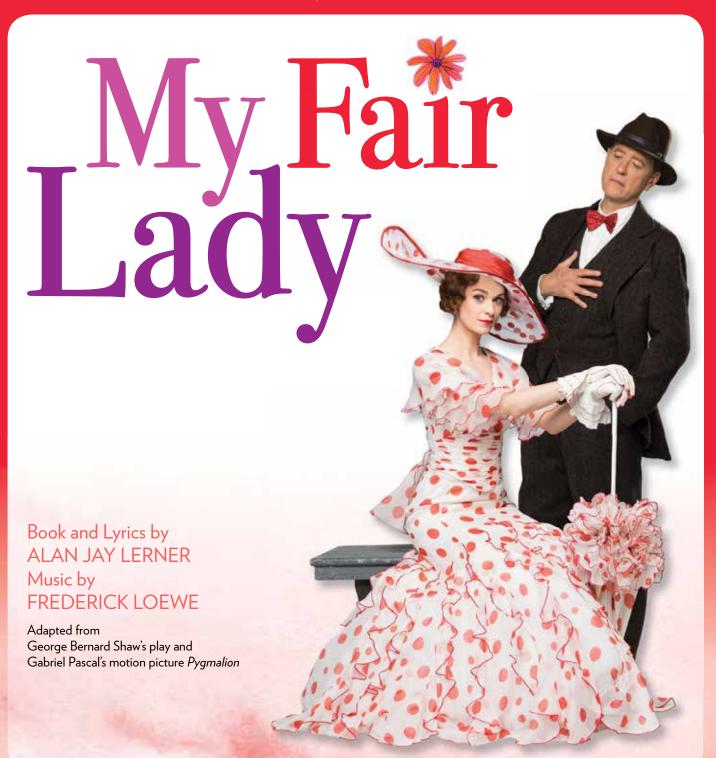


2016|17 **SEASON** 



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2 | April - May, 2017 *Lyric* 



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On the cover: Lisa O'Hare as Eliza Doolittle and Richard E. Grant as Henry Higgins

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# From the General Director and the Chairman

Welcome to Lyric Opera of Chicago's presentation of one of the most enthralling masterpieces in musical-theater history.

Ever since Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe's *My Fair Lady* took
Broadway by storm in 1956, it has retained its hold on audiences worldwide. From
"Wouldn't It Be Loverly?" and "I Could Have Danced All Night" to
"On the Street Where You Live" and "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face,"
the melodies are irresistible, while the lyrics wonderfully enhance the characters created by George Bernard Shaw. That's the miracle of *My Fair Lady*, and
its greatest achievement: it remains so true to its source (Shaw's own screen adaptation of his glorious play *Pygmalion*) that we don't even notice where
Shaw ends and Lerner and Loewe begin.

We're producing *My Fair Lady* on the grand scale that it deserves, with sumptuous contributions from chorus and orchestra under David Chase, as well as Lynne Page's delightful choreography and elegant designs by Tim Hatley (sets) and Anthony Powell (costumes). The production originated at one of Europe's most musically and theatrically adventurous houses, Paris's Théâtre du Châtelet. Its internationally celebrated director, Robert Carsen, has triumphed repeatedly at Lyric, including our revival of *Eugene Onegin* earlier this season. All of us at Lyric are thrilled by the cast, led by the charismatic Richard E. Grant (whom many of you will remember from his role in *Downton Abbey*) and the dazzling Lisa O'Hare.

Many of you are experiencing a Lyric performance for the very first time. We invite you to return next season, since tremendous excitement is awaiting you. Beginning on page 14 of this program, you'll find a feature article that will tell you all about what we're planning as we aim to be *the* great North American opera company of the 21st century.

Thank you for joining us. Have a wonderful time at My Fair Lady!

Anthony Freud, David T. Ormesher,

General Director Chairman



Anthony Freud



David T. Ormesher

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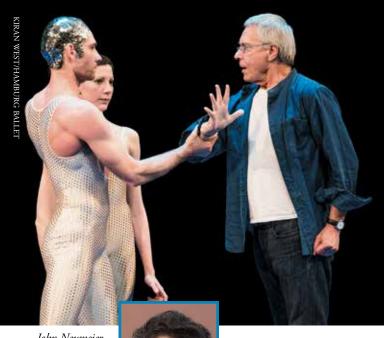
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April - May, 2017 11





John Neumeier (above, right), who will direct, choreograph, and design Gluck's Orphée et Eurydice.

Russian tenor Dmitry Korchak debuts at Lyric as Orphée.

# Season of Delight,

## General director Anthony Freud reveals what Lyric audiences can look forward to in 2017/18

By Roger Pines

In just four months, another Lyric season will begin! The excitement is already building, with so many thrilling operas and special events ahead. Everything contributes to Lyric's ultimate goal – to redefine what a great opera company is all about in the 21st century.

That goal includes bringing a broadbased repertoire to the stage of the Civic Opera House, serving a wide range of tastes. "Even as we work to engage new audiences," says general director Anthony Freud, "one thing that will never change is our commitment to advancing our art form by inspiring and entertaining our audiences with magnificent productions."

The 2017/18 season opens with Orphée et Eurydice (Orpheus and Eurydice), Christoph Willibald Gluck's retelling of the Greek myth in which the musician Orpheus braves the dangers of the Underworld to bring his dead wife back to earth. Lyric has produced this work before, but not in the 1774 Paris version (in French rather than Italian, with the hero sung by a tenor rather than a countertenor). Freud relishes "the marvelous virtuosity in Gluck's music for Orpheus, as well as his captivating ballet music, added to satisfy the expectations of the 18th-century Parisians. There's true musical and dramatic glory in this work,

and for our audiences it's sure to be a great discovery and an unforgettable, deeply affecting experience."

Any *Orphée* production requires artists of exceptional sensitivity and intelligence, both to produce it and to perform it. "We're thrilled that the world-renowned American choreographer John Neumeier - in a very exciting collaboration between Lyric, The Joffrey Ballet, LA Opera, and Staatsoper Hamburg - will create the vital dance element of this opera, direct the production, and design the sets, costumes, and lighting. Harry Bicket, one of today's finest interpreters of pre-1800 repertoire, will return to conduct. Russian tenor Dmitry Korchak, in his Lyric debut, will sing Orpheus with all the beauty of sound, stupendous technique, and deep expressiveness the role requires. Andriana Chuchman, one of the most successful recent alumni of Lyric's Ryan Opera Center, will be with us again to sing Eurydice."

Next we'll welcome back to Lyric's

12 | April - May, 2017 *Lyric* 



Heading the Walküre cast are Eric Owens (Wotan) and Christine Goerke (Brünnhilde).



Costume sketches by Marie-Jeanne Lecca 🗼 for Die Walküre: Hunding (left) and Brünnhilde (right).

