

10-18-2013

Opera Chapman: Gems of the Bel Canto Era

Opera Chapman

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Opera Chapman:
Gems of the Bel Canto Era

October 18-20, 2013

Peter Atherton, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Carol Neblett, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

David Alt, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

 **CHAPMAN** | COLLEGE OF
UNIVERSITY | PERFORMING ARTS

COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS
CONSERVATORY OF
music

fall 2013

FALL 2013 calendar highlights

september

September 26-28, October 3-5

Present Laughter

By Noel Coward

Directed by Andrew Barnicle

September 27

Guest Artists in Recital - Los Angeles Percussion Quartet

october

October 18-20

Opera Chapman:

"Gems of the Bel Canto Era"

Peter Atherton, Artistic Director

Carol Neblett, Associate Director

October 24-26, November 7-9

Spring Awakening

Music by Duncan Sheik

Book and Lyrics by Steven Sater

Directed by Jim Tauli

november

November 5

Guest Artists in Recital - Ray/Kallay Duo

Featuring Aron Kallay and Vicki Ray

November 9

Chapman University Wind Symphony

"Dreams, Dances, and Visions"

Christopher Nicholas, Music Director and Conductor

November 15

The Chapman Orchestra:

"Gods & Monsters"

Daniel Alfred Wachs, Music Director and Conductor

John Elias Kaynor, cello

November 16

Chapman University Women's Choir and University Choir in Concert

Angel Vázquez-Ramos, Conductor

Stephen Coker, Conductor

November 20-23

Fall Dance Concert

Directed by Liz Maxwell

November 24 and 25

Chapman University Singers: Britten's War Requiem

James Conlon, Conductor

december

December 6 and 7

50th Annual Holiday Wassail Banquet and Concert



COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

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and the

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present

Opera Chapman:

Gems of the Bel Canto Era

Peter Atherton, *artistic director*

Carol Neblett, *associate director*

David Alt, *associate director*

*Opera Chapman fondly dedicates its 2013-14 Season
to the memory of Mrs. Norma Lineberger and to the
Lineberger family in recognition of their generous support*

October 18-19, 2013 ■ 7:30 P.M.

October 20, 2013 ■ 3:00 P.M.

Salmon Recital Hall

Program

La Cenerentola – Opening Scene
By Gioacchino Rossini
Directed by David Alt

La Cenerentola premiered at the Teatro Valle in Rome on January 25, 1817. In the opening scene, Rossini establishes the dismal state of Cenerentola's life and the wickedness of her step-sisters. Alidoro, the Prince's tutor, arrives disguised as a blind beggar. He observes the selfish nature of the sisters and Cenerentola's goodness. Soon a chorus of courtiers enter announcing the Prince will arrive shortly in search of a beautiful wife. As you might imagine, chaos ensues.

CenerentolaRachel Stoughton (10/18, 10/20)
Natasha Bratkovski (10/19)

Tisbe.....Alexandra Rupp (10/18, 10/20)
Kyla McCarrel (10/19)

Clorinda.....Cristiana Franzetti(10/18, 10/20)
Julia Dwyer (10/19)

Alidoro.....Ben Finer(10/18, 10/20)
Marqis Griffith (10/19)

Courtiers' of the Prince.....Men of Opera Chapman Ensemble

Norma
By Vincenzo Bellini
Act 1 – Entrance of Adalgisa
Directed by Carol Neblett

In our first scene, Norma has led a prayer of peace to the moon goddess. Afterwards, Adalgisa enters alone to offer her own prayer for strength to resist the illicit love she feels for Pollione.

AdalgisaAnzhela Kushnirenko (10/18, 10/20)
Kylee Bestenhehner (10/19)

Program

Act 2 - *Mira, o Norma*
Directed by Carol Neblett

In our second scene from Act 2, we find Norma torn between love and hatred for her children, she contemplates killing them while they sleep. Unable to do the deed she becomes consumed with emotion. Adalgisa has revealed her love for Pollione but vows to renounce him for Norma's friendship. Stunned by Adalgisa's devotion to her, they embrace and strengthen their bond in the beautiful duet, *Mira o Norma*. Bellini portrays the two women with great dignity. The overriding emotions of love and loyalty supersede any jealousy that they may have for one another.

Norma.....Emily Dyer

Adalgisa.....Lizbeth Sanchez (10/18, 10/20)
Kylee Bestenhehner (10/19)

Don Pasquale
By Gaetano Donizetti
Act 3 - *Cheti, cheti immantinente*
Directed by Peter Atherton

Late in the opera, Don Pasquale is distraught and depressed after being slapped and sent to bed by his new wife. Adding insult to injury he discovers his young bride has a lover, who will be waiting to meet her in the garden that evening. Pasquale summons his confidant and physician, Dr. Malatesta. They plan to set a trap for the unfaithful wife. Malatesta is allied in secret with Pasquale's wife and hopes to steer Pasquale into a trap of his own.

Don Pasquale.....Benno Ressa (10/18, 10/20)
Ben Finer (10/19)

Dr. Malatesta.....Elliott Wulff (10/18, 10/20)
Marqis Griffith (10/19)

Program

Lucia di Lammermoor
Verranno a te sull'aure
By Gaetano Donizetti
Directed by Peter Atherton

Act 1 Duet

In our duet from Act 1, Edgardo arrives to explain that he must leave for France for political reasons. Before departing he hopes to reconcile with Enrico and receive his promise of Lucia's hand. She tells Edgardo his hopes are in vain. Bidding each other farewell the lovers pledge their fidelity and exchange rings as a symbol of their marriage.

Lucia.....Kylena Parks
Edgardo.....Kevin Gino (10/18, 10/20)
Tony Baek (10/19)

Act 2 Sextet

In Edgardo's absence Lucia's brother forges a letter that seemingly proves Edgardo has been unfaithful. Lucia's chaplain and tutor then persuades her to renounce Edgardo and, for the good of the family, marry Arturo. In the famous sextet, Lucia reluctantly signs the marriage contract. At that moment Edgardo bursts into the hall. The chaplain intervenes preventing a duel and shows Edgardo Lucia's signature on the contract. Edgardo accuses Lucia of betraying him and curses the day he met her.

Lucia.....Natalie Uranga
Enrico.....Daniel Emmet
Edgardo.....Kevin Gino (10/18, 10/20)
Marcus Paige (10/19)
Arturo.....Chris Maze (10/18, 10/20)
Nathan Wilen (10/19)

Program

Raimondo.....Andrei Bratkovski (10/18, 10/20)
Jeremiah Lussier (10/19)
Alisa.....Janet Orsi (10/18, 10/20)
Angelique Hernandez (10/19)

Opera Chapman Ensemble

INTERMISSION

I Puritani – Suoni la tromba
By Vincenzo Bellini
Directed by Carol Neblett

The story of *I Puritani* is set during the English Civil war, fought for control of England between the Royalists and the Puritans. In our scene from Act 2, two Puritans, Giorgio and Riccardo argue whether or not to rescue Arturo who is betrothed to Giorgio's niece, Elvira. She was promised to Riccardo but in his absence has fallen in love with Arturo and will marry him instead. Riccardo and Giorgio argue whether Arturo's death will bring about Elvira's demise, but they agree Arturo must die if found fighting for the Royalists.

Giorgio.....Andrei Bratkovski
Riccardo.....Daniel Emmet

Program

Il Pirata – Aria
Col sorriso d'innocenza – Act 2
By Vincenzo Bellini
Directed by Carol Neblett

Bellini's *Il Pirata* focuses on a woman suffering at the hands of unreliable men. Imogene, forced into marriage with Ernesto, the Duke of Caldora, is suddenly confronted with her former lover, Gualtiero, the notorious pirate. In an epic duel, Gualtiero kills Ernesto, who then surrenders to prove that he is more than a pirate and criminal. Plagued by visions of her slain husband, Ernesto, Imogene is slowly driven mad with grief. In her aria, *Col sorriso d'innocenza*, she imagines sending her son to plead for Ernesto's forgiveness.

Imogene.....Katie Rock (10/18, 10/20)
Natalie Uranga (10/19)

La Sonnambula – Act 2 Finale
with *Ab non credea* and *Ab non giunge*
By Vincenzo Bellini
Directed by Peter Atherton

The story of *La Sonnambula* focuses on the young and beautiful orphan, Amina, and her prosperous fiancée Elvino. They are beloved by the villagers and all anticipate their coming wedding. All except Lisa, the innkeeper who was once Elvino's girlfriend. She still loves him and is bitterly jealous of Amina. During the betrothal festivities a handsome stranger arrives, Count Rodolfo, the owner of the nearby castle. Unknown to all is the fact that Amina is a somnambulant, a sleepwalker. She is the ghostly phantom who haunts the village at dusk.

On the eve of the wedding, Amina sleepwalks into Count Rodolfo's room at the inn and falls asleep on his bed. Rodolfo, having no "ill-intentions" lets her sleep.

Shortly after he departs the room, Lisa returns with Elvino and the villagers.

Program

Seeing Amina in such a compromising circumstance Elvino denounces her cancelling their wedding. The commotion awakens Amina, who pathetically claims her innocence.

In our scene from Act 2, Elvino has turned his affections back to Lisa. They now plan to marry. The Count tries to clear Amina's name again by explaining that she is a sleepwalker. Elvino cries, "Who can prove it?" He remains adamant until it is discovered that Lisa was in the Count's room and dropped her scarf when she hid to avoid being discovered. Elvino is now doubly crushed by Lisa's guilt and begins a poignant quartet. Soon afterwards, Amina further confirms her innocence as she is seen sleepwalking in her nightdress. She begins lamenting the loss of her engagement ring and weeps over the withered flowers Elvino had given her.

Finally she prays that Elvino may yet love her again. Elvino, now convinced of her innocence, replaces the ring on Amina's finger. She awakens in his arms to the rejoicing of all the villagers.

Amina.....Emily Dyer (10/18, 10/20)
Kylena Parks (10/19)

Count Rodolfo.....Elliott Wulff

Elvino.....Duke Kim (10/18, 10/20)
Chris Maze (10/19)

Lisa.....Annie Kubitschek (10/18, 10/20)
Megan Henretta (10/19)

Teresa.....Shannon McBane (10/18, 10/20)
Kyla McCarrel (10/19)

Alessio.....Jeffrey Goldberg

Opera Chapman Ensemble

Donguhi Baek	Jeffrey Goldberg	Janet Orsi
Kylee Bestenlehner	Marqis Griffith	Marcus Paige
Andrei Bratkovski	Shaina Hammer	Kylena Parks
Natasha Bratkovski	Megan Henretta	Mark Peng
Sarah Brown	Angelique Hernandez	Emma Plotnik
Julia Dwyer	Samira Kasraie	Benno Ressa
Emily Dyer	Duke Kim	Kathryn Rock
Carl Elson	Annie Kubitschek	Alexandra Rupp
Daniel Emmet	Anzhela Kushnirenko	Lizabeth Sanchez
Rebecca Felman	Mark Luberic	Rachel Stoughton
Benjamin Finer	Jeremiah Lussier	Natalie Uranga
Cristiana Franzetti	Chris Maze	Savannah Wade
Kevin Gino	Shannon McBane	Nathan Wilen
Daniel Goldberg	Kyla McCarrel	Elliott Wulff

Opera Chapman Fall Crew Assignments

<u>Stage Crew</u>	<u>Costumes</u>	<u>Make-Up and Hair</u>
Baek, Donguhi	Dwyer, Julia	Brown, Sarah
Bratkovski, Andrei	Felman, Rebecca	Dyer, Emily
Elson, Carl	Hammer, Shaina	Henretta, Megan
Emmet, Daniel	Kubitschek, Annie	Kasraie, Samira
Franzetti, Cristiana	McBane, Shannon	Parks, Kylena
Goldberg, Daniel	Sanchez, Lizabeth	Rupp, Alexandra
Hernandez, Angelique	Wade, Savannah	Stoughton, Rachel
Kim, Duke		Uranga, Natalie
Kushnirenko, Anzhela	<u>Publicity</u>	
Maze, Chris	Bestenlehner, Kylee	<u>Props</u>
Paige, Marcus	Bratkovski, Natasha	Finer, Ben
Wilen, Nathan	Goldberg, Jeffrey	Gino, Kevin
Wulff, Elliott	Griffith, Marqis	McCarrel, Kyla
	Luberic, Mark	Orsi, Janet
	Lussier, Jeremiah	Peng, Mark
	Plotnik, Emma	Rock, Kathryn
	Ressa, Benno	

Artists

Peter L. Atherton, Artistic Director

Bass-baritone **Peter Atherton** has had the joy of performing over forty-five roles ranging from Seneca in *The Coronation of Poppea* to Frederick in *A Little Night Music*. His operatic credits include performances with the Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Baltimore Opera, Lyric Opera Cleveland, Wolf Trap Opera, Virginia Opera, San Francisco Opera Touring Division, Opera Atelier, Cairo Opera and the Operafestival of Rome and Verona. He has performed with such conductors as Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez, Lucas Foss, James Conlon, Kurt Herbert Adler, David Effron and Myung-Whun Chung. Mr. Atherton's versatility as a singing-actor enabled him to perform six different roles in *The Phantom of the Opera* in New York, Los Angeles and Toronto.

Dr. Atherton holds the **Robert and Norma Lineberger Endowed Chair in Music** at Chapman University, is Director of Operatic Studies and Associate Professor of Voice in the Conservatory of Music. He is a member of the Artistic Board of Directors of Operafestival di Roma. Dr. Atherton directed a new production of Verdi's *Rigoletto* for the Natchez Arts Festival in May 2013 and he joined the faculty for the Frost School of Music Salzburg Festival Program in Salzburg, Austria for the 2013 Festival season.

Carol Neblett, Associate Director

One of America's greatest and most acclaimed sopranos, **Carol Neblett's** career has spanned over forty years, performing opera's most coveted roles in the world's greatest opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, Covent Garden, San Francisco Opera, Salzburg, Hamburg and Chicago Lyric Opera.

Ms. Neblett made her operatic debut in 1969 with the New York City Opera as Musetta, in *La Boheme*. Amidst huge acclaim, she performed over twenty-five leading roles with the company over the next five years. Critical triumphs included the dual roles of Margherita and Helen of Troy in Boito's *Mefistofele*. Her performance of Korngold's *Die Tote Stadt* was so successful that it was subsequently recorded with the renowned Erich Leinsdorf conducting, and won a number of coveted awards, including a Grammy in 1975.

Ms. Neblett's signature roles include Puccini's *Tosca* as well as Minnie in *The Girl of the Golden West*. In 1976 she made her debut at the Lyric Opera of Chicago as *Tosca* with Luciano Pavarotti, and has sung this role more than 200 times. Ms. Neblett was invited to sing Minnie with Placido Domingo for Queen

Artists

Elizabeth's 25th Jubilee Celebration at Covent Garden, which was filmed live as well as recorded.

Throughout the world's major opera houses, Ms. Neblett has sung more than eighty-five leading roles and more than 100 oratorio and symphonic works.

Ms. Neblett is currently on the vocal staff as Artist-in-Residence at Chapman University. She conducts master classes for young artist programs worldwide, concentrating on role preparation for the professional singer, as well as maintaining a private studio in the Los Angeles area.

