

Opera Evenings 2023

“What a triumph! The audience were truly enraptured from start to finish. Much happiness all round!”

Lindy O’Hare, Thorington Theatre

“A million thank yous for the amazing performance. It was a highlight in the house’s 110 years of existence.”

Detmar Blow, Hilles House

“I cannot praise you or thank you enough. Everything was perfect. My nephews wrote to say they thought they didn’t like opera but now they love it! So what can I say? Thank you for making my 70th birthday party an evening I shall never forget, and I don’t think any of my guests will ever forget it either. Just fantastic!”

Jill Atcheson, Private Host

“Simply Breathtaking. I can’t tell you what a joy it was to have you here and to have the privilege of hosting Wild Arts in our home.”

Tessa Gifford, Chillington

“I have effusive praise for Opera coming from all directions. Thank you. The programme was brilliant and the acting superb (quite apart from the singing and music!) – a tremendous evening.”

Maundy Todd, Private Host

“Captivating.”

“A perfect musical treat.”

“Another magical evening chez vous, so many thanks for putting it all together so brilliantly.”

“The venue on such a beautiful night was amazing but it was the sheer brilliance of your music making that made the experience so good.”

“We really couldn’t have enjoyed it more, the talent is quite incredible, and the sense of enjoyment palpable. We felt very proud as our guests, who hadn’t a clue what they were in for, enjoyed the evening beyond measure.”

“A fantastic evening – everyone who came was blown away.”

“A stunning performance.”

“Back again! Yet again an absolute joy. More please!”

“There is a dearth of events like this and we are desperately in need.”

“This was opera for the modern age – intimate, refined, and so engaging!”

“A real triumph of timing and ensemble, lovely to listen to and such fun to watch.”

“I hope the rest of your tour goes as well and you are not all completely exhausted by the end. I guess all this brilliant feedback energises you!”

“Left me on a high for days!”

Opera Evenings 2022

“Childerley is still glowing because of the warmth of appreciation following your incredible performance. A million bravis to all the performers and musicians – we loved having you.”

Jocelyn Poulton, Childerley Hall

“That was brilliant! It made so many people happy, people who knew opera and people who’d never seen anything like it! Thank you, thank you, thank you. Rarely has the house been so full and alive!”

Georgina Harding, Hall Farm

“We’ve had so much positive feedback from the audience. On one side there were first-timers (adults, teenagers and quite young children) who’d never been to an opera before and were delighted to find that they could not only follow it, but also found it funny and enjoyed the music and performances. Meanwhile we also had serious operagoers who were just blown away by the quality!”

Alistair Park, Buckinghamshire

“All your troupe were absolutely delightful (both personally and professionally), and we have been basking in endless compliments about the show, with everyone saying they are looking forward to next year. You had better be coming back!”

Jill and Mark Pellew, Burford

“What a great creation: ROH standard out here under the Suffolk trees. Choices spot-on excellent, the quality terrific and the staging exactly right. Anyone in fear of Opera would have been converted!”

“I just wanted to say how wonderful your show at Iscoyd Park was. I simply had the best time: great selection of music, beautifully performed with humour and no little emotion (mostly on my part!)”

“What a magical evening – everything just perfect: a wonderful display of young talent – fabulous singers, five string players par excellence, genius arrangements, and a programme perfectly put-together and presented. It doesn't get any better than that.”

“An absolute joy.”

“It was a privilege to have been there. We travelled home on a cloud.”

“Thank you to the wonderful musicians and spectacular singers for their hard work, creativity and fantastic music. It was such a delight.”

“A marvellous combination of wonderful music, skilful and light-hearted acting, and compelling storytelling.”

“Last night was an absolute delight from beginning to end. We left feeling utterly elated!”

“What a joy to be listening to marvellous singing in such an atmosphere.”

“Stripped of the self-conscious pomp and splendour of the grand opera houses, the music, singing and acting were transporting. A wonderful vision and a wonderful evening.”

“Very talented and just very lovely people. We’ll miss them till next year.”

“Simply magical.”

Opera Evenings (cont.)

“A fabulous evening. Marvellous singers, great arrangements and lovely players. The Fidelio quartet will live long in the memory of all who heard it.”

“Splendid: highly amusing, memorable music, and a wonderful atmosphere – you've pulled it off again! Looking forward to it becoming a regular place in our diaries.”

“Absolutely perfect. We loved every minute.”

“Thank you all from the bottoms of our hearts.”

“My friend looked up at the sky when she was listening to your music and then whispered ‘if heaven is like this, I’m up for being there!’”

“Bloody brilliant.”

Mel Giedroyc

The Elixir of Love 2023

“A wonderful day. Loved all of it. We thought the musicians and singers were brilliant and it was such a lovely and intimate venue! Very special.”

“Great. Amazing. That’s all I have to say.”

“Thank you so much for organising this brilliant event! Even the weather could not spoil it! I had seen the opera before but I enjoyed it so much more with this production – the singers were astonishingly brilliant and funny. Well done all!”

“What a fabulous afternoon! The production was wonderful. Such a treat, thank you. A triumph!”