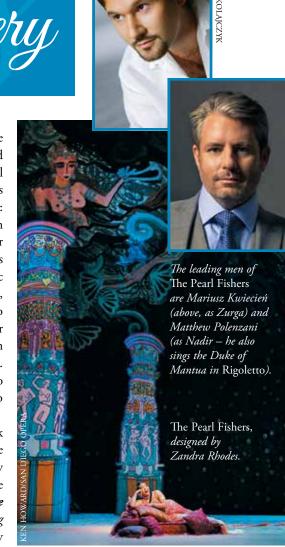


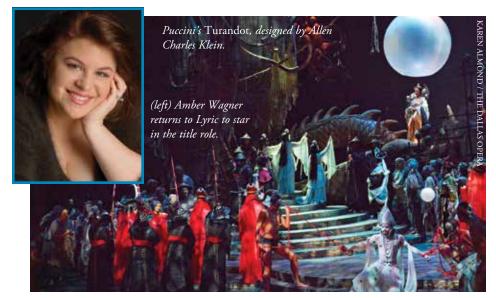
# Season of Discovery

stage Giuseppe Verdi's Rigoletto, one of the greatest dramas in the Italian repertoire. For more than 150 years operagoers have been riveted by the barbed-tongued court jester Rigoletto and his desperate attempt to avenge his daughter Gilda, after she's seduced and abandoned by the licentious Duke of Mantua. "Audiences invariably thrill to the music of Rigoletto," Freud declares, "with so many highlights, including the Duke's exuberant 'La donna è mobile,' Gilda's exquisite 'Caro nome,' and opera's most famous quartet."

The dramatic power that a great Rigoletto communicates onstage can be truly hair-raising. Lyric has a remarkable artist to sing the role: "All of us in this company are immensely proud that Quinn Kelsey, a Ryan Opera Center alumnus and that rare singer, a true Verdi baritone, will be returning in his signature role. Rigoletto has been a triumph for him at major houses across Europe and North America." Matthew Polenzani, one of the foremost tenors of our time and also a Ryan Opera Center alumnus, will portray the Duke. These Lyric favorites will be joined by two debuting artists: Rosa Feola, the captivating young Italian soprano who will portray Gilda after her great success at the CSO last season as Nannetta in Falstaff; and the charismatic Ukrainian bass Alexander Tsymbalyuk, who will sing Sparafucile. "I'm also delighted that Marco Armiliato, a master of his native Italian repertoire, will return to conduct," says Freud, "and that E. Loren Meeker will direct San Francisco Opera's very striking, new-to-Chicago production."

The new Ring cycle - a work described by Freud as "the most massive challenge that any opera company can undertake" - continues with the second opera in Wagner's tetralogy, Die Walküre. The most passionate of the Ring operas, Walküre shows us an emotionally









(left) Lyric's leading lady for I Puritani is Russian soprano Albina Shagimuratova; (right) Lawrence Brownlee, who stars as Arturo in I Puritani, is pictured (with Olga Peretyatko) at the Metropolitan Opera.

devastating conflict between Wotan, king of the gods, and his Valkyrie daughter Brünnhilde, as well as the profoundly moving love of Wotan's human children, Siegmund and Sieglinde. "Wagner reveals these characters' psychology in the most remarkably insightful way," says Freud, adding that *Walküre*'s music is "surely the most beautiful in the entire *Ring*."

On the podium will be the company's remarkable music director, Sir Andrew Davis, renewing his collaboration with *Ring* director David Pountney, so memorable not just in *Rheingold* but also in *The Passenger* two seasons ago. Returning will be four internationally renowned Wagnerians who have starred at Lyric this season: Christine Goerke (Brünnhilde), Eric Owens (Wotan), Brandon Jovanovich (Siegmund), and

Tanja Ariane Baumgartner (Fricka). Two notable debuts will be those of Swedish soprano Elisabet Strid (Sieglinde) and Estonian bass Ain Anger (Hunding).

Lyric will then move to French repertoire with one of the most rapturously melodic works in 19th-century opera, Georges Bizet's The Pearl Fishers. This opera presents a romantic triangle involving the priestess Leïla and the two men who love her - the fisherman Nadir and his friend Zurga, king of the pearl fishers. For this work "Bizet created a truly entrancing score," Freud asserts, "including the world-famous tenorbaritone duet, as well as heartfelt arias and exhilarating choruses, but also with an elegant, exotic beauty in every scene. I'm delighted that Sir Andrew will be on the podium, confirming his mastery of the French repertoire that Lyric and other major houses have been relishing over the past decade."

Lyric is presenting *The Pearl Fishers* in irresistibly colorful and imaginative sets and costumes by fashion icon Zandra Rhodes. Glorious performances can be expected from soprano Marina Rebeka and the tenor-baritone duo who recently triumphed together in this opera at the Met – Matthew Polenzani and Mariusz Kwiecień.

Exoticism will again pervade the air with *Turandot*, Giacomo Puccini's final work, boasting some of opera's most sumptuously beautiful music. It transports us back to a mythical ancient Peking, in which an ice-hearted princess finally discovers love. "The music will provide a fabulous showcase for the Lyric Opera Orchestra and Chorus," notes Freud. "I love all the large-scale moments of *Turandot*, but I'm also attracted to the sweet, intimate arias of the lyric soprano Liù. Like the rest of the world, I can't resist 'Nessun dorma,' which has become everyone's favorite tenor aria!"

Lyric will be presenting *Turandot* in a much-celebrated production, created originally for The Dallas Opera. After Ryan Opera Center alumna Amber Wagner's recent successes at Lyric in *Il trovatore* and *Tannhäuser*, she'll return for Puccini's formidable title role. Performing opposite her will be three debuting artists who have distinguished themselves in major houses worldwide: Italian soprano Maria Agresta (Liù - December performances), American soprano Janai Brugger (Liù – January performances), and Italian tenor Stefano La Colla (Calaf).

Freud loves the operas of Vincenzo Bellini "for their emotion, elegance, and the sheer beauty of the melodies. That's why I'm so pleased that we'll present his final masterpiece, *I Puritani*, at Lyric for the first time in more than a quarter-century." This romantic/historical drama, set in 1640s England, abounds with one moment of vocal splendor after another, including one of the greatest of all bel canto

14 | April - May, 2017 Lyric

#### LYRIC O P E R A O F C H I C A G O







soprano roles and an aria taking the tenor to F above high C! "Opera companies can produce I Puritani only when four extraordinary singers are available," says Freud. "The two lovers, Elvira and Arturo, will be Albina Shagimuratova, who has enraptured our audiences in Lucia di Lammermoor and Rigoletto, and Lawrence Brownlee, following up on his dazzling Lyric debut in Cinderella. Our Riccardo is the exceptionally gifted Ryan Opera Center alumnus Anthony Clark Evans, now embarked on a major career. Two artists who made outstanding Lyric debuts in this season's Lucia - bass Adrian Sâmpetrean and conductor Enrique Mazzola - will be with us as well, in the

Met's lovely traditional production."

Any occasion to present an opera by Mozart is cause for rejoicing. Lyric's Mozartian treat for 2017/18 is Così fan tutte, an endlessly intriguing, thoughtprovoking "school for lovers" story in which two couples learn a great deal about each other while singing truly heavenly music. In addition to tremendous skill as vocalists and musicians, "a Così cast needs the ability to relate to each other on a very intimate level," notes Freud. "It's the ensemble opera par excellence, although the solo opportunities for individual characters are fabulous as well!"

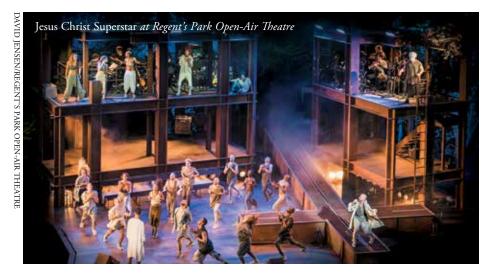
Lyric favorite Ana María Martínez, whose Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni (left) Così fan tutte at Lyric, 2006.

