

# Viva Voce

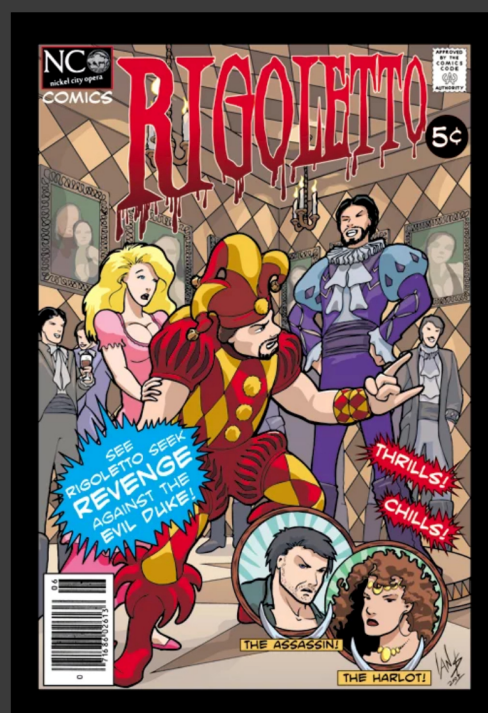
June 2022



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# Edition *Viva Voce*, June 2022

## 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.

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 go to our Website and sign up at <https://www.operaguildofrochester.org/subscribe-to-viva-voce>

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](https://www.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) and at our Website at <https://www.operaguildofrochester.org>

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.

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

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June 2,3	Opera Saratoga	<a href="#"><u>Rossini's Petite Messe</u></a>
June 2-4	Canadian Opera	<a href="#"><u>The Queen in Me</u></a>
June 4	Met Live in HD	<a href="#"><u>Dean's Hamlet</u></a>
June 12	Opera Saratoga	<a href="#"><u>Broadway</u></a>
June 13	Nickel City Opera	<a href="#"><u>Annual Gala</u></a>
June 25	Seagle Festival	<a href="#"><u>Opening Concert</u></a>
June 25, 26	Nickel City Opera	<a href="#"><u>Rigoletto</u></a>
June 29, 30	Opera Saratoga	<a href="#"><u>Sweeney Todd</u></a>

We do not publish in July. July events are featured on the next page.



July 9	Seagle Festival	<a href="#"><i>The Three Bears</i></a>
July 7-9	Seagle Festival	<a href="#"><i>Hello Dolly</i></a>
July 7-9	Opera Saratoga	<a href="#"><i>Sky on Swings</i></a>
July 8, 10	Opera Saratoga	<a href="#"><i>Barbiere de Siviglia</i></a>
July 17, 24	Finger Lakes Opera	<a href="#"><i>Young Artists</i></a>
July 20-23	Seagle Festival	<a href="#"><i>Suor Angelica, Gianni Schichi</i></a>
July 21, 23, 24	Geneva Light Opera	<a href="#"><i>Abduction from the Seraglio</i></a>
July 22-31	Bard Summerscape	<a href="#"><i>Die Schweigsamefrau</i></a>
July 26	Guild Glimmerglass trip	<a href="#"><i>Carmen</i></a>
July 26	Finger Lakes Opera	<a href="#"><i>Summer Scenes</i></a>
July 30	Finger Lakes Opera	<a href="#"><i>An Evening with Cree</i></a>



## News from your Opera Guild

### Our Glimmerglass Festival Trip Returns!

On Tuesday, **July 26<sup>th</sup>**, join us for a wonderful day of opera - **Bizet's *Carmen*** at the Alice Busch Opera Theater on the lovely grounds of the Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown, N.Y.

This trip includes transportation, breakfast snack, box lunch, private talk at Glimmerglass, premium tickets, dinner at the Brewster Inn, Cazenovia, and all gratuities. All you have to do is enjoy it!

Places are limited and you must register by **June 3rd**. For all details of price, schedule, menu, etc., and for a downloadable registration form, see [operaguil dofrochester.org](http://operaguil dofrochester.org), events or call Helga Strasser at 585-586-2274.



