

UNLV  
OPERA & symphony orchestra  
THEATER

# ELIXIR *of Love*

LINDA LISTER, DIRECTOR | A COMIC OPERA  
TARAS KRYSA, CONDUCTOR | BY DONIZETTI



MARCH 15.16.17

@7:30PM + SUNDAY MATINEE 1:00PM

\$25 GENERAL; \$15 SENIORS/MILITARY/STAFF; \$5 STUDENTS W/ ID  
FORTICKETINFOCALL BOXOFFICE 702 895 ARTS

ARTEMUS HAM CONCERT HALL

UNLV Opera Theater  
presents

Gaetano Donizetti's

*L'elisir d'amore*

Cast (in order of appearance)

Adina, a mixologist

Isabella Ivy (Mar. 15, 17)  
Lindsay Cunningham (Mar. 16)  
Cover: Casey Gardner

Nemorino, a maintenance man

Jonathan Mancheni (Mar. 15, 17)  
Alfredo Martirena (Mar. 16)

Belcore, a poker player

Jonathan Napier-Morales (Mar. 15, 17)  
Xavier Brown (Mar. 16)  
Cover: Elliot Matheny

Giannetta, a cocktail waitress

Kathleen McVicker (Mar. 15, 17)  
Bonita Bunt (Mar. 16)  
Cover: Carolina Gamazo

Dr. Dulcamara, a health guru

Nathan Van Arsdale  
Cover: David Casey

Dr. Dulcamara's assistants

Micah Holt  
Kaileigh O'Neill

### **Cocktail Waitresses**

Gaetana: Daniella Toscano

Bellini: Casey Gardner

Amaretta: Carolina Gamazo

Maraschina: Cheyna Alexander

Sambucca: Elizabeth Hughes

Piccante: Cassandra O'Toole

### **Ensemble**

Barry Abarquez, Miguel Alasco, Eliysheba Anderson,  
Gianni Becker, Travis Bernau, Austin Brewer,  
Xavier Brown, Joemar Buyao, David Casey,  
Edwin Cerna II, Angelica Colon, Asiamarie Domingo,  
Andrew Driovich, Ian Gargantiel, Brian Guido II,  
Ronna Humphries, Richelle Janushan, Jonathan Jefferson,  
Kyle Johnson, Peter LaCascia, Theodore Medlyn,  
Hye Youn Joo Sin, Olivia Sirota,  
Suzanne Stone, Nicole Thomas,  
Jamie Barnhart, Savannah Tenney

### **Special thanks to**

Jonathan Good, Jeffrey Koep, Dean Gronemeier,  
Alfonse Anderson, Tod Fitzpatrick, Michelle Latour,  
Brackley Frayer, Dana Williams, Dave Shouse, Scott Hansen,  
Judith Ryerson, Katrina Hertfelder, Dolly Kelepecz,  
Parwin Bakhtary, David Weiss, Robert Magnanti,  
John Prather, Kevin Jarchow, Kendall Tenney,  
Gianni Becker, Shaun Denton, Stanley Nolan,  
Bistro 57 at the Aliante Casino and Hotel  
Automated Gaming Technologies Inc. ([www.agtworldwide.com](http://www.agtworldwide.com))  
Revised Slots Inc. ([www.revisedslots.com](http://www.revisedslots.com))

**Production Staff**

Director: Linda Lister

Conductor: Taras Krysa

Chorus Master: David Weiller

Vocal Coach/Rehearsal Pianist: Karen McCann

Assistant Director/Stage Manager: Stephanie Weiss

Assistant Conductor: Jonathan Gorst

Scenic Designer: Molly Bailey

Lighting Designer: Josh Wroblewski

Costume Designer: Daniella Toscano

Poster Designer: Daniella Toscano

Technical Director: Camren Wakefield

Shop Foreman: Anais Melendez

Assistant Stage Managers: Joey Nicosia, Heather Rose Elise

Assistant Chorus Masters: Cheyna Alexander, Kyle Johnson

Supertitles: adapted from Nico Castel by Stephanie Weiss

Supertitle Operator: Carrie Wachsberger

Videographer: Adam Zielinski

Publicity Committee Chairs: Alfredo Martirena, Suzanne Stone

Substitute Pianists: Spencer Baker, Jonathan Gorst, Linda Lister

Photographer: Shamith Dilan Gamage

Publicity Photographer: Gianni Becker

## UNLV Symphony Orchestra

### Violin I

Dmytro Nehrych, *Concertmaster*  
Sammi Ciarlo  
Sarah Wright  
Elizabeth Bedrosian  
Brandon Pykyavit  
Paris Griffin