(far left) Among the stars of Così fan tutte are Lyric favorites Ana María Martínez (Fiordiligi - she also sings Marguerite in the final performance of Faust) and Alessandro Corbelli (Don Alfonso).

showed her to be a masterful interpreter of Mozart's music and comedy, will be joined by French mezzo-soprano Marianne Crebassa (delightful in her debut last season in Romeo and Juliet) and a new artist at Lyric, the captivating Russian soprano Elena Tsallagova. The cast also includes Alessandro Corbelli, today's ultimate master of comic repertoire, as Don Alfonso. "No director understands this opera better than John Cox," says Freud, "and he'll be collaborating with the brilliant American conductor James Gaffigan, who has rapidly ascended to the top rank internationally."

Charles Gounod's Faust, tale of an old philosopher who sells his soul to the devil in exchange for youth, is a work Freud has loved for his entire operagoing life, "thanks to its overwhelmingly romantic music. Of course, I also relish the matchlessly elegant yet sinister characterization Gounod gives Méphistophélès, the spirit of the devil!" Acclaimed at Lyric for three productions (including last season's world premiere of Bel Canto), director Kevin Newbury will return to create Lyric's new Faust. His production designer, American artist

The embodiment of Faust stars (clockwise from Faust's aspirations top) Benjamin Bernheim (title representing his search role), Erin Wall (Marguerite), for life's meaning. and Christian Van Horn Art by Faust (Méphistophélès) production designer John Frame.



John Frame, is known as one of his generation's most innovative sculptors. This quintessentially French opera will have a French conductor at the helm, Emmanuel Villaume, and onstage will be a remarkably gifted young French tenor, Benjamin Bernheim (title role). He'll partner two Ryan Opera Center alumni who both enjoy spectacular international careers, Erin Wall (Marguerite) and Christian Van Horn (Méphistophélès).

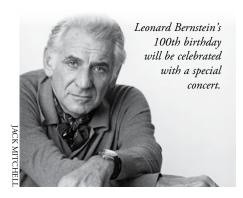
Beyond the season's eight mainstage operas, there are special events to make the Lyric season even more varied and exciting.

"Up to now in our musical-theater productions we've concentrated on American classics," notes Freud, "but in 2017/18, for the first time, we're producing an iconic rock opera, one that suits a big theater – *Jesus Christ Superstar*." In director Timothy Sheader's new production adapted from London's Regent's Park Open-Air Theatre, "our audience will be reminded that this is a truly unforgettable piece. When it arrived in America in 1972, it became one of the greatest successes in Broadway history, and it's been enthralling audiences everywhere ever since."

A Lyric Unlimited project at the Athenaeum Theatre will give Chicago audiences the opportunity to experience one of the most acclaimed new American works of recent years. "I heard Gregory Spears's chamber opera *Fellow Travelers* 

in its Cincinnati world premiere and was enormously impressed," says Freud. This is a story of 1950s Washington; in the politically highly charged atmosphere of the crusade against communism, idealistic young man becomes romantically involved with a handsome State Department official. Forbidden love, political corruption, unexpected betrayal - it's all part of this riveting and moving work that The New York Times praised as "a near-perfect example of fast-flowing musical drama." Kevin Newbury will be reprising his world-premiere production, in which, said Opera News, "Fellow Travelers' delicacy came through in full, and so did its emotional wallop."

Whether on Broadway or with orchestras, Leonard Bernstein personified 20th-century American music. Lyric will commemorate his 100th birthday on March 10 with *Celebrating 100 Years of Bernstein*. David Chase will conduct and renowned artists will be participating onstage. Bernstein's bitingly funny and



deeply poignant one-act opera *Trouble in Tahiti*, will be followed by a selection of beloved gems from the Bernstein vocal catalog. Don't miss this glorious, one-night-only tribute to an American icon.

Any solo recital at Lyric is always a thrilling occasion, and next season will be no exception when the company welcomes Polish tenor **Piotr Beczała** on February 25. "Piotr is sought after by all the major opera houses," says Freud, "and his artistry is one of the great joys of the international vocal scene. He won innumerable new Chicago fans with his Lyric debut in *Faust* eight years ago, and he was a magnificent Edgardo in *Lucia* earlier this season. I couldn't be more delighted that we'll highlight his gifts as a recitalist on the Lyric stage."



In creating the 2017/18 season, Anthony Freud and Sir Andrew Davis recognize that, in Freud's words, "there has never been a more challenging – or a more exciting – time to be part of the Chicago artistic community. I'm so proud of what Lyric is achieving, season after season. All of us in this company are part of a great legacy. We're committed to honoring our past, celebrating our present, and nurturing our company in ways that ensure a vibrant and meaningful future. We welcome every member of our audience to be part of the journey."

# Learn more about next season at lyricopera.org.

Roger Pines, Lyric's dramaturg and broadcast co-host, contributes writing regularly to opera-related publications and recording companies internationally.

16 | April - May, 2017 Lyric



Lyric Opera Premiere

New-to-Chicago Production

Book and Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner Music by Frederick Loewe

# My Fair Lady

Lyric Opera premiere generously made possible by

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- My Fair Lady is presented by arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc., 560 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022.
- A production created by the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris -General Director: Jean-Luc Choplin, on December 9, 2010, in co-production with the State Academic Mariinsky Theatre, St. Petersburg, Russia.
- New York principal casting by Tara Rubin Casting.
- Chicago principal casting by Claire Simon Casting.
- Lyric Opera of Chicago wishes to thank its official airline, American Airlines.
- No one will be admitted while the performance is in progress.

Lyric Premiere

New-to-Chicago Production

## **MY FAIR LADY**

Book and Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner Music by Frederick Loewe

Adapted from George Bernard Shaw's play and Gabriel Pascal's motion picture Pygmalion

First performed on March 15, 1956, at the Mark Hellinger Theatre, New York First performed by Lyric Opera of Chicago on April 28, 2017

In order of appearance:

Eliza Doolittle LISA O'HARE\* Harry JACKSON EVANS\* Freddy Eynsford-Hill BRYCE PINKHAM\* Angry Woman PEGGY ROEDER\* Mrs. Eynsford-Hill CARMEN ROMAN\* Mrs. Pearce CINDY GOLD Colonel Pickering NICHOLAS LE PREVOST\* Butler DAVID LIVELY Bystander NIKOLAS WENZEL Mrs. Hopkins SARA SEVIGNY\* Another Bystander PETER MORGAN First Maid LAURIE SEELY VASSALLI Hoxton Man JOE SHADDAY Second Maid CORINNE WALLACE-CRANE Selsey Man HOSS BROCK Mrs. Higgins HELEN CAREY\* Henry Higgins RICHARD E. GRANT\* Charles JACKSON EVANS\* Lord Boxington BILL McGOUGH\* First Cockney HOSS BROCK Lady Boxington PEGGY ROEDER\* Second Cockney NIKOLAS WENZEL Footman MATTHEW CARROLL Third Cockney PETER MORGAN Fourth Cockney JOE SHADDAY Zoltan Karpathy MICHAEL JOSEPH MITCHELL\* Bartender BILL MCGOUGH\* Queen of Transylvania SHARON GARVEY COHEN Prince of Transylvania RON WATKINS Alfred P. Doolittle DONALD MAXWELL\* Mrs. Higgins's Maid JANET MARIE FARR Jamie JAMES ROMNEY

> Higgins's Servants: Matthew Carroll, Matthew Keffer\*, Amy Kuckelman, Katelyn Lee, Kenneth Nichols, Will Skrip, Marie Sokolova, Pamela Williams

