

# Rodgers & Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing

ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

La Bohème



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WINTER OPERA STAFF				
Artistic Director	Gina Galati			
Music Director	Steven Jarvi			
Administrative Director	Caetlyn Van Buren			
Digital Director	Dan Salmo			
Collaborative Pianist	Nancy Mayo			

Program Printed in October of 2011

# HOLIDAYS ON THE HILL

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#### Dear Opera Lovers,

Thank you for your ongoing support of Winter Opera Saint Louis! Season Five is a season of New Beginnings: a new theater, a new office, a new ticketing system, the Impresario Club and our very first Broadway Production.

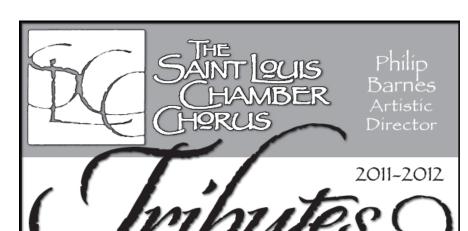
Our new office is on the Hill right across the street from St. Ambrose Church, at 2105 Marconi Ave. Our new box office hours are from 10am-2pm Monday through Friday, but you can pick out your own seats online using our new online ticketing system. We have a new venue this year: The Skip Viragh Center for the Arts at Chaminade College Preparatory School. We are performing our first Broadway production there in November, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *A Grand Night for Singing*, and our March production of Puccini's *La Bohème* will also be there. We return to the Saint Louis Woman's Club in January for our first German Opera, Richard Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

Our new Impresario Club is our way of rewarding our most dedicated sponsors and attracting new and exciting patrons who are interested in fostering our development and future. As a member of the Impresario Club you will get everything from a private concert at your home to season tickets to all of our operas.

This year we have something for everyone to enjoy. Bring your family and friends to our productions; tell your co-workers and neighbors. Spend an evening with Winter Opera Saint Louis and let music be our gift to you! Thank you for helping us grow and ensuring the future of Winter Opera Saint Louis.

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December 18 • 3 pm & 6 pm St. Vincent de Paul Chapel 20 Archbishop May Dr • St. Louis • 63119

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February 19 • 3 pm The Schlafly Tap Room 2100 Locust St • St. Louis • 63103

#### A TRAVELER'S TALE

April 22 • 3 pm First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood 100 E. Adams Ave • Kirkwood • 63122

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#### Music by Richard Rodgers Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

### **Rodgers and Hammerstein's A** Grand Night for Singing

Conceived by Walter Bobbie Musical Arrangements by Fred Wells Orchestration by Michael Gibson & Ionathan Tunick

PRODUCTION SPONSORED BY DR. DAVID & DEBRA ROBSON ORCHESTRA SPONSORED BY GARY PARKER

#### CAST

Stephanie Ball, Keith Boyer, Gina Galati, Sara Gottman, Rebecca Hatlelid, Erin Haupt, Anthony Heinemann, Megan Higgins, Kyrstan Langer, Nicola Loebl, Eric McCluskey, Michael Oelkers, Benjamin Rardin, Nathan Ruggles, Marc Schapman, Holley Sherwood, Tom Sitzler, Rachel L. Smith, Adam Stefo, Nora Teipen, Philip Touchette & Jennifer Vago

#### **DANCERS**

FROM THE DANCE CENTER OF KIRKWOOD Rachel Bruns, Becca Clodfelter, Grace Hartenbach, Mary Klarsch, Lindsay Meyer & Quinn Warner

#### **BALLROOM DANCERS**

Kathy Pietoso & Joseph Scherer

#### PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director Gina Galati Conductor Steven Jarvi Stage Director Gina Galati

Choreographer Karen Brewington Lighting Designer Scott Glascock Prop Master Jennifer Vago

Collaborative Pianist Nancy Mayo

#### ORCHESTRA

Piano Reeds Nancy Mayo Jay Hutson Percussion Shane Williams Cello Marcia Mann Wendy Hyman-Fite Sue Taylor Bass Harp

### **Dodgers and Hammerstein's**

## A Grand Night for Singing

Conceived by Walter Bobbie; Musical Arrangements by Fred Wells Orchestration by Michael Gibson & Jonathan Tunick

#### Act I

Sounds of the Earth / Opening Medley Ensemble

**Surrey With The Fringe On Top** Eric McCluskey & Oklahoma! Rebecca Hatlelid

Stepsister's Lament Kyrstan Langer & Erin Haupt

Cinderella

We Kiss In Shadow Gina Galati & Keith Boyer

The King and I

**Hello Young Lovers** Nora Teipen

The Kina and I

I'm In Love With A Wonderful Guy Megan Higgins

South Pacific

Rebecca Hatlelid I Cain't Say No

Oklahoma!

Maria Holley Sherwood, Nicola Loebl, The Sound of Music **Kyrstan Langer & Ladies** 

Do I Love You? Stephanie Ball

Cinderella

Marc Schapman & Ensemble **Honey Bun** 

South Pacific

Adam Stefo, Tom Sitzler, Don't Marry Me

Holley Sherwood & Nathan Ruggles Flower Drum Song

Many A New Day/ Wash That Man Sara Gottman, Erin Haupt, Nicola Loebl & Ladies

Oklahoma! / South Pacific

If I Loved You Eric McCluskey & Rebecca Hatlelid

Carousel

Tom Sitzler, Stephanie Ball Shall We Dance?

& Ensemble The King and I

All At Once You Love Her Eric McCluskey & Keith Boyer

Pipe Dream

Erin Haupt, Stephanie Ball, Act I Finale Eric McCluskey & Ensemble

#### Act II

Beautiful Mornin' Oklahoma!

Tom Sitzler

Wedding Sequence
Allegro

Rachel L. Smith, Megan Higgens, Marc Schapman & Ensemble

It Might As Well Be Spring
State Fair

Gina Galati

Kansas City
Oklahoma!

Marc Schapman, Rebecca Hatlelid, Megan Higgins, Anthony Heinemann & Ensemble

**Love Look Away** 

Keith Boyer

Flower Drum Song

**Something Wonderful** 

Nora Teipen

The King and I

This Nearly Was Mine

Eric McCluskey

South Pacific

Impossible/ I Have Dreamed
Cinderella/ The King and I

Philip Touchette, Nicola Loebl, Kyrstan Langer, Gina Galati, Keith Boyer & Ensemble

**Bows/Exit Music** 

Ensemble



# ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

### COMPOSED BY RICHARD STRAUSS

Libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal Premiered October 25, 1912 at the Hoftheater in Stuttgart

#### CAST

Ariadne Meredith Hoffmann-Thomson

Bacchus Scott Six Zerbinetta Mary Thorne

Harlequin John-Andrew Fernandez

**Charles Martinez** Scaramuccio

Truffaldino Zack Rabin Brighella Ion Garrett The Composer Sarah Heltzel Philip Touchette Major-Domo Music Master Eric McCluskey Dance Master Marc Schapman Tom Sitzler Wig Maker Naiad Megan Higgins Dryad Sara Gottman Echo Rachel L. Smith A Lackev Nathan Ruggles The Officer

\* The Composer (cover) Erin Haupt \* Zerbinetta (cover) Megan Higgins

#### PRODUCTION STAFF

**Anthony Heinemann** 

Artistic Director Gina Galati Timothy Semanik Conductor Stage Director Marie Allyn King Costume Designer Teresa Doggett Lighting Designer Sean Savoie Prop Master Jennifer Vago **Supertitles** Rebecca Hatlelid Collaborative Pianist Nancy Mayo

#### ORCHESTRA

Concertmaster	r Hannah Frey	Flute	Jennifer Gartley
Violin I	Elizabeth Ramos	Oboe	Carrie Smith
Violin II	Kate Collins	Clarinet	Dana Hotle
	Sarah Browdy	Bassoon	Melissa Mackey
Viola	Laura Reycraft	Horn	Carole Lemire
	Anne Lackschewitz	Trumpet	Mark Hyams
	Tova Braitberg	Harp	Sue Taylor
Cello	Marcia Mann		
	Marian Drake		
Bass	Wendy Hyman-Fite		

#### **SYNOPSIS**

*Ariadne auf Naxos* is an opera in two acts, the first traditionally being called the 'Prologue' and the second 'The Opera.'

