



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

OPERA & MUSIC | SUMMER 2014

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MANON LESCAUT

NEW PRODUCTION

Giacomo Puccini

17, 20, 24*, 28 June and 1, 4, 7 July 2014 at 7pm

*Live cinema relay

- Generously supported by Rolex
- Generous philanthropic support from Mrs Susan A. Olde OBE, Lord and Lady Laidlaw, Mrs Philip Kan, Mrs Trevor Swete, Quentin Holland, Mercedes T. Bass, Bruce Kovner, the American Friends of Covent Garden and The Manon Lescaut Production Syndicate.
- *Manon Lescaut* will be relayed as part of the Royal Opera House Live Cinema Season on 24 June at 6.45pm - www.roh.org.uk/cinemas
- *Manon Lescaut* will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 on 1 July at 6.45pm

This early Puccini masterpiece makes a welcome return to Covent Garden, after an absence of over thirty years, in a new production by **Jonathan Kent** under the baton of Music Director **Antonio Pappano**. Following their successful partnership creating a new production of *Tosca* for The Royal Opera in 2006, Jonathan Kent and designer **Paul Brown** create a contemporary setting for their new production of *Manon Lescaut*.

Music Director **Antonio Pappano** continues his exploration of Italian repertory at Covent Garden, conducting *Manon Lescaut* for the first time for The Royal Opera. The Puccini operas that he has previously conducted for The Royal Opera include *Tosca*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La fanciulla del West* and *Il trittico*.

Latvian soprano **Kristīne Opolais** sings the role of the hedonistic and impressionable Manon Lescaut. She was critically acclaimed as Madama Butterfly in 2011 in her Royal Opera debut and her interpretation of this very different Puccini heroine will be equally powerful. German tenor **Jonas Kaufmann** adds another new role to his repertory at Covent Garden singing her devoted lover Des Grieux, while British baritone **Christopher Maltman** sings the role of her roguish and cynical brother Lescaut.

Kent's striking interpretation of this drama of a young girl who faces temptation in the big city will resonate with many of today's audiences, and illustrate that Manon's story is still relevant in our own times. The score includes some of Puccini's most memorable arias, including Des Grieux's ardent 'Donna non vidi mai' and Manon's nostalgic 'In quelle trine morbide'.

Conductor	Antonio Pappano
Director	Jonathan Kent
Designs	Paul Brown
Lighting design	Mark Henderson
Movement	Denni Sayers

Royal Opera Chorus
Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

CASTING

Manon Lescaut	Kristine Opolais
Chevalier des Grieux	Jonas Kaufmann
Lescaut	Christopher Maltman
Geronte di Ravoir	Maurizio Muraro
Edmondo	Benjamin Hulett
Dancing Master	Robert Burt
Singer	Nadezhda Karyazina*
Lamplighter	Luis Gomes*
Naval Captain	Jeremy White
Sergeant (Act III)	Jihoon Kim**

* Jette Parker Young Artist

** Jette Parker Principal

Insights: *Manon Lescaut*, Tuesday 27 May at 7.30pm

Discover more about this masterpiece of 19th-century Italian opera with the cast and production team.

Clare Studio Upstairs – Tickets £17/Students £7

QUARTETT

NEW PRODUCTION

Linbury Studio Theatre

Luca Francesconi

CAST A: 18, 20, 23, 25 and 27 June at 7.45pm

CAST B: 19, 21, 24, 26 June at 7.45pm, 28 June at 5pm

- A co-production between The Royal Opera, Opéra de Rouen and London Sinfonietta

Luca Francesconi, one of today's leading Italian composers, has created an epic musical canvas for Heiner Müller's intimate play *Quartett*, set in a bunker at the end of time. Two characters from *Les Liaisons dangereuses* are trapped in cycles of gratification and game-playing which lead remorselessly to tragedy. *Quartett* was originally composed for La Scala, Milan.

This new production is by **John Fulljames**, Associate Director of Opera for The Royal Opera, and designed by Olivier Award-winning designer **Soutra Gilmour**. **Andrew Gourlay** conducts, in his Royal Opera debut. Gourlay was recently chosen by *Gramophone* magazine as their 'One to Watch', and by *BBC Music Magazine* as one of their 'Rising Stars: great artists of tomorrow'. The two virtuosic singing roles are double-cast, with the singers accompanied by the London Sinfonietta, mixed live with recorded samples of a vast symphony orchestra and chorus.

