

KSU Opera Theater presents



*Night of
Miracles*

Opera Theater Double Feature

Sister Angelica & The Three Hermits

Two One-Act Operas with

KSU Symphony Orchestra

Friday and Saturday, November 13 and 14, 2015, at 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall

Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth Concerts of the 2015-16 Concert Season



Suor Angelica

GIACOMO PUCCINI

(libretto, Gioacchino Forzano / English version, Herbert Withers)

Stage direction by Todd Wedge

cast

Sister Angelica

Siobhan Rodriguez (*Friday*)

Amy Smithwick (*Saturday*)

Princess

Camille Hathaway (*Friday*)

Leah Sexton (*Saturday*)

The Monitor

Elena Prestwood

The Mistress of the Novices

Rachel Stein

Sister Genevieve

Ashley Naffziger

Sister Lucilla

Hallie Ashford Skelton

Sister Osmina

Maria McDonald

Sister Dolcina

Deondria West

Lay-Sister

Christina Ruth Grace Vehar

Nursing Sister

Elizabeth Shaver

1st Tourière

Victoria Caracci

2nd Tourière

Ziara Greene

The Novice

Hannah Smith

The Abbess

Leah Sexton (*Friday*)

Camille Hathaway (*Saturday*)

Statue of the Virgin Mary

Sierra Manson

Suor Angelica | Giacomo Puccini

Suor Angelica's somber tale recounts the life of a young woman whose obedience to tradition ultimately ends in tragedy. Unable to bear the shame of a pregnant and unwed mother, Angelica's noble family forces her into monastic isolation as penance for her supposed "sins." For seven years, Sister Angelica aches to hear news of her son and family, but her aunt's sudden visit is far from the reunion she has yearned for. Instead, Angelica is brusquely told that she is expected to relinquish her inheritance for her sister's wedding. Begging for news of the son, she is coldly told that the son she never knew has been dead for two years. The distraught Angelica realizes that only in death will she be reunited with her beloved son. Using her knowledge of medicinal herbs, she concocts a potion that will end her life. It is only after drinking the poison that Angelica realizes she has committed one of the Church's gravest sins – suicide. As she uses her last breaths to beg the Virgin Mary for forgiveness, she hallucinates a reunion with her son.

Puccini's masterful union of melody and realistic drama (a movement known as verismo) is arguably best captured in this short opera – making a difficult subject matter simultaneously easier to behold and all the more heartrending.

The Three Hermits

STEPHEN PAULUS

(libretto, Michael Dennis Browne)

Stage direction by Eileen Moremen

cast

Bishop	Timothy Marshall
Mother	Emily Crisp
Sister Angelica	Victoria Caracci
Sister Miriam	Emily Bateman
Fisherman	Cody Hixon
Captain	Sean Eliason
Pilgrim #1	Hallie Ashford Skelton
Pilgrim boy	Elena Prestwood
Pilgrim #2	Caleb Stack
Pilgrim girl	Hannah Smith

Hermit 1	Forrest Starr	
Hermit 2	Matt Welsh	
Hermit 3	Matthew Boatwright	
Rowing Sailor	Ashley Naffziger	
Chorus of Pilgrims	Rachel Stein	
	Maria McDonald	
	Christina Vehar	
	Deondria West	
	Bradley Weaver	
Chamber Singers	Emma Bryant	Claire Pappas
	Megan Gibson	Leah Sexton
	Emily Hering	Macy Swanson
	Ilene Isaacson	Michael Bart
	Ashley Naffziger	Jake Glover
	Shannan O'Dowd	Cain Henderson
	Jennell Smith	Julian Nole
	Naarah Callender	Ryan Cox
	Kate Chastain	Kevin Loggins
	Ziara Greene	Cody O'Shea
	Chanqueria Grimes	Jason Raphael
	Camille Hathaway	Reed Williams

The Three Hermits | Stephan Paulus

The Three Hermits, by Grammy-Winning 21st Century American composer Stephen Paulus, is an uplifting opera based on a parable of the same name by Leo Tolstoy. As a Russian Orthodox Bishop and his pilgrims travel aboard a ship across Siberia's White Sea, the story of three childlike and innocent Hermits, living on a remote island, calls the Bishop to wonder and quest for answers. He journeys to them, eventually humbled as the three old men unknowingly perform a great miracle. In the libretto by Michael Dennis Browne, the story takes on a wider view than just a ship of pilgrims. They embody the spiritual floundering and redemption of their Bishop, using Russian Orthodox liturgy for reflection, ala Greek chorus. The now nationally known "Pilgrim's Hymn" closes this operatic drama.

We hope you enjoy this contemporary work with its timeless appeal.

ksu symphony orchestra

Nathaniel F. Parker, Music Director and Conductor

FLUTES

Melissa Rolón
Catherine Rothery

PICCOLO

Melissa Rolón

OBOE

Rachel Rabeneck

CLARINET

Ryan Tang

BASSOON

Dustin Price

HORNS

Kristen Arnold
Dennis Korwek

TRUMPET

Mark Fucito

BASS TROMBONE

Samuel Boeger

TIMPANI

Michael Berry
Lane Hunter

PERCUSSION

Michael Berry
Mitch Gillis
Lane Hunter
Michael Ollman
Cooper Sewell

HARP

Amanda Melton

KEYBOARD

Arie Motschman
Jordan Sommer

FIRST VIOLINS

Andre Barnes
Maalik Glover
Lauren Greene
Ryan Gregory *
Rachel LaRocca

SECOND VIOLINS

Micah David +
Nassar Edwards
Nicholas Felder
Steffanny Marcellina
Justin Rawlings