**You must be vaccinated to ride the bus. Covid precautions in effect at the Festival will be observed.**

## Editor's Corner

Our Annual Recital for Donors was wonderful: great singing, great program, delicious refreshments, good company, fine weather. It was so good to be having an in-person recital after two years. There was a good crowd, but we could have had more donors! If you are a donor, you're invited, so if your invitation has gone astray for any reason, just call to have your name put on the list. We may have some room right up to the day, so don't hesitate. If you are a comprimario donor, you are entitled to bring guests, but any guests are welcome if we have room. It's a fine way to give new people an idea of who we are and what we do. This year's recital was videotaped and will be available for viewing by past and current donors soon.

It was an end to a successful year, in which we were able to have lectures, Beat the Blahs, Bravo Nights and meet-ups at The Little - and supporting Finger Lakes Opera, among other organizations. Also coming up is the Glimmerglass trip, and many other summer treats. Happy summer music

Carol Crocca

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## Great Opera-tunities

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

FREE - Opera Guild Lectures. See February and March 2023 Viva Voce for lectures at Brighton Memorial 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.

\$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.

FREE - Friends of Eastman Opera Voice Competition. Look for next year in February 2023 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 2022 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 [operaguildofrochester@gmail.com](mailto:operaguildofrochester@gmail.com) and the appropriate person will contact you.

We are in need of an accountant to help once per year, in August/September with the Guild's tax return. Since tax season is upon us, when you see your preparer, it would be greatly appreciated if you ask if he or she knows of a willing person.

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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-\$199.

*Primo:* \$200-\$299.

*Maestro:* \$300-\$399.

*Impresario:* \$400 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.**

**NEW! A Note on Tax Receipts from the President:** Due to the help of a generous volunteer, we are now able to send a personal thank you to all contributors.

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!





# 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. Performances are 7-9 pm, and refreshments may be purchased there.

## Also at the Little Café :

### Coffee & Conversation after a Royal Opera House Screening

Meet-ups are informal gatherings following Royal Opera House productions at The Little Theatre. The Guild has reserved the Little Café for approximately 90 minutes after the show so that operagoers can meet for coffee and conversation afterwards. **The screenings begin at 12 pm.** (*Even if you don't go to the film, you're still welcome to join us!*).

We'll have light refreshments on hand for all.

**Watch here for next Bravo Night date announcement.**





# ROCHESTER INTERNATIONAL VOCAL COMPETITION

Presented by The Rochester Oratorio Society

Rising Stars | Distinguished Judges | An Event Like No Other

Join us as young artists perform thrilling renditions of the most moving classics of opera, art song, and oratorio.

[Click here](#) to view the event aired on May 14, 2022  
at 7:00 PM ET.





## 2022 Lotte Lenya Competition Finals

*Kurt Weill*

THE KURT WEILL FOUNDATION FOR MUSIC



[Here's the link](#) to the page on the Weill Foundation site that includes access to the video of the entire final round competition as well as a set of excellent videos of Lenya Competition alumni performing while the judges deliberated.



## 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.

**From Chatauqua Opera**, at [chq.org/opera-video-index](http://chq.org/opera-video-index), you will find a listing of all the features that were part of the 9-week summer video opera events, which are archived on the website's Virtual Front Porch platform. These include conversations with artists, vocal events, master classes, the Opera Song Cycle, new compositions, and more.

**San Francisco Opera** has a great education site for youngsters with materials that can be used in the home as well as by educators. [sfopera.com/discover-opera/education](http://sfopera.com/discover-opera/education)

**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.

# The Metropolitan Opera

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](https://www.metopera.org), click menu icon in upper left corner, click 'Season', click 'In cinemas', click 'Find theater.'

Brett Dean / Matthew Jocelyn

**Hamlet**

Sat, Jun 04, 2022 12:55 PM

When Australian composer Brett Dean's *Hamlet* had its world premiere at the Glyndebourne Festival in 2017, The Guardian declared, "New opera doesn't often get to sound this good ... Shakespeare offers a gauntlet to composers that shouldn't always be picked up, but Dean's Hamlet rises to the challenge." Now, this riveting contemporary masterpiece arrives at the Met, with Neil Armfield, who directed the work's premiere, bringing his acclaimed staging to New York. Many of the original cast members have followed, including tenor Allan Clayton in the title role. Nicholas Carter makes his Met debut conducting a remarkable ensemble, which also features soprano Brenda Rae as Ophelia, mezzo-soprano Dame Sarah Connolly as Gertrude, baritone Rod Gilfry as Claudius, and legendary bass Sir John Tomlinson as the ghost of Hamlet's father.



