

Great Moments from Great Operas



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November 10, 2023

7:00pm

Baldwin Auditorium

Program

"Susanna, what's the matter?" from Le nozze di Figaro

W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Countess: Melissanthi Guthold

Count: Grant Bryden Susanna: Madeleine Collier

The page Cherubino, whom Count Almaviva banished from the court, has instead gone to the Countess' room to ask for her help. When the Count shows up, the two are therefore in a compromising position, and Cherubino hides in the closet. The Count becomes suspicious at hearing noise from the closet, despite the Countess' promises that it is only her maid Susanna. Susanna, in the meantime, has come into the room, hidden, and begins to plot how to get them out of this dilemma.

"Lasciatemi morire" from L'Arianna

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

The Duke University Chorale

"Chorus and Song of the Regiment" from La fille du regiment

Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)

Marie: Claire Hardek Sulpice: Grant Bryden Tonio: Robert Miron

Tenors and Basses of the Duke University Chorale

Marie was abandoned as a child and brought up by an entire regiment of the French army, which is now occupying Switzerland. She has begun secretly seeing a local boy, Tonio, but he has been caught sneaking around the camp to see her. Marie's many adoptive fathers plan to shoot him as a spy, until Marie intervenes.

"The breezes..." from Le nozze di Figaro

Mozart

Countess: Sarah Gorbatov Susanna: Helena He

Tired of the Count's harassment of Susanna, she and the Countess plot to expose his infidelity. They will set up an assignation, but it is the Countess (in disguise) who will meet him. They sit down to write the false love letter...

"Champagne Chorus" from Die Fledermaus

Johanna Strauss II (1825- 1899)

Prince Orlofsky: Amanda Treston

Eisenstein: Robert Miron Adele: Dolce Feenaghty The Duke University Chorale

At Count Orlofsky's magnificent party, all social hierarchies disappear and the characters, variously disguised, mingle, flirt, scheme, and seduce in a carnivalesque inversion of the outside world. They come together to toast the agent of their liberation—champagne!

"A Real Slow Drag" from Treemonisha

Treemonisha: Abigail Pickens

Lucy: Julia Leeman

The Duke University Chorale

On the Texas-Arkansas border in 1884, a village of freedmen and -women is being exploited by "conjurors," wandering con artists who claim to possess magical powers. Treemonisha, a young woman who has learned to read, teaches the people to abandon their superstitions, forcing the conjurors to take honest jobs instead. In gratitude, the people choose Treemonisha to lead them and celebrate their newfound safety with a dance.

"May breezes blow lightly" from Così fan tutte

Mozart

Scott Joplin (1868-1917)

Fiordiligi: Emma Ren Dorabella: Mills Howell Don Alfonso: Grant Bryden

Ferrando and Guglielmo trust their girlfriends, Dorabella and Fiordiligi—or so they claim. Don Alfonso, a self-proclaimed "philosopher," has made them a bet: they will pretend to go on a long journey, but secretly return in disguise and attempt to seduce the other's beloved. Ignorant of their deception, Dorabella and Fiordiligi emotionally wish them "farewell."

"Uscira dal Grembo" from Ulisse in Campania

Maria Teresa Agnesi Pinottini (1720-1795)

The Duke University Chorale

"Salve Regina" from Dialogues of the Carmelites

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

Blanche: Julia Leeman La Prieure: Claire Hardek Soeur Constance: Helena He Mere Jeanne: Lauren Strauch Soeur Mathilde: Sophia Leeman

Carmelite Nuns:

Louise Adillon
Madeleine Collier
Dolce Feenaghty
Sarah Gorbatov
Melissanthi Guthold
Mills Howell
Abigail Pickens
Emma Ren
Seneca Russell
Lilla Timperman
Amanda Treston

The Duke University Chorale

The French Revolution has dissolved the monasteries and convents to fund its wars and break the hold of Catholicism on its people, instituting instead a Cult of Reason—by force if necessary. Since they refuse to abandon their vows, this convent of Carmelite nuns has been sentenced to the guillotine. Waiting for the scaffold, they sing the Salve Regina; Sister Blanche, a young nun who ran away to avoid death, voluntarily returns to die at the last moment.

