



HAMPSTEAD GARDEN OPERA www.hgo.org.uk

SPRING 2019 PRODUCTION – INVITATION TO AUDITION

1. ABOUT THIS INVITATION

- THE OPERA** PARTENOPE – Although technically an *opera seria*, *Partenope* is one of Handel’s few comic operas, and this production will respect and enhance the comedic elements of the work. HGO will be performing the original 1730 version, in Italian with surtitles, cut to approximately 2 hours, 15 minutes.
- THE COMPANY** HGO’s core objective is ‘advancing young singers’. We do this by staging top-level 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 17 May and Sunday 26 May 2019 - two casts, five performances each, alternate days. See schedule below for exact timing.
- THE TEAM** Production Director: Ashley Pearson
Ashley was Associate Director of the 2017 Opera Works programme at ENO. She was recently assistant director of *Macbeth* and observing director on *Les Vêpres Siciliennes* at RHO, and has worked as a Staff Director with OperaUpClose.
- Music Director: Bertie Baigent
Bertie is Music Director of Waterperry Opera Festival, whose season this year included *Don Giovanni*, *Mansfield Park* (Jonathan Dove), and *A Hand of Bridge* (Barber). He is currently Assistant Conductor of the Colorado Symphony, and other groups he has worked with include the Dallas Symphony, Britten Sinfonia, and Shadwell Opera.
- ORCHESTRA** The HGO Orchestra, using period instruments at A415.
- PAYMENT** We do not pay or provide expenses for singers, but there are no membership charges or requests for donations.

2. AUDITION DETAILS

APPLICATIONS Please apply to our Auditions Secretary Kathy Dallas at kathy.dallas@hgo.org.uk by **Tuesday 20 November**, latest, and contact her with any further enquiries you may have. Please include the following in your application:

- 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
- Any N/As you are aware of, with reference to the detailed rehearsal schedule below

NB We anticipate a minimal or zero number of non-available days. We will ask you to confirm your availability as a condition of offering a part.

DATES Auditions will be held on the following dates:

Thursday 29 November 10.00-13.00; 14.00-18.00

Friday 30 November 10.00-13.00; 14.00-18.00

Saturday 1 December 10.00-13.00

VENUE Auditions will be held at 6 Stanhope Gardens, Highgate, London N6 5TS (**NB** not N4, which is an hour away), the home of Alastair Macgeorge, Chairman Emeritus of HGO. It is about 12 minutes' walk from Highgate Underground station.

PANEL The audition panel will include Production Director Ashley Pearson, Music Director Bertie Baigent and Alastair Macgeorge. We provide a pianist (but please feel free to bring your own).

PIECES Please prepare the following audition pieces:

- a Handel aria of your choice, in Italian
- the recitative extract prescribed for the role for which you are auditioning. The extracts are copied at the end of this notice.

Each audition will last approximately 12 minutes.

PARTS Parts for *Partenope* are as follows:

| Part | Voice |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| PARTENOPE | soprano |
| ROSMIRA, disguised as EURIMENE | alto/low mezzo |
| ARSACE | counter tenor |
| ARMINDO | counter tenor/alto/low mezzo |
| EMILIO | tenor |
| ORMONTE | bass/baritone |

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.

3. REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

VENUES

Caledonian Road Methodist Church (Cally): 426 Caledonian Road, N7 9BG

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

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

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

Rail: The theatre is opposite Highgate Underground station (Northern Line, High Barnet Branch).

Bus: Routes 43, 134 and 263 pass the door.

Car: There is on street parking with some residential restrictions.

SCHEDULE

Please see the outline rehearsal schedule below.

| DAY | SESSION | DATE | CAST | TIME | ITEM | VENUE |
|-------|---------|------------|------|-------------|------------------|-------|
| TUES | EVE | 2019/02/19 | | 18.00-21.00 | Music | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/02/21 | | 18.00-21.00 | Music | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/02/23 | | 10.00-17.00 | Music | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/02/26 | | 18.00-21.00 | Music | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/02/28 | | 18.00-21.00 | Music | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/03/02 | | 10.00-17.00 | Music | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/03/05 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/03/07 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/03/09 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/03/12 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| WED | AM | 2019/03/13 | | 10.00-13.00 | ORCHESTRA CALL 1 | Cally |
| WED | PM | 2019/03/13 | | 14.00-17.00 | ORCHESTRA CALL 2 | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/03/14 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/03/16 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/03/19 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/03/21 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |

