

## RNCM Opera nominated for Theatre Award



at HOME. Tickets, priced £15, are available at [homemcr.org](http://homemcr.org) or through the Box Office on 0161 200 1500.

Click [here](#) for details of all nominations.

We're thrilled to announce that our December production of Offenbach's *La Vie Parisienne* has been nominated for a Manchester Theatre Award.

*La Vie Parisienne* appears in the Best Design category alongside *Endgame* (HOME), *Singin' in the Rain* (Octagon Theatre) and *The Pitmen Painters* (Oldham Coliseum).

Following last year's Best Opera win for Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*,

This year's ceremony takes place on Friday 17 March



## Starters and Leavers

### Starters

- Rachel Allen:** Administration Assistant
- Alexander Baker:** Restaurant and Bar Supervisor
- Eva Dring:** Senior Marketing Manager (Academic)
- Robert Gardiner:** Assistant Head of Music Education (PGCE)
- John Habron:** Head of Music Education
- Haiden Mchale:** Restaurant and Bar Assistant
- Inna Pinzule:** Stage Door Receptionist
- Alan Sangster:** Security and Concierge Officer
- Thomas Wise:** Research Manager

### Leavers

- Philippa Bunting:** Head of Music Education
- Michael Cavanagh:** Registry Assistant
- Linda Davis:** Tutor, School of Wind, Brass and Percussion
- Richard Davis:** Tutor, School of Wind, Brass and Percussion
- Rebecca Thumpston:** Research Fellow
- Nina Valvi:** Marketing Officer (Academic)
- Raphael Wallfisch:** Visiting Tutor in Cello

## Watch Luthiers make new viola for RNCM collection

Last month, four of the country's finest instrument makers (William Castle, Helen Michetschläger, Kai-Thomas Roth, Marc Soubeyran) took over our concourse to build a brand new viola as part of the RNCM Strings Festival.

an instrument by the 18th century Venetian maker Anselmo Bellosio and (once varnished) will become part of our collection for loan to students.



Kai and Mark

Part of the process was broadcast live by [Classic FM](#) and viewed by over 80,000 people worldwide, and the Manchester Evening News also produced a short [video](#).

Made possible thanks to a generous bequest by Thomas Jellis, the finished viola is based on

## Latest RNCM video

Music producer and all round pop guru Pete Waterman OBE, Visiting Tutor in Music Industry, spent the day with our Pop students for a particularly

memorable masterclass. Click below to view the video (and a big shout out goes to RNCM band Cosmo Calling for use of their new track, *Shake My Soul*).



## Congratulations...

...to Marketing's Ka Man Parkinson and Catering's Sara Manobel on the births of their sons. Ka Man welcomed Benjamin (pictured right) to the world on Monday 30 January, while Sara's Mateo (far right) was born on Christmas Day;



...to the Library's Mimi Atti (right), who achieved her black belt in Karate;



...and to Lois Fitch and Andrew Heggie on gaining Senior Fellowship and Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy.

# New China partnership

Before Christmas we confirmed a new professional partnership with Zhejiang Conservatory of Music (ZJCM).

Situated in Hangzhou (the capital of China's Zhejiang Province), ZJCM officially opened in March 2016 and is dedicated to providing exceptional tuition to young musicians

at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Over the next three years, from immediate effect, RNCM and ZJCM students and staff will have the opportunity to experience both organisations through collaborative projects and curriculum initiatives, and student and teacher exchange programmes. Dame Barbara Woodward,

British Ambassador to China, said of the partnership: *'The UK is forging strong links with China, not just economically but artistically and creatively too. It is wonderful to see that the RNCM, one of the world's leading music colleges, has embarked on a new partnership with Zhejiang Conservatory of Music, providing young musicians*



*both in the UK and in China the opportunity to experience the highest*

*level of musical training in such culturally inspiring environments.'*

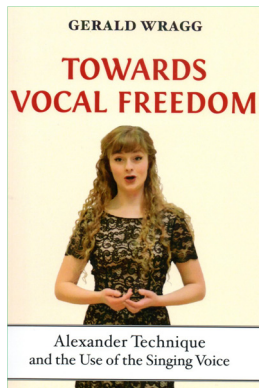
## Towards Vocal Freedom

*Towards Vocal Freedom: Alexander Technique and the Use of the Singing Voice* by alumnus Gerald Wragg has been published by Mouritz.

Gerald, who died in 2012, studied piano at the Royal Manchester College of Music in the 1950s where he accompanied Frederic Cox's singing classes and began a life-long passion for the voice. He worked in Rome and London, as Senior Tutor of Vocal Studies at Leeds College of Music and, latterly, as Head of Opera at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. His teaching incorporated the bel canto tradition

and the Alexander Technique to develop poise, breath control and vocal freedom.

The book has been prepared for publication by Malcolm Williamson (Tutor in Alexander Technique) and is available from [mouritz.co.uk](http://mouritz.co.uk) and [Amazon](http://Amazon) priced £14.99.



## Graham Vick appointed International Chair of Opera

We recently appointed director and alumnus Graham Vick CBE as our first International Chair of Opera.



*Bevis led me to understand what my life would be. She guided me not only to this realisation, but to the values that continue to underpin my work. I am honoured to be offered the opportunity to nurture these values in a new and, I hope, diverse generation of artists.'* Read the full story [online](#).

Working in opera houses across the globe, Graham has established a career as one of the world's foremost opera directors since graduating from the RCMC

in the 1970s. He said: *'Forty-five years ago in a room over a shop across the road from the Royal Manchester College of Music, drama teacher Elaine*

## Staff ticket offers

We've complimentary and reduced price tickets available on a first come, first served basis.

Staff are eligible for up to two tickets for RNCM Promotions, subject to availability. Complimentary and reduced price tickets are only available over the counter at the Box Office up to 5pm on the day of the performance, and on the production of ID cards.

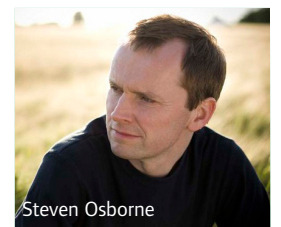
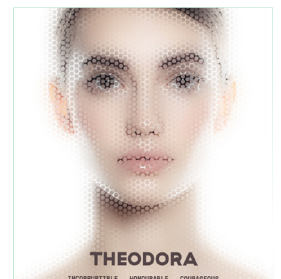
Here are some highlights:

**Thursday 9 February**  
[Re-composed](#)  
Tickets: Free

**Thursday 16 February**  
[Theodora in the City](#)  
Manchester Central Library  
Tickets: £5

**Saturday 4 March**  
[RNCM Session Orchestra with Bill Laurance](#)  
Tickets: Free

**Tuesday 14 March**  
[Steven Osborne \(piano\)](#)  
Tickets: £3



## Safety at the RNCM



Term time is always busy. For your safety and security please:

- Keep valuables locked away and out of sight
- Don't leave bags and/or instruments unattended in public areas

• Don't hold access-controlled doors open for someone you don't know

Remember, if you see someone or something suspicious contact Reception (ext 300).

## Staff Discount: 20% at Brodsky



A quick reminder that RNCM staff receive a 20% discount off food when dining at Brodsky. (And don't forget that on non-concert nights – when Brodsky closes at 4pm – food is served at the Concert Bar).

## Cast your vote

RNCM Companion Sir Mark Elder has been nominated for the BBC Music Magazine Opera Award for his recording of Donizetti's *Le Duc d'Albe* with Opera Rara. Click [here](#) to cast your vote (open until 24 February).