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2002 An Opera Odyssey

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Opera Chapman, "2002 An Opera Odyssey" (2002). *Printed Performance Programs (PDF Format)*. 270.
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Chapman University School of Music presents

2002

An Opera Odyssey
The Journey Continues

Dr. Peter Atherton, Artistic Director

Dr. Louis Thomas & John Ballerino
Musical Direction

Aaron Valdizan, Chorus Master

October 25 & 26 . 8:00 pm . Salmon Hall .

. Tickets \$10 general admission, \$5 for seniors .

OPERA PROGRAM

La Traviata

by
Giuseppe Verdi
(1813-1901)

Prelude

Le Nozze di Figaro

by
W.A. Mozart
(1756-1791)
Libretto by
Lorenzo da Ponte

Act 3 - Sextet - Riconosci in questo amplesso

Don Curzio – Aaron Gonzalez

**Marcellina – Sara Price – October 25
Elana Cowen – October 26**

**Figaro – Jeremy Bolin – October 25
Spencer Washburn – October 26**

**Count – Adonis Abuyen – October 25
William Sovich – October 26**

**Bartolo – Matt Wight – October 25
Jeff Haut – October 26**

**Susanna – Justine Limpic – October 25
Lisa Austin – October 26**

In a hearing to decide Figaro's marital fate, the Count supports Don Curzio in his decision that Figaro must either marry or pay Marcellina her due. Figaro protests saying that he needs the consent of his unknown parents to marry. During the proceedings Figaro mentions a birthmark on his arm, to the astonishment of all, the discovery proves that Figaro is the long lost child of Marcellina and Bartolo. In the midst of the happy family reunion Susanna enters to find her fiancé, Figaro, in the arms of her supposed rival. At first she is furious; but when told that Marcellina is no longer a rival, but

her future mother-in-law, there is much relief for the new family and frustration for the foiled Count and Curzio.

Il barbiere di Siviglia

by

Gioacchino Rossini

(1792-1868)

Libretto by

Cesare Sterbini

Act 2 – Quintet – *Cara imagine ridente... Buona sera, ben di core*

Rosina – Erica Austin

**Count – Daniel Pozzebon – October 25
Doo Yang – October 26**

Bartolo – Adonis Abuyen

**Figaro – Evan Brummel – October 25
Weston Olson – October 26**

**Basilio – Matt Wight – October 25
Spencer Washburn – October 26**

Count Almaviva arrives at Bartolo's house and introduces himself as "Don Alonso," a student of Basilio, who is ill and for whom he has come to give Rosina her voice lesson. Rosina's "lesson" begins with an aria filled with florid vocalizing. During the aria Bartolo nods off giving Rosina the opportunity to implore the Count to rescue her from her guardian. Bartolo is awakened by the fireworks of the aria's final cadenza and announces that, although her voice is lovely, he doesn't care for such "modern music". He presses the Count to accompanying him on one of his favorite "tunes." A moment later Figaro enters on the pretext of giving Bartolo a shave. During the proceedings, Basilio arrives. He is not sick at all but quite confused at the proceedings. In an amusing ensemble everyone convinces him that he is suffering from "scarlet fever" and, along with a healthy bribe from the Count, is sent off to bed.

Fidelio
by
Ludwig von Beethoven
(1770-1827)
Libretto by
J. Sonnleithner and F. Treitschke

Act 1 – Duet – *Jetzt, Schätzchen, jetzt sind wir allein*

**Marzelline – Kristen Irvine – October 25
Carly Shepard – October 26**

**Jaquino – Nathaniel Black – October 25
Aaron Gonzalez – October 26**

At the beginning of the opera we find Marzelline, daughter of Rocco, the jailer, ironing and daydreaming of the newcomer, Fidelio. Jaquino, Rocco's assistant, enters to plead his love. Marzelline wants nothing to do with him and responds impatiently. She understands Jaquino's pleas but is interested only in Fidelio. Jaquino is frustrated by Marzelline's lack of interest and irritated at the constant interruption of knocking at the office door.

La Traviata
by
Giuseppe Verdi
(1813-1901)
Libretto by
Francesco Piave

Act 1 – Opening scene – *Dell'invita trascorsa è già l'ora...*

Violetta – Erica Austin

**Flora – Kathleen McKenna – October 25
Megan Peò – October 26**

Marchese – Jeremy Bolin

Barone – Efrain Martinez

Dottore – Matt Wight

Gastone – Sungman Lee

Alfredo – Doo Yang – October 25
Daniel Pozzebon – October 26

Violetta is hosting a party to celebrate her return to society after a short but severe attack of consumption. The guests include old friends, and also a young man from Provence who has fallen genuinely in love with the beautiful Violetta. She uses her charms to suppress the tender emotions she is beginning to feel.

Faust

by

Charles Gounod

(1818-1893)

Libretto by

Jules Barbier and Michel Carré

Act 2 – Scene – *O sainte médaille. . . Avant de quitter ces lieux*

Valentine – Evan Brummel – October 25
Efrain Martinez – October 26

Wagner – William Sovich

Siebel – Shawna Crahan – October 25
Christine Saw – October 26

Ensemble - The Men of Opera Chapman

Students and soldiers have gathered in the town square. The soldier Valentin appears, clutching a sacred medallion, given to him by his sister Marguerite. He is about to leave for battle and instructs his friends to look after her in his absence. In a moving aria he asks God to protect him in battle and should he lose his life he will watch over her faithfully.

Carmen
by
Georges Bizet
(1838-1875)
Libretto by
H. Meilhac, L. Halévy after Mérimée

Act 3 – Trio and Aria – *Mélon! Coupon! En vain pour éviter...*

Carmen – Sara Price – October 25
Alane Alfaro – October 26

Frasquita – Casey Decker – October 25
Katrina Herrera – October 26

Mercédès – Sarah Shields – October 25
Elana Cowen – October 26

Frasquita and Merédès begin to tell their fortunes with cards. Merédès finds a romantic young lover who will carry her off into the mountains, Frasquita a rich old husband who dies and leaves his fortune to her. Happily, they reshuffle and try again. Carmen, who has been watching them, makes up her own cards. Before even turning the first card she knows her unavoidable fate: death.

La Boheme
By
Giacomo Puccini
(1858-1924)
Libretto by
Giuseppe Giacosa & Luigi Illica

Act 3 Aria – *Donde lieta usci*

Mimì – Justine Limpic – October 25

Rodolfo - William Sovich

In the preceding scene Rodolfo has told his friend Marcello of the true reason why he made Mimì leave him: he could no longer stand to keep her in his freezing garret, knowing how desperately sick she was, while there was nothing he could do to take care of her. Overhearing this conversation, Mimì now decides to say farewell forever rather than attempt reconciliation.

Act 1 Aria – *Sì. Mi chiamano Mimì*

Mimì – Alane Alfaro – October 26

Rodolfo – William Sovich

Mimì, who just ten minutes earlier had fainted at the door of Rodolfo's garret and had then been revived by a little wine, modest heat of the stove, and a very friendly reception, has listened attentively to Rodolfo's flowery speech. Sitting, not daring to look at him, she now overcomes her shyness to answer his question, "Who are you?"

Susannah

by

Carlisle Floyd

(1926-)

Libretto by

Carlisle Floyd

Act 1 – Scene 2 – *Ain't it a pretty night*

**Susannah – Courtney Taylor – October 25
Lisa Austin - October 26**

Sam – Gregory Iriart

Little Bat – Nathaniel Black

Set in the New Hope Valley of Tennessee, Susannah has returned home from a square dance at the New Hope Church. She is in a joyous mood and her friend Little Bat has walked her home. He adores her and hangs around despite his fear of Susannah's brother, Sam. Susannah looks up at the night sky and dreams of leaving her home in the valley to see the world beyond. Sam appears, scaring away Little Bat. Susannah tells Sam how much she has enjoyed the square dance and, unwilling to end the evening, convinces him to sing one her favorite childhood songs.

Artistic Staff

Peter L. Atherton, DMA

Artistic Director

Musical Staff

Louise Thomas, DMA

Music Direction

John Ballerino, DMA

Music Direction

Aaron Valdizan

Chorus Master

Technical Staff

Ron Coffman

Set Construction

Acknowledgements

William D. Hall, DMA

Dean, School of Music

Rick Christophersen

Administrative Director

Judith Long

Secretary, School of Music

Chapman University Voice Faculty: Lynn Cole-Adcock, Susan Ali,

Peter Atherton, Christina Dahlin, Margaret Dehning,

Patrick Goeser, Jonathan Mack and Carol Neblett,

Artist-in-Residence

Special Thanks To:

Professor Larry Brady, his Advanced Graphics Art Class, Ian Swanson for his graphics work featured in our publicity and program, and Diana Shepard for her time, energy, enthusiasm in assisting with props.

Members of Opera Chapman

Erica Austin
Lisa Austin
Shawna Crahan
Elana Cowen
Casey Decker
Mollie Fry
Katrina Herrera
Jennifer Hock
Kristin Irvine
Justine Limpic
Kathleen McKenna
Megan Peò
Sara Price
Christine Saw
Carly Shepard
Sarah Shields
Courtney Taylor

Adonis Abuyen
Nathaniel Black
Jeremy Bolin
Evan Brummel
Aaron Gonzalez
Jeff Haut
Gregory Iriart
Sungman Lee
Efrain Martinez
Weston Olson
Daniel Pozzebon
William Sovich
Spencer Washburn
Nathaniel Werner
Matthew Wight
Doo Suk Yang

Thanks to all who helped to make this a successful production. It is my sincere hope that through this experience you have grown as a singer, an artist and as a human being.

P. A.