



MARCH 2014

**Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus  
performs at the Brandenburg Choral Festival in  
St Clement Danes Church, Strand, London**

**Saturday 26 April at 7.30pm  
Tickets £18, children £5  
Box Office 020 7766 1100**

The **Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus** takes part in the **Brandenburg Choral Festival** on **Saturday 26 April** in a concert entitled **Community Contrasts** at **St Clements Danes Church** in the **Strand, London**.

After their great success in the Voices Now Festival at the Roundhouse in Camden last year, the Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus returns to London at the invitation of the prestigious Brandenburg Choral Festival to perform alongside some of the leading choirs from around Britain. They are joined in this performance by Original Sing, the award-winning Bristol-based, 11-piece vocal group celebrated for their complexity and depth.

The programme for the concert includes opera choruses from *Dido and Aeneas* by Purcell, *Idomeneo* by Mozart and the rousing *Dies irae* from Verdi's *Requiem*. The Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus

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will perform Verdi's *Requiem* in July at the High House Production Park, Purfleet.

The concert also features the London premiere of *The Purfleet Chorus*, taken from *Ludd and Isis: The Purfleet Opera*, written by **Richard Taylor** (music) and **Stephen Plaice** (lyrics) to celebrate the opening of the Royal Opera House Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop in Purfleet in 2010. The success of *Ludd and Isis* led to the creation of the Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus which now has 140 members from across Thurrock. 80 members will perform in the Brandenburg Choral Festival.

**Jeremy Haneman**, Conductor of the Royal Opera House Thurrock Community Chorus said: 'We are so looking forward to performing as part of the prestigious Brandenburg Choral Festival which goes from strength to strength every year. To be invited to take part in the Brandenburg Choral Festival just three years after we started shows just how far we've come in a really short space of time and is recognition of the excellence that the Chorus has achieved. I feel really privileged to be directing a community chorus which is so passionate about the music and sings at such a very high level.'

The Brandenburg Choral Festival is London's biggest and widest ranging annual choral celebration for amateur choirs. The Festival opens at the end of December and runs through to May offering an extraordinary variety of choral concerts.

Tickets for the concert are available from the Festival Box Office on 020 7766 1100. Tickets £18, children £5. Please go to [www.brandenburg.org.uk](http://www.brandenburg.org.uk) for more information.

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## CONTACTS

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### Notes for Editors

#### **Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock**

Royal Opera House Learning and Participation in Thurrock has been offering innovative and creative projects and programmes in schools, colleges and across communities in the Thames Gateway for the past six years. In 2010, more than 1000 people from Thurrock, young and old, took part in creating and performing the spectacular Purfleet Opera: *Ludd and Isis*, the third large scale ROH performance created with communities in Thurrock. As a result of this work a Thurrock Community Chorus has been created with over 140 members of all ages. For further information, please go to:

[www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/community-chorus](http://www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/community-chorus). RM19, a new Youth Chorus for 11-25 year olds was started in 2012:

[www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/rm19-youth-singing-group](http://www.roh.org.uk/learning/learning-in-thurrock/rm19-youth-singing-group).

Public and educational tours of the state-of-the-art Bob and Tamar Manoukian Production Workshop where the sets and scenery for the Royal Opera House stage in Covent Garden are built are now available. Please go to [www.roh.org.uk/visit/tours/thurrock-tours](http://www.roh.org.uk/visit/tours/thurrock-tours) for further details.

The High House Production Park is supported by a unique partnership including Arts Council England, Creative & Cultural Skills, the Royal Opera House and Thurrock Council: [www.highhouseproductionpark.co.uk](http://www.highhouseproductionpark.co.uk)