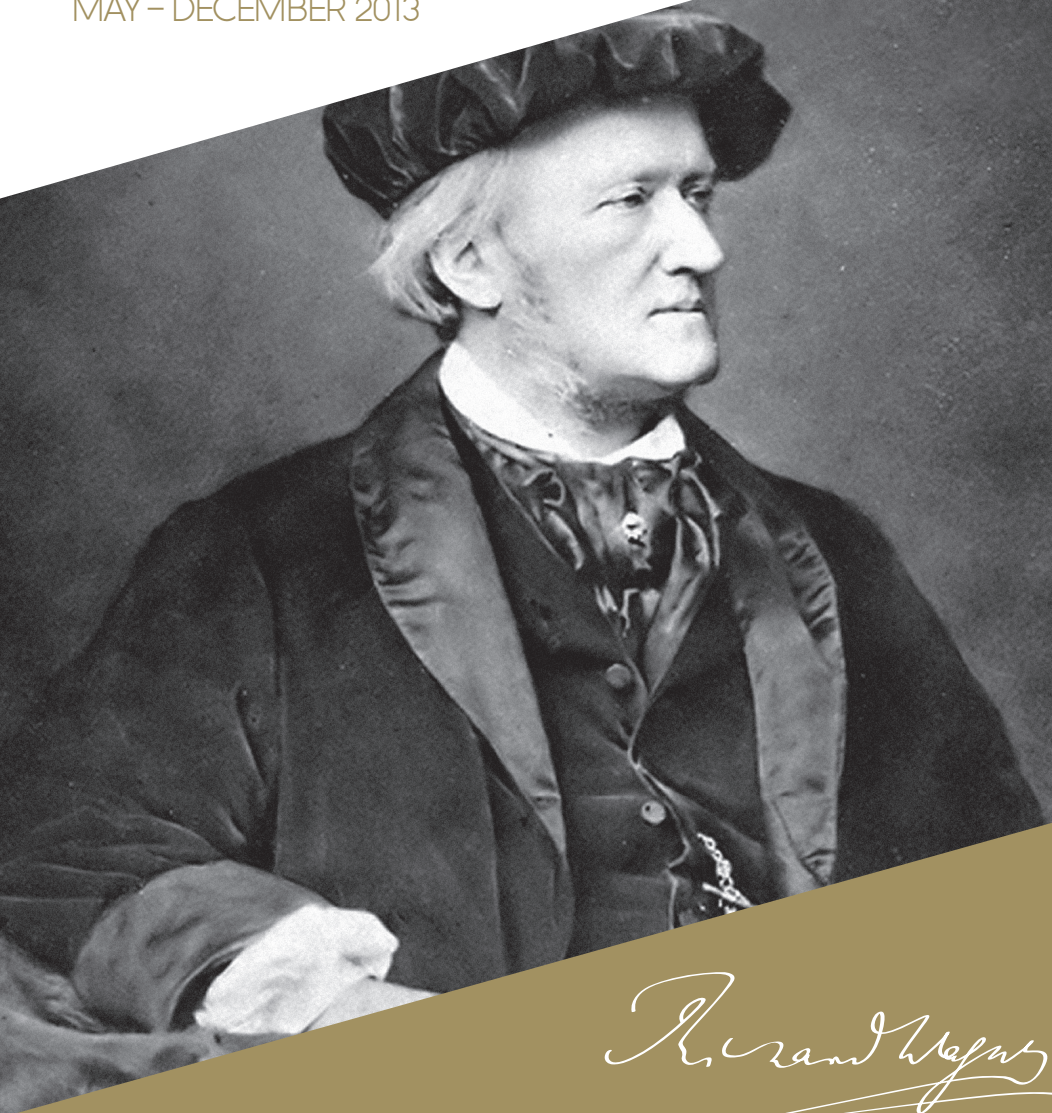


Wagner 200

LONDON CELEBRATES
THE BICENTENARY
OF RICHARD WAGNER

MAY – DECEMBER 2013



Richard Wagner

Wagner 200 is a wide-ranging London-based festival celebrating the bicentenary of Richard Wagner's birth. Opening with a Gala 200th Birthday Concert on 22 May it continues until December with a lively programme of staged performances, concerts, recitals, symposia, lectures, films, masterclasses, interviews and an exhibition. With an emphasis on British artists and in association with many of London's leading venues and cultural organisations including:

- Aurora Orchestra
- Barbican Centre
- BBC Radio 3
- BBC Symphony Orchestra
- British Library
- Kings Place
- London Jewish Cultural Centre
- London Symphony Orchestra
- London Song Festival
- Opus Arte
- Philharmonia Orchestra
- Royal College of Music
- Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
- Royal Opera House
- Southbank Centre
- The Wagner Society
- The Wagner Journal

Directors:

Mark Eynon and Barry Millington

Honorary Patrons:

The Lady Aldington, Dame Gwyneth Jones, Sir John Tomlinson

Founder Sponsor:

The Wagner Society

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Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, London Evening Standard, Thames & Hudson Ltd, The German Embassy, The Lindeth Charitable Trust, The Wagner Journal

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Lord & Lady Aldington, H E The German Ambassador & Mrs Christiane Boomgaarden, Ms Beatrice Holland, Mr Andrew Medlicott, Mrs Heleen Mendl-Schrama, Mr & Mrs Christopher Scott, Sir David & Lady Sieff, Rev & Mrs John Wates, Mr Ralph Wells, Dr Yvonne Winkler, Lord & Lady Young

www.wagner200.co.uk

Wagner 200 performances at Kings Place

Since it opened in September 2008 in an award-winning complex at King's Cross, Kings Place has established itself as a thriving hub for music, art, dialogue and food, and has been described as 'one of Europe's leading cultural landmarks'. Kings Place provides the venue for a five-day feast of Wagner 200 activity in June.

Wednesday 26 June, 7.30pm, Hall 1

Janice Watson soprano

Joseph Middleton piano

Online Rates: £24.50, £19.50, £15.50, £13.50 | Savers £9.50



A recital by one of Britain's leading dramatic sopranos to include Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder* and some of his less frequently performed songs, as well as examples by his friend and father-in-law Franz Liszt. The songs Wagner wrote in Paris for celebrated singers include the *Adieux de Marie Stuart* with its striking grand operatic gestures, while the better-known *Wesendonck Lieder*, written to poems by his muse and lover, Mathilde Wesendonck, are more intimate in nature. Liszt's songs include some of the most beautiful in the lieder repertoire.

Thurs 27 June, 7.30pm, Hall 1

Llŷr Williams piano

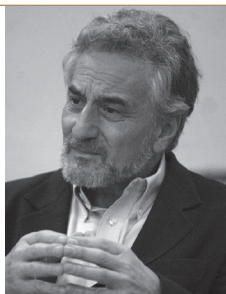
Online Rates: £24.50, £19.50, £15.50, £13.50 | Savers £9.50

A recital by the outstanding Welsh pianist to feature Wagner rarities plus dazzling transcriptions of Wagner by Liszt including *Isolde's Liebestod*. Many of Wagner's piano pieces, of which the Sonata for 'M.W.' (Mathilde Wesendonck) is the most substantial, were written as dedicatory 'albumleaves' for friends and admirers.

Friday 28 June, 8pm, Hall 1

Aurora Orchestra

Online Rates: £26.50, £21.50, £17.50, £14.50 | Savers £9.50



Aurora Orchestra, conductor Nicholas Collon, with Harriet Walter and Henry Goodman. Dramatised re-creation of the events surrounding the first performance of the *Siegfried Idyll*, together with performances of the *Idyll* and the Beethoven Septet.

Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 June 2013, Hall 1

Wagner in Performance

Three symposia in association with *The Wagner Journal* featuring an international roster of Wagner experts examining aspects of the performance of his music under the headings Singing, Conducting and Stage Production. Each symposium will consist of three presentations (six for Stage Production) followed by a round table.

Saturday 29 June, 10am–1pm, Hall 1

Vocal Style in Wagner from the Golden Age to the Present

Online Rate: £14.50

What can be learned about Wagner singing from the great artists of the past? Why is it so difficult to cast Wagner operas today? What can be done to rectify the matter?

Speakers: Mike Ashman, David Breckbill, Neil Howlett
Chair: John McMurray

Tickets for all performances
from £9.50 online at
www.kingsplace.co.uk/wagner200

Saturday 29 June, 2–5 pm, Hall 1

Conducting Wagner

Online Rate: £14.50

Throughout history, lithe, fluid and gestural styles of conducting Wagner (Bülow, Böhm, Pappano) have contrasted with more monumental approaches (Knappertsbusch, Goodall, Levine). Which is more faithful to Wagner's intentions? How is Wagner conducting likely to evolve in the decades to come?

Speakers: Roger Allen, David Breckbill, Raymond Holden
Chair: Peter Franklin

Sunday 30 June, 10am–5pm, Hall 1

The Challenge of Director's Opera

Online Rate: £24.50

Opera production in the modern age has come to be dominated by 'director's opera' or *Regietheater*. Does contemporary stagecraft represent a travesty or a triumphant fulfilment of the *Gesamtkunstwerk*? Will traditional stagings ever return? Or is director's opera here to stay?

