



## Opera in Depth with David Nice, Summer 2025

### Wagner's *Die Walküre*

10 Mondays 2.30-4.30pm starting 28 April 2025

You don't need to have attended the first instalment of our Zoom journey through Wagner's *Ring of the Nibelung* – videos of *Das Rheingold* available, all the same, for anyone who didn't – to plunge into the world of passionate human love that is the second of the Ring operas, *Die Walküre* (*The Valkyrie*). This great double tragedy interweaves the tragic love of Wotan's mortal son Siegmund for his long-lost sister Sieglinde with the relationship between the chief god and his favourite daughter Brünnhilde. Few can fail to be moved by the musical tenderness and ferocity, culminating in Brünnhilde's rescue of the pregnant Sieglinde and her punishment at the hands of her stricken father.

Barrie Kosky embarks on *Die Walküre* this summer after a thought-provoking production of *Das Rheingold* in the autumn of 2023; the Royal Opera's former Music Director, Antonio Pappano, conducts. Beginning with introductory sessions for context, we will be following the course of the dramas with excerpts from a wide range of recorded performances on CD, DVD and YouTube.

Previous visitors have included Anne Evans, Graham Clark, Edward Gardner, Ben Heppner, Jakub Hruša, Ermonela Jaho, Richard Jones, Felicity Lott, Ann Murray, Antonio Pappano, Golda Schultz, Robin Ticciati, Mark Wigglesworth – and the two distinguished Wagnerians quoted below.

*I cannot recommend these classes highly enough. If you are an opera buff or if you are just curious to know a little more about opera, then this is course for you. The classes, all expertly guided by the expert hand of David Nice, comprise discussion, listening to recordings and watching scenes on DVD as well as interviews with internationally renowned singers who have a particular association with the opera being studied.*

**Susan Bullock CBE**, soprano and visitor to many of David's classes.

*It's always a stimulating experience to join David Nice and friends when they focus in on an opera for a few weeks. He's a great host, looking at the piece from all angles, well organised yet good 'on the hoof' as well, and bringing in guests who have long and intimate knowledge of the opera involved. Heartily recommended!*

**Sir John Tomlinson**, bass and regular visitor.

**Fee:** £150 for the whole term of ten two-hour classes on Zoom

**Email:** [david.nice@usa.net](mailto:david.nice@usa.net) ASAP to confirm a place