INDIANAPOLIS OPERA

PRESENTS

CHER CAROC FILITE

THE TOBY THEATER AT NEWFIELDS

May 5, 6 and 7, 2023



Welcome Message from the General Director

I welcome you all with a thankful heart. How amazing it is to share in live acoustic singing in such a wonderful theatre, surrounded by the best and most beautiful voices of today performing alongside the rising stars of tomorrow. What a gift of being in person, together with you all, experiencing the joy of singing, an essential part of our lives.

The Indianapolis Opera strives to focus on a great revival in the new classical music world which inspires all people. *The Magic Flute* really was the first "Broadway" theatre show, in which Mozart composed and Schikaneder wrote one of the most complete operas ever, with spoken dialogue, singing, dancing, lighting, sets, animals, costumes, and sophisticated comedy, produced in a privately owned theatre in Vienna. At the center lies the romance of two young couples and their journey of true, spiritual love, but Mozart also weaves in timeless commentary about the social challenges that still plague us today.

Opera is inherently a cultural art form that has been around as long as theatre and tells the stories of all nations and people with an unforgettable power. It encompasses the full range of human emotion found in timeless stories that represent and connect cultures around the world, truly speaking to us today and tomorrow. It is the collection of all presentational art forms collaborating for the ultimate vocal expression of storytelling.

The Indianapolis Opera is now a 21st century organization with a vision to be an artistic and cultural cornerstone by building community in diverse, inclusive, and equitable ways through presenting traditional and contemporary stories in intimate settings, showcasing the best international talent, and demonstrating the power of beautiful singing and captivating history that each generation draws upon for change.

On behalf of the entire staff and Opera Board of Directors, thank you for joining us and allowing us to give you a gift of music. May you spread your passion to everyone you encounter as ambassadors of the healing power of singing.

A voice. A stage. A story.

Many Blessings, David Craig Starkey

Company Info - Since 1975, Indianapolis Opera has delivered the passion, excitement and art of opera throughout Indiana with compelling educational, cultural and community activities.

Mission Statement - The mission of Indianapolis Opera is to educate, inspire, and entertain through the creation and presentation of musical storytelling for our diverse Hoosier community.

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Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

THE TOBY THEATER AT NEWFIELDS

May 5, 6 and 7, 2023

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Pamina Rebecca Krynski Cox

Tamino Grant Knox
Papageno Jason Cox

Queen of the Night Hein Jung Sarastro Kofi Hayford

First Lady
Second Lady/Pamina Cover

Kon Haylord
Anne Fuchs
Victoria Korov

Second Lady/Pamina Cover Victoria Korovljev*
Third Lady Katherine Kincaid*

Monostatos/Tamino Cover Will Upham*

PapagenaRachel PurvisSpeakerNathanael HeinPriest/Papageno CoverDalton Woody*

First Spirit Adrian Daeger
Second Spirit//Papagena Cover Brianna Murray

Third Spirit Marielle Hug

*Indianapolis Opera Resident Artist

DISCLAIMER: This production will include lightning and loud sound effects.





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Verona Green and Utah Symphony & Opera for costumes designed by Susan Memmott Allred

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Indianapolis Opera Orchestra

VIOLIN 1

Mélanie Clapaiès (Concertmaster)

Nathaniel Shapiro Deborah Rodin Sarah Coo

VIOLIN 2

Shoshana Kay Kathryn Savia Pamela Close

VIOLA

Derek Reeves

Kathryn Hershberger

CELLO

Marjie Hanna Anna Danilova

DOUBLE BASS

Joe Everett

FLUTE

Lilah Senibaldi

OBOE

Pam Ajango

CLARINET

Candice Kiser Christina Martin

BASSOON

Kara Stolle

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Andy Riggs (Guard) James Mannon

BARITONES

Dennis Bowling David Dulhanty

Sean Manterfield (Guard)

