

## **THE INTERNATIONAL OPERA AWARDS 2018 WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

**The 2018 International Opera Awards sponsored by Mazars.**

**In association with BBC Radio 3 and Opera Magazine.**

MONDAY 9 APRIL 2018 – The sixth International Opera Awards took place tonight at the London Coliseum. The 2018 winners were announced at the black-tie ceremony, hosted for the third year running by BBC Radio 3 presenter Petroc Trelawny.

With over one hundred finalists representing six continents and thirty countries, the winners of the Opera Awards – opera's equivalent to the Oscars - were selected by an international jury chaired by John Allison, editor of *Opera* magazine and classical music critic with *The Daily Telegraph*.

This year the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to the Spanish mezzo-soprano Teresa Berganza who gave her heartfelt thanks to the International Opera Awards: "It is with great emotion that I receive this priceless prize on behalf of an entire generation - those still amongst us and those who've left us - hoping we've accomplished our mission, and now leaving the spotlight for you all. Many, many thanks."

The award for Female Singer went to Swedish soprano Malin Byström, whilst Polish tenor Piotr Beczala was awarded the Male Singer award. The coveted Readers' Award went to Pretty Yende, last year's winner for Solo Recital Recording, who received more than 10,000 votes online. Further award winners include Vladimir Jurowski (Conductor), Mariusz Treliński (Director), Bayerische Staatsoper (Opera Company), Festival Verdi Parma (Festival), Teatro Real's production of *Billy Budd* (New Production), Brett Dean's *Hamlet* at Glyndebourne Festival Opera (World Premiere), Opera Holland Park (Education and Outreach) and Annette Campbell-White (Philanthropy).

Celebrating the best of the international opera world while raising funds for the Opera Awards Foundation, the evening was also a showcase for both current and emerging opera stars, with live performances by international singers Anne Sophie Duprels, Brindley Sherratt, Toby Spence and Camilla Tilling, as well as three Young Singer finalists Gordon Bintner, Wallis Giunta and Anush Hovhannisyan.

BBC Radio 3, which has partnered with the International Opera Awards for the second year running, will once again broadcast highlights from the ceremony in a special 90-minute programme on Sunday 15 April at 9.15pm.

Founded in 2012 by businessman and philanthropist Harry Hyman, the International Opera Awards exists not only to celebrate established stars, but to support the next generation of talent. The Awards raises money for the Opera Awards Foundation, a charity which provides bursaries to aspiring operatic talent around the world.

All categories except for the Readers' Award (the only vote open to the general public) are decided on by a select jury of international industry members. Category sponsors at this year's Awards include the Good Governance Institute, The Vineyard, the Royal Opera House Muscat and Charles Heidsieck Champagne. The Awards are supported by Nexus Group.

[www.operaawards.org](http://www.operaawards.org)

#OperaAwards2018

**To access photos and footage from the 2018 Awards please go to: <https://goo.gl/pYdYTo>**

Images will be uploaded after midnight GMT. B-Roll footage of the ceremony and backstage will be available at 11.30pm UK time on 9 April.

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## **2018 WINNERS**

### **CHORUS**

MusicAeterna

### **CONDUCTOR**

Vladimir Jurowski

### **DESIGNER**

Paul Steinberg

### **DIRECTOR**

Mariusz Treliński

### **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

Opera Holland Park

### **FEMALE SINGER**

Malin Byström

### **FESTIVAL**

Festival Verdi Parma

### **LEADERSHIP IN OPERA**

Bernd Loebe

### **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT**

Teresa Berganza

### **MALE SINGER**

Piotr Beczala

### **NEW PRODUCTION**

Britten: *Billy Budd*, d. Deborah Warner (Teatro Real, Madrid)

### **NEWCOMER**

Barbora Horáková Joly (Director)

### **OPERA COMPANY**

Bayerische Staatsoper

### **OPERA ORCHESTRA**

Teatro alla Scala, Milan

### **PHILANTHROPY**

Annette Campbell-White

### **READERS' AWARD**

Pretty Yende

### **RECORDING (COMPLETE OPERA)**

Berlioz: *Les Troyens* (Erato)

### **RECORDING (SOLO RECITAL)**

Veronique Gens: *Visions* (Alpha)

### **REDISCOVERED WORK**

Krenek: *Drei Opem* (Oper Frankfurt)

### **WORLD PREMIERE**

Brett Dean: *Hamlet* (Glyndebourne)

### **YOUNG SINGER**

Wallis Giunta

## **Notes to Editors**

A full list of jury members is available on the International Opera Awards website: [www.operaawards.org/2018-jury](http://www.operaawards.org/2018-jury)

### **Mazars**

Mazars is an international, integrated and independent organisation, specialising in audit, accountancy, advisory, tax and legal services. As of January 1st, 2017, Mazars operates throughout the 86 countries that make up its integrated partnership. Mazars draws upon the expertise of 20,000 women and men led by 980 partners. We assist clients of all sizes, from SMEs to mid-caps and global players as well as start-ups and public organisations, at every stage of their development. In the UK, Mazars has approximately 140 partners and over 1,700 employees serving clients from 17 offices, and is ranked one of the top 10 firms nationally.

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

### **BBC Radio 3**

Since it launched in 1946, the Third Programme/BBC Radio 3 has been a bold pioneer in the cultural world. It is one of the world's foremost presenters, creators, commissioners and curators across classical, opera, folk, world, jazz and contemporary music as well as drama, philosophy and ideas. The station is also the most significant commissioner of new and contemporary music in the UK, with 35 new works commissioned annually and broadcasts over 600 concerts a year, including live broadcasts from the greatest classical music festival in the world (BBC Proms) and a regular weekly commitment to international opera in Opera on 3. Radio 3's In Concert programme alone reaches the equivalent of 250 packed concert halls a week, and the BBC Orchestras and Choirs give around 400 concerts a year in over 60 UK locations. The station has always nurtured extraordinary artistic talents, provided a platform for important scientific and political debates/announcements, and broadcast ground-breaking experimental drama – always while delivering its core aim of connecting audiences with pioneering music and culture.

[www.bbc.co.uk/radio3](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio3)

### **Opera Magazine**

Described by *The Daily Telegraph* as 'the bible of the industry', *Opera* magazine has been the world's leading commentator on the lyric stage for almost 70 years. Providing coverage of operatic events through a mixture of features, reviews (live performances, recordings, books) and analysis, plus monthly listings of events worldwide and its famous 'We hear that' section, the magazine has an unrivalled network of international correspondents, covering performances from around the globe.

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