

## **JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAMME APPLICATION GUIDELINES – ANNUAL AUDITIONS**

Audition applications are now being accepted. The Programme is looking for up to five singers to join in September 2015. Annual auditions will be held in London between 25 November and 3 December 2014.

Applicants should be extremely gifted individuals at the start of their professional careers. They are expected to have some performance experience and to have completed a music degree, although neither is essential. The Programme is not seeking any specific voice types and there is no fixed age limit for applicants. However, please bear in mind that when choosing candidates for audition, the panel will consider the stage candidates have reached in their careers and where they will be in terms of career development and age after two years on the Programme.

Please send your application to Jette Parker Young Artists Programme, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DD. It must include all the following items to be considered:

- A completed application form
- Your curriculum vitae (no longer than two pages)
- Your photograph (larger than passport size)
- A photocopy of the information page of your passport, driving licence, birth certificate or identification card, showing your date of birth. This information will not be made available to the audition panel, but is required to ensure that the Royal Opera House meets its legal obligations under the Asylum and Immigration Regulations 2004.
- A completed JPYAP Equal Opportunities questionnaire. This information will not be made available to the audition panel, but is required to enable the Royal Opera House to monitor that it meets its equal opportunities and diversity objectives.
- Two sealed envelopes with confidential letters of reference written by a music or theatre professional, but **not your regular singing teacher**. If either of your references is from your singing teacher, your application will be rejected. The references must be written specifically for this application and addressed to the JPYAP Audition Panel. If your referees prefer to send their references directly to the Programme via email, fax or post, this is acceptable, but they **must** be received by the deadline.
- A recent recording on CD (preferred) or minidisk of your voice, presenting **three contrasting arias**. Videos, DVDs, audio cassettes or electronic music files are not accepted. Remember to test that your recording works before sending it. CDs need to play on an ordinary CD player. Both CD and accompanying box must be labelled with your name, the titles of the pieces and the date each piece was recorded. If financial circumstances prevent you from making a recording, you must write a letter explaining why no recording is provided.

Please do not send any other supporting material, **especially** electronic music files which are likely to block the email server.. Please note that the Royal Opera House will not pay any costs associated with sending applications. If you use a courier service, you **must** ensure that all costs, **including** customs fees, are charged to you. Any costs charged to the Royal Opera House's courier accounts will be recharged to you and your application will not be considered.

The recordings are used when choosing individuals for the first round of auditions. They need not be professional quality – in fact, a home-made recording is preferred, as it may give a more accurate impression of the singer's voice. It is better to include a simple minidisk recording you make yourself with

your pianist than to miss the deadline trying to arrange a professional recording. This is also preferable to sending only a letter of explanation.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 31 October 2014**. Applications can be sent any time before this date – please allow plenty of time. If your complete application has not been received by the closing date (including two references and a recording or letter), it will not be considered. **Take care that your application is not rejected because material arrives after the closing date.** Due to the workload, the office will not be able to answer any telephone calls or emails about the arrival or completeness of individual applications during the week of the deadline. This makes early application submission even more important, especially if you are relying on referees to send applications directly to the Programme.

Singers will be notified as soon as possible whether or not they have been selected for audition. It is not possible for the Programme to hear every applicant nor is it possible to enter into correspondence concerning the choice of candidates for audition. Photographs and recordings will be returned after the audition process; all other application material is destroyed.

Auditions are held in London from Tuesday 25 November until Wednesday 3 December 2014. If you are invited to audition, you should prepare five contrasting arias and an art song / Lied. The auditions are in three parts:

### **Round One**

#### **Tuesday 25, Wednesday 26 and Friday 28 November 2014**

A maximum of 70 candidates will be heard in this round. Each audition will last 10 minutes maximum. The audition panel will consist of David Gowland (Artistic Director, JPYAP), Yvonne Kenny (international singer) and Paul Wynne Griffiths (Senior Music Staff, The Royal Opera). Paul Wynne Griffiths will play.

### **Round Two**

#### **Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 December 2014**

A maximum of 35 candidates will be heard in this round. The audition is held in two sessions. In the morning, each candidate works for 10 minutes with David Gowland in a one-on-one coaching session, using any of the arias prepared for the auditions. In the afternoon, the candidates sing for 10 minutes maximum to a panel including Peter Katona (Casting Director, The Royal Opera), Kasper Holten (Director of Opera), David Syrus (Head of Music, The Royal Opera), Yvonne Kenny and David Gowland. David Syrus will play.

### **Round Three**

#### **Wednesday 1 December 2014 (evening)**

A maximum of 12 candidates are heard in this round. Each audition lasts 10 minutes maximum. The auditions are held in the evening on the main stage of the Royal Opera House. The panel will consist of Antonio Pappano (Music Director, The Royal Opera), Siri Fischer Hansen (Administrator, JPYAP), Kasper Holten, Peter Katona, Yvonne Kenny, David Gowland and David Syrus. A representative of the Oak Foundation may also attend. David Syrus will play from the pit.

**Please note that candidates must make themselves available for each round of audition, i.e. as a minimum 28 November-3 December 2014.** If there are times during the audition period when you are not available, please indicate this with your application. It will not disqualify you in any way, but helps greatly with the administration.

The Programme is unable to provide any financial assistance towards attending the auditions.

If at all possible, please send your **complete** application in one pack by post. The recording **must** be sent by post as electronic music files are not acceptable.

If you are very short of time, the rest of the application can be sent by email. In that case, your references must be sent directly to the Programme by your referees by email, fax or post, so that they remain confidential. Photographs must be emailed in .jpg format. The email address is [JPYAPAssistant@roh.org.uk](mailto:JPYAPAssistant@roh.org.uk).

The Programme does not accept any responsibility for material not received, whether sent electronically or by post. Remember that the internet is not fail-safe. All emails are acknowledged, so if you or your referees do not receive an acknowledgement, your emails have not been received. The Programme will not chase missing elements of your application. **Unless a complete application including recording and two references has been received by midnight on 31 October 2014, you will not be considered.**