

 CLASSICAL
OPERA

THE
MOZARTISTS

2017 | 2018

20th Anniversary
London Season

"Who could fail to be charmed by such gorgeous music, so stylishly executed?"

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

"Every aspect of this totally pleasurable evening confirmed that everything Classical Opera puts on will be worth seeking out."

THE ARTS DESK

"It was our first hearing of Classical Opera's work, and they were a total breath of fresh air. There was no ego in their mission, and the artists performed with respect for each other and for the audience's experience."

SCHMOPERA

"Conductor, instrumentalists and singers alike make the sound the servant of the sense, with stylish, eloquent and dramatic music-making of the highest order."

INTERNATIONAL RECORD REVIEW



Welcome

The passing of time can feel like a curiously inconsistent phenomenon, and it seems only a few years ago that I was struggling to get the funding together for Classical Opera's debut concert. It therefore feels scarcely credible that in September 2017 we shall be celebrating our twentieth birthday, but I have had a great time putting our twentieth-anniversary season together, and I hope that you will find our programme of events both attractive and inspiring.

In planning our Birthday Concert (Barbican Hall, 9 October) it felt important that we should be looking forward to the future rather than reflecting on past achievements, and Beethoven's monumental Ninth Symphony soon emerged as the ideal celebratory centrepiece, even for a company whose primary focus is on the music of Mozart. Its humanity, grandeur and the sweep of its ambition extend beyond music and mark it out as one of the pinnacles of Western civilisation. It also provides us with an excellent opportunity to showcase the outstanding ensemble of singers and players that we have built up over the past twenty years.

Our opening concert of the season (Wigmore Hall, 18 September) also marks a red-letter day for the company as we launch The Mozartists, the new name under which we will be presenting our ever-expanding concert work. Under the name of Classical Opera we shall continue and even extend our commitment to presenting full operas by Mozart and his contemporaries in staged productions, concerts and recordings, and singers, singing and story-telling will remain central to our mission under both strands; the creation of The Mozartists, though, will allow us greater freedom and flexibility in our concert programming as we look to extend our upward trajectory over the next twenty years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have accompanied us on our journey so far, and to welcome any of you who are new to our work. We are entirely reliant on the wonderful generosity, friendship and enthusiasm of our supporters, and it is something for which we are eternally grateful.

We look forward to welcoming you to some of our forthcoming events.

With many thanks and all good wishes,

Ian Page

Ian Page
Conductor and Artistic Director

 @IanPageMozart



THE MOZARTISTS



The Mozartists Launch Concert

18 September 2017
7.30pm
Wigmore Hall

Classical Opera marks its twentieth anniversary with the eagerly awaited launch of The Mozartists, the new name under which it will present its ever-expanding range of concert and non-opera work. This concert begins with Mozart's glorious Sinfonia concertante for violin and viola, and concludes with one of his most serene and life-enhancing symphonies. In between, the exciting British soprano Louise Alder – winner of the Young Artist award at the 2017 International Opera Awards – performs one of Mozart's most exquisite concert arias, and there is also a nod towards the company's ground-breaking MOZART 250 project with a performance of a little-known concertante aria from Gluck's *Il prologo*, composed 250 years ago in 1767.

PROGRAMME

Mozart Sinfonia concertante in E flat major, K.364
Gluck "De' sublimi augusti eroi" from *Il prologo*
Mozart "Vorrei spiegarvi, oh Dio!", K.418
Mozart Symphony No. 29 in A major, K.201

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm.



Louise Alder



Matthew Truscott



Alfonso Leal del Ojo

Louise Alder (soprano)
Matthew Truscott (violin)
Alfonso Leal del Ojo (viola)

The Mozartists

Ian Page (conductor)

"Of course the orchestral playing under the ever-musical direction of Ian Page is incomparable."

LIMELIGHT

"[Louise Alder] turns in an incandescent, richly coloured and urgent performance, which confirms her as the brightest lyric soprano of the younger generation."

THE ARTS DESK

Tickets £15, £25, £30, £35, £40

Pre-concert talk tickets £5

£2 booking fee per online transaction, £3 by phone. No fee when tickets are booked in person.

