PALM BEACH OPERA YOUNG ARTIST PRODUCTION IN COLLABORATION WITH LYNN UNIVERSITY CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

THE TURN OF THE SCREW

BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN LIBRETTO BY MYFANWY PIPER, AFTER A STORY BY HENRY JAMES

APRIL 12 & 14, 2013

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center Lynn University





Welcome to Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*—Lynn University Conservatory of Music's first collaboration with Palm Beach Opera and our first performance of a complete opera in the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center.

This is a marvelous opportunity for our student-musicians to partner with Palm Beach Opera's Young Artists adding yet

another important dimension to their exceptional educational experience at Lynn. Just as PBO's Young Artist Program is a stepping-stone to a successful career in opera, the Conservatory brings a wide variety of performance experiences crucial to the foundation of a professional orchestral musician.

We invite you to hear the full Lynn Philharmonia Orchestra in our 2012-2013 season finale on April 20-21, featuring Timothy Cobb, principle double bass of the Metropolitan Opera.

On behalf of the Conservatory, we are delighted that you have chosen to attend *The Turn of the Screw*. We hope you experience, in this performance, the embodiment of our Conservatory: *"When talent meets inspiration, the results are extraordinary."*

Jon Robertson Dean, Lynn University Conservatory of Music



I'm thrilled to welcome you to this first collaboration between Palm Beach Opera's Young Artist Program and the Lynn University Conservatory of Music. Training future musicians and communicative performers is at the heart of both our organizations' missions, and this production adds programmatic depth to our respective programs.

I'm equally excited that the educational nature of the institutions and sophistication of our audiences allow us to produce a chamber opera in English, which expands our standard opera repertoire. *The Turn of the Screw* by Benjamin Britten is an accomplished ghost story set to wonderfully atmospheric music, asking both performers and orchestra to find their way into the psychology of the characters to bring them to life. A fitting way to celebrate not only our talented performers, but also the 2013 centenary of Benjamin Britten, who passionately believed in music education!

Thank you for sharing this evening with us, I look forward to seeing you again at our performances during the 2014 Palm Beach Opera Season.

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Daniel Biaggi General Director, Palm Beach Opera

PALM BEACH OPERA

in Collaboration with Lynn University Conservatory of Music presents:

THE TURN OF THE SCREW

BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN Keith C. And Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center Lynn University

APRIL 12 & 14, 2013

Conductor: GREG RITCHEY Director: DOUG SCHOLZ-CARLSON

> CAST OF CHARACTERS (In Order of Vocal Appearance)

Prologue/Peter Quint: KYLE ERDOS-KNAPP Flora: ALEXANDRA BATSIOS The Governess: BONNIE SHERMAN BROWN Mrs. Grose: MEGAN MARINO Miles: SIDNEY O'GORMAN Miss Jessel: SHIRIN ESKANDANI

CREATIVE TEAM

Scenic Design: ERIK PAULSON Costume Design: SUSAN MEMMOTT ALLRED Costumes Provided By: UTAH OPERA Lighting Design: HERMAN MONTERO Projection Design: MARTIN B. GWINUP Make-up and Hair: KATHY WASZKELEWICZ Head Young Artist Coach: REBECCA MORDO

SUPERNUMERARIES

Wayne McLead Ramon Mirabales Carolina Prince Julian Restrepo Christina Sheridan Marketa Specianova Lynn University Conservatory of Music PHILHARMONIA MEMBERS

Violin 1: ANNA TSUKERVANIK Violin 2: ROMAN YEARIAN Viola: JESSE YUKIMURA Cello: JARED COOPER Double Bass: ANDREW ANGELIN Flute: KELLEY BARNETT Oboe: ASAKO FURUOYA Clarinet: MICHAEL KAISER Bassoon: NOEMI RIVERA French Horn: RAUL RODRIGUEZ Piano/Celeste: ANASTASIA TIMOFEEVA Percussion: CHUN-YU TSAI Harp: PHUTTARAKSA KAMNIRDRATANA

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Prologue

Prologue relates a story written long ago by a woman once employed as the governess of two orphaned children in Bly, hired on the condition that she would never contact their guardian uncle in London, who was too busy to concern himself with them.

Act I

The Governess travels to Bly with apprehension. Her two young charges, Miles and Flora, and the housekeeper, Mrs. Grose, await her arrival. When the children welcome the Governess to the estate, she feels reassured about her decision to accept the job.

Mrs. Grose gives the Governess a letter stating that Miles has been expelled from school, which causes the Governess to momentarily recall her anxieties about Bly. Mrs. Grose says that Miles can be wild, but that he is not bad. As the Governess and Mrs. Grose watch the children innocently singing, they decide that the school officials are mistaken. The Governess resolves that she will not tell the children's guardian.

