

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

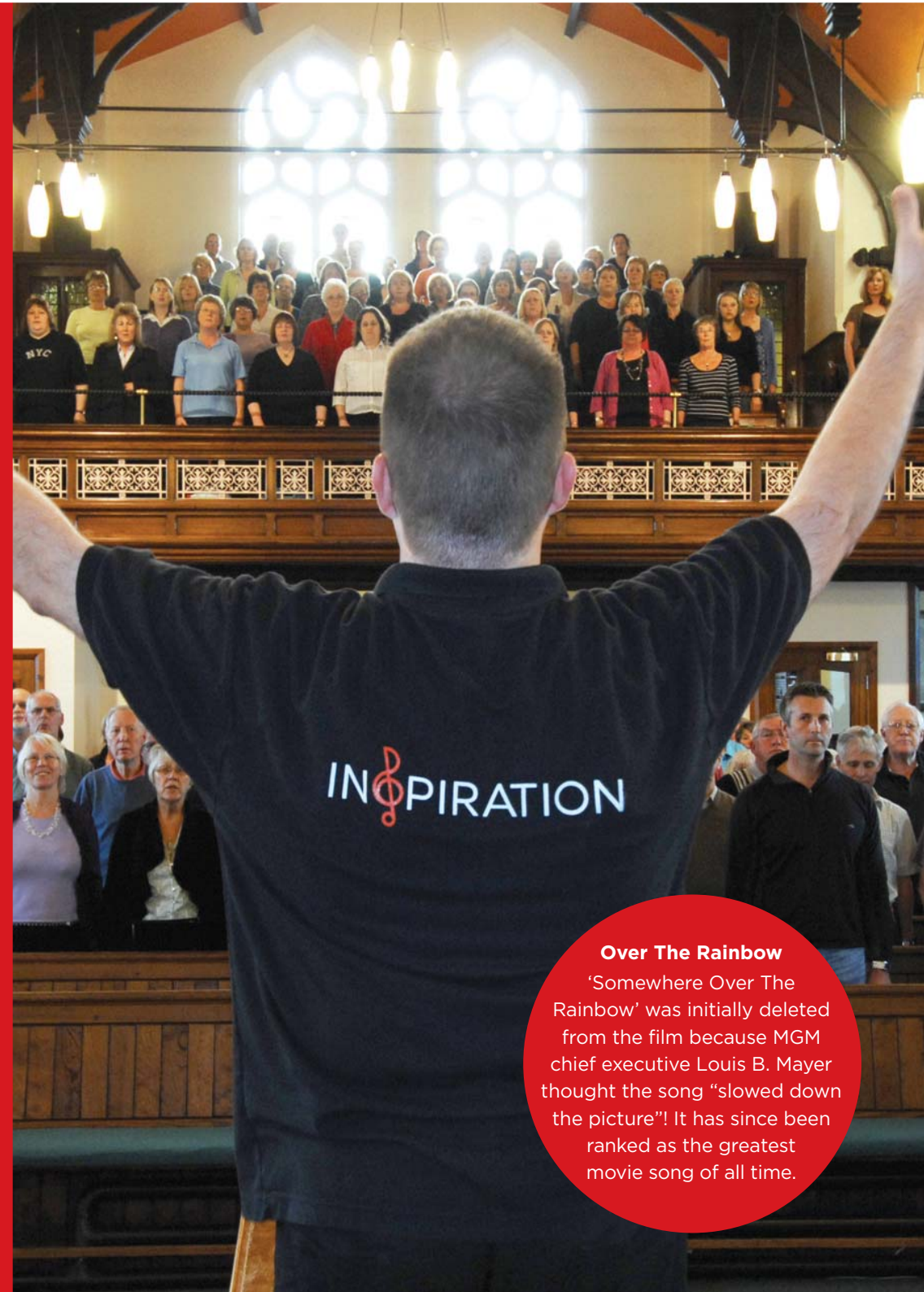
This term has been such good fun. After the high emotion and epic sweep of last term it has been exciting for us to let our hair down a bit. From The Easter Hymn last term to High School Musical in this is quite a leap. Once again though, the singers have risen to the challenge and finally cast off their 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
 Davena 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.

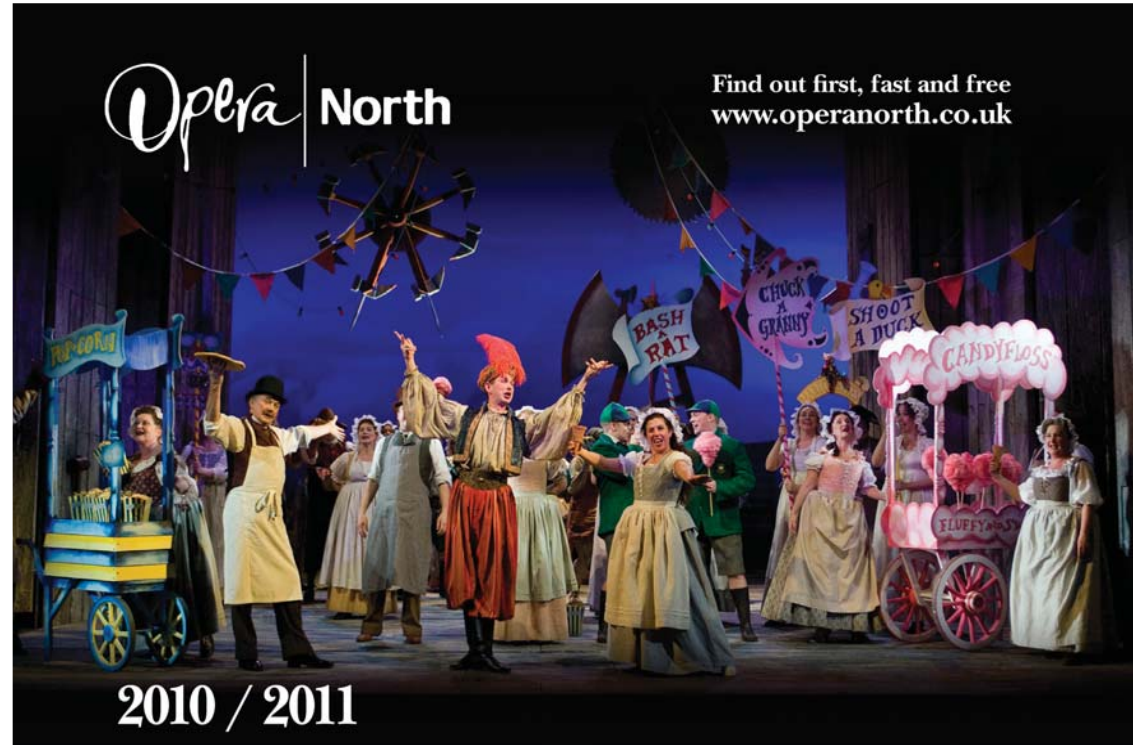
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Opera North

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2010 / 2011

The Adventures of Pinocchio Dove & Middleton

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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