



6 CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN OPERA

6.00 pm Thursday 2nd November and 7.00 pm Friday 3rd November 2017

A newly commissioned show featuring an international group of highly talented, professional opera singers. Following the delighted reception to our first public performance of 6 Characters in Worcestershire, we are returning for two more fundraising shows at The Orchards School of Cookery near Evesham

PLEASE BOOK SOON!

Supported by the top UK care organisations, the opera is designed to entertain, bring joy and challenge societal attitudes towards the world of care in tough times.

This will affect all of us at some time in our lives.

Let's support those who need care and those who give it, whether employed, or a friend or family member.

To see more about this initiative including video clips: www.6characters.org.uk

- Date [6.00 pm Thursday 2nd November and 7.00 pm Friday 3rd November 2017](#)
- Venue [The Orchards School of Cookery, Salford Priors, Nr Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 8UU. Important: don't use the postcode to get to the venue as you won't get there!](#)
[Check venue website for directions: www.orchardscookery.co.uk](#)
- Dress Code [Informal but colourful!](#)
- Programme [Arrive for a welcoming glass of prosecco followed by the show which lasts about an hour.](#)

6 Characters in Search of an Opera

Five classically trained musicians turn up at a venue, as instructed. They have learnt their songs, they know the music and even some dance moves. Confusion abounds as the songs are all from different operas and the director is nowhere to be seen...

Written by popular playwright Rachel Barnett, directed by award-winning Helen Eastman and featuring an international group of highly talented, professional opera singers:

Soprano: Francesca Lanza
Mezzo Soprano: Louise Crane
Tenor: Stephen Brown
Baritone: Evans Tonon
Pianist & Baritone: James Williams

6 Characters has been specially designed:

- for those usually overlooked/who cannot get out to the theatre
- as well as for those who care for them
- to highlight human connection
- as an introduction of opera to all

Ever-increasing scientific evidence shows how high quality arts engagement involving professional artists contributes to health, wellbeing and independence at many levels across care environments. However, the level of arts provision in care settings can vary enormously.

In a recent Guardian article about 6 Characters, "It touches their souls: Opera finds new audience in care homes" <https://www.theguardian.com/social-care-network/2017/jul/25/music-opera-care-homes>, Annie Stevenson, a trustee of the National Activity Providers Association, <http://www.napa-activities.com/>, explains how the show is an example of the kind of high-quality activity residents should expect in care homes. "It should be much more than bingo or one-size-fits-all activities, and hoping that volunteers come in and do something, which might not actually be very good," she says. "It's always well intentioned but often activities can be very patronising."

We have already taken 6 Characters to over 20 care settings of differing types this year including in the Worcestershire area, with overwhelmingly positive feedback from residents, staff, visiting family members and friends, many astounded as to the high level of performance involving 'real' singers who then stay on to chat with the residents over a cup of tea.

The driver of the project is Camilla Vickers, a healthcare professional who discovered how live opera notably lifted the spirits of her mother, Davina, who had terminal cancer, as well as herself as carer.

Commissioned by Davina's Fund, encouraging collaboration across boundaries, borders and disciplines between health, music and the environment, and Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action, established to develop, pilot and fund new ideas for addressing social problems. Davina's Fund is a restricted fund held by Centre for Innovation for Voluntary Action.

Options on how to book

You can do so by making a donation. Based on 'the one for one concept', we suggest a donation of £30 or more per person which would be for you to enjoy the show and also to enable another who is less independent to experience a quality production in their care setting.

Online: visit our justgiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/6Characters> to make a donation, and then either post or email the number of seats required along with your name and contact details to Isabella (isabella6characters@gmail.com). See postal address on next page.

OR

Complete and post the form on the next page with cheques made out to Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action (charity number 1122095).

OR

Bank transfer and post/email completed and signed section on the next page:

Account name: Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action

Bank: CAF Bank Ltd

Bank address: 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA

CIVA Account Number: 00016218

Sort Code: 40-52-40

PLEASE COMPLETE FORM ON NEXT PAGE

Please send this to Isabella at: 6 Characters, 3 Dinton Road, Wylve, Warminster, BA12 0RE, Wiltshire

Please reserve _____ places for the performance on _____ November 2017. I would like to make a donation of _____ by cheque/ bank transfer to Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action (charity number 1122095) which will be added to Davina's Fund.

I/we are unable to attend but I would like to make a donation of _____ by cheque/ bank transfer to Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action (charity number 1122095) which will be added to Davina's Fund.

I would like to make a monthly/quarterly/annual donation of _____ to Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action (charity number 1122095) which will be added to Davina's Fund.

Gift Aid: Giving under Gift Aid means that so much more money can be raised at no extra cost to our donors.

I wish you to recover tax under the Gift Aid Scheme and confirm that I am a UK tax payer.

Title _____ First name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Signature _____

Date _____

BOOKINGS CONTACT: Isabella
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