Cast A features American mezzo-soprano **Kirstin Chávez** opposite British baritone **Leigh Melrose**, both making their debuts with The Royal Opera, singing the roles of Merteuil and Valmont respectively. Cast B sees Norwegian mezzo-soprano **Angelica Voje** make her Royal Opera debut, singing the role of Merteuil opposite British baritone **Mark Stone**, who returns to The Royal Opera having sung the role of Lord Mountjoy (*Gloriana*) here in the 2012/13 Season.

Conductor	Andrew Gourlay
Director	John Fulljames
Set and costume designs	Soutra Gilmour
Video designs	Ravi Deepres
Lighting designs	Bruno Poet
Sound projection	Sound Intermedia

CASTING

Marquise de Merteuil	Kirstin Chávez (Cast A) Angelica Voje (Cast B)
Vicomte de Valmont	Leigh Melrose (Cast A) Mark Stone (Cast B)

Insights: *Theatre of Sound*, Saturday 21 June at 2pm

A complete guide to sound replication and recording, and to how composers use this ever-developing technology in their work. Join **Sound Intermedia** as they explore the history of sound design from its inception to the present day. A unique opportunity not to be missed!

Linbury Studio Theatre – Tickets £17/Students £7

ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

Richard Strauss

25, 30 June and 3, 10 July at 7.30pm and 13 July at 7pm

6 July Concert Performance at the Birmingham Symphony Hall at 3pm

- **Generous philanthropic support from Hélène and Jean Peters, Hamish and Sophie Forsyth and The Maestro's Circle**

Myth and mischief, high art and low collide in Richard Strauss's fascinating romantic comedy, which contains some of the composer's most beautiful music. **Christof Loy's** inventive 2002 production marked the start of **Antonio Pappano's** tenure as Music Director of The Royal Opera. Over a decade later, Pappano returns to this opera, one of three Strauss operas during The Royal Opera's 2013/14 Season performed to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth.

The cast is lead by Finnish soprano **Karita Mattila** in her role debut as Prima Donna/Ariadne, following her much-praised return to The Royal Opera as Marie (*Wozzeck*) earlier this Season. Her previous Strauss roles for The Royal Opera have included Chrysothemis (*Elektra*) and the title role in *Arabella*. Canadian soprano **Jane Archibald** brings her stratospheric coloratura to the virtuoso role of Zerbinetta, making her debut at Covent Garden in a role for which she has been acclaimed worldwide. Romanian mezzo-soprano **Ruxandra Donose** sings the Composer, having previously sung the role at Deutsche Oper Berlin, while German-

Italian tenor **Roberto Saccà**, takes on the dramatic role of Tenor/Bacchus. Roberto Saccà has recently sung the famously demanding role at Hamburg State Opera as well as at the Salzburg Festival. British baritone **Thomas Allen** returns to the role of Music Master, which he created in 2002.

Conductor	Antonio Pappano
Director	Christof Loy
Designs	Herbert Muraucr
Lighting	Jennifer Tipton
Choreographer	Beate Vollack

Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

CASTING

Prima Donna /Ariadne	Karita Mattila
Tenor/Bacchus	Roberto Saccà
Zerbinetta	Jane Archibald
Composer	Ruxandra Donose
Harlequin	Markus Werba
Scaramuccio	Wynne Evans
Brighella	Paul Schweinester
Truffaldino	Jeremy White
Naiad	Sofia Fomina
Dryad	Karen Cargill
Echo	Kiandra Howarth*
Music Master	Thomas Allen
Dancing Master	Ed Lyon
Wig Maker	Ashley Riches*
Lackey	Jihoon Kim**
Officer	David Butt Philip*
Major Domo	Christoph Quest

* Jette Parker Young Artist

** Jette Parker Principal

Insights: *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Thursday 12 June at 7.30pm

Antonio Pappano and members of the cast and creative team divulge everything you need to know to get the most out of Strauss's dazzling opera.