Rich Purvis Steve Wrighton

The Magic Flute Synopsis

Act I

Prince Tamino flees a serpent and is saved by Three Ladies in the service of the Queen of the Night. As they leave, the bird-catcher Papageno appears and takes credit for defeating the beast. The Ladies return with a portrait of the Queen's daughter, Pamina, with whom Tamino instantly falls in love. The Queen pleads with Tamino to rescue Pamina from her abductor, the vile Sarastro, then her Ladies gift the prince and Papageno a magic flute and box of bells and introduce Three Spirits who will guide their way. Monastatos, Sarastro's Captain of the Guard, pursues Pamina, who has fled her captivity, but he is frightened away by an equally scared Papageno. The lost bird-catcher tells Pamina of Tamino's love for her and his journey to save her. Pamina is wary at first, but Papageno eventually convinces her to follow him to search for the prince. Led by the Spirits to Sarastro's temple, Tamino learns that the Queen cannot be trusted. He is confused but encouraged to know Pamina is safe. Finding inspiration in playing his flute, he rushes off, following the sound of Papageno's pipes. Monostatos pursues Papageno and Pamina but is left helpless against Papageno's magic bells. Sarastro and his followers enter the scene, where he admonishes Monostatos for his treatment of Pamina and promises her freedom. Pamina embraces Tamino, who Sarastro orders into his temple along with a frightened Papageno.

Act II

Sarastro invites Tamino and Papageno to undergo an initiation, the first trial of which is remaining silent in darkness. Papageno's resolve falters when the Three Ladies appear, but they are driven away by temple guards. Elsewhere, Monostatos covets a sleeping Pamina but hides when the Queen arrives to give her daughter a dagger to murder Sarastro. Having overheard, Monostatos threatens to blackmail Pamina, but Sarastro arrives and harshly dismisses him. Sarastro consoles Pamina, explaining that his temple is no place for vengeance. Tamino and Papageno must continue their silence through further trials and are forced to ignore even Pamina. Mistaking the prince's silence for disregard, she departs heartbroken. A devastated Tamino leaves to face his final trials as Papageno realizes he would prefer a simple life and loving wife. He settles for an old lady, who suddenly appears, and promises to be faithful. She reveals herself to be the young Papagena and runs away with Papageno in pursuit. A distraught Pamina threatens suicide, only to be stopped by the Three Spirits, who explain that Tamino still loves her and guide her to him. Ready for the final trials, Tamino and Pamina reunite and face the ordeals together, protected by the power of the magic flute. Having desperately searched for his Papagena, a despondent Papageno bids farewell to life, but the Three Spirits appear and remind him to use his magic bells to call his love. As the bells play, Papagena reappears, and the two imagine a life of happiness. Monostatos, the Queen of the Night, and her Three Ladies sneak into the temple but are guickly discovered. Sarastro shows forgiveness as everyone hails the lovers' triumph, heralding a future full of courage, virtue, and wisdom for everyone.

Director's Notes by A. Scott Parry

As human beings, we tend to repeat similar behavioral patterns throughout our history, making the same mistakes over and over again. Think of this as the "time is a flat circle" paradigm spoken of in the 19th Century by Frederick Nietzsche. Into this idea of repetition, the 20th Century psychoanalyst Carl Jung put forward his concept of "Individuation," or the uncovering of the unique singular "self" as a release and elevation from this kind of endless cycle. Jung argued that an individual's unique path can only be found through the integration of both the personal and the collective since the "self" is dependent on its relationship to the "other." Most importantly, Jung suggested the balancing of what he termed the "anima/animus," or the unconscious feminine and masculine aspects that reside within each person, regardless of gender, whose integration ultimately transcends the personal psyche.

