


# *Viva Voce*

September 2023

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Edition *Viva Voce*,  
September 2023

**IN THIS ISSUE**

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. Our addresses are P.O. Box 25613, Rochester, NY 14625; [operaguilddofrochester@gmail.com](mailto:operaguilddofrochester@gmail.com)

The Guild presents Bravo Nights (free informal opera programs at the Little Café), free opera lectures at local libraries, trips to productions of local and regional opera companies, including the Glimmerglass Festival, the Haskell Rosenberg Memorial Series of DVD presentations in January, and recitals and concerts.

This newsletter is sent via eMail each month, currently to about 3,000 subscribers. For a free subscription go to our Website and sign up at <https://www.operaguilddofrochester.org/subscribe-to-viva-voce> The deadline for submission of articles and event announcements for the next issue is the 20th of the previous month.

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 us at [operaguilddofrochester.org](http://operaguilddofrochester.org) and at [Facebook.com/OperaGuildofRochester](https://www.facebook.com/OperaGuildofRochester)

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



Opera Guild of Rochester,  
P.O. Box 25613, Rochester, NY 14625

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Sept 4	Seagle Festival	<a href="#">Lerner &amp; Lowe Revue</a>
Sept 17	Roch. Oratorio Soc.	<a href="#">Songs of Suffrage &amp; Civil Rights</a>
Sept 17	Eastman Opera	<a href="#">Season Preview</a>
Sept 29	Syracuse Opera	<a href="#">Andrew Lloyd Weber Revue</a>
Sept 29 et al	Canadian Opera	<a href="#">Fidelio</a>

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## Editor's Corner

A lean month, but I always enjoy the Eastman Opera Theatre Preview. Don't forget to RSVP.

You'll have to go farther afield for most opera this month, but Rochester Oratorio Society at Sonnenberg Gardens and *Fidelio* in Toronto would surely repay the trip. There is also information [on p. 6](#) about joining the chorus.

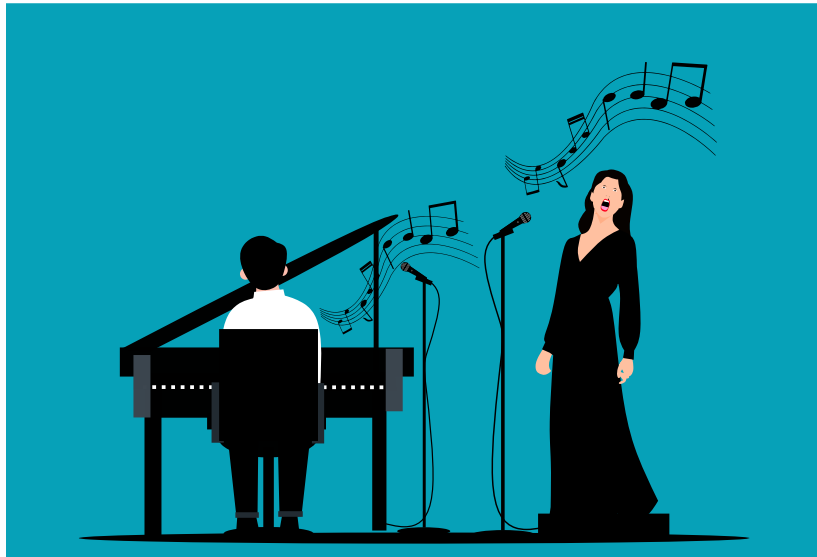
Enjoy browsing the fall season so far, there will be more!

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## News From Your Opera Guild

We have a great year planned: another Holiday Concert in a bigger venue, Bravo Nights, library lectures and Beat the Blahs (also in a new venue) as usual. Details will be found in our Annual Appeal mailing and, or course, in Viva Voce as they come up.

An important note: I am compiling a list of those who do not use a computer, so if you know of anyone in this category, please mention that I can be notified at Opera Guild of Rochester, P.O. Box 25613, Rochester, NY, 14625



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## Great Opera-tunities

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

FREE - Opera Guild Lectures. See September Viva Voce for fall lectures at Fairport Library; February and March Viva Voce for spring lectures at Brighton Library.

