

Kennesaw State University Opera Theater



*Dido
and
Aeneas*

Music by Henry Purcell, words by Nahum Tate

Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 8 pm
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
Ninety-sixth & Ninety-seventh Concerts of the 2017-18 Concert Season

program

DIDO AND AENEAS (1689)

Music by HENRY PURCELL

Libretto by NAHUM TATE

ACT I

Scene 1 - Town of Carthage

ACT II

Scene 1 - Urban Alleyway

Scene 2 - Outdoor Nightclub

ACT III

Scene 1 - Town of Carthage



CAST

Dido, Queen of Carthage **Ziara Greene**
(Deondria West, understudy)

Aeneas, Visiting General **Marcel Benoit III**
(Lucas Gray, understudy)

Belinda, Dido's Executive Secretary **Xandrya Edwards**
(Lauryn Davis, understudy)

2nd Woman, Dido's Stylist **Deondria West**
(Callaway Powlus, understudy)

Revolutionary Leader **Matthew Welsh**

1st Revolutionary **Callaway Powlus**

2nd Revolutionary **Nasia Shearod**

Musician/Mercury **Matthew Boatwright**

Sailor **Jeremiah Robinson**

Doctor **Caleb Stack**

Doctor's Wife **Lindsay Peterson**

Flower Seller **Elaina Trent**

Waitress **Lauryn Davis**

Nightclub Owner **Molly Jennings**

Journalist **Lucas Gray**

Young Woman **Abigail Snyder**

Revolutionary chorus

Lauryn Davis
Molly Jennings
Elaina Trent
Abigail Snyder
Lindsay Peterson

Matthew Boatwright
Caleb Stack
Jeremiah Robinson
Lucas Gray

program notes

Based on the tragic love story from Virgil's *The Aeneid*, composer Henry Purcell's setting of *Dido & Aeneas* (1689) masterfully epitomizes the dramatic and musical height of opera in the Baroque period – making it one of the most beloved of all English operas.

The remarkable intensity of Nahum Tate's libretto references classical and mythological characters such as:

- Dido (Elissa), founder and first Queen of Carthage (Tunisia, North Africa)
- Diana, goddess of the hunt and slayer of Acteon
- Anchises (a mortal) and goddess Venus, the troubled parents of Aeneas
- Phoebe, goddess of the moon's gilded rays
- Jove, king of the gods
- Mercury, the winged messenger of the gods
- Aeneas, warrior and prince instructed by Mercury to found the new Troy (Rome)
- Cupid and Fate, who orchestrate the lovers' demise

Because the potent drama found in *Dido & Aeneas* transcends time, interpretations of this opera have varied from the classic Baroque operatic form to Greco-Roman myth, fantastical kingdoms, and even insane asylums. The production you will see this evening is set in South America in the 1950's, a time when revolutions were experienced in Latin America as Juan and Evita Peron ruled in Argentina. The rich history of this period and region influences our production in flavor, style and iconic monarchs.

Instead of a traditional Greek chorus that might respond offstage, our chorus has been reimagined as town's folk. Our Sorceress and witches have been similarly transformed into revolutionaries and protestors. Besot by inner turmoil, our regal heroine eventually gives her love to the strapping general, Aeneas. Tragically, the lovers are then thwarted by the charismatic revolutionary leader and his followers. The demise of their tryst inspires one of the most gripping arias in the operatic canon, "Dido's Lament," which hauntingly flows into the final chorus opera.

We thank you for joining us this evening and now invite you to lose yourself in the rich musical textures and compelling drama of Nahum Tate and Henry Purcell's *Dido & Aeneas*.