Please see back cover for full venue information.

Box office: wigmore-hall.org.uk
Tel: 020 7935 2141

20th Birthday Concert

9 October 2017
7.30pm
Barbican Hall

Classical Opera and The Mozartists celebrate the company's twentieth birthday with an unmissable concert of works by the three greatest composers of the Classical era. This carefully sculpted programme explores themes of birth, renewal, humanity and aspiration, culminating with a performance of Beethoven's extraordinary Ninth Symphony. Ian Page conducts a thrilling line-up of soloists and instrumentalists, and the choir is hand-picked from singers who appear regularly with the country's leading professional choirs. There will also be a sequence of short readings, selected to reflect and enhance the musical works being performed.

PROGRAMME

Haydn The Representation of Chaos from *The Creation*
Handel/Mozart "Leidenschaften stillt und weckt Musik" from *Ode for St Cecilia's Day*, K.592
Mozart "Exsultate, jubilate", K.165 – 1st movement
Mozart March and Cavatina, "Accogli, oh re del mar" from *Idomeneo*, K.366
Beethoven "Da stiegen die Menschen" from *Cantata on the Death of Emperor Joseph II*
Beethoven Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op.125

Miah Persson (soprano)
Anna Devin (soprano)
Anna Stéphany (mezzo-soprano)
Stuart Jackson (tenor)
Henry Waddington (bass)

TBC (reader)

The Choir and Orchestra of The Mozartists

Ian Page (conductor)

"Typical generosity from Page and company; his programming always goes beyond the call of duty in bringing the obscure to light and offering true revelation."

THE ARTS DESK

Tickets £15, £25, £35, £45, £55

£3 booking fee per online transaction, £4 by phone. No fee when tickets are booked in person. Please see back cover for full venue information.

Box office: barbican.org.uk
Tel: 020 7638 8891



Miah Persson



Anna Stéphany



Stuart Jackson



Henry Waddington



1768 – a retrospective

23 January 2018
7.30pm
Wigmore Hall

Ian Page's visionary MOZART 250 series continues to build a widespread and highly enthusiastic following. Here he returns with The Mozartists for a diverse and illuminating overview of the musical year 1768. Dramatically charged D minor symphonies by Haydn and Vanhal frame a charming flute concerto by 'the London Bach' and a fascinating selection of arias sung by the outstanding young Swiss-Belgian soprano Chiara Skerath.

PROGRAMME

- Haydn** Symphony No. 26 in D minor, 'Lamentatione'
Jommelli "Ombre che tacite qui sede" from *Fetonte*
J. C. Bach Flute Concerto in D major
Haydn "Amore nel mio petto" and "Salamelica, Semprugna cara" from *Lo speciale*
Mozart Sinfonia and "Amoretti, che ascosi qui siete" from *La finta semplice*, K.51
Hasse "Perderò l'amato bene" from *Piramo e Tisbe*
Vanhal Symphony in D minor

Pre-concert talk, 6.00pm



Chiara Skerath

Katy Bircher

Ian Page

Chiara Skerath (soprano)
Katy Bircher (flute)

The Mozartists

Ian Page (conductor)

"It's a series worth following: this was an unalloyed pleasure from start to finish."

THE INDEPENDENT on MOZART 250



Tickets £15, £25, £30, £35, £40
Pre-concert talk tickets £5

£2 booking fee per online transaction, £3 by phone. No fee when tickets are booked in person.

Booking opens 7 November 2017.

Please see back cover for full venue information.

Box office: wigmore-hall.org.uk
Tel: 020 7935 2141



Haydn: Applausus

15 March 2018
7.30pm
Cadogan Hall

MOZART 250's exploration of the year 1768 continues with a rare performance of Haydn's *Applausus*. This one-act cantata was commissioned as an act of homage to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Abbot Rainer Kollman of the Cistercian monastery in Zwettl taking his vows. Haydn composed the work in early 1768 but was unable to travel to Zwettl to supervise its performance; he therefore wrote a letter giving detailed instructions of how his music should be performed, and this document has survived, providing fascinating practical information and insights into eighteenth-century performance practice.

