

*LEON WILSON CLARK  
OPERA SERIES*

*SHEPHERD SCHOOL OPERA  
WORKSHOP CLASS*

*presents a program of*

*OPERA SCENES*

*Richard Bado, conductor*

*Debra Dickinson, stage director*

*Susan Lorette Dunn, Grant Loehnig,  
Susanne Mentzer and Youn Ju Namkoong,  
musical preparation*

*Grant Loehnig and Youn Ju Namkoong, pianists*

*Thursday, November 20, and  
Saturday, November 22, 2008*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Wortham Opera Theatre*

RICE UNIVERSITY

the  
Shepherd  
School  
of Music

PROGRAM

**IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA**

Music by Gioacchino Rossini;  
libretto by Desare Sterbini; premiere 1816

**Dunque io son... tu non m'inganni?**

Rosina – Sishel Claverie  
Figaro – Joseph Quigley  
Pianist – Grant Loehnig

**STREET SCENE**

Music by Kurt Weill;  
libretto by Langston Hughes; premiere 1946  
**I was up all night with a poor young mother**

Rose – Ann Marshall  
Anna – Julia Bell  
Frank – Brian Haase  
Mrs. Jones – Mary-Jane Lee  
Pianist – Grant Loehnig

**LA CENERENTOLA**

Music by Gioacchino Rossini;  
libretto by Jacopo Ferretti; premiere 1817

**Un soave non so che**

Angelina – Sarah Mesko  
Don Ramiro – Zachary Devin  
Clorinda – Julia Bell  
Tisbe – Sishel Claverie  
Pianist – Youn Ju Namkoong

**ATALANTA**

Music by George Frideric Handel;  
libretto by Belisario Valeriani; premiere 1736

**Amarilli? Oh Dei, che vuoi?**

Atalanta – Julie Marx  
Meleagro – Shelley Cantrick  
Pianist – Youn Ju Namkoong

**COSÌ FAN TUTTE**

Music by Wolfgang Amadé Mozart;  
libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte; premiere 1790

**Il core vi dono**

Dorabella – Rebecca Henry  
Guglielmo – Samuel Schultz  
Pianist – Youn Ju Namkoong

**LA CENERENTOLA**

*Music by Gioacchino Rossini;  
libretto by Jacopo Ferretti; premiere 1817*

**Un segreto d'importanza**

*Dandini – Mark Whatley  
Magnifico – Adam Lau  
Pianist – Youn Ju Namkoong*

**LITTLE WOMEN**

*Music and libretto by Mark Adamo; premiere 1998*

**Again we meet to celebrate**

*Amy – Lauren Snouffer  
Beth – Shelley Cantrick  
Meg – Rebecca Henderson  
Jo – Alison Campagna  
Pianist – Grant Loehnig*

**COSÌ FAN TUTTE**

*Music by Wolfgang Amadé Mozart;  
libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte; premiere 1790*

**La mia Dorabella capace non è**

*Ferrando – Aaron Blake  
Guglielmo – Joseph Quigley  
Don Alfonso – David Keck  
Pianist – Grant Loehnig*

*The performance is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes with no intermission.*

**ARTISTIC STAFF**

*Conductor . . . . . Richard Bado  
Stage Director . . . . . Debra Dickinson  
Lighting Designer . . . . . Troy McLaughlin  
Musical Preparation . . . . . Susan Lorette Dunn, Grant Loehnig,  
Susanne Mentzer, Youn Ju Namkoong*

**PRODUCTION STAFF**

*Technical Director . . . . . Troy McLaughlin  
Stage Manager, Properties Master . . . . . Alex Stutler  
Surtitles Operator . . . . . Sarah Larsen  
Followspot Operators . . . . . Eric Longo, Annamarie Zmolek  
Running Crew . . . . . Corissa Leonard, Stephen Ray*

*Surtitles created by performers in each scene.*

This production is made possible by a generous  
endowment from the late Dr. Leon Wilson Clark.

*JULIA BELL* is a first-year graduate student at the Shepherd School of Music where she studies with Kathleen Kaun. She received her bachelor's degree from the Royal College of Music in London, England. Past productions include *Anna Bolena*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Dialogues des Carmélites*, and *Norma*. Ms. Bell will be covering the role of Donna Anna in the Shepherd School's spring production of *Don Giovanni*.

