

## ST. PETERSBURG OPERA

For tickets:

727-823-2040 OR STPETEOPERA.ORG

**THE MAESTRO SERIES:** "Preview to *La traviata*: The original *Pretty Woman*"

May 17, 6:00 pm, The Music Gallery, 5990  
Ulmerton Rd. Clearwater

May 18, 11:00 am: Museum of Fine Arts, 255  
Beach Dr. NE, St. Petersburg

May 20 3:00 pm: Peace Memorial Church,  
110 S. Fort Harrison, Clearwater

**SYMPHONIC CHAT** for Tampa Bay Sympho-  
ny's Spring Concert Series  
Thursday April 26, 7:00 pm ,Opera Central  
2145 First Ave. S., St. Petersburg



### *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.

## Pinellas Opera League

P.O. Box 4855

Clearwater, FL 33758

[www.pinellasoperaleague.com](http://www.pinellasoperaleague.com)

[hm4pol@gmail.com](mailto: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:

Can you name the composers of these perhaps lesser well-known operas? *Il Re Pastore*, *Stiffelio*, *Edgar* and *Rienzi*.

Answers to the April quiz: *Carmen*, *Fidelio* and *Le Nozze di Figaro* are all set in Seville, but none of them are in Spanish. The lyrics are in French, German and Italian respectively,

Do you have opera quiz questions for the membership that you would like to submit? Please send them to Herma at [hm4pol@gmail.com](mailto:hm4pol@gmail.com).

Compiled by Herma Moschner  
Layout and printing by Nancy Preis



## The Aria

The Monthly Newsletter  
of the  
Pinellas Opera League  
MAY 2018

### Luncheon Meeting: Wednesday, May 2

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:** Chowder soup, rolls, salmon w/dill  
sauce, parslid potatoes, asparagus, apple  
pie

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 RE-  
QUIRED.** Please RESERVE as early as  
possible but NO LATER than SUNDAY, ,  
APRIL 29, CANCEL by NOON on MONDAY,  
APRIL 30. Luncheons reserved but not can-  
celled by this date and time, will require pay-  
ment. VEGETARIAN MEALS must be re-  
quested when reservations are made. The  
Country Club will not honor requests after the  
Monday cancellation deadline. **FOR MAY ON-  
LY PLEASE CALL in or EMAIL** your reserva-  
tions to **HERMA @ 727-437-7508 or**  
**[hm4pol@gmail.com](mailto:hm4pol@gmail.com)**

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

Uber at [www.uber.com](http://www.uber.com) (sign up on-line with a  
credit card; no tip necessary)  
Care Ride (Clearwater) 727.866.1193  
Neighborly Care Network 727.888.0231

## PROGRAM FOR MAY



ALEKSANDRA RITUMS, soprano, is one of the stalwarts of the St. Petersburg Opera Co chorus and has sung a number of comprimario roles. She was an SPO Opera Idol and has been an emerging artist for several seasons. She works during the day as a computer jock but she lives for music. In addition to her singing, she is also an accomplished pianist.



ROBERT AMER, baritone, has been one of SPO's favorite projects since he joined our chorus many seasons ago. His rich baritone continues to grow in power and color and he has become a valued emerging artist and a reliable chorister. He has sung a number of comprimario roles, including Paris in *Romeo et Juliette*.



DAVID ŠTECH (piano) is associate conductor of dell'Arte Opera Ensemble and artistic director of the New York Conducting Institute. His conducting career began as a conducting fellow with the American Symphony Orchestra League and the Chicago Civic Orchestra in 2002. He was immediately invited to Tanglewood where he was awarded the Leonard Bernstein Conducting Fellowship. He worked with Kurt Masur, Christoph von Dohnányi and Robert Spano. His Carnegie Hall debut was in 2013 conducting Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, and he made his Lincoln Center debut conducting Wagner's *Die Walküre* in 2014. He is an alumnus of the Pierre Monteux School. As a vocal coach, he has worked at the Opera Theater of Lucca (Italy), and the Academy of Performing Arts (Hong Kong) and the Manhattan School of Music, where he served on the faculty for eight years.

### CHECK THE POL WEBSITE—

[www.pinellasoperaleague.com](http://www.pinellasoperaleague.com)--under "Local Opera" for other programs being offered at our area venues or contact them directly

**MEMBERSHIP:** Application/renewal forms may be downloaded from the POL website--[www.pinellasoperaleague.com](http://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 Herma 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: [hm4pol@gmail.com](mailto:hm4pol@gmail.com)

A cordial welcome to new members Phyllis Shanke and George Cahill.

Please note that the 2018 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY will also be distributed at the May and June luncheons. 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.

### LIVE FROM THE MET IN HD:

at the Woodlands Theater in Oldsmar, the Regal Theater on Highway 19N in Pinellas Park, the AMC Sundial 20 in St. Petersburg, Eckerd College, and Citrus Park Mall. Admission for seniors: \$23; in Pinellas Park \$25.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18 at 6:30 PM: ENCORE: Verdi's *Luisa Miller*, Running time 3 h 28 min.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28 at 12:55 PM: Massenet's *Cendrillon*, Running time 2h 47 min.

ENCORE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 at 6:30 PM

### VOICEXPERIENCE:

Save the Date: May 27 – June 3, Florida VOICE Project at the Tarpon Heritage Museum, with Master Classes and an Opera Scenes Show at the Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center.

To be on VOICEexperience's e-blast list, send an email to [production.voicexp@gmail.com](mailto:production.voicexp@gmail.com) or call 855.76.OPERA.

**RUTH ECKERD HALL:** Tickets 727-791-7400 or [www.rutheckerdhall.com](http://www.rutheckerdhall.com)

### THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA:

Sun., April 22 at 7:30 PM: Verdi's *Requiem*

Sun., April 29 at 7:30 PM: Celebrate Broadway

Sun., May 6 at 7:30 PM: Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4

Sun., May 20 at 7:30 PM: Beethoven Pastoral Symphony

**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 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, St. Petersburg, FL.

**MATINEE OPERA PLAYERS:** 727-204-4163 or [www.MatineeOperaPlayers.org](http://www.MatineeOperaPlayers.org)

Performing Arts Center, 4951 78<sup>th</sup> Ave. N, Pinellas Park

Sun., April 22 at 3 PM: BROADWAY hits from *Cabaret*, *Les Mis*, *The Phantom*, and others.

Mario Laurenti, Director, Rena Massey, Accompanist

Pay-what-you-can; free snacks at intermission and free parking

### TAMPA BAY SYMPHONY:

The Spring Young Artist Series "A Tour of the Symphony"

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 at 2:30 PM, Straz Center, Ferguson Hall, Tampa

TUESDAY, MAY 1 at 8:00 PM, Palladium Theater, St. Petersburg

SUNDAY, MAY 6 at 2:30 PM, St. Petersburg College Arts Auditorium, Drew Street, Clearwater

### TARPON SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER:Heritage Museum

100 Beekman/Liberty Lane, Tarpon Springs

727-937-0686 [www.tarponarts.org](http://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