

INSPIRATION

Orchestra of
Opera North

The massed voices of Inspiration present

Rejoice!

with The Orchestra of Opera North

A spectacular Christmas concert featuring many seasonal favourites, all given the unique Inspiration treatment - Hark The Herald Angels Sing, Little Drummer Boy, O Holy Night plus a few surprises along the way...

27 November 2010, 7.30pm, Leeds Town Hall

Box office: **0113 224 3801**

www.leedsconcertseason.com



www.inspirationuk.com

INSPIRATION

Orchestra of
Opera North

Inspiration and the Orchestra of Opera North present

Don't stop believing

Sunday 11 July 2010

Leeds Town Hall

Musical Director: **Gary Griffiths**



It's time to let our hair down

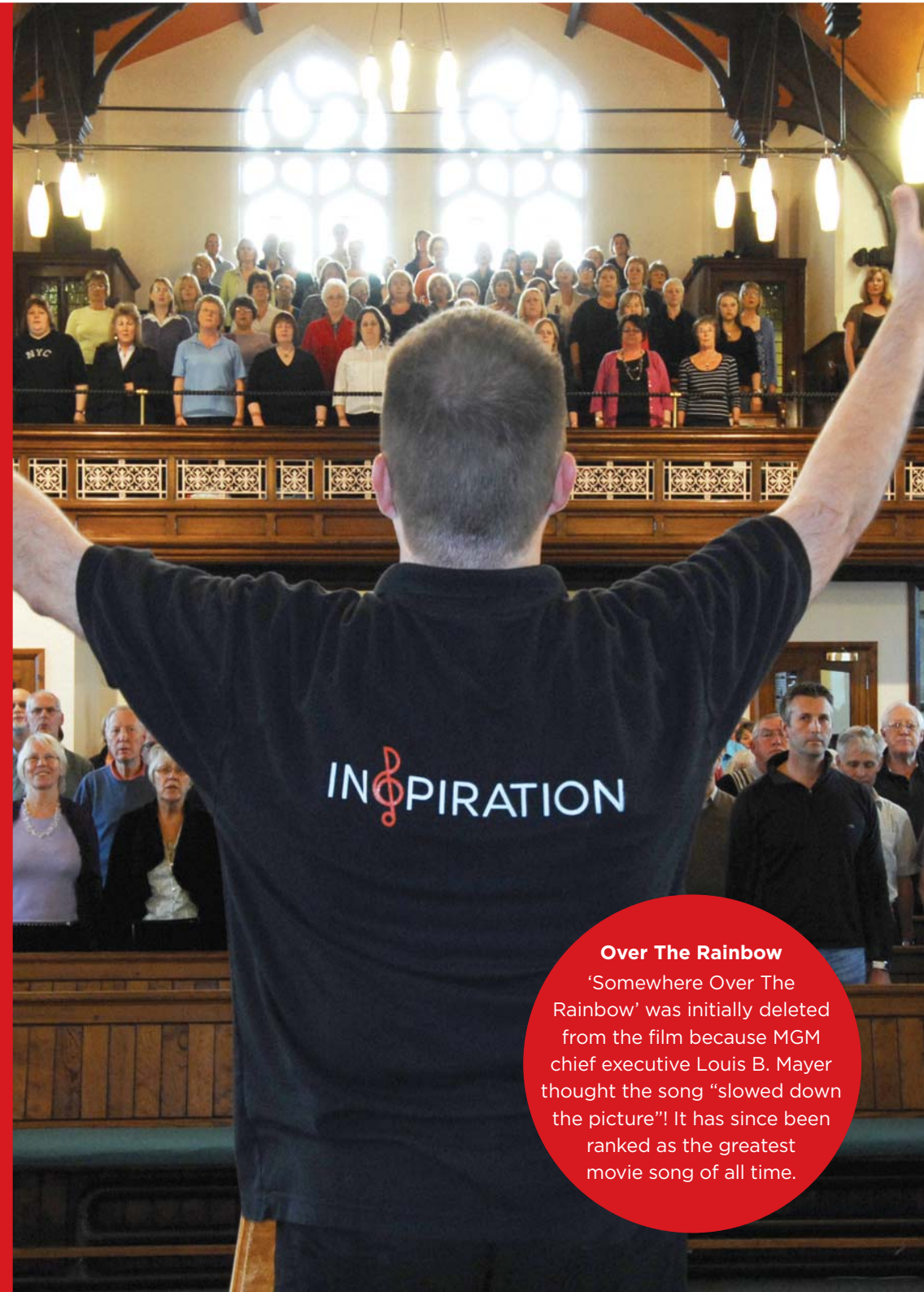
This term has been such good fun. After the high emotion and epic sweep of last term it has been exciting for us to let our hair down a bit. From The Easter Hymn last term to High School Musical in this is quite a leap. Once again though, the singers have risen to the challenge and finally cast off their inhibitions as you will see. They still surprise me with their flexibility and willingness to sing whatever I put before them.