Clare Studio Upstairs – Tickets £17/Students £7

MARIA STUARDA

NEW PRODUCTION

Gaetano Donizetti

5 July at 7pm and 8, 11, 14, 16, 18 July at 7.30pm

- **A co-production with the Gran Teatre del Liceu, Barcelona, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris, and Polish National Opera.**
- **Generous philanthropic support from Lord and Lady Laidlaw and Michael Hartnall**
- ***Maria Stuarda* will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 on 14 July 2014 at 7.15pm**

One of the leading *bel canto* singers of her generation, **Joyce DiDonato** sings the role of Mary, Queen of Scots, the ill-fated heroine of Donizetti's historical drama, for the first time at Covent Garden. She has previously sung this role to acclaim at the Metropolitan Opera, New York. This is a new production by **Moshe Leiser** and **Patrice Caurier**, who have also directed Rossini's *bel canto* comedies *La Cenerentola*, *Il turco in Italia* and *Il barbiere di Siviglia* for The Royal Opera, as well as The Royal Opera's acclaimed production of *Madama Butterfly*. They are working with their regular designers, **Christian Fenouillat** (sets), **Agostino Cavalca** (costumes) and **Christophe Forey** (lighting) to create a production with both historical and contemporary resonances. French conductor **Bertrand de Billy** conducts.

Italian soprano **Carmen Giannattasio**, who sang the role of Mimì (*La bohème*) at Covent Garden in 2011, returns to The Royal Opera to sing Elizabeth I, Mary's jealous cousin and rival for the love of Robert, Earl of Leicester. The opera, with libretto by Giuseppe Bardi, is based on a play by Schiller, and gives a highly sympathetic portrayal of Mary Queen of Scots in her last days. Central to the dramatic tension of the opera is the fictional confrontation between Queen

Elizabeth I and Mary Stuart, invented by Schiller. Spanish tenor **Ismael Jordi** makes his Royal Opera debut as Robert, Earl of Leicester. Jordi's previous roles have included Edgardo (*Lucia di Lammermoor*) in Amsterdam, Zürich and Dresden; Riccardo Percy (*Anna Bolena*) in Frankfurt, and Carlo (*Linda di Chamounix*) and Hoffmann (*Les Contes d'Hoffmann*) in Barcelona. Former Young Artist British bass **Matthew Rose** will sing the role of Talbot alongside British baritone **Jeremy Carpenter** as Lord Cecil and British mezzo-soprano **Kathleen Wilkinson** as Anna Kennedy.

Conductor	Bertrand de Billy
Directors	Moshe Leiser and Patrice Caurier
Set designs	Christian Fenouillat
Costume designs	Agostino Cavalca
Lighting design	Christophe Forey

Royal Opera Chorus
Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

CASTING

Maria (Mary, Queen of Scots)	Joyce DiDonato
Elisabetta (Elizabeth I)	Carmen Giannattasio
Roberto (Robert, Earl of Leicester)	Ismael Jordi
Lord Cecil	Jeremy Carpenter
Giorgio Talbot	Matthew Rose
Anna Kennedy	Kathleen Wilkinson

Insights: *Maria Stuarda*, Tuesday 10 June at 7.30pm

Come and find out more about the feud between Mary, Queen of Scots, and Elizabeth I, and about Donizetti's rarely performed historical opera, with members of the cast and production team.

Clore Studio Upstairs – Tickets £17/Students £7

LA BOHÈME

Giacomo Puccini

CAST A: 7, 13 July at 12 noon

9 July at 7.30pm

19 July at 2pm

CAST B: 12, 15, 17, 19 July at 7.30pm

- **Original production (1974) supported by The Linbury Trust**

La bohème is currently the most performed work in The Royal Opera repertory. Puccini deftly blends comedy, romance and tragedy in his depiction of the life of a group of bohemian artists and their girlfriends in 19th-century Paris. When the idealistic young poet Rodolfo meets the seamstress Mimì it is love at first sight – but the couple's happiness is cruelly blighted by Mimì's tuberculosis.

