

PRODUCTION MANAGER BRIEF: HILDEGARD: VISIONS 2025

If it would be more accessible to have this information in another format, please email [bridget@mahoganyopera.co.uk](mailto:bridget@mahoganyopera.co.uk)



**Mahogany Opera, Atelier Nwando and Yorkshire Sculpture Park** present **Hildegard: Visions** by **Nwando Ebizie**, an immersive mystery opera inspired by the works and life of Hildegard von Bingen. A multisensory experience of sound, movement, scent and taste, it will combine song, electronic soundscapes and ritual traditions from across cultures and eras.

Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179), Benedictine abbess, composer, visual artist, writer and mystic; not only a visionary, but also, uniquely for the time, a woman whose visions were recorded and preserved in musical scores, writings and illuminated manuscripts, lives again in new form. Each visitor is invited to look back at her in wonder and forwards in awe. The audience experience will be radically inclusive, welcoming visitors on an immersive and transformative day-long journey from an apothecary garden, through a guided visualisation, sound and light installations, communal dinner, procession and final ecstatic live performance.

**We're now looking for an experienced Production Manager to work with the creative team to bring this project to fruition at Yorkshire Sculpture Park in 2025.**

### **Creative & production team**

Composer/Director: **Nwando Ebizie**

Experience Dramaturg: **Steph Singer**

Sound designer / Technical Director: **Tom Richards**

Assistant Director: **Jennifer Muteteli**

Producer: **Emily Moore**

Executive Producer (for Mahogany Opera): **Bridget Rennie**

To be recruited, with input from the production manager where relevant:

Set/costume designer

BSL interpreter

Technical team

Stage managers

Wardrobe assistant

Access consultant

**Performers:** Chisato Minamimura, Lula XYZ, Cevanne Horrocks-Hopayian, Lore Lixenberg, Jennifer Muteteli, rest of cast tbc

### **Schedule**

We would like the Production Manager to start as soon as possible with preliminary meetings, support on building the production budget and finding the remaining members of the production team.

The PM will then work with the creative and production team through 2024 to plan the installation and staging of the piece at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, with planned performances across **3 weeks in July 2025** and some installation elements continuing in YSP beyond these dates.

### **Production / Staging**

There are multiple elements to the piece as follows:

- Apothecary garden to be developed with community groups through 2024
- Sound installations throughout the park
- Guided visualisation – guests to be lying in hammocks / on mats tbc
- Large (c.25m) outdoor table – this will be a semi-/permanent installation in YSP, on which a simple communal dinner will be served to guests as part of Hildegard: Visions
- Processional elements
- Staged performance – there is no indoor venue for this so we currently envisage a stage within a marquee / festival tent

**Role brief:**

The Production Manager will be required to:

- Develop, manage and oversee the production budget alongside the Producer, complying with all finance systems put in place by the Producer to report on production expenditure
- Liaise with the creative team through the design process and communicate with YSP accordingly.
- Source the required installation materials, staging elements, set and props in consultation with the creative team
- Co-ordinate all necessary technical aspects of the production re hires, get-in, performances and get-out, working with YSP technicians
- Liaise with YSP, dealing with technical queries and working with the creative and production teams to facilitate any necessary changes
- Ensure all equipment is installed and utilised safely and in compliance with insurance policies
- Ensure all hires are returned to suppliers promptly, efficiently and in good condition following the end of the project
- Arrange the storage or responsible recycling/disposal of any physical elements of the production
- Take all reasonable precautions to ensure the security and safe operating of the Company's technical property, providing technicians/performers with all relevant risk assessments and technical information as required.
- Act as the production's sustainability champion, ensuring it adheres to Theatre Green Book principles, following the Baseline standard for Sustainable Productions

**Who are we looking for?**

We are looking for someone with significant experience of outdoor live events. Aside from the usual production manager duties, we are particularly keen to find someone with experience in supporting artists and audiences with access needs, with creating site-specific or immersive theatre projects, and with managing set builds involving custom light and sound rigs.

We strongly encourage applications from under-represented groups and are committed to meeting access needs for the successful applicant.

**Fee**

We envisage an initial fee of £5,000 (+VAT if applicable) to cover the preparation period, equating to c.20 days @£250 per day. An additional fee to cover the installation/rehearsal/performance periods in June-July 2025 will be agreed in discussion with the Production Manager.



MAHOGANY OPERA

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### How to apply

Please submit an expression of interest (written statement up to 1 side of A4 OR video / audio up to 3 minutes) explaining why you'd like to be part of the project, and a CV detailing your relevant experience for the role (please give details of projects and your role within them, not just production names and job titles) to [bridget@mahoganyopera.co.uk](mailto:bridget@mahoganyopera.co.uk) by midnight on **Wednesday 14 February**.

### MORE INFORMATION

#### About Nwando Ebizie

Nwando Ebizie is a constellation point for a spectrum of multidisciplinary works that call for RADICAL change.

She challenges her audience to question their perceived realities through art personas, experimental theatre, neuroscience, music and African diasporic ritualistic dance. Carving out her own particular strand of Afrofuturism, she combines research into the neuroscience of perception (inspired by her own neurodiversity) and an obsession with science fiction with a ritualistic live art practice.

Works include her immersive sensory environment Distorted Constellations and her pop persona Lady Vendredi, a blaxploitation heroine from another dimension! This award-winning work has toured across the world.

Always political and grounded in a mytho-scientific perspective she invites viewers and participants to join her at the Crossroads. At the crossroads where you can choose to pass through the cosmic mirror and touch alternate realities. The realities of what could have been and what should have been and what may possibly be. She works with speculative fictions, possible dreams and lucid worlds.

#### About Mahogany Opera

[Mahogany Opera](#) is a leading commissioner and producer of contemporary opera and music theatre. Since 2014, we have created 23 new commissions and toured them extensively across the UK and internationally, receiving many accolades and awards for our boundary-pushing and inclusive work.

We are committed to developing diverse artists and audiences through three programmes :

Snappy Operas – award-winning participatory young people's programme  
Various Stages – R&D programme supporting artists and new ideas  
Commissioning innovative work for the stage through partnerships

#### About Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) is the leading international centre for modern and contemporary sculpture. Welcoming 380,000 visits in 2022, YSP is an independent charitable trust and registered museum situated in the 500-acre, 18th-century Bretton Hall estate in West Yorkshire.



NWANDO EBIZIE



Across its 45-year history, YSP has worked with over 1,000 artists from more than 40 countries, on varied projects from short-term residencies to major surveys. YSP supports artists at vital stages in their careers and is rare in having the accommodation, workshops and expertise to enable open-ended and risk-taking practice, giving artists space, time and support to think and to develop new ideas.