This sort of dichotomy calls to mind the ideals bubbling up in Western Europe in the late 18th Century, those that begat the French Revolution and thoroughly imbued Mozart's philosophical worldview as he was composing *The Magic Flute*. During this "Enlightenment Period," and more precisely within progressive social circles such as the protestant-minded movement of Freemasonry (to which all the creators of *Flute* were members, as were a majority of the founding fathers of the United States), there was a drive to find balance between oppositions. This somewhat radical group had a desire to forge unity, liberty, and equality among all classes of people, themselves reacting against the more rigid hierarchical framework that used monarchical lineage and clerical patriarchy as divisors. We clearly see this objective in the structure and content of *Flute* via its yin-yang pairings of sun/moon, reason/nature, masculine/feminine, complex/simple, tragic/comedic, etc.

Through this historically oppositional lens, we present you here a *pseudo* temple complex, formal but forgotten and in disrepair, seemingly in conflict with the instincts of nature which intrude upon it, disrupting this old structure's ability to present a clearly identifiable time and place and purpose. And into this conflicted space, we introduce an assemblage of characters made up of a wide array of archetypal figures, each a kaleidoscopic aspect in the endless variety of human experience. These stand in as examples of our own conflicted natures found throughout history, each of them in search of communal balance, societal justice, and personal wholeness, with an innate fear of their ultimate truths. Yet, like us, they are drawn to seek them all the same.



The Magic Flute Cast







Hailed by The New York Times as a "vibrant soprano... with a secure, appealing sound and eye-opening volume," REBECCA KRYNSKI COX returned to the Fest Ensemble at the Luzerner Theater for the 2020 Season, where she performed the role of Raja in the world premiere of Dschungel and was slated to make her role debut as Tatyana in Eugene Onegin. In the spring of 2021, Ms. Cox was slated

to make her company and role debut with Florida Grand Opera, performing Marguerite in Faust, covered Erste Dame in Die Zauberflöte at Theater Basel and stepped in with six hours' notice to sing Fiordiligi in Così fan tutte at the Luzerner Theater. In the winter of 2022, Ms. Cox made her Florida Grand Opera debut as Stella in A Streetcar Named Desire and made debuts with Indianapolis Opera singing Julie Jordan in Carousel and with Dayton Opera in their "Epic Opera" concert. During the 2022-2023 season, Ms. Cox debuts the title role in Beethoven's Fidelio with Opera Company of Middlebury, joins Charleston Opera Theater as Donna Anna in Don Giovanni, and returns to Dayton Opera to sing the Mother in Amahl and the Night Visitors.



GRANT KNOX (tenor) Grant Knox is a nationally recognized tenor, having soloed with Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Opera, Indianapolis Opera, Chicago Opera Theatre, Chautauqua Opera, Atlanta Opera, Rochester Philharmonic/Oratorio Society, Greenville Symphony/ Chorale, Peninsula Music Festival, Ohio Light Opera, and the Tri-Cities Opera. An active recitalist, he has appeared at

the Kennedy Center, the Constella Festival, the Pritzker Pavilion, the Kerrytown Concert House, and the Colburn School in LA. Recent projects include a recital tour of Janáček's rarely heard song cycle, *The Diary of One Who Vanished* with celebrated pianist Martin Katz, the U.S. premiere of Pavel Haas' Fata Morgana in Los Angeles, and the world premiere of Nico Muhly's *The Unknown Room*. Knox is a proponent of new music and has collaborated with many living composers including Libby Larsen, John Musto, William Bolcom, Jake Heggie, and Nico Muhly. Her serves as Associate Professor of Music, Director of the Furman Lyric Theatre, and Coordinator of Vocal Activities at Furman University in Greenville, SC, where he received a Meritorious Teaching Award. During the summer, Knox serves as a member of the voice faculty and co-director of the Studio Artist Program for SongFest.