## *Hamlet*

Composer, Brett Dean  
Librettist, Matthew Jocelyn

By Carol Crocca

My impression in a nutshell after reading about half a dozen reviews: It will be innovative, it will be gripping, it will be extremely loud at times, but will have some quieter, lyrical moments. Worth seeing if you like modern opera, or have enough curiosity about the latest operatic attempt to capture the *Hamlet* drama.

It is not easy to write about an opera one hasn't seen, and I am always happy if one of the other writers has an enthusiasm for any particular new work. This is not often the case, but at least the *critics* have seen the opera. I have threaded together the following excerpts from their reviews, in the hope of conveying a balanced and helpful picture.

Vulture.com, May 16, Justin Davidson

From the first volcanic rumble oozing out of the walls in Brett Dean's opera *Hamlet*, we know we are at the bottom of a very deep crevasse: the protagonist's psyche. The score casts a strobing light on his interior world, a dark and rugged terrain full of underground bogs and jagged ridges. Percussion clatters and whispers from high ledges. Plumes of choral singing spring from unseen recesses. A contrabass clarinet growls in the pit. Mists of electronic sound drift through the house. And virtually ever present on the stage, stumbling through this projection of his haunted mind, is the Dane himself.

And the consensus is that the attempt to communicate said Dane's mental state succeeds, and the telling of the story is dramatic and coherent.

From Zachary Woolfe, nytimes.com, May 15, 2022

Now at the Metropolitan Opera, Dean and Jocelyn's "Hamlet" is brooding, moving and riveting. These two artists have put a softly steaming small choir in the orchestra pit, and musicians in balcony boxes for fractured fanfares. And, through acoustic means and groaning subwoofers alike, they have put the agonized characters nearly inside your bloodstream.





**From left, Sarah Connolly (Gertrude), Rod Gilfry (Claudius), Clayton, William Burden (Polonius) and Rae, with John Relyea on the ground. Credit...Sara Krulwich/The New York Times**

Comparing his experience at the Met with the 2017 premiere of the opera at Glyndebourne, the critic had this to say:

...{T}he union of Dean's score and Jocelyn's libretto — a spirited yet deadly serious mash-up of the play's different versions — now felt more convincing. The opera seems to have grown into itself. Without losing its patient, ritualistic grimness or its games with theatricality, it has stronger narrative propulsion. What seemed episodic in 2017 now comes across as a taut dramatic arc, the text sometimes stylized — characters tend to stammer repetitions of key lines — but the storytelling clear, lean and always supported by the agile music.

Rick Perdian, in [sundayclassicalreview.com](http://sundayclassicalreview.com), May 15, 2022, tells us something about the composer and librettist.

Born, raised and educated in Australia, Dean played violin in the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra from 1985 to 1999, until deciding to pursue a career as a freelance performer and composer. His music is championed by leading conductors and orchestras worldwide. Jocelyn, the former artistic and general director of Canadian Stage, the largest not-for-profit theatre in Canada, wears many hats, including those of director and librettist.

He continues,

In the Met's production, unveiled Friday night, Shakespeare is well served dramatically. Dean and Jocelyn have crafted a gripping story from the tragic tale, which is given life by an excellent cast. ...[W]hile the drama is streamlined, little essential is missing. The impressive feat is that all of these characters are vividly etched and that coherency is maintained throughout the opera.

Dean's score is a sonic experience. Electronics, as well as an exotic battery of unusual instruments include an accordion, sandpaper, a Japanese singing bowl played by swirling marble inside, and a tam-tam rubbed by a rubber ball with the pitch electronically lowered a few octaves. Dean describes the latter, as being "the creepiest sound imaginable."

However

The great lines of the play were practically inaudible at this performance in an opening scene that left one exhausted and overwhelmed.

As to Conductor Nicholas Carter and the orchestra

When it comes to color, precision and clarity, the Met orchestra is in its element and delivered here, as did both the on- and off-stage choruses.

And for those who don't expect to be totally enthralled

Clocking in at over three hours, with one intermission, the opera is as unwieldy as most productions of the play. Opera doesn't need to be an endurance test. By the end of the first act, which runs for 105 minutes, the audience was getting restive. Standing near an exit at intermission [sic], a small, but steady stream of people left, not to return.

