



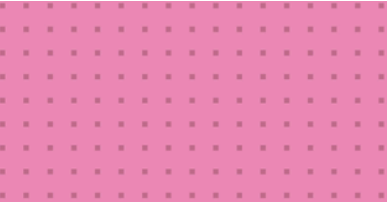
EVENT PROGRAMME

THE RAVEN OPERA CUP 2026

Monday, 8 June 2026, 3.30pm
Picture Gallery, Founder's Building

There will be a short rest break during this event.
Estimated event finish time: 4.30pm

Please no flash photography or visual/audio recording throughout the event.
For news about our PLAY! events, please visit royalholloway.ac.uk/events



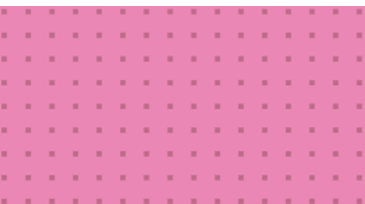
EVENT OVERVIEW

Join us for the annual Raven Opera Cup, a showcase of the finest voices within The Raven Opera Company.

This celebrated singing competition brings together our most talented company members for an evening of extraordinary vocal artistry, as each performer vies for the coveted 2026 Raven Opera Cup. Our distinguished panel of judges, drawn from company alumni who have gone on to successful careers in opera and classical singing, will offer detailed, constructive feedback, providing an invaluable learning experience for every competitor.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our special guest Judge, Hilary Cronin, for returning to Royal Holloway and spending the afternoon with us. A further thank you to our superb accompanists, William Bishop and Logan Williamson. A final, heartfelt thank you to our outgoing committee for 2025/26: Irina Temerel (President), Grace Hindle (Artistic Director), Aoife Smith (General Secretary), and Kate Pinnel (Publicity Director).



THE COMPETITION

George Frideric Handel (1685 - 1759): 'Forte e Lieto a Morte Andrei' from *Tamerlano*, HWV 18 Act 1

sung by **Lena Gore**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791): 'Yes, Fools You Are, And Will Be' from *The Marriage of Figaro* (K. 492)

sung by **Peter Evans**

Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976): *The Last Rose of Summer*

sung by **Jasmine Stoutt**

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847): 'It is Enough!' from *Elijah*, Op. 70

sung by **Brooklyn Storey**

George Frideric Handel 1685 - 1759): 'Hence Iris, Hence Away' from *Semele*, HWV 58

sung by Kate Pinnell

Antonio Vivaldi (1678 - 1741): *Nulla in Mundo Pax Sincera*, RV 630

sung by Amelia Blackburn

Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976): 'Johnny' from *Cabaret Songs*

sung by Grace Hindle

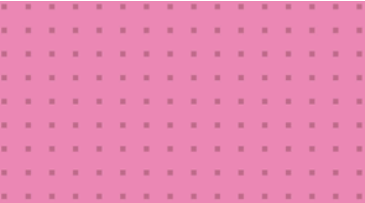
Charles Ives (1874 - 1954): 'The Housatonic at Stockbridge' from *Three Places in New England*

sung by Aoife Smith

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791): 'Ach ich Fühls' from *Die Zauberflöte*, K. 620

sung by Emily Oxtoby

The sung items will be followed by approx. 10 minutes of judging time and an announcement of the top three singers, and the winner of the Raven Opera Cup



OUR GUEST JUDGE

Selected by BBC Music Magazine as a Rising Star of 2022, Hilary Cronin won both First Prize and the Audience Prize at the 2021 London Handel International Singing Competition. Hilary trained at Trinity Laban Conservatoire and at Royal Holloway University of London where she was awarded the Dame Felicity Lott Bursary and the Driver Prize for Excellence in Performance.

Since then, she has established a reputation as an outstanding performer of Baroque music, gaining engagements with ensembles including Academy of Ancient Music, Arcangelo, English Baroque Soloists, The English Concert, Florilegium, Irish Baroque Orchestra, London Handel Players, La Nuova Musica, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Polyphony, The Sixteen, English Chamber Orchestra, London Mozart Players, and Scottish Chamber Orchestra, as well as making her

debut at the Handel Festival, Halle for Handel's Diva, at Teatro la Fenice for Fauré *Requiem* and at Carnegie Hall for Handel *L'Allegro* with the Monteverdi Choir.

Hilary's operatic engagements have included Orontea *L'Orontea* for Theater an der Wien Kammeroper, Semele *Semele* for Waterperry Opera Festival, Piacere *Il Trionfo del Tempo e del Disinganno* with The Early Opera Company at Buxton International Festival, Poppea *Agrippina* with English Touring Opera, Mother *Hansel and Gretel* for Silent Opera at Opera Holland Park, Céphise *Pygmalion* for Dunedin Consort, Télémaque *Castor et Pollux* with The Rameau Project and Mrs Waters *The Boatswain's Mate* for Grimeborne Festival. Her recordings include Handel Messiah with Irish Baroque Orchestra, J.S.Bach *Christmas Oratorio* with English Baroque Soloists on DG, Second Lady *Dido and Aeneas* with La Nuova Musica on Pentatone SACD and Telemann *Donner-Ode* with Solomon's Knot on cpo.



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