



Rumpelstiltskin

● by Helen Woods with libretto by Pete Talman, performed by Opera Boots ●

An Opera for schools at key stage 2

Notes from Helen Woods to teachers

"Originally this Opera was written to be performed as a residency in a school, with three opera singers, three orchestral musicians (keyboards, clarinets, and percussion) and a class of children. All to be rehearsed in school over a week and then performed to the rest of the school and parents. That was back in 2014 but unfortunately budgets were cut before the project could be realised.

But the score was written...Opera Boots approached me in 2019 to ask if I had anything suitable to take into schools which of course I did and with a bit of re writing (5 years is a long time for a score to just sit in a cupboard) the opera was ready to take into schools in 2020... oh wait...yeah, 2020 happened.

Determined to still create this opera and for it to reach schools we have teamed up with Arts Active and created an 8 Chapter Opera with different activities to accompany each Chapter. You can choose to watch and use as much or as little feels right for your class.

This version of the story is set in the Courtroom where the custody of the child is explored and resolved by the judge. Before watching the final episode - The Verdict - there is an opportunity to have your own class debate to see what the children think should happen.

Chapter one hears the opening statement from the Judge, and we hear the back story of Rumpelstiltskin and why he was banished by the King to live in the shadows. We will hear the Princess' story in Chapter two..."

Section Overview

Ch 1

- **Video Segment 1**: 7:02 minutes; the story begins
- **Body Warm up**: 3:11 minutes
- **Vocal Warm up**: 5:15 minutes
- **Activity**: 8:40 minutes; an introduction to the story of Rumpelstiltskin that also includes the instructions for the children to become the jury