"Overture to Carmen"

Pianists Mary Hamilton and Daniel Seyfried

Georges Bizet (1838 -1875) arranged for piano duet by Richard Kleinnmichel

"My friends, Pastia just said" from Carmen "Hurrah! Hurrah, the Torero!" "Thank you all, you gallant soldiers"

Escamillo: Ted Federle Carmen: Sophia Leeman Frasquita: Seneca Russell Mercedes: Lauren Strauch Zuniga: Grant Bryden Morales: Robert Miron The Duke University Chorale

Carmen amuses herself at Lillas Pastilla's tavern; she is already tiring of Don José, the young soldier who threw away his career and family for her. Now her eye turns to Escamillo, a triumphant bullfighter.

"Va, Pensiero" from Nabucco

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

The Duke University Chorale and Duke Opera Theater

Defeated, conquered, and driven into Babylonian exile, the Israelites dream of their homeland: "so beautiful, and so lost."

Written by Verdi while major parts of Italy were held under foreign rule, "Va, pensiero" became an anthem of the liberation movement, the Risorgimento. It was famously sung spontaneously by the enormous crowd at Verdi's funeral procession. One of opera's most loved and recognizable moments, it is a work of profound sympathy with all those dispossessed by violent conflict.

Duke Opera Theater David Heid director

David Heid director Daniel Seyfried, pianist

Duke University Chorale
Allan Friedman, director

Allan Friedman, director Mary Hamilton, pianist **Dr. Allan Friedman** directs the Duke Chorale in addition to serving as the Director of Music at Judea Reform Congregation, and as the Director for SONAM (Singers of New and Ancient Music). He is a proud alumnus of Duke University (T'99) with a Music Major, including studies in South Africa with Ladysmith Black Mombazo, a Masters in Music Musicology from UNC - Chapel Hill (2001), and a D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from Boston University (2005) with a dissertation on Russian Jewish Choral Music. In his more than 20 years of conducting experience, Dr. Friedman has delighted in making vocal music with people of diverse ages, backgrounds, and musical experiences.

David Heid comes to North Carolina after a successful career in New York City as a vocal coach and accompanist. Also an arranger and conductor, he made his Lincoln Center debut in Alice Tully Hall in 1994. In the summer of 1997, he made his first international appearance performing at both the Darling Harbor Convention Center and the historic Towne Hall in Sydney Australia. His coaching clients include past Grammy, Tony and MAC Awards winners.

David is currently on the faculty at Duke University where he is the Director of Duke Opera Theater as well as serving on the piano faculty, working with singers and teaching a class in collaborative piano. He is in demand throughout the region as a collaborative artist and has worked with many of the area's leading organizations including the North Carolina Symphony, North Carolina Opera, Mallarmé Chamber Players, Opera Wilmington, Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle, Duke Symphony, Durham Chorale Society, Raleigh Chamber Music Guild, Theater in the Park, Thompson Theater Summerfest, Long Leaf Opera and Triangle Opera. He was previously on staff of the renowned Juilliard School in New York City.

He has had a lengthy career as a collaborative pianist enjoying work with generations of leading singers. Among the artists he has worked with previously include Susan Dunn, Adria Firestone, Marisa Galvany, Carolyn James, William Stone and Christine Weidinger. He has also performed with artists currently appearing in major venues around the world such as Leah Hawkins, Jennifer Johnson Cano, Janinah Burnett, Mario Chang, Lisa Chavez, Timothy Murray, Jason Karn, Andrea Moore, LaToya Lain and cellist Bonnie Thron.

David has been privileged to serve as pianist for masterclasses given by legendary performers such as Renee Fleming, Yo-Yo Ma and Simon Estes. As a clinician, he has taught classes at numerous schools including Mercyhurst University, SUNY Fredonia, UNC Pembroke and the Durham Music Teachers Association as well as serving as a judge for the National Opera Association Collegiate Scenes Competition.

David Heid also worked extensively in gospel music and recorded on a number of Christian labels. He has toured the U.S. and Canada with Jane Syftestad and directed The Voice of St. John's MCC – named in 1977 "The Best Gospel Choir in the Triangle." Their debut recording "Anywhere with Jesus" was nominated for a GLAMA award in the contemporary spiritual category.