### Violin II

Marlo Zemartis  
Belinda Martinez  
Debra Yavitz  
Stacy Honaker  
Mishelle Jean  
Megan Hermansen

### Viola

David Chavez  
Dalton Davis  
Valerie Rieves  
Pamela Betkovsky  
Shelby Rosten  
Rahmaan Phillip  
Mariah Revis

### Cello

Rebecca Gray  
Maren Quanbeck  
Dominique Jackson  
Jeremy Russo  
Katharine Smith  
Chang Yue  
Anthony Rodriguez  
Bradley Taylor  
Alyssa Ledesma

### Harpsichord

Karen McCann

### Bass

Tim Harpster  
Hayden Bryant  
Ed Lacala  
Justin Marquis  
Issa Acosta

### Flute

Chrissy McHugh  
Kaite Zigterman

### Oboe

Alexandra Gilroy  
Chris Fujiwara

### Clarinet

Erin Vander Wyst  
Tallyn Wesner

### Bassoon

Ashlea Sheridan  
Brock Norred

### Horn

Jordan Rush  
Tom Frauenshuh

### Trumpet

Micah Holt  
Kyle Overlay  
Marie Myllyla

### Trombone

Nick Veslany  
Lauren Crew  
Paul Olesuk

### Timpani

Manny Gamazo

### Percussion

Luigi Ng

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"If I ever go looking for my heart's desire again, I won't look any further than my own back yard."

-Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*

Tourists from all over the world come to Las Vegas hoping for instant riches and/or romance. Sin City is a place of great possibility, an elixir for one's financial or physical desires. The mirage of a magical cure for life's ills is tempting, but this fantasy world can feel shallow and empty when one acknowledges that the real Eiffel Tower is nowhere near New York, New York and that the house usually wins. Then the reality of the desert can set in, and one is left full of thirst and longing.

In our production of *L'elisir d'amore*, Nemorino seeks a love potion that will help him win Adina's heart, but in the end he needs no elixir because his devotion has its own potent magic. And like Dorothy Gale, when Adina realizes that she really does love what has been right in front of her all along, she's finally willing to gamble with her heart. She wins the jackpot, hopefully reminding locals that Vegas can be a city of wonderful possibilities for us all.

--Linda Lister

## TIME

The present

## PLACE

A Las Vegas casino

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## SYNOPSIS

### ACT I [70 minutes]

At a distance, humble Nemorino watches the glamorous Adina and her friend Giannetta, lamenting he has nothing to offer Adina but love. The crowd urges their mistress to read them a story — how Tristan won the heart of Isolde by drinking a magic love potion. No sooner has Adina done so than Belcore swaggers in with his entourage. His conceit amuses her, but he is not dissuaded from asking her hand in marriage. Saying she will think it over, she orders refreshments for his comrades. When Adina and Nemorino are left alone, he awkwardly declares his love. She tells him his time would be better spent looking after his ailing uncle than mooning over her, for she is fickle as a breeze.

Fanfare hails the arrival of Dr. Dulcamara, who proclaims the virtues of his patent medicine. Since it is inexpensive, people buy eagerly. When they have gone, Nemorino asks Dulcamara if he sells the elixir of love described in Adina's book. Pulling out a bottle of Bordeaux, the charlatan declares this is the very drink. Though it costs him his last cent, Nemorino buys the wine and hastily drinks it. Adina enters to find him tipsy; certain of winning her love, he pretends indifference. To punish him, Adina flirts with Belcore, who, informed that he must leave town soon, persuades her to marry him at once. Horrified, Nemorino begs Adina to wait one more day, but she ignores him and invites everyone to her wedding reception. Nemorino rushes away, moaning that he has been ruined by Dulcamara's elixir.

\*Intermission (15 minutes)\*

ACT II [60 minutes]

The pre-wedding supper is in progress. Dulcamara, self-appointed master of ceremonies, sits with the bridal couple. Adina's mind is distracted by the doctor, who suggests they blend their voices in a song about a gondolier girl and her wealthy suitor. When the duet ends, Adina goes off with Belcore to sign the marriage contract; the guests disperse. Remaining behind, Dulcamara is joined by Nemorino, who begs for another bottle of elixir; his pleas are rejected, because he has no money. Belcore returns, annoyed that Adina has postponed the wedding until nightfall; he spies Nemorino and asks why he is so sad. The youth explains his financial plight, whereupon the sergeant persuades him to join the tournament and receive a bonus. Belcore leads the perplexed Nemorino off to sign him up, enabling him to buy more elixir.