The Governess, increasingly enchanted by the children, strolls the grounds of Bly. Yet she has heard cries during the night and footsteps outside her door. Suddenly, she is startled at the sight of a man standing on the tower of the house.

As Flora and Miles ride a hobbyhorse, the Governess describes the apparition to Mrs. Grose. Mrs. Grose tells the Governess of the master's former valet, Peter Quint, his strange influence on the children, and his involvement with Miss Jessel, the former governess, who left pregnant and subsequently died. Mrs. Grose adds that Quint later died after a fall on an icy road. The Governess vows to protect the children.

The Governess is giving Miles a Latin lesson when he sings her a mysterious, plaintive rhyme. As the Governess and Flora sit by a lake in the park, Flora names the seas she knows, ending with the Dead Sea. She sings to her doll while the Governess reads a book. When the Governess sees the figure of Miss Jessel across the lake, she hurries Flora away. At night, Peter Quint and Miss Jessel try to lure the children outside. The ghosts disappear when the Governess and Mrs. Grose arrive.

INTERMISSION

Act II

Miss Jessel and Peter Quint reproach each other and discuss their desire for revenge. The Governess reflects upon the evil she fears.

In the churchyard, Mrs. Grose comments upon the children's sweetness, but the Governess tells her of their bizarre behavior. Mrs. Grose urges the Governess to write their guardian, but she refuses. As Flora enters the church, Miles lingers to ask the Governess when he will return to school. When he makes mention of "the others," the Governess realizes what she is up against and decides to leave Bly.

The Governess enters the schoolroom to find Miss Jessel seated at her desk,

lamenting her suffering. When the Governess challenges Miss Jessel, she vanishes. The Governess then decides to remain at Bly, but writes to the guardian. The Governess tells Miles that she has written to his guardian. Quint's voice calls out to Miles, causing him to shriek. His candle goes out. Quint hovers over Miles, encouraging him to steal the letter before it can be sent. Miles slinks off to the schoolroom and takes the letter back to his bedroom.

In the schoolroom, Miles plays the piano for the Governess and Mrs. Grose. When Flora slips away, the Governess and Mrs. Grose go to find her. Miles exults in his successful ruse. The Governess and Mrs. Grose find Flora at the lake. Miss Jessel appears, but only the Governess sees her. Flora, shouting abuse at the Governess, is led off by Mrs. Grose. After hearing Flora's evil ravings during the night, Mrs. Grose decides to take her away from Bly.

Mrs. Grose reveals that Miles stole the Governess' letter. The Governess, now alone with Miles, questions the boy, but Quint tells Miles not to betray their secrets. Miles becomes hysterical and admits stealing the letter. When the Governess urges the boy to reveal the name of his tormentor, he implicates Quint. His power destroyed, Quint vanishes, as Miles falls dead.



2012-2013 PALM BEACH OPERA YOUNG ARTIST PROGRAM

The Palm Beach Opera Young Artist Program is funded by The Edward H. Benenson Foundation.

Additional support is provided by Roseanne and Dennis Williams, Isanne and Sanford Fisher, Mr. Arnold S. Penner and Ms. Madaline Berley, The Gladys and Sy Ziv Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts, Il Circolo, the Italian Cultural Society of the Palm Beaches, and Mrs. Bernice Lieberman

The Palm Beach Opera Young Artist Program is a stepping stone to a successful career as an opera singer for post-graduate and emerging singers. During their five-month residency in Palm Beach they develop and polish essential stagecraft and performance skills, aided by musical and career guidance from Palm Beach Opera's experienced artistic staff. The Young Artists are Palm Beach Opera's community ambassadors, performing throughout the area in education and outreach concerts as well as covering lead roles and performing comprimario roles on the mainstage.

Each Young Artist will:

Receive primary consideration for main-stage secondary and comprimario roles and cover appropriate role(s) in mainstage productions
Perform principal roles in the One Opera in One Hour series. (Abridged semi-staged version with piano accompaniment performed at the Harriet Himmel Theater at CityPlace in West Palm Beach.)

- Sing concerts in community and attend/perform at donor functions
- Sing in the PBO chorus (when not singing secondary or comprimario roles)
- · Participate in PBO educational activities
- Receive regular coaching with resident and visiting music staff and participate in masterclasses and seminars given by acclaimed guest artists and teachers, as well as sing for managers, etc.

