



**New Chamber Opera Studio**

**Lunchtime Recital, Series**

Archie Inns, Voice  
Jake Sternberg, Piano

**Title of Recital:**

The Spell of the Rose

**Program:**

First Love – John Clare

The Singer – Music by Peter Warlock, poetry by Edward Shanks

Youth – Music by Peter Warlock, poetry by Robert Wever

The Bachelor – Music by Peter Warlock, anon.

Fair House of Joy – Music by Roger Quilter, anon.

My Love is Like a Red Red Rose – Trad. words by Robert Burns

Go, Lovely Rose – Music by Roger Quilter, words by Edmund Waller

The Sigh – Music by Gerald Finzi, words by Thomas Hardy

Ditty – Music by Gerald Finzi, words by Thomas Hardy

What is Life? – Music by Piers Connor Kennedy, words by John Clare  
(\*World Premier)

Dirge for Fidele – Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, words by William  
Shakespeare

Iona Boat Song – Trad. Anon.

To the Memory of a Great Singer – Music by Peter Warlock, words by Robert  
Louis Stevenson

### **Program Notes:**

The Spell of the Rose, a title taken from a Thomas Hardy poem, is a recital which tells a tale of love through English Art Song, Folk Song and Improvisation. The opening poem by John Clare aims to articulate the narrative ark of the story whereby the singing protagonist falls in love, before his lover dies. 'What is Life?' is a new setting of another poem by John Clare by contemporary composer Piers Connor Kennedy. It was very generously written as a 21<sup>st</sup> birthday present and this afternoon's performance is its world premiere. The opening songs by Warlock aim to display youthful folly with the later pieces by Finzi and Vaughan Williams evoking grief. The recital begins with 'the Singer' and ends with 'to the Memory of a Great Singer'. Both pieces by Warlock bookend the narrative at the end of which the narrator himself passes, stricken with grief at the loss of his lover.

### **Cover Art:**