David Alt, Assistant Director

David Alt recently moved to Southern California after teaching for 21 years as Professor of Voice, Chairman of the Department of Vocal Performance and Program Director for Musical Theatre in the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Iowa and a Certificate from the Conservatoire de Musique, Geneva, Switzerland. Alt studied opera with Wesley Balk at the Minnesota Opera Institute and voice with French baritone Gerard Souza and soprano Maralin Niska.

Nominated for a Carabonnel Award for Best Actor in a South Florida Regional Showcase for his work in Brecht on Brecht, Alt has been seen in the South Florida area in productions of Don Juan in Hell, The Merry Widow, The Barber of Seville, One Flea Spare, Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill, Company, Love Letters, Later Life and Far East in addition to revues of the music of Bernstein, Coward, Gershwin, Berlin, Sondheim and Weill. He also has performed with the New World Symphony, the New York Philharmonic, the Miami Bach Society, the Chamber Singers of Iowa City Bach Festival, the St. Louis Muni Opera, the Quad City (IL) Symphony, the Southeast Iowa Symphony, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, the Carmel (CA) Bach Festival, and New Theatre in Coral Gables (FL). Alt's articles have appeared in the journals of the Music Educator's National Conference, the Journal of Singing and the Choral Journal.

Cheryl Fielding, Music Director

Pianist **Cheryl Lin Fielding** has performed in concert halls throughout the world, including Japan, Taiwan, Italy, and prestigious venues in the United States, such as the Lincoln Center, Carnegie Weill Recital Hall and the Seiji Ozawa Hall. She has been honored with the Grace B. Jackson Prize in Excellence by

Artists

the Tanglewood Music Festival and three times received the distinguished Gwendolyn Koldofsky Scholarship Award in Keyboard Collaborative Arts. She has received teaching fellowships at the Juilliard School and the USC Thornton Opera, and performed with the Tanglewood Music Center, Music Academy of the West, Aspen Music Festival, and the Mark Morris Dance Group at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. Dr. Fielding has worked for the Los Angeles Opera, Opera Pacific, and Operafestival di Roma, and is presently the co-founder and Music Director of NachtMusik, an ensemble committed to bringing opera experience to inner-city Los Angeles schools.

Cheryl's musical studies began at the age of three in Taiwan, first on the piano and later on the violin, and continued through dual master's degrees from the Juilliard School, in Piano Performance and Collaborative Piano, under the tutelage of Oxana Yablonskaya and Jonathan Feldman, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California in Keyboard Collaborative Arts under Alan Smith, with voice studies under Elizabeth Hynes. Dr. Fielding is currently an Adjunct Professor and opera coach at Chapman University.

Janet Kao, Principal Coach

Pianist, **Janet Kao**, a native of Taiwan, is an accomplished musician with extensive experience as a solo pianist, vocal/instrumental collaborator, and an opera coach. She has performed on many stages including Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Harris Concert Hall in Aspen, Preston Bradley Hall in Chicago, National Concert Hall of Taiwan. She has been invited to participate in several summer music festivals including Bowdoin Music Festival, the Yellow Barn Chamber Music Festival, and the Music Academy of the West. She has served as a staff accompanist at the Aspen Music Festival, as a staff coach at Opera in the Ozarks, Arkansas and the American Institute of Musical Arts in Graz, Austria.

She has received teaching fellowships from the Juilliard School and the USC Thornton Opera, working closely with renowned conductors, Judith Clurman and Brent McMunn. Her interests in contemporary music have led her to collaborate on new operas including Miss Lonelyhearts by Lowell Liebermann and Powder Her face by Thomas Adès. In addition to opera, she has premiered many contemporary chamber works with the New Juilliard Ensemble, under the baton of Joel Sachs.

Artists

Janet received her Bachelor and Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from the Peabody Conservatory with pianist Robert McDonald, and a Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Piano from the Juilliard School under the tutelage of Jonathan Feldman and Brian Zeger. She completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California in Keyboard Collaborative Arts in 2009 under Alan Smith and was awarded Gwendolyn Koldofsky Scholarship Award for three consecutive years. Dr. Kao is currently an adjunct professor and a vocal coach at Fullerton College and Chapman University.

Don Guy, Set Designer

Don Guy is an Assistant Professor of Theatre in Entertainment Technology and the Production Manager for the College of Performing Arts. He received an MFA in Design from the University of California, Irvine and a BA in Theatre from the University of Alabama. In addition to his work at Chapman, he is a prolific designer for dance, theater, industrials, themed entertainment and architecture. He has designed numerous shows from Off-Broadway to Tony Award-winning regional theaters. Dance design credits include: Swan Lake, Cinderella, The Sleeping Beauty, Giselle and The Nutcracker for the St. Louis Ballet, Cinderella, The Nutcracker, ETC!, and Fiesta for choreographer David Allan, The Nutcracker for Ballet Pacifica, Ash, Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder, Games, Songs of the Disinherited, Delicious Obsession/Sweet Bondage and District Storyville for choreographer Donald McKayle, Swan Lake, The Sleeping Beauty, Giselle, and The Nutcracker for Festival Ballet and well over 300 dance pieces for numerous choreographers and dance companies across the country. Theatre design credits include: The 19th Annual NAACP Awards at the Directors Guild of America, Booth! The Musical at the Skirball Performing Arts Center, Return directed by Donald McKayle, The Grand Tour, Grand Hotel, Rounding Third, Master Harold ... and the boys, and The Immigrant at the Colony Theatre, A Picasso at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, La Posada Magica at the Tony Award-winning South Coast Repertory, The Tempest for the Shakespeare Festival of St. Louis, Jubilee at Radio City Music Hall, and Carnival of Wonders at the Trump Plaza in Atlantic City and the Reno Hilton in Reno, NV for award-winning magicians Kalin and Jinger. Themed Entertainment and Architectural Design credits include: Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Universal Studios Japan, Universal Studios Orlando, Universal Studios Hollywood, Master Card, Warner Bros. Movie World Madrid, TV Guide Building, South Coast Repertory, Anheuser Busch, Lincoln Center, Madison Square Garden,

Artists

and Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Production Studios at the World Trade Center.

Laure Dike, Costume Design and Production Manager

Laure Dike holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance from the University of California, Irvine, where she studied under Eugene Loring and Olga Maynard. She choreographed over thirty musical theater productions – her favorites include Anything Goes, Once Upon a Mattress, and Oklahoma. Laure performed in California Riverside Ballet's The Nutcracker as Frau Silberhaus and Cinderella as Step Mother, under the direction of David Allen. Laure enjoyed a long career with the Walt Disney Company as a corporate trainer for New-hire Orientation, The Management Intern Program, and Disneyland Ambassador Program. Laure has been the choreographer and creative consultant for the Norco High School Choral Association for fifteen years. She has had the pleasure of designing costumes for Opera Chapman for the past five seasons.

Harrison Zierer, Co-Production Manager

Harrison Zierer is a graduate of Chapman University Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music in Vocal Performance. Harrison performed extensively in the opera and choral music programs. He is now a freelance singer and director. In 2012 he founded the Junior Theater of Yorba Linda, a theater troupe for children ages 6-18 in the Orange County Area.

Artistic and Technical Staff

Technical DirectorEric Rodriguez

Master CarpenterMatt McKibbon

CarpentersTrevor Weil, Ron Coffman, Richard Jackson

Scenic Painters.....Kesia Ross, Sara Ragey, Jake Thompson

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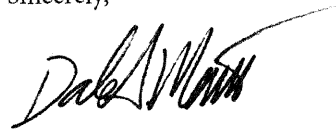
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Sincerely,



