University of Nevada Las Vegas
College of Fine Arts
Department of Music
presents

The UNLV Opera Theatre

Lovers and Other Supernatural Beings
Two Nights of Opera in Las Vegas

CHRISTINE SEITZ, DIRECTOR
GARY THOMAS, MUSICAL COACH, PIANIST
LESLIE LEYTHAM, STUDENT DIRECTOR

Sunday, November 21, 2004, 7:30pm
Monday, November 22, 2004, 7:30pm

Doc Rando Recital Hall
Beam Music Center
UNLV Campus
**Dido and Aeneas**

**Libretto by Nahum Tate**

**Act II scene 1**

Dido, Queen of Carthage, enters the temple of Athena. She is overcome by grief as she contemplates the ruins of her city and her beloved Aeneas, who has been shipwrecked on the coast. The Erinyes appear to Dido, warning her of the dangers that lie ahead. Sherieve, the god of victory, exclaims that she should not despair, for Aeneas will return.

Marcellina- Joni Matthews (Lynsey Rosenbaum)

Susanna- Karisa Gulden (Kali Hannah)

Loh61 Gonzales

Kali Hanna

Holly Hayden

Act II begins in the cave of the Sorceress with her coven of witches who are plotting Dido’s death. Her recitatives are answered by her cackling acolytes in ‘Ho, ho, ho!’ choruses. The Sorceress unfolds a plot. She will conjure a storm to the ruin the royal couple’s hunting party and send them back to Carthage. One of her witches will appear to Aeneas in the form of Mercury and command him to sail away. The concluding chorus ‘In our deep vaulted cell’ is cast in the popular form of a series of echoes.

**Duets from Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro):**

**Libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte**

**Act I, #1 & #2**

Susanna- Edina Thomas (Samantha Giancola)

Chorus Ladies: Joni Matthews

Chorus Gentlemen: Andre Donegan

Figaro - Noe Mata (Ivan Hardin)

Jaquino- Andre Donegan (Michael Posa)

**Act I, #5**

Susanna finds Marcellina in her servant’s quarters and the two women unmask their claws in the recitative and duet. Marcellina has made Figaro promise to marry her to cancel a debt that he cannot repay. Marcellina believes that Figaro will marry her in the end, and Susanna thinks that Marcellina is a crazy old woman. In the duet, the two women trade degrading insults and venomous compliments. Finally, Susanna ushers Marcellina out of her quarters.

The operetta is set within the Tower of London during the sixteenth century. A crowd of boisterous men and women pursue a wandering jester, Jack Point, and his assistant, Elsie Maynard. To calm over-enthusiastic members of the crowd, the two entertainers offer to perform the wildly popular song, “The Merry Wives of the Maid”.

**Program I**

**Sunday, November 21, 7:30pm**

**MUSE 104 Class**

Henry Purcell 1689

**Fidelio**

**Libretto by Joseph Sonnleithner**

**Act I, #1**

Marcellina– Stephanie Sanford (Kali Hanna)

Jaquino- Andre Donegan (Michael Posa)

The opera is set in eighteenth century Spain. The scene is in the courtyard of a prison. Marcellina, daughter of the jailer, Rocca, is doing housework and Jaquino presses her on the subject of marriage. She rejects his pleas, stating that she has never been in love with her father’s new assistant, Fidelio.

**The Yeomen of the Guard**

**Libretto by W. S. Gilbert**

**Act I, #7 “I have a song to sing, O!”**

Elsie – Joy Daniels

Jack Point – Ivan Hardin

The opera is set within the Tower of London during the sixteenth century. A crowd of boisterous men and women pursue a wandering jester, Jack Point, and his assistant, Elsie Maynard. To calm over-enthusiastic members of the crowd, the two entertainers offer to perform the wildly popular song, “The Merry Wives of the Maid.”
The Mikado 
Libretto by W. S. Gilbert

Act I #7 “Three little maids from school are we”

Yum-Yum — Holly Hayden (Karisa Gulden)
Peep-Bo — Lohél Gonzales (Joy Daniels)
Pitti-Sing — Kourtneye Monroe (LaTeisha Baltimore)

The Mikado is the tale of the adventures of Nanki-Poo, son of the Mikado of Japan. Nanki-Poo has fled the court of his father to avoid marriage to the unattractive Katisha. He disguises himself as a wandering minstrel and falls in love with Yum-Yum, who is betrothed to Ko-Ko, the Lord High Executioner. In the trio, “Three Little Maids From School Are We”, Yum-Yum arrives with her sisters, Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo, followed by a procession of schoolgirls. The sisters tell all involved that they are fresh from the seminary, and that they have come to Titipu for Yum-Yum’s wedding. The two sisters state that they, too, will not have long to wait to be brides themselves.

