



Press Notes 27 March 2017

# THE THEATRE at the Vera Fletcher Hall

Commedia Opera presents

## MADAM BUTTERFLY

After many previous successful visits to the Vera Fletcher Hall, Commedia Opera are bringing their production of Madam Butterfly, Puccini's moving and tender tragedy of the ill-fated Japanese geisha. Sung in English with a cast of the finest professional singers, the production is fully staged and accompanied by the Virtual Reality Orchestra. A compelling evening of entertainment utilising the latest developments in music technology to provide a full orchestral accompaniment.

### The cast includes:

**Laura POOLEY** studied Classics and English at St John's College, Oxford. She went on to study singing at the Royal College of Music, London, and left when she was offered the opportunity to join the chorus of Welsh National Opera. Her repertoire includes: Pamina (Die Zauberflöte) Suffolk Opera; Ariene (The Hidden Valley) Welsh National Opera at the Tête à Tête Festival; Gilda (Rigoletto) Opera Brava; Mary Crawford (Mansfield Park) Hampstead Garden Opera; Susanna (Le Nozze di Figaro) Mon Ami Theater Weimar and Sommertheater Tiefurt, Germany; Female Lead (A Real Princess) Welsh National Opera; Fiordiligi (Cosi fan tutte) for Pavilion Opera. She will also tour in La Traviata for Pavilion Opera this summer.

**Anando MUKERJEE** has appeared in opera, concert, recital and oratorio throughout the UK, Europe and Asia with Welsh National Opera, Scottish Opera, Opera Holland Park, Belgrade National Opera, Surrey Opera, Somerset Opera, Lakeland Opera, White Horse Opera, Opera UK, Aeolian Court Opera and Dorset Opera. In 2011 he made his US debut at the Kennedy Center, Washington DC in association with the Washington National Opera. His repertoire includes the principal tenor roles in La Bohème, Tosca, Madam Butterfly, La Traviata, Rigoletto, Lucia di Lammermoor, Macbeth, L'elisir d'amore and Die Fledermaus.

**John GRAHAM-MAW** began as a boy treble and was head chorister at Kings Choir in Cambridge and a soloist in numerous recordings. He sang at St John's Cambridge and toured the UK, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Sweden and the Netherlands. He later studied opera at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. He has been a soloist for the New London Singers, the Barts Choir and the London Orpheus Choir. Opera roles include the Wizard in Bastien und Bastienne, The Tree and Chair in L'enfant et les Sortilèges, Mr Snow in Carousel, Escamillo in Carmen and Marcello and Schaunard in La Bohème.

[www.commediaopera.com](http://www.commediaopera.com)

**DATE:** SUNDAY 23RD APRIL 2017

**TIME:** 7.30 PM

**VENUE INFORMATION:** Vera Fletcher Hall, 4 Embercourt Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL

**TICKETS:** £15.00 (Under 16s free)

**BOX OFFICE:** 0845 680 1926 or online at [www.verafletcherhall.co.uk](http://www.verafletcherhall.co.uk)

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