**PROLOGUE.** In the salon of "the richest man in Vienna," preparations are in progress for a new opera seria based on the Ariadne legend, with which the master of the house will divert his guests after a sumptuous dinner. The Music Master accosts the pompous Major-domo, having heard that a foolish comedy is to follow his pupil's opera, and warns that the Composer will never tolerate such an arrangement. The Major-domo is unimpressed. No sooner have they gone than the young Composer comes in for a final rehearsal, but an impudent lackey informs him that the violins are playing at dinner. A sudden inspiration brings him a new melody, but the Tenor is too busy arguing with the Wigmaker to listen to it. Zerbinetta, pert leader of some comedians, emerges from her dressing room with an officer just as the Prima Donna comes out asking the Music Master to send for "the Count." At first attracted to Zerbinetta, the Composer is outraged when he learns she and her troupe are to share the bill with his masterpiece. Zerbinetta and the Prima Donna lock horns while dissension spreads. As the commotion reaches its height, the Major-domo returns with a flourish to announce that because of limited time, the opera and the comedy are to be played simultaneously, succeeded by a fireworks display. At first dumbstruck, the artists try to collect themselves and plan: the Dancing Master extracts musical cuts from the despairing Composer, with the lead singers each urging that the other's parts be abridged, while the comedians are given a briefing on the opera's plot. Ariadne, they are told, after being

# ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

#### Synopsis continued from previous page:

abandoned by Theseus, has come to Naxos alone to wait for death. No, says Zerbinetta - she only wants a new lover. The comedienne decides her troupe will portray a band of travelers trapped on the island by chance. Bidding the Composer take heart, she assures him that she too longs for a lasting romance, like Ariadne, but as his interest in the actress grows, she suddenly dashes off to join her colleagues. Now the Prima Donna threatens not to go on, but the Music Master promises her a triumph, and the heartened Composer greets his teacher with a paean to music. At the last minute he catches sight of the comics in full cry and runs out in horror.

**THE OPERA.** Ariadne is seen first at her grotto, watched over by three nymphs - Najade, Dryade and Echo - who sympathize with her grief. Enter the buffoons, who attempt to cheer her up - to no avail. As if in a trance, Ariadne resolves to await Hermes, messenger of death; he will take her to another world, undefiled - the realm of death. When the comedians still fail to divert Ariadne, Zerbinetta addresses her directly. She describes the frailty of women, the willfulness of men and the human compulsion to change an old love for a new. Insulted, Ariadne retires to her cave. When Zerbinetta concludes her address, her cronies leap on for more sport. Harlekin tries to embrace her while Scaramuccio, Truffaldin and Brighella compete for her attention, but it is Harlekin to whom she at last surrenders. The nymphs return, heralding the approach of a ship. It bears the young god Bacchus, who has escaped the enchantress Circe for Ariadne. Bacchus is heard in the distance, and Ariadne prepares to greet her visitor - surely death at last. When he appears, she thinks him Theseus come back to her, but he majestically proclaims his godhood. Entranced by her, he claims he would sooner see the stars banish than give her up. Reconciled to a new, exalted existence, Ariadne joins Bacchus in an ascent to the heavens as Zerbinetta sneaks in to have the last word: "When a new god comes along, we're dumbstruck."

by John W. Freeman
-- courtesy of Opera News



# Best Wishes to Winter Opera!

From Ed & Margíe Imo





Libretto by Luigi Illica & Giuseppe Giacosa Based on the novel *Scènes de la vie de bohème* by Henri Murger Premiered on February 1, 1896 at the Teatro Regio in Turin

SPONSORED BY DRS. DANIEL AND LINDA PHILLIPS

#### CAST

Mimi Gina Galati Rodolfo Gary Seydell

Marcello Trevor Scheunemann Musetta Ashley Yvonne Wheat Schaunard Robert McNichols, Jr.

Colline Dan Cole

Benoît/ Alcindoro Mark Freiman Parpignol Philip Touchette Customs Sergeant Adam Stefo

\* Musetta (cover) Rachel L. Smith

#### **CHORUS**

Stephanie Ball, Jon Garrett, Sara Gottman, Rebecca Hatlelid, Megan Higgins, Kyrstan Langer, Debby Lennon, Nicola Loebl, Michael Oelkers, Benjamin Rardin, Nathan Ruggles, Samantha Schmid, Tom Sitzler, Adam Stefo, Philip Touchette, Caetlyn Van Buren & Keith Wehmeier

#### **CHILDREN**

Zoe Berken, Emi Berni, Joseph Berni, Scott Berni, Esther Davis, Amarah Friedman, Chloe Haynes, Alec Helm, Grace Jegle, Maddie Ruwich & Julie Shenberg

#### PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director Gina Galati Conductor Steven Jarvi Mark Freiman Stage Director **Iennifer Kraiicek** Costume Designer Lighting Designer Scott Glascock Prop Master **Iennifer Vago** Set Construction Giovanni Galati Scenic Artist Rachel Filbeck **Supertitles** Greg Storkan Collaborative Pianist Nancy Mayo

#### ORCHESTRA

Concertmaster	r Hannah Frey	Flute	Jennifer Gartley
Violin I	Elizabeth Ramos	Oboe	Carrie Smith
Violin II	Kate Collins	Clarinet	Dana Hotle
	Sarah Browdy	Bassoon	Melissa Mackey
Viola	Laura Reycraft	Horn	Carole Lemire
	Joe Gutowski	Trumpet	Mark Hyams
Cello	Antonio Innaimo	Timpani	Alan Schilling
	Valentina Takova		
Bass	Wendy Hyman-Fite		

#### **SYNOPSIS**

**ACT I.** In their Latin Quarter garret, the near-destitute artist Marcello and poet Rodolfo try to keep warm on Christmas Eve by feeding the stove with pages from Rodolfo's latest drama. They are soon joined by their roommates— Colline, a young philosopher, and Schaunard, a musician, who brings food, fuel, and funds he has collected from an eccentric student. As his friends depart to celebrate at the Café Momus, Rodolfo promises to join them later, remaining behind to try to write. There is another knock at the door; the visitor is a pretty neighbor, Mimì, whose candle has gone out on the drafty stairway. No sooner does she enter than the girl feels faint; after reviving her with a sip of wine, Rodolfo helps her to the door and relights her candle. Mimì realizes she lost her key when she fainted, and, as the two search for it, both candles are blown out. In the darkness, Rodolfo finds the key and slips it into his pocket. In the moonlight the poet takes the girl's shivering hand, telling her his dreams ("Che gelida manina"). She then recounts her life alone in a lofty garret, embroidering flowers and waiting for the spring ("Mi chiamano Mimi"). Rodolfo's friends are heard outside, urging him to join them; he calls back that he is not alone and will be along shortly. Expressing their joy in finding each other ("O soave fanciulla"), Mimì and Rodolfo embrace and slowly leave, arm in arm, for the café.

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# La Bohème

Synopsis continued from previous page:

**ACT II.** Amid the shouts of street hawkers, Rodolfo buys Mimì a bonnet near the Café Momus and then introduces her to his friends; they all sit down and order supper. Marcello's former sweetheart, Musetta, makes a noisy entrance on the arm of the elderly but wealthy Alcindoro. The ensuing tumult reaches its peak when, trying to regain Marcello's attention, she sings a waltz about her popularity ("Quando me'n vo'"). She complains that her shoe pinches, sending Alcindoro off to fetch a new pair. The moment he is gone, she falls into Marcello's arms and tells the waiter to charge everything to Alcindoro. Soldiers march by the café, and as the bohemians fall in behind, Alcindoro rushes back with Musetta's shoes.

ACT III. At dawn on the snowy outskirts of Paris, a customs official admits farm women to the city. Soon Mimì wanders in, searching for Marcello and Musetta. When the painter emerges, she tells him of her distress over Rodolfo's incessant jealousy ("O buon Marcello, aiuto!"). Rodolfo, who has been asleep in the tavern, wakes and comes outside. Mimì hides nearby, though Marcello thinks she has gone. The poet first tells Marcello that he wants to separate from his sweetheart, citing her fickleness; pressed for the real reason, he breaks down, saying that her coughing can only grow worse in the poverty they share. Overcome with tears, Mimì stumbles forward to bid her lover farewell ("Donde lieta uscì"). While Mimì and Rodolfo recall past happiness, Musetta dashes out of the inn, quarreling with Marcello, who has caught her flirting ("Addio dolce svegliare"). The painter and his mistress part ways, but Mimì and Rodolfo decide to remain together until spring.