L’elisir d’amore (The Elixir of Love)
Libretto by Felice Romani

Act II, chorus and quartet

Giannetta — Christina Williams (Heather Morrison)
Adina — Lamia Porter (Edina Thomas)
Nemorino — Michael Posa (Andre Donegan)
Dulcamara — Noe Mata (Ivan Hardin)

The town gossip, Giannetta, and the village girls chat about the millions which Nemorino has just inherited. Nemorino staggers in with his ‘elixir’ after spending his army enlistment money on the potion. The village girls express interest in him, and he believes that this is due to the ‘elixir’. Dulcamara stands by, amazed at the reaction of the females. Nemorino’s sudden popularity with Giannetta and the village girls makes Adina jealous and she angrily asks him about his enlistment in the army. Nemorino is sure that she is going to tell him that she loves him, but before he can talk to her, the throng of women carry him off to the dance.

Ariadne, abandoned by Theseus on the isle of Naxos, awaits her death. She is prostrate before her rocky cave, watched over by three nymphs—Najade, Dryade, and Echo—who sympathize with her grief over her lost love. The trio laments that Ariadne’s ceaseless moaning has become as familiar to them as the lapping waves on the shore.

Zerbinetta’s commedia troupe, Brighella, Harlequin, Scaramuccio, and Truffaldin, burst in with a buoyant, rollicking song-and-dance number, trying to cheer Ariadne up with their slapstick comedy. Zerbinetta enters, flirtatious to each man in turn, amused by their antics. When they fail to have any therapeutic effect she sends them off so that she can address Ariadne alone.
**Rusalka**

*Libretto by Jaroslav Kvapil*

**Act I, excerpt from scene i**

Rusalka - Jeannette Fontaine
Water Gnome - Renato Estacio

The Water Gnome, ruler of the underwater realm of the lake, finds his daughter, Rusalka, a water-nymph, reposing sadly in the lake. When he questions her, Rusalka tells him she has fallen in love with a mortal, a prince who often swims in the lake. Rusalka, unseen by all mortals, has been transformed into a water-nymph and can now speak to the Prince as a wave but now longs to take on human form so that she may be seen and embraced in return. Her father angrily warns Rusalka against such a transformation saying that humans are full of sin. She counters that they are full of love. The Water-Gnome doubts Rusalka’s fervent contradictions but gives in to her pleas, advising her to consult the witch who lives at the edge of the lake.

**Manon**

*Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Philippe Gille*

**Act III, sc. ii Duet**

Manon – Ashley Rodis (Amy Mein)
Des Grieux – Dan Beiling

This duet takes place in the sacristy at St. Sulpice, where Des Grieux has decided to take Holy Orders. He prays for the strength to resist the memory of Manon, his former lover. But Manon arrives and breaks down his resolve with passionate pleas, persuading him to run away with her.

**Die Entführung aus dem Serail (The Abduction from the Seraglio)**

*Libretto by Gottlieb Stephanie*

**Act II, #16 Quartet**

Constanze – Suzana Kotur (Mary Biggs)
Blonde – Lorin Taylor (Amy Mein)
Belmonte – Matt Husted
Pedrillo – Dominick Chenes

Constanze, a Spanish woman, her English maid, Blonde, and Pedrillo, servant of Constanze’s fiancé, Belmonte, have been sold by pirates to a Turkish Pasha. Belmonte has tracked them to the Pasha’s seaside palace and plans an escape.

**Un ballo in maschera (A Masked Ball)**

*Libretto by Antonio Somma*

**Act III, #15 Quintet**

Amelia – LaWanda Spicer (Jeannette Fontaine)
Oscar – Emily Slade Leavitt (Jennifer Bryant)
Renato – Renato Estacio (Kaymen Carter)
Sam – Christopher Jordan
Tom – Carnell Johnson

Renato, prime minister to Count Riccardo, is furious with his wife, Amelia. She has admitted that she is in love with the Count but has remained true to her husband. Renato, along with Samuel and Tom, enemies of the Count, conspire to assassinate him, terrifying Amelia. Oscar, page to the Count, brings an invitation to a masked ball which everyone accepts. The men are excited at the chance to execute their plan of assassination and Amelia is terrified and devises a plan to warn Riccardo.

