

No more 'Live from the Met'?

I have heard that Bolton's Cineworld cinema in The Valley has decided not to screen Live from the Met in the forthcoming season. The reason given is that on Saturday nights they can make more money by two screenings of 3D films than from the long broadcasts from the Met.

After this devastating news, I went on line to Cineworld nationally and saw that the Met operas were marked tbc so it seemed as if this might be a national not a local decision. I have written to the Bolton cinema to protest, saying we would be prepared to pay more than the £8 - £10 they charged last year and begging them to reconsider.

It may be too late to make a difference, but if you feel strongly about this please try to find out why your local Cineworld cinema is doing this and take appropriate action!!!!

The listing of Met operas has now disappeared from the Cineworld website. Metopera.org itself no longer lists Cineworld in Britain as a participating cinema and the only cinemas in the north seem to be FACT in Liverpool and a cinema in Sheffield. Booking for the whole season has opened at FACT and there are still tickets available for Tosca on 10th October.

Lohengrin in Birmingham

There will be a concert performance of Lohengrin given by the CBSO at Symphony Hall in Birmingham on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at 4.30 pm (ending at 10.15 pm). Just weeks before his debut, Andris Nelsons will conduct the opera with which he will open the 2010 Bayreuth Festival. Full details can be found on the Symphony Hall website.

Bayreuth

I won't dwell on the fantastic privilege of my visit to Bayreuth this summer, but you will be very pleased to know that Andrew Shore as Alberich received a tremendous reception from the audience.

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WAGNER SOCIETY MANCHESTER NEWSLETTER 22 (September 2009)



www.wagnersocietymanchester.co.uk

Welcome to the Manchester Wagner Society's new season.

Did you see the South Bank Show on ITV on Sunday, September 12th? If you missed the very interesting film by Tony Palmer about **The Wagner Family**, I have a video recording of it which I can lend to members. If you have a DVD recording which someone may be glad to borrow, please let me know.

Wagner at the Bridgewater Hall

On Saturday October 3rd the BBC Phil's programme includes the Siegfried Idyll and the Prelude and Liebestod from Tristan. The other works are Beethoven's Violin Concerto and Overture The Ruins of Athens.

Next Meeting Gareth Curtis

on

The Songs of Richard Wagner

All of us are familiar with Wagner's Wesendonck Lieder but Gareth Curtis, our speaker next month, has tracked down recordings of other Wagner songs which you will be interested to hear. The date is October 12th.

Tristan und Isolde at Covent Garden

The Royal opera House has a new production of Tristan und Isolde conducted by Antonio Pappano on 29th September and 2nd, 5th, 9th, 15th and 18th October. Isolde is Nina Stemme; Ben Hepner is Tristan.

Ian Beresford-Gleaves has a course on Tristan from 18th – 20th September at Farncombe Estate Centre, Broadway. I have leaflets for anyone interested.

Das Rheingold in the Netherlands

The Nationale Reisopera will open its Ring cycle with Das Rheingold in Enschede between September 26th and October 11th 2009. In the next three seasons the rest of the cycle will be presented, with a complete cycle to celebrate Wagner's bicentennial in 2013. I have a few flyers with details.

Hans Hotter Centenary Week 23rd – 30th October 2009

This course at the Lodge Hill Centre, Watersfield, Sussex covers not only the roles of Wotan and Gurnemanz sung at Bayreuth by one of the 20th century's greatest Wagnerians, but also his roles in the Barber of Seville, Strauss's Die Schweigsame Frau and Boris Godunov and his singing of Palestrina and Die Winterriese. The speakers are Penelope Turing and David Stannard and other participants include tenor John Dobson, Hotter's biographer Donald Arthur and his daughter Gabriele Strauss. I have a booklet with the details of the course.

Der Fliegende Hollander

Ian Beresford Gleaves has a course on this at Urchfont Manor College, Devizes, Wiltshire from 6th – 8th November 2009. Details can be found on the website www.urchfontmanor.co.uk or email urchfont.manor@wiltshire.gov.uk

The Royal Opera House's Wagner Supporters Group

If you have £5000 to donate you will have access to some splendid events and support Wagner productions at the Royal Opera House. Details from Rebecca Regan on 020 7212 9344 or email rebecca.regan@roh.org

The Ring in Dresden

The Dresden Staatsoper has two cycles in February and March 2010. I have a few flyers with details. Details can also be found on the website www.semperoper.de

A new Website

www.wagneropera.net

This Norwegian website (mostly in English) has a great deal of information about Wagner recordings and clips from interviews with notable Wagner singers and critics. I have also received this email from the editor:

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Dear Wagner Society,

Wagneropera.net thinks it would be a great idea to let Wagner lovers share their experiences from the Bayreuth Festival. We would therefore like to invite all to write some lines about their visit(s) to Bayreuth. It does not have to be long.

One lucky contributor will win the book "Bayreuth Backstage"!

We hope some of your members will contribute.

Best wishes,
Per-Erik Skramstad
editor Wagneropera.net