The women hear from Giannetta that Nemorino's uncle has died and willed him a fortune. When the youth reels in, giddy from a second bottle of wine, they besiege him with attention; unaware of his new wealth, he believes the elixir finally has taken effect. Adina and Dulcamara arrive in time to see him leave with a bevy of beauties, and she, angry that he has sold his freedom to Belcore, grows doubly furious. Hoping to sell Adina a bottle of elixir, Dulcamara claims that Nemorino's popularity is due to the magic potion. Adina replies she will win him back through her own charms. Reentering alone in a pensive mood, Nemorino takes heart because of a tear he has seen on Adina's cheek, but when she appears, he acts disinterested. She confesses she bought back his entry because she loves him. Belcore marches in to find Adina married to Nemorino; declaring that thousands of women await him, he accepts the situation philosophically. Attributing Nemorino's happiness and inheritance to the elixir, Dulcamara quickly sells more bottles before making his escape.

--*Opera News* (with revisions by Linda Lister)

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UNLV Opera Amici

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UNLV Opera Amici c/o Linda Lister, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Department of Music  
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Box 455025, Las Vegas, NV 89154-5025

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**Linda Lister (Stage Director)** has directed the UNLV Opera Theater productions of *La Canterina*, *The Impresario*, *Carmen*, and *The Fairy Queen*. She has also directed productions of *The Merry Widow*, *Hänsel und Gretel*, *Cendrillon*, *The Medium*, *The Old Maid and Thief*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, *Orpheus in the Underworld*, *Bastien and Bastienna*, *Suor Angelica*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Orpheus and Eurydice*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Roman Fever*, and *The Gondoliers*, as well as her own one-act operas *Tryst and Thereafter*, *Love Theories*, and *How Clear She Shines!* She wrote the libretto for *Your True Calling: Composing in the Shadow of Schumann, Mendelssohn and Mahler* and directed its premiere in 2005. In addition, she has choreographed *HMS Pinafore* (State University of New York-Fredonia), *The Tender Land* (Rochester Chamber Opera), *South Pacific* (Gallery Players), *Grease* (Lenox Theater), *Charlotte's Web* (University of Utah), *The Merry Widow* and *Picnic* (University of North Carolina-Greensboro). She serves on the summer faculty of the Druid City Opera Workshop in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. As a singer, she counts Musetta, Adina, Adele and Pamina among her favorite roles. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Vassar College and the Eastman School of Music, Dr. Lister is author of the book *Yoga for Singers: Freeing Your Voice and Spirit through Yoga*. ([www.yogaforsingers.com](http://www.yogaforsingers.com))

**Taras Krysa (Conductor)** serves as the director of orchestras at UNLV. Krysa was born in Kiev, Ukraine to a musical family and began his formal studies as a violinist at the Moscow Conservatory. After moving to the United States, Krysa continued his studies at Indiana University and Northwestern University, both in violin and conducting. His conducting teachers have included Victor Yampolsky, Jorma Panula and David Zinman. As a violinist, Krysa won positions with the New World Symphony Orchestra and St. Louis Symphony Orchestras. In recent seasons his conducting appearances have included the National Ukrainian Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra van het Osten, New World Symphony, St. Petersburg Symphony, Moscow Soloists, Slovak Sinfonietta, Spoleto Festival Chamber Orchestra, Kiev Chamber Orchestra and the Lublin Philharmonic Orchestra. He has made three critically acclaimed recordings for the Brilliant Classics label. In addition, Krysa has served as Principal Conductor of the Ukrainian State Pops Symphony Orchestra, which he led on several European tours with their appearance at the Concertgebouw Hall, and he also conducts the Henderson Symphony Orchestra.

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### **I Feel Pretty:**

Scenes about Beauty and Vanity

including excerpts from *La bohème*, *Manon*, *HMS Pinafore*, and *Cinderella*

plus the world premiere of a scene composed by Linda Lister

**Friday April 26 at 7:30 pm**

Dr. Arturo Rando-Grillot Recital Hall