



In residence at
Fairleigh Dickinson University
285 Madison Avenue, Madison, NJ 07940

Opera at Florham

“La Bella Musica di Bel Canto”



Sunday, November 3, 2019 2:00 pm

Lenfell Hall -The Mansion, Fairleigh Dickinson University
285 Madison Avenue, Madison, NJ 07940

In residence at Fairleigh Dickinson University since 1982
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Opera at Florham

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to *Opera at Florham's* 37th season!



Our Musical Director, Mary Pinto describes today's Musicales theme- *Bel Canto* as "a style of music that incorporates virtuosic singing involving a great deal of ornamentation and the ability to sing very evenly from one's low notes to high notes." Narrator Mariana Karpatova will provide insight into the history and meaning behind the *Bel Canto* style and the selections in the program.

Going forward, we will only utilize e-mail and our website to provide our audiences with event information. If we don't yet have your e-mail address, or you don't have electronic access, please stop at the front desk and provide us with your contact information. ***We never share your e-mail address with third parties.***

OAF Opera Education Outreach Program News: Join Lou Barrella, our Musical Educator, at the Madison Library on Saturday, November 16 at 11AM when he presents "*The Joy of Opera: Reflection of Life*". In this two-hour lecture with musical excerpts, Lou will share his insights into the composers whose works still affect us today. Visit the Library website for registration information www.madisonpubliclibrary.org

We enclose a donation envelope and hope that you will contribute to our organization so we may continue future outreach and education programs.

Help us promote *Opera at Florham*! Our Rack Card, included in your Program is a great way to share our event information Visit us at: www.operaatflorham

Joan Del Giudice, President

Email me at: deljo13@gmail.com

Salute to Opera at Florham! As OAF volunteers we dedicate ourselves to the continued success of this wonderful musical art form.

*Irene Buroczynski, Roberta Montemurno and
Marjorie and Ken Spencer*

*OAF recognizes and appreciates the contributions of
all of our wonderful and dedicated volunteers for
without you we cannot survive.*



A native of Bucks County Pennsylvania, soprano **Brenna Markey** has been gaining acclaim for her voice and dramatic interpretation, singing a richly varied repertoire in both opera and concert. Markey made her debut as soloist in Bach's *Magnificat* and Handel's *Messiah*, performed by The Vox Amadeus Orchestra and Ensemble at The Kimmel Center in

Philadelphia PA.

She was recently soprano soloist in Brahms' *Requiem* with The Redeemer Choir in Bryn Mawr PA., has appeared in Bravo Alliance's *Winners and Beyond* and premiered Alexander Dargomyzhsky's *Rusalka* in the title role in Philadelphia's own Russian Opera Workshop.

Ms. Markey received her B.S. in Music from Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance in Philadelphia She won an encouragement award at the *Opera at Florham 2018 Vocal Competition*.



Samuel McDonald, baritone is a graduate of The John J. Cali School of Music and did his graduate studies at Miami University of Ohio. He has been praised for his singing and artistry which is "warm, expressive [and] first rate..." and "...full of focus, passion, and enough elegance to impart fresh air into Bel Canto..."

Recent awards include local and regional winner of the NANBPWC Vocal Arts Competition and a finalist in The Opera Ebony Benjamin Matthews Vocal Competition, The National Vocal Arts Competition, and The Harlem Opera Theater Vocal Competition.

He recently made his NJ Symphony Orchestra debut as the baritone soloist in Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, title role in *Don Giovanni*, Marcello (*La bohème*), Guglielmo (*Così fan tutte*), Belcore (*L'elisir d'Amore*), and others. He is currently on the voice faculty of Bucknell University and Montclair State University.



Ian Matthew Castro, tenor is a first-year Master's student at The Juilliard School. He received his Bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance from Montclair State University.

Ian has made recent appearances in Light Opera of New Jersey's production of *Così fan tutte* as Ferrando, Music Academy International's production of *Alcina* as Oronte, and Montclair State University's *The Rape of Lucretia* as the Male Chorus.