Born in Dayton, OH baritone JASON COX is excited to make his American debut with Indianapolis Opera. He received his Bachelor and Master degrees in vocal performance from Manhattan School of Music. Since his graduation in 2013 he has been singing in Europe. As a member of the fest ensemble at the Luzerner Theater notable roles include

Jochanaan (Salome), Faninal (Der Rosenkavalier), Guglielmo (Così fan tutte), Don Giovanni (Don Giovanni), Germont (La Traviata), Ford (Falstaff), Brétingy (Manon), Lord Cecil (Maria Stuarda), General Bumm (La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein). At Theater Basel he sang Jochanaan (Salome), Frère Léon (St François d'Assise), Vater (Hänsel und Gretel), Junius (The Rape of Lucretia). Other guest appearances include Ned Keene (Peter Grimes) and Baritone soloist in a scenic realisation of Carmina Burana at Theater Bremen; The Stranger (Max Brand's Stormy Interlude) Landestheater Salzburg; Don Alfonso (Così fan tutte) Theater Magdeburg.



Acclaimed for her "superior vocal value" (Boston Globe), Soprano HEIN JUNG has performed throughout the US, Italy, and South Korea with Tanglewood, Milwaukee Symphony, San Francisco Opera, Madison Opera, Carnegie Hall, Bel Canto Chorus, The Florida Orchestra, Concert Artist Series of Sarasota, Kenosha-Recine Symphony, St. Petersburg Opera, Kumho Art Hall, Sejong Art Center, and

Bucheon Philharmonic. Most recently, she performed Olympia (*Les Contes d'Hoffmann*) with Opera Tampa and soloed in a live broadcast with the Lyum Orchestra. She also created the role of Princess Cocachin in the world premiere of Stella Sung's *The Red Silk Thread*. Jung's recording of *Songs of Franz Liszt*, released by Centaur Records, was praised by American Record Guide: "Hein Jung has the perfect voice - terrific ease in her upper register and a silvery, clear tone." This season, she is featured in several concert series, including Youngstown State University, Portohelo Music Festival in Greece, and InterHarmony Orchestra in Italy. Jung has won top prizes throughout her career, including the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (regional finalist), Irma Cooper International Competition, and Schubert Club Competition. She currently serves as Professor of Voice at The University of Tampa.



KOFI HAYFORD is a prize-winning Ghanaian-American bass, described as possessing an "impressive" (Brooklyn Discovery), "sonorous" (Meet Me at the Opera), and "stentorian bass voice" (National Herald). With almost 40 operatic roles under his belt, he is swiftly building a reputation as an accomplished artist bringing an "exciting" and "stunning" sound to the stage. Kofi has performed

with The Metropolitan Opera Guild, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, New Amsterdam Opera, Connecticut Lyric Opera, NJ Verismo Opera, Bel Cantanti Opera, and more. Kofi created the role of Pedro in the World Premiere of The Andean Hope with The U.N. Symphony Orchestra. Other major roles include Mephistopheles' in Faust, Timur in Turandot, Bartolo in Le nozze di Figaro, Ramphis and Il Re in Aida, La Roche in Capriccio, Raimondo in Lucia di Lammermoor, Commendatore in Don Giovanni, Sarastro in The Magic Flute, Rodolfo in La Sonnambula, Sparafucile and Monterone in Rigoletto, and Gaveston La Dame Blanche. Kofi is the 2018 Winner of the Tchaikovsky Music Competition, a 2017 NJ State Opera Guild Competition Finalist, and a Songfest Young Artist. He received his Bachelor's in Vocal Performance from SUNY Buffalo and is a founder of the DictionBuddy mobile app.



Soprano ANNE FUCHS has enjoyed an international performance career of operatic, contemporary, and musical theater repertoire. She had her European debut as Papagena in *Die Zauberflöte* with the Oldenburgisches Staatstheater, where she also appeared as Ida and Adele (cover) in *Die Fledermaus* in Oldenburg, Germany. Other European highlights include a televised production of *Così fan tutte* as Fiordiligi with the Lyric Opera Studio of

Weimar, Germany, a sound project entitled *Notte Splendida Notte* in Rome, Italy, for the International Year of Astronomy, and performances as a featured artist with *Palazzo Ricci* opera studio in Tuscany. A Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions Regional Finalist at the age of 20, Anne has performed many leading soprano roles including Lucia, Elvira, Adina, Pamina, Santuzza, and Rosalinde with South Bend Lyric Opera, Opera Theater of Pittsburgh, Queens Opera Association, Rising Star Singers, Lexington Opera Society, and others. She has also appears as soprano soloist with the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra, Delaware Valley Philharmonic Orchestra, Sinfonietta Nova, and the Grammy-award-winning contemporary choir, *The Crossing*. Anne is now based in Indy and is thrilled to make her debut with the Indianapolis Opera.