\$9/10 suggested donation - Opera Guild "Beat the Blahs," opera DVD presentations. In normal times, four Sundays in January at 1 pm. 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. These performances usually take place on Saturdays 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, in normal times at The Little Café. Live accompanied singers perform opera favorites in an informal atmosphere. See Viva Voce for next date.

FREE - Friends of Eastman Opera Voice Competition. Look for next year in February 2024 Viva Voce. 8 pm, Kilbourn Hall, Gibbs Street.

FREE - The Lotte Lenya Competition: young multi-talented singer/actors performing both opera and musical theater selections. See Viva Voce for information about the 2024 event.





Please 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](mailto:operaguil dofrochester@gmail.com) and the appropriate person will contact you.

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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*: \$65 per person, \$95 per couple.

*Comprimario*: \$100-\$249.

*Primo*: \$250-\$399.

*Diva*: \$400-\$549.

*Maestro*: \$550-\$999.

*Impresario*: \$1000 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:

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 canceled 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!



Listen to the Rochester Oratorio Society at [rossings.org](https://rossings.org)

## Songs of Suffrage & Civil Rights

Sunday, September 17, 2023 | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm |

Songs filled with humor, encouragement, and fervor have helped the cause along for over 100 years, and still inspire us today. Join Resonanz at the beautiful Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion on Sunday, September 17 at 2 PM for an unforgettable concert. For more information and tickets, visit: <https://www.sonnenberg.org/event/rochester-oratorical-suffrage-program/>

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### Join the Chorus

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**Apply Today | Monday Night Rehearsals | Scholarships Available**

#### **The 2023-2024 season includes:**

- Choral masterworks and modern classics with full orchestra
- Tour of France and Switzerland with the chorus in June 2024
- Solo and small ensemble opportunities
- Annual holiday community concert
- Opportunity to sing with the RPO!

See [rossings.org/membership/join-the-chorus](https://rossings.org/membership/join-the-chorus) for audition form and more information.





## Glimmerglass Opera Tour

**Tuesday, July 30, 2023** Matinee at 1 pm.

***Gounod's Romeo et Juliette***

Presented in French with projected English text



Lunch at the beautiful refurbished Glimmerglass Pavilion.

Our trip to Glimmerglass was an enjoyable one: the weather was good, the bus trip uneventful, *Romeo and Juliette* with beautiful music and an interesting production, and a relaxing dinner at the Brewster Inn, Cazenovia. We have a group that attends year after year and new participants as well.

If you have never gone on this trip, consider it for next year, when the presentation will be the *Pirates of Penzance* by Gilbert and Sullivan, on July 24, 2024.



## A Twenty-first Century Tale:

### Eric Townell and the Evolution of the Rochester Oratorio Society

By Carol Crocca

Eric Townell is not exactly behind the scenes - as the Conductor and Artistic Director of the Rochester Oratorio Society, he is prominently featured in all their musical endeavors. Born in Akron, Ohio and raised in Cherry Hill, New Jersey among a family of many avocational musicians, he studied violin at an early age, and “there were always choruses.” He was also interested in conducting from the start. He conducted the music for his eighth-grade graduation ceremony and went on to devise an independent study course in conducting for himself in high school. Having received performance degrees in string and brass instruments at Indiana University, and Northern Illinois University, he went on for his doctorate in conducting at the Peabody Institute. And he studied opera to gain experience with vocal music and singers.

So, it was the good fortune of the Oratorio Society to engage him in 2006. Originally conceived as a performance vehicle primarily for the benefit of its choristers, the organization has broadened its focus ever since the beginning of his tenure to become a “full-service non-profit performing arts organization.” As a result of a series of long-term plan initiatives by himself and the board of directors, the Society has developed programs and projects which focus on bringing classical vocal music to the diverse Rochester community in various ways.

These include education and research-based performances for which the Society received state funding, collaborations with The Humanities Center of the University of Rochester, and after-school musical instruction for urban youth since 2010. The outreach choir Resonanz has also been bringing stirring choral music to enthusiastic fans since 2008 in libraries, schools and other venues (for Sonnenberg Gardens event, [see p. 6](#)).