DIDO AND AENEAS

HENRY PURCELL

OPERA THEATER DIRECTOR | **EILEEN MOREMEN**

VOCAL COACHES / ACCOMPANISTS | **JUDITH COLE,**
ARIE MOTSCHMAN, ERIKA TAZAWA

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR / STUDENT ASSISTANT | **ERICKA PALMER**

KSU ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR | **NATHANIEL F. PARKER**

symphony orchestra strings

HARPSICHORD

Arie Motschman

VIOLIN

Ryan Finlayson

Jenna Flohr

Lauren Greene, *concertmaster*

Mary Katharine Guthrie

Charles Page

Nathaniel Roberts, *principal*

VIOLA

Rachel Fishback, *principal*

Elijah Mastinu

Jachai Wilmont

CELLO

Colin Gregoire

Joseph Grunkemeyer, *principal*

Dorian Silva

BASS

Daniel Kim, *principal*

SYMPHONY ASSISTANTS

Jeavanie Desarmes

Nassar Edwards

Gabriella Paul

SPECIAL THANKS

Joseph Greenway

Shawn Reichl Johnson

Dan Hesketh

Kenyon Shiver

Daniel Pattillo

Josh Stone

Richard Brown

Todd Wedge

Lisa Locke

Atlanta Norcostco Costumes

Julianne Baird, *Artist-in-Residence*

thank you!

Thank you for attending tonight's production! The KSU College of the Arts Opera Theater Program is an important part of the vocal training for acting singers in the School of Music. Each semester, Opera Theater class develops either a production of a full-length opera or a Gala concert featuring scenes selected from various works, composers and styles. We have an enthusiastic and talented undergraduate program giving performance opportunities to learn about the magnificent art form of opera. While learning repertoire, style, character and drama, their development of a production enhances the historical and worldly richness of their education. Varying the genre, style and repertoire gives student singers fuller appreciation of music past and present. In recent years, KSU productions include Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, Nicolai's *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*, Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love*, and Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. We have recently included 20th and 21st Century operas such as Stephen Paulus's *The Three Hermits*, Thomas Pasatieri's *The Hotel Casablanca*, and Michael Ching's *Speed Dating Tonight!* We hope you enjoy this evening's production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*.

biographies

Coach / Accompanist

Erika Tazawa, hailed as “a superb collaborator, boldly undertaking the demanding keyboard parts with boundless technique, dynamic range, and expressive understanding” by American Record Guide, has captured audiences across the US and internationally.

Winner of the prestigious Beverly Hills National Auditions in 2013, Tazawa is quickly gaining recognition as a versatile collaborative artist. Her performances, with repertoire ranging from traditional chamber music to avant-garde, have been featured in radio programs such as *BBC London*, National Public Radio's *Performance Today*, and *WSKG New York*. In the field of vocal accompanying and opera, Tazawa serves as a repetiteur for the Opera Studio of AIMS in Graz, Austria, actively engages in contemporary opera projects with the Center For Contemporary Opera in New York and the Atlanta Opera, and has accompanied masterclasses of artists such as Barbara Bonney, Linda Watson, and Stephanie Blythe. Currently located in



Atlanta, she collaborates with Kennesaw State University Opera Theater as a coach-accompanist. A 2016 Stern Fellow, Erika will join *SongFest* in Los Angeles, where she will appear throughout the 20th Anniversary season.

Tazawa's first solo album, *Rhythm of Silence*, featuring 21st century piano work from the US, Italy and Netherlands, was released in January 2016 through Belarca, distributed internationally by Naxos Records.

Coach / Accompanist / Harpsichordist

Arie Motschman holds degrees in Organ Performance from Salem College (BM) in Winston-Salem, NC, and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (MM). She was awarded a Fulbright Grant



for post-graduate study at the Folkwang Musik Hochschule in Essen, Germany. Arie has been an opera coach and accompanist for several KSU opera productions and harpsichordist for numerous concerts and recitals. She also collaborates with KSU music students for solo and studio recitals, competitions, and auditions. A resident of Marietta, Arie serves as Music Director/ Pianist for numerous school and civic musical theatre and chorus projects. She is Organist at Midway Presbyterian Church in Powder Springs, GA.