VICTORIA KOROVLJEV, a rising young soprano with a warm lyrical timbre, recently appeared as Lola in *Gallantry* and Veteran's Wife in *Veteran Journeys* with Indianapolis Opera. Victoria celebrated her Caribbean heritage with a debut as Elsa in the world premiere of *The Pirate's Daughter*, commissioned by Romanza Lyric Opera. In 2022, she was featured as Siren in *Rinaldo* in Minnesota

Opera's production of *Rinaldo* and made her debut with Opera Grand Rapids as Female Soloist 2 in the world premiere of *Stinney: An American Execution*, recorded for PBS. Victoria also recently made her role debut as Countess Almaviva (*Le nozze di Figaro*) with Trentino Music Festival. Regularly receiving acclaim in competition, she was named finalist in TMF's Young Artist Competition and semi-finalist in both the Palm Springs Opera Guild Competition and Jacques Offenbach Grand Prix.



KATHERINE KINCAID, mezzo-soprano from Jacksonville, FL, recently appeared as the Announcer in *Gallantry* and Navy/VA Social Worder in *Veteran Journeys* with Indianapolis Opera and as Sally in *Die Fledermaus* with the First Coast Opera. Katherine was recently a Resident Artist with Toledo Opera, where she made her professional debut as Flora (*La Traviata*) and Dorabella (*Così fan tutte*).

She graduated from University of Maryland with an M.M. in Opera and Florida State University with a B.M. in Voice Performance. Past roles include Kate Julian (*Owen Wingrave*), Ramiro (*La finta giardiniera*), Orphée (*Orphée et Euridice*), and Mrs. Lowe (*The Manchurian Candidate*). Katherine has performed with the Maryland Opera Studio, the National Orchestral Institute, Seagle Music Colony, Oberlin in Italy, Classical Singing and New York in June, and the CCM Opera Bootcamp.



WILL UPHAM, a native Hoosier born in Franklin and raised in Bedford, is pursuing his Performer Diploma in Voice at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. He recently graduated from Southern Methodist University with an M.M. in Vocal Performance and holds a B.M. in Voice from DePauw University. Will served as an Education Artist at the Dallas Opera where he portrayed the role of Nemorino in

Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love*. Other recent roles include Rinuccio in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and Rodolfo (cover) in Puccini's *La bohème* with La Musica Lirica in Italy, Reverend Samuel Parris in Ward's *The Crucible* with SMU, and Alfredo (cover) in Verdi's *La Traviata* with La Musica Lirica in Wisconsin. Will serves as a Tenor Section Leader at Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis and is a former member of IU's award-winning contemporary vocal ensemble NOTUS.



RACHEL PURVIS, a native of Indianapolis, is pleased to make her professional debut with Indianapolis Opera. Purvis was last seen in Puccini's *Tosca* with Indianapolis Opera and sang the title role in Dvořák's *Rusalka* in Philadelphia. Additional credits include the title role in *Suor Angelica*, Mimì (*La Bohème*), Alice Ford (*Falstaff*), Edith (*Pirates of Penzance*), Mrs. Grose (*The Turn of the Screw*), First Witch (*Dido and*

Aeneas), Madame Pompous (Too Many Sopranos), and choruses of Verdi's La Traviata, Wagner's Parsifal, and Poulenc's Dialogues of the Carmelites. Purvis earned her Performer Diploma and Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music under the tutelage of Jane Dutton and received her undergraduate degree from Butler University.