The Society also collaborates with other groups who are responsible for the vitality of the Rochester music scene. Its singers have been featured in productions of the Empire State Ballet, the Finger Lakes Opera, and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

An important opportunity for young singers for many years has been the Rochester International Vocal Competition (formerly “Classical Idol”). Before 2023, this competition was limited to those who were able to appear in Rochester for the semi-final and final rounds, but last year the format was changed: an Emerging Artists category was added to the Professional category, and auditions and performances are now presented and judged on video, opening participation to many more singers, those whose circumstances do not permit travel to Rochester. This resulted last year in a significant increase in registration: 236 applicants from 29 US states and 10 foreign countries, including Korea, the Philippines, and many in Europe, and one singer from the Moscow Conservatory, (who was rendered a scholarship applicant by default, due to her difficulty in getting her registration payment properly transmitted!). It also enabled the participation of prominent European judge, Daniel Wolfsbauer, whose reputation would enhance the attractiveness of the competition to many singers. While those of us who fondly remember the former gala evening of the final in-person round with regret, it is certainly a fine opportunity for singers and a feather in Rochester’s musical cap to have such an international competition here.

Last but not least, is the newest inventive series of the ROS’s community outreach, Arts Connexions. These smaller-format presentations feature works by performers, creators, and artists of color with strong roots in Rochester and New York. Arts Connexions combines concerts of vocal music, dance, and the spoken word with community performances in classrooms and public venues. Co-curated this spring by Carl Dupont, international singer and consultant on matters of diversity, performers have included Metropolitan Opera soprano Christine Jobson, dancer Thomas Warfield, storyteller Gwendolyn Glenn, soprano Hyunji Kim, *santoor* performer Maryam Ghabrani, and pianists Gregory Thompson and Sarah Rhee-Tirré. This program will continue to feature artists like Carl Dupont, an Eastman graduate with an international career, rooted in Rochester but with a global perspective.

**Question:** How do we increase the opera and classical music audience? In conjunction with similar initiatives by other Rochester musical organizations, like Finger Lakes Opera and the RPO, these ROS programs are the answer - bringing our excellent artists to the classroom and engaging the entire community.

# The Metropolitan Opera

## Live in HD Series

The Met has announced its season for Live in HD transmissions.

The dates for these are as listed in This Month and below.

**Essays on the opera appear in Viva Voce in appropriate months.**

**For theater directions,** see [metopera.org](http://metopera.org), click menu icon in upper left corner, click ‘Season’, click ‘In cinemas’, click ‘Find theater.’

### October 21

#### **Dead Man Walking**

American composer Jake Heggie’s masterpiece, the most widely performed new opera of the last 20 years, in a haunting new production by Ivo van Hove. Based on Sister Helen Prejean’s memoir about her fight for the soul of a condemned murderer, *Dead Man Walking* matches the high drama of its subject with Heggie’s beautiful and poignant music and a brilliant libretto by Terrence McNally. Met Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin takes the podium, with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato starring as Sister Helen and bass-baritone Ryan McKinny as the death-row inmate Joseph De Rocher.

### November 18

#### **X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X**

Anthony Davis’s groundbreaking and influential opera, which premiered in 1986. Tony-nominated director Robert O’Hara oversees a potent new staging that imagines Malcolm as an Everyman whose story transcends time and space. Baritone Will Liverman, who triumphed in the Met premiere of *Fire Shut Up in My Bones*, sings Malcolm X, alongside soprano Leah Hawkins as his mother, Louise; mezzo-soprano Raehann Bryce-Davis as his sister Ella; bass-baritone Michael Sumuel as his brother Reginald; and tenor Victor Ryan Robertson as Nation of Islam leader Elijah Muhammad. Kazem Abdullah conducts the newly revised score, which provides a layered, jazz-inflected setting for the esteemed writer Thulani Davis’s libretto.



December 9

**Florencia en el Amazonas**

Sung in Spanish and inspired by the magical realism of Gabriel García Márquez, Mexican composer Daniel Catán's 1996 opera tells the enchanting story of a Brazilian opera diva who returns to her homeland to perform at the legendary opera house of Manaus—and to search for her lost lover, who has vanished into the jungle. The December 9 performance stars soprano Ailyn Pérez as Florencia Grimaldi, with Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin on the podium to lead a spellbinding new production by Mary Zimmerman.

