

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

February 15, 2018

Volume 14, Issue 1

“In the Pink” March 23rd Luncheon Features PSU Opera Preview

Make your reservations today on the Luncheon Reservation form for our March 23rd Luncheon at the Multnomah Athletic Club.

Patricia Cavanaugh plans a lovely event with the theme, “**In the Pink**.” She encourages us to wear some pink or add a pink accessory to celebrate Spring. Choose salmon or a vegan entrée, and enjoy an afternoon which will include a preview of PSU opera’s upcoming production of Benjamin Britten’s comic opera, *Albert Herring*.

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 March 21st cutoff. Walk-ins without a prior reservation will be charged \$40.00 for the lunch and program, if available. The enclosed luncheon reservation form has been revised to include the option of treating one of our PSU performers to lunch. You may also show your support by offering a raffle prize, or by bringing a table of eight. Remember, if you pay for the lunch and then find you cannot make the luncheon, call Patricia no later than the Tuesday before a luncheon, she will be able to cancel your luncheon reservation without penalty and give you a refund.

Many Thanks to our January Performers



Erik Standifird, Daniel Hughes (pianist) and Grace Skinner performed arias, art songs and even some favorites from musical theatre.

Portland Opera Guild
Newsletter Editor:
Norm Krasne
nkrasne@comcast.net



PSU Opera presents *Albert Herring*

It is a major part of the Opera Guild’s mantra to support operatic groups that are worthy of and in need of our support; indeed, it is very much a part of the Guild’s Mission Statement. One such organization is the Portland State University’s Opera Program. Many of the hard-working, talented youngsters involved in that program display their musical wares to Guild audiences at our annual Holiday gathering and, occasionally, as in January, at a Guild luncheon.

The major undertaking of their operatic year comes each April when they perform a full-length opera on the Lincoln Performance Hall stage. This April, PSU Opera will perform Benjamin Britten’s brilliant comic opera, *Albert Herring*. There will be evening performances (at 7:30 pm) on April 20, 24, and 28, with matinees (3:00 pm) on the 22nd and 29th of the month.

Ticket prices are \$30 for adults, \$27 for seniors, and \$15 for students. You may purchase them at the PSU Box Office: pdx.edu/box-office or call (503) 725-3307. Please come out to support this valuable Portland tradition; you’ll be delighted!

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 (360) 256-5011.

Welcome to New Members

Leonore Licht-Miller
Connie Olson and
Jennis Johnson Taylor



President's Message

*Dear Members and Friends,
Over the past months and*

years we have become "Opera Activists"... I have really never been an Activist for anything, I've never carried a sign, I don't yell and never been in a march... I've never spoken at a meeting in City Hall and I wear weather/season appropriate clothing... how could I possibly be an Activist (of which you are right there with me)!

But... you and me... WE DO:

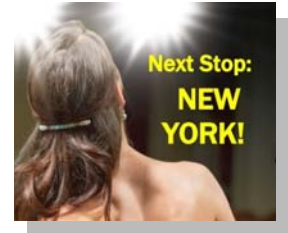
Find people that we enjoy and be with while listening to Opera! We are, each of us, committed to preserving Opera and growing this art form in our community! We openly express our joy and appreciation as we gather to participate in our common interest in great Opera! We gladly donate time and money to our cause! We love introducing Opera to our friends and relations!

Yep, there you have it... we are Opera Activists! So... let's all get out there and share our Activism with all that will listen, bring friends to our luncheons and take a more proactive role in our POG! Maybe someday we'll make a sign and do a march...!

Best to you,

Rodney Mazour

MONC Northwest Regional Finals Sunday, March 4th in Seattle



Though a bit later than in previous years, the Metropolitan Opera National Council (MONC) Northwest Regional Finals will take place on March 4, 2018 in Seattle's Benaroya Hall at 1 pm. Eleven singers, including the three who advanced from the Oregon Auditions last October: sopranos Jasmin White (who sang for our Fall Luncheon) and Cara Gabrielson and mezzo-soprano Anne Maguire, will compete for prize money and the opportunity to advance to the National Finals at the Metropolitan Opera in New York in April. The other eight singers in Seattle won Regional Auditions in the Washington, Western (actually, all of) Canada, and Idaho/Montana Regions. This is a very exciting event, one that your Coloratura Editor will be on hand to cover once again. I hope that a number of you will be in the audience as well!

