

Booking information

Bampton and Westonbirt

Tickets £35 (under 18: half-price).

Credit card bookings are subject to a £ 2 transaction fee.

Online www.bamptonopera.org

By telephone 01993 851142

By post and in person

Bampton Classical Opera,

1 Deanery Court, Broad Street, Bampton OX18 2LY

(cheques payable to Bampton Classical Opera;
please give telephone contact number; SAE appreciated)

Convivial companion scheme

If you are attending alone or in a small group and would like to meet up with others to share a picnic or for company, let us know in good time and we will endeavour to help you. Similarly, if you are attending in a group and feel sociable enough to incorporate others, we would be glad to hear from you. Mention it when buying tickets, or call us on 01993 851142.



ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE

London SW1P 3HA

Tickets £15, £22, £30

By telephone 020 7222 1061

Online www.sjss.org.uk

Booking fees

Per transaction: £2.00 by telephone / £1.50 online

St John's Smith Square Charitable Trust Registered charity no: 1045390.
Registered in England, Company no: 3028678.

"Bampton Classical Opera repeatedly presents classical-period rarities which surprise and delight, and does so with wit, energy and musico-dramatic vision."

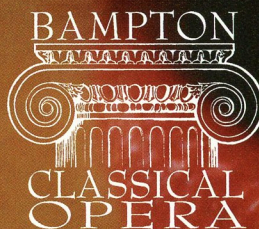
Opera Today

"Bampton's habit of delving into the 18th-century operatic grotto invariably unearths treasures that are both magical and memorable."

Opera

"Bampton Classical Opera is one of those companies you can totally rely on: for vocal excellence, supported by a well-directed classical ensemble; for a teasing, entertaining production backed up by a translation that often enough has you in stitches; for audibility and for brilliantly researched repertoire."

Music and Vision



Patrons

Bonaventura Bottone
The Rt Hon David Cameron, MP
Brian Kay
Sir Roger Norrington
Andrew Parrott
David Pountney
Sir Curtis Price

Bampton Classical Opera

Registered charity no: 1080541
Registered in England and Wales, Company no: 3705788
Registered office: Holcot House, Bampton OX18 2JJ

www.bamptonopera.org
general enquiries 01993 851142

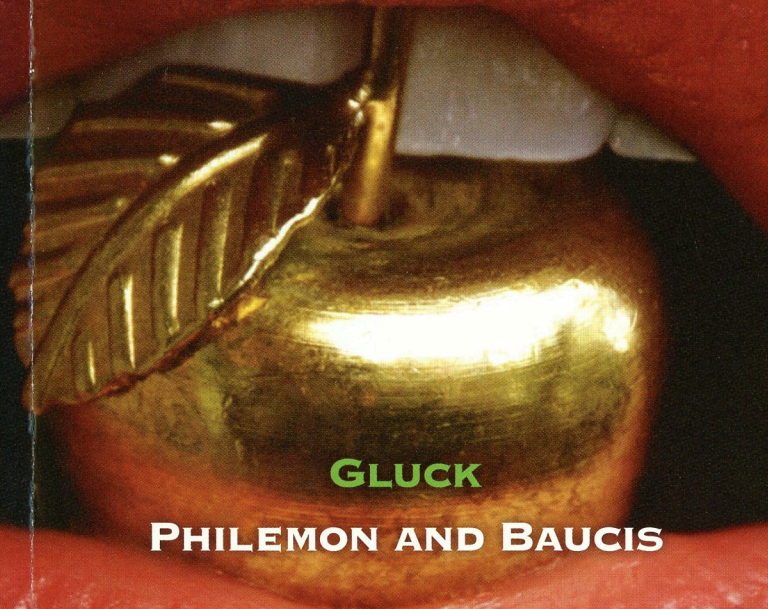


summer 2016

**Bampton
Westonbirt
London**

DIVINE COMEDIES

a mythological double-bill, sung in English



GLUCK

PHILEMON AND BAUCIS

ARNE

THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS

"Specialising in neglected classical repertoire, Oxfordshire's Bampton Opera is pretty much guaranteed to produce a show you won't have seen before... The results are giddily exciting, propelled by wit, charm and bags of joy."

The Spectator

DIVINE COMEDIES

CHRISTOPH WILLIBALD GLUCK

PHILEMON AND BAUCIS (1769)