January 6

**Nabucco**

Ancient Babylon comes to life in a classic Met staging of biblical proportions. Baritone George Gagnidze makes his Met role debut as the imperious king Nabucco, alongside soprano Liudmyla Monastyrska reprising her thrilling turn as his vengeful daughter Abigaille. Mezzo-soprano Maria Barakova and tenor SeokJong Baek are Fenena and Ismaele, whose love transcends politics, and bass Dmitry Belosselskiy repeats his celebrated portrayal of the high priest Zaccaria. Daniele Callegari conducts Verdi's exhilarating early masterpiece, which features the ultimate showcase for the great Met Chorus, the moving "Va, pensiero."

January 27

**Carmen**

Acclaimed English director Carrie Cracknell brings a vital new production of one of opera's most enduring and powerful works, the classic story moving the action to the modern day and finding issues that could not be more relevant today: gendered violence, abusive labor structures, and the desire to break through societal boundaries. Dazzling young mezzo-soprano Aigul Akhmetshina is Carmen, alongside tenor Piotr Beczala as Carmen's troubled lover Don José, soprano Angel Blue as the loyal Micaëla, and bass-baritone Kyle Ketelsen as the swaggering Escamillo. Daniele Rustioni conducts Bizet's heart-pounding score.

March 9

**La Forza del Destino**

Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts Verdi's grand tale of ill-fated love, deadly vendettas, and family strife, with stellar soprano Lise Davidsen as the noble Leonora, one of the repertory's most tormented—and thrilling—heroines. Director Mariusz Treliński sets the scene in a contemporary world; the distinguished cast also features tenor Brian Jagde as Leonora's forbidden beloved, Don Alvaro and baritone Igor Golovatenko as her vengeful brother.

March 23

**Romeo et Juliette**

Radiant soprano Nadine Sierra and tenor sensation Benjamin Bernheim come together as the star-crossed lovers in Gounod's sumptuous Shakespeare adaptation, with Met Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin on the podium to conduct one of the repertoire's most romantic scores.

Bartlett Sher's towering staging also features baritone Will Liverman and tenor Frederick Ballentine as the archrivals Mercutio and Tybalt, mezzo-soprano Samantha Hankey as the mischievous pageboy Stéphano, and bass-baritone Alfred Walker as Frère Laurent.

April 20

**La Rondine**

In Puccini's bittersweet love story, soprano Angel Blue stars as the French courtesan Magda, opposite tenor Jonathan Tetelman as Ruggero, an idealistic young man who offers her an alternative to her life of excess. Maestro Speranza Scappucci conducts Nicolas Joël's Art Deco-inspired staging, which transports audiences from the heart of Parisian nightlife to a dreamy vision of the French Riviera.

May 11

**Madama Butterfly**

Extraordinary soprano Asmik Grigorian tackles the demanding role of Cio-Cio-San, the loyal geisha at the heart of Puccini's devastating tragedy. Tenor Jonathan Tetelman stars as the callous American naval officer Pinkerton, whose betrayal destroys her. Mezzo-soprano Elizabeth DeShong reprises the role of the steadfast maid Suzuki, and baritone Lucas Meachem is the American consul Sharpless. Acclaimed maestro Xian Zhang takes the podium to conduct Anthony Minghella's vivid production.



## Finger Lakes Opera Young Artists Program

Watch for the Young Artists at fall events to be announced and as some of the performers on Bravo Night, Oct. 22.



**FINGER LAKES**  **PERA**  
2023 Young Artists



Top row:

**Conor Brereton**, tenor

**Goitsewang Lehobye**, soprano

**Steven M. Warnock**, baritone

**Anna Donnelly**, soprano

**Alexandra Sanchez**, mezzo-soprano

Bottom row:

**Ellen Robertson**, soprano

**Michael Celentano**, tenor

**Pedro Valdez**, tenor

**Kaswanna Kanyinda**, mezzo-soprano

**Casey Germain**, bass

Visit [fingerlakesopera.org/yap](https://fingerlakesopera.org/yap) to see video clips of the young artists introducing themselves.

## Online Opera Education for Young and Old

**The Metropolitan Opera has many resources for both adults and students.** If you haven't explored them already, go to the main menu at [metopera.org](http://metopera.org) and click on 'discover.' This leads to another menu of all kinds of educational features from podcasts and articles to more formal educational materials for students.

