

Young Opera Venture

Patron: Felicity Lott DBE

Opera Appetizers

Director: Jane Anthony Music Director: John Longstaff

Six young singers and a pianist present highlights from four favourite operas on 7.30pm **Saturday 13 October**

The Magic Flute – Mozart
Carmen – Bizet
The Merry Wives of Windsor – Nicolai
Così fan tutte - Mozart

Kettlewell Village Hall
Kettlewell
BD23 5QZ
Box office: 01756 760288

A free glass of wine will be the reward for a few volunteers from the audience who'll take part in the Tavern scene from *Carmen* - all they have to do is enjoy the Toreador's song in the exciting and slightly dangerous company of *Carmen* and her friends!

Sung in English by singers with excellent diction, and in intimate venues, everyone will be completely involved in the drama of these scenes from some of the greatest operas. It will be a brilliant introduction for new audiences and an evening of pleasure for aficionados.

Some comments on this company's production of *The Marriage of Figaro*;
Superb...it just rattled along! ...such an entertaining evening in the theatreit had so much energy.... very polished performances, the diction of the singers was really superb.a rare achievement.....a truly memorable performance...the wit and fluency of the production made for a very enjoyable evening....fantastic ovation!

The casts of *Opera Appetizers* include prize-winning young singers and a pianist, all recently graduated from conservatoires in the North of England bringing their enthusiasm and skills to performing this colourful and entertaining programme.

Young Opera Venture is a new, not-for-profit opera company, limited by guarantee, set up to take first-rate performances to venues which have little access to opera, and to give young singers their first professional opportunities.

Jane Anthony says-

*'The enthusiasm from **theatre managers and local authority arts programmers** for what we are trying to do - bringing opera to audiences who have previously had little access - has been quite inspirational. There is a clear recognition of the value of this enterprise and a willingness to support it. Likewise the enthusiasm of **young performers** has been a delight! The response to one email brought us twenty wonderful young singers to audition and we now have a double cast for **Opera Appetizers**. We are very grateful for the support of **Northern Ballet, Opera North** and **David Crabtree** of **Crabtree Care Homes**.*

Felicity Lott DBE

I am very excited to be Honorary Patron of Opera Venture; I have heard such great things about the past performances and I look forward to a closer acquaintance in the future!

Lynne Dawson - Head of Vocal Studies, Royal Northern College of Music .

The Young Opera Venture project is hugely important and encouraging for our young singers who will be given professional experience in small theatres when they leave College. All performing adds to their experience and touring and singing in different theatres can only be good for them, particularly when in the safe hands of Young Opera Venture who have the young singers' best interests at heart.

Martin Pickard - Head of Music, Opera North

The 'Marriage of Figaro' production by Young Opera Venture was an excellent introduction to this piece for new audiences, and an enjoyable evening for more experienced opera-goers. It was particularly good to hear the opera sung in clear English by a cast of young singers. The audience responded warmly to this and to Jane Anthony's witty and skilful production. This new enterprise could give useful practical experience to young singers at College or immediately thereafter, as well as giving pleasure to their audiences.