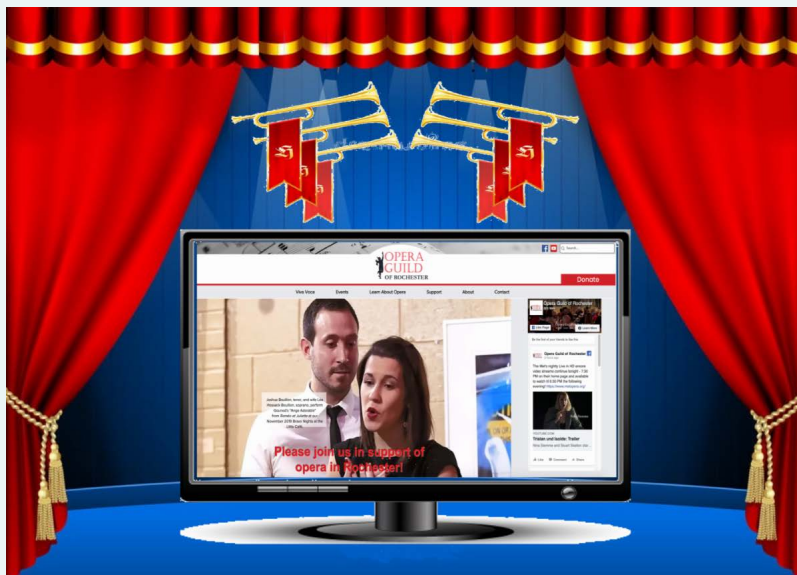




Viva Voce



To get to the website at operaguilddofrochester.org,
click on the picture

We are very proud to announce the launch of our brand new, 21st-century web site! The lion's share of this project has been accomplished by Mary Bonaccio, board member and Chair of the Communications Committee, and web designer Lauren Klepacki at The Verdi Group. We hope you enjoy browsing the site, which includes not only content from the old website such as essays, but also many new, useful and interesting features.

There is an actual calendar-page version of the events you want to know about, features on how to learn about opera, and information about the Opera Guild, all in a better organized and accessible format. Let us know what you think!

IN THIS ISSUE

Edition *Viva Voce*, **May 2020**

The Opera Guild of Rochester, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization with a mission to support opera and opera education in the greater Rochester area.

The Guild presents free opera lectures at local libraries, tours to productions of local opera companies and the Metropolitan Opera in New York City, and our popular Beat-the-Blahs, Haskell Rosenberg Memorial Series, at Temple B'rith Kodesh in Brighton.

This newsletter is sent via eMail each month, currently to over 3,000 subscribers. For a free subscription send your contact details, including your eMail address, to operaguildofrochester@gmail.com.

Our Website and Facebook pages serve as a clearinghouse for local and regional opera, concert, and recital information, with links to other music organizations in our area. Please visit our Website at operaguildofrochester.org.

For up-to-date information on opera-related news and events, please visit us on [facebook.com/OperaGuildofRochester](https://www.facebook.com/OperaGuildofRochester).



Some events are now being recorded. Click the YouTube logo to visit us there.



Reader Article submission deadline for the next issue is the 15th of the previous month.

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The Summer Season

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The following is a list of those organizations/presenters which have cancelled or rescheduled their events/seasons. For the latest information about schedules and what to do if you have already purchased tickets, consult the websites. We hope for better news next issue!

The [Seagle Music Colony](#) has cancelled its season. [SeagleColony.org](#)

[Opera Saratoga](#) has cancelled its season. [operasaratoga.org](#)

The [Chatauqua Institute](#) has cancelled all in-person programming. They are crafting a program of streaming events. See [Summer Season](#) for possible opera offerings. For updated information see [chq.org/update](#)

Rochester Oratorio Society, both concerts and Rochester International Vocal Competition cancelled. [www.rossings.org](#)

Little Theater and Caf ©, closed until further notice. [www.thelittle.org](#)

Eastman Opera season cancelled, but *Sweeney Todd* has been rescheduled for September 1, 2020, and you may link to YouTube to see a concert presentation of the musical by the San Francisco Orchestra. [www.esm.edu](#)

Mark Daniel's recital, The Lyric Tenor, has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 13, 2020 at the Lyric Theater.

<http://www.lyrictheatrerochester.org>

Metropolitan Opera Live in HD simulcasts cancelled, but see streaming of former productions on web site. [www.metopera.org](#)

Syracuse Opera, *Tosca* cancelled. The 2020-21 season will be announced shortly.

[www.syracuseopera.org](#)

TriCities Opera, *A Little Night Music* and *Best of Broadway* cancelled. [www.tricitiesopera.com](#)

The Memorial Art Gallery is closed, no Third Thursday concerts but see website for MAG@home.