Currently, two judges, **Gregory Henkel**, Managing Artistic Director of San Francisco Opera, and **Bénédicte Jourdois**, a graduate of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program who's currently on the Vocal Faculties of both the Manhattan School of Music and Juilliard, will be on hand to select the winning competitor(s). **David McDade**, Head of Coach/Accompanists for Seattle Opera, will provide piano accompaniment for the 11 singers.

Tickets are \$30 for the event, and you can purchase tickets online at www.benaroyahall.org. A Reception to honor the singers and judges will be held after the competition. Reserve your spot right away by notifying Auditions Director, Maxine Levy that you plan to attend. Send a checks made out to "MONC NW Region" to her at: 30245 25th Ave., SW Federal Way, WA 98023, Reach her at: maxine.a.levy@comcast.net or by phone at 253-874-6525.

You may wish to view a Master Class, conducted by **Bénédicte Jourdois**, to three singers from 10:00-11:30 in Benaroya Hall that morning. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated!



The Met in HD: 2018 Schedule

The Metropolitan Opera’s very popular series, shown in High Definition in four Portland area cinemas, has four more broadcasts this season. All Saturday morning broadcasts begin at 10 am and are re-shown on the following Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.

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

March 10: Rossini’s *Semiramide* – Making a rare appearance at the Met, Rossini’s masterpiece of dazzling vocal fireworks features local favorite diva, Angela Meade, leading a stellar bel canto cast;

March 31: Mozart’s *Così fan tutte* – See a cast of young singers offer one of Mozart’s favorites;

April 14: Verdi’s *Luisa Miller* – Offers the opportunity to see one of Verdi’s less well-known masterpieces and with a cast including Domingo, Yoncheva and Beczala;

April 28: Massenet’s *Cendrillon* – The French composer’s version of Cinderella, featuring DiDonato, Blythe, Kim and Coote.

Pirates for Kids



Save the date: Sunday April 22, 4 pm, Opera on Tap Portland will present a kids' version of *The Pirates of Penzance* at McMenamins Mission Theater. This 45-minute version of the Gilbert and Sullivan classic is condensed to four core singers, playing multiple parts, with piano accompaniment.

Opera on Tap Portland is the local chapter of a nationwide, not-for-profit that brings opera to new venues and new audiences.

This is the first full opera production for Opera on Tap Portland, which also performs "Opera in the Honors Bar" at McMenamins Kennedy School Saturday nights at 7:00 pm.

Tickets for *Penzance* are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids, babes in arms free, and they go on sale to the public Friday, Feb 23.

Subscribers to the Opera on Tap Portland website (www.ootpdx.com), will have a pre-sale access code available for advance purchase Feb



ANGELA MEADE, SOPRANO

Monday, March 12 4:00 pm Pacific live stream operaamerica.org/live

Hailed as "the most talked about soprano of her generation" (*Opera News*), soprano Angela Meade made her professional operatic debut on the stage of the Met in 2008, singing Elvira in *Ernani*. Since then, she has become recognized as one of today's outstanding vocalists, excelling in the most demanding bel canto repertoire, as well as in the operas of Verdi and Mozart. This season, she sings the title roles of Bellini's *Norma* and Rossini's *Semiramide* at the Metropolitan Opera and Handel's *Alcina* with Washington National Opera in the company's first-ever staging of the work.

Lawrence Brownlee in Recital April 4th



Photo credit: Shervin Lainez

We Portlanders are so very fortunate to have a local organization devoted to Chamber Music that includes a vocal recital by a world-class operatic singer each year. In past years, *FOCM (Friends of Chamber Music)* has presented opera super-stars Gerald Finley, Eric Owens, Matthew Polenzani, and Susan Graham. On Thursday, April 4th at 7:30 pm, at PSU’s Lincoln Performance Hall, the outstanding international star, tenor **Lawrence Brownlee** will offer a vocal recital. One of the most in-demand singers in the world today, Mr. Brownlee has appeared in most of the world’s great opera houses and with several noted orchestras.



