



THEOPERAND

OPERA NOTRE DAME PRESENTS

Fairytales:

A Magical Evening of Opera and Musical Theater Scenes

MARCH 1ST & 2ND

2024

THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME
LABAR PERFORMANCE HALL
O'NEILL HALL OF MUSIC



Synopsis

A Brief History of Fairytales

“Ninfe! Elfi! Silfi!...Sul fil d’un Soffio” from Faltstaff - Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Margaret Slavinsky, Nanetta

Georgia Sigler, Alice

Gianna Macedon, Vivian Ng, Chorus of Fairies

“Mám, zlaté vlásky Mám” from Rusalka - Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

Georgia Sigler, 1st Woodsprite

Ginikachukwu Ohaji, 2nd Woodsprite

Joy Yelenosky, 3rd Woodsprite

“Happily Ever After” from Once Upon a Mattress - Music by Mary Rodgers (1931-2014)

Lyrics by Marshall Barer (1923-1998)

Erin Taylor, Winnifred

Cinderella Through the Ages

Selections from Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella

Music by Richard Rodgers (1902-1979)

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II (1895-1960)

“Ten Minutes Ago”

Vivan (Wai Hang) Ng, Cinderella

Hyo Won Chun, Topher

“The Stepsisters’ Lament”

Tenley Edvardsen, Joy

Gianna Macedon, Grace

“Nous Sommes assaillis” from Cendrillon - Pauline Viardot (1821-1910)

Gianna Macedon, Maguelonne

Brigid O’Driscoll, Armeline

Georgia Sigler, Cendrillon

“Ah! Que mes sœurs sont heureuses! ...Ah, douce Enfant!” from Cendrillon - Jules

Massenet (1842-1912)

Margaret Slavinsky, Cendrillon

Claire Burks, La Fée

Victoria Schemenhauer, Brigid O’Driscoll, Vivian (Wai Hang) Ng, Tenley Edvardsen,

Les esprits/Voix Lointaines

Special Thanks to

The Department of Music

Berthold Hoeckner, Chair

Kevin Dreyer

Ken Cole

Daniel Stein

Guest Soprano Maria Brea

Sacred Music at Notre Dame

Anne Slovin

Stephen Lancaster

Emily Matz

ND General Services

Victoria Schemenauer recently graduated with her Master of Music from Indiana University. An Elkhart native and a lover of new music, highlights of her last year include premiering *The Girl in Paul Herman's* newly composed opera *The Gift* with South Bend Lyric Opera, *Esme* in Jamey Guzman's *Open Heart Surgery* at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, IN, and joining the SBLO chorus for the premier of Marjorie Rusche's *Our American Odyssey*. Victoria is passionate about community outreach and was thrilled to sing across central and southern Indiana public schools with the non-profit *Reimagining Opera for Kids* during her time at IU.

Joy Yelenosky is a Contralto/Mezzo from Chicago who is currently pursuing her Graduate degree in the Sacred Music program at Notre Dame University. She holds a Classical Vocal Performance degree from the Chicago College of Performing Arts, at Roosevelt University where she made her opera debut as Dido, in *Dido and Aeneas*. Joy also received her associate degree in Classical Piano Performance and Argentinian Folk Music from the Conservatorio Superior de Música Julián Aguirre in Cordoba, Argentina. Ms. Yelenosky has also been the recipient of the Illinois Music Association's first place awards and the Piano Sonata NSMTA Competition as a Gold Medalist, as well as the ISMTA Classical Voice Competition. Joy speaks and writes in Spanish fluently.

Vivian Wai Hang Ng is a soprano studying for a Master of Sacred Music in Choral Conducting from Macao. As a soloist, her recent engagements include a "Women and Love"-themed recital and a programme on Marian vocal works.

Hyo Won Chun, a tenor from South Korea, holds a degree in vocal music from Chung-Ang University. He has served as a soloist in churches for over ten years. Currently, he is enrolled in the Notre Dame SMND program, focusing on furthering his vocal studies.