Finally, a more nuanced appraisal of this immersion in Hamlet's psyche from David Salazar, operawire.com, May 14,2022:

Dean states that his hope is for his music to envelop the audience and toss you inside Hamlet's splintering mind; the chaos of the music certainly manages that but from an observational standpoint. We are made to NOTICE the sound effects or that an accordion player is dominating a scene, or that there are musicians in the audiences, but it doesn't necessarily feel like more than a musical trick.

It feels like this because what you end up missing is the character details and moments that truly elevate. Hamlet's anguish seems to oscillate between extremes of musical chaos (which again makes sense intellectually), but never anything in between, thus, zapping him of his complexity and keeping us at arms' length emotionally.

And I cannot help borrowing the following from the Opera Wire review, a general commentary on the modern style, which expresses my own opinion:

"Hamlet" shouldn't necessarily stick to formulas, mainly because its subject matter is so brilliantly unwieldy. But it's vocal writing feels rather typical of what you might identify with modern opera – an interminable stream of rhythmic recitatives that, without the interpreter's emotional investment, are unable to elicit much emotion on their own. This places the onus on the performances [sic], who are tasked with taking on music that is as hard to sing as it is to listen to; probably even more so. But even then, because of the cold and calculated manner of the writing, you're kept at a distance, unable to fully engage. There's no doubt that musicologists will be the ones to get the most out of what Dean is doing musically. That aside, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, two countertenors, get some of the cheekiest music that plays perfectly into their characters.

Some are obviously impressed and engaged by these modern excursions, but I personally find it impossible to be truly moved by them, which means that a major lure of the operatic art is missing. Dean himself said that the experience "is not necessarily a moving one."

Selections from the opera available on youtube.com, search "Brett Dean Hamlet."



## Summer Season



### ***The Queen In Me***

**Teiya Kasahara**



**June 2, 3, and 4, 2022**

Combining comedy, drama, and plenty of opera, this exuberant show by interdisciplinary artist Teiya Kasahara 笠原 野 (they/them) explores the many ways that race, gender, and sexuality are policed in the opera industry. Featuring music from *La Bohème*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Macbeth*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Manon Lescaut*, *Rigoletto*, *Salome*, and *The Magic Flute*.

***Performed at the  
Canadian Opera  
Company Theatre  
227 Front St. E.,  
Toronto, Ontario***



Connecting artists and audiences through a COC first: free digital streaming, from coast to coast to coast. Captured at the magnificent Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, enjoy new releases of purpose-produced concerts and performances every month with extraordinary Canadian and international artists.

**Join our Free Digital Membership program and be part of the Canadian Opera Company community.**

**[SIGN UP](#)**

From the home page menu at [coc.ca](http://coc.ca), choose “21-22 season.” Scroll down to “DIGITAL OFFERINGS” and click on “WATCH NOW.” There are 9 or more concerts and operas streaming to choose from.





## Summer Season



**June 19, 2:30 pm**

Learn more & get  
tickets [here](#).



**Known internationally** for her brilliant portrayals of Carmen and other opera heroines, Cynthia Clarey returns to the TCO stage! Cynthia Clarey brings her classical training and rich alto voice to **an eclectic array of soulful songs** made famous by **Billie Holiday, Michael Jackson, Cole Porter, Lionel Ritchie, Luther Vandross**, and more! Drawing on her personal experience of growing up in the South in the 1950s and her knowledge of the **joyful power of music**, her performance will inspire discussion about the disharmony prevalent in America today with **humor, hope, and heart**. In collaboration with virtuosic pianist Beckie Menzie, Ms. Clarey reminds us to **be proactive in making the world a better place**.



## Summer Season



### Nickel City Opera

#### Giuseppe Verdi's 'RIGOLETTO'

A Fully-Staged Opera  
Directed by Giorgio LaLov

*Saturday, June 25th 7pm*  
*Sunday June 26th, 4pm*

Nichols Flickinger Performing  
Arts Center  
1250 Amherst Street, Buffalo



### *Lucky 13th Annual Gala Dinner & Auction*

NCO's 13th Annual Dinner Gala featuring a silent auction, raffles, door prizes, plus fantastic singing and a delicious dinner.

