# THE BOB COLE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AT

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH AND THE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS PROUDLY PRESENT:



THE OPERA INSTITUTE

# OPERA MASTERPIECES

STAGE DIRECTOR: STEPHANIE VLAHOS MUSICAL DIRECTION: DAVID ANGLIN

PIANISTS: DAVID ANGLIN, CHRISTOPHER LUTHI, LUKAS SWIDZINSKI, MARK URANKER, ALTHEA WAITES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2011 // 8:00PM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2011 // 4:00PM

GERALD R. DANIEL RECITAL HALL

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC MOBILE DEVICES.

# WELCOME...

Thank you for coming to the first of various exciting Opera Institute events this season. We are pleased to feature in today's program a variety of repertoire—both solo and ensemble—with an emphasis on twentieth-century composers. Next week's orchestra concert will feature a concert performance of the second act of Puccini's *La Bohème* and in the spring we will present Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*. The repertoire is varied and challenging and we hope you agree the students are up to all of it.

Thank you for your support. We hope to see you again and again.

David Anglin *Opera Institute*The Bob Cole Conservatory of Music

# COME TO THE CABARET...

Exploring arias and operatic ensembles through the darker underpinnings of the cabaret is an opportunity for young singers to explore characterizations without the restrictive filter of operatic traditions. It is a wonderful exercise in creativity, musicality, subtext, and motivation. Much like the cabaret, Adams playfully couched many styles of 20th century popular music in 20th century classical form to create a masterpiece that truly inaugurated a viable platform for new music in the opera world, one that should be embraced and eagerly explored by young singers as it, along with a litany of new operas are part of the changing complexion of the opera world.

Stephanie Vlahos

### DON'T MISS OUR SPRING PRODUCTIONS:

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Le nozze di Figaro

April 20, 21 & 22, 2012 University Theatre @ CSULB

Celebrating Music Rachmaninoff—The Bells, op. 35 Walton—Belshazzar's Feast

May 5, 2012 Carpenter Performing Arts Center



Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny (1930)

Text: Bertold Brecht (1898-1956)

Auf nach Mahagonny

Landon Shaw, Simon Barrad, Anthony Moreno, Michael Valentekovic

### Jules Massenet (1842-1912)

Manon (1884)

Text: Henri Meilhac and Philippe Gille

Adieu notre petite table

Sashell Beck

# RICHARD STRAUSS (1864-1949)

Ariadne auf Naxos (1916)

**Text: Hugo von Hofmannsthal** Die Dame gibt mit trübem Sinn

Zerbinetta & her admirers: Nicola Said, Daniel Favela, Landon Shaw, Lyle Mitchell, Simon Barrad

### Andre Previn (b. 1929)

A Streetcar Named Desire (1997)

**Text: Philip Littell after Tennessee Williams** 

I want Magic Amy Joy Stephens

### GIOACCHINO ROSSINI (1792-1868)

**Text: Émilien Deschamps** 

*Un sou (complaint for two voices)* Landon Shaw, Anthony Moreno

# Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

**Text: Guillaume Apollinaire** 

Maayan Voss de Bettancourt

# BENJAMIN BRITTEN (1913-1976)

Peter Grimes (1945)

From the Gutter

Amalia Francalangia, Christina Liem, Maayan Voss De Bettancourt, Ilana Summers

# FREDERICO MORENO TORROBA (1891-1982)

La Marchenera (1928)

Text: G. del Toro

La Petenera

Lindsey Gonzalez

# ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD (1897-1957)

Das Wunder der Heliane (1924-27)

Text: Hans Müller-Einigen

Ich ging zu ihm

Alyssa Wills

### ERIK SATIE (1866-1925)

Text: Dominique Bonnard and Numa Blès

La diva de l'empire

Rachel Smiley

### RICHARD STRAUSS (1864-1949)

Der Rosenkavalier (1911)

**Text: Hugo von Hofmannsthal** 

Hab' mir's gelobt, ihn lieb zu haben

Marschallin: Becky Hasquet

Sophie: Sashell Beck Oktavian: Jessie Shulman

### ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD (1897-1957)

Die Tote Stadt (1920)

Text: Erich and Julius Korngold, after the novel by Georges Rodenbach

Mein Sehnen

Stephen Salts

Moon of Alabama Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny (1930)

**Text: Bertold Brecht** Heidi Harger, Rebecca Hasquet

# **ACT TWO**

JOHN ADAMS (B. 1947)

Nixon in China (1987)
Soldiers of Heaven ... The people are the heroes now
Ensemble

