

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA

For tickets:

727-823-2040 OR STPETEOPERA.ORG



Does Father know best? Dying from tuberculosis, the courtesan Violetta Valery grasps at one last chance for love when she meets the country boy Alfredo. Their romantic idyll is interrupted by his status conscious father who persuades Violetta to sacrifice her love for his family's reputation. It's not going to end happily for Violetta, but she gets to sing some of the greatest arias ever written; Verdi pulled out all the dramatic stops for her and for Alfredo. It's one of the ten most popular operas of all time for very good reasons.

THE MAESTRO SERIES: "Preview to The Music Man: Trouble With a Capital T"

June 14, 6:00 pm, The Music Gallery, 5990 Ulmerton Rd. Clearwater

June 15, 11:00 am: Museum of Fine Arts, 255 Beach Dr. NE, St. Petersburg

June 17 3:00 pm: Peace Memorial Church, 110 S. Fort Harrison, Clearwater

June 21, 6:00 pm, Iberian Rooster, 475 Central Avenue North #100, St. Petersburg



June 29—July 8, 2018

Pinellas Opera League

P.O. Box 4855

Clearwater, FL 33758

www.pinellasoperaleague.com

hm4pol@gmail.com

*Dedicated to Promoting a Greater Interest
in Opera and Musical Theater*

President: Herma Moschner

Vice President: Jerrold Siskin

Treasurer: Ursula Wignall

Recording Secretary: Martha Fisler

Corresponding Secretary: Laurette Schmitt

CHECK YOUR OPERA IQ:

Thank you to Ronald Fekete for submitting the following:

Whom do I contact in the "Opera Yellow Pages" if I need the following services?

For the best gingerbread cookies?

For the Swan water taxi?

For the best Middle Eastern belly dancer?

For a demolition expert?

For the owner of the Rainbow Bridge Co.?

For three ladies underwater swimming lessons?

Answers to the May quiz: The composers are as follows: *Il Re Pastore* - Mozart, *Stiffelio* - Verdi, *Edgar* - Puccini, *Rienzi* - Wagner

If you have questions for the OPERA QUIZ that you would like to submit, please send them to Herma at hm4pol@gmail.com

Compiled by Herma Moschner
Layout and printing by Nancy Preis



The Aria

The Monthly Newsletter
of the
Pinellas Opera League
JUNE 2018

Luncheon Meeting: Wednesday, June 6

Dunedin Country Club, 1050 Palm Blvd.,
Dunedin, FL 34698

11:00 am: Social time

11:30 am: Business meeting

11:45 am: Music program

12:30 pm: Lunch is served

Menu: Salad and rolls, chicken crepes,
creamed spinach, double chocolate cake

The price of the luncheon is \$22 for members and \$25 for non-members, check preferred, made payable to Pinellas Opera League. Please have exact change if paying in cash.

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. Please RESERVE as early as possible but NO LATER than SUNDAY, June 3, CANCEL by NOON on MONDAY, June 4. Luncheons reserved but not cancelled by this date and time, will require payment. VEGETARIAN MEALS must be requested when reservations are made. The Country Club will not honor requests after the Monday cancellation deadline. PLEASE CALL in or EMAIL your reservations to [URSULA @ 727-796-7260](mailto:URSULA@727-796-7260) or rwignall@tampabay.rr.com

SHOULD YOU NEED A RIDE TO POL EVENTS, you may wish to avail yourself of these services:

Uber at www.uber.com (sign up on-line with a credit card; no tip necessary)

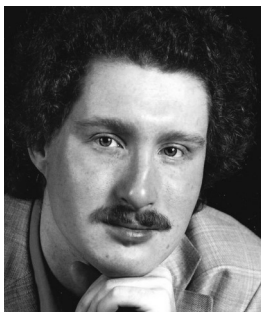
Also available but these require prior application:
Care Ride (Clearwater) 727.866.1193

Neighborly Care Network 727.888.0231

PROGRAM FOR JUNE



YES, JEAN CARLOS RODRIGUEZ and accompanist CONSTANTINE GRAME are back to perform for us at the last luncheon of the season! JC returns to sing for us as a “Thank you” for the \$500.00 scholarship POL awarded him to attend the VOICEexperience program in Chicago with Sherrill Milnes in March, an opportunity for which he is ever so grateful.



