

Jette Parker Young Artists Programme: Singer Auditions

Auditions will next be held in November/December 2017 to select up to five singers for start in September 2018.

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 artists for audition, the panel will consider the stage they have reached in their careers and where they will be in terms of career development and age after two years on the Programme.

Applications are only accepted via the YAP Tracker website after the application process opens in September. A complete application must include **all** the following items to be considered:

- A curriculum vitae (no longer than two pages)
- A photograph
- A photocopy of the information page of the applicant's passport, driver's licence, birth certificate or identification card, showing 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.
- Two confidential references uploaded by the referees directly to the YAP Tracker website. They must be written by a music or theatre professional, but **not the applicant's regular singing teacher**. If one of the two references is written by a regular singing teacher, the application will be rejected. The references must be written specifically for the application and two references **must** be received by the deadline.
- Recent audio recordings of the applicant's voice, presenting three contrasting arias. The recordings need not be professional quality – in fact, home-made recordings are preferred, as they may give a more accurate impression of the singer's voice than a professional one.

The closing date for applications will be Friday 20 October 2017. If the YAP Tracker application has not been completed by the closing date (including two references), it will not be considered. The status of the application will appear on the YAP Tracker website and it is the applicant's own responsibility to ensure it is complete by the deadline: the Programme does not chase missing elements. **Applicants are strongly advised to allow plenty of time.**

Applicants will be notified as soon as possible after the deadline whether or not they have been selected for audition. It is not possible for the Programme to audition every applicant nor is it possible to enter into correspondence concerning the choice of candidates for audition.

Auditions will be held in London. Those invited to audition should prepare five contrasting arias and an art song / Lied. The auditions are in three parts:

Round One : Friday 24-Wednesday 29 November 2017 : Chorus Room

A maximum of 70 candidates will be heard in this round. The panel will comprise Elaine Kidd (Head of JPYAP), David Gowland (Artistic Director, JPYAP), Richard Hetherington (Head of Music, The Royal Opera) and international soprano Yvonne Kenny. Each audition will last 10 minutes maximum. Edward Batting will play.

Round Two : Thursday 30 November, Friday 1 December 2017 : Chorus Room

A maximum of 35 candidates will be heard in this round. The audition is held in two sessions. The first part is a 10 minute working session with David Gowland for a one-on-one coaching, using any of the pieces prepared for the audition. The second is a panel audition, where the candidates sing for 10 minutes maximum. The Round One panel will be joined by Oliver Mears (Director of Opera) and Peter Katona (Director of Casting, The Royal Opera). Edward Batting will play.

Round Three : Sunday 3 December 2017 : Main Stage

A maximum of 12 candidates will be heard in this round, which is on the main stage of the Royal Opera House. Each candidate will sing in an Opera Rehearsal Room in the morning and then one aria on the main stage at lunchtime. The Round Two panel will be joined by Antonio Pappano (Music Director, The Royal Opera). A representative of Oak Foundation may also attend. Edward batting will play.

Please note that candidates must make themselves available for each audition round. If there are times during the audition period when an applicant will not be available, this must be indicated on the application. It will not disqualify an applicant in any way, but helps greatly with the administration. The Programme is unable to provide any financial assistance towards attending the auditions.

All information subject to change