*I am the Wife of Mao Tse-tung* Madame Mao: Nicola Said

*This is Prophetic!* Pat Nixon: Beth Wightwick

*News has a kind of mystery* Nixon: Simon Barrad

Ladies and Gentlemen, comrades and friends

Chou En-lai: Stephen Salts

# BIOGRAPHIES

David Ives Anglin joined the faculty of The Bob Cole Conservatory of Music in 2005 as Associate Director of Opera and Vocal Studies. As a member of the Keyboard faculty at the University of California, Santa Barbara he and his colleagues introduced and developed a new Keyboard Collaborative Arts degree program. He was an adjunct member of the Vocal Arts Faculty at the USC Thornton School of Music from 2001 to 2007 prior to which he spent four years in Australia as Coordinator of the Opera Program at the Sydney Conservatorium, where he and his colleagues initiated the 'Encounters Program' a mentoring and professional training program with artists from Opera Australia. While in Australia, he conducted Benjamin Britten's Beggars Opera and the Australian premiere of Mozart's La finta semplice that was broadcast as part of the ABC 'Young Australia' series. With Pacific Opera, Sydney, he prepared and produced scenes programs for young artists and productions of *Carmen* and *The Magic Flute*. In Los Angeles, he has produced and conducted Haydn's *L'infeltà delusa*, Mozart's Zaïde, and Rossini's La scala di seta, the latter two performed at the Ford Theatre as part of the LA County Performing Arts Council 'Summer Nights' festival. He conducted the Cole Conservatory Opera Institute productions of Bernstein's Candide in 2007, Monteverdi's L'Orfeo in 2008 and Offenbach's Le contes d'Hoffmann in 2010. David has worked for Santa Fe Opera and Los Angeles Opera as a translator and coach and for San Francisco Opera as coach and assistant conductor in the Merola Program. He has prepared and accompanied young singers in Master Classes with Dolora Zajick, Frederica von Stade, Warren Jones and Larissa Gergieva among others. Recent concert engagements include recitals of Russian and Operatic repertoire with Vladimir Chernov and Mlada Khudoley. David received undergraduate degrees in Music History and piano from the Marseille Conservatoire and The San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He holds an MFA degree in Performance Practice from UCLA and a DMA in Keyboard Collaborative Arts from the USC Thornton School of Music.

**Stephanie Vlahos** A graduate of Yale University and the Juilliard School, Stephanie comes to the directing profession with the experience of a former career as a professional singer. As a singer, Stephanie has worked in solo performance in diverging musical arenas with such luminaries as Pierre Boulez, Andre Previn, Van Dyke Parks, John Adams, and Ry Cooder, Sir Peter Hall, and Gordon Davidson. Her voice has been featured in film and commercials. A recipient of the Chanel Diva Award, Stephanie is best known in Los Angeles for her work as an opera singer with L.A. Opera in roles such as Nicklausse in *Tales of Hoffmann* and Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She has sung internationally in a number of critically-acclaimed performances of operas and

concerts. In addition to her classical engagements, Stephanie established herself as a recognized performance artist earning the monicker of "The Moonlighting Diva" by the Associated Press for her direction of and performances in cabaret-influenced showcases devoted to the music of European cabaret and music hall. Her cabarets have been performed in the States and in Europe. In 2002, she starred in a film by acclaimed Greek film director, Nicholas Triandafyllidis, entitled, *Mavro Gala*. As a stage director, recent projects include: *Tristan und Isolde* at the Broad Theater, Cendrillon with the Cole Conservatory Opera Institute at Cal State Long Beach, The Magic Flute at the Luckman Theater. Alan Rich of the *LA Weekly* wrote of her production of *Street Scene* "a lively, beautifully staged, stark and vigorous facsimile of both drama and music." Stephanie is currently Artistic Director for OPERA POSSE, directing a critically-acclaimed production of *Amahl and the Night Visitors* with Suzanna Guzman at the Pasadena Playhouse which just received a StageScene LA Award for Best Opera 2010. A passionate advocate of outreach, Stephanie established the Full Circle Opera Project at the LA County High School for the Arts; a unique experience in opera for teens, hailed by the L.A. Board of Supervisors as groundbreaking. It is a proud recipient of a grant from the Thornton Foundation. Stephanie is currently theater coach and stage director for the Domingo-Thornton Young Artist's Program at LA Opera as well as Director-In-Residence at the Cole Conservatory Opera Institute at Cal State Long Beach. In 2007, Stephanie was among 30 other artists, nationwide, to be nominated for the prestigious United States Artists Grant in directing. Stephanie was recently honored with the request to sit on the USC Thornton School of Music Board of Councilors. Upcoming productions include *Amahl and the Night Visitors* at the Pasadena Playhouse in Decmber 2011, *Old Wicked Songs* at the Colony Theater in February of 2012, and A Streetcar Named Desire for OPERA POSSE. For more info visit www.stephanievlahos.com or www. operaposse.com.

