



GARSINGTON OPERA
AT WORMSLEY

**GRANT FUNDING AWARDED TO TAKE GARSINGTON OPERA'S EDUCATION
WORK AND DIGITAL SCREENINGS ON TOUR TO COSTAL COMMUNITIES**

Garsington Opera is delighted to announce that it has been commissioned by Arts Council England in partnership with East Lindsey District Council to deliver an exciting programme of free opera throughout the country.

Arts Council England has approved £750,000 for the Opera for All programme which will deliver free public screenings, together with extensive education projects, from Garsington Opera. The screenings will take place in the North, South East, South West and Midlands, including East Lindsey. A large-scale programme of education and outreach work is firmly integrated with the digital free public screenings and will provide ground breaking opportunities for communities to be involved in creating and learning about opera.

The project will be delivered through members of the Coastal Communities Alliance (CCA), which has identified areas of low engagement with the arts for the project to target, remaining a key strategic partner for the delivery of the programme. The project will establish a new network of touring partners through the Coastal Communities Alliance in areas with little existing access to live performance, enabling high quality art to continue to be presented in these regions after the initial three-year period.

In 2012, Offenbach's *La Périchole* was broadcast live to Skegness from Garsington Opera, with Sir Terry Wogan as compere. Following this success, in 2013 the SO Festival presented a relay of Humperdinck's *Hänsel and Gretel* and in 2014 Offenbach's *Vert-Vert*, both from Garsington Opera. Educational projects took place in support of these free screenings.

Douglas Boyd, Artistic Director said:

"We are thrilled that Arts Council England is supporting the Opera for All project, which will be delivered in partnership with East Lindsey District Council and the Coastal Communities Alliance. To be able to reach new audiences through extensive education work and free opera screenings in areas that have limited engagement with the arts is vital and will have an enormous impact in the various communities who will participate in the project, as well as for access to opera and the arts nationwide.

This news comes at an exciting time in Garsington Opera's development as we continue to strive for the very highest quality of production and performance in our award-winning new opera house at Wormsley. We are passionate about sharing our work with the widest possible audience and both this project and the continued work of our brilliant education team clearly demonstrates that what we do off the platform is as important as what we do on it.

www.garsingtonopera.org
www.operaforall.org

PRESS ENQUIRIES CLARE ADAMS 0779 3556103 clare@garsingtonopera.org
17 December 2014

PRESS RELEASE