

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

A Celebration of Commedia dell'Arte

MUSICAL DIRECTION: DAVID ANGLIN
STAGE DIRECTION: STEPHANIE VLAHOS
PIANISTS: DAVID ANGLIN , TONY CHO

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012 8:00PM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2012 4:00PM

GERALD R. DANIEL RECITAL HALL
PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC MOBILE DEVICES.

WELCOME...

Today's performance is dedicated to the lessons inherent in *Commedia dell'Arte*—a form of improvised theatre. We celebrate young actors making bold choices and taking risks in the vital process of self-reflection. Basic commedia plot lines and its rich stock of colorful characters were an inspiration to silent film actors and, by inheritance, to contemporary actors as well. Commedia is an important tool in developing the actor's craft via improvisation and characterization; the use of the mask is a fine exercise to build character and to sustain motivation.

Commedia dell'Arte grew out of the street festival and the spirit of community theater. It found its way into 18th-century comic opera where, in the hands of composer—librettist teams such as Mozart & Da Ponte, the theatrical result was nothing short of genius.

For this performance we combine Operatic repertoire with the students' own improvisations. This will no doubt inform their choices and characterizations as we move on to our spring production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, an opera the composer himself labeled a *dramma giocoso*—a comic tragedy!

Thank you for your continued support of the *Opera Institute*. We look forward to seeing you again in April!

David Anglin
Stephanie Vlahos
Opera Institute
The Bob Cole Conservatory of Music



**DON'T MISS
OUR SPRING PRODUCTIONS:**
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's
Don Giovanni
April 11-14, 2013
University Theatre @ CSULB

Celebrating Music
Ravel—*Daphnis et Chloé*
Mozart—*Requiem*
May 4, 2013
Carpenter Performing Arts Center



THE *COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE* FAMILY...

Arlecchino—servant. Quick physically, slow mentally. In love with Colombina. Complications of plot derive from his mistakes or refusal to admit shortcomings.

Brighella—the boss. Walks with a wiggle and swagger. Astute, ready for anything, humorous. His job is to stir up the action of the comedy through intrigues.

Pantalone—top of the pecking order. Walks with one hand protecting his money and one protecting his manhood. Old in his body but his head, heels and hands are active.

Dottore—bachelor/widower. A friend or rival to Pantalone. Gives others a break from the plot by his prolixity, sometimes to the point that he needs to be carried off.

Innamorati—the lovers. Though endlessly in love, they're more in love with themselves. Their romantic dilemmas are often at the root of the plot.

Isabella—an innamorata. A flirtatious, provocative, stubborn prima donna. Classically, the Countess in *Marriage of Figaro*.

Capitano—loner, parody of a military man. He is politic, cowardly. Exists to be de-masked by the plot (like *Don Giovanni*). Final transformation from pride to humility.

Colombina—maid. In collusion with the audience. At the center of the plot with a benevolent influence on the outcome. Susanna from *Marriage of Figaro* comes to mind.

Pedrolino—the boy. Stoic in the face of misery; survived oppression by pretending to be simple. Totally honest. He has little plot function but does enjoy playing pranks.

Pulcinella—“little chicken.” His good humor conceals a ferocious interior; he cares no more for human life than that of a flea. Antagonistic toward the audience and a loner.

OPERA MASTERPIECES: *A Celebration of Commedia dell'Arte*

We dedicate this program to the loving memory of our friend Carol Polakoff.

W. A. MOZART

***Bei Männern* (from *The Magic Flute*; 1791)**

Pamina: Rachel Blair

Papageno: Michael Valentekovic

GAETANO DONIZETTI

***Quando le soglie paterne varcai* (from *La Favorita*; 1840)**

Leonora: Angel Yu

Alfonso: Nehemiah Chen

W. A. MOZART

***Principessa, a tuoi sguardi ... s'io non moro* (from *Idomeneo*; 1781)**

Ilia: Grace Byeon

Idamante: Alexandra Rodrick

BEDRICH SMETANA

***Jako matka pozeňnanim* (from *The Bartered Bride*; 1870)**

Marenka: Amalia Francalangia

Jenik: JJ Lopez

PIETRO MASCAGNI

***Suzel, buon di* (from *L'amico Fritz*; 1891)**

Suzel: Amy Joy Stephens

Fritz: Daniel Favela

GAETANO DONIZETTI

***E il dottore non si vede ... Pronta io son* (from *Don Pasquale*; 1843)**

Norina: Christina Liem

Malatesta: Simon Barrad

GIACOMO PUCCINI

***In un coupé?* (from *la Bohème*; 1896)**

Rodolfo: Daniel Favela

Marcello: Anthony Moreno

GIOACCHINO ROSSINI

***All'idea di quel metallo* (from *The Barber of Seville*; 1816)**

Count Almaviva: Landon Shaw

Figaro: Lyle Mitchell

RUGIERRO LEONCAVALLO

Silvio! A quest'ora (from *I Pagliacci*; 1892)

Nedda: Heidi Harger

Silvio: Anthony Moreno

GIACOMO PUCCINI

Bevo al tuo fresco sorriso (from *La Rondine*; 1917)

Magda: Becky Hasquet

Lisette: Rachel Blair

Ruggiero: JJ Lopez

Prunier: Landon Shaw

Addio Firenze (from *Gianni Schicchi*; 1919)

Full ensemble

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Winter Festival 2012

December 1, 4pm and 8pm

December 2, 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:

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

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