



# LET'S PUT ON A SHOW

In aid of the Opera Minor Education Outreach Scheme  
a Capital Arts community based project which supports music in schools

**Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
2025**

**7.30**

**St. Paul's Covent  
Garden**

**Mared Pugh-Evans official harpist to His Majesty The King**

London Cantamusica Soloists

Capital Arts Children's Choir \* Angelis

Introducing the Potters Bar Opera Minor Chorus and Stage Stars

*Children from primary, prep schools & Jigsaw Arts Theatre School and Agency*

Produced and directed by Kathleen Shanks [capitalarts.org.uk](http://capitalarts.org.uk)

Grant aided by Hertsmere Borough Council and Young Guns Event Company

Gift aided by Laurice Rahmé, founder and owner of Bond No9 perfume New York



**£3.00**



# PROGRAMME

Hush-A-Bye Mountain	Richard & Robert Sherman arr: Andy Beck Angelis
A Million Dreams	Benj Pasek & Justin Paul Angelis & Opera Minor Chorus
Erd digan	Gareth Glyn Mared Pugh-Evans
Greensleeves	16 <sup>th</sup> century anon Angelis with soloists Alex, Amber, Daisy, Madison
The Ants Go Marching In	Patrick Gilmore Opera Minor Stars
The Pig	Roald Dahl Anees Kaderbhoy
Wind Beneath My Wings	Jeff Silbar & Larry Henley London Cantamusica
Hiraeth	Grace Williams Mared Pugh-Evans
Songs from Oliver Who Will Buy? Where Is Love? As Long As He Needs Me Consider Yourself At Home Oom Pah Pah Accompanist Orlando Byron	Lionel Bart Angelis, London Cantamusica Justin, Raphael, Henry, Christopher, Shaylan, Louis, Zachary, Kerem, Arthur, Paul, Noah Sara Feldmann Brummer Anees Kaderbhoy & Chorus Sara Feldmann Brummer & Chorus

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## INTERVAL

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Serva Me	Kathleen E Shanks Sara, Charlotte, Marika, Paul
Ukrainian Lullaby	Traditional Valentina Venjega
Winnie The Pooh	Richard and Robert Sherman Opera Minor Stars with actor Anees Kaderbhoy
German folk song	There's A Hole In My Bucket Sara Feldmann Brummer & Tim Benton
Water Of Tyne	Traditional arr: Michael Neaum Angelis & Mared Pugh-Evans
Ave Maria	Giulio Caccini London Cantamusica
Soul Of A Child	Kathleen Shanks Esme, Florentina, Leanne, Merryn
Rhapsodie	Marcel Grandjany Mared Pugh-Evans
Go The Distance	Alan Menken Full Cast

*We welcome here tonight*

Councillor Terry Douris, Chair of Hertfordshire County Council  
Councillor Parveen Rani, Deputy Mayor of Hertsmeare Borough Council



# CAPITAL ARTS

capitalarts.org.uk

Capital Arts Performing Arts Company was founded in 1989 by its Artistic Director, Kathleen Shanks.

## Capital Arts Children’s Choir

The Capital Arts Children’s Choir is a world-class children’s choir with an international reputation. The choir’s extensive biography of recitals, concerts, operas, West End musicals, radio and TV performances, films and international tours, makes it the busiest and one of the most successful children’s choirs in the UK with an unequalled biography of professional performances. The choir’s ease with all genres of music makes Capital Arts a natural choice for musicians and promoters. Rehearsals are held at the Marylebone Studios, London on Saturday afternoons and at the Wylllyotts Theatre, Potters Bar on Friday evenings and Sundays.

## Angelic Voices

Angelic Voices is a highly trained, talented group of soloists from the Capital Arts Children's Choir. Angelic Voices has given numerous recitals in this country and abroad, most recently in New York. Angelic Voices made its TV debut as top billing soloists at a 'Voice In A Million' concert at the O2 Arena, London. In December 2024 Angelic Voices gave a recital at Earl Spencer’s London Home, Spencer House. Rehearsals are held on Saturdays at the Marylebone Music Studios.

## Angelis

Cast as a professional children’s choir in 2007 by Simon Cowell, Angelis is a talented group of soloists from the Capital Arts Children’s Choir and children chosen through national auditions. Angelis has featured on the Paul Potts tour with a performance on GMTV and has backed soloists on Britain’s Got Talent.