**June 13th. 6:00pm**

The Saturn Club

977 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo







## Summer Season

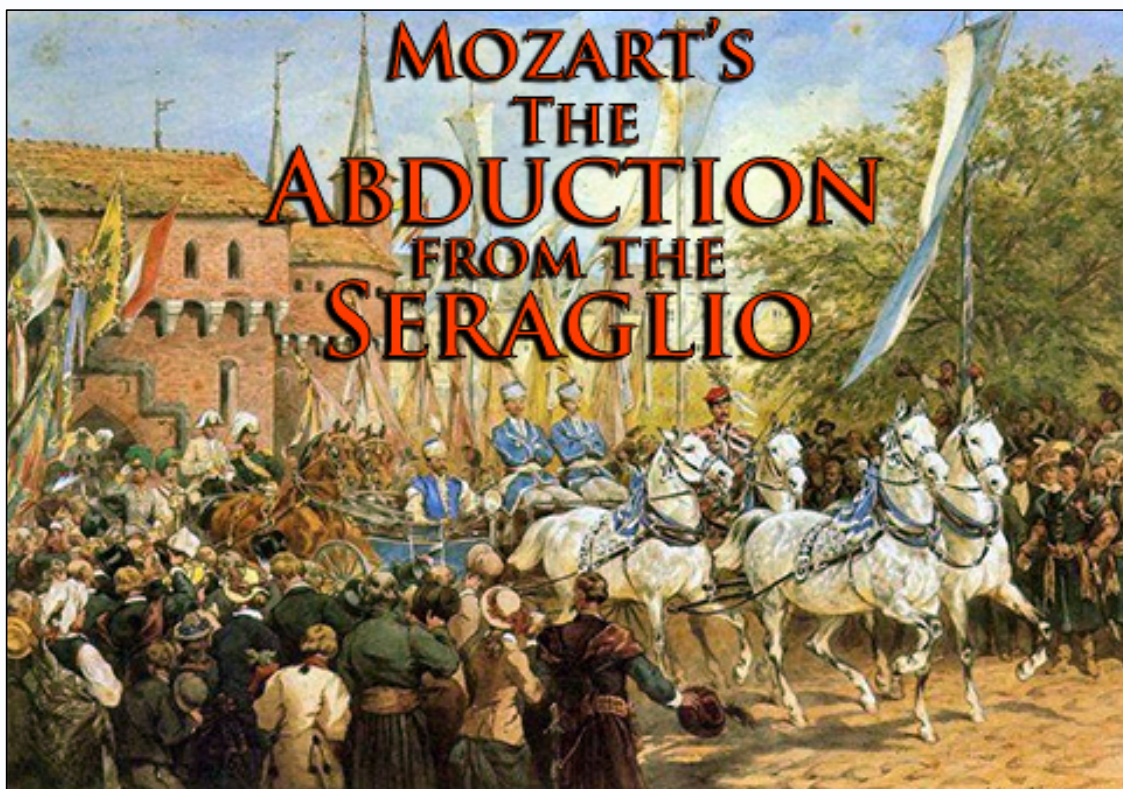


### Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*

to be sung in German with English dialogue

in live performances on  
**July 21, 23 and 24, 2022** at the  
Smith Opera House in Geneva, New York.

GENEVALIGHTOPERA



**Tickets \$35**

(Children Free when  
Accompanied by an Adult)

#### *Featuring*

Basso Valerian Ruminski  
Soprano Michelle Seipel  
Soprano Alexis Olynk  
Tenor Michael Anderson  
Tenor Andres Lasaga  
Baritone Brian Keith Johnson  
and other outstanding singers.





## Summer Season



### Bard SummerScape 2022:

Eight Weeks of Music, Opera, Dance, and  
Theater in New York's Hudson Valley

**June 23 – August 14**

Find out more about  
Bard SummerScape  
2022 [here](#).

### Richard Strauss' *Die Schweigsame Frau*

**July 22, 24, 27, 29, 31**

Considered Strauss's only true comic opera, this rarely performed work is by turns elegiac and incisively witty. The brilliantly written libretto by Stefan Zweig (loosely based on the Renaissance play by Ben Jonson) features a madcap cast of characters in a variety of guises. The imaginative and colorful production by Christian R  th (*Das Wunder der Heliane*, SummerScape 2019) featuring a stellar group of performers will be sung in German with English supertitles.

Composed by Richard Strauss  
Libretto by Stefan Zweig

American Symphony  
Orchestra  
Bard Festival Chorale

Conducted by Leon Botstein  
Directed and designed by  
Christian R  th



Find out more about Bard's *Die Schweigsame Frau* [here](#).