David is a proud graduate of SUNY Fredonia School of Music.

Mary Hamilton came to the Triangle 23 years ago to serve as the Minister of Music at Church of the Good Shepherd in Durham---a position she held for 17 years. With degrees in Piano Performance from FSU and Auburn, Mary was also thrilled to be able to use her accompanying skills in the area. She was staff accompanist for Duke Chorale and UNC Carolina Choir/Chamber Singers for over 10 years . Upon retirement from the church, she became nanny to her two youngest grandchildren during the COVID years and spent much of her time in Atlanta. In June, Mary and her husband Gary returned to the Chapel Hill area. She is delighted to be back on the piano bench and playing once again for the Duke Chorale!

Daniel Seyfried is a Staff Accompanist in the Duke University Department of Music. He is a flexible performer with broad interests including Debussy and early twentieth-century composers, jazz-influenced classical composers, and performance on the fortepiano and historical instruments. Daniel earned his D.M.A. in Piano Performance and a Cognate in Pedagogy from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) in 2017. He has had many professional engagements including a lecture recital at The University of California at Berkeley, guest performances at The Manhattan School of Music, a Steinway Spotlight Performance in North Carolina, a recital in Taipei, Taiwan, and many rewarding regional performances. Daniel has the distinct privilege of working in a dynamic music department at Duke University as a staff accompanist in the voice area, for Duke Opera Theater, and is in demand as a collaborator in the Triangle.

Acknowledgments

Special Thanks to Devon Carter for the Opera Theater synopses.

Thanks also to Erin West and Hannah Haverkamp for costuming help.

Finally, it is great to have voice faculty member Ted Federle on stage with us this fall.

The entire voice faculty is so supportive and crucial for the success of both Duke Opera and Duke Chorale.

Special Effects: Rick Nelson and Cade Bourne

Don't miss the Duke Chorale Annual Christmas Concert

With special guests Durham School of the Arts Chorus
Tuesday, November 28, 7:00 pm
Duke Chapel, Duke University, West Campus
Admission: one non-perishable food item for Urban Ministries of Durham
OR one new or lightly used children's book for Book Harvest.

The Duke University Chorale Roster

<u>Sopranos</u>
Lilly Gessner
Emily Harclerode
Zaina Khan
Victoria Ko
Abigail Pickens
Lexi Schaffer
Audra Whithaus

Mezzo-Sopranos
Rhiannon Eplett
Berna Kotehne
Sophia Kuhn
Julia Leeman
Morgan Linsley
Claire Kidwell
Evangeline Rajakumar
Tess Redman
Ruolin Xu

Altos
Anna Cambron
Morgan Chumney
Angie Claveria
Prisha Gupta
Hui-Hsin Hsiao
Sai Gayathri Kurup
Jodi Lampley
Ari Miller
Meaghan Nuckols
Ameya Rao
Jen Ren
Lauren Sar
Salma Schwartzman
Alyssa Zhao

Tenors
Robert Chen
Connor Biswell
Dina Habboosh
Thomas Hicks
Aruna Menon
Aaron Ng

Basses
Misha Aganin
Barron Brothers
Thomas CroweAllbritton
Jimmy Ragan
Harris Tak On Tong
Shumo Wang
Lincoln Woody
Yuxiang Zhou

Officers

President – Lauren Sar
Vice President – Julia Leeman
Tour Manager – Claire Kidwell
Concert Manager – Jimmy Ragan
S/A Personnel Manager – Victoria Ko
T/B Personnel Manager – Barron Brothers
Social Chair – Tess Redmon & Connor Biswell
Social Media – Sophia Kuhn
Community Outreach – Angela Claveria
Librarian – Prisha Gupta
DEI – Aruna Menon & Salma Schwartzman
First Year Representative – Jen Ren

Concert Translations

Lasciatemi morire

Lasciatemi morire, Lasciatemi morire; E che volete voi che mi conforte In così dura sorte, In così gran martire? Lasciatemi morire. Let me die, Let me die; And what you would think could comfort me In such a harsh fate, In such a great martyrdom? Let me die.

