

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA

For tickets:

727-823-2040 OR STPETEOPERA.ORG

THE MAESTRO SERIES: "Tenors and Villians and Maids, Oh My!"

Thursday, March 15, 6:00 pm: The Music Gallery, 5990 Ulmerton Rd., Clearwater

Friday, March 16, 11:00 am: Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg

Thursday, March 22, 6:00 pm: Iberian Rooster, 475 Central Ave, St. Petersburg

A fun program focusing on colorful character roles in opera. These are the smaller roles with lots of attitude! Featuring Melissa Misener, Melody Joy Rubin and a tenor TBD.

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA GUILD

ANNUAL COMPETITION FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

MARCH 17, 2018 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

OPERA CENTRAL

2145 First Ave. S.

St. Petersburg, FL 33712

Come and enjoy hearing the stars of tomorrow compete for prizes! Free admission

Adjudicators are Nancy Gustafson, Karl Hesser, and Jane Shaulis


Happy
St. Patrick's Day

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: Kathleen Mullerheim

Recording Secretary: Martha Fisler

Corresponding Secretary: Laurette Schmitt

CHECK YOUR OPERA IQ:

Which countries are the settings for these operas?

Madama Butterfly, Faust, Guillaume Tell, Der

Fliegende Holländer, Macbeth

Answers to the February quiz:

Babylon: Verdi's *Nabucco*; China: Puccini's *Tu-randot*;

Island of Ceylon: Bizet's *Les pêcheurs de perles*;

Cyprus: Verdi's *Otello*; Egypt: Verdi's *Aida*

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
MARCH 2018

Luncheon Meeting: Wednesday, March 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: Lemon soup and rolls, Swiss braised steak, mashed potatoes, green beans with almonds, strawberry short 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, MARCH 4, CANCEL by NOON on MONDAY, MARCH 5. Luncheons reserved but not cancelled by this date and time, will require payment. PLEASE CALL in or EMAIL your reservations to [URSULA @ 727-796-7260](mailto:URSULA@727-796-7260) or rwig-nall@tampabay.rr.com on time.

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

PROGRAM FOR MARCH:



JESSICA ANN BEST is a versatile artist, known for her dramatic interpretation and an easy, beautiful sound that crosses the operatic, musical theater, and concert stage. In June 2018, Ms. Best debuts Gordon Getty's *The Canterville Ghost* and *Usher House* with LA Opera. She has

recorded Louis Karchin's new opera *Jane Eyre* on the Naxos label and debuted Mark Hayes' *International Carol Suites*, a DCINY production at Carnegie Hall. Ms. Best is a returning artist, teacher, and director at the Savannah Voice Festival where she premiered the role of *Alice Ryley* by Michael Ching and is touring with *Velvet Caravan*, an award-winning, cross-discipline gypsy-jazz ensemble. Best has been a featured artist with The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, The Florida Orchestra, as well as The Rochester Oratorio Society and has performed with The Santa Fe Opera, Opera Tampa, The Center for Contemporary Opera, Gotham Chamber Opera, Nickel City Opera, and Finger Lakes Opera.

BRENT DOUGLAS, conductor, pianist, organist, and educator, was just appointed Conductor of the Düsseldorf (Germany) Lyric Opera and made his European debut in a production of *The Magic Flute* in November 2017. In March 2016, he was invited to perform in Havana, Cuba where he conducted the National Women's Chorus. Mr. Douglas is currently in his sixth season playing piano and celeste in the Florida Orchestra and has also played with Tampa Bay Symphony and Springfield Symphony. As an active operatic coach, he has served as rehearsal pianist for Opera Tampa, St. Petersburg Opera, and Springfield (Missouri) Opera. In addition to performing in chamber music concerts and giving piano and organ solo recitals, he teaches Chorus, Piano and Performing Arts Management at Eckerd College and maintains a private studio of piano students. He is also on staff at the Savannah Voice Festival as a pianist and vocal coach and as musical director has performed in over 30 productions. Mr. Douglas has also served as church choir director and organist for the past 20 years and appears as guest organist throughout the area.

MEMBERSHIP: 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 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

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS
Reinelda Baucic and Edeltraud Groepler.
A HEARTY THANK YOU to Diane Dubendorff for her contribution to the Verdi Circle.

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.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 at 12:30 PM: Puccini's *La Boheme*. Running time 2h 55min.

ENCORE: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28 at 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 10 at 12:55 PM: Rossini's *Semiramide*. Running time 4h.

ENCORE: WEDNESDAY, MAR. 14 at 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 31 at 12:55 PM: Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. Running time 3h 31min.

ENCORE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4 at 7:30 PM

THE FIRST NIGHTERS AT FRANCIS WILSON PLAYHOUSE will hold their **CHARITY GALA** for *CAROUSEL* on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 at 7 PM**. Show starts at 8 PM. Hors d'oeuvres, champagne and desert for \$30.00. For tickets please contact Patti Baldwin (727-738-9121) or Kay Slade.

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

THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA:

Sun., Feb. 25 at 7:30 PM: Dvorak's New World Symphony

Wed., Feb. 28 at 11 AM: Center Stage

Sun., March 4 at 7:30 PM: Hot Latin Nights

Wed., March 14 at 11 AM: Beethoven

Sun., March 25 at 7:30 PM: A Little Night Music

Sat., Feb. 24 at 8 PM: Swan Lake

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.

OPERA TAMPA 2018 :

SUNDAY, MARCH 4: Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*

TICKET HOLDERS WITH BUS TRANSPORTATION PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BUS DEPARTS FROM THE LOWE'S PARKING LOT IN CLEARWATER MALL AT 12:30 PM. PLEASE ARRIVE BY 12:15 PM.

TAMPA BAY SYMPHONY: The Winter Series "East Meets West" plus a world premiere of a double concerto for clarinet and bassoon, featuring Brian Moorhead, clarinet, and Mark Sforzini, bassoon. **TUESDAY, FEB. 20 at 8:00 PM**, Palladium Theater, St. Petersburg

SUNDAY, FEB. 25 at 2:30 PM, St. Petersburg College Arts Auditorium, Drew Street in Clearwater

SUNDAY, MARCH 11 at 2:30 PM, Straz Center, Ferguson Hall, Tampa

TARPON SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER:

324 Pine Street (inside City Hall) 727-942-5605;

www.tarponarts.org

NEW CENTURY OPERA, Constantine Grame, Artistic Director, presents

Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*

March 23, 25 and 28; Tickets \$25

CHECK THE POL WEBSITE—

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