

Thursday 7, Friday 8, Monday 11
& Tuesday 12 July 2022
Milton Court Studio Theatre

Opera Makers 2022

Olivia Fuchs director
Dominic Wheeler conductor
Zahra Mansouri designer
Jonathan Chan lighting designer
Jonathan Waller fight director
Abigail Kessel intimacy director

Rachel Wise assistant director
Digory Price assistant conductor

**GUILD
HALL
SCHOOL**

Opera Makers 2022

It is our pleasure to welcome you to this, our eighth incarnation of Opera Makers.

The MA in Opera Making & Writing is a one-year programme, delivered in association with the Royal Opera House, in which three composer-librettist pairings create 25-minute chamber operas specifically for singers in the first year of the Opera Course. This creates a challenging training experience for singers, répétiteurs, orchestral musicians and theatre technicians, for whom being involved in such a process is often an entirely new experience. It also aims to give composers and writers first-hand experience of the whole process of making an opera, from the page to the stage.

The pieces have been extensively workshopped at each stage of development, to give the singers in particular a voice in helping the composers create roles that suit them vocally and we are hugely appreciative of all the wisdom and support which so many of the Opera Course staff and our vocal professors have given in helping us along the way. It is this process of creating a work together as a company that is just as important to us as the result, and we do hope you enjoy these new chamber operas.

Julian Philips Head of Composition, Programme Leader MA in Opera Making & Writing

Stephen Plaice Writer-in-Residence

Dominic Wheeler Head of Opera Studies



Guildhall School of Music & Drama
is provided by the City of London.



Lucid Dreams

Beatrice Ferreira composer

Kerry Priest librettist

Lucy	Louisa Stirland
Nic	Alexandra Pouta
Phil	Mark Christian Bautista

Lucy is the shy retiring type. However, every night, she leaves her basement room and enters an erotic dream world. This world is fuelled by the copious notes she takes while watching strangers in the park in the daytime. Luckily, her dreams are private and nobody has read her notebook until she is discovered by the couple she had been observing.

Pélléas et Mélisande

Claude Debussy (1862–1918)

Act 3 Scene 1

Mélisande	Inguna Morozova
Pélléas	Michael Lafferty
Golaud	Patrick Dow
Repetiteur	Aoife Moran

At night Mélisande is singing from her bedroom window, when Pélléas, the half-brother of her husband Golaud, arrives to tell her that he will be leaving the next day. Their sensuous encounter is interrupted by Golaud.

La rondine

Giacomo Puccini (1858–1924)

Scene from Act 2

Magda	Faryl Smith
Lisette	Louisa Stirland
Ruggero	Mark Christian Bautista
Prunier	Jack Dolan
Repetiteur	Marlowe Fitzpatrick

Magda has gone to Bullier's in disguise and there meets Ruggero, the son of her rich lover's childhood friend. Ruggero is new to Paris and they fall in love. Magda's maid, Lisette, arrives with her lover, the poet Prunier. She thinks she recognises her mistress, but both Magda and Prunier deny that it is her.

Anna Bolena

Gaetano Donizetti (1797–1848)

Act 2 No 11 Duet

Anna Bolena	Lorna McLean
Giovanna	Nancy Holt
Repetiteur	Edwin Spark

Anne Boleyn has been imprisoned accused by her husband Henry VIII of being unfaithful. He wants to be rid of Anne and marry her lady-in-waiting, Jane Seymour (Giovanna). While Anne awaits news of her trial Jane bursts in to tell her that she must plead guilty of infidelity to avoid the death sentence. Anne refuses, cursing the woman who has replaced her. When Jane admits to being that woman, Anne finds it in herself to forgive her.

The Handmaid's Tale

Poul Ruders (born 1949)

Act 2 Scene 9

Offred	Alexandra Pouta
The Double	Alexandra Meier
Aunt Lydia	Faryl Smith
Repetiteur	Aoife Moran

Offred has been posted as a Handmaid to the Commander's house, where it is her duty to be impregnated by the Commander in his wife's presence in order to bear a child. Offred has just found out that the Commander's wife knows where her daughter is. She relives the moment her daughter was taken from her and dialogues with her former self.