Dale A. Merrill, Dean

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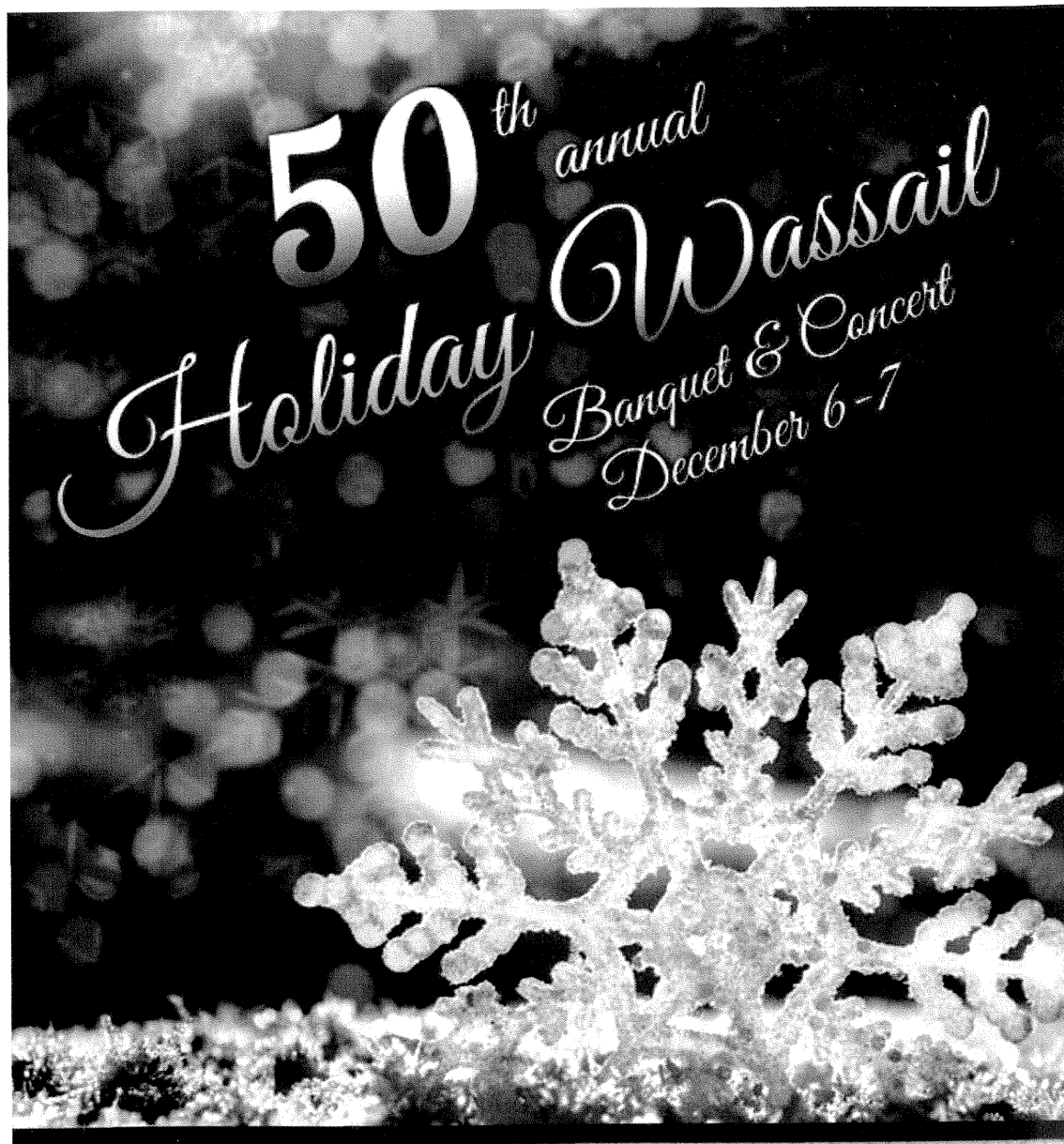
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 December 6-7

December 6 & 7, 2013 6pm dinner, 8pm concert
 Reception & Dinner: Fish Interfaith Center
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 \$75 per person: includes reception, dinner, and concert.