DALTON WOODY, a baritone from Western North Carolina, most recently appeared as Sciarrone and covered Scarpia in Indianapolis Opera's production of Puccini's Tosca. With the Asheville Lyric Opera, Dalton appeared as Action in Bernstein's West Side Story, Fiorello in Rossini's Il Barbiere di Siviglia, and The Speaker in Mozart's Die Zauberflöte. Other roles include Francis Nurse in Ward's The Crucible, Cosimo in

Musto's *The Inspector*, Ali in Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri*, Leandro in Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges*, and Charles Surface in the world premiere of Robert's *The School for Scandal*. Dalton recently served as an Emerging Artist with Charlottesville Opera, where he performed the roles of Alcindoro in Puccini's *La Bohème*, Franz the Butler in Rogers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, and Cascada in Franz Lehár's *The Merry Widow*.



NATHANAEL HEIN (tenor), a native of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, has appeared with many regional opera and performance ensembles. Most recently, Hein was seen in The Carmel Center for the Performing Art's production of I'll Be Seeing You: Stories of WWII. Locally, Mr. Hein's credits include The Indianapolis Opera's production of South Pacific as The Professor, Man of La Mancha as the Barber, and

Resident Artist productions of *The Stoned Guest* by P.D.Q. Bach and *Slow Dusk* by Carlisle Floyd. Mr. Hein was featured by The Missouri Symphony, where he performed the role of Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus*. Hein appeared as Azael in Debussy's with the Duke Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Hein studied at The Jacobs School of Music and received his Master's degree at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Mr. Hein spent three summers at the Aspen Music Festival in Aspen, Colorado where he performed in multiple opera scene programs and events.



ADRIAN DAEGER feels so grateful to be part of her first production with Indianapolis Opera! Adrian is a recent graduate from Butler University where she received her Bachelor's in Vocal Performance and performed the roles of Lucy England in *The Telephone*, Beth in scenes from *Little Women*, and Clara in scenes from *The Light in the Piazza*. Adrian has also sung as soloist in the RPUMC Chancel Choir

for Faure's Requiem, Saint-Saëns Oratorio de Noël, and selections from Les Misérables. She also performed as a vocalist with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra for Jack's Broadway Standing Ovations. Other roles include Heather Mcnamara in Heathers, Esmeralda in The Hunchback of Notre Dame, and Angel in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat with production companies Footlite Musicals and Fast Apple Artists.



BRIANNA MURRAY is praised for having "one of those soprano voices, clear, perfectly-placed, angelic, that could go on all day and I would still want more" (Herald Times). Raised in the Chicagoland area, Brianna holds degrees from Oberlin Conservatory and Indiana University. Her operatic highlights include Barbarina in Le Nozze di Figaro, Frasquita in Carmen, and Clorinda in La Cenerentola, Papagena in Die Zauberflöte,

and Adina L'elisir d'amore. Equally at home on the musical theater stage, Brianna performed the role of Anne Egerman in Sondheim's A Little Night Music at Quisisana Resort. She will return to Quisisana this summer to sing Pamina in The Magic Flute. Earlier this season, Brianna won third place in the Corsica Lirica competition and debuted with Chicago Opera Theater in their 2023 season in Albert Herring and The Life and Death(s) of Alan Turing.



MARIELLE HUG, mezzo-soprano, is excited to make her debut with Indianapolis Opera as Third Spirit in *The Magic Flute*. She has performed in multiple opera choruses at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music including *Madama Butterfly*, *Peter Grimes*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and S. Ran's world premiere of *Anne Frank*. This past spring she performed the role of Armelinde in Pauline Viardot's *Cendrillon* at Indiana University.

She is currently pursuing her Master of Music in Voice at the Jacobs School under the tutelage of Jane Dutton.