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|-------|---------|------------|--------|-------------|--|-------|
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/03/23 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/03/26 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/03/28 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/03/30 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/04/02 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/04/04 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/04/06 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/04/09 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/04/11 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/04/13 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/04/16 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| | | | | | EASTER BREAK | |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/04/25 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/04/27 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| SUN | PM | 2019/04/28 | | 13.00-19.00 | Provisional Open Rehearsal for Friends | tbc |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/04/30 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/05/02 | | 18.00-21.00 | Production | Cally |
| SAT | AM / PM | 2019/05/04 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| MON | AM / PM | 2019/05/06 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| TUES | AM / PM | 2019/05/07 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| WED | AM / PM | 2019/05/08 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| THURS | AM / PM | 2019/05/09 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| FRI | AM / PM | 2019/05/10 | | 10.00-17.00 | Production | Cally |
| MON | AM | 2019/05/13 | | | GET-IN | JLT |
| MON | PM | 2019/05/13 | | | GET-IN | JLT |
| MON | PM | 2019/05/13 | | 14.00-17.00 | ORCHESTRA CALL 3 | JLT |
| MON | EVE | 2019/05/13 | | | TECHNICAL TIME | JLT |
| MON | EVE | 2019/05/13 | Cast 1 | 18.00-21.00 | Sitzprobe 1 | JLT |
| TUES | AM | 2019/05/14 | Cast 1 | 10.00-13.00 | Stage & Piano 1 | JLT |
| TUES | AM | 2019/05/14 | Cast 2 | 10.00-13.00 | Sitzprobe 2 | JLT |
| TUES | PM | 2019/05/14 | Cast 1 | 14.00-17.00 | Stage & Piano 2 | JLT |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/05/14 | Cast 2 | 18.00-21.00 | Stage & Piano 3 | JLT |
| WED | AM | 2019/05/15 | Cast 1 | 10.00-14.00 | Stage & Orchestra 1 | JLT |
| WED | PM | 2019/05/15 | Cast 2 | 14.00-17.00 | Stage & Piano 4 | JLT |
| WED | EVE | 2019/05/15 | Cast 1 | 18.00-22.00 | Dress Rehearsal 1 | JLT |

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|-------|-----|------------|--------|-------------|---------------------|-----|
| THURS | AM | 2019/05/16 | Cast 2 | 10.00-14.00 | Stage & Orchestra 2 | JLT |
| THURS | PM | 2019/05/16 | | | TECHNICAL TIME | JLT |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/05/16 | Cast 2 | 18.00-22.00 | Dress Rehearsal 2 | JLT |
| FRI | AM | 2019/05/17 | | | TECHNICAL TIME | JLT |
| | | | | | PERFORMANCES | |
| FRI | EVE | 2019/05/17 | Cast 1 | 19.30 | Performance 1 | JLT |
| SAT | EVE | 2019/05/18 | Cast 2 | 19.30 | Performance 2 | JLT |
| SUN | PM | 2019/05/19 | Cast 1 | 16.00 | Performance 3 | JLT |
| TUES | EVE | 2019/05/21 | Cast 2 | 19.30 | Performance 4 | JLT |
| WEDS | EVE | 2019/05/22 | Cast 1 | 19.30 | Performance 5 | JLT |
| THURS | EVE | 2019/05/23 | Cast 2 | 19.30 | Performance 6 | JLT |
| FRI | EVE | 2019/05/24 | Cast 1 | 19.30 | Performance 7 | JLT |
| SAT | PM | 2019/05/25 | Cast 2 | 14.30 | Performance 8 | JLT |
| SAT | EVE | 2019/05/25 | Cast 1 | 19.30 | Performance 9 | JLT |
| SUN | PM | 2019/05/26 | Cast 2 | 16.00 | Performance 10 | JLT |

4. RECITATIVE EXTRACTS FOR AUDITION

PARTENOPE before No. 1

Partenope

Tu dell' ec-cel-se mu-ra Di que-sta che in-nal - zai Cit-ta-de al-te-ra, O Lu-mi-no-so Di-o, pren-di la

5
Cu-ra: Spar-gi dal-la tua sfe-ra Nel suo fer-ti - le sen rag-gi be-ni-gni! Hab-bian ni-do glo - rio-so A-qui-le ed i

9
ci-gni. Sot-to gli au-spi-ci tuoi pre-so al mio No-me Ve-da al tuo imper gen-ti e pro-vin-cie do-me.

Si cedeno girare infarno l' altare aquile e cigni

ROSMIRA before No. 37

Rosmira

Oh Di-oi per-chè dal pet-to Il cor si par-ta, e se-gua L'o-rme d'Ar-sa-cel è pu-re La tra-di - ta mia

5

fe-de Di ven-di-car si va-ga, Del-la sua fe-del - tà non è an-cor pa-ga.

ARSACE before No. 39

Arsace

Non chie-do, oh miei tor-men-ti! Che mi la-scia-te in pa-ce; Sol per bre-vi mo-men-ti Da-te qual-che ri-

5

-po-so al cor d'Ar-sa-cel! Vie-ni, pie-to-so ob - li - o, Ri-sto-ra il pet-to mi-o ca-den - te e

9

las - so, E de' ri - po - si miei sia let - to un sas - so.

S'ode una Sinfonia mesta

ARMINDO Singers auditioning for the role of Armindo should prepare both extracts.
Extract 1 - before No. 5a

Armindo

Ar-min-do, ar - di-sci, e pro-va Di pa-le-sar-ti a-man-te, Ag-li au-da-ci ta-lor For-tu-na gio-va.

ARMINDO Extract 2 - before No. 32

Armindo

Re-gi-na, ti com-pia-co Che a te ven-ga Eu-ri - me-ne? L'ar-ca-no che rac-chiu-de u-dir con-vie-ne.

EMILIO before No. 17

Emilio

For-ti miei schie-re, al-la vi-ci-na im-pre-sa S'io vo-les-si a-ni-mar-vi, Trop-po al vo-stro va-lor sa-rei d'of-fe-sa; Se per de-sio di glo-ria ar-ma-te sie-te, Sò che pu-gna-re e vin-ce-re sa-pe-te.

Shortened version as in 1737 libretto

ORMONTE after No. 44

Ormonte *Legge la disfida*

Re-gi-na, in que-ste a-re-ne Il prin-ci-pe Eu-ri - me-ne, Ca-va-lier di Ros - mi-ra, A pu-gnar con Ar-sa-ce il cam-po chie-de, Per-chè a Ros - mi-ra e - gli man-cò di fe-de. Qui' Partenope.