PBO provides each Young Artist with:

- · Monthly stipend as well as a housing and travel stipend
- Masterclasses, professional workshops, and vocal coaching with a variety of guest artists and teachers
- Auditions for managers

To learn more about becoming a member of Palm Beach Opera or sponsoring a Young Artist, please contact Lisa Huertas in the Development Office at 561-835-7558 or lhuertas@pbopera.org. Information is also available online at www.pbopera.org.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



GREG RITCHEY

Conductor

Greg Ritchey returned for the 2012–2013 season for his seventh season as Assistant Conductor and Chorus Master. During his time at Palm Beach Opera, he has been Chorus Master for more than twenty productions including *Turandot*, *Don Giovanni*, *Pagliacci*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La Traviata*,

La Boheme, L'Italiana in Algeri, L'elisir d'Amore, Nabucco, Orfeo ed Euridice as well as Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 and Verdi's Requiem. Mr. Ritchey also serves as assistant conductor at Opera Theater of Saint Louis and has previously held music staff positions at Dallas Opera, Wexford Festival, Central City Opera, Virginia Opera, and Sarasota Opera. He will return this summer for the fourth time as Conductor at the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Italy for Le Nozze di Figaro. Mr. Ritchey has played concerts throughout the United States and Europe. He holds a BM degree from the University of North Texas and the MM degree from the Juilliard School of Music.



DOUG SCHOLZ-CARLSON Director

Doug Scholz-Carlson is Associate Producing Director of the Great River Shakespeare Festival in Winona, Minnesota where he directed *Macbeth* and *Cymbeline* and is a member of the acting company. Recent directing credits include *Lucia di Lammermoor* for Austin Lyric Opera and Pittsburgh

Opera, *Brundibar* for Palm Beach Opera and Opera Theater of St. Louis and *The Turn of the Screw* for Madison Opera as well as productions for the Minnesota Opera's Resident Artist Program, Theater Three, New Breath Productions, and the Minnesota Shakespeare Festival. He has assisted on numerous opera productions including the world premiere of *The Grapes of Wrath* and the North American premier of *The Handmaid's Tale*. His fight choreography has included world premieres of *Silent Night* and *The Grapes of Wrath* and has been seen at theaters including Minnesota Opera, New York City Opera, Utah Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Guthrie Theater, Children's Theater Company, and the Seattle Police Department. Doug holds a BA Summa cum Laude in theater from St. Olaf College and an MFA from the University of Washington's Professional Actor Training Program.



ALEXANDRA BATSIOS - Flora Soprano (Granite City, Illinois) PBO Engagements: Annina, La Traviata; Diana, Iphigénie en Tauride; Clorinda, La Cenerentola; Yadwiga, Enemies, a Love Story

Career Highlights: Adina, L'Elisir d'Amore, Opera North;

The Vixen, *The Cunning Little Vixen*, Opera North; Clorinda, *La Cenerentola*, Opera North; Lucy, *The Telephone*, Opera North; Fiordiligi, *Cosi fan Tutte*, Westminster Choir College

Education: Westminster Choir College, Millikin University



BONNIE SHERMAN BROWN - The Governess
Soprano (Jackson, Mississippi)
Ms. Brown's residency is sponsored by Mr. Arnold S. Penner and Ms. Madaleine Berley
PBO Engagements: First Priestess, Iphigénie en Tauride; Masha, Enemies, a Love Story; Slave, Salome

Career Highlights: Lucia, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Manhattan School of Music Education: Vanderbilt University, Manhattan School of Music



KYLE ERDOS-KNAPP - Prologue/Peter Quint
Tenor (Akron, Ohio)
PBO Engagements: Gastone, La Traviata; Pylade,
Iphigénie en Tauride; Second Jew, Salome
Career Highlights: Tobias, Sweeny Todd, Opera Theatre of
St. Louis; Tobias, Sweeny Todd, Pensacola Opera

Education: Eastman School of Music, University of Michigan, Wolf Trap Opera Studio



SHIRIN ESKANDANI - Miss Jessel Mezzo Soprano (Vancouver, BC, Canada) Ms. Eskandani's residency is sponsored by Rosanne and Dennis Williams PBO Engagements: Flora, La Traviata; Tisbe, La Cenerentola; Tamara, Enemies, a Love Story

Career Highlights: Carmen, *La Tragedie de Carmen*, Syracuse Opera; Mercedes, *Carmen*, Opera Theatre of St. Louis; Medoro, *Orlando*, Green Mountain Opera; Alisa, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Palm Beach Opera **Education:** Manhattan School of Music, University of British Columbia



