

RICE UNIVERSITY

the  
Shepherd  
School  
of Music



**THE OPERA THEATER  
of the  
SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

**Anthony Addison, director**

**A RECITAL OF OPERATIC SCENES**

**Thomas Jaber, piano accompaniment**

**Saturday, October 29, 1988  
8:00 p.m. in the  
Shepherd School Recital Hall**

THE OPERA THEATER  
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THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
RICE UNIVERSITY  
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THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL RECITAL HALL  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 8:00 p.m. 1988

**LE NOZZE DI FIGARO - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1781**

lib: Lorenzo da Ponte

The castle of Aguas Frescas, Spain, mid 18th century.

Countess Almaviva  
Susanna

Marlene Feser  
JoBeth Moad

Count Almaviva and Rosina (from THE BARBER OF SEVILLE) have been married three years, and the Count is beginning to stray from the 'straight and narrow.' The Countess, sadly, must teach him a lesson in fidelity. She therefore plans to disguise herself as her servant, Susanna, the present centre of the Count's lustful attentions, and meet him in the castle gardens, but he must first be lured to the assignation. Susanna, fearing repercussions, does not want to write to his lordship, so the Countess suggests a short poem, which will be left around for him to see, but will not be traceable to Susanna.

Just prior to this scene, Figaro has discovered that he is the son of Marcellina who had wanted to marry him, and this fact has nicely removed one of the objections to the marriage of Figaro and Susanna, the subject of the opera.

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**DIE ENTFUEHRUNG AUS DEM SERAIL - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1772**

lib: G. S. Stephanie, the younger, after F. Bretzner

Outside Pasha Selim's palace, Turkey, early 18th century.

Belmont

Dixon Printz

Belmont, an English lord, has come to the kingdom of the Pasha Selim in order to rescue his fiancée, Constanza. She, her maid and the servant, Pedrillo, had been captured by pirates and sold to the Pasha and are now held in the charge of the wicked harem-keeper, Osmin. Pedrillo has managed to worm his way into the good graces of the Pasha as his gardener. He has just met Belmont and assured him that Constanza is safe and faithful.

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**COSI FAN TUTTE - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1790**  
lib: Lorenzo da Ponte  
Naples, 18th century

Cuglielmo  
Dorabella

Richard Teaster  
Paula Blackmon

The two Neapolitan ladies, Fiordiligi and Dorabella, have recently bid sad farewell to their devoted lovers, who have apparently gone off to war. The ladies are heartbroken, but two handsome foreigners have appeared and have been pursuing them ardently, even pretending to swallow poison because of their recalcitrance. But the cunning arguments of the ladies' maid, Despina, have begun to break down their resistance. Fiordiligi has now gone for a stroll with one of the foreigners, leaving Dorabella and the other alone. Neither she, nor her sister, are aware that the foreigners are in fact their lovers in disguise who, for a large bet, have undertaken to test their fiancée's fidelity by paying passionate court, each to his friend's fiancée.

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**LA TRAVIATA - Guiseppe Verdi 1853**  
lib: F. M. Piave, after Alexandre Dumas, fils  
Outside Paris, mid 19th century.

Alfredo

Cheng Hua

Alfredo has persuaded Violetta to leave the life of a courtesan in Paris and retire with him to the country. He has been out for an early morning stroll.

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**WERTHER - Jules Massenet 1892**  
lib: E. Blau, P. Millet & G. Hartmann, after Goethe  
In Wetzlar, Germany, late 19th century

Charlotte  
Sophie

Rebecca Garfein  
Elizabeth Hill

Charlotte is married to a 'dull provider,' and has been rather unwillingly receiving letters from the poet, Werther. His most recent missive has hinted that he will take his own life if she will not receive him in person. Her younger sister visits and, quite mistaking her problem, tries to cheer her.

-Intermission-Five minutes-

**L'ELISIR D'AMORE - Gaetano Donizetti, 1832**

**lib: Felice Romani**

Outside Adina's house, an Italian village, early 19th century.

Nemorino  
Adina

David Cole  
Kristen Baker

A peasant, Nemorino, is in love with a rich farmer, Adina, who has, for a long time, shown him little attention. Instead, she has apparently fallen heavily for a blustering Sergeant, Belcore, who has come to town with a small detachment of soldiers.

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**FAUST - Charles Gounod, 1859**

**lib: J. Barbier & M. Carré, after Goethe**

Marguerite's house and garden, Germany, 16th century

Marguerite

Lina Chang Liao

Marguerite, a simple peasant girl, has been approached by a noble gentleman who has impressed her greatly. She returns to her house and garden, and to her household duties, but cannot get him out of her head. Her young friend, Siebel, has left her a bouquet of flowers, but the nobleman's devilish mentor, Mephistopheles, has brought other inducements to achieve his charge's desires.

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**PRODANA NEVESTA (The Bartered Bride) - Bedrich Smetana, 1866**

**lib: Karel Sabina**

In a Bohemian village, mid 19th century

Jenik  
Marenka

James White  
Lynne Hodapp

Jenik and Marenka are secretly engaged when she learns that her parents are consulting a marriage broker named Kecal. Jenik has had some bad experiences as a youth and has left home. When he hears that Kecal is offering Vashek, son of Micha, as Marenka's husband, he realizes that he may be able to turn things to good account, for Vashek, by strange coincidence, is his own half-brother.

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**II BARBIERE DI SEVIGLIA - Gioacchino Rossini, 1816**

**lib: C. Sterbini, after Beaumarchais**

Dr. Bartolo's house, Seville, 18th century

Berta

Diana Burson

Dr. Bartolo's jealous and scheming ways have finally disconcerted his maidservant, Berta, who attributes it all to the mysterious power of 'love.'

**II BARBIERE DI SEVIGLIA - Gioacchino Rossini, 1816**

**lib: C. Sterbini, after Beaumarchais**

**Dr. Bartolo's house, Seville, 18th century**

Figaro  
Rosina

Joseph Staples  
Alyssa Clark

Figaro, general factotum in Dr. Bartolo's household, has come with a message from Rosina's admirer. Before he can deliver it, he overhears Bartolo planning to marry Rosina on the morrow. He warns Rosina, and suggests that she communicate with the adoring young man.

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**The Costumes have been worked on  
by all Opera Theater students.**

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Kristen Baker, Paula Blackmon, Lynne Hodapp and Lina Chang Liao, and are students of Virginia Babikian, Chairman of the Voice Department.

Diana Burson, Alyssa Clark, Elizabeth Hill, Cheng Hua and Joseph Staples are students of Lynn Griebing.

Rebecca Garfein, Marlene Feser and Richard Teaster are students of Jeanette Lombard.

David Cole, Dixon Printz, JoBeth Moad and James White are students of Norma Newton.

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