John Copley's energetic and naturalistic production celebrates its 40th year in The Royal Opera's repertory, and brings the world of these young artists vividly to life, with superb period designs by **Julia Trevelyan Oman**, including the bohemians' shabby garret home, a wonderful re-creation of a bustling Paris square on Christmas Eve and a breathtaking re-creation of a snowy dawn to open Act III. The opera is double cast, with Albanian soprano **Ermonela Jaho** and Romanian soprano **Angela Gheorghiu** sharing the role of Mimì, and American tenor **Charles Castronovo** and Italian tenor **Vittorio Grigolo** sharing the role of Rodolfo. Former Young Artist Romanian soprano **Simona Mihai** and Russian soprano **Irina Lungu**, and Italian baritone **Massimo Cavalletti** and Austrian baritone **Markus Werba** will share the roles of bohemian lovers, Musetta and Marcello respectively.

German conductor **Cornelius Meister** makes his Royal Opera debut with Puccini's brilliant score. Musical highlights include Rodolfo's ardent 'Che gelida manina', Mimì's 'Mi chiamano Mimì', the couple's passionate duet 'O soave fanciulla' and the moving final scene, full of tender reminiscences of the couple's first meeting.

Conductor	Cornelius Meister
Director	John Copley
Designs	Julia Trevelyan Oman
Lighting design	John Charlton

Royal Opera Chorus
Orchestra of the Royal Opera House

CASTING

Mimì	Ermonela Jaho (Cast A and July 17) Angela Gheorghiu (Cast B exc July 17)
Rodolfo	Charles Castronovo (Cast A and July 17) Vittorio Grigolo (Cast B exc July 17)
Marcello	Markus Werba (Cast A) Massimo Cavalletti (Cast B)
Musetta	Simona Mihai (Cast A) Irina Lungu (Cast B)
Schaunard	Daniel Grice (Cast A) Lauri Vasar (Cast B)
Colline	Jongmin Park (Cast A) Gábor Bretz (Cast B)
Benoit	Jeremy White
Alcindoro	Donald Maxwell

MOSES UND ARON

Welsh National Opera
Arnold Schoenberg

25, 26 July at 7.30pm

A thrilling production of Schoenberg's rarely performed *Moses und Aron* marks the beginning of a three-year artistic partnership between Welsh National Opera and the Royal Opera House that will see WNO present some of their most enticing productions at Covent Garden.

Moses und Aron is performed here for the first time since 1965, conducted by WNO Music Director **Lothar Koenigs** following his acclaimed interpretations of Berg's *Lulu* and *Wozzeck* for WNO. British bass **John Tomlinson** and German tenor **Rainer Trost** take the title roles in a production that amplifies resonances of this profound Biblical story with our own time.

Moses is desperate to communicate the word of God, but despair prevents him. When Moses's brother Aron speaks for him, the message is twisted and God's will distorted. The orgiastic excess of the Dance Around the Golden Calf and the aftermath of betrayal are only two of the striking elements that make *Moses und Aron* such a powerful study of the tragedy of inarticulacy and the dangers of eloquence.

Moses und Aron begins its run in the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff on 24 May, before moving to the Birmingham Hippodrome on 18 Jun, and the Royal Opera House on 25 July.

Conductor	Lothar Koenigs
Directors	Jossi Wieler and Sergio Morabito
Designs	Anna Viebrock
Original lighting design	Michael Alber

CASTING

Moses	John Tomlinson
Aron	Rainer Trost
A Young Maiden/ First Naked Virgin	Elizabeth Atherton
A Young Man	Alexander Sprague
Another Man/Ephraimite	Daniel Grice
A Priest	David Soar
Sick Woman/ Fourth Naked Virgin	Rebecca Afonwy-Jones

MUSICAL RUMPUS: THE MOUNTAIN SHAKERS

SPITALFIELDS MUSIC

Linbury Studio Theatre

17 June at 1pm and 3.30pm, 18 June at 11am, 1pm and 3.30pm

- **Supported by Arts Council England, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Royal Victoria Hall Foundation and Youth Music**

Musical Rumpus: The Mountain Shakers is a re-imagining of Handel's idyllic pastoral opera, *Acis and Galatea*, arranged especially for the youngest of ears (0–2 years) who are taken on an interactive, multi-sensory journey through a mysterious world of giants and mountains, sounds and colours. *The Mountain Shakers* is the fourth in Spitalfields Music's Musical Rumpus series, designed to create early experience of opera and adventure.

