

Soprano: Louise Woodgate

Louise graduated from Oxford Brookes University in 2000 and continued her vocal studies at Trinity College of Music, London.

After several years of teaching Louise is now concentrating on her solo performance with Quentin Hayes. She has given recitals at venues such as The Holywell music rooms and Jacqueline Dupre Building Oxford. She features regularly at the Royal Military College of Science proms, performing with the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, The Royal Marines, The Scots Guards, and The Irish Guards.

Recent performances have included Richard Strauss Four Last Songs with orchestra.

Operatic roles include 2nd Lady Magic flute, Flora La Traviata and Tatiana Eugene Onegin with Oxford Touring Opera.

In 2001 soprano Louise Woodgate and mezzo soprano Anna Pelly set up their own opera company 'Opera Soufflé.' Their primary aim is to entertain; to show just how dramatic, how funny, how sexy Opera can be. Productions range from the more theatrical dramatic "mini Opera" to pure cabaret froth. All productions are staged and lavishly costumed.

"Their ingenious shows, create a totally original entertainment which unashamedly reinvents Opera to give it wider appeal" Oxford Times.

Opera Soufflé start with a classic story line universal to mankind and then weave intimate cabaret and grand opera into a *"fast moving show for those who enjoy opera but don't want to try too hard"* The Scotsman

"Opera Soufflé's divas are irrepressible. In their sparkling shows they take all that operatic life has to offer - the ecstasy, betrayal and revenge, tragedy and comedy - bring it to life and bounce back for more" Richard Shaw, Repetiteur, Royal Academy of Music.

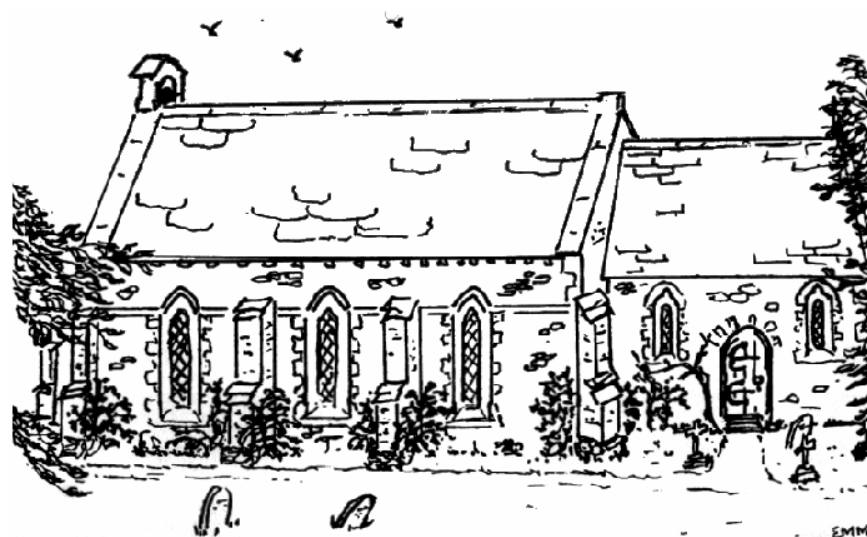
After a successful run at the Edinburgh Festival in 2002 they went from strength to strength, performing extensively at home and abroad. *"Opera Soufflédo for opera what Mamma Mia did for Abba....fun, vibrant and accessible"* The Scotsman

"Sexy and stylishrevenge eaten hot" The Guardian

Venues include: Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge, the Langham Hilton London, and Stratford on Avon Festival. Believing Opera should be accessible to all they perform wherever required - from Aston Villa football stadium to the beauty of English country houses such as Loseley House, Stonor Park, and for the Duke of Westminster at his home in aid of the Countryside Alliance. Opera Soufflé perform extensively in aid of Charities such as Juvenile Diabetes, Pestalozzi and See Saw as well as various national hospices.

In January 2007 Louise will be playing the role of Eponine in Pimlico Opera's production of Les Miserables in January 2007. This will take place in Wandsworth Prison and the inmates will be taking part.

Christmas Concert



In aid of Holy Ascension Church, Littleworth

Tuesday 19th December

Programme

The Faringdon Singers
and Louise Woodgate Alma Dei Creatoris Mozart

Audience **Once in Royal David's City**

Louise Woodgate Air: Rejoice Greatly O Daughter of Zion
Air: Come Unto Him from Handel's Messiah

Audience **It Came upon the Midnight Clear**

The Faringdon Singers Adam Lay Ybounden Boris Ord
I saw a Maiden Edgar Pettman
Whence is that Goodly Fragrance? Willcocks
Sans Day Carol John Rutter

Audience **While Shepherds watched their Flocks by Night**

Louise Woodgate Infant Joy music by Rebecca Clarke
Wiegenlied a lullaby by Richard Strauss
Let the bright Seraphim Handel

Audience **O come, all ye Faithful**

The Faringdon Singers
and Louise Woodgate Bethlehem Down Peter Warlock
O Holy Night Adolphe Adam

Soprano Louise Woodgate
Choir The Faringdon Singers
Conductor Terence Carter
Pianist Peter Cowdrey

The Faringdon Singers is a small friendly group which sings regularly throughout West Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. Any monies raised from concerts, by way of retiring collections is donated to various charities. The Singers, around 35 in number, come from a wide area around Faringdon and have been directed since 1993 by Terence Carter. Their repertoire includes both sacred and secular choral music as well as more extended choral works, accompanied and unaccompanied.

Conductor: Terence Carter

Terence has directed the Faringdon Singers since September 1993. Before that he accompanied the Singers, his first concert with them being in June 1979. Educated at Jesus College Oxford, he played an active part in the musical life of the College and University as organist and accompanist. He subsequently gained the Fellowship and Choirmaster's Diplomas of the Royal College of Organists. He was Director of Music at Wantage Choral Society from 1982 – 2003. He accompanied chapel services at Pembroke College Oxford and was organist and sometime conductor of the Christ Church Cathedral Voluntary Choir (now the Cathedral Singers). He also played the organ at Hereford Cathedral in concerts given by combined City church choirs over a number of years, and has performed at a wide variety of local venues. Terence was appointed Chairman of the Oxfordshire District Committee of the Royal School of Church Music in 2006.

Pianist: Peter Cowdrey

Peter Cowdrey is a freelance composer and pianist based in the Oxford Area. Recent works include two song cycles, Song Thrush and The Lucy Poems, which were premiered in Sunningwell in July. His Second String Quartet will be premiered by the Brodsky Quartet in Derry in 2007. Peter is also writing an opera based on wine diaries by Michael Broadbent, to be performed in the Great Rooms at Christie's in London. As pianist he has played Charles Ives' First Piano Sonata on tour in South America, and is currently learning some of Messiaen's Catalogue d'Oiseaux to perform at Les Montagn'Arts Festival near Grenoble, alongside his own birdsong inspired compositions. Other interests include the acoustics of Neolithic buildings.

O come, all ye faithful

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the King of Angels:
*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him

See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps:
O come, let us adore him

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God In the highest:
O come, let us adore him

Once in royal David's City

Once in royal David's City
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

It came upon the midnight clear

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heav'n 's all gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love – song which they bring
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever circling years
Comes round the age of gold:
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.

'To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:

'The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.'

Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

'All glory be to God on high,
And on the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men
Begin and never cease.'