“An excellent performance! Great singing and acting and music.”

“A quite amazing production.”

“SO successful, SO welcoming, and the production was utterly astonishing.”

“The surroundings were spectacular and musically just fabulous: such commitment and subtle craft. (It all made Glyndebourne look a little second-rate!)”

“I can’t tell you how much we enjoyed the performance. Thank you so so much to all of you. Incredibly high standard of music and voices and I couldn’t have rated it more highly.”

“A triumph of technical direction, musical integrity, vocal brilliance, witty translation and bundles of charm!”

“The show was full of fun and vitality and of course, exceptional singing and playing. What a ‘tonic!!!’”

“Spectacular. Rhyming ‘Vesuvius’ with ‘impecunious’ will forever resonate!”

Così fan tutte 2022

“Bravo to everyone involved. Brilliant performers, beautiful setting. I cannot describe how much we enjoyed ourselves.”

“Just to say how fantastic the performance of *Così fan tutte* was last night. We so enjoyed it and have been talking endlessly. Also that it was in English so for once I could understand what was going on! Superb.”

“A magnificent evening!”

“A wonderful evening. The performance was full of fun, the pace was terrific, and the musicians absolutely top quality. Thank you so much for bringing us so much talent and joy.”

“A rich experience on all fronts. The performance delightful, acoustically remarkably effective, the singers all in consistently good form, with one magic ingredient – I found myself following the action as if it were a play, hanging on word by word.”

“What a gold-mine of an organisation you have come up with – and delivered with such relaxed charm!”

“I wanted to add our huge congratulations to the pile that must be building up. What an incredible achievement!”

“We absolutely loved the show – the perfectly sized orchestral ensemble, the truly beautiful singing (Fiordiligi!) and the clever 1970s staging – I was in heaven from start to finish.”

“A perfect English summer evening.”

“A wonderful, funny, super-high quality production, all the more soul-nourishing because of the environmental ethics.”

“The fabulous cast was a true pleasure and delight to listen to.”

“We had a fantastic evening and loved the feel of the festival – the singers and orchestra were great (such an effective chamber arrangement!), as was the relaxed hospitality and eco-friendly focus. We look forward to watching you grow!”

“Simply marvellous. Congratulations to all!”

“Magic from beginning to end – thank you SO much for creating such an incredibly brilliant written, acted, sung, accompanied, and directed *Così*.”

“Thank you for a wonderful production. So beautifully conducted, played, and sung – we all loved it!”

“We felt very lucky to be there, and perfect weather too!”

“We had a fabulous evening. Thank you so much to all the artists for treating us to such a fantastic show and full marks for the courteous and helpful front of house team!”

“Your ensemble produced a superb sound (balanced, lilting, pure, and refined), while the acting left us head over heels, and sitting in the garden beforehand sipping rosé? Heavenly!

Nothing could have been bettered – stunning singers, brilliant witty production, and a glorious setting. Onwards!”

The Roman River Festival

“Incredible, eclectic, and relaxed. Just perfect. And you can even drink your drink in the pew!”

“Fantastic music, fabulous performers, a range of styles, wonderful friendly atmosphere, excellent education programme. It is getting better year on year and I have been coming since the days of the Whalebone Barn.”

“An excellent festival with first class performers. There really is something for everyone!”

“There are not enough superlatives to describe the music I just had the privilege of hearing!”

“Very classy chamber music-making indeed.”

“Excellent in every respect. Run to perfection.”

“Being so close to the performers is always the best thing about Roman River concerts – they're brilliant, professional, classy, and quite possibly unique.”

“Amazing, inspired programming. Beautiful venues. World class music. (And great value for money!)”

“Friendly atmosphere, great value, just the sort of music I love – and of such consistently high quality!”

“Brilliant. I've recently moved from London, and if this festival was there, I wouldn't have a hope in hell of getting tickets, let alone be able to afford them.”

“An extremely high quality and unusually non-commercial-feeling festival. A real treat to be savoured at the end of summer.”

“Very good performances in more unusual venues at a reasonable price - and with very reasonably priced wines/beers!”

“Superb – so many years in and still managing to improve year on year!”

“Something we are very lucky to have and should be very very proud of.”

“Amazing, wonderful, I might even say sublime.”

“A very good and varied programme. Wonderfully imaginative. It was all very well organised but managed to be cosy and friendly too!”

“We are incredibly lucky to have professional performers of such high calibre and diversity – you are a blazing light for culture and excellence (and great value for money!)”

“I just wanted to say Thank You. What an amazing morning – the children were mesmerised and the eldest didn't stop talking about it all afternoon.”

“Always the high point of my year. Thank you very much!”

Messiah (St Michael and All Angels Audience Survey)

“Incredible performance by the musicians and singers/actors. Fantastic hospitality!
A wonderful evening well spent.”

Anastasia Alura (5/5)

“A delightful and uplifting rendition with every detail beautifully thought through – from the soulful poster outside this elegant church or the extensive programme notes, to the warmth of the players, and to the singers who brought the words to life and revealed further dimensions to this well-loved oratorio through their excellently choreographed direction. Wild Arts are a company I will follow with great interest.”

