

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA

St. Petersburg OPERA COMPANY

2016-2017 SEASON
Mark Sforzini, Artistic Director

**IT'S NOT JUST WINTER
THAT SPARKLES**

**DEC. 18 & 19
2016**

**Seasonal
SPARKLE
2016**

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PALLADIUM THEATER, 253 FIFTH AVE. N., ST. PETERSBURG
FOR TICKETS: 727-823-2040 | STPETEOPERA.ORG

Every season sparkles with St. Petersburg Opera! Whether it's the Thanksgiving harvest, the magic of spring or the wonder of winter, season your holidays with St. Petersburg Opera's eclectic, elegant, and exciting journey. You'll feel "Younger than Springtime" as you "Try to Remember" that "It's a Wonderful World." Featuring baritone Todd Donovan, Samuel Hall, Susan Hellman Spatafora, and Opera Idol winner Christina Franco, and the St. Petersburg Opera Chorus and Children's Chorus with our 40 piece professional orchestra. The holidays wouldn't be complete without "A Musicological Journey through the 12 Days of Christmas" and Hanukkah music.

Call now for tickets: 727-823-2040
or www.Stpeteopera.org

Pinellas Opera League

P.O. Box 4855

Clearwater, FL 33758

www.pinellasoperaleague.com

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*Dedicated To Promoting a Greater Interest
In Opera and Musical Theater*

President: Richard Davidson

Vice President: Marcia Lork

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Corresponding Secretary: Laurette Schmitt

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.

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)
Care Ride (Clearwater) 727.866.1193
Neighborly Care Network 727.888.0231

CHECK YOUR OPERA IQ: Do you know your opera ABCs? Name operas whose one-word titles begin with these letters (I, J, L, M) and identify the composers.

Answers to the November quiz: Possible one-word opera titles and their composers:

D: *Dafne* (Peri), *Dafine* (Schuetz) E: *Elektra* (R. Strauss), *Ernani* (Verdi)

F: *Fidelio* (Beethoven), *Faust* (Gounod) G: *Götterdämmerung* (Wagner)

Do you have opera quiz questions for the membership 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
DECEMBER 2016

**Luncheon Meeting:
Wednesday, December 7**

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: Squash soup, rolls, steak, baked potato, broccoli and cauliflower, chocolate sundaes

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and **MUST** be made **AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE** but no later than **MONDAY, December 5** and cancellations by **Tuesday, December 6**. Contact Nancy @727-738-3447. Please note that this is a **NEW PHONE NUMBER** and be sure to call in your reservations **ON TIME**.

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

PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN OUR 50/50 AT THE DOOR and in the **SILENT AUCTION**. Donations to the auction of jewelry, art objects, videos, pictures, etc. would be very much appreciated. If your items do not sell, please be prepared to take them home with you that day since we do not have storage facilities available.

**MAY YOU CELEBRATE
THE HOLIDAYS IN GOOD HEALTH
AND GOOD CHEER!**

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER:



Students from the USF Vocal Arts program will reprise their November performance of Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Telephone*. Written in 1947, *The Telephone* is a comic one act

opera for soprano and

baritone which tells the story of Ben's many attempts to propose to Lucy but who is constantly interrupted by her attention to phone calls. He finally succeeds when he leaves and calls from a phone booth.

Jack Rain, a pianist who performs at many venues in the Bay area and is the diction coach at USF, will accompany the singers.

MEMBERSHIP: POL extends a very warm welcome to new members Geoffrey Burns and John and Nancy Scott.

A big "THANK YOU" to all members who have already renewed their POL membership for 2017 and an extra "THANK YOU" to those who also have contributed to our "Circles"! **RENEWALS AND DUES FOR 2017 ARE DUE IN DECEMBER!**

ANNUAL POL DUES: Individual \$25.00, couple \$40.00. Application/renewal forms may be downloaded from the POL website www.pinellasoperaleague.com--and will also be available at the luncheon. Please send your applications/renewals and dues to the address on the form or give 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

POL OPERA DVD SHOWING: As started in November and continuing through March, the DVD Opera showings will take place at the Safety Harbor Library at 1:30 pm on the third WEDNESDAY of each month as follows: December 21, January 18, February 15 and March 15. The change was necessary because the library would like to set aside the weekends for its own programs.