**ACT IV.** Now separated from their girlfriends, Rodolfo and Marcello lament their loneliness in their garret ("O Mimì, tu più non torni"). Colline and Schaunard bring a meager meal, but Musetta bursts in to tell them that Mimì is outside, too weak to come upstairs. As Rodolfo runs to her aid, Musetta relates how Mimì begged to be taken to her lover to die. The poor girl is made as comfortable as possible, while Musetta asks Marcello to sell her earrings for medicine and Colline goes off to pawn his overcoat ("Vecchia zimarra"). Left alone ("Sono andati?"), Mimì and Rodolfo wistfully recall their meeting and their first happy days. When the others return, Mimi peacefully drifts into unconsciousness and Rodolfo closes the curtain to soften the light. Schaunard discovers that Mimì is dead, and when Rodolfo at last realizes it, he throws himself despairingly on her body, repeatedly calling her name.

--adapted from the Metropolitan Opera



# George Frederick Handel ACIS AND GALATEA

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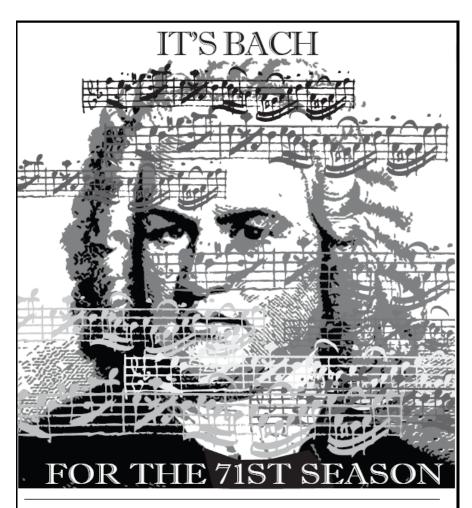
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#### WINTER OPERA SAINT LOUIS ARTISTS AND PRODUCTION STAFF 2011-2012

#### STEPHANIE BALL—A Grand Night for Singing; La Bohème chorus



Stephanie Ann Ball holds a Master's from Washington University in St. Louis and a Bachelor's from Northern Arizona University, both in Vocal Performance. Past roles at Wash U include Lauretta from *Gianni Schicchi* and Papagena in scenes from *Die Zauberflöte*. While at NAU Stephanie sang the roles of Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Adele in *Die Fledermaus*. Outside of the university, she sang in the ensemble for Union Avenue Opera's productions of *Lakmé*, *The Pi*-

rates of Penzance, and Pikovaya Dama. She also performed in the ensemble for the University of Missouri-St. Louis's premier of *O Pioneers!*, and has sung the roles of Lynn in Family Dynamics and Lucy in The Telephone for St. Louis City Opera. Earlier this year, Ms. Ball appeared in Winter Opera's production of La Traviata as Annina. She is also currently the soprano Young Artist for the Bach Society of St. Louis.

#### KEITH BOYER—A Grand Night for Singing



Keith Boyer is a regular performer in the St. Louis area. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri-St. Louis. While attending UMSL he received numerous awards including the prestigious Buder Foundation Scholarship. At UMSL he sang lead roles in Così fan tutte, Man of LaMancha, El Capitan, and Pirates of Penzance. At Union Avenue Opera Keith has performed Ferrando in Così fan tutte, Tchekalinsky in Pikovaya Dama and Prince Ramiro in La Cenerentola.

Keith's debut at Opera Theatre of St. Louis was as Nepomuc in Offenbach's The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein. Keith invested two seasons at OTSL, gaining valuable training from the OTSL's Gerdine Young Artist Program. In 2001 after his participation in the Kentucky Opera's Rudd Young Artist Program, Keith suspended his pursuit of a professional stage career after the birth of his second son. He recently reengaged his performance career with Union Avenue Opera Theatre, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, and a debut as a soloist with the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra in Schubert's Mass No.6 in E-flat major. Keith is currently studying for his Masters of Music in Vocal Performance at Washington University in St. Louis.

#### DANIEL COLE—Colline in La Bohème



Dan interrupted his doctoral degree in conducting from Indiana University to pursue a Professional Studies in Opera degree at Temple University. He subsequently placed first in the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions in the New Jersey district and first again in the New York regional finals. Since then Mr. Cole has appeared in theatres in Lisbon, Cologne, Taiwan, Amsterdam, New York, and throughout the United States. He has also established a respectable concert

career, including performances of Penderecki's St. Luke Passion with the Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia, Handel's Messiah in Philadelphia, Mozart's Mass in C minor with the Canton Symphony, Bernard Rands' Canti dell'Eclissi with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. Havdn's Mass in Time of War and Beethovan's Mass in C with Cincinnati Symphony, excerpts from *Die Meistersinger* with the Cincinnati May Festival, and the Mozart Requiem in his debut at Carnegie Hall with MidAmerica Productions. Mr. Cole also performed his first Die Winterreise with pianist William Ransom at the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival. Dan has appeared with the Dayton Opera Company in La Boheme (Colline); Kentucky Opera in Salome (First Soldier); Opera Boston in Luisa Miller (Wurm) and The Consul (Secret Police Agent); Utah Festival Opera in La Cenerentola (Alidoro), Rigoletto (Sparafucile), Turandot (Timur), and The Crucible (Reverand Hale); Fargo-Moorhead Civic Opera in The Magic Flute (Sarastro) and Rigoletto (Sparafucile): Opera Carolina in La Cenerentola (Alidoro); Western Plains Opera in *Phillip Marshall* (Lucius). Mr. Cole served on the voice faculty at the University of Delaware from 2004-2007. He is currently the Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC and currently recording Dominic Argento's Johnah, with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. Mr. Cole and his wife Holly have two boys, Nathanael and Benjamin.

#### TERESA DOGGETT—Costume designer for Ariadne auf Naxos



Teresa is a local actor/costume designer and has worked with many St. Louis theater companies. She has received five Kevin Kline nominations as an actor and costume designer and was the recipient of the 2008 Kevin Kline Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress and has received a Regional Division Award for Costume Design from the American College Theatre Festival. Her costume design credits include costume design for

Shakespeare Festival St. Louis Educational Program, MetroTheater Company, St. Louis Actor's Studio, HotCity Theater, ACT Inc., St. Louis Shakespeare, The Orange Girls, New Jewish Theatre, Union Avenue Opera and Muddy Rivers Opera Company and for the World Premier of *The Clown of God*, in St. Louis and Cincinatti. Upcoming projects: *Murdering Marlowe* for WEPG, *My Three Angels* and *Killer Joe* for STLAS, *The Value of Names* for New Jewish Theater, *Othello in a Breath* for SFSTL Education Program.

#### JOHN-ANDREW FERNANDEZ - Harlequin in Ariadne auf Naxos



Engagements include an aria excerpt from *Die tote Stadt* performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Silvio in *I Pagliacci* for Knoxville Opera, the title role in *Gianni Schicchi* for the Martina Arroyo Foundation, Douphol and Germont (cover) in *La Traviata* for Pineda Lyric, Figaro (cover) and Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* Mitrane in *Semiramide* for Bel Canto at Caramoor, the song cycle *Siete canciones populares españolas* for the Delaware Chamber Music Festival, the baritone soloist

in *Carmina Burana* for the Greater South Jersey Chorus, Händel's *Messiah* for the New Brunswick Chamber Orchestra, Mercuzio, Prospero and Leonte in the premiers of *Romeo e Giulietta, La Tempesta* and *Il racconto* for International Opera Theater at the Teatro Avvalloranti, Italy, Montfleury (cover) for Opera Company of Philadelphia's production of *Cyrano*, Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly* with the Princeton Festival, Belcore in *The Elixir of Love* at Swarthmore Opera.

#### RACHEL FILBECK - Scenic Artist for La Bohème



Rachel Filbeck holds an undergraduate degree from Harding University's Theatre Arts Department. With many interests spanning the depths of technical theatre, Rachel has backgrounds in costume design and construction, set design, and scenic artistry. She has had the privilege of working with Surflight Theatre in Beach Haven, New Jersey, sewing costumes for: *Ragtime, Hairspray, The Buddy Holly Story, Lady* 

Be Good, and Little Shop of Horrors. With Gateway Playhouse in Bellport, New York, she has sewn costumes for: I love a Piano, and Dora The Explorer Pirate Adventure. Rachel has also been scenic paint charge for Harding University's Homecoming Musical for three seasons working on shows such as: Oklahoma!, Scrooge, and Thoroughly Modern Millie. Aside from her professional credits, Rachel has aided several students in producing their own productions and has helped with both set and costume design. In her spare time, Rachel also enjoys the occasional acting gig and working with children in theatre, art, and education.