The tradition of the congratulatory *Applausus* cantata had been an inherent part of courtly and monastic festivities since the mid-seventeenth century, and Haydn's score largely conforms to these traditions. The Latin text describes the four cardinal virtues praising the 'head of the house', and the arias are long and in full 'da capo' form. Haydn's music, though, is consummately judged, providing plenty of reflective beauty and vocal gymnastics, and two of the arias incorporate extensive instrumental solos – one for harpsichord and one for violin – which duet exquisitely with the vocal line.

This concert offers the first UK performance in recent years of this charming and intriguing curiosity.

Ellie Laugharne (Temperantia)
Elspeth Marrow (Prudentia)
Thomas Elwin (Justitia)
TBC (Fortitudo)
David Shipley (Theologia)

The Mozartists

Ian Page (conductor)

"In the hands of conductor Ian Page and his superb line-up of soloists, the work has a freshness and zip which is irresistible."

SINFINI MUSIC



Tickets £18, £28, £36, £42, £50
£55 (premium seats)

£3 booking fee per online transaction or by phone. No fee when tickets are booked in person.

Please see back cover for full venue information.

Box office: cadoganhall.com
Tel: 020 7730 4500



Ellie Laugharne

Elspeth Marrow

Thomas Elwin

David Shipley

As a registered charity we are wholly reliant on the generous support of our donors and members to maintain the breadth and quality of everything that we do.

With 20 years of extraordinary music-making behind us, we invite you to join us for the next phase of our exciting journey. If you are interested in helping to support our work please visit classicalopera.co.uk, call 020 8846 9744, or email info@classicalopera.co.uk.

Thank you.



Mozart: La finta semplice

6 & 8 June 2018
7.00pm
Queen Elizabeth Hall
Southbank Centre

Classical Opera makes its Southbank Centre debut at the newly renovated Queen Elizabeth Hall with two semi-staged performances of Mozart's first full-length opera, *La finta semplice*. Written when the composer was just twelve years old, the opera is based on a sparkling comedy by Carlo Goldoni, and combines situations of great comic invention and genuine humour with music of extraordinary beauty, energy and psychological insight.

Ian Page directs a superb international cast of world-class young singers, headed by the rapidly emerging Swiss soprano Regula Mühlemann, whose solo recording contract with Sony Classical was recently launched with a highly acclaimed disc of Mozart arias.

Cremona, Northern Italy, 1768. Fracasso and Simone, two soldiers, want to marry Giacinta and Ninetta, but cannot do so without the consent of Giacinta's eccentric brothers, Cassandro and Polidoro. When Fracasso's sister, Rosina, arrives, a plot is hatched – but can she soften the misogynistic brothers and make them recognise the pleasures of love...?

There will also be a concert performance of this opera at Birmingham Town Hall on 2 June 2018. www.thsh.co.uk



Regula Mühlemann



Emily Edmonds



Alessandro Fisher



Lukas Jakobski

Regula Mühlemann (Rosina)
Chiara Skerath (Ninetta)
Emily Edmonds (Giacinta)
Alessandro Fisher (Don Polidoro)
Thomas Elwin (Fracasso)
Lukas Jakobski (Don Cassandro)
Božidar Smiljanić (Simone)

The Orchestra of
Classical Opera

Ian Page (conductor)

Main image © Esther Michel



Tickets £18, £28, £38, £50, £60

Transaction fees apply to online and telephone bookings. No transaction fee applies when tickets are booked in person. No booking fees are charged for Southbank Centre Members.

Please see back cover for full venue information.

Box office: southbankcentre.co.uk
Tel: 020 3879 9555

Classical Opera Recordings

available from www.classicalopera.co.uk



NEXT RELEASE
Mozart: Il sogno di Scipione
 Signum Classics, 13 October 2017

**Stuart Jackson, Klara Ek, Soraya Mafi,
 Krystian Adam, Robert Murray, Chiara Skerath**
 Classical Opera / Ian Page

"The series of Mozart operas being recorded under the direction of Classical Opera's director Ian Page has already established him as one of the most stylishly authoritative interpreters of the composer working today."