Artistic Team



With over 125 productions spanning an enormous range of repertoire, from Così fan tutte to West Side Story,

A. SCOTT PARRY's direction has been hailed by Opera News as "marvelous," "lively," "imaginative," and "spot-on," working with such companies as New York City Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Michigan Opera Theatre, Dallas Opera, Chicago Opera

Theatre, Pittsburgh Opera, Chautaugua Opera, Opera Delaware, and Madison Opera to name only a few. He conceived of, directed, and designed the world premières of I lavori d'amore persi, a pastiche of music theatre fragments by Claudio Monteverdi for the Bloomington Early Music Festival, and the modern absurdist opera The Pig, the Farmer, and the Artist by David Chesky for the New York Fringe Festival at La Mama Off-Broadway. Mr. Parry spent almost a decade on the directing staff of New York City Opera at Lincoln Center, has served on the faculty of Indiana University in Bloomington, and has been a visiting professor at the New England Conservatory, Peabody Conservatory, and Amherst College, in addition to spending a decade as the Producing Artistic Director of The Ohio State Opera & Lyric Theatre in Columbus. He currently serves on the faculties of Manhattan School of Music and New York University and is the Stage Director and Acting Coach for Dolora Zajick's Institute for Young Dramatic Voices and the American Wagner Project. As a composer, he premiered his quartet theatre song-cycle "On the Impracticality... of Love" at NYC's Singer's Forum and recently completed a libretto adaptation of La mère coupable (The Guilty Mother), the third "Figaro play" of Beaumarchais, which is being set to music.



SCOTT SCHOONOVER is Founder and Artistic Director of the critically acclaimed Union Avenue Opera in St. Louis, Missouri, where he has served as conductor of more than seventy productions over the past 28 years. A few UAO highlights include: Kurt Weill's Lost in the Stars, Wagner's complete Ring cycle (Dove reduction), Jake Heggie's Dead Man Walking, La traviata, Turandot along with Albert Herring,

Candide and Doubt starring world renowned soprano, Christine Brewer. Schoonover also has conducted for several other regional companies. Productions include West Side Story, Don Giovani, and La traviata for Asheville Lyric Opera, Le nozze de Figaro, Rigoletto, I Pagliacci, Samson et Dalila, Werther, Don Pasquale, and Die Fledermaus for Winter Opera Saint Louis, and Le nozze de Figaro, L'elisir d'amore, The Merry Widow, world premiere of Abe, Pirates of Penzance, and The Mikado for Muddy River Opera Company in Quincy, Illinois. He conducted the world premiere of Barbara Harbach's opera, O Pioneers! at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and conducts the Webster Opera Studio performances at Webster University. Upcoming productions include Britten's Turn of the Screw and Ahrens and Flaherty's Ragtime. Also active as a choral conductor, Schoonover is the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Missouri Women's Chorus and has acted as a guest conductor and clinician for several midwestern choirs. He serves as Director of Music at Union Avenue Christian Church in St. Louis where he has led the Chancel Choir on three European concert tours.



DR. JESSICA BURTON, a military brat, likes to say she is from everywhere and nowhere. Most recently she hails from Austin, TX, where she received her D.M.A. in Opera Direction from the University of Texas. She also holds a B.M. in Vocal Performance and a B.S. in Technical Theatre from West Texas A&M University. Jessica has worked as an assistant director with Austin Opera, Amarillo Opera, LOLA (Local Opera Local

Artists), UT Austin, Spotlight on Opera, and FAVA France. Past directing credits include Little Women, At the Statue of Venus, Speed Dating Tonight, Das Lied von der Erde (UT Austin), Cendrillon, Pomme d'api (FAVA France), Angles in America, The Laramie Project, and Bent (Avenue 10). As a performer, notable roles include the Witch in Into the Woods, Fastrada in Pippin, and Morgana in Alcina. Past costume designs include The Magic Flute, Dido and Aeneas, Suor Angelica, Metamorphoses, The Who's Tommy, and Aida. Jessica's passion is cultivating community engagement among the next generation of opera goers.



