

# THE WANDERING SCHOLAR

By Gustav Holst

LATE NIGHT SHOW

10PM / TICKETS £10

10<sup>TH</sup> 12<sup>TH</sup> 13<sup>TH</sup> 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

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Opéra

Les

Fauves

Presents



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Opéra les Fauves

*The Wandering Scholar*

*by Gustav Holst*

www.WanderingScholar.co.uk



After a successful preview performance at City University on the 28th of May, Opéra les Fauves is proud to announce it's transfer to the Kings Head Theatre for four nights next week.

We will be performing at the **Kings Head Theatre** on the **10th, 12th, 13th and 16th of June** at 10pm.

Tickets will be priced at £10.

Please go to [www.kingsheadtheatre.com](http://www.kingsheadtheatre.com)

Or phone the Kings Head Box Office on: **0207 478 0160**

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### The Wandering Scholar...

A simple farmer's housewife finds freedom while her husband is in the fields.

Priests and scholars abundant, she has plenty to choose from.

Based on one of the tales from Helen Waddell's *The Wandering Scholars*, this mischievous 13th century tale of lust, desire and almond cake is re imagined in the 1950's with a surreal twist.

New company Opéra Les Fauves presents a bawdy re invention of this little known opera, by Gustav Holst and arranged by Benjamin Britten.

This racy production is excellent with a pint!



At first glance this is a comic opera about a housewife who chooses to add some spice to her otherwise inordinately dull life by playing away with the local priest. None of the characters are complex. They are motivated by simple animal desires (namely food and sex) but what is mostly a sex farce does have a darker side.

Our first preview was a relatively naturalistic production, set in the 1950's, an era on the cusp of sexual revolution. Increasingly, the animalistic side of human nature became more and more an important theme. This led us to develop a rather surreal world for the opera the second time around, one which was far more rooted in nature and natural urges. This is a world where nature dominates, however hard the characters try to be civilised.

In 1956 80% of married women surveyed considered sex to be part of their household chores, by the 60s these ideas were beginning to change, sex became more about pleasure and recreation, less about marital duty and babies. We like to think that even at this time something more akin to the world we have created was going on inside!

## OPÈRA LES FAUVES

As a new opera company, we strive to explore and develop new practices and aim to deliver accessible, energetic and engaging performances. In the future we envisage projects as wide-ranging as cabaret-style evenings in bars, delivering education projects to schools and communities as well as putting on site-specific performances at festivals.

On behalf of Opéra les Fauves, I hope that this performance of *The Wandering Scholar* will be an enthralling experience.

Justin Fung



## Starring...



### **Eleanor Ross**

Alison

English soprano Eleanor Ross trained as an oboist at the Royal College of Music and the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo, and recently finished studies with renowned tenor Dennis O'Neill at the Wales International Academy of Voice. She will join the Opera Works training scheme at English National Opera this September. Notable opera performances include *Konigin der Nacht* (Die Zauberflöte, Mozart) at the Castelo de Sao Jorge in Lisbon, *Melia* (Apollo et Hyacinthus, Mozart) above the ruins of

Shakespeare's first theatre The Rose, *Miss Wordsworth* (Albert Herring, Britten) under Stuart Bedford, *Philadell/Venus*

(King Arthur, Purcell) at the Cheltenham International Festival, and *Barbarina* (Le Nozze di Figaro, Mozart) under Diego Masson. Performances in 2013 include *Giannetta* (L'Elisir d'Amore, Donizetti) for OperaUpClose, *Iris/Cover Semele* (Semele, Handel) at the Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon, opera scenes with British Youth Opera, and the world premiere of a new opera at the 2013 Grimeborn Festival. [www.eleanorrossmusic.co.uk](http://www.eleanorrossmusic.co.uk)

### David Menezes

Pierre (The Scholar)

Born in Barnsley, David gained a degree in classics at St Hugh's College, Oxford, before studying singing at the Royal College of Music.

