

# Hot property Opera

By Caroline Thorpe

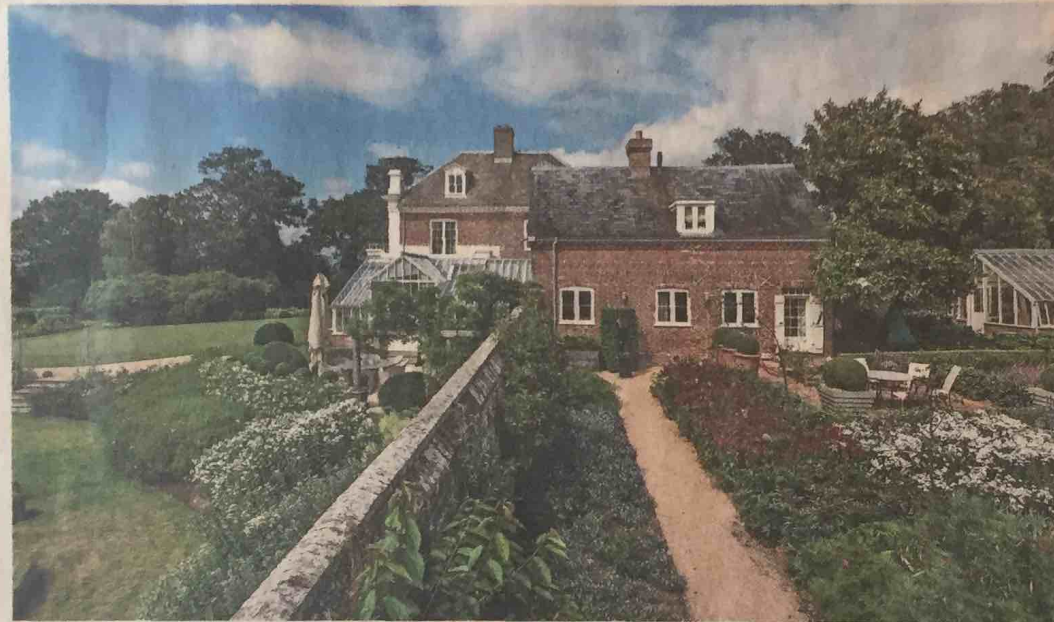
► **Belmont House, East Hoathly, Lewes, East Sussex, UK, £4.5m**

**Where** A small village close to the South Downs National Park. The nearest town is Lewes, nine miles away. It is a 45-minute drive to Gatwick international airport.

**What** A Grade-II listed, former rectory with 10 bedrooms set within seven acres. As well as a pool and tennis court, the property has a large gym and paddock.

**Why** The Georgian house is a short drive — or pretty walk — from Glyndebourne opera house. The renowned Glyndebourne Festival offers a programme of six operas every summer.

**Who** Strutt & Parker, struttandparker.com, tel: +44 1273 987482



◀ **11 Camino del Alba, Santa Fe, New Mexico, US, \$3.37m**

**Where** On a hillside just north of Santa Fe, with views of the Jemez and Sangre de Cristo mountain ranges. Private aircraft can use Santa Fe municipal airport, which is 30 minutes' drive.

**What** A pueblo-style home, which blends into its desert surroundings. There are three bedrooms, a sauna, gym and cinema room.

**Why** The property sits on a ridge overlooking the Santa Fe Opera, which stages contemporary opera.

**Who** Sotheby's International Realty, sothebyshomes.com, tel: +1 505 920 2000



◀ **Hopwood Gardens, Thornton Street, Sydney, Australia, A\$12.8m (\$9.4m)**

**Where** In the Darling Point neighbourhood, jutting into Sydney harbour about three miles east of the city's central business district, and seven miles from Sydney airport.

**What** A four-bedroom apartment occupying the entire 13th floor

of a purpose-built block. The property also has a study, billiards room, wine cellar for 700 bottles and three secure parking spaces.

**Why** Even those who cannot tell their arias from their librettos will appreciate the panoramic views of Sydney Opera House from the apartment's balconies.

**Who** Sotheby's International Realty, sothebysrealty.com, tel: +61 417 371 522



▲ **The Russell, Covent Garden, London, UK, £3.1m**

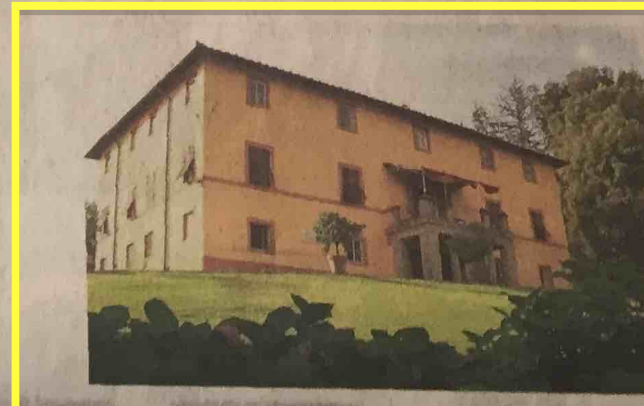
**Where** In Covent Garden, a bustling theatre and entertainment district in central London, 50 minutes by Tube from Heathrow airport.

**What** A two-bedroom duplex apartment built in 2013 with more than 1,200 sq ft of living space.

The property overlooks Covent Garden Piazza.

**Why** The Russell building is just a few short paces from London's Royal Opera House — close enough to avoid the crush at the bar by popping home for a gin and tonic during the interval.

**Who** CBRE, cbrecommercial.com, tel: +44 20 7205 2165



◀ **Villa Puccini, Lucca, Tuscany, Italy, €2.5m**

**Where** Just outside the city of Lucca, about half an hour's drive from Pisa international airport.

**What** An 18th-century villa with four bedrooms and separate guest accommodation. Olive groves occupy much of the 35 hectares.

**Why** The villa is said to be where renowned Italian opera composer Giacomo Puccini, who came from Lucca, wrote two acts of *Tosca*. The city is home to the annual Puccini Festival.

**Who** Casa and Country, casaandcountry.com, tel: +44 20 7993 2967