**Orpheus in the Underworld**

*Libretto by Hector Crémieux and Ludovic Halévy*

**Act II, #12 Fly Duet**

Eurydice – Athena Rodis
Jupiter – Dan Beiling

In Offenbach’s merry re-telling of this mythological tale, Eurydice and Orpheus are unhappily married and unhappy to each other. Orpheus plots to kill his wife’s lover with a field of snakes. Eurydice, trying to warn her lover, is bitten and taken to the Underworld by Pluto. Eurydice is sufficiently bored in Pluto’s household to welcome even a fly, which she playfully chases. The fly is actually Jupiter, ruler of the gods, in disguise. Allowing himself to be caught, Jupiter identifies himself and suggests that Eurydice should flee with him to Olympus.

**Carmen**

*Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy*

**Act II, #15 quintes**

Carmen – Leslie Leytham (Suzana Kotur)
Frauquina – Marilyn Slade (Elizabeth Sekora)
Mercedes – Colleen Dilts (Liz Ignatowicz)
El Dancairo – Kaymen Carter
Remendado – Jon Lee Keenan

Frauquina and Mercedes, two gypsy girls, have found Carmen in the tavern outside Seville, where she has been living for the past two months. They are incredulous that Carmen, the consummate gypsy, has stayed in one place for so long. The smugglers Remendado and Dancairo find Carmen and the girls in the tavern. The two men propose a smuggling raid that involves the women in their usual fashion. Frauquina and Mercedes are up to the plan but Carmen refuses to leave Seville because she is in love.
**Don Pasquale**  
Libretto by Giovanni Ruffini  
Gaetano Donizetti  
1843

**Act II Duet**

Dr. Malatesta – Douglas Carpenter  
Don Pasquale – Carnell Johnson

Don Pasquale, an elderly bachelor, decides to marry to produce an heir worthy of his estates rather than rely on his nephew, Ernesto, who wants to marry the poor young widow, Norina. Dr. Malatesta is Pasquale’s confidante and physician, but he is also the friend of Ernesto and Norina. He plots with Norina to act the part of the bride to Don Pasquale in order to ultimately win Ernesto’s hand. Pasquale recounts all his problems with his new bride: her extravagance, her slap to his cheek and her apparent infidelity. Dr. Malatesta struggles to keep a straight face. The two men plot how they will catch the lovers red-handed in the famous patter duet, ‘Cheti, cheti, immantinente.’

**Macbeth**  
Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave and Andrea Maffei  
Giuseppe Verdi  
1847

**Act IV, scene i**

Macduff – Dan Ibeling (Jon Lee Keenan)  
Malcolm – Mathew Husted (Dominick Chenes)

Chorus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ladies</th>
<th>Athenas Rodis</th>
<th>Elizabeth Sekora</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Biggs</td>
<td>Jennifer Bryant</td>
<td>Marilyn Slade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Ditts</td>
<td>Jeanette Fontaine</td>
<td>Emily Slade-Leavitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanette Fontaine</td>
<td>Liz Ignatowicz</td>
<td>LaWanda Spicer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Ignatowicz</td>
<td>Suzana Kotur</td>
<td>Lorin Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Leytham</td>
<td>Amy Mein</td>
<td>Stephanie Thorpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gentlemen:</td>
<td>Douglas Carpenter</td>
<td>Kaymen Carter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dominick Chenes</td>
<td>Renato Estacio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carnell Johnson</td>
<td>Kristopher Jordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jon Lee Keenan</td>
<td>Bryce Myerhoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ryan Perez-Carrillo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survivors of the war stumble along the border between Scotland and England. They sing of their lost homeland, families, and belongings. In his aria, Macduff weeps for the loss of his wife and children who have been slain by Macbeth. He seeks vengeance and looks to Malcolm for help. Malcolm and Macduff draft the men and prepare for war.

Supertitle translating and formatting: Christine Seitz  
Supertitle typing: Kristopher Jordan  
Supertitle cueing: Stephanie Thorpe, Lamia Porter, Heather Morrison

Program synopses: Stephanie Thorpe  
Poster design and layout: Stephanie Thorpe, Michael Posa

Special thanks to:

Gary Thomas  
Candace Kirnon  
UNLV Vocal Faculty:  
Dr. Alfonse Anderson  
Dr. Tod Fitzpatrick  
Dr. Carol Kimball  
Prof. Christine Seitz  
Warren Hettinga