VIOLAS

Audine Crosse
Rachel Fishback +
Samantha Tang

CELLOS

Riley Duggan
Esme Mason
Michael Roberts +
Michael Thomas

BASSES

Daniel Kim +

SYMPHONY ASSISTANTS

David Metrio
Michael Roberts

* Concertmaster
+ Principal

Rotational seating is used in wind and percussion sections.

opera theater staff

Eileen Moremen | Director of KSU Opera Theater, Voice Faculty

Todd Wedge | Assistant Director, Voice Faculty

Nathaniel F. Parker | Orchestra Conductor

Leslie Blackwell | Director of Choral Activities / Chamber Singers

Judy Cole | Coach / Accompanist, Artist-in-Residence

Arie Motschman | Coach / Accompanist

acknowledgements

Joseph Greenway | Lighting, Bailey Center Staff

Dan Hesketh | Web Graphics and PR, Bailey Center Staff

Josh Stone | Poster Art, COTA Staff

Michael Dennis Browne | Librettist / Poet, Visiting Artist

Chuck Hudson | Visiting Artist, Character Coaching

Michael Nutter | Capitol City Opera, Costumes

Kenyan Shiver | KSU Scene Shop, Set Pieces

Jamie Bullins | Design Advisor

Rick Lombardo | Director of KSU Theatre Department, Costumes

Richard Brown | Set Piece Construction

Julia Becker | Financial Advisor

Norcostco Costumes

Stephanie Brassard | Russian Icon Painter

Jessica Jones | Voice Faculty

Oral Moses | Voice Faculty

Leah Partridge | Voice Faculty

Valerie Walters-Gold | Voice Faculty

Jana Young | Voice Faculty

Victoria Caracci | Student Assistant

KSU Chamber Singers

KSU Symphony Orchestra

School of Music Faculty and Staff

Director

Stephen W. Plate

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Judith Beale
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Charles Laux
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Terri Talley
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Jennifer Mitchell
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Benjamin Wadsworth
Jeff Yunek

Woodwinds

Robert Cronin, Flute
Todd Skitch, Flute
Christina Smith, Flute
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, Oboe
John Warren, Clarinet, Chamber Music
Laura Najarian, Bassoon
Sam Skelton, Saxophone

Brass and Percussion

Doug Lindsey, Trumpet, Chamber Music
Mike Tiscione, Trumpet
Jason Eklund, Horn
Tom Gibson, Trombone
Brian Hecht, Bass Trombone
Martin Cochran, Euphonium
Bernard Flythe, Tuba/Euphonium
John Lawless, Percussion

Strings

Helen Kim, Violin
Kenn Wagner, Violin
Justin Bruns, Chamber Music
Catherine Lynn, Viola
Paul Murphy, Viola
Charae Krueger, Cello
James Barket, Double Bass
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, Harp
Mary Akerman, Classical Guitar

Voice

Jessica Jones
Eileen Moremen
Oral Moses
Leah Partridge
Valerie Walters
Todd Wedge
Jana Young

Piano

Judith Cole, Collaborative Piano & Musical Theatre
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry
John Marsh, Class Piano
David Watkins
Soohyun Yun

Jazz

Justin Chesarek, Jazz Percussion
Wes Funderburk, Jazz Trombone, Jazz Ensembles
Tyrone Jackson, Jazz Piano
Marc Miller, Jazz Bass
Sam Skelton, Jazz Ensembles
Lester Walker, Jazz Trumpet
Trey Wright, Jazz Guitar, Jazz Combos

Ensembles & Conductors

Leslie J. Blackwell, Choral Activities
Alison Mann, Choral Activities
Cory Meals, Concert Band, Marching Band
Oral Moses, Gospel Choir
Eileen Moremen, Opera
Nathaniel Parker, Symphony Orchestra
Charles Laux, Philharmonic Orchestra
Debra Traficante, Concert Band, Marching Band
David Kehler, Wind Ensemble

School of Music Staff

Julia Becker, Administrative Specialist III
Kimberly Beckham, Coordinator of Band Operations and Outreach
David Daly, Director of Programming and Facilities
Susan M. Grant Robinson, Associate Director for Administration
Joseph Greenway, Technical Director
Dan Hesketh, Digital Media Specialist
June Mauser, Administrative Associate II
Andrew Solomonson, Facility Operations Manager

Ensembles in Residence

Atlanta Percussion Trio
KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
KSU Faculty String Trio
KSU Community and Alumni Choir

about the school of music



Welcome to our campus! The School of Music is an exciting place to live, learn and work. Housed in the College of the Arts, the School is infused with masterfully skilled and dedicated performing teachers who care deeply about their profession, our programs, our community and every student involved in music and the arts. Our facilities are aesthetically functional and well equipped, our professional staff first-class, and our motivation perfect; to prepare students to be accomplished, creative arts leaders - diversely trained, acutely challenged and well-practiced to ensure employability and empowerment to take the 21st-century music world by storm.


Our students come to us from the leading musical arts and honors organizations from across the southeast, and as a School of Music, we are dedicated to the purpose of furthering the arts and cultural offerings of our region and beyond.


Please take the time to meet our faculty, students and staff. Interact with them, talk shop with them - their enthusiasm is contagious whether on or off the stage. I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship, and with your involvement as an audience member and patron, there are no limits to what we can become. If we can be of assistance to you, simply ask.


A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen W. Plate". The signature is fluid and cursive.


Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director, School of Music
Kennesaw State University

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<http://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic>