2021 June 14

**Twenty Years of Opera Chapman: A Gala Farewell Celebration**

Opera Chapman

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Twenty Years of Opera Chapman: a Gala Farewell Celebration

Peter L. Atherton
Artistic Director

AVAILABLE ON DEMAND
JUNE 14 – JULY 4, 2021

College of Performing Arts
Hal-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, our students, faculty, staff, and administrators 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 PRESENTS:

Twenty Years of Opera Chapman:
a Gala Farewell Celebration

Featuring arias and duets from popular operas performed by current vocal performance students and distinguished alumni guests.

PETER ATHERTON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
PAUL FLOYD & JANET KAO, PIANISTS

AVAILABLE ON DEMAND
June 14 – July 4, 2021

All federal, state, and local COVID-19 regulations and safety precautions were considered in the creation of this production.

MUSCO CENTER FOR THE ARTS
A very warm welcome to you and thank you for joining us. Tonight’s program commemorates my tenure as Artistic Director of Opera Chapman.

The title I originally chose for the production was *A Farewell to Arms*... My colleagues thought something a bit more celebratory was in order. Whichever title you prefer, this is one of those times when a sincere farewell is needed.

Life is full of farewells. We move, graduate, change jobs, retire, and ultimately, we all bid farewell to this world.

There are so many ways to say farewell. Finding just the right words to express an array of emotions can be difficult. Fortunately, I’m reminded of a quote from that great philosopher, Winnie-the-Pooh, “How lucky I am to have something that makes saying farewell so hard.”

So, the best way to say FAREWELL at this moment is through music, through these scenes and through these talented students and artists, past and present. I thank them for their dedication and hard work. I hope they give you as much pleasure as they have given me over the past twenty years.

For the work I’ve done, I’ve been rewarded with immense satisfaction and spectacular memories that will continue to touch my heart for years to come.

I’m grateful to Chapman University for the opportunity to share my passion for this great art form. I have also been blessed with an amazing group of colleagues and supporters whom I would like to acknowledge and thank!

To name just a few...

Dr. William Hall

The generous and loyal donors...

Tom and Willy Hall        Warren and Janet Siegel
Pat and Mary Dirk         the late Margaret Richardson
Don and Luciana Marabella Margaret Schumacher
And the Lineberger Family. It has been an honor to be the first recipient of the Lineberger Endowed Chair.

And my colleagues in arms...

the late Carol Neblett    Laurel Dike
Paul Floyd                Marc Ameel
Janet Kao                 Josh Calderon
Cheryl Lin Fielding       Matt Tyrrell
Stephen Coker            Ruthe Brunner
David Alt                 Christine Weil
the late Don Guy          Leslie Acosta
Rebecca Sherburn          Joyce Cantrell
Margaret Dehning          Daniel Wachs
Rick Christophersen       and the staff and crew of
Jennifer Kelly            Musco Center for the Arts
Harrison Zierer

And now, with all due respect, as I bid you a fond farewell, I hope you will grant me a verdict of... *Not Guilty!*

Dr. Peter L. Atherton
PROGRAM

CAST

Gabriella Aguilar Claire Manson
Sarah Bailey McKenzie Miller
Melissa Brillhart Payton McKinnis
Jacqueline Botz Ella Nelson
Jovanni Ferrer Evelyn Pham
Ariel Gavriliuc Daniel Sanchez
Nick Glaab Olivia Siri
Reece Huff Sarah Sweerman
Kylee Kamikawa Brynn Tunink
Joey Krumbein Frank Watnick
Stephan Lee Brooke Wittenmeier

GUEST ALUMNI

Chelsea Chaves Steve Pence
Ashley Faatoalia Emily Dyer Reed
Kevin Gino Alexandra Rupp
Marcus Paige Efraín Solis
Kylena Parks

AND DR. PETER ATHERTON

PROGRAM

“Notte e giorno faticar” from Don Giovanni W.A. Mozart (1756 – 1791)

Nick Glaab as Leporello
Jacqueline Botz as Donna Anna
Efrain Solis as Don Giovanni
Reece Huff as Commendatore

Duet from Manon Jules Massenet (1842 – 1912)

Evelyn Pham as Manon
Joey Krumbein as Des Grieux
with Payton McKinnis, McKenzie Miller, and Olivia Siri

“Chacun à son goût” from Die Fledermaus Johann Strauss II (1825 – 1899)

Alexandra Rupp as Prince Orlofsky
Marcus Paige as Eisenstein
Nick Glaab as Ivan

“O fond du temple saint” from Les pêcheurs des perles Georges Bizet (1838 – 1875)

Ashley Faatoalia and Efrain Solis
PROGRAM

**Figaro Sextet from Le nozze di Figaro**  
W. A. Mozart

Frank Watnick as Don Curzio  
Nick Glaab as Figaro  
Jovanni Ferrer as Bartolo  
Brynn Tunink as Marcellina  
Sarah Sweerman as Susanna  
Reece Huff as Count Almaviva

