



ROYAL
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Press release

Thursday 04 July 2024

Jette Parker Artists take to the stage in annual Summer Performance

- **BSL Interpreted performance**
- **Applications for 2025/26 cohort of singers opens Wednesday 24 July**

The Royal Opera's Jette Parker Artists (JPA) close the 2023-24 season on **Saturday 20 July**, performing an array of exciting and affecting opera excerpts on the Main Stage accompanied by the **Orchestra of the Royal Opera House**.

The evening is a chance for the outgoing 2023-24 Artists to celebrate their time on the highly prestigious programme, and for artists continuing into the 2024-25 Season to showcase their development.

Featuring pieces from Strauss' *Capriccio*, Bizet's *Les pêcheurs de perles*, and Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, currently featuring on the Main Stage, the evening is a unique platform for the operatic talents of the future, both on and offstage.

Oliver Mears, Director of The Royal Opera, said:

"I'm delighted to present the Jette Parker Artists Summer Programme as a demonstration of our mission to nurture the next generation of operatic talent. The Summer Performance is an opportunity for our outgoing Artists to celebrate and mark their time on the Programme, and I can think of no better platform for that than the Main Stage."

Elaine Kidd, Head of Jette Parker Artists Programme, said:

“This iconic stage has become a second home for our singers. It’s thrilling to witness them in the summer showcase step into the principal roles that will launch their international careers, all with the guidance of our own JPA conductors and directors, responsible for the music and staging. It’s truly a team enterprise and a fantastic culmination for our leavers to their time at The Royal Opera.”

Now concluding its 22nd year, the Programme provides a bridge to a career with the world’s leading opera companies and gives the artists first-hand experience of a major international producing house. Over the last two decades, the Programme has trained and supported over 140 young singers, directors, conductors and pianists from across the globe, providing access to all areas of opera, music and theatre production. As well as performing repertory roles, singers may also cover roles for more established cast members, stepping into another artist’s shoes at short notice. All artists receive coaching and mentoring to further their technical abilities and help evolve their artistic identity.

Applications for the 2025/26 intake of singers open on **Wednesday 24 July**, with conductor and director auditions following in the autumn – click [here](#) for further information.

The Jette Parker Artists Programme is made possible thanks to the exceptional generosity of Oak Foundation

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Images can be downloaded [here](#).

PRESS CONTACT

Olivia Fahy: olivia.fahy@roh.org.uk | Press Assistant

About the Jette Parker Artists Programme

Since 2001, the Jette Parker Artists programme has been a sought-after apprenticeship for curious artists of exceptional talent looking to intensify their professional development and take their first steps on the international stage. The Programme provides a bridge to a career with the world’s leading opera companies for up to fourteen salaried singers, conductors, directors and

répétiteurs. In their two-year employment they work alongside leading international artists and experts in musical style and interpretation to prepare repertory for staged performance, concerts and recitals. Singers may also cover roles, getting ready to step into another artist's shoes at short notice. All the while they receive coaching and mentoring to further their technical abilities and help evolve their artistic identity.

The Jette Parker Artists Programme is made possible thanks to the exceptional generosity of Oak Foundation, who have supported the Programme since 2005. In 2017 they extended their support and enabled new initiatives to diversify the range of artists supported by the Programme, including the development of women's conducting courses and extension of coaching opportunities to individuals with exceptional potential from backgrounds underrepresented in the ROH talent pool.

About The Royal Opera

The Royal Opera, under the artistic direction of Director of Opera Oliver Mears and Music Director Designate Jakub Hrůša is one of the world's leading opera companies. Based at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, it brings together the greatest singers of our time alongside the most exciting voices of the future; the Royal Opera Chorus, a world-class orchestra and leading conductors, directors and creative teams to share inspiring theatrical experiences with diverse audiences worldwide. Across the Main Stage and the Linbury Theatre, the Company is renowned for both its award-winning performances of repertory works and for commissioning new works by today's leading opera composers, such as George Benjamin, Mark-Anthony Turnage, Thomas Adès and the late Kaija Saariaho.

