Philip Reed
1977-2010	Rosamund Strode	2001-07	Philip Simms
2003-2013	Valerie Potter	2007-	Edmond Fivet
2010-	Alan Britten		

2013-

Robin Leggate

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SUPPORTING ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB

Support of every sort is vital for the success of Aldeburgh Music Club. This support could be in the form of helping with concert arrangements, or by becoming a sponsor or patron, advertising in our concert programmes or simply buying a ticket for our 'Prize Draw'. Aldeburgh Music Club is a registered charity no. 1000990.

If you are thinking of supporting AMC please contact our Honorary Secretary, Mrs Auriol Marson (Tel: 01728 602217), in the first instance.

PATRONS

By becoming a patron you can help to underwrite our concerts. Your name is listed (if you wish) in our concert programmes and you are invited to social events. The suggested minimum annual subscription is £100, or £150 for a couple, but we hope that people who are able to contribute more will be generous enough to do so.

Our Patrons Administrator is Peter Howard-Dobson (Tel: 01728 452049).

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP AND DONATIONS

We welcome sponsorship and donations from companies, organisations and individuals. This may be in the form of support for a particular concert, soloists, orchestral players, publication, or more broadly supporting our concert and educational activities.

For further information, please contact the AMC Chairman, David Smith (Tel: 01728 638793).

ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB 'PRIZE DRAW'

Regular draws throughout the year to win cash prizes of £20 to £100. Of the money raised, 50% is donated to AMC with the remainder going into the prize fund. Tickets cost £15 and are valid for every draw during the year.

Tickets can be purchased from Anne Morris (Tel: 01728 452878) and Charlie Burt (Tel: 01728 454672)

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Please contact the AMC Chairman, David Smith (Tel: 01728 638793).

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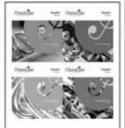
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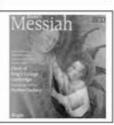






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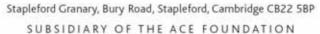
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