Our next showing will be Donizetti's comic opera *L'Elisir d'Amore* starring Anna Netrebko and Rolando Villazón on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21 at 1:30 pm in Room A and B at the SAFETY HARBOR LIBRARY (diagonally across from the Safety Harbor Spa) at 101 2nd Street N. Parking is available and admission is FREE. The show begins at 1:30 pm. Running time 136 minutes. For information call Richard Davidson at 727-242-6486.

LIVE FROM THE MET BROADCASTS IN HD at the Woodland Theater in Oldsmar, Citrus Mall in Tampa and in Pinellas Park. Admission for seniors: \$22 Pinellas Park is \$25

SATURDAY, DEC. 10 at 1 pm: Metropolitan Opera Premiere of Kaija Saariaho's *L'Amour de Loin* conducted by Susanna Mälkki and starring Susanna Phillips and Eric Owens. Running time: 2 hrs. 50 min. ENCORE: Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 pm.

MATINEE OPERA PLAYERS (Artistic Director Mario Laurenti):

Sunday, January 8 at 3 pm. "Happy New Opera Year" will include a few show tunes from American musicals, perhaps something from the Silver Screen, opera from well-known and sometimes not so well-known operas. Songs recorded by Elvis have also been heard at many shows. All performances are directed by Mario Laurenti and accompanied by pianist Rena Massey.

Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center, 4951 78th Ave., Pinellas Park 33781 There is plenty of free parking and the Center is wheelchair accessible. Snacks are available at intermission. Admission is Pay-What-You-Can. Contact: 727.204.4163 or www.TBOpera.net

CHECK THE POL WEBSITE—

www.pinellasoperaleague.com--under "Local Opera" for other programs being offered at our area venues or contact them directly as follows:

OPERA TAMPA: 813-229-7827 or www.operatampa.org

The Opera Tampa 2017 season will feature *Romeo and Juliet* on Jan. 22, *Cinderella* on Feb. 12 and *Tosca* on April 9. All performances are on Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm. The Opera Tampa package for POL is \$169 which includes level 2 seating for all three performances, service fees and round-trip transportation from/to the Clearwater Mall. Single performance tickets are also available for *Romeo and Juliet* and *Tosca* at \$60 each and for *Cinderella* at \$55 which include all the same benefits as the package tickets. Order forms will be available at our monthly luncheons and will be emailed to all members for whom POL has an email address on file. If you have further questions, please contact Wayne Green (Special Events Coordinator) at 727.470.9537.

Upcoming Events at the STRAZ CENTER:

Nov. 29 – Dec. 4: Musical: *Into the Woods*

Dec. 2 at 7:30 pm: Opera Tampa Singers
Holiday Concert

Dec. 8 at 7:00 pm: Holiday Music Concert

Dec. 17 & 18: Ballet: *The Nutcracker*

Dec. 20 – 25: Musical: *An American in Paris*

RUTH ECKERD HALL: Tickets 727-791-7400 or www.rutheckerdhall.com

Dec. 31 at 8:00 pm: *Salute to Vienna* Requests for reduced-price tickets are due before November 30!

POL has arranged group ticketing for this performance of enchanting Strauss waltzes and melodies from operettas. Tickets for mid-level seating are available to members for \$40. Please contact Wayne Green, Special Events Coordinator, at 727.470.9537 to submit your order ASAP.

TARPON SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER: 324 Pine Street (inside City Hall) 727.942.5605 and www.tarponarts.org

Dec. 4: Ballet: *The Nutcracker*

Dec. 16 at 7:30 pm: A Night Before Christmas: A Holiday Concert with Maria Zouves, accompanied by Constantine Grame, special guest narrator Sherrill Milnes

Dec. 18: Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*