This Season, Ian will be appearing in the role of John Adams in Virgil Thomson's *The Mother of Us All* and will be covering the role of Rodolfo in Puccini's *La Bohème*.



Mary Pinto, an acclaimed accompanist and vocal coach, has worked with international opera singers and major American opera companies for the past 25 years. Her career began as a rehearsal pianist for noted opera companies: Dallas Opera, Chicago's Lyric Opera, Omaha Opera, and others. In 2012, Ms. Pinto coached and was rehearsal pianist for Metropolitan Opera star and international soprano Deborah Voigt as she prepared for the three Brünhilde roles for the Met's production of Wagner's *Ring Cycle* which was featured in the documentary *Wagner's Dream: The Making of the Met's Ring Cycle* and premiered at the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival.

In 2014, she performed with Opera Noire's Ensemble in the American Embassy in Moscow and St. Petersburg; spent last three summers as coaching staff at Masterclass d' Ischia, Italy.

Since 2007 Ms. Pinto has been on the Montclair State University faculty as a private coach, accompanist, and to prepare students for opera productions. She serves as the Vice-President and Music Director for Opera at Florham while maintaining coaching studios in New Jersey and New York City.

Mary received her Bachelor's degree in Music for Piano Performance from DePauw University and a Master's in Music degree for Piano and Voice Accompaniment from University of Illinois.



Mariana Karpatova mezzo-soprano, opera appearances include Sarasota Opera as Cuniza in *Oberto*, the Spoleto USA Festival, the Bulgarian National Opera as Azucena in *Il Trovatore*, Baltimore Opera and Palm Beach Opera as Olga and Larina in *Eugene Onegin* and others.

On the concert stage, she has performed Mahler's *Symphony No. 8* and *Das Lied von der Erde*, Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*, Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky*, Shoenberg's *Gurrelieder*, Ravel's *Scheherazade*, Bach's *Magnificat* and *St. Matthew Passion*, Beethoven's *Mass in C*, Durufle's *Requiem*, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*, and Verdi's *Requiem*.

She is a recognized specialist training youth and advanced professional singers for contemporary and classical music. Since 2002 she has maintained a private practice teaching singing and is currently a member of the vocal teaching staff at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison.





Louis Barrella, has been a Music Educator for over 40 years, specializing in Music and Opera Appreciation in schools and for many Cultural Organizations. He has given workshops and continues to organize student trips for the Education Department of the Metropolitan Opera for 35 years. He has been a Guest Lecturer at Colleges, Museums and Cultural Institutions throughout the Metropolitan Area.

He has been a Board Member of the Enrico Caruso Museum since 1993, a regular presenter at the Mario Lanza Luncheons, a Co-Host at the Columbus Citizens' Foundation Opera Nights and is again conducting his opera class at the Garibaldi Meucci Museum.

**Gerda Lissner Foundation and Lissner Charitable Trust Proudly
Supports Opera at Florham**

The Gerda Lissner Foundation, created by Mrs. Lissner, a 77-year Metropolitan Opera subscriber, to provide young opera singers with the financial support they need to pursue their craft and excel in the world of Opera.

Special Thanks to



Stephen DeMaio
President, Gerda Lissner Foundation



Karl Michaelis
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Mark Your Calendars!!

December 1- A Jingling Jamboree our 2d annual collaboration with FDU singers
April 5- Crossing Genres-opera singers who embrace a variety of genres
May 31- 32nd Annual International Vocal Competition and Musicale
Honoring Violetta DuPont

Educational Outreach Program

November 16- "The Joy of Opera: Reflection of Life," by Lou Barrella,
OAF Narrator and Educational Outreach –
11AM Madison Public Library

Opera at Florham Presents:

An Afternoon of Bel Canto's Best Classics

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Lenfell Hall, Madison NJ

Sunday, November 3, 2019 at 2 pm

Featuring

Brenna Markey, Soprano

Ian Castro, Tenor

Samuel McDonald, Baritone

Mary Pinto, Artistic Director & Piano Accompanist

L'Elisir d'Amore-Elixir of Love

“Prendi per me se libero” from *L'Elisir d'Amore* by Gaetano Donizetti
Brenna Markey

