

ST. PETERSBURG OPERA

Thursday, March 16, 2017, 6:00 pm
EVENINGS WITH THE MAESTRO
Friday, March 17, 2017; 11:00 am
MORNINGS WITH THE MAESTRO

“MISSION IMPOSSIBLE”

Some opera plots are improbable, if not downright impossible. Join Maestro Sforzini and SPO singers as we explore outrageous and entertaining scenarios. Special Guest: renowned soprano Stella Zambalis!

The program combines entertainment and education with short performances, are humorous, often involve audience participation, and always feature SPO singers. The Evenings series returns to Clearwater's Music Gallery (5990 Ulmerton Rd.) Mornings is at the Museum of Fine Arts (255 Beach Dr. NE, St. Petersburg. All Evenings begin at 6:00 p.m., Mornings at 11:00 a.m. and last 90 minutes. Following the performance, audience members are invited to join the cast at a local restaurant for refreshments and the chance to mingle.

Tickets are \$20 for general admission (\$17 for seniors and students) and available online at www.stpeteopera.org or by telephone at 727-823-2040.

Saturday March 25, 2017 10:00 am:
ST. PETERSBURG OPERA GUILD
COLLEGE AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS VOCAL COMPETITION

Competition open to residents of Florida. Deadline for application is March 10. For further information, contact ursulaegggers@yahoo.com. Audience invited to attend competition - free. Opera Central, 2145 First Ave. S., St. Petersburg 33712

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

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: What is the opposite of “opera seria”?

Answers to the February quiz: Some one-word opera titles and their composers:
S: *Salome* (R. Strauss), *Siegfried* (Wagner); T: *Tannhäuser* (Wagner), *Tosca*, *Turandot* (Puccini); *Thais* (Massenet); W: *Werther* (Massenet), *Wozzeck* (Berg)

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 2017

Luncheon Meeting: Wednesday, March 1

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, corned beef and cabbage with potatoes, escalloped apples, and mint parfait

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and MUST be made AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE but no later than MONDAY, February 27 and cancellations by NOON on Tuesday, February 28. 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 NOTE THAT THE COST OF THE LUNCHEON FOR ANYONE WHO HAS NOT RENEWED THE MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017 WILL BE \$25.00.

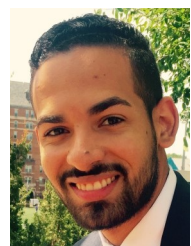
NO SILENT AUCTION: The POL Board has decided to suspend the silent auction until further notice.

PROGRAM FOR MARCH:



Originally from Queens, NY, soprano EILEEN VANESSA RODRIGUEZ, holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from the University of South Florida. She has been an Opera Tampa singer since 2012 where she performs in promotional events, galas and outreach concerts. She has

sung Despina in *Così fan tutte* for Opera Tampa and Florida Opera Theater. She has sung several roles with Spanish Lyric Theater and has worked with South Florida Lyric Opera, Winter Opera of St. Louis, Hubbard Hall Opera, and St. Petersburg Opera Co.



JEAN CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, baritone began his musical career at Western Connecticut State University, where he performed "Escamillo" and "Morales" in *Carmen*, "Javert" in *Les Misérables*, "Henry" in *Street Scene*, "The Speaker" in *The Magic Flute* and "Marquis de la Force"

in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. He made his debut with Opera Tampa in 2017 as "Count Paris" in Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet*.

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

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS Martha Fislér, Joseph Morgan, Denise Hofer Orsatti, Lisl Schick and Jerry Siskin!

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 The POL By-Laws revisions were approved by a majority of the members present at the February luncheon.

POL OPERA DVD SHOWING:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 the Metropolitan Opera production of *ARMIDA* starring Renée Fleming and Lawrence Brownlee 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. For information call Richard Davidson at 727-242-6486.

LIVE FROM THE MET BROADCASTS IN HD:

PLEASE NOTE that due to construction in the theater, there will NO SHOWINGS AT THE WOODLANDS THEATER in Oldsmar THROUGH APRIL. Showings will take place at the Regal Theater on Highway 19 N in Pinellas Park and at the Citrus Mall in Tampa. Admission for seniors: \$22; in Pinellas Park \$25

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH at 12:55 pm.

RUSALKA by Antonín Dvořák starring Kristine Opolais ; Running time: 3 h 40 min.

ENCORE: Wednesday, March 1 at 6:30 pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 at 12:55 pm *LA TRAVIATA* by Verdi starring Sonya Yoncheva

Running time: 2 h 33 min. ENCORE: Wednesday, March 15 at 6:30 pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 at 12:55 pm *IDOMENE*

NEO by Mozart starring Elza van den Heever Running time: 3 h 55 min. ENCORE: Wednesday, March 29 at 6:30 pm

MATINEE OPERA PLAYERS: 727.204.4163 or www.MatineeOperaPlayers.org

Mario Laurenti, Director, Admission: Pay-What-You-Can

Sunday, February 26 at 3 pm. "Springing into Opera" This family-friendly production with pianist Rena Massey will include arias by Tchaikovsky and Handel, show tunes from musicals such as *Camelot* and *South Pacific* as well as some older American Country tunes favored by the Maestro. At the Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center, 4951 78th Ave., Pinellas Park 33781. There is plenty of free parking and the Center is wheelchair accessible. Free snacks are available at intermission.

THE FIRST NIGHTERS OF THE FRANCIS WILSON PLAYHOUSE will be hosting "Hello Dolly" on WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 at 7:00 pm. \$30.00 tickets available with Kay Slade, JoAnn Combati, Ann Shortway and Patti Baldwin (727.738.9121).

OPERA TAMPA: 813.229.7827

or operatampa.org

March 21, 23, 27, 30 Open Rehearsals for *Tosca*
Sat., March 25 Gala and Centennial Celebration featuring Maestro Anton Coppola
Gala at 5:30 pm Tickets: 813.222.1275
Concert at 7 pm Tickets only: 813.229.7827

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

Wed., Feb. 22 at 11 am: The Florida Orchestra
Feb. 26, March 5, 9, 26 at 7:30 pm: The Florida Orchestra
March 2 at 7:30 pm: "Sleeping Beauty"
Sun., March 12 at 7 pm: Irish Tenors
Fri., March 24 at 8 pm: Ten Tenors

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

Thur., Feb. 16 at 7:30 pm, \$18.00: SHERRILL MILNES: Anthology of an Opera Star. Come and enjoy Mr. Milnes' clips from his operatic performances as well as amusing stories about his life and stellar career.

NEW CENTURY OPERA: Executive & Artistic Director Constantine Grame
Rienzi, *The Last of the Tribunes* by Richard Wagner
Fri., March 24 at 7 pm, Sun., March 26 at 2 pm and Wed., March 29 at 7 pm www.newcenturyopera.org

TAMPA BAY SYMPHONY: 727.827.8087 or www.TampaBaySymphony.org
Mark Sforzini, Music Director, Tickets \$20 at the door
"Spring Awakens" Featuring Young Artist Competition Winner Chance Israel
February 19 at 4 pm at Ferguson Hall, Straz Center

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

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.