Ensemble: Skyler Adams, Hoss Brock, Matthew Carroll, Sharon Garvey Cohen, Janet Marie Farr, Matthew Keffer\*, Amy Kuckelman, Katelyn Lee, Will Mobley\*, Peter Morgan, Kenneth Nichols, James Odom, Thomas Lewis Potter, Dominic Rescigno\*, Stephen Schellhardt\*, Joe Shadday, Will Skrip, Yvette Smith, Marie Sokolova, Laurie Seely Vassalli, Vince Wallace, Corinne Wallace-Crane, Ron Watkins, Sherry Watkins, Nikolas Wenzel, Pamela Williams, Fred Zimmerman

Dancers: Aubrey Adams\*, Shannon Alvis, Kristian Brooks\*, Daniel Gold\*, Tasha Heggem\*, James E. Johnson V, Ethan R. Kirschbaum, Terence Marling\*, Jamy Meek, Hayley Meier, Jessica Wolfrum Raun, Todd Rhoades, Jacqueline Stewart, J Tyler Whitmer\*

Understudies: Jeff Diebold - Henry Higgins; Jennie Sophia - Eliza Doolittle; Fred Zimmerman - Alfred P. Doolittle; David Lively - Col. Pickering; Peggy Roeder - Mrs. Higgins; Jackson Evans - Zoltan Karpathy; Michael Joseph Mitchell - Lord Boxington, Bartender, Butler; Sara Sevigny - Mrs. Pearce, Lady Boxington, Angry Woman; Corinne Wallace-Crane - Mrs. Eynsford-Hill, Mrs. Hopkins; Skyler Adams – Harry, Jamie, Charles; Yvette Smith – Queen of Transylvania; Matthew Keffer – Freddy Eynsford-Hill, Cockney Quartet; Ron Watkins, Kenneth Nichols, Will Skrip - Cockney Quartet; Pamela Williams - Henry Higgins's Maids; Sherry Watkins - Mrs. Higgins's Maid; James Odom, Yvette Smith, Ron Watkins, Sherry Watkins - Servants

Original Director ROBERT CARSEN Revival Director OLIVIER FREDJ\* Set Designer TIM HATLEY\* Assistant Set Designer PHILIPPINE ORDINAIRE\* Costume Designer ANTHONY POWELL\* Assistant Costume Designer FRÉDÉRIC LLINARES\* Co-Lighting Designer ROBERT CARSEN Co-Lighting Designer GIUSEPPE DI IORIO\* Sound Designer MARK GREY Chorus Master MICHAEL BLACK Choreographer LYNNE PAGE\*

Conductor DAVID CHASE

Associate Choreographer REBECCA HOWELL\* Wigmaster and Makeup Designer SARAH HATTEN Associate Director MATTHEW OZAWA Assistant Director ELISE SANDELL Stage Manager JOHN W. COLEMAN Assistant Stage Managers RACHEL C. HENNEBERRY RACHEL A. TOBIAS Assistant Conductor VALERIE MAZE Musical Preparation WILLIAM C. BILLINGHAM TIM LENIHAN\* Dramaturg IAN BURTON\* Dialect Coach CHRISTINE ADAIRE\* Sound Engineer JOE SCHOFIELD



\*Lyric Opera debut

The American Guild of Musical Artists, AFL-CIO (AGMA), is the union that represents the singers, dancers, actors, and staging personnel at Lyric Opera of Chicago.

# MY FAIR LADY – Synopsis

#### ACT ONE

On a cold night in London, patrons leaving the Royal Opera House are trying to find taxis. Eliza Doolittle, a Cockney flower girl, is knocked over by one of them: a young man called Freddy Eynsford-Hill. She admonishes him, becoming even more upset when she sees another man copying down her words. This is Henry Higgins, a distinguished professor of phonetics. Lamenting Eliza's dreadful accent, he declares that in six months he could turn her into a lady simply by teaching her to speak properly. An older gentleman introduces himself as Colonel Pickering, a linguist who has long studied Indian dialects. As both men have always wanted to meet each other, Higgins invites Pickering to stay with him.

As they leave, the professor distractedly throws some spare change into Eliza's flower basket. She and her Cockney friends wonder what it would be like to live a comfortable life. Eliza's father, Alfred P. Doolittle, and his drinking companions Harry and Jamie, all dustmen, emerge from a nearby pub. Doolittle, as usual, is searching for money for another drink, and Eliza reluctantly gives him some.

At Higgins's home the housekeeper, Mrs. Pearce, announces that a young woman has arrived. It is in fact Eliza, who wants Professor Higgins to teach her to speak properly so that she can obtain work in a florist's shop. Pickering bets Higgins that he will not be able to make good his claim to transform Eliza and even volunteers to pay for Eliza's lessons. An intensive makeover of Eliza's speech, manners and dress begins.

Eliza's father arrives at Higgins's house the next morning, claiming that Higgins is compromising Eliza's virtue. Higgins is impressed by the man's natural gift for language and his brazen lack of moral values. He and Doolittle agree that Eliza can continue to take lessons and live at Higgins's house if Higgins gives Doolittle five pounds for a drinking spree. While Eliza endures the long and difficult speech-tutoring, the servants lament the long hours that Higgins imposes on the entire household. Just as they are all about to give up, Higgins eloquently speaks of the glory of the English language and Eliza makes the long-awaited breakthrough.

For her first public tryout, Higgins takes Eliza to his mother's box at Ascot Racecourse. Eliza initially impresses with her polite manners but then unintentionally shocks everyone when she excitedly reverts to Cockney during a horse race. But she has captured the heart of Freddy Eynsford-Hill, the young man who knocked her over outside the Royal Opera. Freddy calls on Eliza, but after the Ascot disaster she refuses to see anyone. He declares that he will wait for her as long as is necessary.

After further preparation Eliza is finally ready for an even more difficult test: the Embassy Ball. Higgins, his mother, and Colonel Pickering are all nervous as to how the evening will unfold, but Eliza passes the test brilliantly. Everyone at the ball is fascinated by her, including a Hungarian phonetician named Zoltan Karpathy. Higgins's triumph is complete when the Queen of Transylvania not only notices Eliza but encourages her son, the Crown Prince, to dance with her.

#### **ACT TWO**

After the ball, Pickering flatters Higgins about his triumph, while the professor expresses his pleasure that the experiment is finally over. The episode leaves Eliza feeling used and abandoned, particularly as Higgins completely ignores her except to ask where he has left his slippers. When Eliza throws them at him, Higgins is completely mystified by her ingratitude.

Deciding to leave the house that very night, Eliza finds Freddy still waiting outside. He is overjoyed to see her, but Eliza cuts him off, telling him that if he really loved her, he would show her rather than talk about it. At Covent Garden, Eliza's old friends no longer recognize her. But her father, surprisingly dressed in top hat and tails, does. He explains bitterly that as a result of Professor Higgins's intervention, he has received a surprise bequest from an American millionaire, which has ruined him by raising him to middle-class respectability. The worst thing is that he now has to marry the woman he has been living with for all these years. Doolittle and his friends decide to have one last drinking spree before his wedding the next morning.

Higgins and Pickering are upset to discover that Eliza has left, and Pickering leaves to try to find her. Concluding that men are far superior to women in everything, Higgins nevertheless seeks his mother's advice. He is astonished to find Eliza having tea with her. Higgins demands that she return home, but Eliza accuses him of wanting her back only to fetch and carry for him. She further declares that she was foolish to ever think that she needed Higgins, and that she will marry Freddy instead. The professor is struck by Eliza's spirit and independence and asks her once more to stay with him, but she tells him that he will not be seeing her again.