Tenor *AARON BLAKE* received his bachelor's degree from The Juilliard School of Music. Currently a student of Dr. Stephen King, he has won many competitions, including First Prize in The Florida Grand Opera Competition and the Verdi Concerto Competition of the Aspen Music Festival. He was a finalist in the Chicago Lyric Opera Ryan Opera Center auditions and the 2008 Metropolitan Opera Auditions in the Southwest Region. Mr. Blake has portrayed Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte* at The Juilliard School, Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the Aspen Music Festival, and Ernesto in The Santa Fe Opera's spring tour of Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*. While at the Shepherd School he has performed *il Contino Belfiore* in *La finta giardiniera*, Sam Kaplan in *Street Scene*, Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore*, and Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi*. This spring Mr. Blake will portray Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*.

*ALISON CAMPAGNA* received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Performance, magna cum laude, from Pepperdine University. She is a member of the Music Honor Society Phi Kappa Lambda and won second place at the Café 322 Vocal Competition in Pasadena, California. Past operatic credits include *A Hand of Bridge*, *The Bartered Bride*, *The Crucible*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *Così fan tutte*, and *Gianni Schicchi*. Ms. Campagna is an alumna of the prestigious OperaWorks program and the Redwoods Opera Workshop Scenes program. At the Shepherd School she is pursuing a master's degree in voice under the tutelage of Susanne Mentzer.

*SHELLEY CANTRICK* is currently a junior vocal performance major studying with Kathleen Kaun. Her most recent Shepherd School Opera engagements have included singing in the off-stage chorus in *Sävitri*, and in the chorus of *L'elisir d'amore*. Ms. Cantrick debuts in her first scenes program as Beth in *Little Women* and Meleagro in *Atalanta*. In December she will be a soloist for the Shepherd School's performance of Bach's *Magnificat*.

Mezzo-soprano *SISHEL CLAVERIE* was born in Mexico City, and was a member of the International Mexican Art Society (SIVAM) for four years. In 2003, she performed as Meg in the international premiere of *Little Women* by Mark Adamo. In spring 2008 she graduated from the University of Houston with a major in vocal performance. While at the Moores Opera Center, Ms. Claverie performed several roles including the title role in *Chérubin*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Zita in *Gianni Schicchi*, and Desideria in *The Saint of Bleecker Street*. She recently performed as a soloist with the Woodlands Symphony Orchestra and has also presented early music recitals with the Moores Collegium in collaboration with Ars Lyrica Houston. As a two-time winner of the Moores Concerto Competition, she performed Berlioz's *Les Nuits d'été* and Ravel's *Shéhérazade* with the Moores Symphony Orchestra. She continues her vocal training with Susanne Mentzer while pursuing a master's degree in voice at the Shepherd School.

*ZACHARY DEVIN* is a first-year graduate student at The Shepherd School of Music where he studies with Kathleen Kaun. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Music at Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois, where he studied with Terry Stone. Most recently he has performed the roles of Ralph Rackstraw in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Tamino in *The Magic Flute*, and Satyavän in *Sävitri*. Mr. Devin will be covering the role of Don Ottavio in the Shepherd School's production of *Don Giovanni* in the spring of 2009.

**BRIAN HAASE** is excited to be performing again after a hiatus from singing. Mr. Haase is from Minneapolis, Minnesota, and graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree from Northwestern College in Roseville, Minnesota. Mr. Haase began his graduate studies last year at Denver University's Lamont School of Music, where he studied with Kenneth Cox and performed his first operatic role, Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*. He created the role of Conte Palmieri in the world premiere of *Dodici personaggi in cercare di una voce* this past summer in Chiari, Italy. Earlier this semester he sang the role of Marco in *Gianni Schicchi*, and this spring he will be singing the title role in the Shepherd School's production of *Don Giovanni*. Mr. Haase currently studies voice with Dr. Stephen King.

**REBECCA HENDERSON**, originally from Lubbock, Texas, is a junior studying with Susanne Mentzer. At the Shepherd School of Music, she has performed in the choruses of *Rinaldo*, *L'elisir d'amore*, and *Sävitri*. In December she will be a soloist for the Shepherd School's performance of Bach's *Magnificat*.

A native of Washington, D.C., mezzo-soprano **REBECCA HENRY** appeared as Pitti-Sing in *The Mikado* and the Third Spirit in *The Magic Flute* at the Brevard Music Center last summer. At the Shepherd School she has previously appeared as Charlene Hildebrand in *Street Scene*, as a Fury in *La Calisto*, as Carmen in last year's scenes program, and in the choruses of *L'elisir d'amore*, *Rinaldo*, *Hansel and Gretel*, and *Sävitri*. In December she will be a soloist for the Shepherd School's performance of Bach's *Magnificat*. Ms. Henry is a senior, studying voice with Kathleen Kaun.