INTERVAL

Bloody Murder

Luke Byrne composer

Shirley Keane librettist

Michael Shine	Patrick Dow
Kathleen Shine	Faryl Smith
Maeve Shine	Alexandra Meier
Finton O'Riordan	Jack Dolan

A contentious will, bungalows and bellbottoms threaten the conventional status quo of a small farm in an isolated corner of rural Ireland in 1970. The ideals of an entrenched, domineering farmer, Michael Shine are dramatically challenged by his seemingly compliant wife Kathleen, his rebellious sister Maeve and the unwitting farmhand Fintan O'Riordan.

Iolanta

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–93)

Scene 6

Vaudemont	Jack Dolan
Robert	Patrick Dow
Repetiteur	Digory Price

Robert, Duke of Burgundy, and Count Vaudemont are on their way to King René's court where Robert is to marry Iolanta. They get lost in the wilderness and come across a secluded and magical garden, where Iolanta is asleep. Despite the warning that they face death on entry, Robert decides to stay and tells Vaudemont how he wishes to break off the engagement as he is in love with another woman.

Sambain Bloom

Edward Shilts composer

Sam Redway librettist

Brighid	Inguna Morozova
Eris	Lorna McLean
Kate	Nancy Holt
Paul	Michael Lafferty
Dahlia	Alexandra Pouta & Patrick Dow
Tourists	Louisa Stirland
	Faryl Smith
	Alexandra Meier
	Jack Dolan
	Mark Christian Bautista

All is not quite right at the Little Dumpling Annual Pumpkin Festival. There is something in the soil, something in the song. Driven by otherworldly forces, *Sambain Bloom* tells the story of a small rural community coming to terms with cataclysmic changes to their town, their traditions, and some of the fundamental laws of nature.

Production Team

Creative Team

Director

Music Director

Designer

Lighting Designer

Fight Director

Intimacy Director

Olivia Fuchs

Dominic Wheeler

Zahra Mansouri

Jonathan Chan

Jonathan Waller

Abigail Kessel

Opera Department Students and Fellows

Assistant Director

Assistant Conductor

Repetiteurs

Rachel Wise

Digory Price

Marlowe Fitzpatrick

Aoife Moran

Digory Price

Edwin Spark

Production Arts Students

Production Manager

Production Assistants

Stage Crew

Anya Urban

Oliver Brown

Ashe De Waal

Johan Berendsen

Emily Cave

Aleyna Feran

Eva Gaidoni

Molly Hands

Abbie Hardcastle

Lola King

Katie Ranson

Alec Schneider

Georgie Sunter

Technical Manager	Emma Horne
Stage Manager	Andrea Støier Andersen
Deputy Stage Manager	Kate Stockwell
ASM/Book Cover	Teia Johnson
Assistant Stage Managers	Jamie Hulme
	Thomas Licence
Scenic Art Coordinator	Mary Deakes
Scenic Art Assistants	Ros Chase
	Holly Hooper
	Sophie Presswell
Props Coordinator	Charlotte Cross
Assistant Prop Makers	Iza Fordham
	Ema Soares Da Cunha
Prop Maker Crew	Johan Berendsen
	Emily Cave
	Aleyna Feran
	Abbie Hardcastle
	Lola King
	Katie Ranson
	Georgie Sunter
Production Sound Engineer	Sam Ferstenberg
Sound Operator	Kate Stockwell
Associate Video Designer	Jonny Reeks
Video Engineers, Operators & Assistants	Josh Cole Brown
	Jonny Reeks
Production Electrician	Ed Walters
Lighting Programmer	Levi Meehan Powell
Costume Supervisor & Wardrobe Manager	Livvy Meeks
Costume Assistants	Beri Valentine
	Monika Zwierzchowska
Dresser & Wardrobe Maintenance	Liv Fowler
	Batoul Ghallab
Wigs, Hair & Makeup	Eva Gaidoni