# MARK FREIMAN - Stage Director for *La Bohème* and Benoît/ Alcindoro in *La Bohème*



Mark Freiman sang the boy's solo in La Bohème for the very first live Metropolitan Opera telecast with Luciano Pavarotti, recently released on DVD. Favorite roles include Figaro in The Marriage of Figaro, Bartolo in The Barber of Seville, and Leporello and the title role in Don Giovanni. He is featured as William Jennings Bryan on the Sony Newport Classics CD of

The Ballad of Baby Doe, and spent a year in Hamburg in the German-language production of *The Phantom of the Opera*. Credits include the opera

companies of Sarasota, Ft. Worth, Kansas City, Virginia, Central City (Colorado), Mobile (Alabama), Saskatchewan, the Metropolitan Opera Guild, and two national tours with New York City Opera. He has appeared as soloist with the St. Louis Symphony, National Philharmonic (DC), Colorado Symphony, and at Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall. Love and thanks to mentor Tony Amato of New York City's Amato Opera.

# GINA GALATI - Artistic Director; Stage Director and singer for A Grand Night for Singing; Mimi in La Bohème



Gina Galati, soprano, is the recipient of the Historical Society of St. Louis County's James O'Flynn Community Service award for founding New Opera Saint Louis, now called Winter Opera Saint Louis. Gina received a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Music from Washington University in St. Louis and later received a Masters of Opera from the Uni-

versity of Kansas and earned an Artist Diploma from the Academia Verdiana in Bussetto, Italy. Ms. Galati has performed major roles in several operas such as Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* with Winter Opera, Amici Opera and the Southern Illinois Music Festival, Musetta in *La Bohème* with Wichita Grand Opera, and she has performed frequently with the Atlantic Coast Opera Festival, singing Nedda in I Pagliacci, Zerlina in Don Giovanni, and Norina in Don Pasquale. She has also performed Fiordiligi in *Cosí fan tutte* and the Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro*. With Union Avenue Opera she has sung the role of Giorgetta in *Il Tabarro* and Clorinda in *La Cenerentola*. She made her Powell Symphony Hall debut December 2008 as the soprano soloist in Bach's Christmas Oratorio with the St. Louis Bach Society. She performed the roles of Violetta in La Traviata, Lauretta in Gianni Schicchi, Gilda in Rigoletto, Norina in Don Pasquale, and Nedda in I Pagliacci with Winter Opera Saint Louis. Gina covered the role of Lucia with Opera Naples in January 2011 and sang the role of Gilda in *Rigoletto* with Miami Lyric and Brooklyn Opera this year.

# JON GARRETT - Brighella in Ariadne auf Naxos, La Bohème chorus



Jon Garrett is an accomplished recording artist and lyric tenor based in Saint Louis, Missouri. He has performed with Winter Opera St. Louis, Union Avenue Opera, the Saint Louis Chamber Chorus and Stray Dog Theatre. His debut solo recording project "To Find Love There" released in 2010 on the Above Entertainment label. He re-

leased the single "There Is Hope" in July 2011 and is a featured artist on the Gospel music albums "My Whole World" and "Magnificent Name." He has appeared on numerous Chamber Chorus recordings, including "Songs of the Soul," "St. Louis Commissions," and "A Pageant of Human Life." He received a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Missouri, St. Louis, where he studied piano with Evelyn Mitchell and voice with Dr. Mark Madsen. He currently studies with Alice Montgomery and is the Program Director at St. Louis Family Church in Chesterfield, MO.

#### SCOTT GLASCOCK - Lighting Designer for A Grand Night for Singing and La Bohème



Scott Glascock (Lighting Designer) is excited to be collaborating on his first show with Winter Opera. Born in Ohio, raised in KY, and now living in MO, Scott calls St. Louis home in between traveling to various theatres. Some of his recent and regional credits include: 25th Annual Putnam Co. Spelling Bee (2011), The Marvelous Wonderettes (2011), Baby (2010), Joseph... (2010), The King and I

(2009), and *The Music Man* (2008). Scott would like to thank Kirsten and his friends and family for all their support, and especially to God for the many blessings he's been given.

# SARA GOTTMAN - A Grand Night for Singing; Dryad in Ariadne auf Naxos; La Bohème chorus



Mezzo-soprano Sara Gottman returns to Winter Opera this season as Dryad in *Ariadne auf Naxos* and in the ensemble of *La Bohème*. Recently, Ms. Gottman has been seen as Lola in both the Winter Opera and Southern Illinois Music Festival productions of *Cavalleria Rusticana*, as well as Flora in Winter Opera's 2011 production of *La Traviata*. A native of

the St. Louis area, Sara has appeared locally as Kätchen in Winter Opera's production of *Werther*, as Cousin #1/Phyllis in the premiere of *Family Dynamics: The Funeral*, and in the ensemble of several productions at Union Avenue Opera including *Il Trovatore*, *La fille du régiment*, and *Pikovaya Dama*.

# REBECCA HATLELID - A Grand Night for Singing; Supertitles for Ariadne auf Naxos; La Bohème chorus



Rebecca Hatlelid, mezzo-soprano, holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Southeast Missouri State University. Her recent performances at Southeast Missouri State University include Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro* and the Witch in *Hansel and Gretel*, and she was a featured soloist in Jonathan Dove's *Köthener Messe*. This is Ms. Hatlelid's second

season with Winter Opera St. Louis, having performed in the ensembles of Cavalleria Rusticana, La Traviata, and Opera Extravaganza. She currently studies with Gina Galati and teaches voice classes at COCA (Center of Creative Arts) in University City.

# ERIN HAUPT - A Grand Night for Singing; The Composer (cover) in Ariadne auf Naxos



Erin Haupt, mezzo-soprano earned her B.M. in Performance from University Missouri-St. Louis, her M.M. in Performance and a Certificate in

Vocal Pedagogy, from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. She recently won the Southern Illinois Young Artist Competition. Opera credits include *Turandot, Amahl* and the Night Visitors, Il Trovatore, La fille du Regiment and

Pikovaya Dama with Union Avenue Opera. She also appeared in the World Premiere of O Pioneers!, an American Opera by Barbara Harbach. Performances at SIUE include Bastienne in Bastien und Bastienne, Sorceress in Dido and Æneas, and Tessa in The Gondoliers. As a concert artist she has appeared with the University City Symphony in selections from Der Rosenkavalier, Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass with her alma mater, and will perform Mozart's Requiem Mass with the Bach Society where she is a Young Artist.

#### ANTHONY HEINEMANN - A Grand Night for Singing;



#### The Officer in Ariadne auf Naxos

Anthony Heinemann, tenor, returns for a third season with Winter Opera St. Louis. In Gianni Schicchi he sang Maestro Spinnelloccio and he was in the chorus of *Samson et Dalila, Pagliacci*, and *Don Pasquale*. Anthony has also performed with Union Avenue Opera as the Older Brother in *Dead Man Walking*, the messenger in *Il trovatore*, and in the chorus for

three seasons. Under the baton of Robert Bergt, Anthony sang in The American Kantorei as the assistant principle tenor. Anthony currently attends Washington University where he is pursuing a Masters of Music in Vocal Performance.

#### SARAH HELTZEL - The Composer in Ariadne auf Naxos



Mezzo-soprano Sarah Heltzel debuted with Seattle Opera in 2005 as Siegrune in their acclaimed *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, for which she returned in 2009, and will again in 2013. Engagements this season include Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* with Indianapolis Opera, Syracuse Opera and Opera on the James, and Der Komponist in *Ariadne auf Naxos* with dell'Arte Opera Ensemble. Last season's performances in-

cluded Desideria in *The Saint of Bleecker Street* with Dicapo Opera, Dryade in *Ariadne auf Naxos* with Toledo Opera, Mississippi Opera's gala, Wagner's Wesendonck Lieder with the Gordon College Symphony, and Verdi's Requiem with Boston's Back Bay Chorale. Other appearances include Flora in *La Traviata* with Seattle Opera, the title role in *Carmen* with Tacoma and Skagit Operas, Prince Orlovsky with Mississippi Opera,

Merteuil in *The Dangerous Liaisons* with Dicapo, Das Lied von der Erde with Boston Chamber Music Society, and Messiah and Janacek's Glagolitic Mass with Seattle Symphony.