## Summer Season



FINGER LAKES OPERA

Gerard Floriano, Artistic Director

This program will feature Artistic Director and Founder Gerard Floriano leading the FLO orchestra, four internationally acclaimed main-stage stars, and this year's Tomita Young Artists in a multi-media event honoring FLO's past, present, and future.

Thank you to FLO's supporting sponsor, the Opera Guild of Rochester.

### Anniversary Concert

Sunday, August 7th, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

[{get directions}](#)



### Sundays Out Loud

These recitals will feature the 2022 Tomita Young Artists performing some of their favorite songs.

Sunday, July 17th, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. and

Sunday, July 24th, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Hatch Recital Hall - Eastman School of Music

[{get directions}](#)

**Young Artists singing new repertoire, so you won't want to miss either date!**

**SAVE 15% ON YOUR TOTAL ORDER  
BY PURCHASING TICKETS TO ALL SIX FLO EVENTS!**

Call [{585} 450-3880](tel:5854503880) or email [info@fingerlakesopera.org](mailto:info@fingerlakesopera.org) to learn more and place your order.





## Summer Season



### Summer Scenes

**Tuesday, July 26th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Lincoln Hill Farms** {[get directions](#)}

Don't miss your opportunity to see some of the opera world's emerging stars—under the stars. Set in the rustic elegance of Lincoln Hill Farms, the 2022 Tomita Young Artists perform scenes from beloved operas. Drinks and appetizers are included in the ticket price.



### An Evening with Cree

**Saturday, July 30th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Fort Hill Performance Arts Center,  
Canandaigua** {[get directions](#)}

Last seen on FLO's main-stage as Adele in the 2018 production of *Die Fledermaus*, sassy soprano Cree Carrico is joined by Music Director Aaron McAllister, featuring the legends of musical theater including Rodgers & Hammerstein, Bernstein, Sondheim, and more.

### Così fan tutte - An Operatic Pastiche

**Friday, August 5th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Vanden Brul Pavilion - Memorial Art  
Gallery** {[get directions](#)}

Finger Lakes Opera presents the 2022 Tomita Young Artists in a one-act version of *Così fan tutte*, a tribute to Mozart's beloved comedy.



**SAVE 15% ON YOUR TOTAL ORDER  
BY PURCHASING TICKETS TO ALL SIX FLO EVENTS!**

Call {585} 450-3880 or email [info@fingerlakesopera.org](mailto:info@fingerlakesopera.org) to learn more and place your order.





# Summer Season



## Pegasus Early Music

### *L'Orfeo*

by Claudio Monteverdi

August 26, 27, and 28, 2022

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 Noulon-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

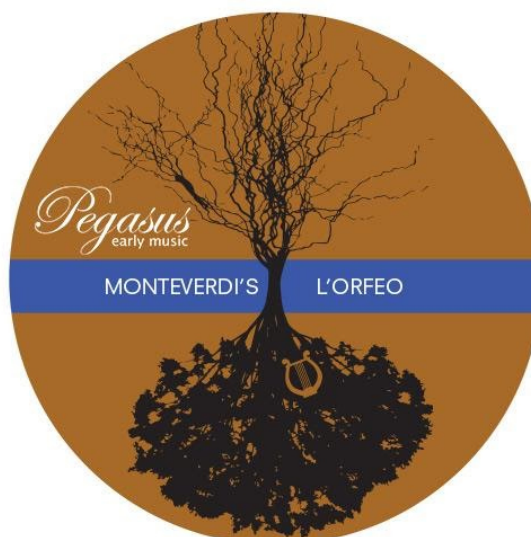
**Messenger & Speranza:** Debi Wong, mezzo-soprano

**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.



For more information go to <https://www.pegasusearlymusic.org/opera/>



# Summer Season



## OPERA SARATOGA'S 2022 SUMMER FESTIVAL

May 26th - July 10th, 2022

Performances across the region at  
SPAC, Proctors, The Egg, The Round Lake Auditorium,  
The Charles R. Wood Theater and more...!



### STARS OF TOMORROW

Thursday, May 26 @ 7pm

***Presented by Opera Saratoga in partnership with The Charles R. Wood Theater, Glens Falls***  
Start the season with our annual *Stars of Tomorrow* concert – featuring 22 singers from around the country who have been selected from over 1,000 applicants to be members of Opera Saratoga's prestigious Young Artist Program. One of the most popular concerts of the season, the program includes arias from over 20 different operas.