Our community work continues to grow and this term we have performed at The Sunderland Empire for the Variety Club and at the Royal Armouries in Leeds for the Women of Achievement Awards. We have been filmed for television and once again provided the pre-match entertainment for the Huddersfield Giants. We have worked with school choirs and sung to raise funds for MacMillan Nurses and Victim Support. We are also busy preparing for our first international event when 400 of us travel to Paris to sing at Disneyland Paris, Église Saint-Eustache and Notre Dame, where we will be singing our medley from Disney's 'Hunchback of Notre Dame'.

I hope you enjoy this afternoon's concert. Feel free to join in if you know the words. Dancing is not required, but is allowed.

I'm glad you're here with us and **don't stop believing!**

Gary



Over The Rainbow

'Somewhere Over The Rainbow' was initially deleted from the film because MGM chief executive Louis B. Mayer thought the song "slowed down the picture"! It has since been ranked as the greatest movie song of all time.

Gary Griffiths Inspiration Musical Director

Gary was born in 1966 and educated at Wolverhampton Grammar School where he first started to sing in choirs and also started to play oboe and percussion. Eventually he became principal oboist of Wolverhampton Youth Orchestra and principal percussionist of Wolverhampton Concert Band.

He went on from Wolverhampton to York University to study music, continuing to play oboe and percussion and of course singing. He played or sang in most of the department's ensembles and also sang in the Yorkshire Bach Choir under the inspirational directorship of Peter Seymour.

He graduated in 1988 and stayed in York to live, working as a Songman in the choir of the beautiful Minster. With the Minster Choir he sang in many of the world's great cathedrals and churches in the USA and Europe and many of the major concert halls in the UK. The Choir has made numerous recordings and broadcasts.

Whilst at university he discovered his love of musical theatre. Eventually he joined York Light Opera Society, first as a playing chorus member, later becoming their Chorus Master. He also became Musical Director for Pickering Musical Society and Sing Live. It was orchestrating 'Annie' for Pickering that led him to start his own business, arranging and orchestrating for local groups.

On the non-musical side, Gary is an excellent cook and is also a member of the Rollercoaster Club of Great Britain.



Proud Mary

Originally recorded by Creedence Clearwater Revival, this song is about a blue-collar guy who roams the country looking for work, not lifting his head to look at anything else until he takes a ride on a Mississippi steamboat.

Andy Booth Accompanist

Andy Booth is a professional musician hailing from Chesterfield who is the founder and principal conductor for FONO Productions, a professional entertainments management company with in-house full symphonic orchestra and bands.

When not in this role, Andy can be found as a professional freelance MD/Conductor and has recently worked with Evolution Pantomimes (Sheffield 2009: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs), Sheffield Theatres (The Crucible re-opening night 2009 - The Crucible Awakes), USO Productions (Blackburn 2009 - The Last Night of the Proms), and most recently Croft House Operatic Society (Sheffield 2010 - Fiddler on the Roof).

As a pianist Andy can be found playing for Orchestras, Big Bands and Soloists. His more notable work includes The Isle of Man Promenade Concerts 2005 (Falla - Nights in the Gardens of Spain, Mozart - Piano Concerto No. 21, Concert Orchestra of Europe), The Rightful Owners of the Song Project (Guest Leader - The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra) and regularly plays for 'Inspiration' the superb Leeds/Newcastle based choir, the contesting UK teams in the Waterford International Light Opera Festival and for many jazz artists, which in itself, has taken him from Keswick to Barletta (South Italy) over the years.

Besides all this, Andy still finds time to be the Chair and Musical Director of the Barlow Annual Promenade Concerts, a prestigious village festival in the heart of Derbyshire culminating in June each year, run his own mini jazz club (Mister B's), conducts, accompanies and consults for a number of choirs, music groups and festivals (Ripley and Alfreton Musical Theatre Company, The Lindrick Singers, The Holmebrook Valley Singers and so on) and he still continues the family tradition as Musical Director of The Carolare Choir (Chesterfield).