As Higgins returns home alone, he begins to discover what his real feelings for Eliza might be. As he listens once again to the first recording he made of her voice, the recording is suddenly replaced by Eliza's real voice. Without even looking up, Higgins asks her if she has any idea where his slippers might be...

#### - Robert Carsen

Printed courtesy of the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris.

## LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO

#### **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

**ACT TWO** 

Overture Orchestra Entr'Acte Orchestra

Scene 1: Outside Covent Garden, a cold winter night

Scene 1: Higgins's study, 3:00 the following morning

Doolittle, Harry, and Jamie

"Why Can't the English?" Higgins "You Did It" Pickering, Higgins, "Wouldn't It Be Loverly?" Eliza and Ensemble Mrs. Pearce,

Scene 2: A tenement section of Tottenham Court Road, later that evening "Just You Wait" (reprise) and the Servants

Eliza

Scene 2: Outside Higgins's house, immediately following
Scene 3: Higgins's study, the next day "Show Me" Eliza, with Freddy

Scene 3: Flower market of Covent Garden, 5:00 in the morning

Higgins

Scene 4: Tenement section, as in Scene 2 "Wouldn't It Be Loverly" (reprise) Eliza "With a Little Bit of Luck" (reprise) Doolittle and Ensemble and Cockney Men

Scene 5: Higgins's study, later that afternoon and into the late evening
"Iust You Wait"

"Get Me to the Church on Time"

Doolittle
and Ensemble

"The Servants' Chorus" Higgins's Servants Scene 4: Upstairs hall of Higgins's house, 11:00 that morning
"The Rain in Spain" Higgins, Eliza, Pickering "A Hymn to Him" Higgins
"I Could Have Danced All Night" Eliza, with Mrs. Pearce

and Two Maids Scene 5: *The garden of Mrs. Higgins's house*"Without You" Eliza

Scene 6: Outside Ascot, a July afternoon
Scene 6: Outside Higgins's house, dusk that afternoon

Ascot "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face" Higgins "Ascot Gavotte" Full Ensemble

Scene 7: Higgins's study, immediately following
tene 8: Outside Higgins's house, later that day

Scene 7: Higgins's study, immediately following
Finale
Orchestra

Scene 9: Higgins's study, six weeks later, evening

Freddy

Scene 10: Transylvanian Embassy promenade, outside the ballroom,

later that evening
"Promenade"

"Promenade" Orchestra
"The Embassy Waltz" Orchestra, with Higgins, Eliza,

Pickering, Karpathy, and Full Ensemble

Scene 11: Ballroom of the Embassy, immediately following

"On the Street Where You Live"

"With a Little Bit of Luck"

"I'm an Ordinary Man"

#### Orchestra

Scene 7:

**ACT ONE** 

Violin I Viola Flute/Piccolo Horn Timpani/Percussion Kathleen Brauer, Terri VanValkinburgh, Dionne Jackson, Samuel Hamzem, Edward Harrison, Concertmaster Principal Principal Principal Principal Alexander Belavsky Amy Hess Neil Kimel Pauli Ewing Di Shi Oboe/English Horn Percussion Karl Davies Heather Wittels Robert E. Morgan, Trumpet Douglas Waddell,

Ann Palen Principal William Denton,
Frank W. Babbitt Cello Principal
David Volfe Laura Deming, Clarinet Channing Philbrick

Violin II Walter Preucil Principal

John Macfarlane, William H. Cernota Sergey Gutorov Trombone

Channing Philotick
Channing Philotick
Channing Philotick
Channing Philotick
Channing Philotick
Channing Philotick
Principal
Sergey Gutorov
Trombone

PrincipalJeremy Moeller,Bonita DiBelloBassBassoonPrincipalAlbert WangIan Hallas,Lewis Kirk,David Becker

Peter Labella Principal Principal Orchestra Contractor
Patrick Brennan Collins Trier Tuba Christine Janicki
Andrew Smith,

Principal

Lynn Williams,

Wendy Skoczen

Principal

Librarian

Harp

Principal



ALAN JAY LERNER (Book and Lyrics) wrote these musicals with Frederick Loewe: Life of the Party, What's Up, The Day Before Spring, Brigadoon, Paint Your Wagon, My Fair Lady, Camelot, and Gigi. He also wrote Love Life

with Kurt Weill, On A Clear Day You Can See Forever and Carmelina with Burton Lane, Coco with André Previn, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue with Leonard Bernstein, and Dance a Little Closer with Charles Strouse. He wrote the libretto and/or lyrics for the following films: An American in Paris, Gigi, The Little Prince, The Royal Wedding, and film versions of his plays. He wrote two books — On the Street Where I Live and The Musical Theatre: A Celebration. Lerner died in 1986.



FREDERICK LOEWE

(Music), a child prodigy at four, made his concert debut on the piano with the Berlin Philharmonic at 13. He came to America in 1923. In 1942, Loewe approached Alan Jay Lerner in New York and

said he would like to collaborate with him on a musical show. The two went on to enjoy a notable partnership resulting in the stage musicals *The Day Before Spring, Brigadoon, Paint Your Wagon, My Fair Lady,* and *Camelot,* and the films *Gigi* and *The Little Prince,* as well as the stage version of *Gigi*. Loewe died on February 14, 1988 at 88, the winner of several Tony and Oscar awards.



RICHARD E. GRANT\*

(Henry Higgins) is recognized internationally as one of the great performers of his generation. The actor initially achieved renown as the perpetually inebriated title character in his first film, Withnail and I, which

has since established a large cult following. Some of Grant's most memorable film credits include Bram Stoker's Dracula, Henry & June, L.A. Story, Corpse Bride, Penelope, The Player, The Age of Innocence, The Portrait of a Lady, Spice World, Gosford Park, and The Iron Lady. He has countless television credits, including featured roles on Girls, Jekyll & Hyde, Dig, Downton Abbey, and Game of Thrones. In 2008, Grant performed the role of Henry Higgins/My Fair Lady with Opera Australia in Sydney. In addition to Jackie starring Natalie

Portman, he can be seen in other recent films, including the romantic comedy *Their Finest* and *Logan*, the latest installment in the *X-Men series*. A native of Swaziland, Grant studied at the University of Cape Town and was a member of the Space Theatre Company in Cape Town before moving to London in 1982.



LISA O'HARE\* (Eliza Doolittle) was originally trained at the Royal Ballet School as a ballet dancer. The singer-actress performed in London at Sadler's Wells and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, before

making the transition to musical theater. Most recently she earned impressive critical praise originating the role of Sibella Hallward/A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder that showed on Broadway. O'Hare has played the title role/Mary Poppins in Australia, on the U.K. tour, and at Prince Edward Theatre in London; Eliza Doolittle on the U. S. and U. K. national tours of My Fair Lady (receiving the Elliot Norton and Denver Post Ovation Award); the title role/Gigi at London's Regent's Park Open-Air Theatre; and Sally Bowles/ Cabaret for the Reprise Theatre Company in Los Angeles. She has numerous television credits, including roles in Castle, The Closer, and Undercovers. O'Hare's performance as Sally Bowles/Cabaret for the Reprise Theatre Company won the 2011 LA Drama Critics Circle Award for Lead Performance.