Artist-in-Residence in Collaborative Piano

Judith Cole is considered by local area colleagues to be one of the most versatile pianists in the Atlanta commercial music scene. She has performed for corporate presidents, university presidents, and even a former President of the United States, in venues ranging from concert halls to nightclubs and recording studios, as a soloist and as a collaborative pianist.

When Professor Cole first arrived at Kennesaw State University, she taught classes in music theory and history, coached Opera and Musical Theatre,



and accompanied student and faculty recitals. From 2008 to 2016 she played, coached and musically directed all the Musical Theatre productions for the Theatre and Performance Studies division of COTA in addition to her duties for the School of Music. Since fall 2016, she has been the Coordinator of Collaborative Piano for the School of Music, and now teaches Accompanying, private studio lessons, Advanced Class Piano, and coaches/plays for the Opera Theatre classes. Judy also enjoys a demanding schedule of performances

with faculty and students. Additionally, in past years, Judy has been a featured soloist with the Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and the KSU Wind Ensemble.

Mrs. Cole has worked professionally and made a successful career over the last 35 years as a free-lance pianist and commercial musician playing in a variety of settings. To quote J. Lynn Thompson, founding Artistic Director of the Atlanta Lyric Opera, "Judy Cole is one of those rare artists who can move effortlessly between styles ranging from opera to Broadway, jazz to rock and roll. She is a conductor's and singer's dream of a pianist." Mrs. Cole has been featured on numerous recordings both as an accompanist and as a soloist, including her own CD *By Request*, and has several solo recordings in process at this time. As often as scheduling allows, she plays in the pit orchestra for Broadway touring shows playing at the Fox Theatre and major events at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center. She has also been selected by the Educational Testing Service to serve as an Aural Skills Reader for the national Advanced Placement Music Theory exams for several years.

Mrs. Cole earned her Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, studying with Marvin Blickenstaff. After taking a year off from school, during which she toured the United States playing in a show band, she was invited to attend the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where she

earned her Master of Music degree in Accompanying, with a concentration in Musical Theatre and Chamber Music. Her teachers included Olga Radosavlovich at the Cleveland Institute of Music, and Dr. Robert Evans, Babbette Efron and Dr. Kelly Hale at CCM.

In addition to local performances, Mrs. Cole travels routinely to accompany classical, instrumental, vocal, and religious Jewish music concerts throughout the US where she is known for her ability to arrive, rehearse and perform demanding concert material all within a span of several hours. She has collaborated with many of the top Cantors and musicians in the Jewish music world, including Hazzan Naftali Herstik, Cantor Asher Hainovitz, Simon Sargon, Bonia Shur, Michael Isaacson, and Debbie Friedman. Judy is a member of the Guild of Temple Musicians (the national organization of Jewish musicians and composers), the American Federation of Musicians, and the Musical Theatre Educators Alliance. She is the staff accompanist at The Temple in Atlanta and is still an active commercial musician, playing both as a soloist and as a keyboardist/vocalist in her band.

Director of Orchestral Studies

Nathaniel F. Parker, a talented and versatile musician, has conducted orchestras in the United States, Peru, Russia, Poland, England, and the Czech Republic. Equally at home working with professionals and training future generations of musicians, Dr. Parker is Director of Orchestral Studies at the Kennesaw State University School of Music—serving as Music Director and Conductor of the Kennesaw State University Symphony Orchestra and Conductor of the Kennesaw State University Opera Program—and Associate Conductor of the Georgia Symphony



Orchestra. His recent guest conducting engagements include appearances with the Jackson Symphony Orchestra (Michigan), the Connecticut Music Educators Association (CMEA) All-State Orchestra, the Fulton County High School Honor Orchestra (Georgia), and the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) District 9 High School Honor Orchestra. Dr. Parker is the recipient of numerous honors, awards, and scholarships. He was named a finalist for

a Conducting Fellowship with the New World Symphony, a semi-finalist for a Conducting Fellowship at Tanglewood, and a Candidate for the Respighi Prize in Conducting; he also received a Citation of Excellence in Teaching from the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association. An active scholar, Dr. Parker's writings have been published by the Conductors Guild and the College Orchestra Directors Association (CODA). He has presented research at the College Orchestra Directors Association's national and international conferences and is Editor of the *Journal of the Conductors Guild*.

