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2012: An Opera Odyssey The Journey Continues

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fall 2012

 **CHAPMAN**
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

2012: An Opera Odyssey

The Journey Continues

October 19-21, 2012

Peter Atherton, Artistic Director;

Carol Neblett, Associate Director

David Alt, Assistant Director



COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS
CONSERVATORY OF

music

FALL 2012 calendar highlights

september

September 27-29, October 4-6

Company, Book by George Furth, Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Directed by Todd Nielsen, Music Direction by Bill Brown

october

October 19-21

Opera Chapman presents **"2012: An Opera Odyssey – The Journey Continues"**

Peter Atherton, Artistic Director, Carol Neblett, Associate Director, David Alt, Assistant Director

October 26

Chapman University Choir and Women's Choir in Concert

Stephen Coker and Angel Vázquez-Ramos, Conductors

november

November 2-3

American Celebration

Dale A. Merrill, Artistic Director and Producer

William Hall, Music Director and Conductor

November 7-11

If All the Sky Were Paper

By Andrew Carroll, Directed by John Benitz

November 10

Chapman University Wind Symphony

Paul Sherman, Music Director and Conductor

November 12

University Singers in Concert

Stephen Coker, Conductor

November 16

Chapman Chamber Orchestra

Daniel Alfred Wachs, Music Director and Conductor

November 28-December 1

Fall Dance Concert

Directed by Jennifer Backhaus

december

December 7-8

49th Annual Holiday Wassail - Banquet and Concert

Presented by the University Choir and University Singers, Stephen Coker, Conductor,

University Women's Choir, Angel Vázquez-Ramos, Conductor, and the Chapman University Chamber Orchestra, Daniel Alfred Wachs, Conductor



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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Conservatory of Music

and

Opera Chapman

presents

2012: An Opera Odyssey The Journey Continues

Peter Atherson, *artistic director*

Carol Neblett, *associate director*

David Alt, *assistant director*

*Opera Chapman fondly dedicates its 2012-13 Season
to the memory of Mrs. Norma Lineberger and to the
Lineberger family in recognition of their generous support*

October 19-20, 2012 ■ 7:30 P.M.

October 21, 2012 ■ 3:00 P.M.

Salmon Recital Hall

Program

Le nozze di Figaro

Act 2 Finale – Signore di fuori son già i suonatori
By Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Directed by Dr. David Alt

Figaro.....Harrison Zierer (10-19 & 21), Andrei Bratkovski (10-20)
Count .....Alex Bodrero (10-19 & 21), Daniel Shipley (10-20)
Countess.....Chelsea Chaves
Susanna.....Neda Lahidji (10-19 & 21), Natalie Uranga (10-20)
Antonio.....Benedict Ressa (10-19 & 21), Marqis Griffith (10-20)
Marcellina.....Lizbeth Sanchez (10-19 & 21), Kylee Bestenlehner (10-20)
Don Basilio.....Nathan Wilen (10-19 & 21), Eric Parker (10-20)
Dr. Bartolo.....Anthony Lee (10-19 & 21), Ben Finer (10-20)

Figaro enters the Countess’s chamber asking for an immediate wedding. Recovering his composure, the Count poses questions about an anonymous letter; Figaro evades the subject. Antonio charges in complaining of damage to his garden caused by someone’s exit from the window of the chamber. The Count suspects it was Cherubino but Figaro claims it was he who jumped. The Count calmly questions Figaro about a paper dropped by the mysterious jumper. Prompted by the Countess and Susanna, Figaro identifies it as the page’s commission, which was left with him to be sealed. The Count is perplexed, but revives when Marcellina, Basilio and Bartolo rush in demanding justice.

Fidelio

Act 1 – Duet – Jetzt, Schätzchen, Jetzt sind wir allein
By Ludwig van Beethoven
Directed by Dr. David Alt

Marzelline.....Neda Lahidji (10-19 & 21), Cristiana Franzetti (10-20)
Jaquino.....Chris Maze (10-19 & 21), Duke Kim (10-20)

Marzelline is busy with chores while Jaquino pressures her on the subject of marriage. She rejects his pleas having fallen in love with Fidelio, her father’s new assistant.

L’italiana in Algeri

Act 1 Finale – Pria di dividerci da voi, signore
By Gioacchino Rossini
Directed by Dr. Peter Atherton

Isabella.....Monica Alfredsen (10-19 & 21), Lizbeth Sanchez (10-20)
Mustafà.....Andrei Bratkovski
Elvira.....Natalie Uranga (10-19 & 21), Amira Fulton (10-20)
Zulma.....Kylee Bestenlehner
Lindoro.....Chris Maze (10-19 & 21), Kyle Patterson (10-20)
Taddeo.....Daniel Shipley (10-19 & 21), Luke Carlsen (10-20)
Haly.....Elliott Wulff (10-19 & 21), Benedict Ressa (10-20)

Opera Chapman Ensemble

Program

Elvira, Zulma and Lindoro enter to make their farewells to Mustafâ. Astonished, Isabella recognizes her long lost lover, Lindoro. A bumbling Mustafâ is confused and perplexed by their reaction to each other. Isabella cunningly announces that she could never love a man who treated his wife as Mustafâ is treating Elvira. She also insists that Lindoro should remain with her. The announcement sends the entire cast into a state of delirium, their heads full of the sounds of bells, a hammer, crowing and a cannon.

La Traviata

Act 1 Opening scene – Dell’invita trascorsa è già l’ora...
By Giuseppe Verdi
Directed by Dr. Peter Atherton

Violetta.....Emily Dyer (10-19 & 21), Kylena Parks (10-20)
Flora.....Rachel Stoughton (10-19 & 21), Keegan Brown (10-20)
Marchese.....Ben Finer (10 -19 & 21), Luke Carlson (10-20)
Barone.....Marqis Griffith (10-19 & 21), Ryan Morris (10-20)
Dottore.....Alex Bodrero
Gastone.....Duke Kim (10-19 & 21), Hayden Kellermeyer (10-20)
Alfredo.....Eric Parker (10-19 & 21), Kyle Patterson (10-20)

Opera Chapman Ensemble

A party is about to begin in Violetta’s house. Violetta greets her friends and guests, among whom is Alfredo Germont, a young man who has loved Violetta from afar for some time. Violetta calls for champagne for everyone and asks for a toast. Alfredo accepts the honor and sings the famous brindisi ‘Libiamo ne’ lieti calici’ repeated by Violetta and then by the entire cast.

La Bohème

Act 3 Aria and Quartet
By Giacomo Puccini
Directed by Ms. Carol Neblett

Mimi.....Jacquelyn Clements (10-19 & 21), Elaine Cha (10-20)
Rodolfo.....Kevin Gino
Musetta.....Chelsea Chaves
Marcello.....Daniel Shipley

Marcello hears Musetta’s shameless laughter and hurries into the tavern. Mimi reveals her presence and takes a sad farewell of her lover. Afterwards Mimi and Rodolfo decide to remain together until the spring while Musetta and Marcello quarrel heatedly.

Susannah

Ain’t it a pretty night
By Carlisle Floyd
Directed by Ms. Carol Neblett

Susannah.....Kylena Parks (10-19 & 21), Emily Dyer (10-20)
Little Bat.....Hayden Kellermeyer (10-19 & 21), Nathan Wilen (10-20)
Sam.....Jerry Bartucciotto (10-19 & 21), Kevin Gino (10-20)

Susannah sings of her longing to see the world, which is quickly forgotten when her brother Sam appears and entertains her with a favorite childhood song.

Program

Candide

Make Our Garden Grow
By Leonard Bernstein
Directed by Dr. Peter Atherton

Candide.....Marcus Paige
Cunegonde.....Elaine Cha (10-19 & 21), Natalie Uranga(10-20)
Old Woman.....Laura Miller
Governor.....Duke Kim
Maximillian.....Ryan Morris
Pangloss.....Elliott Wulff

Opera Chapman Ensemble

The finale of the opera brings Candide back from his adventures to Cunegonde, his bride-to-be, for a heartwarming and inspirational ensemble.

Opera Chapman Ensemble

Monica Alfredsen	Emily Dyer	Duke Kim	Lucy Provan
Jerry Bartucciotto	Benjamin Finer	Neda Lahidji	Benedict Ressa
Kylee Bestenlehner	Cristiana Franzetti	Anthony Lee *	Lizbeth Sanchez
John Alex Bodrero	Amira Fulton	Chris Maze	Daniel Shipley
Andrei Bratkovski	Kevin Gino	Shannon McBane *	Rachel Stoughton *
Natasha Bratkovski *	Marqis Griffith	Laura Miller *	Natalie Uranga
Keegan Brown	Megan Henretta *	Ryan Morris *	Nathan Wilen
Luke Carlsen	Angelique Hernandez	Marcus Paige *	Elliot Wulff
Elaine Cha	Jaekoo Kang	Eric Parker	
Chelsea Chaves	Samira Kasraie	Kylena Parks	
Jacquelyn Clements	Hayden Kellermeyer	Kyle Patterson	

* Scene Introductions

Artists

Peter L. Atherton, Artistic Director

Bass-baritone **Peter Atherton** has had the joy of performing over forty-five roles ranging from Seneca in The Coronation of Poppea to Frederick in A Little Night Music. His operatic credits include performances with the Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Baltimore Opera, Lyric Opera Cleveland, Wolf Trap Opera, Virginia Opera, San Francisco Opera Touring Division, Opera Atelier, Cairo Opera and the Operafestival of Rome and Verona. He has performed with such conductors as Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez, Lucas Foss, James Conlon, Kurt Herbert Adler, David Effron and Myung-Whun Chung. Mr. Atherton's versatility as a singing-actor enabled him to perform six different roles in The Phantom of the Opera in New York, Los Angeles and Toronto.

Dr. Atherton holds the **Robert and Norma Lineberger Endowed Chair in Music** at Chapman University, is Director of Operatic Studies and Associate Professor of Voice in the Conservatory of Music. He is a member of the Artistic Board of Directors of Operafestival di Roma. Dr. Atherton will direct a new production of Verdi's Rigoletto for the Natchez Arts Festival in 2013 and next summer he will join the faculty for the Frost School of Music Salzburg Festival Program in Salzburg, Austria..

Carol Neblett, Associate Director

One of America's greatest and most acclaimed sopranos, **Carol Neblett's** career has spanned over forty years, performing opera's most coveted roles in the world's greatest opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, Covent Garden, San Francisco Opera, Salzburg, Hamburg and Chicago Lyric Opera.

Ms. Neblett made her operatic debut in 1969 with the New York City Opera as Musetta, in La Boheme. Amidst huge acclaim, she performed over twenty-five leading roles with the company over the next five years. Critical triumphs included the dual roles of Margherita and Helen of Troy in Boito's Mefistofele. Her performance of Korngold's Die Tote Stadt was so successful that it was subsequently recorded with the renowned Erich Leinsdorf conducting, and won a number of coveted awards, including a Grammy in 1975.

Ms. Neblett's signature roles include Puccini's Tosca as well as Minnie in The Girl of the Golden West. In 1976 she made her debut at the Lyric Opera of Chicago as Tosca with Luciano Pavarotti, and has sung this role more that 200 times. Ms. Neblett was invited to sing Minnie with Placido Domingo for Queen Elizabeth's 25th Jubilee Celebration at Covent Garden, which was filmed live as well as recorded.

Throughout the world's major opera houses, Ms. Neblett has sung more than eighty-five leading roles and more than 100 oratorio and symphonic works.

Ms. Neblett is currently on the vocal staff as Artist-in-Residence at Chapman University. She conducts master classes for young artist programs worldwide, concentrating on role preparation for the professional singer, as well as maintaining a private studio in the Los Angeles area.

Artists

David Alt, Assistant Director

David Alt recently moved to Southern California after teaching for 21 years as Professor of Voice, Chairman of the Department of Vocal Performance and Program Director for Musical Theatre in the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Iowa and a Certificate from the Conservatoire de Musique, Geneve, Switzerland. Alt studied opera with Wesley Balk at the Minnesota Opera Institute and voice with French baritone Gerard Souzay and soprano Maralin Niska.

Nominated for a Carbonnel Award for Best Actor in a South Florida Regional Showcase for his work in Brecht on Brecht, Alt has been seen in the South Florida area in productions of Don Juan in Hell, The Merry Widow, The Barber of Seville, One Flea Spare, Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill, Company, Love Letters, Later Life and Far East in addition to revues of the music of Bernstein, Coward, Gershwin, Berlin, Sondheim and Weill. He also has performed with the New World Symphony, the New York Philharmonic, the Miami Bach Society, the Chamber Singers of Iowa City Bach Festival, the St. Louis Muni Opera, the Quad City (IL) Symphony, the Southeast Iowa Symphony, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, the Carmel (CA) Bach Festival, and New Theatre in Coral Gables (FL). Alt's articles have appeared in the journals of the Music Educator's National Conference, the Journal of Singing and the Choral Journal.

Cheryl Fielding, Music Director

Pianist **Cheryl Lin Fielding** has performed in concert halls throughout the world, including Japan, Taiwan, Italy, and prestigious venues in the United States, such as the Lincoln Center, Carnegie Weill Recital Hall and the Seiji Ozawa Hall. She has been honored with the Grace B. Jackson Prize in Excellence by the Tanglewood Music Festival and three times received the distinguished Gwendolyn Koldofsky Scholarship Award in Keyboard Collaborative Arts.

She has received teaching fellowships at the Juilliard School and the USC Thornton Opera, and performed with the Tanglewood Music Center, Music Academy of the West, Aspen Music Festival, and the Mark Morris Dance Group at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. Dr. Fielding has worked for the Los Angeles Opera, Opera Pacific, and Operafestival di Roma, and is presently the co-founder and Music Director of NachtMusik, an ensemble committed to bringing opera experience to inner-city Los Angeles schools.

Cheryl's musical studies began at the age of three in Taiwan, first on the piano and later on the violin, and continued through dual master's degrees from the Juilliard School, in Piano Performance and Collaborative Piano, under the tutelage of OxanaYablonskaya and Jonathan Feldman, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California in Keyboard Collaborative Arts under Alan Smith, with voice studies under Elizabeth Hynes. Dr. Fielding is currently an Adjunct Professor and opera coach at Chapman University.

Janet Kao, Principal Coach

Pianist, **Janet Kao**, a native of Taiwan, is an accomplished musician with extensive experience as a solo pianist, vocal/instrumental collaborator, and an opera coach. She has

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performed on many stages including Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Harris Concert Hall in Aspen, Preston Bradley Hall in Chicago, National Concert Hall of Taiwan. She has been invited to participate in several summer music festivals including Bowdoin Music Festival, the Yellow Barn Chamber Music Festival, and the Music Academy of the West. She has served as a staff accompanist at the Aspen Music Festival, as a staff coach at Opera in the Ozarks, Arkansas and the American Institute of Musical Arts in Graz, Austria.

She has received teaching fellowships from the Juilliard School and the USC Thornton Opera, working closely with renowned conductors, Judith Clurman and Brent McMunn. Her interests in contemporary music have led her to collaborate on new operas including Miss Lonelyhearts by Lowell Liebermann and Powder Her face by Thomas Adès. In addition to opera, she has premiered many contemporary chamber works with the New Juilliard Ensemble, under the baton of Joel Sachs.

Janet received her Bachelor and Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from the Peabody Conservatory with pianist Robert McDonald, and a Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Piano from the Juilliard School under the tutelage of Jonathan Feldman and Brian Zeger. She completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California in Keyboard Collaborative Arts in 2009 under Alan Smith and was awarded Gwendolyn Koldofsky Scholarship Award for three consecutive years. Dr. Kao is currently an adjunct professor and a vocal coach at Fullerton College and Chapman University.

Laure Dike, Costume Design

Laure Dike holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance from the University of California, Irvine, where she studied under Eugene Loring and Olga Maynard. She choreographed over thirty musical theater productions – her favorites include Anything Goes, Once Upon a Mattress, and Oklahoma. Laure performed in California Riverside Ballet's The Nutcracker as Frau Silberhaus and Cinderella as Step Mother, under the direction of David Allen. Laure enjoyed a long career with the Walt Disney Company as a corporate trainer for New-hire Orientation, The Management Intern Program, and Disneyland Ambassador Program. Laure has been the choreographer and creative consultant for the Norco High School Choral Association for fifteen years. She has had the pleasure of designing costumes for Opera Chapman for the past five seasons.

Jennifer Kelly, Production Manager

Jennifer Kelly has worked with Opera Chapman for 6 seasons and has over 25 years of experience with live productions. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communications with an emphasis in Technical Theatre from Chapman University. Jennifer also stages manages for corporate and entertainment events, most recently for Mark Victor Hansen and International Presentation of Performers. Jennifer works full-time at a local United Methodist Church in Tustin as the Church Administrator.

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Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends:

Thank you for joining us for the College of Performing Arts' production of 2012: An Opera Odyssey, The Journey Continues. On behalf of our faculty, staff and students, I am grateful to all the members of our College of Performing Arts family for the support that allows us to continue to present great educational opportunities like the one you are about to see. This performance is another example of our commitment to producing works that showcase the talents of our students for the community, as well as providing our students with learning experiences that take them outside the traditional classroom.

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- Ensuring top notch community performances of classic and contemporary art;
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Enjoy the performance, and I look forward to seeing you again throughout the season.

Sincerely,



Dale A. Merrill, Dean

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