



GARSINGTON OPERA  
AT WORMSLEY

**CREATE AN OPERA AT CRESSEX COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
HIGH WYCOMBE**

Over ninety students from years 7 to 10 from Cressex Community School are working with a team from Garsington Opera Learning & Participation and Rambert, Britain's leading dance company, on the project *Create an Opera* based on Haydn's famous oratorio *The Creation*. It will culminate in two performances on Wednesday 9 December, the first to pupils from Cressex and the second to parents and teachers. The project runs from 1 – 9 December and is funded by Garsington Opera and La Fondation Terrévent.

The professional team including director Karen Gillingham, composer and jazz musician Pete Letanka, cellist Jane Fenton, singer Robert Gildon, designer Ruth Paton and Rambert choreographer Deborah Galloway will run a series of workshops with different groups from the school, including a chorus, their Steel Pan group, dancers and students of art and design. Students will explore the many different elements that are involved in performance, including vocal work, composition, dance, drama and design, thus equipping them with the basic tools needed to devise and present their own 'mini' production – a blend of composition and adapted excerpts from Haydn's *The Creation* devised by the pupils themselves. Radio Producer Pippa Sawyer from Wycombe Sound & Curly Radio will be recording aspects of the work and it will be broadcast later in the month.

The participating students will visit Garsington Opera to see a rehearsal of *The Creation*, a collaboration between Garsington Opera and Rambert, that is part of the summer season that runs from 3 June to 17 July.

Garsington Opera Learning & Participation are working towards a large scale People's Opera – *Silver Birch* which will be performed by professional singers together with community and children's choruses, on the main stage at Wormsley during the 2017 season. Auditions for local participants will be advertised.

[www.garsingtonopera.org](http://www.garsingtonopera.org)

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**PRESS RELEASE**