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NEWSLETTER

Summer

Last years Main Production of *Così fan tutte*

Mozart's bitter sweet comedy was performed by a stunning cast of young professional singers and pianist.



Newsletter

2017 was another successful year of productions for Devon Opera. The season started with 'The Conquests of Love' performed for The Budleigh Music Festival in St Peter's Church, Budleigh Salterton, for Sense Devon Group in St Cyprian's Chapel at Ugbrooke Park and for a private party at Libertas, Buckland Tout Saints.

2017 Main Production - Mozart's, *Così fan tutte*

This production was performed to critical acclaim at the Great Hall, Dartington and for the first time at The Exeter Barnfield Theatre. A full account of this production can be seen on our website under Past Productions.

Festive Fundraising Opera Concert and Auction

A sell out and highly successful "Friends" fundraising concert and auction was held on Sunday 3rd December 2017 with the kind generosity of Natasha Day soprano and David Malusá pianist, together with those individuals who offered items for the auction. Christopher Hampton MD of Bearne's Hampton and Littlewood for auctioneering. Peter & Liz Dummett for the festive refreshments and Robert and Jackie Hough for the use of The Music Room. The funds raised during the evening will go towards our main production for 2018.

Another "Friends" and their guests fundraising event is being planned for this summer. Details will be issued in due course.

Two of the venues at
which Devon Opera
will perform during
2018



Ugbrooke Park



The Great Hall,
Dartington

New Patron

The Company is delighted that The Dowager Countess of Devon has agreed to become the New Patron of Devon Opera.

From: The Dowager Countess of Devon

As Patron I am delighted to be able to support and encourage awareness of Devon Opera and especially this season's productions, full details of which can be found on our website www.devonopera.co.uk.

As the only professional opera company and registered charity located in Devon offering live opera, your continued support as "Friends of Devon Opera" is extremely important and much valued.

Diana Devon

2018 Season

Our 2018 season commenced on the 9th June with a concert for the Invitation Events Committee of the Devon Red Cross at The Barn, Canonteign Falls Estate with a production of "**The Conquests of Love**" A tale of love, passion and jealousy entwined in operatic gems.



*Matthew Palmer, Vivien Conacher, David Malusà, Natasha Day
& Roberto Abate*

The evening offered celebrated arias and ensembles by composers such as Rossini, Mozart, Bizet, Puccini, Donizetti



and Verdi. The story portrayed the emotional journey of two young couples who become trapped in the confusion of a masked ball. Mixing comedy and melodrama, this was a highly entertaining evening with an element of semi-staged production.

The concert evening was a huge success and immensely appreciated by the county wide invited audience.

Plans are already being discussed for a performance during the summer of 2019.

Our next performance '**Summer Serenade**' a light-hearted evening of favourites from opera, operetta and songs from the shows will be staged for Devon Sense Group at **Ugbrooke Park, Chudleigh**. The performance will be in Ugbrooke's St Cyprian's Chapel on **Friday 27th July 2018** details can also be seen on our website. The performance starts at 7.30pm, and the Park will be open from 5.30pm for picnics.

Tickets are **£30.00** each and are now on sale from: Dandelion, Fore Street Chudleigh TQ13 0HX tel. 01626 859333 and from Clive Eden, 19 Powderham Road, Newton Abbot TQ12 1EU tel. 01626 354176.

All proceeds go to Sense Devon Group (Charity No. 289868) to whom any cheque payments should be made.

Our main production for 2018 will be Verdi's much loved La traviata

Due to difficulties with the availability of venues, this years' production has had to be moved to the end of November at the following venues:

Exeter Barnfield Theatre, 22nd November 2018

The Great Hall, Dartington. 24th November 2018



Tickets prices

Exeter Barnfield Theatre £20.00 each

The Great Hall, Dartington £25.00 each

Full box office details will be shown on our website www.devonopera.co.uk in the near future.

Company News

Clare Lillington, a Trustee, has also become our new Company Secretary.

David Jones has been elected a Trustee

Natasha Day has been appointed as the Company's Artistic Director.

Ann Somerscales has taken over the role from Mary Thomas as Trustee and Executive Board Secretary.

Valerie Jackson is now our "Friends" membership administrator.

Auditions

Auditions from selected artists have had to be postponed on two occasions due to unprecedented weather conditions. These will be re-arranged during the next few months.

Friends of Devon Opera

New Vice patrons

His Honour Francis Gilbert QC and Mrs Gilbert.

New Platinum members

Mr and Mrs Peter Jackson

Mrs Ann Somerscales

Mr & Mrs Vaughn Edwards

The last two years have seen Devon Opera develop from opera extracts to full opera productions. With this move comes additional costs. In order to continue delivering these productions at the high level you have come to expect consideration is being given to raising the cost of Friends membership subscriptions. These details will be shown on

our website in due course.

The renewal of Friends' subscriptions is extremely important to the company because without your support what we can offer would be very restricted.

A subscription renewal form 2018/2019 is available to download from our website www.devonopera.co.uk please use one, unless you have already renewed or declined.

The support of all our Friends is both vital and deeply appreciated

Should you wish to unsubscribe from Devon Opera communications please inform our membership secretary Valerie Jackson by e-mailing her at valeriejackson345@btinternet.com



Robert Hough
CEO Devon Opera

Devon Opera is a charity and non-profit making organisation limited by guarantee.

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