

the *Coloratura*

Mission: To stimulate interest and participation in opera for the benefit of cultural, educational and musical life in all of Oregon and to assist artists in the arts and aid in the production of opera

Portland Opera Guild Newsletter

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'Sunshine in January' Luncheon



Friday, January 26th

Make your reservations today for our January 26th 'Sunshine in January' Luncheon, to be held on the second floor in the Lonsdale of Multnomah Athletic Club.

Patricia Cavanaugh plans a lovely afternoon of food, décor and a beautiful program performed by Grace Skinner mezzo soprano, recent graduate of PSU school of Music and Erik Standifird baritone, studying at PSU School of Music of some of our favorite arias as well as lighter fare. Send your check with the enclosed reservation form right away. Call Patricia at 971.645.6322 for a reserved table for eight, or to check reservation availability after the January 23rd cutoff. Walk-ins without a prior reservation will be charged \$40.00 for the lunch and program. Show your support by sponsoring a performer's honorarium or buying their lunch, offering a raffle prize, or bringing a table of eight.

Luncheon Series Reservations

Use the enclosed Luncheon Reservation Form to sign up for the next luncheons. Remember, if you find you cannot make the luncheon and you call Patricia at 971.645.6322 no later than the Monday before a luncheon, we can cancel your luncheon reservation without penalty

Oregon Auditions: Three Advance to Seattle



Cara Gabrielson, Anne McGuire & Jasmin White

On Sunday, October 8th, while the Portland Marathon was in progress, 16 talented young operatic singers participated in the **Oregon Auditions**, which took place inside PSU's wonderful Lincoln Performance Hall. Instead of the usual one or two piano accompanists, there were several at this year's event: all were stellar! Former standout opera stars, **Elizabeth Hynes** and **Cynthia Munzer**, were joined by the Director of the Houston Grand Opera (HGO) Studio, **Brian Speck**, as judges. The trio of judges plays a huge role in the competitive process, not only selecting the prize-winners, but assigning each singer a second aria to perform after each begins with an aria of their own choice.

Three female singers: two sopranos, **Cara Gabrielson** and **Jasmin White**, and a mezzo-soprano, **Anne Maguire**, were selected to advance to the next round of the competition, on Sunday, March 4, 2018 (Cont. p. 2)

President's Message



*Dear fellow Members
and Friends,*

It is that time where I, again, look out of my window on the world and reflect over the past weeks and months sparked by delightful events.

How do we thank those creative performers that have so profoundly influenced our lives? What more can we do to contribute to the development of Opera in its beauty, grace, power and joy?

Each and every one of you through your nurturing and appreciation for these talented young people is playing an important role in the further development of these glorious expressions of art!

You, along with me, have been mightily blessed by the times we have spent together and you can believe me when I state that our best times are ahead!

Continue to join me in appreciation and that tingling feeling when we are in the midst of the mighty talent before us!

My best to you all in this wonderful Holiday Season!

Rodney Mazour

Oregon Auditions: Three Advance to Seattle

(Cont. from p. 1)

at the **Northwest Regional Auditions** at Seattle's **Benaroya Hall**.

Ms. Maguire actually competed here in 2014, and was the only singer to advance from Seattle, going on to the Semi-Final round in New York in 2015. Ms. White was selected as the **Marilyn Crilley Audience Favorite** which earned her additional prize money. Yet another soprano received an "**Encouragement Award**" by the judges; this was **Brooklyn Snow**. Two incoming **Portland Opera Resident Artists**, soprano **Helen Zhibing Huang** and bass **Shi Li** entered these Auditions and performed admirably. Opera lovers in Portland are in store for some wonderful singing as we watch these two develop over the next couple of years.

Professor, and Director of PSU's Opera Program, Christine Meadows, a superb mezzo in her own right, served as an appropriate and laudable hostess for the afternoon's program. While the judges were deliberating, Professor Meadows introduced local music-maker, **Michael Alan Harrison**, who is in the process of writing an opera about Pinocchio, to the audience. Harrison delighted all by detailing his approach to the opera and playing excerpts on the piano.

