

LEON WILSON CLARK
OPERA SERIES

SHEPHERD SCHOOL OPERA

presents an evening of

**SCENES FROM OPERA
AND MUSICAL THEATRE**

Debra Dickinson, stage director
Michael Franciosi, musical director and pianist
Donald Doucet, pianist

7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 19
7:30 p.m., Friday, April 20, and
2:30 p.m., Sunday, April 22, 2001
Wortham Opera Theatre

Celebrating **25** *years*

THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC RICE UNIVERSITY

1975-2000

PROGRAM

COSÌ FAN TUTTE

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart;

libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte

Act I - Scene 2: Soave sia il vento

Act I - Scene 3: Che vita maledetta/

Smanie implacabili/In uomini, in soldati

Despina: Katherine Moscato

Dorabella: Jessica Lloyd

Fiordiligi: Cara Spinks

Don Alfonso: Joseph Rawley

STREET SCENE

Music by Kurt Weill; lyrics by Elmer Rice

Act II Duet

Rose: Nacole Palmer

Sam: Jamin Flabiano

WERTHER

Music by Jules Massenet; libretto by Edouard Blau,

Paul Milliet, and Georges Hartmann

Act III Duet: Bonjour, grande sœur

Charlotte: Holli Harrison

Sophie: Amy Cowan

TROUBLE IN TAHITI

Music and libretto by Leonard Bernstein

Scenes 3 and 4

Dinah: Soon Cho

Sam: Levi Beck

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE *

*Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim;
book by James Lapine*

Color and Light

*Dot: Natalie Priest
Georges Seurat: Michael Ross*

** Not performed on Friday, April 20.*

ROMÉO ET JULIETTE

*Music by Charles Gounod;
libretto by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré*

Act II Duet: O nuit divine

*Juliette: Nicole Fraley
Roméo: Karim Sulayman
Gertrude: Holli Harrison*

INTERMISSION

LE NOZZE DI FIGARO

*Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart;
libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte*

Act II Trio: Susanna, or via sortite

*Susanna: Katherine Moscato
Countess Almaviva: Shahrzad Mowlavi
Count Almaviva: David Heffner*

THE DESERT SONG

*Music by Sigmund Romberg;
libretto and book by Otto Harbach,
Oscar Hammerstein II, and Frank Mandel*

Romance

*Margot: Monica Griffin
Pierre/Red Shadow: Craig Verm*

LA FORZA DEL DESTINO

Music by Giuseppe Verdi; libretto by Francesco Maria Piave

Act II, Scene 2 Duet: Or siam soli

*Leonora di Vargas: Suzanne Hatcher
Padre Guardiano: Orival Bento-Gonçalves
Fra Melitone: Michael Ross*

WONDERFUL TOWN

*Music by Leonard Bernstein;
lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green;
book by Joseph Fields and Jerome Chodorov*

Ohio

** Ruth: Clara Rottsoik
Eileen: Erin Robinson
Appopolous, the landlord: Levi Beck
Woman with dog: Soon Cho
Fletcher: Michael Ross
Wreck: Jamin Flabiano
Kid with stick: Zanna Fredland
Drunk No. 1: Craig Verm
Drunk No. 2: David Heffner
Officer Lonigan: Ryan Dohoney
* understudy: Zanna Fredland*

OF MICE AND MEN

Music and libretto by Carlisle Floyd

Act II, Scene 1

Slim: Darrell Hunt

George: Ryan Dohoney

GUYS AND DOLLS

*Music and lyrics by Frank Loesser;
book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows*

I'll Know

Sky Masterson: Craig Verm

Sergeant Sarah Brown: Zanna Fredland

IL VIAGGIO A REIMS

Music by Gioacchino Rossini; libretto by Luigi Balochi

Gran Pezzo concertato: Ah! A tal colpo inaspettato

Madama Cortese: Nicole Fraley

La Contessa: Nacole Palmer

Corinna: Suzanne Hatcher

Melibea: Holli Harrison

Delia: Jessica Lloyd

Modestina: Soon Cho

Il Conte: Jamin Flabiano

Il Cavaliere: Karim Sulayman

Zefirino: Michael Ross

Il Barone: Levi Beck

Don Alvaro: Darrell Hunt

Lord Sidney: Kade Smith (sung by Craig Verm)

Don Profondo: Orival Bento-Gonçalves

Don Prudenziio: Joseph Rawley

ARTISTIC AND PRODUCTION STAFF

<i>Stage Director</i>	<i>Debra Dickinson</i>
<i>Musical Preparation and Pianist</i>	<i>Michael Franciosi</i>
<i>Pianist</i>	<i>Donald Doucet</i>
<i>Rehearsal Pianist</i>	<i>Andy Einhorn</i>
<i>Technical Director</i>	<i>Tim Dickson</i>
<i>Production Stage Manager</i>	<i>Alex Stutler</i>

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

DEBRA DICKINSON has performed on Broadway, Off-Broadway, in national tours, at Theatre an der Wien in Austria, and at various regional opera and theatre companies throughout the U.S., including the Chautauqua Opera and the Central City Opera. She has starred opposite both Richard Burton and Richard Harris in **Camelot**. Her affiliation with the New York City Opera under Beverly Sills includes serving as the Associate Director of **The Pajama Game**. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and a Master's degree from Hunter College in New York City. For four summers, Ms. Dickinson was the Acting Instructor at the Chautauqua Opera in New York. This past fall, she was the recipient of an Eminent Scholar Chair at Florida State University, where she directed **Die Fledermaus**. In Houston, Ms. Dickinson directed the highly acclaimed productions at Stages of **The World Goes Round**, **A Grand Night for Singing**, and **She Loves Me**. Other directing credits include **A Grand Night for Singing** at the Pittsburgh Public Theater, **The Tender Land** at the Monteux Opera Festival, and **Albert Herring**, **Amahl and The Night Visitors**, **The Pirates of Penzance**, and **A Midsummer Night's Dream** at the Shepherd School. In addition to her Shepherd School faculty position as Artist Teacher of Opera Studies for Acting and Movement, she also teaches at Rice University's School of Continuing Studies.

MICHAEL FRANCIOSI is a native of Cumberland, Maryland, and received his training at West Virginia University and the Manhattan School of Music. He most recently was engaged by Houston Grand Opera, where he served as assistant conductor for seven seasons. Prior to this association, Mr. Franciosi resided in New York, where he worked as a vocal coach and accompanist. He has also been a guest assistant conductor with various regional opera companies, among which are the San Francisco Opera Center, Greater Miami Opera, Sarasota Opera, Chautauqua Opera, and Opera/Omaha. Along with his opera work, he has served on the faculties of the Chautauqua Institution School of Voice and The European Center for Opera and Vocal Art in Belgium. In addition to his position as Vocal Coach at the Shepherd School, Mr. Franciosi is regularly engaged by The Santa Fe Opera for their summer seasons.

*SHEPHERD SCHOOL VOICE DEPARTMENT
AND OPERA STUDIES FACULTY*

*Kathleen Kaun, Professor of Voice and Chair of the Voice Department
Janet de Chambrier, Vocal Coach*

*Debra Dickinson, Artist Teacher of Opera Studies for Acting and Movement
Joyce Farwell, Professor of Voice*

Michael Franciosi, Vocal Coach

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

William Murray, Associate Professor of Voice

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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