Additional Staff

French coaching

Italian coaching

Russian coaching

Wigs, Hair & Makeup

Staff Production Manager

Staff Costume Supervisor

Stage Management Supervisor

Opera Department Manager

Hervé Goffings

Emma Abbate

Xenia de Berner

Debbie Purkiss

Julia Bermingham

Sue Hudson

Caroline Moores

Steven Gietzen

Orchestra

Violin I

Camille Said

Violin II

Gwyneth Nelmes

Viola

Benedict Baily

Beatrice Ferreira

Hugo Haag

Cello

Joseph Barker

Kathryn Monteiro

Double Bass

Melisande Lochak

Flute, Alto & Piccolo

Stratty Ryan

Clarinet & Bass Clarinet

Beñat Erro Díez

Horn

Christos Maltezos

Trombone

Josh Barber

Percussion

Engin Eskici

Harp

Emily Sullivan (*Bloody Murder*)

Alicja Cetnar (*Sambain Bloom*)

Piano & Celeste

Edwin Spark (*Bloody Murder*)

Marlowe Fitzpatrick (*Sambain Bloom*)

Ensembles, Programming & Instrument Manager

Phil Sizer

Orchestra Librarian

Anthony Wilson

Orchestra Stage Manager

Bill Bannerman

Guildhall School Scholarships Fund

Each year the Scholarships Fund enables talented young actors, musicians and theatre technicians to take up their places or continue their studies at Guildhall School. We are extremely grateful to the many trusts, foundations, businesses, City livery companies and individuals who make annual donations to the Scholarships Fund, and to those people who make provision for legacy donations in support of the School in their wills. Students involved in these scenes who have received support from the Scholarships Fund and from external donors are as follows:

Opera Scholars

Mark Christian Bautista

*Herbert and Theresie Lowit Memorial Scholar
& Elizabeth Sweeting Award Holder*

Jack Dolan

Baroness de Turckheim Scholar

Patrick Dow

Gwen Catley Scholar

Marlowe Fitzpatrick

The Jack Irons Repetiteur Scholar

Nancy Holt

Dyers' Scholar

& Walter Hyde Memorial Prize Winner

Michael Lafferty

Bebrens Foundation Scholar

Alexandra Meier

Herbert and Theresie Lowit Memorial Scholar

Lorna McLean

Girdlers' Scholar

Aoife Moran

Guildhall Scholar

Inguna Morozova

The Gita de la Fuente Prize Winner

Alexandra Pouta

Guildhall Scholar

Digory Price

The Jack Irons Repetiteur Scholar

Faryl Smith

Haberdashers' Opera Scholar

Louisa Stirland

The Gita de la Fuente Prize Winner

Production Arts Scholars

Andrea Støier Andersen	<i>Norman Gee Foundation Scholarship</i>
Georgie Bottone	<i>B&T Scholar</i>
Takiyah Campbell	<i>The Vanstone Scholar</i>
Ros Chase	<i>The Herbert and Theresie Lowit Memorial Scholar</i>
Amy Hill	<i>Skinners' Lawrence Atwell Scholar</i>
Farah Ishaq	<i>The Sir Robert Bellinger Broderers' Company Award Holder</i>
Emylly Ombok	<i>Carpenters' Company Production Arts Scholar</i>
Rylee McDaniel	<i>Tallow Chandlers' Scholar</i>
Abu Mensah	<i>The Salters Production Arts Award</i>
Iben Bering Sørensen	<i>The Herbert and Theresie Lowit Memorial Scholar</i>
Ema Soares Da Cunha	<i>B&T Scholar</i>
Monika Zwierzchowska	<i>The Steel Charitable Trust Scholar</i>

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Livia Brewster
Shaunna Cheriton
Artie Cook
Em Dethick-Jones
Iza Fordham
Abbie Hardcastle
Charlotte Henry
Holly Hooper
Miriam Houghton
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Sammy Lacey
Livvy Meeks
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