-Claudio Monteverdi

Uscira dal Grembo

Uscira dal grembo al goso d'Anfitrite Il cintio nume riportando acceso lume l'emisfero a colorir. Ma di luce assai piu bella Nel momento aventuroso andra onusto Germe augusto di sua stella al primo uscir. From Amphitrite's reveled womb shall issue numen spreading vibrancy to color the earthly vault. Yet, of a light even more gloried still, In this audacious moment Shall come the burdened, Venerable seed of a star that first appears.

-Maria Teresa Agnesi Pinottini

Va Pensiero

Va, pensiero, sull'ali dorate; va, ti posa sui clivi, sui colli ove olezzano tepide e molli l'aure dolci del suolo natal! Del Giordano le rive saluta, di Sionne le torri atterrate. Oh, mia patria sì bella e perduta! Oh, membranza sì cara e fatal!

Arpa d'or dei fatidici vati, perché muta dal salice pendi?
Le memorie nel petto raccendi, ci favella del tempo che fu!
O simile di Solima ai fati traggi un suono di crudo lamento, o t'ispiri il Signore un concento che ne infonda al patire virtù!

Go, thought, on golden wings;
Go and rest on rises and hills
Where the sweet and soft
Air of the native land is to breath!
Greet the shores of Jordan River,
The destroyed towers of Sion.
Oh, my country, beautiful and lost!
Oh remembrance, so dear and fated!

Golden harp of the prophetic poets,
Why do you hang, dumb, from the willow?
You renew memories in our breasts,
Talking about the time that once was!
Oh, alike Solima to the poets
You draw a sound of crude mourning,
May the Lord inspire you to a concert
That may give virtue to the suffering!

-Giuseppe Verdi

Upcoming Duke Music Concerts

All events are free unless otherwise indicated.

Patrick Yim, violin Sunday, November 12

3 pm — Nelson Music Room, East Duke Building Featuring the premiere performance of Zhou Long's "Bamboo Grove," and works for solo violin by Lei Liang, John Liberatore, Kaija Saariaho, Matthew Schreibeis, Chen Yi, and Austin Yip

Downtown Classics, with Patrick Yim, viola Thursday, November 16

5:30 pm — NorthStar Church of the Arts, 220 West Geer St., Durham Johannes Brahms: String Quintet #2 in G Major, Op. 111

Duke Wind Symphony: Famishius Fantasticus, with guest composer Michael Markowski Thursday, November 16

7:30 pm — Baldwin Auditorium Verena Mösenbichler-Bryant, director Music by Michael Markowski, including Famishius Fantasticus, City Trees and Desert Sage, in addition to works by Gustav Holst

Lunchtime Classics, with Patrick Yim, viola Friday, November 17

noon — Goodson Chapel, Duke University Johannes Brahms: String Quintet #2 in G Major, Op. 111

Duke Jazz Ensemble Friday, December 1

8 pm — Baldwin Auditorium Featuring guest artist Conrad Herwig, trombone \$10 general admission, students FREE / 919-684-4444 or http://tickets.duke.edu

Duke Chinese Music Ensemble Saturday, December 2

5 pm — Baldwin Auditorium

The Duke Chinese Music Ensemble, directed by Jennifer Chang, presents a concert featuring a variety of Chinese musical styles and instruments, as well as pieces that mix Eastern and Western instruments. Instruments include guzheng, paiban, erhu, ruan, piano, violin, and others.

Chamber Music Program Concerts Sunday, December 3

3 pm & 6 pm — Baldwin Auditorium

Duke Symphony Orchestra with Siyeon Kim, soprano Wednesday, December 6

7:30 pm — Baldwin Auditorium "Music of the Soul"

J.S. Bach: Cantata: "Mein Herze schwimmt im Blut," BWV 199; Mozart: Concert Aria: "Misera, Dove son!...Ah! non son'io che parlo," K. 369; Bruckner: Symphony No. 4 in E-flat Major, "Romantic".

For a complete listing of upcoming Duke Music events, visit https://music.duke.edu