**Flower Duet from Lakmé**  
Léo Delibes  
(1836 – 1891)

Chelsea Chaves and Alexandra Rupp

“Canzone del velo” from Don Carlo  
Giuseppe Verdi  
(1813 – 1901)

Gabi Aguilar and Ella Nelson  
and Ladies of Opera Chapman

“Esulti pur la barbarà” from L’élisir d’amore  
Gaetano Donizetti  
(1797 – 1848)

Kylena Parks and Marcus Paige

PROGRAM

**Silver Aria from The Ballad of Baby Doe**  
Douglas Moore  
(1893 – 1956)

Sarah Bailey

**The Merry Widow Act 1 duet**  
Franz Lehár  
(1870 – 1948)

Ariel Gavriliuc as Valencienne  
Daniel Sanchez as Camille

“Parigi o cara” from La Traviata  
Giuseppe Verdi

Emily Dyer, Kevin Gino, and Jacqueline Botz

**Sull’aria from Le nozze di Figaro**  
W. A. Mozart

Melissa Brillhart and Claire Manson

“Mon coeur s’ouvre a ta voix”  
from Samson et Dalilah  
Camille Saint-Saëns  
(1835 – 1921)

Brooke Wittenmeier
PROGRAM

Final Trio from Faust
Charles Gounod (1818 – 1893)
Kylena Parks, Ashley Faatoalia, and Steve Pence

“Notturno” from Don Pasquale
Gaetano Donizetti
Kylee Kamikawa as Norina
Stephan Lee as Ernesto

“Bevo al tuo fresco sorriso” from La Rondine
Giacomo Puccini (1858 – 1924)
Kevin Gino, Emily Dyer, Marcus Paige,
Chelsea Chaves Tan, and Opera Chapman ensemble

Duet from Gianni Schicchi
Giacomo Puccini
Sarah Sweerman and Stephan Lee

CREATIVE TEAM

Director...........PETER L. ATHERTON
Projection Designer/...........JESSA ORR
Storybook Artist
Makeup & Hair Designer...........JOYCE CANTRELL
Pianists...........PAUL FLOYD
JANET KAO

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager...........HARRISON ZIERER
Video Editing by...........MIKE REILLY
Hair and Makeup Crew...........HANNAH ANDERSEN
JACQUELINE BOTZ
KATIE PALINO
ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

PETER L. ATHERTON (Artistic Director) holds the Robert and Norma Lineberger Chair in the Hall-Music Conservatory of Music, Chapman University. He is 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.

JESSA ORR (Projection Designer/Storybook Artist) has been working as a scenic designer and scenic artist since 2004 for a variety of companies and theaters including Buena Vista Pictures, Walt Disney Studios, Walt Disney Archives, Disneyland Resort, Gothic Moon Productions, and Pfinix Creative Group, as well as numerous local universities and high schools.

JOYCE CANTRELL (Makeup & Hair Designer) is a lecturer in the Department of Theatre at Chapman University’s College of Performing Arts. This is her third season as a mentor for Hair and Makeup Design. She earned her MFA from UCI, is a member of Local 706 Makeup and Hair Stylist Union, and has been designing makeup and building and styling wigs for over 25 years.

PAUL FLOYD (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 L.A. 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.

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).
ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

JANET KAO (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.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM

HARRISON ZIERER (Stage Manager) is a graduate of Chapman University (’10) where he received a dual major in music education and vocal performance from the Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music. He currently teaches music and theater classes for the OC Department of Education. He also sings weekly at the First Christian Church of Laguna Woods and frequently gives concerts and recitals. In addition to teaching and singing throughout Orange County, Harrison is the founder and artistic director of Center Stage Theater, a non-profit children’s theater company that provides education in theater and music to children grades K–12 throughout Orange County.

HANNAH ANDERSEN (Hair and Makeup Crew): senior, BA Theatre Studies, theatre technology emphasis, Production Design for Film minor. Chapman: The Wolves (costume designer), Dracula, Vinegar Tom, Avenue Q, DNA, Way Deep, She Kills Monsters, Lysistrata, Measure for Measure (hair and makeup designer), Othello (assistant stage manager), The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui (light board operator), Cabaret (spotlight operator). Other: Chicago, American Idiot, West Side Story (hair and makeup designer).

JACQUELINE BOTZ (Hair and Makeup Crew): junior, BM Vocal Performance, Women’s Studies minor. Chapman: Lenny and the Jets (Choreographer and Performer); Cosi fan tutte (Hair and Makeup Crew and Performer); Die Zauberflöte; Chapman Celebrates: The Female Voice; Offenbach... Mais Jamais Ennuyeux; Empty Chairs at Empty Tables: Opera in the time of COVID.
ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM


SUPPORT THE STARS OF TOMORROW

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 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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