Director	Zoë Palmer
Arranger and Musical Director	Sam Glazer
Designer	Sophia Lovell Smith

CASTING

Musicians from the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

Musicians from Genesis Sixteen programme

GLORIA - A PIG TALE

HK Gruber | Libretto by Rudolf Herfurtner, English translation by Amanda Holden

MAHOGANY OPERA GROUP

Linbury Studio Theatre

16, 17, 18 July at 7.45pm and 19 July at 5pm

- **Co-produced by Mahogany Opera Group, Bregenz Festival and Buxton Festival**
- **Supported by Arts Council England, John S. Cohen Foundation, Fidelio Charitable Trust, J. Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Foundation and The Boltini Trust.**

Gloria is a lonely pig looking for love. Along her journey she encounters some curious events and animals – a yodelling chorus line of frogs, blues-singing cows, star-struck Hollywood sausages and a Nuremburg-style rally in a pigsty. She falls for a disguised butcher and is about to get the chop when Rodrigo the wild boar saves her and they live happily ever after. Except that Rodrigo is not happy stuck in a marriage with kids...

Artistic Director of Mahogany Opera Group **Frederic Wake-Walker's** production sets this darkly comic opera in a butcher's shop-cum-burlesque theatre, drawing on HK Gruber's

zany cabaret style and satirical humour. The cast is lead by Canadian soprano **Gillian Keith** in the title role of Gloria, who has previously sung the roles of Tytania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the Linbury Studio Theatre, and Zerbinetta in *Ariadne Auf Naxos* on the main stage in 2008. Performances will be conducted by former Jette Parker Young Artist **Geoffrey Paterson**.

Conductor	Geoffrey Paterson
Director	Frederic Wake-Walker
Designs	Mamoru Iriguchi
Lighting designs	Cis O'Boyle

CHROMA ensemble

CASTING

Gloria	Gillian Keith
Solo Pig	Jessica Walker
Gerhard	Andrew Dickinson
Farmer	Charles Rice
Rodrigo	Sion Goronwy

JETTE PARKER YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER

PERFORMANCE

20 July at 2pm

- **Generously supported by Oak Foundation**

The Jette Parker Young Artists' main stage summer performance is specially devised to show the talents of these young stars. The performance will be staged by the Programme's stage director **Greg Eldridge** and performed with the **WNO Orchestra**, conducted by the Jette Parker Young Artist conductors **Paul Wingfield** and **Michele Gamba**. Taking part will be Serbian soprano **Dušica Bijelić**, Armenian Soprano **Anush Hovhannisyan** and Australian soprano **Kiandra Howarth**, Russian mezzo-soprano **Nadezhda Karyazina** and Irish mezzo-soprano **Rachel Kelly**, British tenor **David Butt Philip** and Portuguese tenor **Luis Gomes**, and Brazillian baritone **Michel de Souza** and British baritone **Ashley**

Riches, with a guest appearance by South Korean bass (Jette Parker Principal) **Jihoon Kim**. The programme will consist of the first acts of Donizetti's rarely performed *La Favorite* and Mozart's sparkling *Così fan tutte*.

La Favorite is a bold, dark story about hypocrisy and judgement; about the allure of love and the dangers of falling too far, too fast, for an idea of what another person could be rather than what they really are.

Mozart's *Così fan tutte* approaches the same ideas of fidelity, judgement and love, but in a very different, humorous way. **David Syrus**, Head of Music for The Royal Opera, will provide harpsichord continuo for *Così fan tutte*, Act I.

Conductor (<i>La Favorite</i> , Act I)	Paul Wingfield
Conductor (<i>Così fan tutte</i> , Act I)	Michele Gamba
Director	Greg Eldridge
Lighting design	Edward Armitage

Orchestra of WNO

CASTING

***La Favorite*, Act I**

Leonor	Nadezhda Karyazina
Fernand	Luis Gomes
Balthazar	Jihoon Kim**
Ines	Anush Hovhannisyan

***Così fan tutte* Act I**

Fiordiligi	Kiandra Howarth
Dorabella	Rachel Kelly
Ferrando	David Butt Philip
Guglielmo	Michel de Souza
Don Alfonso	Ashley Riches
Despina	Duška Bijelić
Continuo	David Syrus

** Jette Parker Principal

LUNCHTIME RECITALS AND EVENTS

BIG SING FRIDAYS

TICKETS £5

Paul Hamlyn Hall

25 April at 1pm

20 June at 1pm

Big Sing Fridays are one-hour lunchtime taster sessions, which give members of the public the opportunity to sing alongside The Royal Opera's music staff and guest artists in the Paul Hamlyn Hall at the Royal Opera House. Each session will be led by a different conductor – the most recent session was led by the dynamic Dominic Peckham, Assistant Music Director of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain.