Brigid O'Driscoll is a sophomore here at Notre Dame. She began singing opera at the age of seven and plans to continue after school. When she is not performing, she is usually cooking and baking for friends and family.

"Zitto, Zitto: Piano, Piano" from Cenerentola - Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Samuel Ary, Ramiro

Jeff Dean, Dandini

Madeline Murphy, Clorinda

Joy Yelenosky, Tisbe

Fairy Tale Love

"Toi qui m'es apparue..." from Cendrillon - Jules Massenet

Uche Aghulor, Cendrillon

Victoria Schemenauer, Le Prince Charmant

"How now my love?" from Midsummer Night's Dream Benjamin Britten

Joy Yelenosky, Hermia

Hyo-Won Chun, Lysander

"Ah, C'est Elle, C'est Elle! from L'enfant et les Sortilèges - Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Erin Taylor, La Princesse

Ginikachukwu Ohaji, L'Enfant

"When at Night I go to Sleep...I'm up with early dawning" from Hansel and Gretel

Engelbert Humperdinck (1854-1921)

Brigid O'Driscoll, Hansel

Victoria Schemenauer, Gretel

Vivian (Wai Hang) Ng, Dew Fairy

Fairy Tales in Modern Day

Selections from Into the Woods - Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim (1930-2021)

"Giants in the Sky"

Chris Staszak, Jack

"A Very Nice Prince"

Madeline Murphy, Cinderella

Tenley Edvardsen, Baker's Wife

"On the Steps of the Palace"

Madeline Murphy, Cinderella

"Agony"

Jeff Dean, Cinderella's Prince

Conor Loughman, Rapunzel's Prince

Finale: **"Children will Listen"**

Tutti Company

Cast + Crew

CAST:

Claire Burks
Fairy Godmother, Rapunzel

Erin Taylor
Princess, Princess Winnifred

Tenley Edvardsen
Joy, Fairies in Cendrillon, Baker's Wife

Jeffrey Dean
Dandini, Cinderella's Prince

Madeline Murphy
Cinderella, Clorinda

Joy Yelenosky
Hermia, Tisbe, Woodfairy

Vivian Ng
Cinderella, Dew Fairy,
Ensemble Fairies

Hyo Won Chun
Lysander

Georgia Sigler
Marie, Alice, Wood Sprite

Uche Aghulor
Titania and Cinderella

Margaret Slavinsky
Cendrillon, Nanetta

Conor Martin Loughman
Rapunzel's Prince

Gianna Macedon
Maguelonne, Grace

Ginikachukwu Ohaji
L'enfante, 2nd wood sprite

Chris Staszak
Jack

Victoria Schemenauer
Le Prince Charmant, Gretel

Brigid O'Driscoll
Armeline, Hansel, Fairy

Scottie Rogers
Witch

Samuel Ary
Ramiro

PRODUCTION CREW:

Director: Kaley Karis Smith

Producer: Dror Baitel

Music Director and Pianist: Dror Baitel

Video Projections Design: Ryan Belock

Lighting Design: Derrick Null

Production and Stage Manager: Matt Anderson

Props Master: Alicia Walker

Costumes Coordinator: Rin Menge

Supertitles: Matt Anderson

Marketing Specialist: Noelle Elliott

Music Department Coordinator: Kevin Wangler

Musical Coach: Stephen Lancaster

Consultant and Casting: Anne Slovin

Marketing Interns: Monay Licata and Annelise Hanson

Jeffrey Dean is a singer-conductor with a passion for sacred music. He has led an active musical life as a classroom music teacher, choral director, cantor, and bass-baritone soloist. His recent engagements include Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols with SAU Symphony Orchestra and the role of Seneca in Opera ND's production of Monteverdi's The Coronation of Poppea. Jeffrey is also fond of oratorio, having performed arias from Mendelssohn's Elijah, Handel's Messiah, and Bach's St. Matthew Passion. With an affinity for the Italian language, he has also performed in vocal masterclasses - notably with bass-baritone, Stefano de Peppo - and has sung mass at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Jeffrey is currently in his second year as an MSM conducting student at the University of Notre Dame, and he holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Southern Adventist University.