*Valentina Venjega, Florentina Frowein, Tabitha Byron, Amber Hargreaves, Merryn Campbell Chandra, Annabelle Carmichael, Esme Roberts, Leanne Ashcroft, Madison Kent, Alexis Hill, Daisy English, Eliza Rincon*

## Music Theatre & Film Faculty

Starting in May 2025 Capital Arts is expanding its music theatre class to include film work. The children will be performing in a full stage production of Doomwatch Castle, filming the musical and recording a cast CD at the famous Abbey Road Studios. Rehearsals are held at the Marylebone Studios, London on Saturday afternoons and at the Wylllyotts Theatre, Potters Bar on Friday evenings and Sundays.

## Opera Capital Arts

Founded in 2015, Opera Capital Arts is a freelance professional Opera Company. Soloists are booked from the major London Opera Companies with London Cantamusica as the main chorus and the Capital Arts Children’s Choir as the children’s chorus.

## London Cantamusica

Founded in November 2014, London Cantamusica is a professional choir. It has an ad hoc schedule of rehearsals, linked to performances, productions and recordings. Rehearsals are held on Saturday afternoons in Covent Garden. The choir gives its own recitals in London and has a busy programme of recordings at the Abbey Road Studios.

*Sara Feldmann Brummer, Marika Rauscher, Charlotte Tudor, Paul King, Tim Benton, James Reynolds*

## Opera Minor Education Outreach Scheme

Capital Arts has run an education outreach scheme since 2002. It is based at the Wylllyotts Theatre, Potters Bar. Opera Minor gives performance opportunities to Hertfordshire children by working in tandem with local schools as a community project. Opera Minor provides an experience that no one school can match within a normal timetable. It is without charge and therefore the scheme is open to every child who has an interest, irrespective of social background. Funding for the Opera Minor Scheme comes from grants, sponsorship and fund-raising concerts.

## Music Director

Kathleen Shanks

## Choir Accompanist

Orlando Byron

## Film Director

Elena Kurgan

## Chaperones

Mai Anh Lam

Amanda Hargreaves

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## Major Stage Shows and Operas

Stage Director & Drama: Pedro Ribeiro

Choreographer: Julia Gyulai

Language Répétiteur for operas : Pamela Horsepool



## CAPITAL ARTS OPERA MINOR HIGHLIGHT

200 Hertfordshire children recorded the official children’s London 2012 Olympic Anthem, ‘Gloria In Londinium’, at the Abbey Road Studios. The song was broadcast at the Olympic Stadium and around the world. It featured in an ITV programme on the 2012 Olympics

# OPERA MINOR EDUCATION OUTREACH SCHEME

We welcome children from Potters Bar primary and prep schools  
Potters Bar Jigsaw Arts Theatre School and Agency



## OPERA MINOR CHORUS

Noa Altink  
Paniza Bakhshi  
Bonnie Battley  
Vivien Battley  
Raphael Allen Boyd  
Henry Bunyan  
Holly Carr  
Leila Carter  
Christopher Chesworth  
Shaylan Datta  
Louis Davies  
Violet Dorman  
Zachary Florides  
Isabella Foord  
Azaria Foster  
Angelica Gerald  
Florence Gladman  
Kerem Hassan  
Poppy Holgado  
Sian-Rose Howey  
Daisy Hunter  
Billie Jones  
Arthur Labriola  
Grace Lovelock  
Chloe Lula Cutaj  
Andie McCartney  
Paul Michael  
Cherry Han Nguyen  
Lyla Nunes  
Ayla Pashkaj  
Noah Phillips  
Nadia Rapala  
Isabella Reilly  
Maliyah Reittie  
Isabella Rose Foord  
Lola Stephenson  
Justin Turmalaj  
Natalia Ulph

## OPERA MINOR STARS

Fleur Altink  
Marisa Ashley  
Maya Banikova  
Emma Blageanu  
Cameron Childs  
Leo Florides  
Joseph Gandoflini  
Ruben Goffin  
Mathilde Holly  
Livia Labriola  
Lily Michael  
Nora Ogunniyi  
Alex Patsalou  
Ningthibi Sagolsem  
Nektaria Sarantis  
Idris Shah  
Paras Sukhani

## OLIVER BOYS

Raphael Allen Boyd  
Henry Bunyan  
South Croydon  
Christopher Chesworth  
Esher Shaylan Datta  
Louis Davies  
Zachary Florides  
Kerem Hassan  
£Arthur Labriola  
Paul Michael  
Noah Phillips  
Justin Turmalaj

## ANGELIS

Florentina Frowein, Valentina Venjega, Annabelle Carmichael, Alexis Hill  
Merryn Campbell Chandra, Amber Hargreaves, Eliza Rincon, Esme Roberts  
Leanne Ashcroft, Madison Kemp, Daisy English

Angelis in rehearsal



### Kathleen Shanks

Kathleen received her training at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London. She divides her career between her work as a professional flautist, music director, composer, writer and artistic director of Capital Arts.