“Una parola, Adina” from *L'Elisir d'Amore* by Gaetano Donizetti
Brenna Markey and Ian Castro

“Come paride vezzoso” from *L'Elisir d'Amore* by Gaetano Donizetti
Samuel McDonald

“Una furtiva lagrima” from *L'Elisir d'Amore* by Gaetano Donizetti
Ian Castro

Don Pasquale

“Pronta io son” from *Don Pasquale* by Gaetano Donizetti
Brenna Markey and Samuel McDonald

Lucia di Lammermoor

“Fra poco” from *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Gaetano Donizetti
Ian Castro

“Regnava nel silenzio” from *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Gaetano Donizetti
Brenna Markey

“Cruda funesta smania” from *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Gaetano Donizetti
Samuel McDonald

L'Elisir d'Amore-Elixir of Love (encore!)

“Venti scudi” from *L'Elisir d'amore* by Gaetano Donizetti
Ian Castro and Samuel McDonald

----- *Intermission* -----

And the love songs they inspired

“Ideale” by Francesco Paolo Tosti
Brenna Markey

“Dolente Immagine di Fille mia” by Vincenzo Bellini
Samuel McDonald

“Non ti Scordar di Me” by Ernesto de Curtis
Ian Castro

“Glitter and Be Gay” from *Candide* by Leonard Bernstein
Brenna Markey

“Because” by Guy d'Hardelot and Edward Teschmacher
Ian Castro

“If Ever I Would Leave You” from *Camelot* by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe
Samuel McDonald

“Love Changes Everything” from *Aspects of Love* by Andrew Lloyd Webber
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volunteer and help with our events and fundraising!**

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Opera at Florham is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

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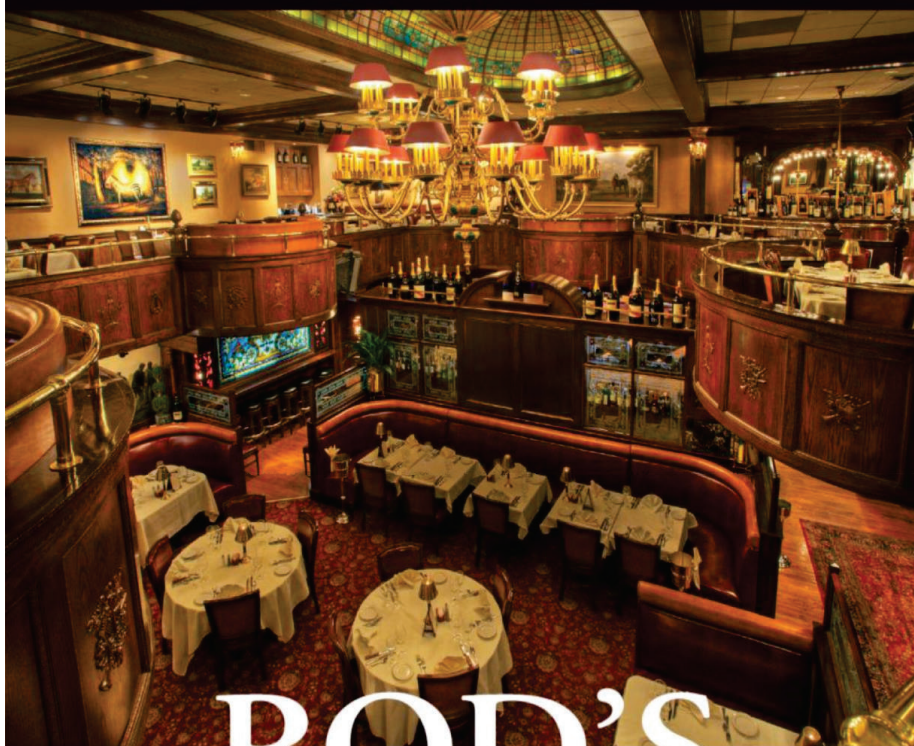
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