DR. CARA CHOWNING is currently the vocal coach and voice area coordinator at Ball State University. She has served on faculties of the Cleveland Institute of Music, Simpson College, Oklahoma City University, and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Her students and private coaching studio singers can be heard in young artist programs, in opera houses such as the Metropolitan

Opera, Minnesota Opera, San Francisco Opera, and Utah Opera. Chowning is in demand as coach, music director, and collaborative artist; she performs extensively throughout the US, South America, and Europe as duo partner and chamber musician. Internationally, Chowning has been guest coach for the American Institute of Music Studies in Graz, Austria and Teatro Bicentenario in San Juan, Argentina. She has lectured and performed for Road Scholars. Uniworld cruises and been broadcast on Public Television and Radio. Chowning has prepared opera and musical theater productions at the professional, young artist, and collegiate level. She is music director for the vocal series of the Bar Harbor Music Festival and has served on the music staff of Lyric Opera Cleveland, Opera Cleveland, Finger Lakes Opera, Kansas City Lyric Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, and Cleveland Opera where she created and prepared nationally recognized opera educational programs for performance in schools across Northeast Ohio. As founder of *In-tune Artistry*, Chowning, a 200 YTT yoga teacher and certified Breathwork facilitator, coaches professionals in the arts and beyond to unlock their full performance power and achieve theirs and their organizational goals.



DR. MIGEUN CHUNG, Resident Collaborative Pianist of Indianapolis Opera, recently played for IO's Opera in the Park and Tosca, and this spring, will serves as pianist for Die Zauberflöte. She has held positions with MOSI, Opera NUOVA, Opera in the Ozarks, Opera Lucca, AIMS, Interlochen Arts Camp, New York Dramatic Voices, CoOperative Program, CLA Italy, Bayview Music Festival,

and The Vocal Immersion Program at Castleton. Past productions include

Puccini's Suor Angelica, Handel's Rinaldo, Strauss' Die Fledermaus, Rossini's Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Moore's The Ballad of Baby Doe, Bizet's Carmen, Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro and Così fan tutte, Gréty's Zémire et Azor, Weill's Berlin to Broadway, and Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream, among others. Dr. Chung recently earned her second M.M. in Collaborative Piano from Carnegie Mellon and holds a D.M.A. and M.M. in piano performance from UNT and B.M. from the Sookmyung Women's University.



A native of Atlanta, Georgia, TAMARA DWORETZ is a dynamic and electric musical force on the podium. She has conducted the Paris Mozart Orchestra, Boston Pops, Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, Dallas Opera Orchestra, Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, Amarillo Symphony, Mankato Symphony and Georgia Philharmonic. Next season, she will debut as guest conductor of Arkansas Symphony

Orchestra and has served as assistant conductor for the Orchestre de Paris, Gürzenich Orchestre Cologne, BBC Concert Orchestra, Atlanta Opera, and Austin Symphony. Tamara was one of 6 semi-finalists in the 2022 La Maestra Conducting Competition and won 2nd prize in the Boston Pops' Leonard Bernstein Conducting Competition. She is a recipient of the Bruno Walter Conducting Fellowship at the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music. A devoted music educator, Tamara has worked with the Boston University School of Music Chamber Orchestra, SUNY Fredonia School of Music Orchestra, Longy Conservatory Orchestra, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Orchestra, and Austin Youth Orchestra and All-Northwest Honor Orchestras, and this summer will serve as Assistant Conductor for NYO-USA (National Youth Orchestra).



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VOCAL MASTER CLASSES: In a hands-on experience, the Artists present a master class for young music students, imparting knowledge from years of studying and teaching vocal performance by coaching both solos and ensembles, sharing vocal health advice, and discussing what goes into a performance career.

OPERA FIELD TRIPS: We welcome student groups to attend a preview dress rehearsal of our productions. Young audiences get the full experience of the performance, complete with orchestra, costumes, sets, and lighting. Seating is limited and reserved on a first come-first served basis.

We are also now booking education and community outreach events for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024!

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