Ginikachukwu Ohaji is a multifaceted musician with a diverse background in Political Science and Public Administration from the University of Benin, Nigeria. Awarded a scholarship to pursue a diploma program in music from the Musical Society of Nigeria(MUSON), Ginika's journey into the world of music has been marked by remarkable achievements. The Nigerian soprano has graced the stage in the Opera scenes from Monteverdi to Gershwin, where she played Dorabella in Cosi Fan Tutte, as well as performances in Trial by Jury and Cavalleria Rusticana. Currently pursuing a Master's degree in Sacred Music at the University of Notre Dame, Ginika continues to expand musical horizons while maintaining a passion for performance in various repertoires in opera, sacred works, choral, African and African American music. A dedicated crocheter in her leisure, Ginika is dedicated to excellence and committed to artistic expression in her pursuit of musical artistry.

Scottie Rogers is a 24-year-old female countertenor, arranger, and composer who uses she/her pronouns. A native Texan, she grew up in San Antonio and attended the University of Houston for her undergraduate studies, receiving degrees in vocal performance and music education. While studying at the University of Houston, Scottie made her operatic debut as Nireno in the Moores Opera Company's 2022 production of Handel's Giulio Cesare in Egitto. Also in 2022, Scottie made her international debut as a vocal artist by winning the NINA solo competition at the Grieg International Choral Festival in Bergen, Norway. Now a graduate student in the University of Notre Dame's Sacred Music program, Scottie continues to study and perform works by both the masters of the baroque era and the living composers of today. Following the completion of her education Scottie hopes to find a career performing early music and opera.

Chris Staszak is a junior undergraduate Music, Political Science, and Business & Economics student at Notre Dame. He loves musical theatre and opera, continuing to study both every day. He sings regularly in the Notre Dame Glee Club. He played the Bodyguard in Notre Dame's The Coronation of Poppea and is thrilled to be returning for a second year!

Margaret Slavinsky is a first year voice student in the Masters of Sacred Music program at Notre Dame studying under Anne Slovin. She recently graduated from the Conservatory at Lawrence University with a Bachelor's of Music in voice performance under the tutelage of Copeland Woodruff, Phillip Swan, and Andrew Crooks. In her studies there, she performed in various operas and opera scenes where she played Suor Genovieffa in Suor Angelica by Puccini, Gretel in Hansel and Gretel by Humperdink, Camille in Louise by Charpentier, and played supporting roles in Le Nozze di Figaro by Mozart, Riders to the Sea by Vaughan Williams and others. She is excited to start her Notre Dame opera experience with playing Cendrillon in Massenet's Cendrillon and Nanetta in Verdi's Falstaff.

Erin Taylor is a Soprano Master of Sacred Music student at the University of Notre Dame, where she studies voice, organ, conducting, and liturgy. Most recently, she sang the role of Poppea in Monteverdi's The Coronation of Poppea. Erin is also currently Interim Director of Sacred Music at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Goshen, IN. An avid performer of sacred masterworks and chamber music, Erin has been the soprano soloist for many orchestral Masses and Baroque cantatas including Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass, Mozart's Solemn Vespers of the Confessor, and recurring performances of Scarlatti's Christmas Cantata. Erin is equally at home in liturgical music, and enjoys playing the organ and directing choral ensembles at liturgies. She is a frequent performer at National Association of Pastoral Musician conventions, and passionate about training cantors for liturgical service. As a Washington, DC area native, Erin is an active soloist, cantor, and chorister at many cathedrals and parishes throughout the (arch)dioceses of Washington, Baltimore, Arlington, and Richmond.

Tenley Edvardsen is a junior Music major and Musical Theatre minor from Schererville, IN. She studies voice with Elizabeth Schleicher at Saint Mary's College. She is a member of Belles Voix, Collegiate Choir, and Rezlife. In her free time, she loves to spend time with her niece Collins, watch Law and Order: SVU, and doing puzzles. Some of her past credits include Legally Blonde (Paulette), Fun Home (Helen Bechdel), The Little Mermaid (Ariel), and Matilda the Musical (Miss Honey). She wants to thank her friends and family for their love and support. Enjoy the show!