NICHOLAS LE PREVOST\*

(Colonel Pickering) was nominated for a 2002 Olivier Award for his performance in My Fair Lady at the Royal National Theatre and Theatre Royal-Drury Lane as well as in 1992 for George Feydeau's

An Absolute Turkey (for which he won the Clarence Derwent Award). Recent successes include a critically acclaimed production of Roland Schimmelpfennig's Winter Solstice and two Sheridan plays (Love for Love, Royal Shakespeare Company and The Rivals, Arcola Theatre). Other major achievements range stylistically from Much Ado About Nothing (Royal Shakespeare Company), Man and Superman (Royal National Theatre), Tom Stoppard's The Real Inspector Hound, and Richard Brinsley Sheridan's The Critic (both at the Minerva Theatre, Chichester) to most recently Alan Ayckbourn's How the Other Half Loves (London's Theatre Royal Haymarket).

Since 2003, Le Prevost has portrayed Georges Simenon's fictional detective Jules Maigret for BBC Radio. He is the founder of The Wrestling School, a theater company that explores the relationship between language, performer, and audience through the work of Howard Barker.



DONALD MAXWELL\*

(Alfred P. Doolittle) the

(Alfred P. Doolittle), the celebrated British baritone, has appeared with the Royal Opera, English National Opera, Welsh National Opera, Scottish Opera, Glyndebourne, and all the other major British

companies, as well as the Met, La Scala, Vienna State Opera, and the leading houses of Paris, Brussels, Berlin, and Zurich. His repertoire of nearly 100 roles ranges from Don Pasquale and Falstaff to the Dutchman and Wozzeck, along with major roles of Rossini, Donizetti, Massenet, Janáček, Puccini, Stravinsky, and Britten. Engagements this season include Tosca (Royal Opera), Iain Bell's In Parenthesis (world premiere, Welsh National Opera), and The Marriage of Figaro (Scottish Opera). In addition to DVDs including La fille du régiment, La bohème, (both from the Royal Opera) and Pelléas et Mélisande (Welsh National Opera), he has amassed a highly varied discography. Maxwell has held several prestigious posts, including artistic director of the Buxton Festival, director of the National Opera Studio, and head of opera studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.



BRYCE PINKHAM\*

(Freddy Eynsford-Hill) is most widely known for originating the role of Monty Navarro in the Tony-winning musical A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder on Broadway, for which

he was nominated for Tony, Grammy, and Drama Desk awards. He appeared in the Broadway revival of *The Heidi Chronicles* as Peter Patrone, for which he was nominated for an Outer Critics Circle Award and a Drama League Award for Distinguished Performance in 2015. His other Broadway credits include the lead role of Jim/Holiday Inn, Carl Bruner/ Ghost, the Musical and Henry Clay/Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson. His latest onscreen appearances include Baz Luhrmann's Netflix series *The Get Down*, Robert De Niro's *The Comedian*, and as a series regular on PBS's Civil War drama series *Mercy Street*. His

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previous TV credits include *The Good Wife* and *Person of Interest*.



CINDY GOLD (Mrs. Pearce) is an active performer in the Chicago area and across the United States, and is a professor of theater at Northwestern University. She has worked off-Broadway in New York and regionally at The Ken-

nedy Center (Washington National Opera), Glimmerglass Festival, Cape Rep Theatre (Cape Cod), Madison Repertory Theatre, Peninsula Players (Wisconsin), Shakespeare Sedona (Arizona), Alabama Shakespeare Festival, and Boston Shakespeare Company. In the Chicago area she has performed with Drury Lane, Lookingglass, Northlight, the Goodman, About Face, and Broadway in Chicago. Gold has directed at Rivendell Theatre Ensemble (Chicago), Coconut Grove Playhouse Summer Conservatory (Miami), Lyric Stage (Boston), Festival of Southern Theatre (Mississippi), and 13th Street Theatre (New York). As a dialect coach, she has worked with many area theaters, such as Griffin Theatre, the Court, and at Lyric, where she worked with Robert Altman and William Bolcom on their adaptation of Altman's A Wedding. In 2006 Gold received a Jeff Award for best actress in Loving Repeating.



HELEN CAREY\* (Mrs. Higgins) previously portrayed this character in Pygmalion on Broadway, where she has also been seen in The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time and London Assurance (for which

Carey earned a Tony nomination, a Theatre World Award, and a Callaway Award). She has performed at Canada's Stratford Festival (The School for Scandal, Arms and the Man); Dublin's Abbey Theatre (Kate Keller/All My Sons); in many major roles at the Guthrie Theater; and on the East Coast at Arena Stage (Mary Tyrone/Long Day's Journey Into Night), Signature Theatre (Phyllis/Follies), and Shakespeare Theater Company, where she is a longstanding company member. The actress holds three Helen Hayes Awards for her Washington appearances. Film credits include Julie & Julia, The Next Three Days, and Black Knight. Carey has appeared in several popular television series, among them The Good Wife, Brotherhood, Seinfeld, and Law & Order.



MICHAEL JOSEPH MITCHELL\* (Zoltan Karpathy, uls Bartender, uls Lord Boxington, uls Butler) is an active performer in the Chicago area, having appeared with Russell Land Productions (Assassination Theater), Provision Theater

(Old Wicked Songs), Mercury Theater (Freud's Last Session), First Folio Theatre (A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Winter's Tale, The Merchant of Venice), City Lit Theater Company (Underneath the Lintel, Jeff Award nomination for best solo performance), and recently appeared in the films Falsely Accused and Scrooge & Marley.



CARMENROMAN\* (Mrs. Eynsford-Hill) has received the Sarah Siddons Award, Florence Herscher Award (UCLA), Jeff Awards for Master Class and Wit, and was a 2002 Fox Fellow. She toured nationally in Angels in America and has worked

extensively with the Peninsula Players Theatre, Theatre for a New Audience from Chicago's Court Theatre, Classic Stage Company, Gary Allen Productions, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, and Walnut Street Theater. Film and television credits include appearances in *The Falcon, Marilyn, All My Children, Law & Order*, and *Savages*.



BILL McGOUGH\* (George the Bartender, Lord Boxington)'s Chicago theater credits include Scratch and Santa/Rock and Roll Christmas Tale (Broadway Playhouse), Morty/Old Jews Telling Jokes (Royal George Theatre), and Willy Loman/

Death of a Salesman (The Hypocrites, Jeff Award nomination for actor in a principal role). He has been seen on episodes of Sirens (USA), Chicago Fire (NBC), Shameless (Showtime), and The Chicago Code (FOX). Film appearances include roles in The Christmas, In Memoriam, and Let's Go to Prison.



PEGGY ROEDER\*
(Lady Boxington, Angry Woman, uls Mrs. Higgins)
has worked extensively at Steppenwolf Theatre,
Goodman Theatre, Asolo Repertory Theatre, The
Muny (St. Louis), Chicago

Shakespeare Theater, About Face, and Peninsula Players. Her work has earned her four Jeff Awards. Roeder can be seen in the films *Groundhog Day, Road to Perdition, Stranger Than Fiction, In Memoriam*, and *Were the World Mine*, and her television appearances include *Law & Order, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, and *Chicago Justice*.