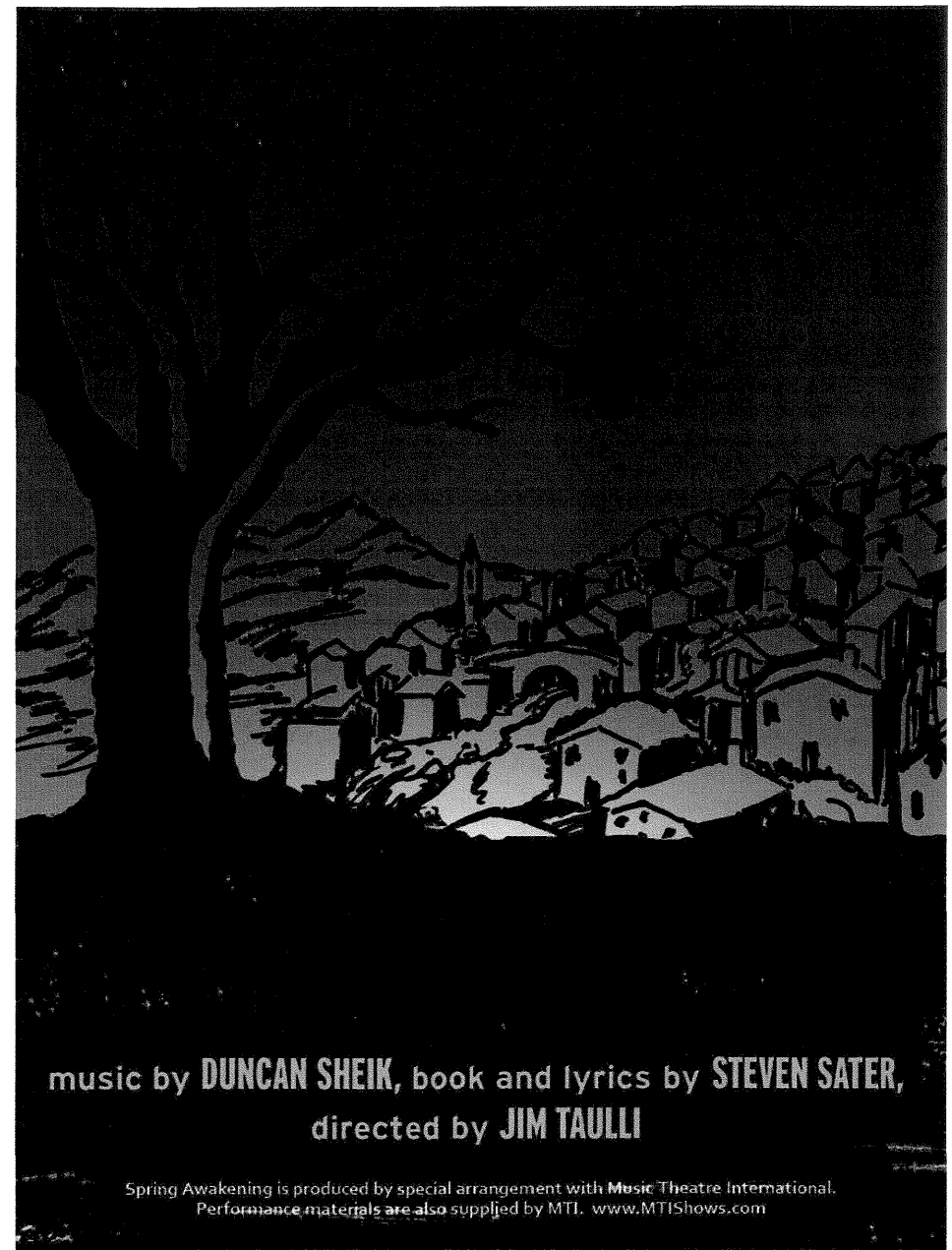
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music by **DUNCAN SHEIK**, book and lyrics by **STEVEN SATER**,
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