High School Musical Megamix

High School Musical became a phenomenon for the teenage crowd and screaming Zac Efron lovers in 2006. It spawned two sequels, stage shows, tours, books, video games and even an ice show!

Orchestra of Opera North

The Orchestra of Opera North is the only ensemble in the country to have a year-round dual role in the opera house and concert hall.

It has important relationships with Leeds International Concert Season and the region's choral societies, and is the resident Orchestra for the Leeds Conductors Competition, the National New Composers Forum and the orchestral concert seasons in Kirklees.

The Orchestra has a strong commitment to education work and many of the players are outstanding teachers with several holding professorships at the Royal Northern College of Music and at Universities within the region.

It has received international recognition for its recordings, with releases on Chandos, Collins Classics, Deutsche Grammophon, EMI, Hyperion and Naxos, and has toured abroad both with the whole Company and independently to many European countries and regularly performs at venues throughout the UK.



First Violins

David Greed* (Leader)
Peter Maslin* (Co-Leader)
Andrew Long (Associate Leader)
Stephen Shulman*
Michael Ardron*
Brian Reilly
Tamsin Symons
Thea Spiers

Second Violins

Katherine New
Maria Vericonte*
Anita Chidsey*
Catherine Baker*
Helen Greig
Alison Dixon

Violas

David Aspin
Vivienne Campbell
Elizabeth Wyly
Alexandra Fletcher

Cellos

Douglas Badger
Judith Burgin
Andrew Fairley*
Zoë Long

Basses

Paul Miller*
Claire Sadler

Flutes

Kevin Gowland
David Moseley*

Oboe

Catherine Lowe

Clarinets

Colin Honour
John Robinson

Bassoon

David Baker

Horns

Robert Ashworth*
John Pratt

Trumpets

Murray Greig
Michael Woodhead*
Mark Woodhead

Trombones

Anthony Howe
Robert Burtenshaw*

Bass Trombone

Paul Lambert

Tuba

Brian Kingsley

Timpani

Mark Wagstaff

Percussion

Christopher Bradley*
Graham Hall

Kit

Matthew Dabs

Harp

Anna Christensen

Piano

Andy Booth

Bass Guitar

Jon Ashby

Chorus and Orchestra Director:

Douglas Scarfe

Orchestra Manager: Helen Wilson

Library Manager: Andrew Fairley*

Librarian: Victoria Bellis

Stage Manager: Christopher Ladds

Orchestra Attendant: Jordan Senior

Music Secretary: Helen Stephens*

* Opera North Company member for 25 years or more

Don't stop believing

Part one

Over The Rainbow

A medley from The Wizard of Oz
Arlen and Harburg

Mamma Mia Medley

Ulvaeus and Andersson

The Winner Takes It All

Ulvaeus and Andersson
Vicky Swift

The Sound Of Music

Rogers and Hammerstein

Climb Every Mountain

Rogers and Hammerstein

The Climb

Alexander and Mabe

Hushabye Mountain

Sherman and Sherman
Ralph Watson

Shadowland

John and Rice

Proud Mary

Fogerty

High School Musical Megamix

Nevil, Gerrard and Houston
Vicky Swift, Julia Conlon,
Jim Cunliffe and Company

Part two

I Wish

Wonder

Earth, Wind And Fire Medley

White, McKay, Willis and Lind

When She Loved Me

Newman
Elizabeth Hawkhead

I Love Paris

Porter

Reflection

Wilder and Zippel
Julia Conlon

Candle On The Water

Hirschhorn and Kasha

Hallelujah

Cohen

Smile

Chaplin, Turner and Parsons
Penny Wilson

Symphonic Hunchback

A medley from Disney's
Hunchback of Notre Dame
Menken and Schwartz

Don't Stop Believing

Cain, Perry and Schon

Mamma Mia Medley

At the height of their fame, ABBA were second only to Volvo as Sweden's biggest export earners.

Shadowland

This song comes from the stage production of Disney's 'The Lion King' which has been seen by over 30 million people at over 18,000 performances worldwide.

Don't Stop Believing

Originally released by the American band Journey in 1981, 'Don't Stop Believing' reached number nine in the 2009 UK Christmas chart after being featured in the TV programme 'Glee'.

