

'A Child in Striped Pyjamas' update

ANDREW BOTTERILL

The background, conception and an early run through of Noah Max's chamber opera were described in the Winter issue of Suburb News. Things progressed from there.

Fellowship is proud to have been able to lend its premises for 10 days at New Year for full scale rehearsals for this ambitious and courageous project – further evidence of community support for local talent. It was an intense morning to night operation with

musicians, actors, production staff, cameras, video monitors and the main prop, a section of Auschwitz style fencing – both incongruous and threatening.

All the hard work paid off as tickets for both performances at the Cockpit Theatre in January quickly sold out and, as you can see from the below crits, was very well received:

'A Holocaust drama that's emotionally ambitious and vocally elegant... there can be no doubt of the integrity with which the tight-knit company deliver it' Sir Nicholas Kenyon, *The Telegraph*

'Intense, harrowing drama... [which] invites universal grief. The skilled Echo Ensemble create sonorities with much spiky interlacing, resembling barbed wire, but coalescing intermittently into more humane consonances' Barry Millington, *London Evening Standard*

'Seriousness of purpose is crystal clear from the outset. [Max's] control of colour and texture is as impressive as it is wide ranging' David Benedict, *The Stage*

Noah's brother, Hugo, has made a short film of the rehearsal process. It is planned to show this at a Q & A session with others involved in the production as one of the Fellowship Tuesday afternoon talks. Simultaneously there will be an art exhibition in the gallery of work based on the making of the opera. Watch out for details on the website www.fellowshiphouse.co.uk.



Photo: Andrew Botterill



David Breuer-Weil's stunning 'Sister'

SHELLEY-ANNE SALISBURY

In issue 148 of Suburb News we featured an article on David Breuer-Weil and his art. Well, he's hit the headlines again with his stunning artwork 'Sister' – an innovative new sculpture on public display in Hanover Square, London until the end of July 2023, as part of Westminster City of

Sculpture and in collaboration with E & R Cyzer Gallery.

'Sister' combines abstract and figural elements in the shape of an egg, representing the origin of biological life and is a potent symbol of growth, regeneration and education, inspired by the artist's sister, a teacher.

Pop up to town to see it in all its glory – it's well worth the trip.



Photo: Marina Solarek

YMC honours neglected women composers

MARINA SOLAREK

The yearly Concerto prize of the Youth Music Centre is entering an exciting new phase. This year students will be part of the new 'Silent Scores and Concert Prize Festival'. On 14th May young musicians will perform pieces by neglected women composers in front of distinguished judges. Prize winners will perform with a professional orchestra on 4th June at 5pm in the HGS Free Church. Some of the pieces performed have only recently been discovered. It was immensely difficult for women to get their

works published – each of these composers have often led difficult, often tragic, lives and most of their amazing music is forgotten or lost. As YMC's artistic director, I have put together a substantial list of female composers' work which has been lying dormant for many years. It has been an interesting journey for students and teachers to discover this vast new repertoire together. The concert on 4th June will give composers like Amy Beach, Pauline Viardot, Florence Prize and many more their deserved platform.

For more information visit www.youthmusiccentre.uk.



Photo: Tony Brand

Concerts at St Jude's

TONY BRAND

Henrietta Barnett's School Orchestra gave an excellent Christmas music concert on the 13th December, showing their musical talents under the direction

of Maurice Chernick, their director of Performing Arts.

This was followed on the 18th December by another stunning performance given by Brookland School's choir conducted by their music teacher, Daniella Ellington.

Both concerts attracted a large and enthusiastic audience who were amazed by the standard of the local children taking part, many of whom will no doubt take part in future years in our fantastic summer Proms!



Alyth Choral Society – Spring awakens! The next concert to be performed by Alyth Choral Society will take place on Sunday 19 March at St Mary-at-Finchley Parish Church, Hendon Lane, N3 1TR. The programme features choral works by Haydn, Gilbert and Sullivan, local composers and a selection from *Schindler's List*. Tickets – £10 (under 16s free). The price includes refreshments. Further information can be found at alythchoralsociety.org, where tickets can also be purchased.

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