Rin Menge (Costume Coordinator) has previously done costuming work with Saint Mary's College (Costume Designer, The Seafarer 2024; Assistant Designer, Anne of Green Gables 2024; Assistant to the Designer, Twelfth Night 2023, She Kills Monsters 2022), the South Bend Civic Theatre (Assistant to the Designer, West Side Story 2022), and Chautauqua Theatre Company (Costume Designer, The Bleeding Class 2024). Rin is a graduating senior at Saint Mary's College studying Environmental Studies, Fashion and Costume, and Studio Art. They would like to thank Melissa Bialko for everything she does.

Kaley Karis Smith is a stage director and assistant director from Nebraska. In 2023, she was the revival director for La traviata at Houston Grand Opera and directed new productions of Rusalka at Opera Idaho and La traviata at Opera Delaware and Opera Baltimore. As a member of the Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Program, she directed Soldier Songs and The Rose Elf. Other directing credits include: The Telephone (Pittsburgh Festival Opera), Le Nozze di Figaro (Augusta University), The Crucible and Turn of the Screw (Chicago Summer Opera), Goldie B. and The Three Singing Bears and Opera for the Young: The Elixir of Love (Virginia Opera). This fall, she joined the faculty of Oberlin Conservatory as a visiting professor of opera stagecraft. She returns to Houston Grand Opera in March as the assistant director of Don Giovanni and as the revival director for Madama Butterfly in May.

Dror Baitel is celebrated for his virtuosity and versatility across a wide range of musical genres, and stands out as an exceptionally talented collaborative pianist, coach, and conductor in the music scene. Baitel was a part of the original music team behind Lin Manuel Miranda's groundbreaking production, Hamilton. Among many other credits including Mary Poppins (Broadway debut), Matilda, and The King and I, he was the pianist and conductor in the premiere hit production, Dear Evan Hansen at Arena Stage in Washington DC. Upcoming engagements include a Carnegie Hall Debut recital with soprano Meghan Kasanders, a collaboration with award winning violinist Timmy Chooi, and Music Director/Conductor for A Chorus Line at the University of Notre Dame where he serves as the Music Director for Opera and Musical Theater. Dr. Baitel earned his Doctorate from the prestigious Juilliard School, where he wrote the first of its kind dissertation on Stephen Sondheim and his orchestrators dealing with aspects of Orchestration and Interpretation in Into the Woods and Assassins.

Ryan Belock (Projection Designer) creates immersive projections for live music, theater, and events. Recent credits: A Wonderful World (Assoc. Projection Designer); Coronation of Poppea, The Passion (Univ. Notre Dame). Animator: Here Lies Love and Dear Evan Hansen (Broadway). He has worked at the Irish Rep, Kennedy Center, Public Theater, Juilliard, Princeton Festival, NY Theater Workshop, Indiana Rep, The Actor's Studio, Chicago's Ear Taxi Festival, Papermill Playhouse, Gulf Coast Symphony, Goodspeed Opera House, Center for Contemporary Opera, University of Notre Dame, Austin Opera, and Blue Man Group. Grateful to Michelle and Neil. MFA, UT-Austin. BA, University of Notre Dame. Member, IATSE USA 829. www.ryanbelock.com

Vivian Wai Hang Ng is a soprano studying for a Master of Sacred Music in Choral Conducting from Macao. As a soloist, her recent engagements include a "Women and Love"-themed recital and a programme on Marian vocal works.

Matt Anderson is a Stage Manager and Designer in the South Bend area who enjoys working behind the scenes in a variety of capacities. Some of his recent credits include La Cage Aux Folles, and Charlie & the Chocolate Factory at South Bend Civic Theatre, and Hamlet 50/50 with the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival. When not working shows, he can be found working as the Director of Technology at Trinity Church and working shows and concerts with IATSE Local 187.