OPERA

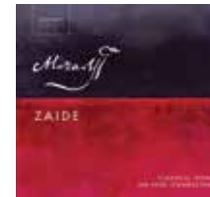


LATEST RELEASE
Perfido!
 Signum Classics, May 2017

Sophie Bevan (soprano)
 The Mozartists / Ian Page

"I simply can't stop listening to this glorious collection of Classical scenas and concert arias from the young British soprano... Taut, incisive accompaniments from Page's Mozartists, too."

PRESTO CLASSICAL

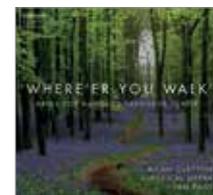
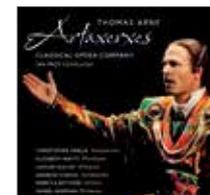


"What Signum Classics' and Classical Opera's recording of Il re pastore offers is, simply put, an account of the piece that comes as near to perfection as any performance might ever hope to do."

VOIX DES ARTS (RECORDING OF THE MONTH)

"Beautifully paced and balanced, the ensemble is both directed and sung to near perfection."

OPERA (DISC OF THE MONTH)



"My disc of the year must be Allan Clayton, Ian Page and Classical Opera's tribute to the great Handelian tenor John Beard."

PLANET HUGILL (DISC OF THE YEAR)



Box office:

www.wigmore-hall.org.uk
Tel: 020 7935 2141
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street,
London W1U 2BP

In person: 7 days a week: 10am-8.30pm. Days without an evening concert: 10am-5pm. No advance booking in the half hour prior to a concert.

Telephone: 020 7935 2141. 7 days a week: 10am-7pm. Days without an evening concert: 10am-5pm. There is a non-refundable £3.00 administration fee for all telephone bookings, which includes the return of your tickets by post if time permits.

Online: www.wigmore-hall.org.uk There is a non-refundable £2.00 administration fee for online bookings, which includes the return of your tickets by post if time permits.



For full details, please email access@wigmore-hall.org.uk or call 020 7935 2141

Director: John Gilhooly, The Wigmore Hall Trust. Registered Charity, No.1024838.

barbican

Box office:

www.barbican.org.uk
Tel: 020 7638 8891
Barbican, London EC2Y 8DS

In person: Advance Box Office (ground floor)
Mon-Sat: 10am-9pm, Sun, Bank Holidays: 12pm-9pm

Telephone: 020 7638 8891. Mon-Sat: 10am-8pm
Sun, Bank Holidays: 11am-8pm. There is a £4.00
administration fee for all telephone bookings.

Online: www.barbican.org.uk There is a £3.00
administration fee for online bookings .



Box office:

www.cadoganhall.com
Tel: 020 7730 4500
Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace,
London SW1X 9DQ

In person: Monday-Saturday: 10am-6pm (to 8pm on
performance days) Sunday: 3pm-8pm (performance days
only).

Telephone: 020 7730 4500. Mon-Sat: 10am-6pm
(to 8pm on performance days), Sunday: 3pm-8pm
(performance days only). All bookings are subject to a fee of
£3 per transaction.

Online: www.cadoganhall.com 7 days a week; 24 hours a
day. All online bookings are subject to a £3 transaction fee.

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Box office:

www.southbankcentre.co.uk
Tel: 020 3879 9555
Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road,
London SE1 8XX

In person: Royal Festival Hall Ticket Office (Level 2)
10am-8pm daily.

Telephone: 020 3879 9555 10am-8pm daily
Transaction fees apply.

Online: www.southbankcentre.co.uk Transaction fees
apply.

www.classicalopera.co.uk



@classicalopera



/classicaloperalondon

Britannia House, 11 Glenthorne Road, London, W6 0LH tel +44 (0) 20 8846 9744 info@classicalopera.co.uk

Classical Opera registered in England, No.3361716, Registered Charity, No.1063387