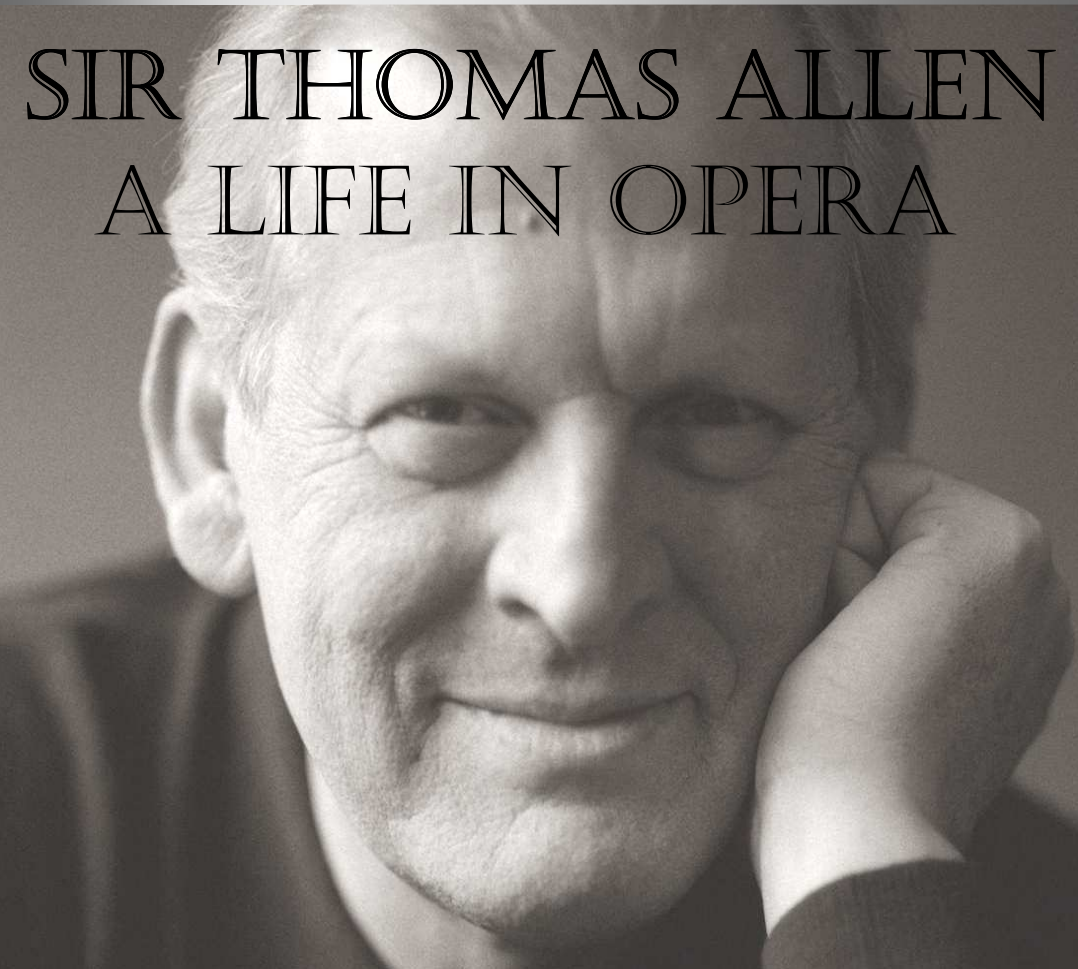




Young Musicians' Support
An activity of The Dartington North Devon Trust
Registered Charity No 281310

SIR THOMAS ALLEN

A LIFE IN OPERA



an after-dinner conversation with recordings from his illustrious career

THE PARK HOTEL, BARNSTAPLE

7PM FRIDAY 21ST MAY, 2010

Tickets £22.50 include 2 course carvery meal

Cheques made payable to YMS, c/o Peter Stutt,

The Old Malt House, Vine St, Winkleigh, Devon. EX19 8HN

EARLY BOOKING ESSENTIAL

SIR THOMAS ALLEN

Sir Thomas Allen is an established star of the great opera houses of the world. At the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, where in 2006 he celebrated the thirty-fifth anniversary of his debut with the company, he has sung over forty roles. In 2006, he also celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his debut at the Metropolitan Opera, New York.

He has been particularly acclaimed for his Billy Budd, Pelléas, Eugene Onegin, Ulisse and Beckmesser, as well as the great Mozart roles of Count Almaviva, Don Alfonso, Papageno, Guglielmo and, of course, Don Giovanni. His recent engagements have included the title role in 'Gianni Schicchi' for Los Angeles Opera and at the Spoleto Festival; the title role in 'Sweeney Todd', Beckmesser (Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg), Prosdócimo (Il Turco in Italia), Music Master (Ariadne auf Naxos), Peter (Hänsel und Gretel) and Don Alfonso at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Eisenstein (Die Fledermaus), Don Alfonso, Ulisse and Don Giovanni at the Bayerische Staatsoper; Eisenstein at the Glyndebourne Festival; Don Alfonso at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and at the Salzburg Easter and Summer Festivals; Forester (The Cunning Little Vixen) at the San Francisco Opera and Beckmesser, Don Alfonso and Music Master at the Metropolitan Opera, New York.

His engagements in the 2009/10 season and beyond include Gianni Schicchi, Don Alfonso, Prosdócimo and Faninal (Der Rosenkavalier) at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Don Alfonso for Dallas Opera and at the Bayerische Staatsoper; Beckmesser for Cincinnatti Opera and Faninal at the Metropolitan Opera, New York.

Equally renowned on the concert platform, he appears in recital in the United Kingdom, throughout Europe, in Australia and America, and has appeared with the world's great orchestras and conductors. The greatest part of his repertoire has been extensively recorded with such distinguished names as Solti, Levine, Marriner, Haitink, Rattle, Sawallisch and Muti.

He made a triumphant directing debut in 2003 with 'Albert Herring' at the Royal College of Music and he has recently directed tremendously successful productions of 'Don Giovanni' and 'Così fan tutte' for Samling Opera at The Sage, Gateshead. He made an equally acclaimed U.S. directing debut with 'Le nozze di Figaro' for Arizona Opera in 2006 and, in 2007, he directed 'Il barbiere di Siviglia' for Scottish Opera.

His many honours include the title of Bayerischer Kammersänger awarded by the Bayerische Staatsoper, Honorary Membership of the Royal Academy of Music, Prince Consort Professor of the Royal College of Music, the Hambro Visiting Professorship of Opera Studies at Oxford University, Fellowship of the Royal College of Music, Fellowship of the University of Sunderland, M.A. from Newcastle University and a Doctorate of Music from Durham University and the University of Birmingham. In the New Year's Honours of 1989 he was created a Commander of the British Empire and in the 1999 Queen's Birthday Honours he was made a Knight Bachelor.

Thomas Allen's first book, 'Foreign Parts - A Singer's Journal' was published in 1993. His film credits include 'Mrs Henderson Presents' and 'The Real Don Giovanni'.

* SPECIAL OFFER *

Save £7.50 on each ticket if booked together with a ticket to see **Barry Ferguson**, former organist and Master of Choristers at Rochester Cathedral with a programme of words and music in celebration of the people and places of Devon in the magnificently restored Music Room at **Woolhanger Manor**, Parracombe, Exmoor
7pm Thursday **15th July** **£25** inc canapés **£40 for both events.**

For more details telephone 01271 850547 or visit www.ymsdevon.org