Roles include Colonel Fairfax, Yeomen of the Guard, Flute, A Midsummer Night's Dream (British Youth Opera), Goro, Dr Caius (Wexford Festival), Satyavan, Savitri (Minotaur Music Theatre), Ferrando, Mozart, Mozart & Salieri, Nanki-Poo, Earl Tololler, Richard Dauntless, Ralph Rackstraw, Frederic, (Charles Court Opera) Remendado, Carmen (Longborough Festival and Opera Project), Peter Quint/Prologue, Turn of the Screw (Opera Up Close), and cover Manager /Secretary Heart of Darkness (Opera East). Most recently, David has appeared as Jaquino, Fidelio, Spoletta, Tosca, (New London Opera Players), Don Ottavio (Co-Opera) and The Writer, Pavane for an Invisible Princess (Rough for Opera).



### Richard Moore

Louis

Richard studied Music at Granada and Sussex Universities. Upon graduating he spent a year travelling, singing and climbing in Georgia and South America, and returned to the UK in 2010 to join the choir of Gloucester Cathedral. Since leaving Gloucester he has been active on the choral scene in and around London; singing as a Lay Clerk at Chelmsford Cathedral, a Choral Scholar at St Martin in the Fields and performing with groups such as The Syred Consort, The Armonico Consort and Musica Beata. Opera roles include Aeneas in Dido and

Aeneas, Sleep, Winter, Corydon and Hymen in The Fairy Queen, Antonio in The Marriage of Figaro, Polyphemus in Acis and Galatea, and Peter Quince in A Midsummer Night's Dream. Rich studies with Robert Dean and will be starting a master's at the Royal Northern College of Music in September.



## Dionysios Kyropoulos

Father Phillipe

Dionysios is a London based opera singer with an academic interest in historical stagecraft and Baroque opera. He read music at City University London while having his performance tuition at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Robert Dean. In the next academic year he will be studying for the MPhil in Music Studies at the University of Cambridge.

Some of his full roles include Uberto in Pergolesi's *La Serva Padrona*, Plutone in Peri's *Euridice*, Masetto in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Simone in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, Polyphemus in Handel's *Acis and Galatea*, Bartolo in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and Badger in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*.

Dionysios has sung with several opera companies including MidAmerica Productions, Riverside Opera, Mantissa Opera, Barefoot Opera, Skull of Yorick Productions, Rose Opera Company, Lucid Arts, Unexpected Opera and Longborough Festival Opera. He participated in the British Youth Opera 2011 Easter Workshops and their 2012 production of Smetana's *The Bartered Bride* in which he sang in the chorus and un-



## Danyal Dhondy

Musical Director/Viola

Danyal is a conductor, composer and arranger from South London, who specialises in opera and theatre music. Two of his operas were premiered last year: *Just So* at *Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival*, and *The Open Cage* at The Yard Theatre.

His recent arrangement of *Tosca*, jointly commissioned by Malmö Opera and OperaUpClose, premiered in Sweden and the UK in 2012. His previous arrangements for OperaUpClose (of *Madama Butterfly* and *Pagliacci*), garnered critical acclaim and led to a nomination for an Arts Foundation Award in Opera Composition.



One of his arrangements (for *The Tan Yard Side*) features on Sam Lee's album *Ground Of Its Own*, which was nominated for the Mercury Music Prize in 2012.

## Luca Tieppo

Piano and Musical Director

Luca is based in London, where he works for the Royal Academy of Dance and the European Ballet among the others. Current and recent projects include a new orchestration of Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* commissioned by Olivier Award winner OperaUpClose at the King's Head Theatre, and a ballet *Uphill* to be performed by the New English Ballet Theatre with a choreography by Jessica Edgley.

As composer, he won the Milano Milhaud prize in 1994 with *Concerto da camera n.1*, which allowed him to further develop his skills by working closely with the Pomeriggi Musicali in Milan.

