

AUTUMN 2018 PRODUCTION – INVITATION TO AUDITION

1. ABOUT THIS INVITATION

THE OPERA: **THE SECRET MARRIAGE** – Cimarosa’s celebrated comic opera ‘*Il Matrimonio Segreto*’ of 1792 performed in the modern English translation by David Pippin.

The opera will be fully staged with orchestra and continuo.

THE COMPANY: HGO’s core objective is ‘advancing young singers’. We do this by staging top-level professional productions at affordable ticket prices enabling tomorrow’s opera singers to perform leading operatic roles in public, and thereby also giving them experience in ensemble work with fellow singers and musicians. HGO is the performance arm of Hampstead Garden Opera Trust Ltd., a registered charity.

THE VENUE: Jacksons Lane Theatre, 269a Archway Road, London N6 5AA.

THE DATES: 10 performances between **Friday 16th and Sunday 25th November 2018** - two casts, five performances each, alternate days. See schedule below for exact timing.

THE TEAM: Production Director: [Sinéad O’Neill](#)
Sinéad is a regular Assistant Director at Glyndebourne, Revival Director of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for Glyndebourne Tour 2017, as well as a prolific creator of new work with composers such as Matt Rogers, Kim Ashton and Kate Whitley.

Music Director: [Chris Hopkins](#)
Chris has worked with companies including WNO, NI Opera, ROH, Glyndebourne and Garsington over the last decade, alongside a permanent position on the music staff of English National Opera where this year he made his house debut conducting performances of *Iolanthe*.

THE ORCHESTRA: The HGO Orchestra (12 players)

PAYMENT: We do not pay or provide expenses for singers, but there are no membership charges or requests for donations.

2. AUDITION DETAILS: Our selection and audition process will be as follows:

2.1 **Application submission.** We invite applicants to notify their interest to our Auditions Secretary Kathy Dallas (kathy.dallas@hgo.org.uk) no later than **Wednesday 9th May**. Please include in your application the following:

- Your professional CV
- Contact details including telephone and e-mail
- The role(s) for which you wish to apply
- (If possible) Sound or video recording in the form of video link or video/sound file.
- (Optional) Photo (small and low-resolution please)
- Your preferred date and time for audition. **Auditions will be held on two dates, each with morning (10.00-13.00), afternoon (14.00-17.00) and evening (18.00-20.30) slots: Sunday 3 June 2018 and Sunday 10 June 2018**

Please also consult the detailed rehearsal schedule (3.2) before applying to ensure that you would be available. We anticipate a minimal or zero number of non-available days, but it is essential to inform us at this stage if there are any dates you know you cannot do.

2.2 We will notify all applicants no later than **Wednesday 16th May** whether they will be invited to audition. The audition pieces required are specified in section 4 at the end of this invitation.

2.3 Auditions

Venue: 6 Stanhope Gardens, Highgate, London N6 5TS, the home of Alastair Macgeorge, Chairman Emeritus of HGO. It is about 12 minutes' walk from Highgate Underground station.

Audition Panel: The audition panel will include Production Director Sinéad O' Neill, Music Director Chris Hopkins, Alastair Macgeorge and a Committee Member. We will provide a pianist (but please feel free to bring your own).

3. OUTLINE SCHEDULE

Our Music Director Chris Hopkins can offer individual coaching (without fee) by arrangement during July and August.

Rehearsals start in the first week of September 2018 and will continue generally on Mondays (18.00-21.00), Thursdays (18.00-21.00) and Saturdays (10.30 – 17.30). There is in addition one Sunday rehearsal on 16 September (14.00-17.00); and also an Open Rehearsal for the friends of HGO (provisional date Sunday 28 October, 18.30-20.30). On Monday 5th November the intensive pre-production begins, incorporating weekdays and Saturdays during the day, and from 12th November also in the evenings. The outline schedule below (3.2) gives a summary of the expected rehearsal dates. We will ask you to confirm your availability for these dates as a condition of offering a part.

3.1 Venues

Cally: Caledonian Road Methodist Church, N7 9BG

The church is on the corner of Caledonian Road (A5203) and Market Road.

Car: There is on street (metered) parking on Market Road.

Rail: The church is 150 yards south of Caledonian Road Underground station (Piccadilly Line). About 200 yards further down is Caledonian Road and Barnsbury Station connecting to Dalston and Liverpool Street to the east and south and Kew, Richmond and Watford to the west.