Carolyn Nunn (5/5)

“Wonderfully refreshing. The eight singers had beautiful voices and (something that I highly appreciate) they all had good diction – you could hear every word! The summer production of Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* is something to really look forward to!”

Christopher Morgan (5/5)

“I felt very privileged to have been at this wonderful performance of Handel’s Messiah. The pared down chorus to eight singers gave each of these extremely talented singers the opportunity to sing the solos. It was quite intimate. This is a new opera company, and as long as we have this talent available and the venues in which they can perform and sponsors, we mustn’t forget them, we can be reassured that opera and the Arts can and will survive in this country!”

Erika and Tony Marks (5/5)

“Absolutely brilliant! Didn’t want it to be over! Still thinking about it! What an honour to be able to listen to such talented singers and musicians. Beautiful venue and wonderful staff/volunteers.”

Jane Sukan (5/5)

“A superbly sung and played production that didn’t put a foot wrong! I can’t recommend this enough. More performances on their way – Do go see it!”

Jonathan Cummins (5/5)

It was the first time I had been to the lovely Norman Shaw designed St Michael and all the angels church and we all received a warm welcome. This version of the Messiah was exceptional. Firstly, it was without pomp – performed in a gentle way; thoughtful, sensitive... In a way that resonated with the heart. The playing on early instruments was so very beautiful, as was the singing. All so very talented.

The soloists were also the choir which made perfect sense. The performance was also semi-staged for the singers which also made perfect sense – it helped to connect one even more emotionally. The staging included the trumpets being behind the altar screen. So good. Wherever they perform this it will have a delightful intimacy.

Bravo to all.

Juliet Singer (5/5)

A revelation to hear Messiah not as a bloated concert hall sound surround form but in a much purer form with twenty musicians and eight singers. To me this was far more engaging.

Paul Grove (5/5)

Messiah (Tour)

“A compelling and wonderfully engaged performance with a vivid sense of drama. This was one of those performances where you went in with polite, supportive expectation and came out won over, having been carried away. The sense of creating a dramatic narrative that the eight singers brought to the music, reacting to events, was palpable, with the instrumental ensemble as alert as the singers.”

Robert Hugill

“You have collectively raised the bar so high on the Messiah performance that I can never go back to an ordinary concert version. It was outstanding. We loved it. The drama in telling the story, the musicianship and the singing was wonderful. A thoroughly enjoyable evening.”

David Furnival

“Remarkable... I have never heard a performance of Messiah where the specific emotion of each movement was expressed so clearly, let alone one with any sense of underlying feeling – this was more than just a stirring recital of holy texts. Brilliant!”

“I know you had a standing ovation last night, but even that couldn't capture the extraordinary feeling the show generated. I had to write.”

John Ginman

“Surely this is the only and best way to see the Messiah – total genius staging. Loved it.”

Alice Simon

“We went to the Messiah on Sunday and were stunned by the production. I don't know when I have enjoyed myself more. I came home completely exhausted. So emotional. Thank you all SO much.”

Tessa Fisher

“I never want to hear Messiah any other way. The singers and players were exceptional. It was moving, and it had wonderful momentum and pulse which enhanced the meaning.”

Stephen Barter

“What a Messiah! I loved the superb and powerful singing and the choreography. I was moved to tears when the soprano sat in front of the Cross and sang ‘I know that my Redeemer Liveth.’”

“The whole Oratorio was a total triumph and I think you could have filled two Chichester cathedral performances.”

“When we left our intimate seats behind the violins, people were just looking at each other and saying ‘wow, that was amazing,’ ‘incredibly moving,’ ‘brilliant!’”

“We congratulate and thank you for a powerful and beautiful evening. It could not have been better.”

“A delightful and uplifting rendition with every detail beautifully thought through – singers who brought the words to life and revealed further dimensions to this well-loved oratorio through their excellently choreographed direction.”

“Wild Arts's *Messiah* was absolutely glorious with many sine-tingling moments. Beautifully conveyed by the company. A truly wonderful evening.”

“I just had to say how fantastic the Messiah was last night. It was intimate, beautifully sung, and converted two friends who we took who had not heard it before. If you did two nights I would go to both – 6 stars out of 5! Well done and happy Christmas to you all!”

“We just got home from your AMAZING performance of the Messiah. What a show - inclusive and uplifting. The musicians perfectly balanced; an unusual staging which was perfect and brilliant.”

“An intimate and wonderful way to start the Christmas season.”

“We absolutely loved the brilliantly performed Messiah last night. It was outstanding and so originally staged. Thank you to everyone involved in making it happen – such fun to see a Wild Arts venue full to bursting yet again! A truly memorable evening.”

“Just to say that I really enjoyed the performance of Messiah last night. What an amazing production in all aspects. I was very moved by the clarity of the singing and staging.”

“Thank you for that joyful performance of the Messiah last night. It made my heart leap. I do hope you come back many times.”

Thank you all so much for your kind words and support.