For more information: www.roh.org.uk/functions/big-sing-fridays

TEA DANCE

TICKETS £11

Paul Hamlyn Hall

2 May at 1pm

13 June at 1pm

4 July at 1pm

We continue to celebrate the days when the Royal Opera House was one of the most popular dance venues in London. Our Tea Dances take place throughout the season in the Paul Hamlyn Hall and give you the opportunity to waltz, tango, cha cha cha and quickstep to the Royal Opera Dance Band.

For more information: www.roh.org.uk/functions/tea-dance

MONDAY LUNCHTIME RECITALS

FREE TICKETED EVENT

Crush Room, Paul Hamlyn Hall and Linbury Studio Theatre

12, 19 May at 1pm

2, 9, 16, 30 June at 1pm

7, 14 July at 1pm

The popular series of free Monday lunchtime recitals continues. Members of the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Royal Opera Chorus and the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme, with guest artists, present a range of song recitals and chamber music. **For more information:** www.roh.org.uk/recitals

Monday 12 May 2014 at 1pm – Crush Room

Jette Parker Young Artists Programme recital

Paul Wingfield, *piano*

Michele Gamba, *piano*

Programme to include works for piano solo and piano duo

Monday 19 May 2014 at 1pm – Paul Hamlyn Hall

Director's workshop

Greg Eldridge, *stage director*

The Jette Parker Young Artist Stage Director explores the craft of the stage director, with singers from the Jette Parker Young Artists Programme.

Monday 2 June 2014 at 1pm – Crush Room

Maggie Teyte Prizewinner's Concert

tba, *soprano*

tba, *piano*

A French song recital programme performed by the winning soprano of this year's Maggie Teyte Competition.

Monday 9 June 2014 at 1pm – Crush Room

Jette Parker Young Artists Programme

Dušica Bijelić, *soprano*

David Gowland, *piano*

Programme to be announced.

Monday 16 June 2014 at 1pm – Crush Room

John Payne, *clarinet*

Ania Safonova, *violin*

Kirsten Schlomowitz, *violin*

Andriy Viytovych, *viola*

Naomi Williams, *cello*

Stephen Bettaney, *piano*

Schnittke Piano Quintet

Bartók *Contrasts*

Monday 30 June 2014 at 1pm – Paul Hamlyn Hall

Paul Wingfield, *conductor*

Michele Gamba, *conductor*

Michel de Souza, *baritone*

Tba, *oboe*

Southbank Sinfonia

Richard Strauss Oboe Concerto

Mahler *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*

Monday 7 July 2014 at 1pm – Linbury Studio Theatre

Yuval Zorn, *piano*

Barber *Excursions* op.20,

Beethoven *Sechs Bagatellen* op.126

Works by Adler and Debussy

Monday 14 July 2014 at 1pm – Crush Room

Members of the Royal Opera Chorus and guest Cheryl Knight perform numbers by

Noel Coward, Cole Porter and George Gershwin

Marianne Cotterill, *soprano*

Kate McCarney, *mezzo-soprano*

George Freeburn, *baritone*

Cheryl Knight

PRESS OFFICE CONTACTS

Ann Richards

Head of Opera Press

Tel: 020 7212 9132

ann.richards@roh.org.uk

Ruth Greenwood

Opera Press and Communications Officer

Tel: 020 7212 9731

ruth.greenwood@roh.org.uk

David Brownlie-Marshall

Opera Press and Communications Officer

Tel: 020 7212 9504

david.brownlie-marshall@roh.org.uk

Celia Moran

Opera Press Assistant

Tel: 020 7212 9149

celia.moran@roh.org.uk