



Opera in Depth with David Nice

In association with the Wagner Society of Scotland

Wagner's *Tannhäuser*

7 Wednesdays 2.30-4.30pm starting 13 August

Some say it will be hard to return to early Wagner after four Zoom terms on the Ring. Not at all. *Tannhäuser* comes with the composer's full instinct for great theatre within the bounds of grand opera, contrasting the titular singer's time in Venusberg with a grand singing competition above ground. It reminds us what a first-rate tunesmith he was, and the twilight zone of the last act is a remarkably prescient creation from a true music dramatist. There's also the fascination of the changes Wagner made 15 years later, for Paris in 1860.

Beginning with an introductory session for context, we will be following the course of the drama with excerpts from a wide range of recorded performances on CD, DVD and YouTube.

We've just welcomed five outstanding singers to the course on *Die Walküre*: sopranos Anne Evans, Linda Esther Gray and Natalya Romaniw, tenor Jay Hunter Morris and bass John Tomlinson. Visitors to other classes have included Edward Gardner, Ben Heppner, Jakub Hrůša, Ermonela Jaho, Richard Jones, Vladimir Jurowski, Felicity Lott, Ann Murray, Antonio Pappano, Golda Schultz, Robin Ticciati and Mark Wigglesworth. Guests for *Tannhäuser* to be confirmed.

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 the 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: £105 for the whole term of seven two-hour classes on Zoom
Email: david.nice@usa.net ASAP to confirm a place