# MEGAN HIGGINS - A Grand Night for Singing; Naiad and Zerbinetta (cover) in Ariadne auf Naxos; La Bohème chorus



**netta (cover) in** *Ariadne auf Naxos; La Bohème* **chorus** Megan Higgins comes to Saint Louis from Nashville, TN. She received her masters in music from Washington University in 2005 and continues her vocal studies there with John Stewart. Megan has also attended the Black Hills State Summer Institute for the Arts where she sang Gretel in their performance of *Hansel and Gretel*. In the Saint Louis area,

she has sung the role of Blonde with Midwest Lyric Opera, performed in the world premier of *O Pioneers* at UMSL, and premiered the role of Betty in *Family Dynamics : The Funeral* with Saint Louis City Opera. Megan has appeared in many ensembles with Union Avenue Opera and Winter Opera Saint Louis and most recently sang the roll of Sophie in Winter Opera's 2010 production of *Werther*. She is excited to be joining Winter Opera Saint Louis this season as Naiad in the 2012 production of *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

#### MEREDITH HOFFMANN-THOMSON - Ariadne in Ariadne auf



#### Naxos

Soprano Meredith Hoffmann-Thomson has impressed audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. In Munich, the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* hailed her Donna Anna as "raumfüllenden und virtuosen" (expansive and virtuosic) while Paul Somers of the *Classical New Jersey Society Journal* proclaimed "Not only did she have a sparkling voice and great diction (a rare

combination), she has 'it' whatever 'it' is, that can become star quality." She has performed such roles as Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, Musetta in *La Bohème*, Miss Wordsworth in *Albert Herring*, Antonia in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* and Anne Truelove in *The Rake's Progress*. In the concert arena she has appeared as featured soloist in Beethoven's *9th Symphony* and the Brahms and Mozart *Requiems* as well as Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang*, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*, and Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, among others. She has performed with such companies as Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Sarasota Opera, Opera North, Westfield Symphony Orchestra, Colonial Symphony, New York Choral Society, Komische Kammeroper München and Opera as Theatre in Banff, Alberta, Canada. The daughter of a musical family, Ms. Hoffmann-Thomson graduated from McGill University in Montréal, studying both opera and bassoon. She was the recipient of the illustrious Richard F. Gold Career Grant at the Sarasota Opera, and was a prizewinner in the Palm Beach

Atlantic National Vocal Competition and in the New Jersey District of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. A native of New Jersey, Ms. Hoffmann-Thomson currently resides in Salzburg, Austria.

#### STEVEN JARVI - Music Director; Conductor for A Grand Night for Singing and La Bohème



Described as an "eloquent and decisive" conductor by the *Wall Street Journal* and praised for his "uncommonly expressive and detailed" performances by the *Miami Herald*, Steven Jarvi is recognized as a dynamic talent with an equal passion for the concert hall and the opera house. Mr. Jarvi returns to the Kansas City Symphony for his third sea-

son as Associate Conductor. Recently the winner of the Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation Award, he came to Kansas City after spending several years as the Conducting Fellow with Michael Tilson Thomas and the New World Symphony in Miami Beach and as an Associate Conductor for the New York City Opera at Lincoln Center. As Associate Conductor, Mr. Jarvi leads the Kansas City Symphony's Family, Young People's, Pops and Chamber Players concerts along with selected classical performances throughout the season. Mr. Jarvi was the first conductor ever invited to be a member of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program at the Kennedy Center's Washington National Opera, a position he was personally selected for by Plácido Domingo. He is now the Music Director of Winter Opera St. Louis and has held conducting positions for over 30 opera productions with companies including the Washington National Opera, New York City Opera, Baltimore Lyric Opera, Opera Company of Brooklyn and Dell'Arte Opera Ensemble in New York City. Raised in Grand Haven, Michigan, Steven Jarvi holds a Bachelor's of Music Theory from the University of Michigan where he studied with Kenneth Kiesler, Martin Katz and Jerry Blackstone, along with a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the Peabody Conservatory of Music at Johns Hopkins University, where he studied with Gustav Meier.

#### MARIE ALLYN KING - Stage Director for Ariadne auf Naxos



Directing credits include over 80 musicals, operas, cabarets and plays in the U.S. and internationally, including: Sakai Opera, Japan; Opera Theatre and Music Festival of Lucca, Italy; Canta in Italia, Florence, Italy; Cincinnati Opera, Ithaca Opera, Springfield Regional Opera, New York Opera Forum; the Bellingham Festival, and Opera Kansas. Artistic Director: Cortland Repertory Theatre NY 1985-1995; Broque

Opera Co. NY 1976-1986. Since 1997 Director of Opera & Musical Theatre, Wichita State University; productions directed include favorites *Les Dialogues des Carmelites, The Wild Party* (Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival regional finalist), *Cabaret, Die Zauberflöte,* and



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#### JENNIFER 'JC' KRAJICEK—Costume designer for La Bohème



JC is the current Costume Shop Supervisor for The Saint Louis Black Repertory Company. JC holds a BFA from Webster University's Conservatory of Theatre Arts in Costume Design and Hair and Makeup Design. She has designed several shows for St. Louis Shakespeare Company, one of which earned her a nomination for Outstanding Costume Design in the 1st annual Kevin Kline Awards. Most recently

JC earned two nom's, both for Mustardseed Theatre in Costume design. She has designed for companies such as St. Louis Black Repertory Co., The Actor's Studio, Southwestern Illinois College, Insight Theatre Company, Whitfield School, MICDS and Clayton High School. She serves at Head of Wardrobe for Opera Theatre of Saint Louis for the season. She has had the privilege to work professionally with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis' Education Department and Webster University. She has recently started her own company, JC Darlynn Designs-Custom Costumes, Uniforms and Apparel for which she has designed commercially for Bacardi and Budweiser. She also works freelance as a costume designer and makeup artist.

# KYRSTAN LANGER - A Grand Night for Singing; La Bohème chorus



Kyrstan Langer returns to the Winter Opera stage for *A Grand Night for Singing* and *La Boheme* in 2012, having sparkled in the ensembles for *La Traviata* and *Cavelleria Rusticana* in 2011. A veteran of the Carnegie Hall and Powell Symphony Hall stages, Kyrstan also performed as a member of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus throughout the

2010-11 season. Kyrstan captivated audiences recently in the title role of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Opera Theater production of Donizetti's *Rita*. A graduate voice major at SIUE, she will appear in Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Vistors*, and Puccini's *Suor Angelica* during the 2011-12 season as well. Raised in Indiana, Kyrstan studied privately with voice coaches Virginia McGuigan, and Dr. Anne-Marie Condacse at Oklahoma State University, where Kyrstan performed in Menotti's *The Medium*, in the title role, and two Puccini operas, as La Ciesca in *Gianni Schicchi*, and the Abbess in *Suor Angelica*.

#### DEBBY LENNON - La Bohème chorus



A member of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus for sixteen seasons Ms. Lennon made her solo debut with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra in the 1992 Carnegie Hall premiere of William Bolcom's "Songs of Innocence and Experience." The Boston Globe called her, "brassily irresistible." Ms. Lennon has been a featured soloist with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, The New York City Gay Men's Chorus, The New Music Circle, The Gateway Men's Chorus, The Tommy

Money Orchestra, The Space Coast Pops with Richard Hayman, Bob Coleman's Legacy Big Band, and The Steve Schankman Orchestra, as well as being an active freelance artist in the St. Louis area. From 1992-1999, Ms. Lennon recorded and performed with the nationally known acapella group, "Pieces of 8" of which she was a founding member. Ms. Lennon has performed in Lincoln Center's "Avery Fisher Hall", Carnegie Hall, Powell Symphony Hall and on many concert series events at The Sheldon, Jazz at the Bistro, Finale Music and Dining, The Innsbrook Music Festival and the Old Webster Jazz Festival. Her solo CD, "I'm All Smiles" was released in November 2005 to sold out audiences at Finale Music and Dining. Ms. Lennon is adjunct professor of voice and director of The Webster Jazz Singers at Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri since 2001, serves at St. Joseph's Academy as vocal instructor and maintains a private voice studio. Ms. Lennon attended Fontbonne University in St. Louis, Missouri and L'ecole Hindemith in Vevey, Switzerland.

#### NICOLA LOEBL - A Grand Night for Singing; La Bohème chorus



Nicola is excited to return to WOSTL for her second season. She began her singing with The Saint Louis Children's Choir, traveling with them to Toronto and Branson. At 13 she appeared in the supernumerary role of the Ghost of Lucia's Mother in Union Avenue Opera's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. At age 14 she was accepted to the Rome Festival Opera's summer season and appeared in the chorus of *L'elisir D'amor* 

and understudied the role of Giannetta. She performed the roles of The Farmer's Wife in *The Cunning Little Vixen* and Mum in *Albert Herring* this summer at the Johanna Meier Opera Theater in Spearfish, SD. She is the recipient of both the Maritz  $1^{\rm st}$  place award in 2008 and the Monsanto Grand Prize 2010 with the Opera Theater of St. Louis' Artist in Training Program. She is currently attending Webster University.