Bus: Routes 17, 91, 259 and 274 pass by the church.

Jacksons Lane (JLT): 269a Archway Road, N6 5AA.

Train: The theatre is opposite Highgate Underground station (Northern Line, Barnet Branch)

Bus: Routes 34, 134 and 263 pass the door.

Car: on street parking with some residential restrictions.

3.2 Outline Rehearsal Schedule

Week	Date & Time	Notes	Venue	
Auditions				
	Sunday 3 June		6 Stanhope Gardens	
	Sunday 10 June		6 Stanhope Gardens	
Week of 17 June 2018 When casting is complete appropriate e-mails will be sent to all audiends				
July/August: Individual coaching with Chris Hopkins (Music Director) by arrangement				
Music Rehearsals				
	Monday 3/9/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thu 6/9/18 18:00-21:00		Cally	
	Sat 8/9/18 10:30-17:30		Cally	
	Mon 10/9/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thu 13 /9/18 18:00-21:00		Cally	
Production Rehearsals				
1	Sat 15/9/18 10:30-17:30		Cally	
	Sun 16/9/18 14,00-17.00		Cally	
2	Mon 17/9/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thurs 20/9/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sat 22/9/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
3	Mon 24/9/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thurs 27/9/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sat 29/9/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
4	Mon 1/10/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thurs 4/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sat 6/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
5	Mon 8/10/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thurs 11/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sat 13/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
6	Mon 15/10/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thurs 18/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sat 20/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
7	Mon 22/10/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thurs 25/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sat 27/10/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sun 28/10/18 18.30-20.30	(Provisional) Friends' Open Rehearsal	tba	
8	Mon 29/10/18 18.00-21.00		Cally	
	Thurs 1/11/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Sat 3/11/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
Intensive Period				
9	Monday 5/11/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Tuesday 6/11/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Wednesday 7/11/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Thursday 8/11/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Evening	Orchestra rehearsal 1	Cally	
	Friday 9/11/18 10.30-17.30		Cally	
	Evening	Orchestra rehearsal 2	Cally	
Saturday 10/11/18 10.30-17.30	Also Orchestra rehearsal 3	Cally		
10	Monday 12/11/18	AM	Technical	JLT
		PM	Technical – Sitzprobe 1 – orchestra 4	JLT
		Evening	Technical – Sitzprobe 2 – orchestra 5	JLT
	Tuesday 13/11/18	AM	Technical	JLT
		PM	S + P 1	JLT
		Evening	S+P2	JLT

3.2 Outline Rehearsal Schedule

10 (cont'd)	Wed 14/11/18	AM	S + P 3	JLT
		PM	S + P 4	JLT
		Evening	PD # 1 Cast A	JLT
	Thursday 15 Nov	AM	Technical	JLT
		PM	PD # 2 Cast B	JLT
		Eve	S+O FR#1 Cast A (orchestra 6)	JLT
	Friday 16 Nov	AM	Technical	JLT
PM		S+O FR#2 Cast B (orchestra 7)	JLT	
Performances				
	Friday 16 November 19.30	Cast A	JLT	
	Sat 17 November 19:30	Cast B	JLT	
11	Sun 18 November 16:00	Cast A	JLT	
	Tue 20 November 19:30	Cast B	JLT	
	Wed 21 November 19:30	Cast A	JLT	
	Thu 22 November 19:30	Cast B	JLT	
	Fri 23 November 19:30	Cast A	JLT	
	Sat 24 November 14:30	Cast B	JLT	
	Sat 24 November 19:30	Cast A	JLT	
12	Sun 25 November 16:00	Cast B	JLT	

4. AUDITION PIECES

4.1 Parts and voices are as follows:

Part	Voice
Carolina	soprano
Elisetta	soprano
Fidalma	mezzo-soprano
Paolino	tenor
Geronimo	bass
Count Robinson	bass

4.2 If you are offered an audition slot, please present three contrasting arias, including at least one by Mozart or Rossini, one in English, and if possible a small section of recitative.

4.3 If you are interested in more than one role, please concentrate your preparation on your first choice. The panel will take note of your other options when it comes to casting.

4.4 You can download a vocal score of Act 1 of the opera from <http://tiny.cc/marriageact1> if you would like to get an idea of the roles and their demands.

5. ENQUIRIES

Please address any further enquiries for information or clarification relating to this audition call by email to our Auditions Secretary Kathy Dallas (kathy.dallas@hgo.org.uk) including a telephone contact number.