[www.mag.rochester.edu](#)

The Canadian Opera Company has cancelled all events for the remainder of the season, but have announced the 2020-21 season. [www.coc.ca](#)

[Finger Lakes Opera](#) has cancelled its summer season and rescheduled it for summer of 2021, but plans to present its fall educational programming, see website for current information.

[www.fingerlakesopera.org](#).

The [Opera Guild's Annual Recital for Donors](#), scheduled for May 17, has been cancelled.

[operaguil dofrochester.org](#)

[Pegasus Early Music](#) concert, the Diderot Quartet, has been cancelled, but see the Summer Season for information on the opera presentation, *L'Orfeo*.

[pegasusearlymusic.org](#)

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Mark Daniels Album Release

Mark Daniels, well known to the Rochester community from recitals at the Lyric Theater and appearances at Bravo Night and the Opera Guild's Annual Donor Recital, has released his first album, "The Lyric Tenor in Recital." Accompanied by Rob Goodling, noted piano accompanist, teacher, and frequent competition juror, the album comprises opera arias, musical theater selections, and songs in six languages. To order, send Mark an email at mdmarky76@gmail.com. For more information please visit the Lyric Theater website at <http://www.lyrictheatrerochester.org>. Also note that Mr. Daniels' recital at the Lyric Theater, The Lyric Tenor, will take place on **September 13, 2020**.



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Bravo Nights

Bravo Nights are performances at The Little Caf  of opera and musical theater selections by talented local singers in an informal setting. They are appreciated by both seasoned opera fans and newcomers who wish to learn about the art form.

Mark your calendar for the remaining Bravo Nights in 2020:

[Wednesday, June 10](#)

[Tuesday, September 29](#)

[Monday, November 30](#)

The Little is located at 240 East Avenue, performances are 7-9 pm, and refreshments may be purchased at The Little Caf .

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GREAT OPERA-TUNITIES

(For those wishing to explore opera without spending a lot of money)

FREE - Friends of Eastman Opera Voice Competition. Look for listing in February 2021 *Viva Voce*. 8 pm, Kilbourn Hall, Gibbs Street, Rochester.

FREE - The Lotte Lenya Competition: young multi-talented singer/actors performing both opera and musical theater selections. See *Viva Voce* for more information about the event being held on Saturday, May 2nd, 2020.

FREE - Opera Guild Lectures in September at Fairport Library, February and March (with many video selections) at Brighton Memorial Library, 7 pm, 2300 Elmwood Ave, see February and March issues for listing.

\$9/10 suggested donation - Opera Guild "Beat the Blahs." Opera DVD presentations at Temple B'rith Kodesh. Four Sundays in January at 1 pm, see the 2021 schedule in Nov and Dec 2020 issues. Pre-performance talk, refreshments at intermission, children and students always FREE.

\$24; UR students \$10 with ID - **The Eastman Opera Season:** (Eastman voice students). Pre-performance talks; see full listing in *Viva Voce*.

\$25 per (senior) ticket - Metropolitan Opera simulcasts in HD of live performances on Saturdays usually at 1 pm. An encore performance, not live, is given on the Wednesday following for \$23. Theaters are at Tinseltown, Eastview, Webster and Henrietta. See full listing and essays in *Viva Voce*.

FREE - Opera Guild Bravo Nights at The Little Caf  , live accompanied singers perform opera favorites in an informal atmosphere. See *Viva Voce* for next date.

\$18 Opera performances from the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden are screened several times a year at **The Little Theatre**, as listed in *Viva Voce*.

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News from your Opera Guild

Since I first sent newsletter copy to the technical editor there have been more cancellations of the summer season. I hope next month we will not be publishing the final blow. When these restrictions are lifted, there will be great rejoicing if all these companies are still on their feet. If in a financial position to do so, please help them stay afloat.

There are many free operas streaming on the net besides the Metropolitan Opera screenings - we can't list them because they are not published far enough in advance. Hope they feed your opera hunger, but as the Met is always reminding us, there is nothing like live opera!

Meanwhile, we hope that those of you who haven't checked out our new web page will do so - just click on the picture at the beginning of the newsletter.

And since it's an ill wind indeed that blows no good, I hope you are finding ways to make good use of this time and discovering some joys and satisfactions you might be too busy to appreciate in your normal schedule.

Carol Crocca, President

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Donations

As an *Amici*, your contribution in any amount is greatly appreciated. All donation levels receive an invitation to the Annual Recital; those listed below will be given priority until a date specified on the invitation, and at the *Comprimario* level and above may request extra tickets.

Chorus: \$50 per person, \$80 per couple.
Comprimario: \$100-\$149.
Primo: \$150-\$199.
Maestro: \$200-\$299.
Impresario: \$300 or more.