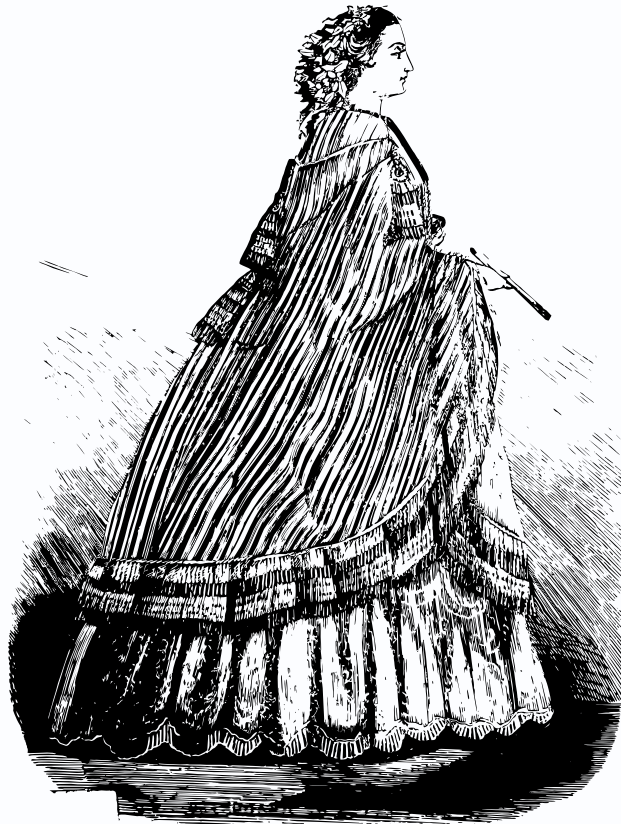
**San Francisco Opera** has a great education site for youngsters with materials that can be used in the home as well as by educators. <https://www.sfopera.com/learn>

**Los Angeles Opera** has programs for both adults and children at [laopera.org/community](http://laopera.org/community)

**Utah Opera** at <https://utahopera.org/education/students/> also has good student materials.

**From Arizona Opera**, at <https://azopera.org/education-community/opera-home-virtual-learning-tools>, videos for middle school and older students with introductions to four operas. Although produced for Arizona Opera presentations, they are suitable as general references.

**Many opera companies** have such sites; you can search "virtual opera education" for more.



OPERA CLOAK OF THE NEW MATERIAL.





# *Bravo Nights*

Bravo Nights are performances at The Little Café 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.

Bravo Nights take place at The Little Café, which is located in the Little Theatre at 240 East Avenue. Refreshments may be purchased there.

- Please note new times -

**Sunday, 10/22, 7:00 PM**

**Monday, 2/12/24, 7:00 PM**

**Monday, 4/22/24, 7:00 PM**

# Third Thursday Concert

Two concerts in the first half of the season.

By [Eastman School of Music](#), [Memorial Art Gallery](#)

The Third Thursday concert series provides musicians and music-lovers the opportunity to experience authentic Baroque music on a regular basis. Its concerts highlight Eastman's Italian Baroque Organ, which was built around 1770 in central Italy. Restored and installed in 2005 at the Memorial Art Gallery, the instrument is the only one of its kind.



Thursday, October 19

**Geoffrey Burgess, Baroque oboe, and  
Leon Schelhase, harpsichord and organ**

Thursday, November 16

**17th-C. Italian and German  
vocal music**

Admission to the concert is included with museum admission, which is half-price on Thursday evenings after 5 pm and free to University of Rochester student ID holders.

**Seating is limited and is available on a first-come basis.**

This concert is made possible by the Rippey Endowed Trust.

**Performances are 7:30pm to 8:30pm  
500 University Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607**







# THE FALL SEASON



## Eastman Opera Theater Season

### **Opera Season Preview**

September 17 at 5 p.m.  
Miller Center Atrium

RSVP to [feo1995@gmail.com](mailto:feo1995@gmail.com)

### **Opera Encounter with Nicole Cabell**

November 15 at 5 p.m.  
Miller Center Atrium

### Double Bill:

Mythology Through a New Lens!\*

*To Hell and Back* (2006)

Music by Jake Heggie  
Libretto by Gene Scheer

*We've Got Our Eye on You* (2016)

Music by Nkeiru Okoye  
Libretto by David Cote

Kilbourn Hall

November 2, 3, 4 at 7:30 p.m.

