

## THE 2024 OPERA ARE IN AID OF:



**Action Medical Research** is the leading UK-wide charity funding vital research to help sick and disabled babies, children and young people.

We have been funding medical breakthroughs since we began nearly 70 years ago and have helped to beat polio in the UK, fight meningitis, prevent stillbirths and develop ultrasound scanning in pregnancy.

We fund a broad range of cutting-edge medical research most likely to deliver real benefit to babies, children and young people. We want to make a difference in premature birth, pregnancy complications and treating sick and vulnerable babies, as well as in preventing infections and helping children affected by disabilities, disabling conditions and rare diseases. *For more information please visit: [action.org.uk](http://action.org.uk)*

**Child Bereavement UK** helps children and young people (up to age 25), parents, and families, to rebuild their lives when a child grieves or when a child dies.

We also provide training to professionals, equipping them to provide the best possible care to bereaved families. *For more information please visit: [childbereavementuk.org](http://childbereavementuk.org)*

Diva Opera's *La Traviata*



# FINGEST GREAT BARN OPERA 2024 20TH SEASON



Matthew Durkan as Figaro in Diva Opera's  
*'Il Barbiere di Siviglia' 2024*

## DIVA OPERA

### LA TRAVIATA

Giuseppe Verdi

Saturday

7th September 2024

at 6.00pm

### IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA

Gioachino Rossini

Saturday

14th September 2024

at 6.00pm

The Great Barn, Manor Farm, Fingest, Henley-on-Thames, OXON RG9 6QE

Operas start at 6pm with an extended interval at 7.30pm for picnics.

Ticket prices: £95 / £110 - includes a reserved seat in the Great Barn for the opera and a picnic table for the interval.

Please contact Sylvia Crowther on 01491 638474 or by email at [fingestgreatbarnopera@gmail.com](mailto:fingestgreatbarnopera@gmail.com) | [www.fingestgreatbarnopera.co.uk](http://www.fingestgreatbarnopera.co.uk)  
(NB NEW EMAIL ADDRESS)

# THE GREAT BARN OPERAS 2024

DIVA OPERA. Now in its 28th year, Diva Opera was founded by Anne Marabini Young and Bryan Evans to take chamber opera out of the confines of the theatre and bring it to unique settings. Since its inception, the company has earned an unrivalled reputation within the operatic world and beyond.

Giving around forty performances annually, they are now ambassadors for chamber opera internationally.

Highlights for the company include a performance of *La Cenerentola* at La Fenice Opera House in Venice and *The party scene* from *Die Fledermaus* at the Royal Albert Hall, with José Carreras and Dame Kiri Te Kanawa as special guests and performances at the Tokyo International Forum for the prestigious French music festival '*La Folle Journée*'. They recently returned from South Africa where they performed *Rigoletto* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* to great acclaim.

Both *La Traviata* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* will be performed in stunning period costume of the highest quality and sung in Italian with English surtitles. These outstanding productions feature well-known singers who appear regularly with major opera houses alongside gifted young performers destined for great careers.

For more information about Diva Opera please visit: [www.divaopera.com](http://www.divaopera.com).

# FINGEST GREAT BARN

Fingest Great Barn with its soaring beams and rafters, has wonderful acoustics and provides a superb backdrop for Diva Opera's performances. The Great Barn faces onto the central courtyard at Manor Farm in the village of Fingest, in the picturesque Hambleton Valley, within 7 miles of Marlow, Henley on Thames and High Wycombe.

A large marquee is erected for picnics in the interval with additional space in the surrounding barns. Tables and chairs are provided for everyone and for individual groups of any size by request. This is included in the ticket prices. Couples who come on their own may need to share a picnic table. Seats are allocated on a first come first served basis on receipt of the application form and cheque. Please note, tickets will be sent out at the beginning of September.

Dress Code: formal evening dress not required but please look smart: Jackets for men and ladies please dress up according to the weather. No Jeans! Car parking is in a paddock right behind the Great Barn. There will be a Cash Raffle and professionally organised Silent Auction on both evenings to raise additional funds for the charities. Last year the opera evenings raised (a record) 12.5K for each charity. We would be extremely grateful for Silent Auction prizes - vouchers, treats, experiences etc. Please contact me if you can help.

This will be the 20th season that Diva Opera have performed at Fingest to raise money for charities

## LA TRAVIATA Saturday 7th September 2024

In Verdi's opera, Courtesan Violetta Valery turns her back on the luxurious life of a kept woman when she finds real love with Alfredo Germont. But under pressure from his father, she renounces that love to redeem their family honour. Violetta surrenders all hopes of happiness and of reviving her failing health. She is reunited with Alfredo just before she dies, leaving the cynical and hedonistic Parisian society to ponder on the immensity of her sacrifice. Starring Gabriella Cassidy as Violetta, Robyn Lyn Evans as Alfredo and Philip Smith as Giorgio Germont.

## IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA Saturday 14th September 2024

Rossini's zany comedy takes place during a single day in a hectic Spanish household. Doctor Bartolo is guardian to Rosina and has plans to marry her. She has other ideas as she has fallen in love with Count Almaviva. With Figaro's sharp-witted help and a variety of disguises, the lovers trick the old Doctor and prove that love overcomes all obstacles. The cast includes Matthew Durkan as Figaro, Tereza Gevorgyan as Rosina, Michael Bell as Almaviva and Matthew Hargreaves as Bartolo.