**DAVID KECK**, a native of Vermont, has explored many fields of vocal performance, from musical theater and opera to song recital and contemporary vocal performance art. While at the Shepherd School he has sung the roles of Dulcamara in *L'elisir d'amore* and Betto di Signa in *Gianni Schicchi*. Two years ago, Mr. Keck made his debut with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis in *La Traviata* and has recently been seen as Nerbulone in the American premiere of Cavalli's *Eliogabalo*, as Superintendent Budd in *Albert Herring*, and Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte*. Mr. Keck received his Bachelor of Arts degree at Columbia College in English and Comparative Literature, and followed this with diploma studies at The Juilliard School. Mr. Keck is a student of Dr. Stephen King, and will be singing the role of the Commendatore in the Shepherd School's spring production of *Don Giovanni*.

**ADAM LAU** is a first-year master's student at the Shepherd School, where he studies with Dr. Stephen King. Mr. Lau earned a bachelor's degree at Whitman College. Recent credits include Simone in the Shepherd School's *Gianni Schicchi*, Figaro in *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Symphony and Opera Academy of the Pacific, the Bartender in *A Wedding* at Music Academy of the West, and a Babb/Hunter in *The Little Prince* with San Francisco Opera. He placed second in the Western Regional finals of the 2007 Metropolitan Opera Auditions, and he has won several competitions, including the Encouragement Award from the Marilyn Horne Foundation and a Full Fellowship in Voice from the California Federation of Music Clubs. This spring he will sing at the Martin Katz master class at Carnegie Hall, sponsored by the Marilyn Horne Foundation, and will perform Masetto in *Don Giovanni* at the Shepherd School.

**MARY-JANE LEE** is a native of Sandy, Utah. She is a first-year master's student at the Shepherd School in the studio of Dr. Stephen King. She completed her Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance at Utah State University's Caine School of the Arts. Most recently Ms. Lee performed La Ciesca in *Gianni Schicchi* at the Shepherd School. Other recent performances include Micaëla in *Carmen* with the Chautauqua Institution, Adina in *L'elisir d'amore*, the Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, the title role in *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, and Luisa Fernanda with the Utah State University Opera Theater. Ms. Lee will

cover the role of Donna Elvira in the Shepherd School's production of *Don Giovanni* next spring.

ANN MARSHALL, soprano, is a first-year graduate student in the studio of Susanne Mentzer. Ms. Marshall received her Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Utah State University. While a student there she was a winner in the Concerto Competition and was awarded the Outstanding Opera Award for her performance as Salud in *La Vida Breve*. Favorite roles include Marie in *The Bartered Bride*, Miss Todd in *The Old Maid and the Thief* and Mother in *Ragtime*. Ms. Marshall has also been involved in several opera outreach programs and has traveled to England and Guatemala to promote music education and awareness.

JULIE MARX, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, is a junior vocal performance major at the Shepherd School. She is a student of Susanne Mentzer. While at the Shepherd School, Ms. Marx has performed in *Street Scene*, *Rinaldo*, *L'elisir d'amore*, and recently sang the role of Gherardino in *Gianni Schicchi*.

SARAH MESKO, a native of Arkansas, is a first-year graduate student of Dr. Stephen King. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Flute Performance and Vocal Performance from the University of Arkansas. Recent roles include Dorothee in *Cendrillon*, Mercédès in *Carmen*, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel*, and Le Prince Charmant in *Cendrillon*. Ms. Mesko has appeared as a soloist with the North Arkansas and Fort Smith Symphonies, the Aspen Music Festival Sinfonia, and the Hot Springs Music Festival, Arkansas, and Arkansas Youth Symphony Orchestras. Her diverse concert repertoire includes the world premiere of Richard Wernick's *A Song for Phil*, written in memory of Philip West and Jan DeGaetani. Ms. Mesko is a recent First Prize Winner of both the National Society of Arts and Letters Vocal Competition and the Franco-American Vocal Academy Grand Concours de Chant. Upcoming engagements include Handel's *Messiah* with the Woodlands Symphony Orchestra and Bach's *Mass in B Minor* with the Fort Smith Symphony.

JOSEPH QUIGLEY, a New Orleans native, is thrilled to be performing in the South once more. He has been seen with DePaul Opera Theater in Chicago in such roles as Count Danilo in *The Merry Widow*, and Lidio in *L'Egisto*. In his four consecutive summers as a member of the Aspen Music Festival, Mr. Quigley has performed the Vicar in *Albert Herring*, the Baron in *La Traviata*, and El Dancaïro in *Carmen*. At the Shepherd School he portrayed Argante in *Rinaldo*, Count Almaviva in a scene from *Le nozze di Figaro*, Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore*, and Maestro Spinelloccio and Amantio di Nicolao in *Gianni Schicchi*. Mr. Quigley currently studies with Dr. Stephen King.