Derrick Null is excited to work with Notre Dame again. He works as Co-Artistic Director at the South Bend Civic Theatre. His favorite productions have been Diary of Anne Frank with Bethel University (directing), And Then There Were None with Bethel University (scenic design, directing) and A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder with the 574 Theatre Company (lighting design). He loves to travel with his wife, Lavon Dean-Null. Derricknull.com

Samuel Ary has an agile voice that includes many colors, sensitivity to musicality, and impeccable work ethic, and is a highly sought-after Tenor from the Dallas Fort-Worth metroplex. Mr. Ary is in his second and final year of the Master of Sacred Music degree program at Notre Dame where he studies voice with Dr. Stephen Lancaster. In addition to his studies, Mr. Ary serves as a director and lay clerk with the Notre Dame Children's Choir. Samuel received his Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of North Texas where he graduated summa cum laude. Upcoming engagements include solo work in Mozart's Requiem with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra and South Bend Chamber Singers on March 17, as well as professional choral work in Vero Beach, FL during Holy Week. When not performing, Sam enjoys spending time outdoors, reading, and watching movies.

Uche Aghulor is a classical singer, recording artist and choir director. She holds her first degree in Adult and non formal education from the University of Benin, a post graduate diploma in music from the university of Lagos, a graduate of the Muson school of Music where she graduated with the MTN foundation first prize for outstanding leadership, values, innovation and integrity and as the best graduating student in academics 2022. She has featured in notable operatic works including playing Lola in Cavalleria rusticana, Fiordiligi in Cosi fan tutte opera scenes, trial by jury amongst others. She has also been featured in choral performances by the Musica casa and Muson choir in South Africa and Greece respectively. She is a current graduate student of the MSM program,, a recipient of the Los Angeles Episcopal chorale society scholarship and a first place winner at the National Association of Teachers of singing (NATS) in advanced classical singing 2023 Indiana chapter.

Gianna Macedon is a freshman studying vocal performance from the DC suburbs. She studies with Anne Slovin. She has enjoyed her studies at Notre Dame and cannot wait for what the next three years will bring. She was one of the Three Spirits in the Washington National Opera's The Magic Flute (2019). She also has plenty of musical theater experience through middle school and high school, culminating in her performance as Aunt Eller in Oklahoma! She hopes you enjoy the show!

Claire Burks is a senior vocal performance major with an additional major in history and a minor in digital marketing. A South Bend local, she began her singing career with yearly National Anthem performances at South Bend Cubs games, beginning at age 15. She studied voice at Notre Dame with Kiera Duffy for three years, and she currently studies with Anne Slovin. Claire appeared in Opera ND's award-winning 2021 production Please Look, and she is thrilled to close out her college experience with another Opera ND production. In addition to opera, Claire has sung with the Notre Dame Chorale for four years, serving as an officer for the last two. She has also performed as a soloist in the Department of Music's productions of Handel's Messiah, and as a cantor at St. Matthew Cathedral. However, her most rewarding musical opportunity to date has been as an elementary music teacher at St. Thomas More Academy in South Bend. Claire would like to thank her professors, her family, and her friends for supporting her musical endeavors throughout her time at ND, and she hopes to keep singing and acting after graduation.

Madeline Murphy is a junior studying vocal performance, theology, and constitutional studies from Davenport, Iowa. She has previously been seen in Shrek (Fiona), Freaky Friday (Katherine), The Music Man (Zaneeta), Elf (Jovie), and The Drowsy Chaperone (Kitty). She also enjoys singing with the Liturgical Choir at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. When she graduates, she hopes to be a music teacher. She would like to thank all of her friends and family who support her by attending her performances.

Georgia Sigler is completing her final year of undergraduate studies in Music and Communication Studies at Saint Mary's College. She will be going on to get her Masters in Vocal Performance in the fall. This is her third production through Opera ND. She has played previous roles as Little Daughter in Proving Up and Featured Player in The Coronation of Poppea. She is excited to perform in her final production with Opera ND this semester playing multiple roles in many enchanting scenes. She would like to thank her parents and her professors for all of their time and support in these last four years.

Conor Loughman is originally from Ireland and now Sophomore studying music and theology at Notre Dame. He loves spending time outdoors and is excited to be performing today!