November 5 at 2:00 p.m.

### Winter Double Bill\*

*Ariadne auf Naxos*: Prologue (1912)

Music by Richard Strauss  
Libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal

*Dido and Aeneas* (1689)

Music by Henry Purcell  
Libretto by Nahum Tate adapted by  
Benjamin Britten and Imogen Holst

804 Annex

January 27 at 7:30 p.m.

January 28 at 2:00 p.m.

February 1, 2, 3 at 7:30 p.m.

February 4 at 2:00 p.m.

\*Tickets sold through the Eastman Theatre Box Office  
433 East Main Street, Rochester, NY  
585-274-3000

**Pre-performance talks will take place one hour before each performance.  
Please check the ESM website for additional information.**



# THE FALL SEASON



## FEO Voice Competition

February 16 at 7:30 p.m.  
Kilbourn Hall

## *Dialogues des Carmélites* (1957)\*

Music and Libretto by Francis Poulenc  
April 4, 5, 6 at 7:30 p.m.  
April 7 at 2:00 p.m.  
Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre



## The Seagle Colony



For more information,  
see [seaglefestival.org](https://seaglefestival.org)

## Almost like Being in Love – the music of Lerner & Loewe

**Monday, September 4, 7:30 pm**  
**Oscar Seagle Memorial Theater**

Join the 2023 Seagle Festival Fall Artists  
for a revue of tunes from this classic  
composer and lyricist duo. See the show  
at the Oscar Seagle Memorial Theater, or  
at venues across the region.





# THE FALL SEASON



**CANADIAN  
OPERA  
COMPANY**

**Canadian Opera Season**

All except *Apartia Chryptych* at The Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

Go to the home page at [coc.ca](http://coc.ca) and click on 'next season' to access video clips, specific dates, and more production info.



Beethoven's only opera follows the story of Leonore, a woman who disguises herself as a man to go undercover into the very prison where she suspects her husband is being held as a political prisoner. As she descends deeper into the prison's cells, she uncovers a sinister plot of abuse and oppression.

From a cold but charming apartment in the Latin Quarter to the bustling street scenes at the Café Momus, we follow the poet Rodolfo and his seamstress neighbour Mimì, struggling artists searching for love and life in Bohemian Paris.







When a forest gamekeeper traps a fox and attempts to domesticate her, their encounter leads to a poignant reflection on the natural cycle of life and death, as well as our relationship with the planet. This family-friendly opera invites audiences to reflect on the advancing toll of climate change and the importance of cultivating a harmonious interrelationship with the natural world.

Mozart's dark, twisted masterpiece is presented as you've never seen it before in this breathtaking production from Danish director Kaspar Holten. The show features spectacular set designs combined with ingenious video projections, plunging audiences into an Escher-like web of rotating rooms, revolving with the rhythms of *Don Giovanni's* infernal drama.



The aging Pasquale refuses to let his love-struck nephew Ernesto marry, and decides to get married himself. The only snag is that the woman he's chosen as his bride-to-be, the fiery Norina, is secretly his nephew's beloved, which sets up a riotous clash between generations.



Never before seen on the COC stage and seldom performed anywhere in the world, *Medea* is an exquisite rarity, featuring one of the most challenging roles in opera history.

As the culmination of our season, world-renowned soprano Sondra Radvanovsky will tackle the role, reuniting with director Sir David McVicar for this brand-new production.



**World Premiere**  
Canadian Opera Company Theater,  
227 Front St. E., Toronto

Nova Scotian contralto Portia White was the first Black Canadian concert performer to achieve international fame in the mid- 20th century, touring North America and performing in Europe while being hailed as the best classical voice of her generation. Yet despite such artistic accomplishments, her story has been erased from Canadians' collective memory.



Go to [syracuseopera.org](http://syracuseopera.org) home page and click on Teaser Brochure for information about locations and times.

