



Musicians assemble: The London Mozart Players will be playing at the Proms in Hampstead Garden Suburb

Mozart to Metropolis in Proms

By David Melsome

The full musical line-up of this year's Proms at St Jude's in Hampstead Garden Suburb has been announced, including classic symphonies, opera, Broadway and a shot of science fiction.

For opera fans, the Armonico Consort present Purcell's masterpiece *Dido and Aeneas* as a semi-staged opera, followed by Pergolesi's haunting *Stabat Mater*.

The Sitkovetsky Trio, Chamber winners of the prestigious *BBC Music Magazine Awards 2022*, will perform works by Shostakovich, Mendelssohn and Beethoven.

And there will be a rare screening of the 1927 German Expressionist science-fiction

film *Metropolis* accompanied by the Covent Garden Sinfonia. When first performed in Berlin, this sold out three times in a weekend.

For a night of glamour and glitz, Emma Kershaw and Katie Birtill will sing musical theatre favourites including *All That Jazz*, *Cabaret* and *Wouldn't it be Lovely* in a Broadway and *All That Jazz* concert.

on Saturday 1 July.

The London Mozart Players will perform at The Last Night

of the Proms with highlights such as Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings* and Mendelssohn's *String Symphony No 8*, as well as Last Night favourites.

Public booking for the Proms, which run from the end of June to the start of July, opens on 17 April. Ticket prices range from £10 to £38. The programme for the Literary Festival and a Family Afternoon will be announced soon. Find full details at promsatstjudes.org.uk.

Parcels of land hold precious memories

By David Melsome

A former projectionist at the Phoenix returned to the cinema last month to sell off sections of Great Britain as part of her art exhibition called *Land Sale*.

Ava Grauls works from maps, satellite images and geological surveys to create pieces that explore our relationship with our country, our territory and our landscape.

The centrepiece of the exhibition hanging in the Phoenix foyer was a huge map of Britain divided into 12 sections, each of which was for sale.

Ava said: "One lady bought Scotland because her family is Scottish but she herself has spent a lot of her life growing up in South Africa. Their family are still very attached to their homeland. Another lady bought Wales because she spent a very special summer there, camping on the hills with her daughter.

"Yet another buyer has become attached to Exeter because it is where her university was. I enjoyed this exhibition because there is a heartfelt sincerity and dedication people have to this land and their memories."



Divided country: Artist Ava Grauls with her *Land Sale* art work at the Phoenix Cinema

What's On at the Phoenix in April

By Zalan Pall, general manager



An 80s classic, live opera, ballet and theatre, an art exhibition on screen and panel discussions are all in the April line-up at the Phoenix Cinema.

We have a great art release coming: *Vermeer* on Tuesday 18 April is a new Exhibition on Screen film which invites audiences to a private view of the exhibition, accompanied by the director of the Rijksmuseum and the curator of the show. A truly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

For lovers of live performances, we have the Royal Opera House ballet *Cinderella* on Wednesday 12 April, the MET's opera *Der Rosenkavalier* on Saturday 15 April and the Royal Opera House's *The Marriage of Figaro* on Thursday 27 April, plus the National Theatre's play *Good*, starring David Tennant, on Thursday 20 April.

There's a strong argument that if you're looking for the best performance of Robert De Niro's impressive acting career,

you need to be turning your head in the direction of Martin Scorsese's *Raging Bull*. This biopic of boxer Jake LaMotta is a cinematic masterpiece and it's playing at the Phoenix on Sunday 16 April.

On Sunday 23 April, the cinema and Black History Walk present a fascinating profile of Ebony presenter Juliet Alexander, with a panel discussion focusing on Black women in broadcast journalism.

Finally, in the heartwarming *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, from Friday 28 April, a seemingly unremarkable man in his 60s named Harold (Jim Broadbent) learns his old friend Queenie is dying and embarks on a 450-mile walk to see her. For full details and bookings, visit www.phoenixcinema.co.uk or pop into our foyer.

Young writer earns place with first story

Former Fortismere School student Eve Wersocki Morris has been shortlisted for the Bibliobuzz Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award 2023 for her debut book *The Bird Singers*.

Eve spent most of her time at Fortismere writing stories and even wrote a poem for the school library when she left the sixth form in 2011 which is still in the library today.

"I am over the moon to be shortlisted for the Alexandra Palace Book Awards," said Eve. "I used to spend my teenage years walking around the lake at Ally Pally thinking about stories and now I'll be in the theatre talking about my own book! It feels like I've come full circle." Her debut novel, published by Hachette Children's Books, is a mystery adventure about two sisters who discover a mythical



Ally Pally lover: Eve Wersocki Morris and (below) her new book



Eve's debut book

monster in the Lake District. It was inspired by her Polish heritage and holidays in the Lake District.

Eve, who works as a publicity manager for a publishing company, has written a second book, *The Wildstorm Curse*, an adventure based on her experience of being dyslexic, which is out now.

Bibliobuzz is run by Alexandra Palace's Creative Learning team in partnership with a team of Haringey School Librarians, who shortlist the books, and Haringey Library Services. It is aimed at stories for young people aged nine to 12 years old.