As a music director Kathleen has specialised in opera and musicals. Her work has included West End musicals produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber, Cameron Mackintosh and Bill Kenwright, as well as opera work training children’s choruses for the Royal Opera House, Opera Holland Park and Raymond Gubbay Ltd. Children’s chorus work also includes rehearsing the Capital Arts Children’s Choir to perform classical choral works with London choirs and orchestras. Kathleen has conducted at all the major London concert halls for Raymond Gubbay’s Glory of Christmas concerts. Her New York children’s choir performances are sponsored by Laurice Rahmé, founder and owner of Bond No9 perfume, New York.

Kathleen has worked as a music consultant for major record labels including Decca and Sony BMG. Major film work includes assistant music director and composer for the Twentieth Century Fox film *Assassin’s Creed*, starring Jeremy Irons and Michael Fassbender. Her TV work includes *Murder In Suburbia* series 1 and 2, *Britain’s Got Talent* final, *Children in Need* and GMTV. She has performed before royalty on a number of occasions and for state leaders at 10, Downing Street and Chequers. Kathleen’s music, published by the American publishing house, Hal Leonard Corp, is wide ranging. *Soul Of A Child*, performed here tonight, was used by the NSPCC for a TV advert.

Kathleen writes for a number of music publications including *Classical Music* and *Aspire*. She has written plays for children and is currently writing two books, a novel ‘*The Secret Is Ward*’ based on the life of her great, great grandfather, William Ward Tailby, and ‘*Travels With A Choir*’, a history of the Capital Arts Children’s Choir.

Kathleen is delighted to be producing her fifth Opera Minor concert at St. Paul’s. She is grateful to Hertsmere Borough Council, the Young Guns Event Company and Laurice Rahmé for their support in making this concert possible.

## OFFICIAL HARPIST TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

### Mared Emyr Pugh-Evans



Mared Emyr Pugh-Evans is an international prize-winning harpist from Borth, in mid-west Wales. She gained her MA (Performance) degree from the Royal Academy of Music in 2022, where she studied under Karen Vaughan. She also achieved her LRAM whilst studying for her final year and received a DipRAM certificate for her Final Performance. She graduated from RWCMD, Cardiff in 2020 with a First-Class (Honours) Bachelor of Music degree and also achieved her DipABRSM (Instrumental Teaching) certificate and was awarded the 2020 RWCMD Royal Welch Fusiliers Award and the Florence Mary Proctor Scholarship.

Mared is honoured to have been appointed Harpist to His Majesty The King in the Summer of 2024, with her first official engagement happening a few weeks later celebrating 25 years of Y Senedd in Cardiff.

A regular recitalist on both the national and international stage, Mared has won numerous awards for her playing including 6<sup>th</sup>

Place Harp Masters Prize at the USA International Harp Competition, Bloomington in 2022 and Winner of the 2020 Sir Ian Stoutzker £10k Prize for the most outstanding musician at RWCMD.

After graduating from RAM, she was selected as an Open Academy Fellow, the Academy’s Community and Participation department, where her passion for this field of work blossomed. She is proud to not only be a Live Music Now musician but also a musician for Wigmore Hall’s community and participation department: Music for Life.

Most recently she was guest soloist with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra under the baton of composer Patrick Hawes for a performance of his *Highgrove Suite* to a sell-out audience at Norwich Cathedral.





Away from her world of teaching French literature to adults, Pamela is the Capital Arts opera language répétiteur, training the children in French, Italian and German. In March 2025 she taught Italian to the Capital Arts children for a production of *La Bohème* with Ellen Kent Opera. Pamela is the Loughborough club region representative for the International Soroptimist Organisation, and, as a member of the Wysall Arts Group, she exhibits and sells her water colours. Her music life includes a piano diploma and membership of the Leicester Philharmonic Choir.