Our singers

Brenda Adams
Maralyn Adey
Pat Ainley
Janet Aldham
De'Anne Ambler
Anne Austwick
Jennifer Balmforth
Jan Barraclough
Carol Barrett
Pat Bassano
Betty Bedford
Jean Bishop
Mark Bishop
Dorothy Blackband
Joan Blackburn
Christine Blomfield
Ian Blomfield
Rosalind Bodsworth
Julie Boldy
Carolyn Booth
Christine Bottom
Sheila Bould
Alison Boye
Denise Bray
Helen Breton
Vanessa Bridge
Mollie Brumfitt
Judy Brushett
Hetley Burnham
Bettie Bush
Marilyn Bush
Angela Butcher
Julie Butters
Pat Byrne
Maria Cameron
Nick Cameron
Jackie Campbell
Judith Carter
Ann Chamberlain
Gaynor Chaplin
Pauline Chidsey
Barbara Clark
Sally Clarke
Sheila Clarke
Shirley Cliff
Kirsty Cobb
Julia Conlon
Helen Courtman
Margaret Couzens
Debbie Cowling
Graham Croll
Jane Cropper

Jim Cunliffe
Janice Curtin
Catherine Dakin
Doromie Davies
Jenny Davis
Marian Davis
John Daw
Liz de Pledge
Geoff Dickinson
Val Dickinson
Marie Dillon
Penny Dobson
Rowena Dobson
Milly Donaldson
Linda Dredge
Peter Dredge
Mark Drummond
Katie Druery
Pam Drysdale
Jane Dunne
Helen Duke
Peter Duke
Celia Eastham
Janice Eastwood
Steven Emery
Pauline Farnworth
Sheila Fitzgerald
Jo Flannery
Chris Folkard
Lynne Folkard
Hazel Fordham
Wendy Forrest
Sarah-Jane Foxton
Sue Foxtan
Liz Franklin
Chris Gale
Dot Gallagher
Sheila Gibbs
Nancy Glaister
Alison Glew
Mary Gorney
Helen Grace
Catherine Gray
Michaela Greasley
Lynne Greep
Rita Grice
Katie Groves
Patricia Gwynne
Susan Haigh
Marie Hall
Sue Hall
Raymond Hallam

Carol Hallsworth
Susan Hallsworth
Stephanie Hansell
Janet Hardwick
Raymond Hardwick
Elaine Hardy
John Harrison
Sally Harrison
Sue Harrison
Anne-Marie Hartley
Margaret Harvey
Sheena Hastings
Elizabeth Hawkhead
Fiona Hay
Lynne Hegarty
Jo Hemsworth
Diane Henson
Robert Henson
Anne Heyhoe
David Heyhoe
Elaine Hill
Kath Hinchcliffe
Maureen Hirst
Christine Hodgson
Tom Holloway
Barbara Holmes
Sandie Horsman
Carol Horwood
Marilyn Hough
Derek Howard
Margaret Howard
Derek Hudson
Liz Hudson
Joan Hudson
Rose Hudson
Jan Hunter
John Hurst
Tricia Hutchinson
Sarah Hutton
Freda Illingworth
Isabella Inman
Pam Jagger
Liz Jarratt
Jonathan Johnson
Mavis Johnson
Michelle Johnson
Sandy Johnston
Angie Jones
Suzanne Jones
Christine Kaye
Felicity Kennedy
Leah Keoghan

Margaret Kerins
Diane Kershaw
Pauline Kettlewell
Sarah Langli
Kathy Lawn
Helen Laycock
Jayne Laycock
Jim Leathley
Caroline Ledgard
Hazel Lee
Rainy Lee
Valerie Lee
Eion Lindsay
Rita Lindsay
Paula Lister
Victoria Littlewood
Patricia Lloyd
Sylvia Lumb
Jack Lyttle
Allison McCracken
Julia Mander
Penny Manson
Vera Markovic
Carol Marshall
Fay Marshall
Heather Marshall
Barbara Martin
Tamsin Martin
Andrea Massey
Josie Medved
Tamsin Mellor
Hillary Miller
Tess Mooney
Sally Moore
J Marian Moran
Joan Mosey
Brian Munnoch
Maureen Myers
Julie Newell
Helen Newman
Janet Newsome
Alice Nicholson
Jeff Nicholson
Tracy Nicholson
Josie Ormston
Judith Paxton
Dianne Peel
Nadine Pemberton
Lynne Pickersgill
Julie Platt
Ernest Pollard
Freda Pollard

Carmel Potter
Karen Potter
Elaine Powell
Patricia Pratt
Julie Priestley
Jean Purcell
Liz Purcell
Verity Randall
Sandra Rawding
Malcolm Roberts
Rita Roberts
Trudi Roberts
Ian Robinson
Pauline Robinson
Judith Rowan
Christine Rowlands
Carole Saul
Anne Seager
Lynn Shadford
Julia Shaw
Barbara Sheehan
Jenny Shipley
Liz Sibson

Anita Simic
Daniela Simonato
Doris Skirrow
Ken Skirrow
Beverlie Smith
Gaynor Smith
Jen Smith
Julie Smith
Julie Smith
Helen Speight
Helen Spencer
Graham Standing
Patricia Standing
Andrina Stanislawski
Anne Stead
Jannine Stewart
James Stock
Evelyn Storey
Rachel Stroud
Carole Sullivan
Barbara Sumroy
Antony Suttill
Margaret Suttill

Dorothy Swallow
Vicky Swift
Dani Taylor
Helen Taylor
Val Tetchner
Penny Tharratt
Sue Thistlethwaite
Jules Thomas
Gloria Thompson
Sue Thorp
Sue Timme
Christine Tomenson
Krystyna Trybula
Davyna Vitta
Lance Vitta
Susan Waine
Christine Walker
Liz Walker
Alison Warren
Pat Watson
Ralph Watson
Janice Weldon
Lisa Wells

Dorothy West
Alison West-Lay
Sue Whelan
Lynne White
Sue White
Sue Whitelaw
Gill Wilde
Karen Wilkinson
Tony Willett
Sheila Willis
Ann Wilson
Kim Wilson
Penny Wilson
Sue Wilson
Yvette Windows
Elaine Wormwell
Cathy Wrigglesworth
Sheila Wright
Carole Yeomans
Robin Young



I Wish
A disco hit for Stevie Wonder in 1976, 'I Wish' describes his own childhood misdemeanours growing up in Illinois before he was signed to Motown as a teenager.

Liz Green Narrator

Liz Green is delighted to narrate today's concert with Inspiration and The Orchestra of Opera North.

Multi award-winning journalist, radio and television broadcaster Liz Green is based in Leeds and has broadcast for the BBC for 15 years. She hosts the lunchtime radio news and current affairs interactive show on BBC Radio Leeds Liz Green Live, followed by One On One, an hour in conversation with the people who make West Yorkshire what it is.



Liz broadcasts for BBC Radio 5 Live and BBC Radio 2 and is a contributor to Woman's Hour on BBC Radio 4. Liz regularly interviews leading politicians, captains of industry, news makers and commentators as well as being acknowledged as being a great communicator with her audiences regionally, nationally and internationally. Her programme allows her audience to question those making the news every week day lunchtime between 12 and 2.

Her skills as a journalist in the broadcast media have won her the coveted radio Sony Gold award twice; the highest accolade the industry can offer. She is also a past winner of the Yorkshire Young Achiever Award for Personality of the Year.

Born in Huddersfield, Liz is a proud Yorkshire woman. A huge fan of Inspiration, she is honoured to be able to narrate this concert.

She says this: "Community singing at this exceptionally high standard is a pure joy to hear. Inspiration are remarkable. Combined with the Orchestra of Opera North, today represents the very best of the arts and the community coming together, for a very special event. For me, it symbolises the very best Yorkshire can offer.

I am looking forward to the music, the power of these voices and I shall be trying not to leap out of my seat and start dancing! I challenge you to do the same - in fact, when the music takes over, let's just raise the roof! Good luck to everyone involved today.

Inspiration team

Christine Rowlands

Christine has been singing and dancing since an early age and has been singing in and choreographing for adult choirs for over ten years. She was delighted when Gary asked her to be involved in Inspiration both on and off stage.

Christine's other passion is for musical theatre and she can often be found performing with LAOS at the West Yorkshire Playhouse and The Grand Theatre, Leeds.



Barbara Sumroy

Another exciting adventure has come to a successful fruition. Inspiration are now 'au fait' (apologies I'm just practising my French for our 'Inspiration Paris Tour 2010') with choral, opera, Mozart and Disney music. All made possible by one man, who has faith in everything we do - thank you Gary! It is indeed an honour to be part of Inspiration and also being involved in the 'behind the scenes' team. C'est magnif-eeeeek!



Jane Cropper

Jane has always enjoyed singing, but it wasn't until she met Gary that she had the chance to do more than sing in the church choir. She looks forward to greeting her Inspiration family each week and sharing their laughter and tears.

