11-8-2012

2012: An Opera Odyssey: The Journey Continues

Opera Chapman

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2012: An Opera Odyssey
The Journey Continues
November 8, 2012
Peter Atherton, Artistic Director;
Carol Neblett, Associate Director
David Alt, Assistant Director
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

For more information about our events, please visit our website at http://www.chapman.edu/cofa or call 714-997-6519 or email CoPA@chapman.edu

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

November 8, 2012 • 7:30 P.M.
The Covington
**Program**

**Le nozze di Figaro**

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

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**Fidelio**

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

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Figaro............................................................... Andrei Bratkovski  
Count ............................................................... Daniel Shipley  
Countess............................................................ Chelsea Chaves  
Susanna............................................................. Natalie Uranga  
Antonio............................................................... Marqis Griffith  
Marcellina.......................................................... Lizbeth Sanchez  
Don Basilio......................................................... Eric Parker  
Dr. Bartolo.......................................................... Ben Finer

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Marzelline.......................................................... Cristiana Franzetti  
Jaquino.............................................................. Duke Kim

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.

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**L’italiana in Algeri**

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

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Isabella............................................................. Monica Alfredsen  
Mustafà .............................................................. Andrei Bratkovski  
Elvira................................................................. Amira Fulton  
Zulma................................................................. Kylee Bestenlehner  
Lindoro.............................................................. Kyle Patterson  
Taddeo............................................................... Daniel Shipley  
Haly................................................................. Benedict Ressa

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Opera Chapman Ensemble
Elvira, Zulma and Lindoro enter to make their farewells to Mustafa. Astonished, Isabella recognizes her long lost lover, Lindoro. A bumbling Mustafa 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 Mustafa 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 .................................................................. Kylena Parks
Flora ........................................................................ Keegan Brown
Marchese ..................................................................... Ben Finer
Barone ........................................................................ Ryan Morris
Dottore ...................................................................... Alex Bodrero
Gastone ................................................................. Hayden Kellermeyer
Alfredo ........................................................................ Kyle Patterson

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
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........................................................................ Emily Dyer
Little Bat.................................................................... Nathan Wilen
Sam........................................................................... Jerry Bartucciotto
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 .......................................................... Natalie Uranga
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.

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 di Roma 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 than 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 Niski.

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 American Composers Orchestra, the Juilliard 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 journal 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 Operafestivals 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 Ozana Yablonskaya 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, Native 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 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 music festivals including Bowedin 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 Brett McMillan. 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.

**Don Guy**

Don is an Assistant Professor of Theatre in Entertainment Technology and the Production Manager for the College of Performing Arts. He received an MFA in Design from the University of California, Irvine and a BA in Theatre from the University of Alabama. In addition to his work at Chapman, he is a prolific designer for dance, theater, industrials, themed entertainment and architecture. He has designed numerous shows from Off-Broadway to Tony Award-winning regional shows including Swan Lake, Cinderella, The Sleeping Beauty, Giselle and The Nutcracker for the St. Louis Ballet, Cinderella, The Nutcracker, ETC, and Fiesta for choreographer David Alan, The Nutcracker for Ballet Pacifica, Ash, Rainbow ‘Round My Shoulder, Games, Songs of the Distant Forebears, Music Box, Obsession, and Miss Lonelyhearts by Lowell Liebermann and Powder Her face by Thomas Adès. Credits include: Swan Lake, Wake, Cinderella, The Sleeping Beauty, Giselle and The Nutcracker for the St. Louis Ballet, Cinderella, The Nutcracker, ETC, and Fiesta for choreographer David Alan, The Nutcracker for Ballet Pacifica, Ash, Rainbow ‘Round My Shoulder, Games, Songs of the Distant Forebears, Music Box, Obsession, and Miss Lonelyhearts by Lowell Liebermann and Powder Her face by Thomas Adès.
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.

Artistic and Technical Staff

Production Manager – Jennifer Kelly
Scenic Design – Don Guy
Laure Dike – Costume Design
Production Crew – Ron Coffman, Richard Jackson, Eric Rodriguez

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Artist in Residence: Milena Kitic, Carol Neblett

Staff: Katie Silberman (Department Assistant), Peter Westenhofer (Operations Supervisor)

Work-study Students: Monica Alfredsen, Liz Chadwick, Kyle Chattleton, Emily Dyer, Marquis Griffith, Nicholas Kaynor, Anthony Lee, Joseph Naidoo, Marcus Paige, Kylena Parks, Nathan Wilen
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.

Preparing the next generation of performers and artists takes the support of all of us who are passionate about the performing arts and who value its presence in our lives. As a supporter of the arts, you have a crucial role to play to ensure the success of the College of Performing Arts and the students who are at the heart of all we do. Your financial support allows the College of Performing Arts to provide the kind of educational and performing opportunities crucial to our students’ growth into artists. Please join our community of loyal alumni, parents and community partners devoted to developing the talents of the next generation of artists with a gift to the Fund for Excellence.

The Fund for Excellence supports College of Performing Arts initiatives that enhance our students’ experience. Your gift to the Fund for Excellence has a tremendous impact on all of our programs by:

- Providing our students with opportunities to work with professional artists;
- Ensuring top notch community performances of classic and contemporary art;
- Strengthening our programs by maintaining our ability to attract the brightest and most talented students from across the country.

No matter what level you choose to support the College of Performing Arts, you will be a part of a family of individuals who demonstrate, year after year, that they are fully committed to developing the talents of young artists. And most importantly, I hope you make your gift because you value the arts and want to invest in our next generation of artists.

Enjoy the performance, and I look forward to seeing you again throughout the season.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Merrill, Dean

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By helping to maintain the resources essential to our curriculum, you allow the College to offer a dynamic learning environment that nurtures the creativity of our students with one-on-one training, ensuring they master their craft. We can produce exceptional performances like what you are about to see only with support from people committed to excellence in performing arts. People just like you.

Help support the College of Performing Arts’ talented young students as they transform into tomorrow’s professional artists. To learn more about giving to the College of Performing Arts, please contact Liz Crozer, Director of Development, at (714) 289-2085 or crozer@chapman.edu.