Orlando is a singer, accompanist, composer and lecturer. He studied ethnomusicology at SOAS, specialising in Japanese music, received his MA Musical Theatre Composition (hon) from Goldsmiths, where he became an Associate Lecturer. As a composer, he has been a member of the NMI workshop, LA & BML, London. Orlando is Head of Music at NLPAC London



Anees, 13, is a talented actor and dancer with roles in *EastEnders* and *The Night Manager*. He has starred in musicals, won top dance awards, excels in ballet, tap, and street dance, and performs with the Capital Arts Choir at prestigious venues.



Valentina's professional credits include *La Bohème*, Puccini (Richmond Theatre, New Wimbledon Theatre), *Carmen*, Bizet (Richmond Theatre, New Wimbledon Theatre), *Beauty & the Beast* (Ashcroft Theatre Fairfield Halls), *Rapunzel* (Ashcroft Theatre Fairfield Halls), *The Wizard of Oz* (Grove Theatre, Dunstable), *Peter Pan* (Hackney Empire Theatre). Training LAMDA and Capital Arts.

## LONDON CANTAMUSICA SOLOISTS



Sara is a singer and actor, trained at Trinity Laban. Credits include *Cirque d'Hoffmann* (tour), *Uncle Remus* (Hackney Empire), concerts at Barbican, Royal Albert Hall. Don't Tell Mama (NYC) and broadcasts for Classic FM and BBC Radio 1. Current: The Kitchen Quartet, Sabra Swing band.



James currently sings with Sloane Square Choral Society and with London Cantamusica since 2014. He studied jazz piano and singing at the London Centre of Contemporary Music and BA Music at Leeds University. He has composed choral music, and orchestral music for theatre, film and TV. Three solo piano albums available on Spotify, published by BMG. He sings with Queensgate Quartet, playing concerts and weddings.



Tim's Credits: *Sydney Carton*, *Tale of Two Cities*; *Upstairs at the Gatehouse*. *General Glossop*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Union Jack*, *Ballroom: Waterloo East Theatre*. *Prince Philip*, *Fred & Gladys*, *Landor*. *Sid Philips*, *Singin' In The Rain*: Broadway, Catford. *Bing Crosby*, *Christmas Crooners*, toured UK/Ireland. *Alice Springs Officer in The Crown* for Netflix.



Marika is a Global Award-Winning Soprano, that sang the Austrian Anthem for the opening match of the UEFA Women's Euro 2022, has performed at the Royal Opera House and can be heard on multiple Hans Zimmer Hollywood Film Soundtracks.



Paul gained both Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Trinity College of Music and was a prize winner - the first recipient of both the TCM silver medal for voice and the Drapers' Company Scholarship. He has toured nationally and internationally as a tenor soloist in concerts and musicals, and teaches at Mountview.



Having trained at Bird College and Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, Charlotte has worked extensively in musical theatre, film and TV, both here in the UK and overseas. Charlotte is delighted to have been invited back to work with the London Cantamusica.



Recording 'Doomwatch Castle' at Air Edel Studios Marylebone June 2024



Hertsmere Mayor's Civic Reception October 2024

## Performances & Recordings December 2023 to December 2024



Recital for Young Guns Event Company at Earl Spencer's London Home, Spencer House



Capital Arts At Christmas St. Paul's Church Covent Garden December 2023



Victoria & Albert Museum Recital December 2023



New York St. Patrick's Cathedral  
December 2023



New York Bond No9 Perfume Store December 2023  
Recital for media and sponsor, Laurice Rahmé



Première of Song of Mary St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York



La Bohème March 2025 Richmond Theatre rehearsal on stage & publicity photo



Carmen May 2024 New Wimbledon Theatre  
Rehearsal at the Marylebone Studios &  
backstage at the theatre





# CAPITAL ARTS

Marylebone Music Studios  
29, Marylebone Lane W1U 2NQ

Umbrella Rehearsal & Recording Room  
Covent Garden WC2H 8EH

Head Office  
Rehearsal Studios  
Wyllyotts Theatre  
Potters Bar EN6 2HN

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## **CAPITAL ARTS PERFORMANCES & RECORDINGS 2025 TO 2026**

*Inspire to Excellence*

Performance at Disneyland Paris Theatre & Paris Tour

Carmen at New Wimbledon Theatre for Ellen Kent Opera

Carmen at Richmond Theatre for Ellen Kent Opera

Full stage production of Doomwatch Castle

Doomwatch Castle cast recording at the Abbey Road Studios

Cantata Song Of Mary at Leicester Cathedral

### *Christmas Recitals*

Dorchester Hotel for *Planned 2 Perfection*

Spencer House for *Young Guns Event Company*

Victoria and Albert Museum for *Choirs at Christmas*