

MARITIME MAYHEM AND MOZART MASH-UP

This year the the **Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall** opens its doors to two very different types of opera performance, reinvigorating the roots of this popular genre.

Often home to Jubilee Opera's delightful children's productions, this year is no exception as they enact the tale of Benjamin Britten's *The Golden Vanity* conducted by Ben Parry. A vaudeville after the old English ballad of the same name, this colourful production tells the story of a battle at sea between pirates and the Golden Vanity. Jubilee Opera offers a platform for children in the community to explore an exciting world of music, song and performance, which is expressed here sensitively and with much gusto. This production was first seen at the 2017 Aldeburgh Festival in Snape Maltings, 50 years after its premiere by the Vienna Boys Choir, and is a joint production between Jubilee Opera and Snape Maltings.



The second musical adventure comes as part of High Tide Festival, in which the Jubilee Hall welcomes Mahogany Opera Group with *Mozart vs Machine*, a high-octane mash-up of Mozart opera, electronic sound and video, bringing some of history's most iconic artists together in a theatrical sci-fi gameshow encounter. This irreverent collage of music and theatre composed by Dominic Robertson and directed by Frederic Wake-Walker blurs the boundaries of opera and performance art to produce an extraordinary burst of colour and imagination. If you think you know Mozart, think again!

www.aldeburghjubileehall.co.uk

NATIONAL OPERA STUDIO MAKES KEY APPOINTMENT

David Sulkin OBE is to join the National Opera Studio (NOS) in the new role of director of artist development.

He will work with chief executive Emily Gottlieb to create new programmes that develop emerging and mid-career talent, as well as building its existing reputation and training as the NOS approaches its 40th anniversary year.

Sulkin has a long-established record of working in opera

and theatre as an actor, director, facilitator, teacher and strategist. He was the founder of English National Opera's Baylis Programme and helped shaped programmes at the National Foundation for Youth Music. His most recent post was as executive director of Help Musicians UK. In 2014, he was awarded the OBE for his work in the arts, education and charity.

www.nationaloperastudio.org.uk

GLYNDEBOURNE LAUNCHES NEW SINGING COMPETITION

Glyndebourne is inviting applications for its new international singing competition, the Glyndebourne Opera Cup.

Open to singers of any nationality aged between 21 and 28 who are in the early stages of their professional career, the biennial event will focus on the work of one operatic composer each time it is held – starting with Mozart.

The inaugural competition will feature three preliminary rounds in January 2018, in Philadelphia, London and Berlin, culminating in the final held in March at Glyndebourne.

The winner will receive a

cash prize of £15,000 and the guarantee of a professional role within five years at one of the international opera houses represented on the competition jury, chaired by Glyndebourne general director Sebastian Schwarz, with Barrie Kosky, Joan Matabosch, Sophie de Lint and David Devan.

Sky Arts will broadcast the competition with a dedicated TV series capturing every stage of the competition, from the preliminary rounds to the finals.

Applications to the Glyndebourne Opera Cup can be submitted via www.glyndebourne.com between 2 October and 24 November 2017

EUROPEAN DIRECTING PRIZE MAKES UK DEBUT

Opera Holland Park has announced that it will host the winning production of 10th European Opera Directing Prize (EOP) as part of its 2019 season. Launched in 2000, the EOP has been hosted by opera houses across Europe, though Holland Park will be its first time in the UK.

Run jointly by Camerata Nuova and Opera Europa, the biennial contest offers young opera directors the chance to present their ideas to a wider audience by partnering with a leading opera house.

The winning director will receive a prize of €20,000 and the opportunity to direct Puccini's *Manon Lescaut*.

Applicants must register by October 2017, with concepts for *Manon Lescaut* due by December 2017. The finals will take place at Opera Europa's 2018 spring conference in Zurich, where four or five finalists will present their concepts to a panel of judges, including OHP's director of opera, James Clutton.

www.opera-europa.org