#### CHARLES MARTINEZ - Scaramuccio in Ariadne auf Naxos



Charles was born and raised in Wichita, KS. Recently he has sung the roles of Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi*, Alfredo in *La Traviata*, Sam Kaplan in *Street Scene*, Beppe in *I Pagliacci*, Roderigo in *Otello* and Borsa in *Rigoletto* with Winter Opera St. Louis, Union Avenue Opera, KU Opera, and has performed with the ensemble at the Lyric Opera of Kansas City for the past two seasons. In the summer of 2009, Charles was a young artist at Opera New Jersey and cov-

ered the role of Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*. He has performed the roles of Gherardo in *Gianni Schicchi* with Winter Opera St. Louis and Tom Rakewell in Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* at the University of Kansas, where Charles is currently pursuing a DMA in voice performance.

#### NANCY MAYO - Collaborative Pianist and Chorus Master



Nancy Mayo is a solo and collaborative pianist. She has been a prize winner in several solo competitions, including the South Carolina Music Teachers Association (SCMTA), Music Teachers Southern Region Association, the Clara Wells Competition in Pittsburgh, and the Columbia (S.C.) Philharmonic Young Artist Competition, which included a performance with the Columbia Philharmonic. After graduating summa cum laude with a BA and MA in piano per-

formance from Bob Jones University, she worked as a repetiteur at the Columbia (S.C.) Lyric Opera and Hamburgische Staatsoper (Germany), and also served as ballet and orchestral pianist at the Staatsoper and Hamburgische Philharmonic. Mrs. Mayo has taught at Newberry College, Columbia College, and Columbia International University, and is presently adjunct professor in piano and accompanying at Webster University. In St. Louis, she has served as rehearsal and orchestral pianist for the Saint Louis Women's Chorale, Sheldon Chorale, Union Avenue Opera, Winter Opera Saint Louis, LyriCo, and as a keyboard extra for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. At Opera Theatre St. Louis, she is a staff accompanist for summer festivals and a vocal coach in the OTSL Artists-In-Training program. She maintains a private piano studio, and enjoys both solo performing and collaborating.

# ERIC MCCLUSKEY - A Grand Night for Singing; Music Master in Ariadne auf Naxos



Eric McCluskey is no stranger to audiences in St. Louis having started his career with Opera Theatre of St. Louis in 1985 under the baton of Leonard Slatkin. More recently, he sang the role of Alfio last Spring in Winter Opera St. Louis' production of Cavalleria Rusticana. Mr. McCluskey toured throughout the United States in the late 1980's and early

90's with: New York City Opera's National Company and San Francisco Opera's Western Opera Theater. He has also performed with the Spoleto Festival, Sarasota Opera, Connecticut Grand Opera, Connecticut Opera, Opera Omaha, Kentucky Opera, Banff Festival, Merola Opera Program, Saint Louis Symphony, Nashville Symphony, Chautauqua Symphony, and with the Paris Opera Ballet. He is a recipient of several awards including: the William Matheus Sullivan Award, the Richard Gaddes Award from Opera Theater of Saint Louis, and first place in the Young Artists Competition of the Women's Association of the Saint Louis Symphony Society. Mr. McCluskey has a Bachelors and Masters of Music from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and a Doctor of Music from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. He is currently a voice instructor at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, John A. Logan College, and Rend Lake College.

#### ROBERT MCNICHOLS, JR. - Schaunard in La Bohème



Currently Mr. McNichols is completing his doctoral studies at the University of Kansas. There he has performed the roles of Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte,* Besenbinder in *Hänsel und Gretel,* and the title role of *Elijah* during this year's performance season. In the fall of 2008, Mr. McNichols joined the Lyric Opera of Kansas City as a baritone in the Apprentice Program. With them he's portrayed Jim/Daniel in *John Brown,* Samuel in *The Pirates of Penzance,* Bill Bobstay in

H.M.S. Pinafore, Marullo in Rigoletto, and Masetto in Don Giovanni. Other recent performances include Nick Shadow in The Rake's Progress, Baron in La Traviata, Belcore in The Elixir of Love, Pooh-Bah in The Mikado, Count Almaviva in Le Nozze di Figaro, and Besenbinder in Hänsel und Gretel with the Neue Eutiner Festspiele in Eutin, Germany. Upcoming performances are Peter in Hansel and Gretel with Opera Omaha, Ensemble in Showboat with Lyric Opera of Chicago.

#### MICHAEL OELKERS - A Grand Night for Singing; La Bohème chorus

Michael is a recent graduate of Knox College with a BA in music. He currently sings with the St. Louis Symphony Chorus and is looking forward to another season with Winter Opera.

#### ZACH RABIN - Truffaldino in Ariadne auf Naxos



Young American bass-baritone Zack Rabin is excited to be making his debut with Winter Opera St. Louis. He has recently performed the title characters in *Don Pasquale* (English and Italian), and *Le nozze di Figaro*, both Leporello and Masetto in *Don Giovanni*, Dulcamara in *L'elisir D'amore* and Friar Lawrence in *Romeo et Juliette* for his Carnegie Hall debut. Mr. Rabin just returned from Lyric Opera Virginia

where he covered Dottore in their touring production of *La Traviata*. Mr. Rabin has been seen with Ash Lawn Opera, Opera New Jersey, Ohio Light Opera, Sarasota Opera, Natchez Festival of Music, Lyrique en-Mer in France, International Institute of Vocal Arts (Israel), Opera on Tap, Capitol City Opera, Remarkable Theatre Brigade, as well as others. He studies voice with Mark Schnaible in NYC.

BENJAMIN RARDIN - A Grand Night for Singing; La Bohème chorus Ben is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree in vocal performance at SIUE. He has recently appeared in Jack and the Beanstalk, and Fables at SIUE, and is looking forward to performing as much as possible in the future. Ben would like to thank his father and sister for their endless support.

# NATHAN RUGGLES - A Grand Night for Singing; A Lackey in Ariadne auf Naxos; La Bohème chorus



Nathan Ruggles received his Bachelor of Music (cum laude) from Washington University in 1999 and his Master of Music (also from Washington University) in 2003. He also holds a certificate in K-12 Music Education from University of Missouri, St. Louis. He has performed extensively in the St. Louis area, appearing with Washington University Opera as Andrew

Borden in Beeson's *Lizzie Borden*, Orgon in Mechem's *Tartuffe*, Slim in Floyd's *Of Mice and Men* and several others. He has sung for Union Avenue Opera, appearing as the Perückenmacher in Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos* and the Herald in Verdi's *Otello*, and in the 2011 season as the Mandarin in *Turandot* and a prison guard in *Dead Man Walking* He has also sung with Bel Canto Opera (New Hampshire) as Bunthorne in *Patience* and with Operafest! of NH as the Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance* and as a priest and armored man in Mozart's *Magic Flute*. He sings with the St. Louis Chamber Chorus, with whom he has recorded three internationally acclaimed CDs. He has served on the voice faculty at Washington University since 2003 and also served as adjunct instructor in voice at Southeast Missouri State University from 2006-2007. He also teaches for various programs with Opera Theatre of St. Louis.

#### SEAN M. SAVOIE—Lighting Designer for Ariadne auf Naxos



Sean M. Savoie (Lighting Designer) is currently the resident Lighting Designer / Production Manager / Design Coordinator at Washington University in St. Louis and has served as Production Manager for The Muny right across the street in Forest Park from 2008-2011. He received his BFA from the University of Southern Mississippi and his MFA from the University of Cincinnati - College Conservatory of Music (CCM) in Lighting Design and Technology. Selected regional lighting design cred-

its include: New Opera St. Louis (Samson & Delilah), The Black Rep (Romeo

& Juliet, Ragtime (with Washington University), HotCity Theatre (including the Kevin Kline Award nominated Neighborhood 3), St. Louis Shakespeare, Insight Theatre, Upstream Theatre, Wayside Theatre; Shenandoah University; Theatre West Virginia; Tsunami Theatre Company in Washington, DC; New York Chinese Cultural Center; Portland Opera (Associate & Assistant Designer), Know Theatre (including award winning designs for See What I Wanna See & Eurydice), Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Cincinnati Opera (Assistant Designer), and Rising Stars Opera in Rising Sun, IN. Sean is the very proud recipient of the 2009 United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) Rising Star Award and the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award from CCM.

# MARC SCHAPMAN - A Grand Night for Singing; Dance Master in Ariadne auf Naxos

Marc Schapman completed a Doctor of Music in Voice Performance at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. On February 22, 2010 he made his Carnegie Hall debut singing tenor soloist in Dr. Edwin Penhorwood's *An American Requiem*. His operatic credits include George Gibbs in the world premiere of Ned Rorem's *Our Town*, Des Grieux in *Manon*, Alfredo in *La Traviata*, Acis in *Acis and Galatea*, Carlo in

Linda di Chamounix, Ralph Rackstraw in HMS Pinafore, Nanki-Poo in The Mikado, Kaspar in Amahl and the Night Visitors, and many others. Currently, Mr. Schapman serves as Assistant Professor of Voice at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville where he teaches Opera Literature, Song Literature, Applied Voice, and is Director of SIUE Opera Theatre. In addition to his SIUE duties, Mr. Schapman serves as a voice teacher for Opera Theater of St. Louis' Artists-in-Training program.

#### TREVOR SCHEUNEMANN - Marcello in La Bohème



"Rich" and "gleaming" (Washington Post) are a few words used to describe the voice of American baritone Trevor Scheunemann. Mr. Scheunemann returns to the San Francisco Opera as Joe in the world premiere of *Heart of a Soldier* and Opéra National de Bordeaux as Count Almaviva in *Le nozze di Figaro* in the 2011 – 2012 season. Additionally, he will debut at Théâtre du Capitole in Toulouse as Sharpless in *Madama* 

Butterfly. Last season, Mr. Scheunemann returned to the Metropolitan Opera as Schaunard in La bohème and Sid in La fanciulla del West, as well as the Count in Le nozze di Figaro at San Francisco Opera under Nicola Luisotti. He also premiered a new opera at Opéra de Monte Carlo entitled Die Marquise von O by René Koering. He made his Kansas City Symphony debut singing the "Old American Songs" of Aaron Copland. Mr. Scheunemann has been seen recently at Washington National Opera as Zurga in Les pêcheurs des perles and Count Almaviva in Le nozze di Figaro.

He returned to the Metropolitan Opera as Morales in the new production of *Carmen* conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin (which was an HD broadcast), debuted at Oper Frankfurt as Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, and Opéra de Lille with Emmanuelle Haïm in Rameau's *Dardanus*. He also made his San Francisco Opera debut as Jake Wallace in *La fanciulla del West* conducted by Nicola Luisotti. In the summer of 2009, he returned to the Glyndebourne Festival to sing Melot in *Tristan und Isolde* and made his debut at Opéra National de Bordeaux in Robert Carsen's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*. In concert, he performed Vaughan Williams's 'Dona nobis pacem', Britten's 'Cantata Misericordium', and Purcell's 'Come, Ye Sons of Art' with the Choral Arts Society of Washington (DC).

#### SAMANTHA SCHMID - La Bohème chorus



Samantha Schmid, soprano, graduated last May with the degree Bachelor of Arts in Music. She began taking formal voice lessons during her freshman year at Webster University, first with Professor Carole Gaspar, and then with Debby Lennon. During the course of her studies, she developed strong musicianship and theory skills in both jazz and classical music. Ms. Schmid has also completed minors in

French and German, and has studied Russian and Italian. As a performer, Ms. Schmid has sung in the Webster University Opera Studio and in master classes, most notably with soprano Christine Brewer. With roles such as Cherubino, Dorabella, Annina (Menotti, *The Saint of* Bleecker Street), Donna Elvira (Don Giovanni), Magda (Puccini, La Rondine), Alice Ford (Verdi, Falstaff), and Erste Dame (Die Zauberflöte), Ms. Schmid continues to develop as an opera singer and actress. She has received recognition for her talent, including being selected as the St. Louis Chapter finalist of the Shirley Rabb Winston Scholarship competition in 2011, winning 1st Place in the 2010-2011 Webster University Aria Competition, 1st Place at the 2010 Missouri Regional NATS Auditions, 3rd Place at the 2009 Central District NATS Auditions, and being awarded the prestigious Buder Foundation Scholarship for her studies at Webster University. Currently, Ms. Schmid is studying with Christine Armistead of Washington University. She will be singing in the St. Louis Symphony Chorus for the 2011-2012 season.

#### TIMOTHY SEMANIK - Conductor for Ariadne auf Naxos



Timothy Semanik has a diverse conducting background having worked extensively in the operatic, orchestral, and choral fields. His operatic credits include *Rigoletto* and *Un Ballo in Maschera* with Festival Opera; *The Mikado* with Light Opera Works; *The Bartered Bride, Eugene Onegin, Suor Angelica, Gianni Schicchi, Così fan Tutte,* and *La Buona Figliuola* with the Northwestern University Opera Theater;

The Pirates of Penzance, The Gondoliers, and Utopia, Limited with the Savoyaires; The Sorcerer with the Gilbert and Sullivan opera Company; Die Fledermaus and A Bayou Legend with Great Lakes Lyric Opera; Le Nozze di Figaro and Gianni Schicchi with Ann Arbor Opera; Carmen with Comic Opera Guild; Carmen, Albert Herring, and Die Zauberflöte with Opera in the Ozarks; The Turn of the Screw and The Magic Flute with the University of Michigan Opera Theater; and Suor Angelica and Gianni Schicchi at California State University, Fullerton. Mr. Semanik currently serves as music director for the University of Chicago Chamber Orchestra and is director of choirs at Kingswood United Methodist Church in Buffalo Grove. Tim holds a doctoral degree in orchestral conducting from Northwestern University and a master's degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Michigan.

#### GARY SEYDELL - Rodolfo in La Bohème



Gary has performed in regional opera houses throughout the United States and Italy and has been a soloist with several orchestras including the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Delaware Symphony Orchestra, Newark Symphony, Northern Kentucky Symphony and the Wheeling Symphony. Seydell has served as music director at several area churches. He also has ex-

perience as a music educator. He currently holds the position of Assistant Director of Academic Advising at Wilmington University. The 2010-2011 season finds Mr. Seydell as a featured artist with Opera Delaware's Studio Series and he will be singing concerts in Columbia, S.C. , Lake Wales, Florida and Philadelphia, PA. Mr. Seydell has earned a B.A. in Voice from the University of Delaware, a M.M. in Vocal Performance and an Artist Diploma in Opera from the University of Cincinnati. He performs regularly throughout Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He resides in Newark, Delaware.

#### HOLLEY SHERWOOD—A Grand Night for Singing

Holley Sherwood is excited to perform with Winter Opera St. Louis again after performing in last season's *Opera Extravaganza*. Holley is a full member of the St. Louis Chamber Chorus and can be heard on their most recent recording. A paid section leader at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Holley has sung the soprano solos in Faure's *Requiem*, Bach's *Magnificat*, and Schubert's *Mass in G*. This season, she will be the soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah*. Holley is also a proficient supertitlist, having written and run the supertitles for three Winter Opera St. Louis productions: *Werther, La Traviata*, and *Cavalleria Rusticana*. She received a Bachelor of Music in Music Theory in May 2009 from Furman University, where she also studied voice, piano, organ, and choral conducting.

# TOM SITZLER - A Grand Night for Singing; Wig Maker in Ariadne auf Naxos; La Bohème chorus



Tom W. Sitzler spent the last summer in the Victoria J. Mastrobuono Emerging Artist Program covering Figaro in Il barbiere di Siviglia. After returning, he performed Guard I from Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* with Union Avenue Opera. Other roles with UAO include Naroumov (*Pikivaya* 

*Dama*) and Samuel (*Pirates of Penzance*). Last May, Mr. Sitzler performed Ben in *The Telephone* with St. Louis City Opera. He has also premiered the roles of Lou in *O Pioneers!* and Bob in *Family Dynamics*. He is currently a young artist for The Bach Society of St. Louis and will be singing the bass solos in Mozart's *Requiem*, and covering the bass solos in J.S. Bach's *St. Matthews Passion*. He holds a Bachelors of Performance and a Bachelors of Music Education from Northern Arizona University and a Masters of Performance from Washington University in St. Louis.

#### SCOTT SIX - Bacchus in Ariadne auf Naxos



Scott Six is a graduate of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music where he studied with renowned American Bass Giorgio Tozzi. Scott's recent engagements include reprising the role of Canio in *Pagliacci* with Stockton Opera, and appearing with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra in Verdi's *Requiem*. In 2010 he was awarded 1st Place: Wagner

Division in the Liderkranz Foundation Vocal Competition in New York. Scott is on the roster of the Evelyn Lear and Thomas Stewart Emerging Singer Program under the auspices of the Wagner Society of Washington, D.C. Scott's happy to be making his debut as Bacchus with Winter Opera St. Louis. Scott lives in New Jersey with his wife Amy and their son Jake, and would like to dedicate this performance to the memory of his mentor, teacher, and most importantly, friend, Giorgio Tozzi.