MEGAN MARINO - Mrs. Grose Mezzo Soprano (Paoli, Pennsylvania) PBO Engagements: Iphigénie, *Iphigénie en Tauride*; Angelina, *La Cenerentola* (Family Opera); Shifra Puah, *Enemies, a Love Story*; Page, *Salome* Career Highlights: Ciro (cover), *Ciro in Babilonia*, Rossini

Opera Festival and the Caramoor International Music Festival; Rosina, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Opera Fort Collins; Angelina, La Cenerentola, Baltimore Concert Opera

Education: University of Colorado, University of Southern Maine



SIDNEY O'GORMAN - Miles (West Palm Beach, Florida) Career Highlights: Randy, *A Christmas Story*, Maltz Jupiter Theater; Pepicek, *Brundibar*, Palm Beach Opera; Curly, *Peter Pan*, KWP Productions Education: BAK Middle School of the Arts



ERIK PAULSON - Scenery Design

Erik Paulson is a Scenic and Lighting Designer for the Twin Cities and Midwestern regional theatre companies. He has designed for companies including The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis (*The Comedy of Errors*), Great River Shakespeare Festival (*A Midsummer Night's Dream, King Henry IV Part I*),

Minnesota Opera (*The Giver*), Madison Opera (*The Turn of the Screw*), History Theatre (2009 Ivey Award-winning production of *Tyrone and Ralph*), Park Square Theatre (*Othello*), Artisphere Theatre (*Looking for Normal*), Nautilus Music-Theater (*Carousel, Man of La Mancha*), and Minnetonka Theatre (*Phantom of the Opera, Dracula*). Erik is also a founding member of the Great River Shakespeare Festival and is the Performing Arts Manager for Arts on 7 in Minnetonka, Minnesota, but resides in Minneapolis with his lovely wife, Michelle, and toddlergenius Rhys.



HERMAN MONTERO - Lighting Design

Herman Montero is a Freelance Lighting Designer based out of Miami, FL and has been fortunate enough to design for many art disciplines across the country. His most recent designs include the Seaside Repertory Theatre's production of *Mother Trucker the Musical*; along with, the Alliance Theatre Lab's

production of *Brothers Beckett*. He is also a member of the Stagehand's Union – IATSE and holds an MFA in Lighting Design from Florida State University. After *The Turn of the Screw*, he will be returning to the Seaside Repertory Theatre as Production Manager for their 2013 Summer Festival, where he will also be designing Sherlock Holmes: *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.



MARTIN B. GWINUP - Projection Design

Martin Gwinup is an Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota and teaches in the areas of Sound technology and Design as well as Video production and Multimedia Design and Technology. Mr. Gwinup also teaches production technology and serves as the Departmental Technical Director.

He received a BFA in Design & Technology from Emporia State University and a MFA in Technical Design and Production from Yale School of Drama.



KATHY WASZKELEWICZ - Make-up and Hair Design

Kathy Waszkelewicz entered the theatrical world as a volunteer with the Connecticut Opera in 1991. Ms. Waszkelewicz began her work with Palm Beach Opera in 1993 and became their resident make-up and hair designer in 1999. She has designed make-up and wigs for over 20 opera companies in the United

States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. Since 1999, Kathy has worked with the National Tour of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* as Assistant Hair Supervisor and Head of Make-up and Prosthetics. Other credits include resident wig and make-up designer for: Evansville Philharmonic, Florida Grand Opera, and various film and television projects including the Tony Awards. Kathy is the recipient of the National William Zauder Award for Outstanding Make-Up in 1997 at the National Costume Associates convention. She has recently joined the creative team for the theatrical productions on Royal Caribbean Cruise Line fleet and enjoys living and creating here in Palm Beach County.



REBECCA MORDO - Head Young Artist Coach

On the recital stage, Ms. Mordo has collaborated with some of today's prominent young artists including Metropolitan Opera Council Winner Lori Guilbeau and Jeanine De Bique, Young Concert Artist Winner. In past seasons, Ms. Mordo was fortunate to perform for Prince Charles of England and opened

the show for renowned star, Bernadette Peters. She has also been honored to perform for Ambassadors from Brazil, Nepal, India, China, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Syria, Suriname and at the British & Italian Embassies in Washington DC. Ms. Mordo has worked with renowned conductors such as Ricardo Muti, George Manahan, and Stuart Malina. She has been on the music staff at Opera Delaware, Utah Festival Opera, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Manhattan School of Music, The Curtis Institute of Music, Music Academy of the West and The International Vocal Arts Institute (IVAI). Ms. Mordo has appeared as a solo and collaborative pianist in numerous concerts in Brazil, Italy, Puerto Rico, Israel, and across the United States.

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