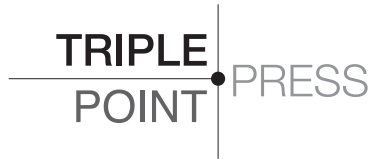




Rescue  
*in*  
Regent's Park

*Composition Competition*



Triple Point Press announces a competition to select a composer for the musical setting of *Rescue in Regent's Park*.

*£2,000 commission  
fee for the winning  
composer*

*Rescue in Regent's Park* is the story of Charles Edward (a vegetarian fox from Yorkshire) who is rescued from homelessness by Frederica Porter-Mouse, a grandmother raising her brood in a comfortable home in Regent's Park.

The poem is suitable for younger children but is also an allegory about life in modern London where individuals and communities of varied beliefs and backgrounds live happily alongside each other (and, like our Fox and Mouse, might even fall in love).

Original story written in English by Adam Bethlehem with illustrations by Zuzanna Celej – translation also available in Ukrainian and in Pashto by the Shamsi Dalghai in Kabul.

In keeping with the spirit of the book's collaborative development, Triple Point Press invites applications from students and recent graduates at London's four conservatoires to adapt the story as a *Scena for Young Voices and String Quartet*.

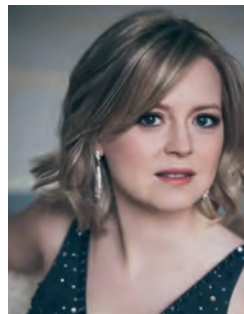
### *Judging Panel*



Andrew Matthews-Owen  
(chair)



Jonathan Dove CBE



Fflur Wyn



Katie Derham



Adam Bethlehem  
(author)



fig. 1

***Stage 1: Expressions  
of Interest and  
Shortlisting.***

Students and recent graduates should submit proposals via the Head of Composition at their conservatoire.

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance  
Dominic Murcott – [d.murcott@trinitylaban.ac.uk](mailto:d.murcott@trinitylaban.ac.uk)

Royal Academy of Music  
Philip Cashian – [pcashian@ram.ac.uk](mailto:pcashian@ram.ac.uk)

Royal College of Music  
Jonathan Cole – [jonathan.cole@rcm.ac.uk](mailto:jonathan.cole@rcm.ac.uk)

Guildhall School of Music and Drama  
Julian Phillips – [julian.phillips@gsmmd.ac.uk](mailto:julian.phillips@gsmmd.ac.uk)



Applicants should outline their vision for the commission with reference to the opening image in the book (fig. 1 above) and two verses (figs. 2 and 3) showcasing the main characters.

Each Head of Composition will be invited to forward submissions from two students. These entries will then be judged by the panel to create a short list.



fig. 2



Far away, Charles Edward Fox  
Leans back against a gate.  
Hungry and alone he sits,  
It's hours since he ate.

fig. 3

### *Stage 2: Judging of short-listed entries*

Following the announcement of the short list, candidates will be asked to submit their full setting for the opening image and the two verses.

Applicants may also send details of other work to inform the panel's decision.

Short-listed applicants will be invited to meet the panel in person before the final decision is made.



## *The Brief*

Benjamin Britten believed that writing for children should be a serious endeavour, viewing music as an important tool for community engagement and education.



In the staging of works for children, Britten sought to bridge the gap between artists and the audience, creating immediacy for listeners through memorable melodies, character leitmotifs, and clearly defined characters and relationships.

Britten believed passionately in community engagement and his scores often included “audience songs” which encouraged all present to participate in parts of the performance. Songs might be specially written such as “The Sweep’s Song,” “Sammy’s Song,” “Night Song” in *The Little Sweep*, or well-known hymn tunes might be woven into the work as in *Noye’s Fludde*.

The rehearsal process was often built into the event itself. In *Let’s Make an Opera*, the first section is a play showing the characters rehearsing their songs as they will appear later in the performance. The conductor then included the audience in the rehearsal ensuring that all were comfortable and ready to be participate if required – audience and performers as one for the brief moment in time.

We hope that, through this commission, the themes of community and friendship which are central to *Rescue in Regent’s Park* will find a melody as beautiful and enduring as the story itself.



## *Timetable* 2026

April	Announcement of competition
31 <sup>st</sup> May	Closing date for stage 1 submissions to judging panel
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Announcement of short list
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Short-listed candidates meet judging panel
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Announcement of decision
September	Presentation of commissioned work (feedback from judging panel)
October	Finalised score

## *Notes*

Piano reduction required

Copies of the books in three languages and information sheets will be available in college libraries. Digital versions available on the Triple Point Press website – [www.triplepointpress.com](http://www.triplepointpress.com).

Competition enquiries to Andrew Matthews-Owen  
[a.matthews-owen@trinitylaban.ac.uk](mailto:a.matthews-owen@trinitylaban.ac.uk)