



benjamin britten  
the turn of the screw

# AIYF Opera Garden

## The Turn of the Screw Op.54

Opera in a Prologue and Two Acts

by **Benjamin Britten**

Libretto by Myfanwy Piper after Henry James

**Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers**

### CAST

(in order of appearance)

Prologue	Pascal Pittie
The Governess	Banu Böke
Flora	Katrien Nauwelaerts
Miles	Angus Forfar
	Femke Vindevogel
Mrs. Grose	Penelope Alexander
Peter Quint	Pascal Pittie
Miss Jessel	Sarah Mattox

### ORCHESTRA

First Violin	Liam Lynch
Second Violin	Stewart Webster
Viola	Hannah Craib
Cello	Elspeth Mackay
Double Bass	Kirsty Wilson
Flute/Piccolo	Rachel Green
Oboe/Cor Anglais	Rebecca Benstead
Clarinet	Juliet Davis
Basoon	Sarah Stalmach
French Horn	Mary Stuart
Harp	Kirsten Zappert
Percussion	Polly McMillan
Piano/Celeste	Lisa Fröberg
Conductor	Marit Strindlund
Director/Designer	Gidon Saks
Lighting Designer	Simon Gane
Production Coordinator	Marcos Pujol
Filmmakers	Sean Fraser
	Geraldine Heaney
	Calum Youngston
Lighting Operator	Craig Wallace
Video Operator	Sean Fraser
Repetiteur	Lisa Fröberg
Wardrobe Mistress	Lynne Greig
Technical Director	Hugh MacLachlan
Opera Garden Coordinator	Elspeth Mogendorff
Stage Manager	Tish Howard

Aberdeen International Youth Festival

Opera Garden is made possible thanks to the generous  
sponsorship of:



## PENELOPE ALEXANDER, UK – Mrs. Grose



- Postgraduate diploma, Trinity College of Music
- Wilfred Greenhouse Allt Prize for Oratorio
- Masterclass with Graham Johnson
- Roles: Mayor's Wife and cover Kostelni ka (Jen fa), English Touring Opera, 2006; Alice Ford (Falstaff), Opera Garden, 2005; Micaëla (Carmen); Sister Genevieve, Lay Sister and First Tourière (Suor Angelica) and Dido, Sorceress, Belinda and Second Woman (Dido and Aeneas)
- Excerpts: Halévy's La Juive (Rachel), Massenet's Le Cid (Chimène), title role in Strauss' Arabella, and Mozart's Così fan tutte (Fiordiligi)
- Concerts: Berlioz's L'Enfance du Christ (cond. Paul Daniel); Dvorák's Te Deum and Mass in D; Vaughan Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem and Serenade to Music; Mozart's Requiem; Beethoven's Choral Fantasia and Bach's Christmas Oratorio

## BANU BÖKE, Germany – The Governess



- studied at the "Hochschule für Musik" in Cologne with Klesie Kelly; Masterclasses with Gundula Janowitz and Montserrat Caballé
- awarded "Richard-Wagner-Verband" scholarship
- 2nd place "Competizione dell'Opera" Dresden
- in 2002 she sang the role of Donna Anna (Don Giovanni) at Opera Garden
- member of the Cologne Opera from 1999 to 2004, where her roles included Romilda (Xerxes), Pamina (Die Zauberflöte), Sandrina (La Finta Giardiniera), Zerlina (Don Giovanni), and Clorinda (La Cenerentola)
- for Frankfurt Opera she has performed as Pamina and as Emma in Schubert's Fierrabras
- at the Nationaltheater in Munich she recently repeated her Romilda in Xerxes to great acclaim and will return as Erste Dame in Die Zauberflöte

## ANGUS FORFAR, Scotland - Miles



- has been a Chorister at Chelmsford Cathedral Essex, for 6 years 3 of them as Head Chorister
- has performed in many concerts as soloist and chorister and on a number of foreign tours
- Music Scholar at Brentwood School, Essex and member of the school Band and various choirs
- member of the National Youth Choir of Scotland and St. Andrews Cathedral Choir, Aberdeen
- Having just turned 14, Angus will enter S3 at Robert Gordon's College in Aberdeen. He studies Piano, Cornet and singing, as well as Latin and classical Greek.
- Angus' interests include reading, fly fishing and computer gaming. Of course Angus loves music and has very eclectic taste - from the Beach Boys to the Kaiser Chiefs. Outside Cathedral repertoire Angus enjoys a wide range of classical music.

## SARAH MATTOX, U.S.A. – Miss Jessel



- Roles with Seattle Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Palm Beach Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Tacoma Opera, Amarillo Opera, Lyric Opera Cleveland
- Roles: Rosina (Il Barbiere di Siviglia), Hansel (Hansel and Gretel), title role in Cendrillon, Dorabella (Così fan Tutte), Dinah (Trouble in Tahiti), Suzuki (Madama Butterfly), Feodor (Boris Godunov), Mother (Amahl and the Night Visitors), title role in Ned Rorem's Bertha, Meg Page (Falstaff)
- First Prize-Belle Voci Competition
- Solo Concert Performances: Copland's Eight Poems of Emily Dickinson (Seattle Symphony), Mozart's Requiem (Northwest Sinfonietta), Lord Nelson Mass and Vivaldi Gloria (Eugene Concert Choir), Pops and Classical Concerts (Cascade Festival of Music)
- Future engagements: title role in Carmen (Tacoma Opera), Ottavia in L'Incoronazione di Poppea (Seattle Early Music Guild)

## KATRIEN NAUWELAERTS, Belgium – Flora



- studied singing at the Koninklijk Vlaams Conservatorium in Antwerp
- in September, will study with Barbara Pearson and Diane Forlano at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague
- Masterclasses with Carol Yahr, Gidon Saks and Udo Reinemann
- Opera: Altro Pastore in La Dafne by Marco da Gagliano, First Witch in Purcell's Dido and Aeneas, and collaborated on Ariadne auf Naxos at the Vlaamse Opera
- She is a member of the Octopus Chamber Choir with whom she has sung The Messiah, Bach's Johannes Passion and Ravel's Dafnis et Cloë under the leadership of conductors such as Yoel Levi and Philip Herreweghe.

