



# WAGNER SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND



## DIE WALKÜRE

A Study Course at Gartmore House, Stirlingshire  
Thursday 19th to Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

Tutor: David Nice, MA Ed

Following his excellent course last year on *Das Rheingold* we are delighted to welcome back David Nice who has agreed to complete his study of *Der Ring Des Nibelungen* over the next three years.

'I learned to listen to music in a whole new way,' said one satisfied customer on David Nice's *Das Rheingold* course last September. Some had been wary of spending so much time on a single work, but as all true Wagnerians know, it's worth it: going through each of the Ring operas with full audio and visual examples, explaining the ideas without recourse to arcane musicological language and covering the full range of literary and musical sources, with plenty of looks sideways, forwards and back to influencers and influenced.



This is a residential course held in the pleasant and comfortable surroundings of Gartmore House. The course will start with dinner at 6pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September followed by the first teaching session. There will be free time until 4pm after lunch each day and we will disperse after breakfast on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019. On the Sunday we will watch a film of the Opera.

A detailed programme and information about reading material will be sent out in early May with a reminder for the final payment. Special requests for rooms, diet and pick up from Stirling Station can be made at this time.



### Gartmore House, FK8 3RS

Situated in the Trossachs, Stirlingshire, near Aberfoyle and the Lake of Menteith, this house was built by William Adam in 1793 as a home for the Graham family. Run by a charitable trust as a conference centre, all areas have disabled access. An evening bar is available for sale of drinks.

Full ensuite residential rate including all meals and tuition (per person)

Single occupancy:	£600
Shared room:	£560
Non-residential rate available on request	

Please complete and return the Booking Form enclosing a non-returnable deposit of £100 per person to secure your booking.

Balance must be paid by **1 June 2019**.

<http://wagnerscotland.net>

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*Die Walküre* is perhaps the best stand-alone opera of the four Ring operas. Its stupendous arch embraces one of the most passionate love scenes in all opera, a handover of the Ring's central message - the power of love versus the love of power - in the scene between Valkyrie Brünnhilde and tragic hero Siegmund at the very heart of the opera - and as great a final act as any; who can remain unmoved at the stern father's ultimate tenderness towards the daughter he has to punish?

We'll be following the web of musical motifs and their development, the beautiful miracle of the many new themes Wagner introduces at regular intervals, and the living drama of this timeless masterpiece.



**David Nice** has been writing professionally about music since 1985, when he worked for a year as Assistant Editor of Music and Musicians. As a freelancer, he became one of the music critics on The Guardian in the last years of the Greenfield regime, and shared very pleasurable duties with Edward Seckerson on the short-lived Sunday Correspondent. Happily, his relationship with Radio 3 has proved longer term. He has now contributed 27 'Building a Library' programmes to Saturday's CD Review and reviews CDs on a monthly basis for the BBC Music Magazine. His interest in Russian music led to a study of Russian language and the first volume of his Prokofiev biography, *From Russia to the West 1891-1935*, published in 2003 by Yale University Press. His other books include short studies of Richard Strauss, Elgar, Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky and the history of opera. He now divides his professional time between writing, broadcasting and lecturing including his popular Opera Courses at Pushkin House. He has sung, acted and played the oboe quite a bit. Operatic roles have included Galanthus in Vaughan Williams' Poisoned Kiss (ouch!) as well as bits of Schounard, Don Alfonso, Melitone and Dandini.