**Tickets: \$25 FREE WITH YOUR ALL ACCESS FESTIVAL PASS**

### PETITE MESSE SOLENNELLE

Thursday, June 2 @ 7:30pm  
Friday, June 3 @ 7:30pm

***Presented by Opera Saratoga in partnership with The Round Lake Auditorium, Round Lake Village***

Music by **Gioachino Rossini**

Rossini wrote important pieces of sacred music that are notable, among other things, for their overtly operatic style. "*Petite Messe Solennelle*" is neither petite nor particularly solemn. The music ranges from hushed intensity to boisterous high spirits, and the memorable tunes and rhythmic vitality for which Rossini became justly famous are abundant throughout the work.



**Tickets: \$75 Save 20% with a Festival Pass**

### A HUNDRED YEARS OF BROADWAY:

A BROADWAY CABARET  
Sunday, June 12 @ 2pm  
Sunday, June 12 @ 7pm

***Presented by Opera Saratoga in partnership with The Mansion of Saratoga, Rock City Falls***

*A Hundred Years of Broadway* features musical theater favorites from the 1920s to present day. Under the musical direction of Broadway conductor **Laura Bergquist**, the program will also include a tribute to Stephen Sondheim, who passed away at the age of 91 in December. The Mansion of Saratoga features cabaret style table seating, with a delicious menu of Broadway inspired bistro food and drink available for purchase from Cordon Bleu trained Executive Chef Rick Bieber.





# Summer Season



## SWEENEY TODD (1979)



**Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim**  
**Book by Hugh Wheeler**  
**From an adaptation by Christopher Bond**

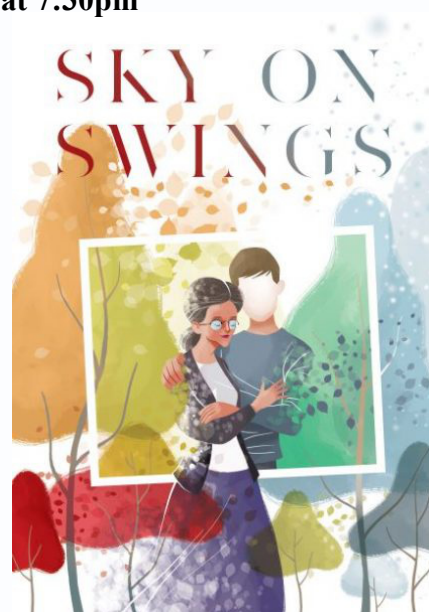
Three-time Tony nominee and Drama Desk Award Winner **Carolee Carmello** takes the stage as Mrs. Lovett in her Opera Saratoga and SPAC debut, alongside internationally acclaimed bass baritone **Craig Colclough** as Sweeney Todd. **Laura Bergquist**, who made her debut on the SPAC stage last summer leading Opera Saratoga's critically acclaimed production of *Man of La Mancha* will conduct the staged concert performances, directed and choreographed by **Kyle Lang**.

**Wednesday, June 29th, 2022 at 7:30pm**  
**Thursday, June 30th, 2022 at 7:30pm**

**Music by Lembit Beecher**  
**Libretto by Hannah Moscovitch**

*Sky on Swings* is a riveting musical and theatrical exploration of what it feels like to live with Alzheimer's Disease, as seen through the eyes of two women at different stages in the progression of dementia: Martha, who is far gone in the disease; and Danny, who knows what is happening to her and is in frantic denial. When Martha and Danny meet, they form an unexpected bond of love and support. Through their eyes - along with the experience of their children who struggle with how to best support their mothers - a deeply moving world of discovery is revealed in memories lost.

**Thursday, July 7th, 2022 at 7:30pm**  
**Saturday, July 9th, 2022 at 2:00pm**



**Music by Gioachino Rossini**  
**Libretto by Cesare Sterbini**  
*Sung in Italian with English Supertitles*

*The Barber of Seville* is the hilarious story of a love triangle involving Dr. Bartolo, Count Almaviva, and the charming Rosina. Figaro — the local barber who, in fact, does much more than cut hair — is the ultimate “wingman” for Count Almaviva, creating elaborate schemes, aliases, and disguises to help him fool Dr. Bartolo and get the girl. Rossini's madcap comedy is one of the most popular operas in the world and is guaranteed to send you out laughing and humming!