JACKSON EVANS\* (Harry, Charles, uls Zoltan Karpathy) is an Iowa native who received his bachelor's degree in theater from Northwestern University. An active performer in the Chicagoland area, he has worked with such

companies as Mercury Theater (Avenue Q), Chicago Shakespeare Theater (Ride the Cyclone, SS! Taming of the Shrew), Second City Theatricals (The Realish Housewives), Drury Lane Oakbrook (Spamalot, Hairspray), Lincolnshire Marriott (Singin' in the Rain, High School Musical), Victory Gardens (The Snow Queen), Light Opera Works (Oklahoma!, Kiss Me Kate), Blank Theatre Los Angeles (Peter Pan: The Boy Who Hated Mothers), and First Stage Children's Theatre Milwaukee (Big: The Musical, Seussical, The Wiz).



JAMES ROMNEY (Jamie) received his training at the Roosevelt University Chicago College of Performing Arts, where he earned a bachelor of fine arts in acting. At Lyric, he was a member of the ensemble in Carousel (2014/15). At the

Texas Shakespeare Festival, Romney performed many roles, which include Sebastian/*Twelfth Night*, Puck/*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Juan/*Man of La Mancha*. He most recently appeared in *Fly By Night* (Theo Ubique).



**DAVID LIVELY** (Butler, uls Colonel Pickering) previously performed at Lyric as David Bascombe/ Carousel. In addition to the Marriott Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, and Roundabout Theatre Company, he has performed exten-

sively with Chicago Shakespeare Theater in 23 productions, including King Charles III, Othello, King Lear, Henry V, and The Madness of George III. His television appearances include Empire, The Chicago Code, Prison Break, What About Joan, Cupid, and George Washington.

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Lively's feature film credits include *The Opera Lover* and *Contagion*.



SARA SEVIGNY\* (Mrs. Hopkins, u/s Mrs. Pearce, u/s Lady Boxington, u/s Angry Woman) is a Chicagobased performer who has worked with the Broadway Playhouse, Chicago Children's Theatre, About Face Theatre, TimeLine, and

The Hypocrites. She received a Jeff Award for best supporting actress in a musical in Porchlight Music Theatre's production of Assassins and was a part of Strawdog Theatre Company's best ensemble award-winning Marathon '33. Television credits include Empire, The Gabriels, and Mindgames. Sevigny trained at Curry College, the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, and Second City's Conservatory.

#### Ensemble



SKYLER ADAMS (u/s Harry, u/s Jamie, u/s Charles) returns to the Lyric stage after debuting in the ensemble of Oklahoma! (2012/13). He has performed with Drury Lane (Next to Normal, Les Misérables, Saturday Night

Fever), Mercury Theater (The Bardy Bunch), Musical Theater Wichita (Catch Me If You Can, Big Fish, Legally Blonde), Chicago Shakespeare Theater (The Adventures of Pinocchio, world premiere), and Paramount Theatre (Hair, Grease, Fiddler on the Roof). Additionally, Adams appeared in the national tour of Pippin.



HOSS BROCK (Selsey Man, Cockney Quartet), a Lyric Opera Chorus member, has been seen at Lyric Opera as Ike Skidmore/Oklahoma! and Baron Elberfeld/The Sound of Music. The tenor has portrayed Almaviva/

The Barber of Seville with Lyric Unlimited's Opera in the Neighborhoods program and recently appeared as Alfredol La traviata with the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra. Brock has performed on San Francisco Opera's mainstage (Der Rosenkavalier) and with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Peninsula Music Festival, Northwest Indiana Symphony, and Grant Park Music Festival.



MATTHEW CARROLL (Servant, Footman), has been a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus for 11 years and has been seen in many of Lyric's productions, including Carousel, Okla-

homa!, The Merry Widow, and La traviata. In addi-

tion, he has performed roles with Michigan Opera Theatre, Opera Colorado, Central City Opera, Toledo Opera, Opera Omaha, Ohio Light Opera, and Chicago Folks Operetta. He was a Pittsburgh regional winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.



SHARON GARVEY COHEN (Queen of Transylvania) is a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus and has been seen onstage in Lyric productions of The Merry Widow, Die Fledermaus, The Pirates of Penzance, Candide, The

Sound of Music, Suor Angelica, Turandot, Fedora, and The Ghosts of Versailles. An alumna of Northwestern University and Simpson College, Cohen is the recipient of the Louis Sudler Excellence in the Art of Oratorio Award and is a past member of the Chicago Symphony Chorus.



JANET MARIE FARR (Mrs. Higgins's Maid), currently in her 30th year with the Lyric Opera Chorus, received her musical training at Mills College (Oakland, California) and the University of Texas-Austin, where she received

her D.M.A. in voice. Farr has performed Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* with New Music Ensemble at UT, Cherubino/*The Marriage of Figaro* (Austin Lyric Opera), sang the North American premiere of Harrison Birtwistle's *Ring a Dumb Carillon*, and was seen in Chicago Opera Theater's production of *Così fan tutte*.



**MATTHEW KEFFER\*** (Servant, u/s Freddy

(Servant, u/s Freddy Eynsford-Hill, u/s Cockney Quartet) is an active performer in the Chicago area. He received a Jeff Award as actor in a principal role-musical for his portrayal of Burrs/The

Wild Party (Bailiwick Chicago) and has been

seen in productions at several area theaters, including Porchlight Music Theatre (Sideshow, Sondheim on Sondheim), First Folio Theatre (Cymbeline), The Mercury Theater (The Man Who Murdered Sherlock Holmes), and Theo Ubique (Aspects of Love). Keffer received his B. F. A. in music theater at Elon University.



AMY KUCKELMAN

(Servant) debuted at Lyric in The King and I and portrayed the Female Narrator in the Lyric Unlimited world-premiere production of Jason and the Argonauts. She trained at the Manhattan School

of Music, where she received her bachelor's degree in voice. While studying, she also sang Mozart's Pamina, Massenet's Manon, Vincenette/Gounod's *Mireille*, Antonia/Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, and Lisa/Lehár's *The Land of Smiles*. Kuckelman was a young artist at the ISING Beijing Festival and in Italy at the International Lyric Academy.



KATELYN LEE (Servant) is a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus, Grant Park Symphony Chorus, and the Chicago Symphony Chorus. She received her vocal training at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory and Indiana

University. Most recently, she was a part of Lyric Unlimited's Opera in the Neighborhoods tour and was a featured soloist with Music of the Baroque. She has performed as Antonia/Man of La Mancha (Cedar Rapids), Mizzi/Ball at the Savoy (Chicago Folks Operetta), and Rosina/The Barber of Seville (Springfield Regional Opera).



WILL MOBLEY\* received his training from the Savannah College of Art and Design, where he earned a bachelor's degree in theater. He has numerous theater credits, including Chicago Shakespeare Theater (SS! Twelfth Night),

Writers Theatre (Days Like Today, Antony and Cleopatra), Cardinal Stage Company in Bloomington, Indiana (The Legend of Georgia McBride), Indiana Repertory Theater (The Hound of the Baskervilles, A Christmas Carol, Other Desert Cities), and Wisconsin's American Players Theatre (The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Hamlet, Twelfth Night).

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PETER MORGAN (Another Bystander, Cockney Quartet) portrayed Chiron/Jason and the Argonauts, Lyric Unlimited's world premiere by Gregory Spears. An apprentice artist at the Sarasota Opera, he received his musical training at

Eastern Michigan University and Roosevelt University, where he earned his master of music degree in vocal performance. Recent appearances include the roles of Figaro/*The Marriage of Figaro* (Kor Productions), Sarastro/*The Magic Flute* (Petite Opera Productions), and Bonze/*Madama Butterfly* (Main Street Opera).



