

# Hastings Musical Festival Singing Programme 2020

## Adjudicators

Andrea Calladine ARCM, ABSM, FISM Andrea Calladine has a varied career as performer, teacher, conductor, coach and adjudicator in the main genres of singing to Musical Theatre. She studied initially at the Birmingham School of Music (now the Birmingham Conservatoire) gaining honours in Diplomas and was awarded many major prizes. As a singer, she has travelled widely at home and in Europe performing from her wide concert and oratorio repertoire including performances of The Messiah and The Creation through the Mozart Masses to Dvorak's Stabat Mater, the Requiems of Brahms, Fauré and Rutter, and she has made radio broadcasts. Operatic roles have included Despina in *Così fan Tutti*; Miss Wordsworth in Britten's *Albert Herring*; Adele and Rosalinda in *Die Fledermaus*; Dido in *Dido and Aeneas*; Pamina in *The Magic Flute*. Today, she is happiest teaching Music Theatre where her skills in singing, acting and language can be combined. Andrea's teaching commitments now are divided between a very busy private practice, where she coaches many professional singers, and a leading Independent School. Andrea held the post of Central Area Representative of the Association of Teachers of Singing for four years and was appointed the associations Conference Director in 2014. She also is an Assessor/Mentor for the AOTOS Teacher Training course. Andrea is also in demand for Choral Workshops and Vocal Master Classes. Other positions held have been at the Birmingham Conservatoire (1985-2009), Birmingham Junior Conservatoire, the Elgar School of Music, and Worcester University. Andrea is an active adjudicator member of the British and International Federation of Festivals, where she hopes to bring not only her wealth of experience as both teacher and performer, but also her love of singing, encouragement of the performers and, above all, a sense of humour! Andrea is looking forward to adjudicating once again at the Hastings Musical Festival (it is 10yrs since her last visit) and also to hearing some wonderful singing from all of the performers.

Belinda Mikhail BMus(Hons), PGdip,RCM,ARCM Belinda Mikhail won the Associated Board and the Queen Mother Scholarships to study piano and singing as a joint first study at the Royal College of Music where she won the Hopkinson Gold Medal for her final recital. Since graduating she has travelled extensively performing both as a soloist and as a chamber musician and has appeared as a concerto soloist at the major London Concert Halls. She has made numerous recordings for Sony BMG and Universal and is a vocal soloist on EMI's *Vocalise* album as used in trailers for *ER*, *Lost* and *Grey's Anatomy*. She appears as the featured soloist on many film soundtracks, including *In the Shadow of the Moon* (Winner Sundance Film Festival), and *Bobby Fischer against the World*. Her solo piano playing of the theme from *Chariots of Fire* was heard at every medal ceremony at the London Olympic Games. Belinda is also in demand as a vocal coach for classical, pop and rock singers and runs an extensive private teaching practice. She has trained performers as diverse as Siouxsie Sioux, Jennifer Ellison, Jack Garrett, Cathy Tyson, the Oscar-winning actress Juliette Binoche, as well as the world-renowned dancer Akram Khan. Her students are enjoying major roles in theatre companies up and down the country as well as West End Shows such as *Chicago*, *Dreamgirls*, *Haddestown*, *Dirty Dancing*, *Book of Mormon* and *High School Musical* and the hit TV series', *Downton Abbey* and *Broadchurch*. Belinda's work as an adjudicator has seen her travel extensively and in 2018 she was invited to Trinidad and Tobago where she adjudicated their month long biennial Music Festival. Future trips will see her adjudicate both in Sri Lanka and Hong Kong. She thoroughly enjoys listening to a wide variety of music and meeting a wealth of musicians as she travels in her role as a member of the BIFF.

Benjamin Costello MA PGDip BMus FRSA Ben is a freelance musical director, adjudicator, singing coach and accompanist, working internationally. He is also Artistic Director of Thames Concerts, Founding Director of Kingston Chamber Singers, Chorus Master for the Leith Hill Musical Festival, Musical Director of Southampton Choral Society, on the faculty at Laine Theatre Arts, and a visiting musical director at Trinity Laban and Mountview Academy. He is a generalist music adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals. Born and based in London, Ben initially trained as a flautist, before majoring in piano, singing and conducting, and his early career included répétiteur work for the London Symphony Orchestra and other London opera and theatre companies. A specialist in musical theatre, he has been an MD on numerous productions, and has taught at most of the major London performing arts colleges. Countless of his former singing students enjoy successful careers in London's West End and beyond. His performing and adjudicating work takes him overseas frequently, with recent visits to Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, China, Italy, France, Gibraltar, Ireland, Germany, Belgium and Zimbabwe. Closer to home, he is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, organising and chairing the Company's musical direction annual scholarship. Outside of music he is a keen motorcyclist.