CONSTANTINE GRAME studied music with his father, Theodore Grame, and holds an Advanced Certificate in Piano from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music in London. He is Executive and Artistic Director of the New Century Opera and Music Director of the Gilbert and Sullivan Players (Clearwater). In recent years he has served as stage and musical

director for *Rienzi*, *Macbeth*, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, *Der fliegende Holländer*, *Don Giovanni*, *Il Trovatore*, *Iphigenie en Aulide*, *Carmen*, *Tristan und Isolde*, *La Clemenza di Tito*, *Mefistofele*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Orfeo ed Euridice*, all four operas of Wagner's *Ring Cycle*, *Hänsel und Gretel* and *Babes in Toyland*. His edition of the original Herbert/MacDonough text of *Babes in Toyland* has been recognized as the most authoritative version available today, and Mr. Grame is currently preparing the first printed orchestral score and parts from the original manuscripts. As music director he has directed such work as *Kiss Me, Kate!*, *The Sound of Music*, *The Music Man*, *Carousel*, *My Fair Lady*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and many other works. He has appeared as tenor soloist in such works as *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and *The Mikado*. He is an accompanist and voice coach and serves on the faculty of the Marcia P. Hoffman Institute for the Performing Arts (Ruth Eckerd Hall). He serves as organist at First Church of Christ, Scientist, St. Petersburg. His own opera, *The Spoiler*, premiered in Tarpon Springs in 2004 and was revived there in 2008, 2012, and 2016. In 2014, in recognition of his lifelong of dedication to the works for Richard Wagner, he attended the Bayreuth Wagner Festival as part of the Stipendiaten Programme, becoming one of very few Americans accorded this honour.

MEMBERSHIP: PLEASE NOTE that STEPHANIE KEATING has joined the POL Board as MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON. WELCOME STEPHANIE and THANK YOU!

Application/renewal forms may be downloaded from the POL website--www.pinellasoperaleague.com--and are also available at the luncheon. Send applications/renewals and dues check made payable to POL -- \$50 for couple/family, \$30 for individual -- to the address on the form or submit them to Stephanie at the luncheon. In order to ensure that you will receive all POL mailings and notifications, PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER AND/OR EMAIL ADDRESS.

POL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 4855, Clearwater, FL 33758. EMAIL ADDRESS: stkeating@aol.com
A cordial welcome to new member Susie Spatafora and to returning member Ron Regan.

Please note that the 2018 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY will also be distributed at the June luncheon. Members who have not picked up a copy by then, will receive it in the mail after the June luncheon.

NEEDED: Members with basic word-processing/computer skills to join the Board and attend its monthly meetings from September through June. Please contact Herma.

IN MEMORIAM: We mourn the passing of Harry Richard Davidson, devoted long-time member and president of the POL 2016-17 on April 13, 2018.

LIVE FROM THE MET IN HD:
THE 2018/19 SEASON IS SCHEDULED TO RESUME IN OCTOBER WITH THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTIONS: *Aida*, *Samson et Delila*, *La Fanciulla del West*, *Marnie*, *La Traviata*, *Adriana Lecouvreur*, *Carmen*, *La Fille du Régiment*, *Die Walküre*, *Dialogues des Carmélites*

VOICEEXPERIENCE: Save the Date: May 27 – June 3, Florida VOICE Project VENUE CHANGED TO DISNEYWORLD in Orlando. To be on VOICEexperience's e-blast list, send an email to production.voicexp@gmail.org or call 855.76.OPERA.

CHECK THE POL WEBSITE—
www.pinellasoperaleague.com--under “Local Opera” for other programs being offered at our area venues or contact them directly

RUTH ECKERD HALL: Tickets 727-791-7400 or www.rutheckerdhall.com
THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA:
Sun., May 20 at 7:30 PM: Beethoven Pastoral Symphony
Fri., June 8 at 7 PM: Broadway Smash Songbook

OPERA AT THE DALI: Emerging opera artists give FREE 20-minute performances on the spiral staircase at the museum on THURSDAYS at 6:00 pm. For information on who will be singing call 727-823-3767. The Dali Museum is located at 1 Dali Blvd. (Bayshore Dr.) SE and 5th Avenue SE, St. Petersburg, FL.

MATINEE OPERA PLAYERS: 727-204-4163 or www.MatineeOperaPlayers.org
Performing Arts Center, 4951 78th Ave. N, Pinellas Park
Sun., June 3 at 3 PM: “Another Taste of Opera”
One or two popular songs, one or two show tunes and arias from famous operas, as well as an opening number by the St. Petersburg Ballet Conservatory Mario Laurenti, Director, Rena Massey, Accompanist
Family friendly; pay-what-you-can; free snacks at intermission and free parking

OPERA TAMPA 2018-2019 SEASON PREVIEW:
The following productions are scheduled:
Die Fledermaus by J. Strauss – Nov. 30, Dec. 2
Lady Swanwhite by A. Coppola – Feb. 9
The Pearl Fishers by G. Bizet – Mar. 15, 17
La Boheme by G. Puccini – Apr. 26, 28

TARPON SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER:
Heritage Museum
100 Beekman/Liberty Lane, Tarpon Springs
727-937-0686 www.tarponarts.org
Sat., May 19 at 7:30 PM: \$16/\$14 for members
It Might As Well Be Spring: A Rodgers and Hammerstein Concert

**Best Wishes for a
Wonderful
Summer**