#### KENNETH NICHOLS

(Servant, u/s Cockney Quartet) has appeared in 11 roles at Lyric, most recently as a Lackey/Der Rosenkavalier (2015/16) and the Undertaker/Porgy and Bess (2014/15). The bass-baritone's other

Chicago roles have included the King and Herald/*The Love for Three Oranges* (Chicago Cultural Center) and Leporello/*Don Giovanni* (DuPage Opera Theatre). He was an ensemble member and sang multiple performances of Joe in Harold Prince's *Show Boat* production in New York, Toronto, Chicago, and London.



JAMES ODOM (uls Servant) is a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus and has performed in more than 140 productions. His work as a soloist includes productions at The Dallas Opera, Lyric Opera of Dallas, Opera Irving, Casa

Mañana, and Irving Theatre Center. In addition to his work in opera and musical theater, he has performed solo shows in Chicago and New York, as well as in *Cheerful Little Earful: The Songs of Harry Warren* at Skylight Music Theatre (Milwaukee).



#### THOMAS LEWIS

**POTTER**, a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus since 1992, has been heard in Lyric productions of *Billy Budd*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Susannah*. An alumnus of DePauw University, where he received a bachelor's

degree in voice, Potter has appeared with Chamber Opera Chicago (*The Magic Flute*,

Werther, Gianni Schicchi), Sister Lakes Theatre (Robber Bridegroom, Man of La Mancha), Chicago Symphony Orchestra (Father/Hansel and Gretel), Waukegan Symphony Orchestra (Brahms's Requiem, Bach's St. Matthew Passion), and James Chorale (Bach's St. Mark Passion).



#### DOMINIC RESCIGNO\*,

a Chicago native, received his training from Columbia College Chicago where he earned his bachelor of arts degree in theater while also studying and performing at The Second City. An active performer in the

Chicago area, his current season has included appearances as Donny Dulce/Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding (Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding Company) and Mark Cohen/Rent (Metropolis Performing Arts Centre). Rescigno has also worked with several Chicago theater companies, including Williams Street Repertory, Chicago Dramatists, and Kokandy Productions.



#### **STEPHEN**

SCHELLHARDT\* earned two Jeff Award nominations for best actor in a musical (Ko-Ko/Hot Mikado, Drury Lane Theatre) and best supporting actor (Laurie/Little Women, Marriott Theatre),

and a Barrymore Award nomination (Laurie/ Little Women, Bristol Riverside Theatre). Schellhardt portrayed Abe, Mark, and Juan, and was also dance captain, for the first national tour of Altar Boyz. He has performed at, among others, Writers Theatre (Edward/ Days Like Today), Chamber Opera Chicago (Henry/Persuasion), and Marriott Theatre (Emcee/Cabaret, Professor/South Pacific, Tenor/A Grand Night for Singing).



JOE SHADDAY (Hoxton Man, Cockney Quartet) is a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus, Cantus Vocal Ensemble, and was formerly an artistin-residence at Chicago Opera Theater, where he most recently portrayed

Banquo/Bloch's *Macbeth*. Other recent performances include Goro/*Madama Butterfly* (Ash Lawn Opera in Charlottesville, Virginia), Ahmed/*Woman from Morocco* (Kentucky Opera, world premiere), Enoch Snow/*Carousel* and Count Ivrea/*King for a Day* (both at the Glimmerglass Festival). Shadday received his

master of music degree in voice from the University of Maryland.



WILL SKRIP (Servant, u/s Cockney Quartet), an active Chicago-area performer, has been seen at Lyric in Carousel. His credits onstage have included Tony/West Side Story (Paramount Theatre), Prince Eric/The Little

Mermaid (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Michael/Smokey Joe's Cafe (Drury Lane Theatre), Emmett Forrest/Legally Blonde (Little Theatre on the Square), and Cinderella's Prince and the Wolf/Into The Woods (Mercury Theater). Skrip is a graduate of Northwestern University, where he received his bachelor's degree in acting and musical theater.



**YVETTE SMITH** (*u/s Queen of Transylvania, u/s Servant*), a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus, has performed at Lyric as the Voice/*Parisfal* (2013/14) and First Maidservant/ *Elektra* (2012/13). Performance credits include Erda/

Siegfried (Wagner Society of Washington, D. C.), Rosinal The Barber of Seville (Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia), Katishal The Mikado (Washington Savoyards), First Maidservant/ Elektra (Washington National Opera), Third Lady/ The Magic Flute (National Philharmonic Opera), and Emilia/ Otello (Summer Opera Theatre). Smith trained at the University of Maryland at College Park and the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.



#### MARIE SOKOLOVA

(Servant), a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus, debuted at Lyric as Dolly/ Show Boat (2010/11). A graduate of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and DePauw University, she has been heard with

the San Francisco Opera Education Outreach Program, Bay Area Summer Opera Theater Institute, College Light Opera Company, and MasterWorks Festival. Sokolova has also appeared as the Witch/Hansel and Gretel (Chicago Opera Playhouse, Tomorrow River Opera), Flora/La traviata (Music by the Lake), Margot/Mitislaw the Modern (Chicago Folks Operetta), and Dame Doleful/Too Many Sopranos (Milwaukee Opera Theatre).

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LAURIE SEELY VASSALLI (First Maid), a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus, made her solo debut on the Lyric stage as a Page/ Tannhäuser (2014/15). Having received her training at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and

the University of Northern Iowa, the mezzo-soprano has performed with the Mobile Opera (Inez/Il trovatore), Michigan Opera Theatre (Slave/Salome), Sarasota Opera (La Vecchia/L'amore dei tre re), Opera North (Dorabella/Così fan tutte, Mercédès/Carmen), and Opera Company of Brooklyn (Cherubino/The Marriage of Figaro, Kate Pinkerton/Madama Butterfly, Zerlina/Don Giovanni).



VINCE WALLACE recently played Orpheus in Lyric Unlimited's world-premiere production of *Jason and the Argonauts* by Gregory Spears and was heard at Lyric as the Usher/*Rigoletto* (2013/14). A former Utah Festival

Opera apprentice artist, he received his vocal training from Westminster Choir College of Rider University and the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester. Wallace received first place as the U. S. representative at the Concorso Internazionale di Musica Patané Respighi (Alessandria, Italy) in 2013.



CORINNE WALLACE-CRANE (Second Maid, u/s Mrs. Eynsford-Hill, u/s Mrs. Hopkins) most recently performed at Lyric as Sister Sophia and Fraulein Schweiger/The Sound of Music and the Fourth Page/Tannhäuser.

The mezzo-soprano has appeared with Petite Opera Productions (Madame de la Haltière/Cendrillon), San Francisco Lyric Opera (Giovanna/Rigoletto), and Central City Opera (Assunta/The Saint of Bleecker Street, Nurse/The Coronation of Poppea). She has also been a resident artist at the Natchez Festival and an apprentice at Central City Opera and Sarasota Opera.



RON WATKINS (Prince of Transylvania, u/s Cockney Quartet, u/s Servant), a Lyric Opera Chorus member since 1992, has performed seven roles at Lyric, most recently in Der Rosenkavalier, The King and I (both 2015/

16), and Captain Watson/Carousel (2014/15). He has also appeared at DuPage Opera Theater (Marcello/La bohème), the Grant Park Music Festival (Samuel/The Pirates of Penzance), Light Opera Works (Captain Corcoran/HMS Pinafore, Sir Richard Cholmondeley/The Yeomen of the Guard), as well as Chicago Opera Theater, Madison's Opera for the Young, