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Empty Chairs at Empty Tables: Opera in the Time of COVID-19

Opera Chapman

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OPERA CHAPMAN PRESENTS:

Empty Chairs at Empty Tables

Opera in the time of COVID-19



PETER L. ATHERTON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PAUL FLOYD AND JANET KAO, PIANO

STREAMING FEBRUARY 1 – 21, 2021



CHAPMAN
UNIVERSITY

**College of
Performing Arts**
Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

*Wise men ne'er sit and wail their loss,
But cheerly seek how to redress their harms.*

— Queen Margaret
Henry VI by William Shakespeare



Dear Friends:

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to alter our lives, students, faculty, staff, and administrators in the College of Performing Arts have continued to rise to the challenges that affect how they teach, learn, and create. I have been impressed by everyone's can-do attitude, professionalism, and cooperation to ensure our students continue to receive the high-quality Chapman education they deserve and have come to expect.

Our students are innate creators and can devise solutions to a vast range of problems because of that creativity. The pandemic has presented its own unique obstacles for us, but we have rejected the possibility of failure. Nowhere has this resilience and creativity been more evident than in the outstanding virtual performances given throughout this academic year.

I hope you enjoy tonight's performance and appreciate the extraordinary adjustments our students have made to their craft in order to bring you this experience. We are all very proud of how successfully these talented and creative young people have faced these challenges.

Giulio Ongaro, PhD
Dean and Professor
College of Performing Arts
Chapman University

**CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
HALL-MUSCO CONSERVATORY of MUSIC
AND OPERA CHAPMAN PRESENT:**

Empty Chairs at Empty Tables

Opera in the time of COVID-19

PETER L. ATHERTON
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PAUL FLOYD AND JANET KAO
MUSIC PREPARATION AND PIANO

Featuring scenes from:

<i>Carmen</i>	<i>Fidelio</i>
<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>
<i>Die Fledermaus</i>	<i>Les Misérables</i>
<i>Don Giovanni</i>	<i>Manon</i>
<i>Falstaff</i>	<i>Roméo et Juliette</i>

Streaming
FEBRUARY 1 – 21, 2021

CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAMS

Artistic Director.....**Peter L. Atherton**
Musical Preparation.....**Paul Floyd**
and Piano **Janet Kao**
Videographer.....**Luke Berger**
Video Editor.....**Michael Reilly**

**Special thanks to
Adam Borecki and Nick Glaab
for their assistance with recording
and editing this production.**

PROGRAM

Empty Chairs at Empty Tables from *Les Misérables*
Claude-Michel Schönberg (b. 1944)

Brooke Wittenmeier
Paul Floyd, piano

Ange adorable from *Roméo et Juliette*
Charles Gounod (1818 – 1893)

Juliette: Evelyn Pham
Roméo: Joey Krumbein
Paul Floyd, piano

This Journey from *Dead Man Walking*
Jake Heggie (b. 1961)

Sister Helen: Gabriella Aguilar
Paul Floyd, piano

Je crois entendre encore from *Les pêcheurs de perles*
Georges Bizet (1838 – 1875)

Nadir: Daniel Sanchez
Paul Floyd, piano



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PROGRAM

Bisogno aver coraggio from *Don Giovanni*

W.A. Mozart (1756 – 1791)

Donna Elvira: Sarah Sweerman

Ottavio: Irvin Correa Castillo

Donna Anna: Jacqueline Botz

Leporello: Giovanni Ferrer

Giovanni: Reece Huff

Janet Kao, piano

Czardas from *Die Fledermaus*

Johann Strauss II (1825 – 1899)

Rosalinde: Ariel Gavriliuc

Janet Kao, piano

Mêlon! Coupons! from *Carmen*

Georges Bizet

Frasquita: Claire Manson

Mercedes: Jaylene Capinpin

Carmen: Gabriella Aguilar

Janet Kao, piano

PROGRAM

Saper vorreste from *Un ballo in maschera*

Giuseppe Verdi (1813 – 1901)

Oscar: McKensie Miller

Janet Kao, piano

Via resti servita, madama brillante from *Le nozze di Figaro*

W.A. Mozart

Marcellina: Abigail Wisdom

Susanna: Sanaz Bashiri

Paul Floyd, piano

Adieu notre petite table from *Manon*

Jules Massenet (1842 – 1912)

Manon: Sarah Sweerman

Janet Kao, piano

Jetzt, Schätzchen, jetzt sind wir allein from *Fidelio*

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)

Marzelline: Keila San Pedro

Jaquino: Frank Watnick

Janet Kao, piano



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PROGRAM

Dieser Anstand, so manierlich from *Die Fledermaus*
Johann Strauss II

Rosalinde: Ariel Gavriluc
Eisenstein: Daniel Sanchez
Janet Kao, piano

Mêlon! Coupons! from *Carmen*
George Bizet

Frasquita: McKensie Miller
Mercedes: Payton McKinnis
Carmen: Brooke Wittenmeier
Janet Kao, piano

This Journey from *Dead Man Walking*
Jake Heggie

Sister Helen: Natasha Kaiserman
Paul Floyd, piano

Saper vorreste from *Un ballo in maschera*
Giuseppe Verdi

Oscar: Kylee Kamikawa
Janet Kao, piano

PROGRAM

Via resti servita, madama brillante from *Le nozze di Figaro*
W.A. Mozart

Susanna: Olivia Siri
Marcellina: Brynn Tunink
Paul Floyd, piano

Mir ist so wunderbar from *Fidelio*
Ludwig van Beethoven

Marzelline: Ella Nelson
Leonora: Jacqueline Botz
Rocco: Reece Huff
Jaquino: Frank Watnick
Paul Floyd, piano

Odo un soave passo! from *Falstaff*
Giuseppe Verdi

Falstaff: Nick Glaab
Alice: Ella Nelson
Meg: Abigail Wisdom
Nannetta: Sarah Bailey
Fairies:
Sanaz Bashiri, Clair Manson, Keila San Pedro, Olivia Siri,
Brynn Tunink, Abigail Wisdom
Paul Floyd, piano



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OPERA CHAPMAN

SOPRANO

Sarah Bailey
Sanaz Bashiri
Jacqueline Botz
Ariel Gavriluc
Clair Manson
McKensie Miller
Ella Nelson
Evelyn Pham
Keila San Pedro
Olivia Siri
Sarah Sweerman

MEZZO-SOPRANO

Gabriella Aguilar
Jaylene Capinpin
Natasha Kaiserman
Payton McKinnis
Brynn Tunink
Abigail Wisdom
Brooke Wittenmeier

TENOR

Irvin Correa Castillo
Joey Krumbein
Daniel Sanchez
Frank Watnick

BARITONE

Nick Glaab

BASS

Jovanni Ferrer
Reece Huff

ABOUT THE CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAMS

PETER L. ATHERTON (Artistic Director) holds the Robert and Norma Lineberger Chair in the Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music, Chapman University. He is a professor of vocal arts and has served as the artistic director of Opera Chapman since 2001. For more than 40 years he has performed and directed extensively in opera, oratorio, concert, and musical theater throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. His operatic and concert credits include performances with the Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Baltimore Opera, Lyric Opera Cleveland, Wolf Trap Opera, San Francisco Opera Touring Division, Opera Atelier, Cairo Opera, the Opera Estate of Rome and Verona, as well as Los Angeles Philharmonic, L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Basel Chamber Orchestra, Bach Cercle Genève, International Chamber Ensemble Rome, Los Angeles Master Chorale and Orchestre de Belgique. Dr. Atherton's teaching legacy includes current and former students who have won major international competitions, have been accepted into the most prestigious graduate programs and Young Artist programs in Europe and the United States, and have performed with major opera companies and symphonies throughout the United States and Europe.

JANET KAO (Music Preparation and Pianist) is an accomplished musician with extensive experience as a solo pianist, vocal/instrumental collaborator, and an opera coach. She has performed across the world including Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Harris Concert Hall in Aspen, Preston Bradley Hall in Chicago, and the 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, and has served as a staff accompanist and coach at the Aspen Music Festival, Opera in the Ozarks, Arkansas, and the American Institute of Musical Arts in Graz, Austria.



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ABOUT THE CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAMS

In recent years, Dr. Kao has participated in the “Opera for Kids” productions with the Pacific Symphony, working alongside conductors Carl St.Clair and Roger Kalia for many performances. She also serves as a staff accompanist at the Idyllwild Arts Academy summer program.

Dr. Kao holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in keyboard collaborative arts from the University of Southern California, in addition to a collaborative arts degree from the Juilliard School, and a piano performance degree from the Peabody Conservatory. Dr. Kao is currently an adjunct professor and a vocal coach at Fullerton College and Chapman University.

PAUL FLOYD (Music Preparation and Pianist) is in demand as a pianist and coach in Southern California and beyond. He teaches on the adjunct faculty at Chapman University, where he works with both the opera and keyboard collaborative arts programs, and is a Lecturer in the vocal department of the University of California, Los Angeles. For sixteen years he served as an Assistant Conductor with Los Angeles Opera where he collaborated with some of the opera world’s greatest singers and conductors, played in the opera orchestra, and was regularly featured as lecturer at pre-performance talks. He continues to work closely with the LA Opera Education and Engagement department in many capacities. In the summers he has held similar positions with The Santa Fe Opera, the Aspen Music Festival, Hawaii Performing Arts Festival, and the Astoria Festival in Oregon. He is a frequent accompanist for the Western Region finals of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Paul holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance from the University of Colorado, Boulder, in addition to piano degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the University of Southern California where he graduated summa cum laude.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAMS

His film credits include an appearance with Julie Andrews and Anna Netrebko in *Princess Diaries II* (Disney, 2004) and a Walt Disney Concert Hall performance with Vivica Genaux in Anthony Hopkins’ *Fracture* (Newline, 2007).

LUKE BERGER (Videographer) BFA Screen Acting, BS Computer Science, 2020. After working for Ryan Seacrest Productions, Luke dedicated his time in the film industry to work as both talent and production for companies including MGM, TBS, and The Walt Disney Company. Before his work in production, Berger designed and co-developed under Orange County’s number one escape room experience. During the COVID-era, he is excited to continue his Chapman journey temporarily, and continues to build his skills in remote-live production. In his free time, Luke is currently working for Facebook and Oculus as a virtual reality production manager and engineer, combining his love for computers and film into the digital world.

MICHAEL REILLY (Video Editor) BFA Film Production '06. Mike has worked for such companies as Paramount, Hulu, and BuzzFeed. He currently resides in Los Angeles and in his spare time likes to play the drums, listen to music and watch movies.



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COMING UP NEXT...



CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC SPRING SHOWCASE

May 2021

In a program bursting with musical color, Chapman ensembles, ranging from choral to jazz, mariachi to early music and more, perform a full spectrum of music genres.

SPRING OPERA: "A Farewell to Arms"

Peter L. Atherton, artistic director
Summer 2021

Join us as we celebrate Peter L. Atherton's artistic and leadership legacy with Opera Chapman in this grand finale gala! Current students and guest artists will perform arias and scenes from a variety of famous works, including *La Traviata*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *La bohème*, *The Merry Widow*, and more!



Learn more at

tickets.chapman.edu

SUPPORT THE STARS OF TOMORROW

SUPPORT CoPA

One of the best ways to help support CoPA students is to **give to the Fund for Excellence**. This invaluable program gives students access to a variety of high-caliber resources so they can create and perform their best work.

Every dollar donated to the **Fund** has an immediate impact on the performing arts student-experience. Donations are used exclusively to help CoPA students through enhancement of student productions, recruiting professional artists for master classes, and supporting touring student ensembles, to name a few. For example, last year the Fund allowed us to bring Complexions Contemporary Ballet to campus for a week-long intensive with our dance students, giving them a valuable opportunity to train with working professionals from an award-winning, internationally renowned company.

If you're already a CoPA supporter, **THANK YOU!** And if you haven't yet joined hands with others in supporting the performing arts at Chapman University, please, ***consider making a gift today.*** ***Any amount helps!*** Simply click on the support button above or contact **Bobby Reade**: reade@chapman.edu

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