He will be accompanied by the acclaimed **Myra Huang**. *Opera News* says she is “among the top accompanists of her generation.”

Mr. Brownlee’s program includes Robert Schumann’s wondrous and profound ***Dichterliebe (“A Poet’s Love”)*** and a new song cycle being written for the tenor by **Tyshawn Sorey** (with text by poet **Terrance Hayes**) called ***Cycles of My Being***. The piece was commissioned by Philadelphia and Carnegie Hall. Ticket prices range from \$30-56, Anyone who has attended a concert of any kind at Lincoln Hall knows there’s not a bad seat in the house. Tickets are available at www.focm.org or by calling the FOCM office at 503.224.9842.

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***Angel of the Amazon*, Opera About Slain Nun, Sr. Dorothy Stang, at PSU Lincoln Hall February 28th**



Performance of this new opera will be taking place at Portland State University Lincoln Hall, Room 75 at 10:00 am. Admission is free and open to the public. The opera depicts Sr. Dorothy’s life-long work with the poor, helping them sustainably farm the Amazon Rainforest. Sr. Dorothy was an advocate for the Brazilian people who were targeted by loggers and landowners. Sr. Dorothy was martyred in Anapu, Para, Brazil in 2005.



Angel of the Amazon, composer Evan Mack, will be pianist for this production at PSU. “The opera’s mission is to connect people to Sr. Dorothy’s story on an emotional level. My hopes are that through the power of story telling and music, audiences will make a greater bond to Dorothy’s story and life work helping the poor.”—Evan Mack.

Mezzo Soprano Heather Jones will sing the role of Sr. Dorothy. Baritone, and Portland native José Rubio reprises his role as Luiz from the premiere production of the opera. Composer, Evan Mack will be at the piano. The performance will feature Ivy Zhou, Beth Madsen Bradford, Brendan Tuohy, and Damien Geter.



Heather Jones - mezzo



Jose Rubio - baritone

Portland Opera Guild March and May 2018 Luncheon Reservation Form

Come enjoy our special Opera programs at Multnomah Athletic Club. Each luncheon will feature an opera program, as well as news of opera events in the area. You may sign up for our next luncheons using this form. Reservations may be made securely online at <https://portlandoperaguild.org/events/>. If you cannot attend, please consider sponsoring a luncheon for a performer.

Questions? Contact Patricia Cavanaugh at patecavanaugh@gmail.com or **971-645-6322**

<p>March 23, 2018 - 11:30 am at Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon St, Portland, OR 97205 -PSU Opera Preview- Sign up for your lunch and your guest's lunches by indicating the number of lunches you would like.</p> <p>Name: _____ Regular____ Veg./Vegan____</p> <p>Name: _____ Regular____ Veg./Vegan____</p> <p>Yes, I would like to sponsor a PSU Opera Performer's Luncheon _____</p>	
Total _____ Members/Guests @ \$35	
<p>May 18, 2018- 11:30 am at Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon St, Portland, OR 97205 Luncheon, Program and Annual Meeting</p> <p>Name: _____ Regular____ Veg./Vegan____</p> <p>Name: _____ Regular____ Veg./Vegan____</p> <p>Yes, I would like to sponsor a Performer's Luncheon _____</p>	
Total # _____ Members/Guests @ \$35	
Total:	\$

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ made to **Portland Opera Guild**

Your Name: _____

Phone: _____

eMail address: _____

Send check and form to: **Portland Opera Guild**

PO Box 25028
Portland OR 97298

Or...

To pay by credit card, pay securely online at <https://portlandoperaguild.org/events/>

**Coloratura Editor:
Proudly, an Opera “Geek”**



Sarah Duvall, Angela Meade, Norm Krasne in Washington DC

Over the last several years, it seems, I’ve come to be called by any number of people who know me an “Opera Geek” or “Groupie.” Well, I don’t mind being addressed in those terms and I suppose, if measured by the number of miles I’ve traveled to see live opera, they’ve been earned.