A native of Austin, soprano LAUREN SNOUFFER is a fourth-year undergraduate at the Shepherd School. Since she began her studies here, she has performed in the choruses of *La Calisto*, *Street Scene*, and *Savitri*, and as Giannetta in *L'elisir d'amore*. She has appeared as a soloist with the Rice Chorale and Shepherd School orchestras in their performances of Handel's *Messiah* and Mozart's *Vesperae Solennae*, as well as Fauré's *Requiem* and Saint-Saëns' *Christmas Oratorio*. Last summer she performed the role of the Dew Fairy in *Hansel and Gretel* at the Aspen Music Festival, where she is also a New Horizons fellow until 2010. Ms. Snouffer will be performing the role of Zerlina in the Shepherd School's production of *Don Giovanni* in March 2009.

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BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUED:

Baritone SAMUEL SCHULTZ is a student of Dr. Stephen King. He has performed the roles of Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore*, George Jones in *Street Scene*, Mr. Bluff in *The Impresario*, Guccio in *Gian-ni Schicchi*, and understudied Pooh-Bah in *The Mikado*. His solo concert repertoire includes performances of Handel's *Messiah*, the Fauré *Requiem*, the Saint-Säens *Christmas Oratorio*, Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, and Poulenc's *Rapsodie nègre*. His scene work includes Paganino in *Die Zauberflöte*, Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Tarquinius in *The Rape of Lucretia* and Il Conte in *Le nozze di Figaro*. As an alumnus of the United States Senate Page Program, he has had the privilege to sing for United States Congress.

Baritone MARK WHATLEY, a native of Georgia, is a doctoral student at the Shepherd School and a student of Stephen King. He holds degrees in voice from Belmont University and the University of Kentucky. Mr. Whatley has performed with numerous opera companies, such as Glimmerglass Opera, Opera North, Nashville Opera, Opera Birmingham, Augusta Opera, Chattanooga Opera, Opera Festival di Roma, Opera Company of Brooklyn, Colorado Opera Troupe, and Aspen Opera Theatre. He has been heard in a variety of roles of which his favorites include Marcello in *La bohème*, Almaviva in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Harlekin in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Escamillo in *Carmen*, Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore*, and Strephon in *Iolanthe*. He recently performed both Fritz and Frank in Summer Opera's production of *Die tote Stadt* in Washington, D.C. Mr. Whatley enjoys performing oratorio repertoire, including Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *Matthäus-Passion*, Haydn's *The Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and requiem masses by Brahms, Fauré, Duruflé, and Mozart. He also enjoys a diverse recital repertoire. He has been a winner in numerous competitions, most notably placing first in the Metropolitan Opera Mid-South Regional auditions and appearing as one of nine national finalists in a concert with the Met Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Julius Rudel in 2002.

SHEPHERD SCHOOL VOICE DEPARTMENT  
AND OPERA DEPARTMENT

Stephen King, Professor of Voice and Chair of the Voice Department

Richard Bado, Professor of Opera Studies and  
Director of the Opera Studies Program

Janet de Chambrier, Artist Teacher of Opera Studies

Debra Dickinson, Artist Teacher of Opera Studies for Acting and Movement

Susan Lorette Dunn, Lecturer in Voice

Thomas Jaber, Professor of Music, Director of  
Choral Activities and Vocal Coach

Kathleen Kaun, Professor of Voice

Grant Loehnig, Artist Teacher of Opera Studies

Susanne Mentzer, Professor of Voice

Youn Ju Namkoong, Staff Pianist

Karen Reeves, Opera Program Administrator

## UPCOMING OPERA EVENTS

January 29 and 31

Shepherd School Opera presents selected scenes from  
Britten's **Albert Herring**, Strauss' **Arabella**, Copland's **The Tender Land**,  
Handel's **Alcina**, Floyd's **Susannah**, and other operas.

Both performances at 7:30 p.m.

Wortham Opera Theatre at the Shepherd School

Free admission

February 19

An Evening with Renée Fleming – The Shepherd School Opera Gala

Renée Fleming, soprano

with Richard Bado, pianist and Director of Opera Studies,

followed by a performance with the

Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra, Larry Rachleff, music director

Tickets required. Individual tickets start at \$1,000. This event

will focus on increasing endowed scholarship funds for

Shepherd School students, and particularly the School's opera program.

For more information and tickets, call 713-348-3492.

March 19 and 21

Shepherd School Opera and the Shepherd School Chamber Orchestra

present **Don Giovanni** by Wolfgang Amadeé Mozart.

Stude Concert Hall. Both performances at 8:00 p.m.

Shepherd Society members can receive two complimentary tickets

for the March 19th performance. Call 713-348-3492.

Ticket sales for the general public will begin in January.