She is looking forward to an exciting next 12 months - a trip to Paris, three Leeds concerts, a new house, a new husband (after 16 years together) and her bus pass.



Dates for your diary

'Rejoice' with Inspiration and The Orchestra of Opera North

27 November 2010, 7.30pm, Leeds Town Hall

Box office: **0113 224 3801**

www.leedsconcertseason.com

Sing Together 'Rejoice' with Inspiration Choir

19 December 2010, 3pm and 7.30pm, The Sage Gateshead

Ticket office: **0191 443 4661**

www.thesagegateshead.org

Inspiration will also be performing at:

Paris Tour

Including concerts at Disneyland Paris

27 - 31 August 2010

Hallelujah

Although it achieved little success initially, Cohen's 'Hallelujah' has since been covered by over 200 artists including Jeff Buckley, Alexandra Burke and John Cale. It was also used in the 'Shrek' movie soundtrack.

Thanks to...

Thanks as always to everyone who helps with the smooth running of Inspiration. To Barbara (Sumroy and Sheehan) and Jane, Peter and Linda, Andy and Sarah (without whom it wouldn't be possible), Judith, David, Chris, Penny, Sue (my driver) and of course Dougie and all at Opera North.

All of the facts found in this programme were provided by ExploreMusic (www.exploremusic.co.uk) and Sheena Hastings.

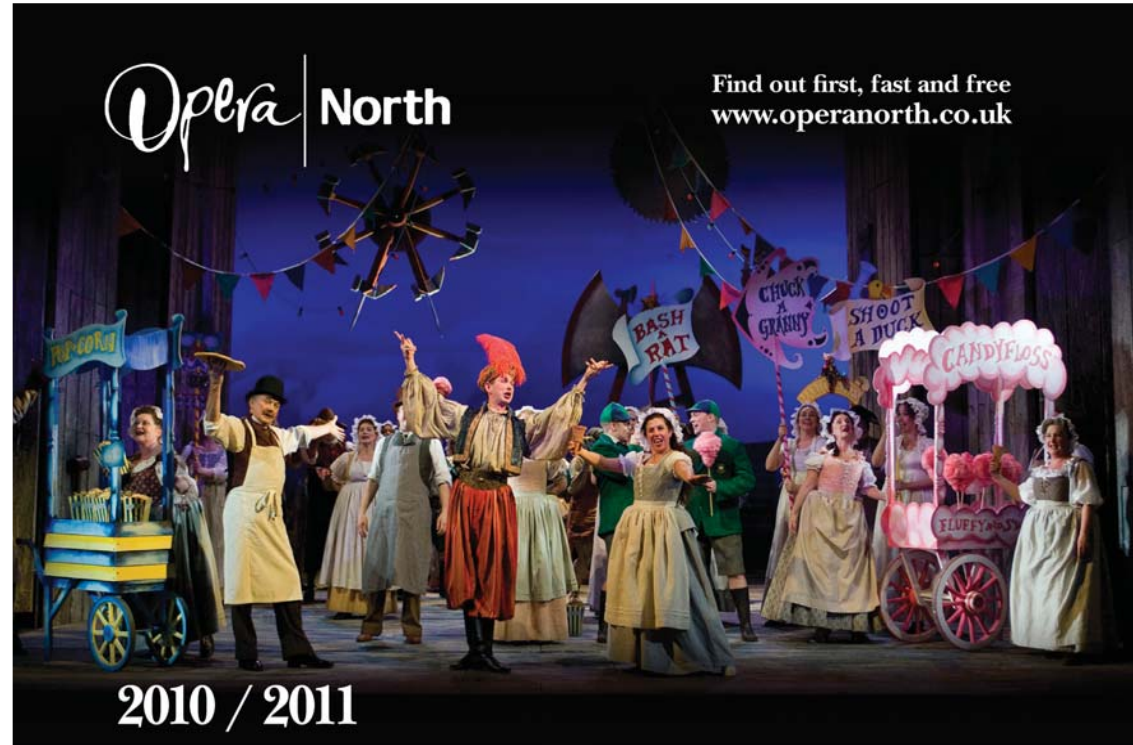
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2010 / 2011

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The Turn of the Screw Britten

The Merry Widow Lehár

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From the House of the Dead Janáček

The Portrait Weinberg

Fidelio Beethoven

Das Rheingold Wagner
in concert

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