Speakers: Edward Bortnichak, Ingrid Kapsamer, Hugo Shirley, Tash Siddiqui, Katherine Syer, Simon Williams
Chairs: Patrick Carnegie, Nicholas Payne

Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 June, Hall 2

Wagner on the Big Screen

Online rate: £9.50

Screenings of *Tristan und Isolde* (Nikolaus Lehnhoff's Glyndebourne production) and *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* (Katharina Wagner's Bayreuth production) from the Opus Arte catalogue

Saturday 29 June, 6pm

Tristan und Isolde

Sunday 30 June, 6pm

Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg

Tickets are cheaper if booked online. (The online ticket prices are shown in the listings.) Please add £2 per ticket to the online price if booking by via the telephone or in person. Kings Place do not charge any additional booking or postage fees.
Kings Place Box Office: 020 7520 1490

WAGNER 200 DIARY OF EVENTS

22 May, 7.30pm

Wagner 200th Birthday Concert

Venue: Royal Festival Hall

Philharmonia Orchestra cond. Andrew Davis with Susan Bullock, James Rutherford, Giselle Allen. Programme: Prelude to *Die Meistersinger*, Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan und Isolde*, Act 3 of *Die Walküre*. Preceded by an afternoon of free Wagnerian events featuring young singers and musicians on the balcony, terraces and foyers of the RFH.

23 May, 7.30pm

London Song Festival

Venue: St Paul's Church, Covent Garden

Recital by Gidon Saks and Elisabeth Meister to include complete songs of Wagner including some rarely-heard curiosities.

24–7 May

Screening of the Bayreuth Centenary Ring

Venue: Barbican Cinema

A screening of the landmark production of Wagner's *Ring* directed by Patrice Chéreau for the centenary of the Bayreuth Festival in 1976, with associated talks and interviews involving cast and production members. Patrice Chéreau will be on hand to discuss his work and Gwyneth Jones, who starred as Brünnhilde, will also be present to share her memories of the production.

28 May, 7.30pm

Gwyneth Jones Masterclass

Venue: Royal Opera House

After her masterclass, the reigning Wagner soprano of her day will talk to Humphrey Burton about her legendary career.

8 June, 10.30am – 5pm

Wagner the Writer

Venue: The British Library, Conference Centre

Distinguished authorities speak about Wagner's immense literary output, both the prose essays and the poetic texts, with discussion of the issues arising from translation. A study day presented by the British Library to coincide with the digitisation of its Wagner holdings. In association with *The Wagner Journal*.

9 June, 11am – 6pm

Wagner's Ring Cycle: a Complete Reading

Venue: The British Library, Conference Centre

A rare reading of the entire *Ring* cycle, in English, featuring John Tomlinson and a company of young actors from Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

26–30 June

Wagner 200 at Kings Place

Venue: Kings Place

See pp.2–3 for a full list of events

July

BBC Proms

Venue: Royal Albert Hall

Performances and events surrounding Wagner at the BBC Proms.

6 Oct, 2pm

Wagner and the Jews

Venue: London Jewish Cultural Centre

A discussion about the issues raised by Wagner's anti-Semitism; speakers to include Mark Berry, Cori Ellison, Erik Levi and Barry Millington. Chair: Trudy Gold.

Nov/Dec

Parsifal

Venue: Royal Opera House

New production by Stephen Langridge, cond. Antonio Pappano, with Simon O'Neill, René Pape, Gerald Finley and Angela Denoke.

25 Nov, 7.30pm

John Tomlinson Masterclass

Venue: Royal Opera House

After the masterclass, John Tomlinson will talk about his international career and the challenges of singing Wagner.

28 Nov, 7.30pm

London Symphony Orchestra

Venue: Barbican

Concert to include *Tristan und Isolde* Act 2, cond. Daniel Harding, with Katarina Dalayman, Peter Seiffert & Christianne Stotijn.

10 Dec, 7.30pm

Wagner's Jews

Venue: London Jewish Cultural Centre

This event includes a screening of Hilan Warshaw's new film

Wagner's Jews, which investigates the phenomenon of the anti-Semitic composer's numerous Jewish friends, following which a panel discussion will examine the wider issues of Wagner's reception by Jews throughout history and today.

20 Dec, 7.30pm

BBC Symphony Orchestra

Venue: Barbican Hall

Programme to include *Wesendonck Lieder*, Prelude to *Tristan und Isolde* and *Faust* Overture, cond. Edward Gardner with Christine Brewer (sop).

Daniel Barenboim interview

Venue: Royal Opera House

Please refer to website for details of this much-anticipated interview with Daniel Barenboim, talking about Wagner.

Wagner Society lectures

Four events in association with the Wagner Society at intervals over the year and featuring high-profile speakers. On Wednesday 24 April, Keith Warner delivers the Dame Eva Turner Lecture at Queen's College, 43–49 Harley Street, London W1. Tickets £10/£5 students. The remaining lectures will take place at the Goethe-Institut, 50 Prince's Gate, Exhibition Road, London SW7. All at 7.30pm, tickets £12/£6 students: Tim Blanning (11 July), Mike Ashman (12 Sep) and John Deathridge (10 Oct). More details and tickets: wagnersociety.org and ticketsecretary@wagnersociety.org

Wagner 200 also features the following:

- A travelling exhibition of images from Barry Millington's new book *Richard Wagner: The Sorcerer of Bayreuth*, published by Thames & Hudson.
- A special issue of *The Wagner Journal* with a masterly new translation by Emma Warner (the first since 1895) of arguably Wagner's most important essay, *The Artwork of the Future*, in which he sets out his fundamental principles for the creation and performance of the music dramas.