School of Music
University of Northern Iowa
PRESENTS

OPERA GALA

UNI Opera presents scenes by Handel, Mozart, Beethoven, and Bernstein

Under the direction of
Dr. Mitra Sadeghpour
and Dr. Korey Barrett

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 3
7:30 PM
BENTGSON
AUDITORIUM

TICKETS REQUIRED

For tickets, call (319) 273-4TIX or visit unitix.uni.edu and click “Buy Tickets” under the School of Music heading.
Don Giovanni

Duet and Chorus: Giovinette, che fate all'amore
Aria: Ho capito, Signor, si
Duet: Là ci darem la mano
Aria: Ah, fuggi il traditor

Zerlina: Taylor McKimmey
Masetto: Caleb Self
Don Giovanni: Adrian Horras
Leporello: Tyler Browne
Donna Elvira: Elizabeth Wiley

Wedding Guests:
Abbey Danowsky, Taylor Dengler, Mary Funk, Madeleine Marsh, Blair DeBolt,
Emma Saskowski, Crystal Spencer, Sam Stevens, Shannon Yocum, Han Sealock,
Jenna Skarpohl, Deanna Eberhart, Madeline Langlitz, Lauren Leman, Addie Radcliffe,
Athena-Sadé Whiteside, Anna Zetterlund, Aricson Knoblock, Brenan Steele, Noah Vaassen,
Andrew Oleson, Bradley Krug

Set in seventeenth century Spain, Don Giovanni follows the exploits of the title character and his manservant, Leporello. Don Giovanni, also known as Don Juan, has made a past time out of seducing women of all types across Europe, and today he has set his sights on the peasant girl Zerlina. It is Zerlina’s wedding day, and as the guests sing and dance, Don Giovanni successfully separates Zerlina from her husband-to-be Masetto. As they are on the way to the Don’s nearby castle, they are interrupted by his past lover Donna Elvira who is determined to separate the predator from his newest prey.

La clemenza di Tito

Duet: Ah, perdona al primo affetto

Annio: Han Sealock
Servilia: Hannah Miedema

Annio and Servilia, secretly betrothed, both live in the court of Emperor Tito. Tito unknowingly selects Servilia as his bride, and sends his loyal subject Annio to deliver the news. Annio is torn between loyalty to Tito and his love for Servilia.
Candide

Leonard Bernstein

**Duet:** We are Women

Cunegonde: Taylor Dengler  
Old Lady: Madeline Langlitz  
Men: Noah Vaassen and Han Sealock

Bernstein’s Candide is based on the French satire first published in 1759 by Voltaire, a philosopher of the Age of Enlightenment. The lead characters traverse the world, entering into and escaping many perils. In this Act II duet, Cunegonde and the Old Lady are currently captives in Montevideo, Uruguay. They work as prostitutes in a saloon, but maintain their morale by voicing and executing their power over men.

Fidelio

Ludwig van Beethoven

**Duet:** Jetzt, Schätzchen, sind wir allein

Jaquino: Aricson Knoblock  
Marzelline: Siena Fah

In this opening number from Fidelio, Jaquino tries once again to convince Marzelline to marry him. He comes her as she works in the courtyard of the Spanish prison where they both live and work. Jaquino’s words fall on deaf ears, as Marzelline has fallen in love with a new employee of the prison: Fidelio.

Così fan tutte

W.A. Mozart

**Aria:** Una donna a quindici anni
**Duet:** Prenderò quel brunettino

Despina: Taylor Dengler  
Fiordiligi: Blair DeBolt  
Dorabella: Jenna Skarphol

The major premise of Così fan tutte is that a woman’s heart can be easily changed. On a bet, the fiancés of sisters Fiordiligi and Dorabella pretend to be deployed to war, and then return to attempt to seduce the others’ fiancée. The sisters’ maid Despina is offered money to help in the deception, and in this scene she tries several tactics to convince Dorabella and Fiordiligi to play while the boys are away.
Julius Caesar is embroiled in a bitter struggle with Pompey the Great for control of the Roman world. In their most recent battle, at Pharsalus (48 BCE), Caesar defeated his rival, who subsequently fled to Egypt, which is under the joint rule of Ptolemy and his sister, Cleopatra. Caesar has pursued Pompey to Alexandria.

Cornelia and Sesto, Pompey's wife and son, request that peace be made between the two Romans, and Caesar agrees. Just then the Commander of the Egyptian army enters with a gift for Caesar from Tolomeo, the King of Egypt: the head of Pompey...Cornelia and Sesto vow revenge, and as punishment for their bold words, the king orders Sextus confined to the palace and Cornelia to the harem garden. In this duet, mother and son to bemoan their cruel fate.” Metropolitan Opera Guild

Candide

Make Our Garden Grow

In the end, it is the simple things that matter.
FROM THE DIRECTOR

The opera scenes are an eclectic mix, and were selected specifically to address the skills and needs of the cast members. When Dr. Burkhardt told me about the Spanish theme of their program, both Fidelio and Candide came instantly to mind. Fidelio is set in a Spanish prison: additionally, in this “Beethoven year” at UNI which culminates in the spring with a performance of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony, many ensembles and studios are including music by Beethoven on their programs, and this is our contribution to the celebration. In Candide, the characters traverse the world, and key scenes are in Spain and Uruguay (?!). 2018 also marks the 100-year anniversary of Leonard Bernstein’s birth, so the inclusion of two scenes from Candide on our program is fitting.

UNI Opera will be performing the baroque opera Serse on April 12 and 13, 2019, conducted by Dr. Burkhardt and with members of NISO in the pit. In preparation for the musical challenges of baroque vocal music--the “speech-like” recitative in particular--we have programmed the Mozart and Handel scenes. Both composers are also central in the standard operatic repertoire, and essential for our students to study and perform.

Again, thank you for being here, and supporting opera and orchestra at UNI!

- Mitra Sadeghpour

PRODUCTION PERSONNEL

Stage and Artistic Director .......................................................... Mitra Sadeghpour
Music Director and Coach ............................................................ Korey Barrett
Stage Manager ................................................................. Arlina Miller
Production Manager ............................................................. Gretchen Koinzan
Rehearsal Pianist .............................................................. James Jenkins
Lighting Design ................................................................. Chris Tuzicka
Costume Design ................................................................. Michaela Savage
Props Design ................................................................. Gretchen Koinzan
Set Designers .............................................................. Mitra Sadeghpour and Gretchen Koinzan
Supertitle Creation ............................................................ Jenna Skarphol
Technical Assistant .......................................................... Shawn Poellet
Light board operator .......................................................... Chris Tuzicka
Supertitle Operator .......................................................... Kayla Schmitz
Poster Design ................................................................. Libby Schwers
Program ................................................................. Caroline Francis
Opera Graduate Assistants ...................... Taylor Dengler, Elizabeth Wiley, Anna Zetterlund
Voice Faculty .......................................................... Elisabeth Bieber, Jeffrey Brich, John Hines, Jean McDonald, Michelle Monroe, Katherine Osborne, Mitra Sadeghpour

Director, School of Music ........................................................... Jeff Funderburk

SPECIAL THANKS:

Sarah Pauls, Caroline Francis, Dean Fritch, Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, Steve Carignan, Sandy Nordahl, Chuck Pugh and Crew, Tom Barry, UNI Theatre Department, Ron Koinzan, Jenn Sheshko-Wood, Matt Weedman, NISO and Dr. Rebecca Burkhardt

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