



## COMMUNITY OPERA THE CUNNING LITTLE VIXEN

Opera in three acts

by Leos Janáček

Performed in the English translation by Norman Tucker

In the reduced orchestration by Jonathan Dove

Director Alastair Boag  
Music Director Alexander Walker  
Designer Gillian Dolby

7.30pm St Peter's Parish Church, Oundle

Please turn to pages 38 - 40 for full details.

*Refreshments will be available before the performance  
and during the interval at the end of Act II.*



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## Cabaret GWYNETH HERBERT and her Band

Gwyneth Herbert, vocals  
Al Cherry, guitar  
Sam Burgess, bass  
Dave Price, percussion  
Steve Holness, piano

8pm Great Hall, Oundle School

Acclaimed jazz folk singer-songwriter Gwyneth Herbert, 27, has a voice that has been described as a mixture of honey, steel and gravel. She was born in Surrey and studied English Literature at Durham University where she pursued her passion for music, singing with local bands and forming a duo with guitarist Will Rutter. Signed up by Universal as a jazz crossover artist, she found that role too stifling and soon struck out on her own as a singer-songwriter; her touching, powerful, wryly witty work is inspired as much by Janis Ian and Joni Mitchell as by Billie Holiday or Nina Simone.

Like many of her contemporaries, Gwyneth refuses to be pigeonholed, choosing instead to draw from a wide range of influences: 'I grew up listening to everything from Muddy Waters to the Smashing Pumpkins. Janis Ian has been a huge influence on me, both as a singer and a writer; I love the drama of Shostakovich, the sparseness of Regina Spektor, and Rufus Wainwright's harmonies make me weep ...' So how would Herbert define her music? 'I'm not sure - there are so many influences ... They're all little story songs. I guess, if pushed, I'd plump for acoustic-jazz-folk ...'

Her albums 'Bittersweet and Blue' and 'Between Me and the Wardrobe' met with great critical acclaim and in May this year she released her latest album, 'All The Ghosts', featuring her Band, to whom Gwyneth only half-jokingly refers as her 'Super Heroes' for their intuitive contribution to and empathy with her songs: pianist Steve Holness, in-demand double bassist Sam Burgess (a regular at Ronnie Scott's), percussionist Dave Price (as likely to turn up playing a solo show at the BAC as he is to play with Aqualung or Gwyneth), and guitarist Al Cherry, whose sensitive, multi-textured playing is a key part of these songs.

In the run-up to the release of 'All The Ghosts', Gwyneth has been performing across the UK, as well as incubating some intriguing side projects - she recently worked with the London Sinfonietta on a project called 'The Art Of News', alongside Simon Munnerly, John Hegley and Nathan Penlington. She is featured regularly on BBC Radio 4 and 3 and on Jazz FM. She has also been commissioned to write a musical about Phyllis Pearson, the eccentric British artist who walked every street of London and invented the A-Z map.

Refreshments available.

Sponsor: Stuart Wortley

