

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA

OUR OPERA SEASON IS NOT OVER!

St. Petersburg OPERA COMPANY 2016-2017 SEASON
Mark Sforzini, Artistic Director

June 2, 4 & 6, 2017
Jacques Offenbach
THE TALES OF HOFFMANN
CO-SPONSORED BY Belinda Dumont Tampa Bay Times

June 30 - July 9, 2017
Stephen Sondheim
INTO THE WOODS
CO-SPONSORED BY Gloria Matyszyk & Dick Caldwell Tampa Bay Times
PALLADIUM THEATER, 253 FIFTH AVE. N., ST. PETERSBURG
FOR TICKETS: STPETEOPERA.ORG | 727-823-2040

We still have two great shows for you! Offenbach's only serious opera, *The Tales of Hoffman* is a rarely performed gem filled to the brim with great melodies! And *Into the Woods* has some of Stephen Sondheim's cleverest lyrics and includes every fairy tale you can remember.

Call 727-823-2040 or visit stpeteopera.org for tickets.

Keep the music alive all summer!

Pinellas Opera League

P.O. Box 4855

Clearwater, FL 33758

www.pinellasoperaleague.com

pinellasoperaleague@gmail.com

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

President: Richard Davidson

Vice President: Marcia Lork

Treasurer: Jennie Belsanti

Recording Secretary: OPEN

Corresponding Secretary: Laurette Schmitt

CHECK THE POL WEBSITE—

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

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:

Complete these pairs:

Tristan und -----; Roméo et -----; Orfeo ed -----;

Eduardo e-----; Pelléas et -----

Answer to the March quiz: *Don Giovanni*

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
MAY 2017

Luncheon Meeting: Wednesday, May 3

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 and rolls, salmon with dill sauce, parsleyed potatoes, asparagus, and cherry pie.

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and MUST be made AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE but no later than MONDAY, May 1 and cancellations by NOON on Tuesday, May 2. Contact Nancy @727-738-3447. Please 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 NOTE THAT THE COST OF THE LUNCHEON FOR ANYONE WHO HAS NOT RENEWED THE MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017 WILL BE \$25.00.

SILENT JEWELRY AUCTION: Please bring and give your jewelry donations to Dorothy Naegele, Ways & Means Chairperson, at the May luncheon. The auction will be held at the JUNE luncheon. Contact Dorothy at 727.733.6894 if you have any questions.

PROGRAM FOR MAY:



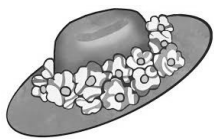
POL favorites Samuel Hall and Christina Franco will join Maestro Mark Sforzini to give you a taste of the upcoming production of *The Tales of Hoffman*. A native of Columbus, OH, Sam Hall is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy in

Michigan, and studied at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY. In 2015 Sam had his Opera Columbus mainstage debut as Don Curzio in *The Marriage of Figaro*. Sam was an Emerging Artist with St. Petersburg Opera, covering the roles of Manrico in *Il trovatore*, Calaf in *Turandot* and Don José in *Carmen*. He will be covering Hoffman and next fall, he will be a principal in *Faust*. In 2016, he was as an Apprentice Artist with Sarasota Opera, then appeared as Benvolio in Opera Grand Rapids' production of Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* in April. Other opera credits have included Gherardo (*Gianni Schicchi*), King Kaspar (*Amahl and the Night Visitors*), and Nelson Dearly (*Too Many Sopranos*), as well as covering the role of Canio (*Pagliacci*), all with Opera Project Columbus. In addition to his operatic roles he performed excerpts from *Madama Butterfly* with the Tampa Bay Symphony.



A native of New York, and a graduate of Hofstra University, Christina Franco now lives in St. Petersburg and studies with Stella Zambalis. In 2015, she appeared in *Master Class*, a joint production of St. Petersburg Opera and A Simple Theatre. Since then, she

has sung in the chorus for SPO for *Seasonal Sparkle*, *Abduction from the Seraglio*, *La Bohème*, *Il trovatore*, *The Elixir of Love*, and will cover a role in *The Tales of Hoffman*. Christina won the Opera Idol title in November, 2015 in both St. Petersburg and Sun City Center. She is also the mother of a two year old son.



SPRING HAT PARADE AT THE MAY LUNCHEON: Please join the "parade" and celebrate spring by wearing that special creation at the May

luncheon. Prizes will be awarded for most beautiful, most creative and funniest.

POL OPERA DVD SHOWING: Final showing for the season on Wednesday, May 31 (the 5th Wednesday): The Metropolitan Opera production of Verdi's *UN BALLO IN MASCHERA* starring Katia Ricciarelli 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. Running time: 147 minutes. For information call Richard Davidson at 727-242-6486.

LIVE FROM THE MET BROADCASTS IN HD: Showings have resumed at the WOODLANDS THEATER in OLDSMAR where seats may be reserved in person at the theater or on line www.woodlandsamc20theater.com any day or time before the showing. Showings also at the Regal Theater on Highway 19 N in Pinellas Park, at AMC Sundial 20 at 151 2nd Ave. N, St. Petersburg, Ruth Eckerd College, and at the Citrus Mall in Tampa. Admission for seniors: \$23; in Pinellas Park \$25

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 at 12:55 pm *EUGENE ONEGIN* by Tchaikovsky starring Anna Netrebko with Robin Ticciati conducting. Running time: 3 h 55min.

ENCORE: Wednesday, April 26 at 6:30 pm. SATURDAY, MAY 13 at 12:30 pm *DER ROSENKAVALIER* by Richard Strauss starring Renée Fleming.

Running time 4 h 12min.

ENCORE: Wednesday, May 17 at 6:30 pm.

MEMBERSHIP: URGENTLY NEEDED: RECORDING SECRETARY. If interested, please contact Richard Davidson at 727-242-6486.

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 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 Rebecca Baker and Bob Burton!

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

The Florida Orchestra

Sun., April 23 at 7:30 pm: Singin' and Swingin'

Sun., May 14 at 7:30 pm: The American Songbook

Sun., May 21 at 7:30 pm: Beethoven Emperor Concerto

TARPON SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER:

324 Pine Street (inside City Hall) 727.942.5605

and www.tarponarts.org

Sun., April 30 at 2 pm: Joe Schwartz – Classical Piano Concert

TAMPA BAY SYMPHONY: 727.827.8087 or

www.TampaBaySymphony.org

Mark Sforzini, Music Director, Tickets \$20 at the door

"Dazzling Inspirations" featuring Jeffrey Multer, violin

Symphonic Chat: Thurs., April 27 at 7:00 pm at Opera Central

Concert: Sun., April 30 at 4:00 pm – SPC Arts Auditorium, Drew Street, Clearwater

SUNSHINE CITY OPERA:

www.sunshinecityopera.org

Thursday, May 25 and Friday May 26 at 7 pm at The Studio @ 620, 620 1st Ave. S, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Tickets: www.thestudioat620.org/ticket-sales

"Vivaldi's Griselda and other Baroque tales of broken hearts," a semi-staged operatic production in partnership with The Studio @ 620 showcasing excerpts from Vivaldi's *Griselda* alongside Handel's *La Lucrezia* and *Parti l'idolo mio*. This program features rarely-performed Baroque opera and cantatas presented by early music specialists from around the country (Boston, New York, and Atlanta). Works for soprano (Ashley Roper) and mezzo (Thea Lobo) will be performed alongside a late 17th century style harpsichord (Dylan Sauerwald) with cello continuo (Shirley Hunt).

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.