Christopher Luthi received his Master's Degree in Music at the University of Southern California in 1999, majoring in Keyboard Collaborative Arts. He has been a top prizewinner in such competitions as the Young Keyboard Artists International Competition, and the Matthay Association National Piano Competition. In his last year at USC, Christopher held a Teacher's Assistantship position, accompanying and coaching singers, instrumentalists, and two choruses. In 1999, he was inducted into the Music Honor Society Pi Kappa Lamda, and he received the Keyboard Collaborative Arts Departmental Award. During the summer of 1999, Mr. Luthi was one of six vocal pianists to participate in a fellowship at Tanglewood Music Center, in Massachusetts, studying with such coaches as Emmanuel Ax, Phyllis Curtin, Warren Jones, and Dawn Upshaw (to name a few). In 2000, a recording of Mr. Luthi's live performance of Beethoven's *Eroica Variations* was aired on 91.5 KUSC's *Thornton Center Stage*.

Mr. Luthi is the full-time Staff Piano Accompanist for the music department at California State University of Long Beach. He also currently works in Los Angeles as a freelance accompanist, coach, and conductor. In January 2001, Mr. Luthi was hired as Musical Director for Opera Nova, an opera company in Santa Monica. He has been involved in preparing various productions such as *Marriage of Figaro, Hansel and Gretel, Suor Angelica, Il Tabarro*, and *Magic Flute*, along with four Opera Scenes Galas. Mr. Luthi was Conductor for the orchestral production of *Suor Angelica*.

Mr. Luthi's portfolio also includes work in the 2003 and 2004 seasons as Musical Director/Chorus Master for South Pasadena-based opera company, Celestial Opera, where he prepared and performed *La Traviata* and *La Bohème*. In October 2003, he was hired as the Interim Choir Director for the First United Methodist Church in Topanga Canyon. He has also served as staff Accompanist/Coach at Pasadena City College and current staff Pianist/Coach at Santa Monica College.

**Lukas Swidzinski** has been part of the faculty of the Classical Voice Conservatory at the Santa Ana High School for the Arts since the Fall of 2009. He began his association with the Opera Institute at the Bob Cole Conservatory at the California State University Long Beach, in Spring 2011.

He is an active freelance musician, performing throughout the greater Los Angeles area and has worked with numerous organizations including the Center Stage Opera, Pasadena Alternative Opera Theater and Blackbird Music Project. Previously, he has worked at the University of California Irvine and Redlands University as well as the Capital University (Columbus, Ohio) and The Ohio State University.

He holds a double masters degree in piano performance and orchestral conducting from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and a bachelors degree from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. On rare occasions when his not thinking about music, he enjoys, reading, cooking, the outdoors, spending time in garage with his vehicles, aviation and fast motorcycles. He moved to Los Angeles 2007 and now lives in Long Beach with his three cats.

**Orpheus Duo** Pianists **Althea Waites** and **Mark Uranker** have combined their talents and performing experience to form a keyboard ensemble, the Orpheus Duo. Both artists have concertized extensively as soloists and chamber musicians throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, and have been critically acclaimed for performances of new music as well as familiar works from the traditional duo-piano repertoire.

Performances have included works by CSULB Faculty composers Carolyn Bremer, Robin Cox, and Martin Herman. Previous recitals have also featured Messiaen's *Visions de L'Amen*, Debussy's *En blanc et noir*, and Stravinsky's *Concerto for Two Solo Pianos*.

The Orpheus Duo can be heard on a CD, Along the Western Shore, performing Lloyd Rodgers' Etcetera: Variations BWV 1087 (a world premiere recording). In addition to their work as a duo, Mr. Uranker and Ms. Waites are on the faculty of the Cole Conservatory of Music and perform as soloists and chamber musicians.

# BOB COLE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC OPERA INSTITUTE

David Anglin: director

Stephanie Vlahos: resident stage director

Freshman: Michael Valentekovic; Sophomore: Lyle Mitchell; Landon Shaw; Junior: Daniel Favela; Heidi Harger; Rebecca Hasquet; Anthony Moreno; Ilana Summers; Beth Wightwick; Senior: Simon Barrad; Sashell Beck; Lindsey Gonzalez; Nicola Said; Jessie Shulman; Amy Joy Stephens; Maayan Voss De Bettancourt; Alyssa Wills; Graduate: Amalia Francalangia; Christina Liem; Stephen Salts; Rachel Smiley

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

La Bohème, Act II November 18, 8pm Carpenter Performing Arts Center

Tickets: \$15/10

Winterfest 2011 December 3, 4pm and 8pm December 4, 4pm

First Congregational Church of Long Beach Conductor: Jonathan Talberg

Tickets: \$25/15/8

For ticket information please call 562.985.7000 or visit the web at: WWW.CSULB.EDU/COLECONSERVATORY

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