## PASCAL PITTIE, Holland – Prologue and Peter Quint



- Studied at the Maastricht Conservatorium and The International Opera Studio Amsterdam
- Awarded the Jo Bollekamp prize for oratorio 2004
- Masterclasses with Simjon Skigin, Elly Ameling and Anthony Rolfe Johnson
- Roles: Tamino in Die Zauberflöte, Albert in Albert Herring, Ferrando in Così fan Tutte, Magician in The Consul, Gaston in La Traviata, Barbarigo in I due Foscari, Tom Rakewell in The Rake's Progress, Edmondo in Manon Lescaut, Conte Alberto in L'occasione fa il ladro
- Concerts: War Requiem and Serenade (Britten), Matthäus and Johannes Passion (Bach), Les Noces (Stravinsky), Psalmus Hungaricus (Kodaly), Die Jahreszeiten and Die Schöpfung (Haydn), Samson, The Messiah, Missa di Gloria (Puccini) and Petite messe solennelle (Rossini)
- upcoming : 1. Diener in Capriccio, Pong in Turandot, Tamino in Die Zauberflöte, Prunier in La Rondine

## FEMKE VINDEVOGEL, Belgium – Miles



- Studied singing with Philippe Defrancq and Annemie Moens
- studied piano, recorder (soprano and alto) and cello
- Masterclass with Gidon Saks
- vocal soloist with the mandolin orchestra 'I mandolini'
- Alto with the Madrigal Choir of Ghent under Johan Duyck, and with the baroque choir El Grillo
- Free-lance work as a photographer and artist
- teaches piano in Zedelgem, Belgium

## MARIT STRINDLUND, Sweden – Conductor



- Conducting studies at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm with Jorma Panula (Mmus); Currently Post Graduate in conducting (opera) at RNCM
- Master Classes with Esa-Pekka Salonen, Gianandrea Noseda, Mark Wigglesworth and Mark Elder
- has conducted the Westbohemian Symphony Orchestra, Kharkov Philharmonic Orchestra, and numerous Swedish orchestras including Helsingborg Symphony Orchestra, Gävle Symphony Orchestra, and KammarensembleN
- Operatic work: assistant conductor at the Gothenburg Opera for La Cenerentola, conductor at the Värmland Opera for Die Zauberflöte
- Artistic director of EUFONIA (Contemporary Chamber Music Festival)
- Concert broadcasts on Swedish Television and Radio
- Upcoming: concerts with Nordic Chamber Orchestra, Bröderna Lejonhjärta at the Gothenburg Opera

## GIDON SAKS, Israel – Director/Designer



- Gidon Saks was born in Rechovot, Israel, and raised in South Africa. He studied there, at the RNCM, the University of Toronto and the Zürich Opera Studio.
- His singing career has taken him to opera stages in the US, Canada, throughout Europe, the UK and Scandinavia.
- Head of Singing at the Shell Expro Music School from 1994. Founded Opera Garden in 1999.
- As director/designer, his work has been seen in the UK, France, Austria and South Africa.
- Guest Professor at the Ghent Conservatory in Belgium.
- He has made numerous recordings, most notably the title roles in Handel's Saul and Hercules (nominated for a Grammy Award)
- Future plans include Walküre in Washington DC (with Plácido Domingo), Tosca at the Bregenz Festival, Bluebeard in Nantes and a return to Covent Garden as the Villains in Contes d'Hoffmann.

## LISA FRÖBERG, Sweden – Repetiteur



- born in Umeå, Sweden.
- studied piano at the Gothenburg Academy of Music, and on the opera repetiteur course at the Guildhall School of Music, London
- since 2000 regularly works with the Gothenburg Opera, Vadstenaakademin, and at Den Norske Opera, Norway
- vocal coach at the Opera School of Gothenburg
- regularly accompanies singers in recital

MARCOS PUJOL, Spain – Production Coordinator



- Honours Graduate of the University of Toronto; Tanglewood, Ravinia, Banff, Britten-Pears School
- As bass-baritone: Orfeo (Aldeburgh Festival), Poppea (Musiciens du Louvre), Venus and Adonis (Opera Atelier), The Fairy Queen (Bayonne), Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme (Toulon), Platée (Mark Morris Dance Group), Die Zauberflöte (Dijon), Don Giovanni (Dartington), Carmen (Tours), Martinu's Juliette and Strauss' Capriccio (Paris National Opera), Gianni Schicchi and La Bohème (Canadian Opera Co), Le Balcon (Aix-en-Provence, Amsterdam, Toulouse), Ariadne auf Naxos (Toulon)...
- Recordings: Handel's Hercules and Dixit Dominus, Rameau's Dardanus, Cherubini's Les Deux Journées, and Courbois Drinking Songs
- Director/Designer of The Magic Flute (Opera Garden 2004), Falstaff (Opera Garden 2005)



Clockwise from right :  
Lynne Greig, Tish Howard, Elspeth Mogendorff, Hugh MacLachlan

**Programme photography by Femke Vindevogel©**

## **Acknowledgements**

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hair dressing & beauty

The cast of The Turn of the Screw will present a  
**Song Recital** accompanied by Lisa Fröberg on  
**Tuesday the 8th of August at 7:30 pm**  
in The Sanctuary, Queen's Cross Church  
**Generously sponsored by the Friends of the Festival**