Of course, the Oregon Auditions could not take place without the efforts of **District Director, Jutta Allen**. Jutta and her Committee of Volunteers see to it that the entire day runs smoothly. Jutta - thank you for yet another year of service to the Portland opera community!

The Portland Opera Guild is a proud sponsor of the MONC competition. Stay up-to-date on the continuing Auditions process by looking at the Portland Opera Guild and MONCNW websites during the next two months.

The Met in HD: Winter, 2018 Schedule



The ever-popular series of High Definition broadcasts of Met operas will continue this winter with four more “Live from the Met” productions. Four Portland area movie theaters will continue to carry them. All Saturday matinee productions will begin at 10 am (PST), while the re-broadcasts take place the following Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.

Jan. 27: **Puccini’s *Tosca*** – The splendid Sonya Yoncheva sings the title role, with a cast that also includes Vittorio Grigolo and Bryn Terfel.

Feb. 10: **Donizetti’s *L’elisir D’amore*** – South African soprano **Pretty Yende** debuts as Adina opposite Matthew Polenzani’s Nemorino.

Feb. 24: **Puccini’s *La Boheme*** – Sonya Yoncheva, Sussana Phillips, and Michael Fabiano lead the cast in perhaps the world’s favorite opera.

March 21: **Rossini’s *Semiramide*** – A masterpiece of dazzling vocal fireworks making a rare Met appearance with local favorite diva, **Angela Meade** leading a stellar *bel canto* cast.

See you at the movies!

Guild Events Calendar

Upcoming Luncheons at Multnomah Athletic Club

1/26/18

3/23/18

5/18/18

PORTLAND OPERA GUILD

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Member Care and Concern

Please let Cathleen Mazour know when a Guild member needs the gift of a note. She will be glad to contact our members with a bit of ‘TLC’. Reach her at:

clmazour@comcast.net
or at (360) 256-5011.

Welcome to new members;
Judith Bishop, Leslie Myatt,
and Jeep Estep

Holiday Gathering Dec 3rd features PSU Chamber Choir



PSU Chamber Choir welcomed the Holidays!

Delicious food, flowing wine and a toast to the season greeted our members and guests at our event this year.



Meet Portland Opera's Resident Artists for 2018



Mezzo-soprano, **Kate Farrar** will remain for her second Resident Artist season and the three newcomers are tenor, **Thomas Cilluffo**, soprano, **Helen Huang**, and bass-baritone, **Shi Li**.

Mr. Cilluffo recently completed an MM in Voice Performance at the University of Michigan where he studied under Professor George Shirley, who sang for several seasons with the Metropolitan Opera and around the world. Cilluffo sang Tamino in a recent Portland Opera -to-go (POGO) production of Mozart's ***The Magic Flute***.

Ms. Huang holds a Graduate Diploma from the New England Conservatory and is a graduate of soprano Dawn Upshaw's Bard Vocal Arts Program. In addition, she graduated from the Eastman School of Music with a BM in Vocal Performance and the University of Rochester with a BA in Economics. A firm believer of Music as an aid for Social Causes, Ms. Huang is co-founder of Voices of the East, a musical collective that promotes and advocates young Asian and Asian-American musicians' voices in the contemporary classical music world.

Shi Li comes to us from Harbin, China. He is the recipient of a BA from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and earned a MM and Professional Study from the Manhattan School of Music. Mr. Li won numerous singing competitions in China and sang with several Symphonies there.

Ms. Farrar, you might recall, is a North Carolina native who won an MONC Competition in that state in 2014. No one who saw her superb **Dorabella** in last season's *Così* will ever forget it! Before coming to Portland, Ms. Farrar was an "apprentice artist" with Sarasota Opera Company. We look forward to hearing each of these young singers in the 2018 Portland Opera Season and in recital at Portland Art Museum.