Dr. Parker has served as Music Director and Conductor of the Concert Orchestra and faculty at New England Music Camp (Maine), and Interim Music Director and Conductor of the Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra's (GYSO) Symphony and Camerata orchestras. Before relocating to Georgia, he was Director of Orchestral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music at Marywood University (Pennsylvania) where he was Music Director and Conductor of the Marywood University Orchestra and taught courses in conducting, instrumental methods, musicology, and analytical techniques. Other previous positions include Associate Conductor and Production Manager of the Jackson Symphony Orchestra (Michigan), Music Director and Conductor of the Jackson Youth Symphony Orchestra, Director of the Jackson Symphony Orchestra Community Music School, Graduate Conducting Intern at Michigan State University, Music Director and Conductor of the Mason Orchestral Society's Community Orchestra and Youth Symphony (Michigan), Assistant Director of Music at Xaverian High School (New York), Conductor of the New Music Festival of Sandusky Orchestra (Ohio), and Graduate Assistant Conductor and Teaching Assistant at Bowling Green State University (Ohio).

Parker earned a Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting from Michigan State University, where his primary instructors were Leon Gregorian and Raphael Jiménez. During his time at MSU he regularly appeared with all the university orchestras and focused his doctoral research on Leonard Bernstein, specifically the composer's Symphony No. 2, "The Age of Anxiety." He earned a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting from Bowling Green State University, where he studied with Emily Freeman Brown. His other conducting mentors include Stephen Osmond, Gary W. Hill, and Timothy Russell. In addition to his training in academia, Dr. Parker participated in numerous conducting master classes and workshops, conducting orchestras under the tutelage of nationally and internationally renowned conductors and conducting pedagogues including Christoph

Eschenbach, George Hurst, Arthur Fagen, Markand Thakar, Mark Gibson, David Itkin, and Paul Vermeil. Parker began his collegiate education at Arizona State University, where he studied bassoon with Jeffrey G. Lyman and graduated *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor of Music in Bassoon Performance.

Director of Opera Theater

Eileen Moremen, delighting audiences for years, has been praised for her intelligence of interpretation and clear-voiced sweetness of tone. Her early performing specialized in Baroque Opera and oratorio of Bach, Handel, Haydn, Vivaldi and Mozart, with Boston Baroque, New England Baroque Ensemble, Belmont Chamber Ensemble, Much Ado – a



Renaissance Consort, and award winning performances at the Boston Early Music Festival. Ms Moremen branched out with opera roles as Nanetta (*Falstaff*), Despina (*Così fan Tutte*), Papagena (*The Magic Flute*), Nora (*Riders to the Sea*), she created characters for musical theater productions including Rose (*Gypsy*), Carrie Pipperidge (*Carousel*), Little Mary (*Little Mary Sunshine*).

As an interpreter of contemporary music, she performed World Premieres by composers Jose Martinez, John Polifrone, Rene Leibowitz, and Galt McDermott featured at the Aspen Music Festival. She also performed

throughout the United States as a song recitalist, oratorio soloist and chamber musician. Born in Portland, Oregon, Ms. Moremen received her Bachelor's degree in Performance and Opera from the Eastman School of Music and her Master's degree in Performance and Music History at the University of Michigan. On the faculty at KSU since 1995, she is Director of Opera Theater, teacher of Studio Voice and is a sought after vocal clinician, adjudicator and master class teacher in the Southeast. Her Opera Director credits include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Old Maid and the Thief*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *The Hotel Casablanca*, *The Three Hermits* and countless KSU Opera Galas.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY AND STAFF

Stephen W. Plate, *Director*

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Nancy Conley	Terri Talley
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McKenzi Fenn	Charles Tighe
Kimberly Inks	Amber Weldon-
Charles Jackson	Stephens
Alison Mann	