UK première

libretto by Giuseppe Maria Pagnini,

sung in a new English translation by Gilly French

in a double-bill with

THOMAS ARNE

THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS (1742)

libretto by William Congreve

The Deanery Garden

Bampton, Oxfordshire OX18 2LL

7.00pm Friday 22 and Saturday 23 July

The Orangery Theatre

Westonbirt School, near Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8QG

5.00pm Monday 29 August

St John's Smith Square

London SW1P 3HA

7.00pm Tuesday 13 September

singers

**Barbara Cole Walton, Aoife O'Sullivan,
Catherine Backhouse, Christopher Turner,
Robert Anthony Gardiner, Robert Gildon.**

conductor **Paul Wingfield**

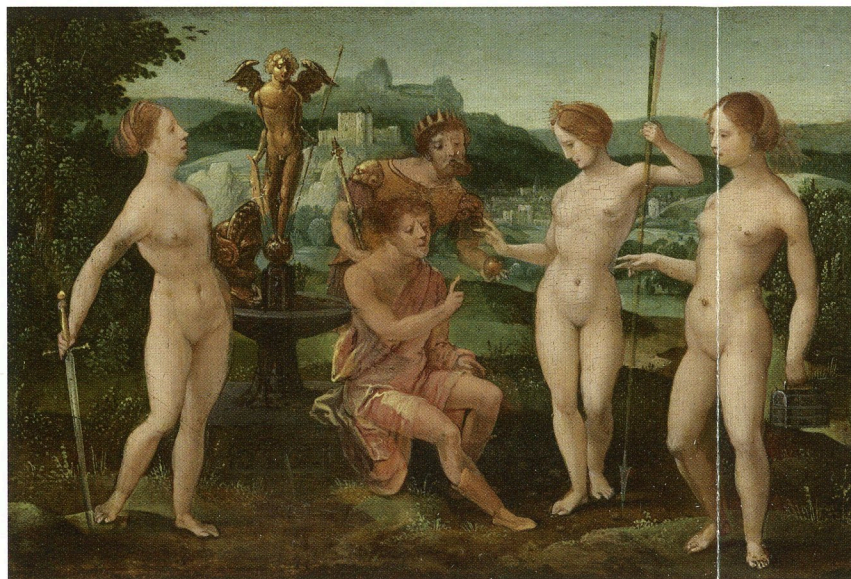
director **Jeremy Gray**

movement director **Triona Adams**

Orchestra of Bampton Classical Opera

(Bampton, Westonbirt)

CHROMA (London)



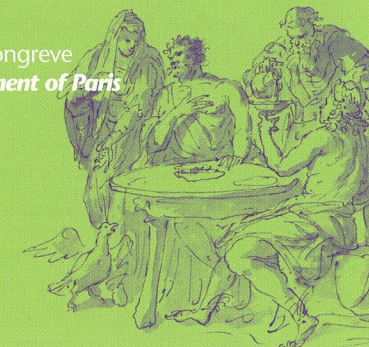
Continuing its enterprising exploration of Gluck's little-known shorter operas, Bampton Classical Opera pairs the supremely lyrical *Philemon and Baucis* with a rare masterpiece by the greatest English eighteenth-century composer for the stage, Thomas Arne. *Philemon and Baucis* lead a simple but contented pastoral life, devoted to each other – but can they withstand the devastating appearance of mighty Jupiter, whose moodiness could well presage unexpected severe weather? How will Paris, a lowly shepherd, manage to choose between the rival beauties, Pallas Athena, Juno and Venus, and so award the glittering prize of the golden apple? Fasten your seat-belts for a supersonic ride to Mount Olympus, as the gods intervene in the lives of mortals!

Bampton Classical Opera, now in its 24th season, enjoys a national reputation for its passionate and enlightened discovery of the byways of eighteenth-century opera. Working with some of the finest emerging young professional singers, Bampton always delights with its superb ensembles and entertaining productions. After his much-praised interpretation of Salieri's *Trofonio's Cave* in 2015, the exciting young conductor Paul Wingfield, a graduate of the Royal Opera's Jette Parker Young Artist Programme, returns to work with director Jeremy Gray in what will be a quirky and irreverent take on classical mythology.

Judgment of Paris, circle of Meester van de Vrouwelijke Halffiguren, 1532 (Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam)
Philemon and Baucis, Elias van Nijmegen, 1677 – 1755 (Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam)

*Apart let me view then each heavenly Fair,
For three at a time there's no Mortal can bear;
And since a gay Robe an ill Shape may disguise,
When each is undrest
I'll judge of the best,
For 'tis not a Face that must carry the Prize.*

William Congreve
The Judgment of Paris



Bampton Classical Opera encourages a relaxed atmosphere and at Bampton seating is not provided: please bring garden chairs and warm clothing. If wet, performances (which may be semi-staged) will be in St Mary's Church. Picnics are welcome in the gardens before the performances at Bampton and in the long interval at Westonbirt. Excellent pre-paid picnics are available to order: details will be sent with tickets.

The Deanery at Bampton is a delightful small Cotswold manor-house in a picturesque and welcoming village.

Westonbirt School is an imposing Victorian mansion with extensive Grade I-listed gardens.

St John's Smith Square is the most historic of London's concert halls and provides a magnificent and appropriately Baroque period setting.

Free pre-performance talks at all venues: details will be sent with tickets.

Saturday 23 July, 3.00pm

St Mary's Church, Bampton

The **Philidor Quartet** plays classical-period string quartets in the beautiful acoustic of Bampton's magnificent medieval church. **Tickets £6 at the door**