



Company number 03290330 Charity number 1061757

WEDMORE OPERA IS LOOKING FOR A THEATRE DIRECTOR

The trustees of Wedmore Opera are looking to appoint a Theatre Director.

We have been successfully putting on opera in Wedmore village (five miles from Cheddar) for over 30 years. We are committed to high standards in both our productions and rehearsals.

Following the retirement of our founding Director, Marylin Johnstone, we are looking to review and renew our vision for the company, whilst maintaining our commitment to putting on the highest quality productions possible. At the heart of our company is a desire to encourage and enthuse people into taking part in this exciting art form. Over the years, a number of young people involved in productions have gone on to work in the arts and this is something of which we are very proud.

As an amateur company, we pride ourselves on being inclusive and friendly. Productions typically use professional soloists and musicians who work alongside our amateur chorus and production team. Our new Theatre Director will therefore be someone who is happy to work with amateurs and professionals and able to form positive and encouraging relationships with people.

We are looking for a Director committed to making opera accessible to all. In the first instance, we are aiming to appoint a Director for our July 2020 production of Gluck's *Orfeo and Euridice*, sung (as we always do) in English, but we also hope that you might join us in shaping the future of the company.

You will work alongside our creative team, including our Musical Director and co-founder, Carolyn Doorbar, all of whom strive for the highest standards we can achieve. You will have the skill and experience to plan the production with Carolyn and with our Producer, Judith Blake and to provide the stage direction.

Your creative and artistic imagination and vision will inspire and encourage the company and you will work closely with those who have responsibility for costumes, lighting and set design to shape the visuals of the production.

Rehearsals for the chorus will begin early in 2020, on Sunday evenings and you will be involved in rehearsals quite early in this process. We would also need you to take part in the auditions for soloists, alongside Carolyn and to attend rehearsals with soloists, as needed.

Although experience of directing opera would be advantageous, it is not a necessary requirement. Our desire is to appoint someone with a track record of directing, and who is able to demonstrate enthusiasm, vision and commitment to the realisation of the marriage of music and theatre in this very exciting and powerful art form.

If you might be interested in joining us, please write to us with answers to the following questions:

1. What experience of directing would you bring to Wedmore Opera?
2. Why is this the right role for you *now*?
3. What are the questions you would like to ask us?

We pay our professional musicians and Musical Director fees for rehearsals and performances. We are expecting to discuss fees with shortlisted applicants, but if you already have a minimum fee in mind, for the role described, please tell us what it is.

Please include, with your letter, a cv detailing your experience of relevance to this role. Please also provide the contact details of two people with whom you have worked in a creative capacity, who would be happy to speak to us.

If there is anything you need to know before applying, please email trustee Judith Blake at blake.judith@btinternet.com

Applications should reach trustee Anne Richards at annerichards46@gmail.com by 10am on Tuesday 30th April 2019.

Thank you very much for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you.