

SIR GALWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT

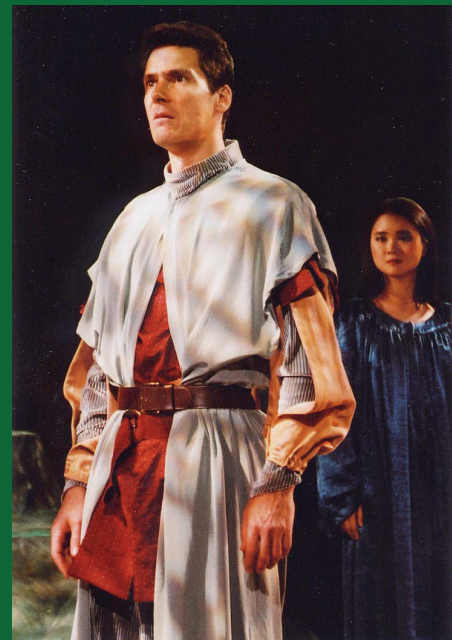
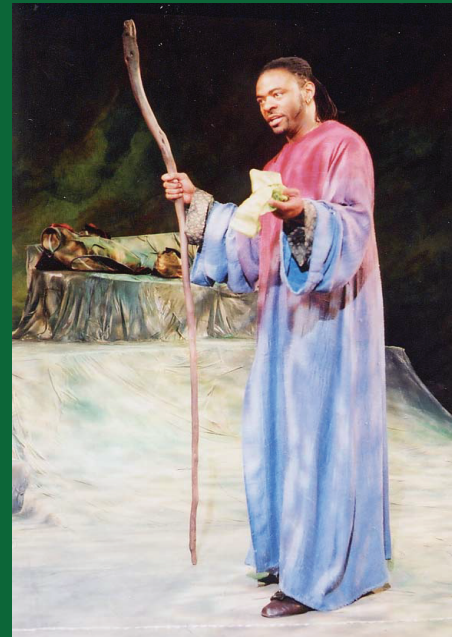
CREATIVE TEAM

RICHARD PEASLEE (Composer) Broadway: *Frankenstein*; Peter Brook and the Royal Shakespeare Company: *Marat/Sade*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Sir Peter Hall and London's Royal National Theatre: *Animal Farm*; *The Garden of Earthly Delights* (Obie Award); Martha Clarke: *Vienna Lusthaus* and *Miracolo d'Amore*. Composed for New York City Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Pilobolus, and choreographers David Parsons, Elisa Monte, Grethe Holby and Twyla Tharp. Scores for the Joseph Campbell television series, concert works, several musicals and most recently, *Moby-Dick*, a music theatre work, London premiere 2014.

KENNETH CAVANDER (Librettist) On and Off Broadway, and regional theaters: Yale Rep, Arena Stage, Guthrie, Alley, Long Wharf, Hartford Stage, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Founding director of the Williamstown Theatre Second Company. Plays: *Olympian Games* (based on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*), *Boccaccio*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, and new versions of Euripides' *Women of Troy*, Moliere's *Don Juan*, and Euripides' *Bacchae*. Television dramas: *File on Jill Hatch* for PBS, and movies of the week for CBS and NBC. *The Question of God*, a two-part series, aired on PBS in 2004, and a biography of C.S. Lewis, aired in December 2005 on the Hallmark Channel.

Grethe Barrett Holby (Direction) The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center Festival, Houston Grand Opera, La Scala. Original cast member *Einstein on the Beach*; collaborations with Leonard Bernstein, Lou Reed, Robert Wilson and Yusef Komunyakaa. Founder: Ardea Arts, Family Opera Initiative and American Opera Projects, A Rockefeller Fellowship recipient, she holds a B.S. and M.S. from MIT.

Originally Commissioned and Developed by American Opera Projects & FAMILY OPERA INITIATIVE (FOI) with funds from the Jaffe Family Foundation and The Round Table Fellowship; Originally co-produced and premiered with TADA!.



SIR GAWAIN AND THE GREEN KNIGHT

LENGTH

One Act – 60 minutes

AGE

10-18 years

SINGERS

Sir Gawain: Tenor

The Green Knight: Bass/Baritone

Merlin: Bass/Baritone (Peasant, Invisible Knight, Fisherman, Green Knight, Sir Bernlak)

Morgan LeFay: Mezzo Soprano (Lady at Court, Lady at the River, Wife of Sir Bernlak)

INSTRUMENTATION

Trio (piano, bass, percussion) with optional English Horn.

Pre-recorded soundtrack (requires sound-operator, or Stage Manager)

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sound System for SFX

CREDITS

Commissioned and developed by Family Opera Initiative and American Opera Projects

World Premiere October 2001; & TADA! NYC

Orlando Shakespeare Festival - PlayFest 2006

MAJOR SUPPORT

The Jaffe Family Foundation

NY State Council for the Arts

Round Table Fellowship

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Family Opera Initiative and American Opera Projects



“Laughs, blood, beautiful music – Sir Gawain and the Green Knight has it all”

Elizabeth Maupin, Orlando Sentinel/Blog

The knights of the Fellowship of the Round Table are celebrating the end of the year when they are rudely interrupted by a monstrous green knight who challenges them to a “game.” Sir Gawain accepts the knight’s challenge and embarks on a series of strange adventures until he encounters a nearly impossible challenge, which leads him to compromise the high standards he has set for himself. Shaken to his depths, Sir Gawain believes he has failed in his task. He has been a coward and a liar. But Merlin and his accomplices remind Sir Gawain that he endured much, braved death, did not betray his trust, and kept his word. His one fault was pride, believing that he could be completely perfect in word and deed. Sir Gawain must learn to forgive his own failings, and to forgive others too when they fail, as they surely will. Having learned that lesson he will become a man at last, and a better knight.



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CONTACT

Gloria Parker (producing Director)

gparker@ardeaarts.com

405-315-2610

WWW.ARDEAARTS.COM