His last work for piano solo, *Preludes sur la Danse*, was performed in Connecticut by the American pianist Scott Mayfield in 2007 and in the same year his *Bergen Elegy* for string orchestra won the first prize at the International Composer Competition Ottorino Respighi. A member of the London Composers Forum, Luca recently premiered the second volume of his *Preludes* in a series of concerts in London.

He also published a children's book, *Little Petrof*, which is currently being worked on as an idea for a Music Theatre show.



## Richard Baker

Piano and  
Musical Director

Richard is currently in his final term at Lamda, training as a musical director.

Current productions include *City of Angels* at the Hammersmith Lyric Theatre.

He formerly studied music in Huddersfield.





## Production Team..

### Toby Tyrrell Jones

Director

Toby is a freelance director, based in London. He is in his second year of professional work after

graduating from Cambridge in 2011. He was a resident director at the Barbican Theatre in Plymouth 2011/12 where he Assistant Directed The World at Your Feet with the Barbican and The Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

Current projects include Bin Laden: A One Man Show, premiering at The Clapham Omnibus in July and a documentary film The World at Your Feet: Untold Stories about refugee and asylum seeker actors. At Cambridge he was Artistic Director of The Corpus Playroom, had many directing credits including The Good Soul of Szechwan (Brecht), Acis and Galatea (Handel) and Oh What a Lovely War on Terror. [www.tyrrelljones.com](http://www.tyrrelljones.com)



### Hannah Spearing

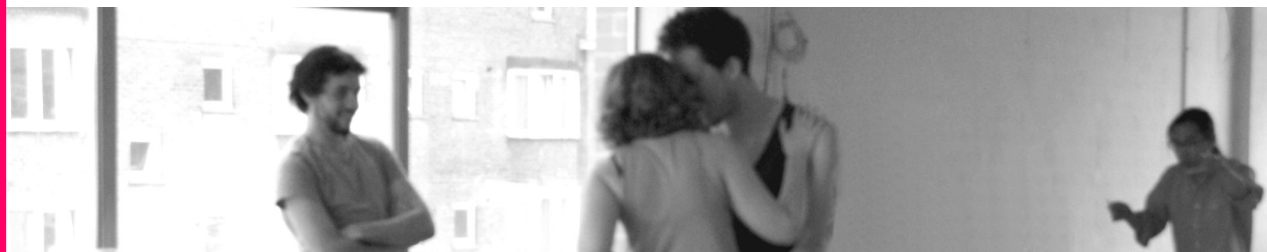
Designer

Hannah was born and bred in a tiny village in Scotland and made the transition to the capital in pursuit of new and exciting opportunities. In 2011 she graduated from the Wimbledon College of Art as a costume designer. She has since worked with several companies, including the BBC, Iris Theatre, Vienna Festival Ballet Company and The National Theatre.

### Fiona Gent

Producer

Fiona graduated from Leeds University last year in History of Art. During her time at University she acted in, produced and directed a great deal of student theatre. Since graduating she has been carving herself a career as an actress and producer, most recently in D.A.Y.S. a pilot TV series about a group of young drug users being premiered at the British Film Institute this summer. She has been taking leading roles in fringe theatre productions and music videos. Other work includes free-lance painting and casting assisting at Spotlight.







You can follow us on twitter [@OperaLesFauves](#)  
and let us know what you think about the  
show using the [#WanderingScholar](#) hashtag

[www.wanderingscholar.co.uk](http://www.wanderingscholar.co.uk)

#### **Acknowledgements**

With special thanks to: City University London, The Forge Venue, Royal Shakespeare Company, Savio(u)r Theatre Company, Theatre Delicatessen, Nut Films, Danyal Dhondy, Callista Nurse, Joshua Josiah-Yoshi Berry, Nicole McNielly, Mariko North, Luca Tieppo, Paul Mackenzie, Charlotte Caird, Marcos Fernandez, Alison Arnopp, Christian Halstead, Chris Beckett, Alex Rider, Ildikó Kálnoky, David Jervis and Jennifer Melville.