***This production is suitable for all audiences and is ideal for families!***

**Friday, July 8th, 2022 at 7:30pm**  
**Sunday, July 10th, 2022 at 2:00pm**



## Summer Season



### Old Friends & New 2022

**June 25 at 7:30 pm**

Seagle Festival's traditional opening concert will feature solos and ensembles from all the 2022 Seagle Festival emerging artists. Tickets also include a reception with the artists following the show.

### The Seagle Colony

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

### Hello, Dolly!

**July 6, 7, 9 at 7:30 pm: July 8 at 2:00 pm**

Music & Lyrics by Jerry Herman

Book by Michael Stewart

Based on the play "The Matchmaker" by Thornton Wilder

The well-loved Tony Award winning musical, follows the strong-willed matchmaker Dolly Levi as she wrangles the lives of half-millionaire Horace Vandergelder and others in turn-of-the-twentieth-century New York City.

### Suor Angelica & Gianni Schicchi

**July 20, 21, 23 at 7:30 pm; July 22 at 2:00 pm**

Music by Giacomo Puccini

Libretti by Giovacchino Forzano

Two of the *Il trittico* trio of one-act operas, these operas are full of gorgeous arias and ensembles. *Suor Angelica* is an uplifting tale of religious redemption, while *Gianni Schicchi* is an hilarious farce full of greed and conniving.

*sung in Italian with projected English supertitles*





# Summer Season



## More from the Seagle Colony

### Fellow Travelers

**August 3, 4, 6 at 7:30 pm;  
August 5 at 2:00 pm**

Music by Gregory Spears  
Libretto by Greg Pierce  
Based on the novel by Thomas Mallon  
Premiered in 2016, this opera focuses on the love affair of two men working in the US federal government during the 'lavender scare' witch hunt of the McCarthy-era 1950's. The beautiful music of the opera compliments the deeply personal stories of the characters along with the dark situation in which they find themselves.

### The Three Bears

Children's Opera with music and lyrics  
by Jonathan Stinson

**Saturday, July 9 at 10:00 and 11:30 am**  
– Boathouse Theater in Schroon Lake  
This charming children's opera based on the fairy tale will also [tour to regional schools](#) in September & October 2022

### Once Upon a Mattress

**August 17, 18, 20 at 7:30 pm;  
August 19 at 2:00 pm**

Music by Mary Rodgers  
Lyrics by Marshall Barer  
Book by Jay Thompson, Dean Fuller, and Marshall Barer  
Adapted from the fairy-tale "The Princess and the Pea"  
Princess Winifred arrives in the kingdom to win the heart of Prince Dauntless, hoping to outwit Queen Aggravain's plan that no one in the kingdom shall marry until the Prince does. Hilarious machinations ensue.

### Happily Ever After – the music of Stephen Sondheim

**Monday, September 5 at 7:30 pm**

– Oscar Seagle Memorial Theater

Also on Tour

**Sunday, September 4 at 4:00 pm**

– Keene Valley Community Church

**Friday, September 16 at 7:00 pm**

– Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts,  
Blue Mountain Lake

**Sunday, September 18 at 3:00 pm**

– VIEW Arts Center, Old Forge

**Saturday, October 1 at 7:00 pm**

– Hubbard Hall, Cambridge



## Summer Season



The 2022 Festival will feature productions of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, originally slated for the summer of 2020. Bizet's *Carmen* takes the stage in a new production directed by 2022 Artist in Residence Denyce Graves, followed by the new work *Tenor Overboard*, weaving some of Rossini's most spectacular music together in a new comic opera with a book by the famed playwright Ken Ludwig. The next installment of *Common Ground*, the Festival's multi-year initiative of new, commissioned works, is a double bill of Kamala Sankaram and Jerre Dye's *Taking Up Serpents*, paired with the world premiere one-act *Holy Ground*, by [Damien Geter](#) and [Lila Palmer](#); together with young artists' productions and other events. No calendar has been posted yet, and no tickets are available yet.

Artistic & General Director [Francesca Zambello](#) has announced the 2022 Festival will be her 12th and final season in her leadership role with the company.

Find more information on our website [here](#).







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