

CCPA OPERAFEST '09

Description

Operafest consists of repeated performances over two full days of nine short operas, all sung in English with piano and involving the minimum of physical production; the experience is intended to emphasize the process of being a singing-actor in direct contact with his/her audience. The "theater" will be the Auditorium Theater Building (RU) itself, with performances taking place in Ganz Hall, the tenth-floor library, the ninth-floor lounge area, and the Spertus Lounge.

Performances

Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25, 2009. The schedule of performances (TBD) will be the same on both days. Plan to be available from noon through 9:00pm.

Rehearsals

Musical and staging rehearsals for Operafest '09 will take place during the scheduled meeting times for Opera Ensemble:

M 4:00-6:30
W 4:00-6:30
TH 4:00-6:30

Rehearsals for operas involving only Professional Diploma in Opera Program Young Artists will take place during the individual singer's weekly coaching time, and during a portion of their weekly seminar.

Students *must* be free to attend as called. The final rehearsal schedule will be provided on or before August 31.

Rehearsals begin Monday, August 31, with a meeting 4-6:30pm of all Operafest '09 participants.

Tech rehearsals begin October 19. Absolutely no absences are allowed during tech week.

All participants are required to remain after the final performance (Sunday evening, October 25) for strike.

Please inform the three faculty directors (Scott Gilmore, Dana Brown and Andrew Eggert) in writing of any conflicts with the above schedule no later than August 15, 2009 (sgilmore@roosevelt.edu; dlbrown@roosevelt.edu; andreweggert@hotmail.com).

Requirements

All participants will be enrolled in PERF 327 (undergraduate) or 427 (graduate) Opera Ensemble for the Fall 2009 semester.

All material must be learned and memorized *before* rehearsals begin on August 31. Coachings and rehearsals are *not* for the purpose of learning the material; that is the singer's responsibility. They are, rather, for *work*.

All singers must submit a paper (minimum 1000 words) which is due at the August 31 meeting about their opera/s. The paper/s must include information about: composer, librettist, source material, circumstances of composition, general artistic milieu surrounding the work's creation, performance history, musical and dramatic structure, musico-dramatic analysis of the singer's assigned character/s, your own personal thoughts, etc. Papers must be word-processed, double spaced, using standard margins.

Musical scores

Copies are being readied which include the correct singing translations. When they are ready, participants will be notified. Those in Chicago are to collect them from the Performance Activities Office (Room 956). Out-of-towners will be sent their copies. The only exceptions are those cast in the Argento and Heggie: these singers must purchase their own piano-vocal scores. While singing translations and dialogue are in preparation, in order to facilitate the learning process, copies in the original language of the sung material may be sent on ahead.

Repertoire and casting

Argento *Miss Manners on Music*

Gentle Reader (s/ms) Megan Cook
Miss Manners (ms) Caitlin McKechney

Music Director Dana Brown

Bizet *Doctor Miracle* (translation Gilmore)

Laurette (s) Jean Marie Garofolo
Véronique (ms) Rebecca Kreutz
Pascal (t) Matthew Newlin
Podesta (bar) Kevin Webb

Music Director Scott Gilmore
Pianist Sheldon Miller

Heggie *At the Statue of Venus*

Rose (s) Leila Bowie

Music Director Scott Gilmore
Pianist Sheldon Miller

Hindemith *There and Back (Hin und zurück)* (translation as per published score)

Helene (s) Jessica Rice
Robert (t) Brian Newland
Aunt Emma (mute) TBD
The Doctor (bar) Tyler Hodges
The Orderly (bs/bar) Stephen Richardson
The Maid (speaking) Katie Abraham
A Bearded Sage (t/bar) Jared McCarty

Music Director Dana Brown

Purcell *Saul and the Witch at Endor*

Witch (s) Qiana McNary
Saul (ct) Joe Nelson
Samuel (bs-bar) Antonio Watts

Music Director Dana Brown

Ravel *The Spanish Hour (L'heure espagnole)* (translation as per published score)

Concepcion (ms/s) Anne Lerum
Torquemada (t) Jeffrey Jablonski
Gonzalve (t) Scott Brunscheen
Ramiro (bar) Mark Jurgenson
Don Inigo (bs/bar) Christopher Remmel

Music Director Dana Brown

Rimsky-Korsakoff *Mozart and Salieri* (translation as per published score)

Mozart (t) Jorge Prego
Salieri (bar) Darik Knutsen
A Blind Violinist (mute violinist) TBD
Invisible Chorus Julie Silver, Jacquelyn Kress, Travis Whitlock, Darell Haynes/Lucas Wood

Music Director Scott Gilmore

Pianist Sheldon Miller

Schubert *The Conspirators (Die Verschworenen)* (translation Gilmore)

Gräfin (s) Carrie Nunnally
Helene (s) Vanessa Gentschein
Isella (s) Tiffany Desmond
Luitgarde (ms) Louise Rogan
Camilla (ms/c) Adrienne Blanks

Chorus Wife (s) Jessie Lyons
Graf (b) Christian Wisenbaker
Astolf (t) John Warren
Udolin (t) Blake Bard
Heribert (t/bar) Justin Adair
Knight (bs) Lucas Wood
Chorus Knight (t) Drew Ladd

Music Director Scott Gilmore
Pianist Sheldon Miller

Wolf-Ferrari *Susanna's Secret (Il Segreto di Susanna)* (translation as per published score)

Countess Susanna (s) Catalina Cuervo
Count Gil (bar) Martin Woods
Sante (mute) TBD

Music Director Scott Gilmore
Pianist Sheldon Miller