CELEBRATING  
AN ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER REVUE

75

*Start the season with a Special Celebration!*  
Sept 23, 2023

I AM A DREAMER  
WHO NO LONGER  
*Dreams*  
JORGE SOSA  
Oct 20 & 22, 2023

This poignant and topical work navigates both compassion and the dark side of humanity through the intersecting lives of two immigrants. The story chronicles the complicated parallels and experiences of Rosa, an undocumented immigrant from Mexico; and her court appointed attorney, Singa, herself an immigrant from Indonesia with a green card.

ALL IS *Calm*  
*The Christmas Truce of 1914*  
PETER ROTHSTEIN  
Dec 15, 2023

The remarkable true story of an extraordinary night of camaraderie, music and peace.

*The*  
FANTASTICKS  
TOM JONES & HARVEY SCHMIDT  
Feb 16 & 18, 2024

A modern telling of the age-old story of meddling parents and the power of love.

THE  
*Barber*  
of Seville  
GIOACHINO ROSSINI  
Apr 28, 2024

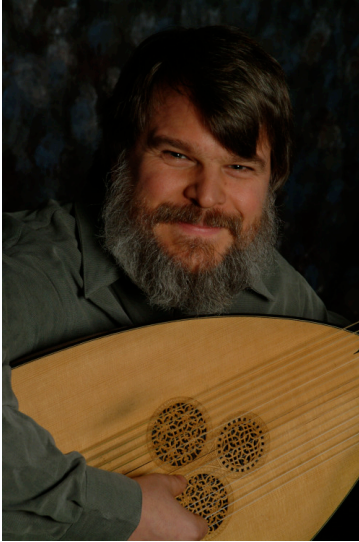
The beloved prequel to *The Marriage of Figaro*, comedic Rossini in Grand Opera style.

*Opera and Beer!*

*End the season with a special Celebration*  
May 21, 2024



**Announcing our 19th season!  
Tickets available now!**



## [Knight of the Lute](#)

**October 15, 2023 @ 4 pm ET**

Discoveries from a lost Italian manuscript. Paul O'Dette plays solo lute music from the Albani Manuscript, only recently discovered in an Italian villa. Music of Kapsberger, Lorenzino, Cavaliere del Liuto, and more. US Premiere!



## [A Festive Sound](#)

**December 3, 2023 @ 4 pm ET**

Celebrate the season with glorious 17th century Italian/German music by Buxtehude, Monteverdi, Sulpitia Cesis, Rafaella Aleotti, Johann Theile, and more!



## [Flash and Fire](#)

**January 21, 2024 @ 4 pm ET**

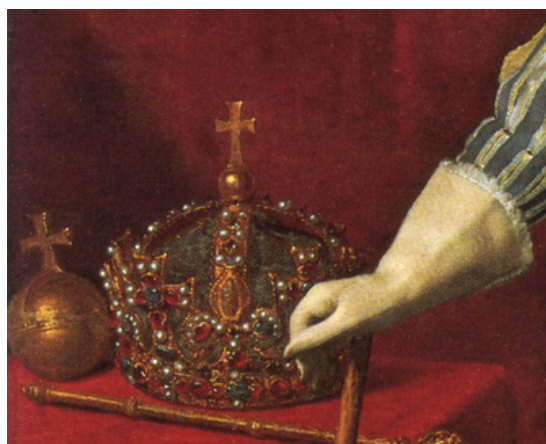
Nina Stern, recorder, and friends explore the virtuosic Italian style of the 17th century. Music by Castello, Frescobaldi, Corelli, and more.



## [Humours of Whisky](#)

**March 17, 2024 @ 4 pm ET**

Baroque meets traditional! Historical fiddling from the British Isles, and music of O'Carolan, Purcell, and Geminiani. Back by popular demand, the Berwick Fiddle Consort and friends.



## [Music for Kings](#)

**April 28, 2024 @ 4 pm ET**

The exquisite Royal Consorts of William Lawes for pairs of theorbos, violins, and violas da gamba, plus songs and music from the English 17th century courts.

*L'Orfeo - August 2022 Coming soon on YouTube!*



P.O. Box 25613, Rochester, NY 14625  
eMail: [OperaGuildOfRochester@gmail.com](mailto:OperaGuildOfRochester@gmail.com)