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Edward Eanes	Harry Price
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Judith Cole	Matt Still
Steve Dancz	Benjamin
Kelly Francis	Wadsworth
Jennifer Mitchell	Jeff Yunek
Laurence Sherr	

Woodwinds

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Robert Cronin, *Flute*
Todd Skitch, *Flute*
Christina Smith, *Flute*
Cecilia Price, *Flute, Chamber Music*
Barbara Cook, *Oboe*
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, *Oboe*
John Warren, *Clarinet, Chamber Music*
Andrew Brady, *Bassoon*
Sam Skelton, *Saxophone*
Luke Weatherington, *Saxophone*

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Doug Lindsey, *Trumpet, Chamber Music*
Ryan Moser, *Trumpet*
Mike Tiscione, *Trumpet*
Jason Eklund, *Horn*
Richard Williams, *Horn*
Tom Gibson, *Trombone*
Brian Hecht, *Bass Trombone*
Jason Casanova, *Tuba / Euphonium*
Paul Dickinson, *Tuba / Euphonium*
Marja Kerney, *Percussion*
John Lawless, *Percussion*

Strings

Helen Kim, *Violin*
Kenn Wagner, *Violin, Chamber Music*
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Paul Murphy, *Viola*
Charae Krueger, *Cello*
James Barket, *Double Bass*
Joseph McFadden, *Double Bass*
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, *Harp*
Mary Akerman, *Classical Guitar*

Voice

Eileen Moremen	Valerie Walters
Oral Moses	Todd Wedge
Nathan Munson	Jana Young

Piano

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Erika Tazawa, *Collaborative Piano*
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry
Huu Mai
John Marsh

Jazz

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Wes Funderburk, *Jazz Trombone, Jazz Ensembles*
Karla Harris, *Vocal Jazz*
Tyrone Jackson, *Jazz Piano*
Marc Miller, *Jazz Bass*
Sam Skelton, *Jazz Ensembles*
Rob Opitz, *Jazz Trumpet*
Trey Wright, *Jazz Guitar, Jazz Combos*

Ensembles & Conductors

Leslie J. Blackwell, *Choral Activities*
Nancy Conley, *Philharmonic Orchestra*
Trey Harris, *University Band, Marching Band*
Alison Mann, *Choral Activities*
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Debra Traficante, *Wind Symphony, Marching Band*
David T. Kehler, *Wind Ensemble*

School of Music Staff

Julia Becker, *Administrative Associate*
Susan M. Grant Robinson, *Associate Director for Administration*
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Dan Hesketh, *Assistant Director for Marketing and Outreach*
June Mauser, *Administrative Associate*
Daniel Pattillo, *Technical Manager*
Richard Peluso, *Coordinator of Band Operations and Outreach*
Shawn Rieschl Johnson, *Associate Director for Operations & Programming*

Ensembles in Residence

KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
Summit Piano Trio
KSU Community and Alumni Choir

about the school of music



Welcome to the Bailey Performance Center!

The School of Music at Kennesaw State University is an exciting place! We have a wonderful slate of performances planned for this year's *Signature Series*, and if you have not yet purchased your season tickets, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The Atlanta Symphony returns again this year as well as a wonderful slate of other performances.


The Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center is celebrating its 10th Anniversary Season this year. When this building opened in October of 2007, it was transformational for the School of Music and for KSU! It continues to be a jewel in our crown and musicians from around the world love to perform here because of the wonderful acoustic properties of Morgan Hall.


The weekend of October 7th–8th, we had an alumni recital on the 7th and a grand celebration Sunday afternoon October 8th, with full choir and orchestra to celebrate all this Center has meant to us these past 10 years! In honor of the Bailey 10th Anniversary, we officially launched our *Name a Seat Campaign* during our celebration in October. What a wonderful way to honor a loved one or to provide for future programming for Morgan Hall.


I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you. With your continued support of music and the arts, I look forward to all that we will accomplish together!


Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director, KSU School of Music

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