# RACHEL L. SMITH - A Grand Night for Singing; Echo in Ariadne auf Naxos; Musetta (cover) in La Bohème



Rachel L. Smith is pleased to perform again with Winter Opera St. Louis during the 2011/2012 season. Last season she performed in the chorus of *La Traviata* and *Cavalleria Rusticana* with WOSTL and covered Lola in *Cavalleria Rusicana*. Ms. Smith holds a Master's Degree from the University of Northern Colorado and a Bachelor's Degree from

San José State University, both in Vocal Performance. Past roles include Giannetta in *L'elisir d'Amore* with Loveland Opera Theater, The Lady Ella in *Patience* with Victorian Lyric Opera Company, Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Fanny in Rossini's *La Cambiale di Matrimonio* and Beauty in Richard Faith's *Beauty and the Beast*, all with UNC Opera. She has also performed with Union Avenue Opera, Opera

Fort Collins, Opera Classica Europa in Bad Schwalbach, Germany and Trinity Lyric Opera. Ms. Smith performs as a soprano with the St. Louis Symphony Chorus.

# ADAM STEFO - A Grand Night for Singing; Customs Sergeant in La Bohème



Adam Stefo, baritone, hails from St. Louis, MO. On the opera stage, Adam recently sang the title role of *Gianni Schicchi* in Fidenza, Italy. Additional operatic performances include *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* (Capellio), *La Rondine* (Rambaldo), *Serse* (Ariodate), *Cendrillon* (Pandolfe), *Hin und zurück* (The Doctor), *The Three Little Pigs* (The Big Bad Wolf), *Too Many* 

Sopranos (St. Peter), H.M.S. Pinafore (Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B), Le nozze di Figaro (Figaro), L'incoronazione di Poppea (Seneca). In concert, Adam has sung Donizetti's rarely heard Messa di Requiem, Stravinsky's Pulcinella, and Orff's Carmina Burana. Adam earned his M.M. in Opera Performance at The Boston Conservatory, and a B.M. in Vocal Performance from Millikin University. He has studied voice from Robert Honeysucker, Cynthia Oeck, and Joseph Beck. He is overwhelmed to return to Winter Opera St. Louis after last year performing in La traviata and Cavalleria rusticana.

#### NORA TEIPEN - A Grand Night for Singing



Nora resides in St. Louis and made her debut with New Opera St. Louis singing the role of Maddalena in *Rigoletto*. She performed the role of Delilah in Saint-Sëans', *Samson and Delilah* with New Opera St. Louis and Charlotte in *Werther* with Winter Opera St. Louis. She performed the *Prayers of Kierkegaard* with St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. She has also appeared with the orches-

tra in de Falla's *El Amor Brujo*, Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Durufle's *Requiem*, and Tschaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*. Ms. Teipen has performed locally with the Opera Theater of St. Louis, the Masterworks Chorale, and the University City Symphony. She has also performed in Honneger's *Joan of Arc at the Stake* at the Berkshire festival as well as with the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh in *Dvorak's Stabat Mater*. Ms. Teipen was a semi-finalist in the Vera Scammon Competition, a finalist in the Lyric Opera of Chicago competition, and a finalist in the Bartenbach competition. Ms. Teipen is also the founder and general director of Teipen Performing Arts, St. Louis' premier music school.

#### MARY THORNE - Zerbinetta in Ariadne auf Naxos



Soprano Mary Thorne was acclaimed as an "engaging soloist, bright and agile" for her performance in Haydn's *Missa Sanctae Caeciliae* on Cape Cod with the Simon Sinfonietta. Frequently heard in Mozart roles, she has sung Susanna, Despina, Königin der Nacht, Papagena, Mademoiselle Silberklang, Barbarina, and Blondchen with New York companies Amato Opera, Opera Company of Brooklyn and Bronx Opera. An advocate of contemporary music, Ms. Thorne has

performed in new operas on New York City Opera's VOX: On the Edge and the Philadelphia Fringe Festival. In competition, she was a winner in the Civic Morning Musicals Competition, La Jolla Symphony and Chorus Young Artist Competition, and a finalist in the Capital Region Opera Idol Competition. Recent engagements include a solo recital on the Concert At One series at the historic Trinity Wall Street Church and Apprentice Artist with Bel Canto at Caramoor.

# PHILIP TOUCHETTE - A Grand Night for Singing; Major-Domo in Ariadne auf Naxos: Parpignol in La Bohème



Tenor Philip Touchette is an Illinois native now residing in St. Louis. As an artist with Union Avenue Opera, Winter Opera St. Louis and Washington University, he has sung the roles of Bogdanowitsch in *Die lustige Witwe*, Fortune Teller in *Lakmé*, Zweiter Priester in *Die Zauberflöte*, Vendor of Songs in *Il tabarro*, Guccio and Pinellino in *Gianni Schicchi*, Brühlmann in *Werther*, Marullo in *Rigoletto*, Philistine Messenger in *Samson et Dalila*, Elder McLean in *Susannah* and

Motor Cop in *Dead Man Walking*. In 2009, Mr. Touchette created the role of Oscar Bergson in the World Premiere of Barbara Harbach's *O Pioneers!* at UMSL. Philip is a tenor soloist with the Chancel Choir of Union Avenue Christian Church. Mr. Touchette received his Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Quincy University and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from Washington University.

# JENNIFER VAGO - Props Master; A Grand Night for Singing; La Bohème chorus

Jennifer Vago, a native St. Louisan, acquired a passion for singing, in part by growing up in an Italian-American household listening to opera and good singers, and by working with Dr. Helen Louise Graves in the Cosmopolitan Singers and Festival Chorus. While studying with Sylvia Davis, Jennifer sang with the Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus and worked in community theater in Southwest Florida, working days as an ER nurse. After some studio work in Honolulu, Hawaii, Jennifer took a break from singing to work abroad with Medecins Sans Frontieres in Asia and Africa. Returning to the States, she now resides again in St. Louis, works at

Barnes Jewish Hospital, studies with Gina Galati, and is pursuing her first passion - singing and theater, with the St. Louis Metro Singers and Winter Opera St Louis.

# CAETLYN VAN BUREN - Administrative Director; *La Bohème* chorus

Caetlyn has a Masters in Vocal Performance from Washington University in St. Louis. She sings in the St. Louis Symphony chorus, the chorus for Winter Opera Saint Louis, and was in the chorus for Union Avenue Opera's *La fille du régiment* and *Dead Man Walking*.

#### KEITH WEHMEIER - La Bohème chorus



Keith Wehmeier is a recent graduate of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and has since returned to study Vocal Pedagogy. This is Keith's second season with Winter Opera St. Louis and he is thrilled to be here. His past credits include Marco in *The Gondoliers* by Gilbert and Sullivan, The Spirit in *Dido and Aeneas*, Bastien in *Bastien und Bastienne*, and Donald in *Gallantry*. Keith has also been a cover soloist for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra for *Carmina Burana*. Later this year, Keith will be appearing at

Webster University as the tenor soloist for *Carmina Burana*. He would really like to thank his family and friends for their continued support.

#### ASHLEY YVONNE WHEAT - Musetta in La Bohème



Soprano Ashley Yvonne Wheat grew up in Bellevue, Washington, and attended the University of Southern California (B.M.), though she currently calls Overland Park, Kansas, home. Ashley continued her training at the Aspen Opera Theatre Center as a New Horizon Fellow and with the Lyric Opera of Kansas City: Express. Currently contracted at the Lyric, Wheat is performing the roles of Witch and Mother in *Hansel and Gretel* and previously played Beauty in *Beauty and the Beast*. Opera credits include: Elettra (*Idomeneo*);

Emily Webb, cover (*Our Town*); Anne Trulove (*The Rake's Progress*); First Lady (*The Magic Flute*); Fly (*Cunning Little Vixen*). An avid supporter of the arts, Wheat frequently performs and directs musical theater, most recently portraying the role of Rosie in the Leawood Stage Company production of *Bye Bye Birdie* and providing musical direction for The Barn Players November 2011 production of *Sweet Charity*. This is Wheat's debut performance of Musetta.



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Tom Brockland and Jill Cooper for your accounting services.

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