**Donate
On Line**

You may also mail a check to Opera Guild of Rochester, P.O. Box 25613, Rochester, NY 14625. Please include an email or other address for your tax receipt.

A Note on Tax Receipts from the President: I am sorry that I am unable to continue President Emerita Agneta Borgstedt's practice of sending a personal thank you note to each contributor. The IRS does not require a charity to give, or the donor to have, a formal acknowledgment from the charity for donations under \$250.00. Your cancelled check or credit card record is sufficient evidence for your donations below this amount if you itemize them. Donations of \$250.00 and above will receive the required acknowledgment from the Opera Guild before January 31st following the end of the calendar tax year. The invitation to the Annual Recital is our way of showing our appreciation to our donors and we sincerely hope to see you there!

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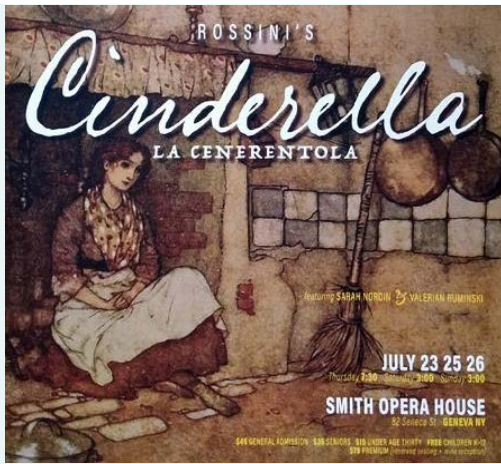
Please also keep in mind that we are a volunteer organization!

You can enjoy the opportunity to meet and work with other opera fans and help sustain the programs you like. Currently we are looking for an assistant treasurer, event helpers, technical back-up and publicity committee volunteers. For information about these jobs or to speak with us about any volunteer interest, write to operaguil dofrochester@gmail.com and the appropriate person will contact you.

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**July 2020 GENEVA LIGHT OPERA presents
Rossini's
La Cenerentola (Cinderella)
live at The Smith Opera House in Geneva, NY**



Performances:

Thursday Evening July 23, 2020 @ 7:30 PM

Saturday Matinee July 25, 2020 @ 3:00 PM

Sunday Matinee July 26, 2020 @ 3:00 PM

July 2020 Production of
Rossini's La Cenerentola (Cinderella)

Tickets On Sale Soon

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Bard SummerScape Opera | July 24 - August 2



King Arthur
(Le roi Arthus)
by Ernest Chausson
New Production
The American Symphony Orchestra
Conducted by Leon Botstein, Directed by
Mary Birnbaum

Idealism and treachery, honor and perfidy collide in this richly lyrical opera by French romantic composer Ernest Chausson. First premiered in 1903, this opulently scored work lays bare the tragedy of King Arthur's betrayal at the hands of his queen Guinevere and his trusted knight Lancelot.

Considered one of the finest examples of French romanticism, *King Arthur (Le roi Arthus)* was composer Ernest Chausson's only opera-his own composing career tragically cut short by his early death at age 44.

Featuring dazzling special effects, this production of King Arthur takes us to a world in the midst of upheaval where longstanding codes of honor and loyalty no longer hold sway.

Opening Night Reception for [Members](#)

Friday, July 24

Pre-Performance Conversation

Sunday, July 26 at 12 pm

July 24 at 7:30 pm

July 26 at 2 pm

July 29 at 2 pm

July 31 at 4 pm

August 2 at 2 pm

Fisher Center, Sosnoff Theater

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Pegasus Early Music

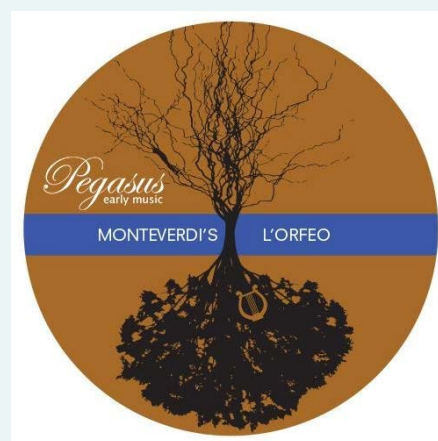
L'Orfeo

by **Claudio Monteverdi**

August 27 and 29, 2020 at 7:30pm; and August 30, 2020 at 3:00pm

Pre-concert talks 1 hour before each performance

Hart Theater at the Louis S. Wolk Jewish Community Center
1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester



This ground-breaking opera, written in 1607 and considered the first "real" opera, still has the power to captivate audiences over 400 years later, with its universal story, virtuosic expressive music, and colorful orchestration. Its themes of love and loss, human weakness and strength, redemption and the power of music, remain relevant today and will resonate profoundly with our audiences.