In 2017 I attended each of Portland Opera’s five productions, including the Monteverdi opus, done in the Hampton Center, at least once and all of the Resident Artist recitals at the Portland Art Museum. In addition, I traveled to the Astoria Music Festival to hear Angela Meade in recital last June. For the rest, I’ll skip the stories and just make note of my “Opera Travel Schedule.”

Norm Krasne’s 2017 Opera Travel Schedule:

- Jan. 26: recital by soprano Heidi Stober – Tucson, AZ
- 28: *Madama Butterfly* – Arizona Opera, Tucson
- Feb. 22: *Kat’a Kabanova* (Janáček) – Seattle Opera
- Apr. 28: *Otello* – Vancouver, BC Opera
- 29: *Dead Man Walking* (Heggie) – Vancouver
- May 24: *La fille du regiment* (Donizetti) – Opera Liceu, Barcelona, Spain
- 25: *Le coq d’or* (*Golden Cockerel*) (Rimsky-Korsakov) – Teatro Real - Madrid, Spain)
- 28: *Rigoletto* – Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Oct. 20: *Jenůfa* (Janáček) – Pacific Opera-Victoria
- 21: *Turandot* – Vancouver, BC
- 22: *Il barbieri...* - Seattle Opera
- 29: *Giulio Cesare* (Handel) Houston Grand Opera
- Nov. 17: *Alcina* (Handel) Washington National Opera -WA., DC
- Dec. 5: *Girls of the Golden West* (Adams) San Francisco Opera
- 6: *Turandot* (*Puccini*)- San Francisco Opera
- Dec. 11: *Norma* (Bellini) --Metropolitan Opera NYC

Resident Artist Recitals

Last December’s edition of the *Coloratura* introduced you to Portland Opera’s four Resident Artists: mezzo-soprano **Kate Farrar**, who is the only returnee of the group, soprano **Helen Huang**, tenor **Thomas Cilluffo**, and bass-baritone **Shi Li**. All four will sing at Portland Opera’s *Big Night* on April 14 at the Keller and in several other of the Company’s productions. In addition, a number of former alumni of the program will return to sing various roles in the four major main-stage productions (see Portland Opera’s 2018 season).

For some of us in the Guild, the appearance by each of the young artists on the Portland Art Museum’s Whitsell Auditorium stage to sing a recital of **art songs and lieder** is the high point of the Opera Season.

Assistant Conductor and Chorus Master, Nicholas Fox, who works tirelessly preparing the recitalists and accompanies them on piano, also provides expert (and entertaining) commentary on the music and songs. We look forward to seeing you at these wonderful Tuesday evenings (at 7 pm).

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| March 13 | Kate Farrar |
| April 17 | Shi Li |
| June 5 | Helen Huang |
| August 1 | Thomas Cilluffo |

While admission is free, a \$20 donation to support the program is appreciated!

Guild Events Calendar

**Upcoming Luncheons at
Multnomah Athletic Club**

	3/23/18
	5/18/18

PORTLAND OPERA GUILD

P.O. Box 25028
Portland, OR 97298

(Continued from page 4)

Lawrence Brownlee's Master Class

The very next day, April 5th at 12 noon at The Old Church, Mr. Brownlee will offer a Master Class, coaching PSU vocal students and the winner of the 2018 NATS competition. *Admission to this event is free and open to the public!* As you all know, the Opera Guild is a proud supporter of the school's Opera Program.

For those of you interested in delving more deeply into the music, and the poetry that inspired it, that Mr. Brownlee will sing, FOCM is offering a three-week class presented by "Opera for the Hesitant" founder, the noted Musicologist, Theresa Koon. The class will include performances by mezzo-soprano **Hannah Penn**, bass-baritone **Damien Geter**, and pianist **Susan McDaniel**, who will help introduce us to the contrasting sound-scape of Lawrence Brownlee's concert. The vocal classes (\$40), March 7, 14, and 21 from 7:30 to 9pm. Room 225 at PSU. *Recommended highly by your editor!*

*"Opera does not call
so much for an
imaginative ear as
for an imaginative
eye, an eye which
can see beyond little
absurdities toward
great truths."*

GEORGE MAREK,
attributed,
The Magic of Opera