As Orfeo, famous for his musical prowess, joyfully celebrates his marriage to Euridice, a messenger brings the news that she has died. Orfeo travels the treacherous path to the Underworld to win her back-with his seductively entrancing music -only to lose her again because of his own doubt. Eventually escorted by the god Apollo, he ascends to the heavens where he can be reunited in the stars with his Euridice. A cast of shepherds, nymphs, spirits, and gods support the flow of the drama with dance, heartfelt solos, and dynamic choruses, that comment on and interpret the action.

We are thrilled to present tenor Colin Balzer in the virtuosic and dramatically expressive role of Orfeo, the singer who must travel to Hell and back to regain his beloved Euridice.

Michael Beattie, music director
Emily Cuk, stage director
Julia Noulín-Merat, scenic designer
Peggy Murray, choreographer
Whitney Locher, costume designer
John Cuff, lighting designer

Orfeo: Colin Balzer, tenor

Musica & Proserpina: Laura Heimes, soprano
Apollo: Sumner Thompson, tenor
Messenger & Speranza: Debi Wong, mezzo-soprano
Caronte: Steven Hrycelak, bass
Euridice: Madeline Healey, soprano
Plutone: Mischa Bouvier, baritone
Pastori, Spiriti: Andrew Fuchs, Jonas Budris, tenors; Douglas Dodson, countertenor;
and a chorus that includes young emerging artists of the Pegasus Rising program

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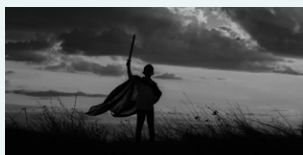
Glimmerglass Festival

The festival has not yet made a final decision about the 2020 summer season. glimmerglass.org



[The Sound of Music](#) **Rogers and Hammerstein II** **July 11, 2020 - August 25, 2020**

The hills are alive with this classic story of Maria, a young woman who leaves the nunnery for a job as a governess for naval captain Georg von Trapp and his seven children.



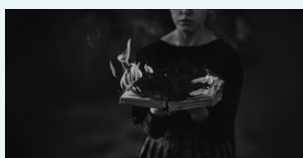
[Rinaldo](#) **Georg Frederic Handel** **July 12, 2020 - August 18, 2020**

Crusaders and sorcerers converge in the city of Jerusalem in one of Handel's most famous operas.



[Die Feen \(The Fairies\)](#) **Richard Wagner** **July 16, 2020 - August 21, 2020**

An otherworldly romance full of fairies, demons and princes, Wagner's seldom produced first opera brings fantasy and whimsy to the stage.



[Don Giovanni](#) **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** **July 17, 2020 - August 24, 2020**

Hell hath no fury like the fires that consume abuser and womanizer Don Giovanni in this tale of retribution.

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Chautauqua Opera Company 2020 Season

Tosca

Music by Giacomo Puccini; Libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa

Puccini's glorious score brings to life one woman's struggle for love, art, and freedom in a male-dominated world at the turn of the 19th century. Religion, politics, and passion collide in this stirring work.

Friday, July 10 * 4 p.m.

Monday, July 13 * 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 30 * 4 p.m.

Venue: Norton Hall

[Cast and Production Details](#)

[Ticket Information](#)



Thumbprint

Music by Kamala Sankaram; Libretto by Susan Yankowitz

Thumbprint is a chamber opera inspired by the experiences of Mukhtar Mai, a contemporary real-life warrior for women's rights and education in Pakistan. Sankaram's dynamic score blends Hindustani and European opera influences to tell this astonishing story of courage in the face of oppression.

Friday, July 3 * 4 p.m.

Wednesday, July 15 * 5 p.m.

Friday, July 31 * 4 p.m.

Venue: Norton Hall

[Cast and Production Details](#)

[Ticket Information](#)



The Mother of Us All

Music by Virgil Thomson; Libretto by Gertrude Stein

For one performance only, Chautauqua's Amphitheater will once again ring with the voice of Susan B. Anthony in Virgil Thomson and Gertrude Stein's joyfully surrealist homage to one of the foremothers of our country and the suffrage movement in America. This performance will

bookend Chautauqua Institution's [Week Five programming](#), themed "The Women's Vote Centennial and Beyond."

Saturday, August 1 * 8:15 p.m.

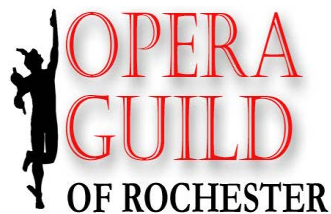
Venue: Amphitheater

[Cast and Production Details](#)

[Ticket Information](#)



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Submission deadline for the next issue is the 15th of the previous month

Free subscription on-line at operaguildofrochester.org



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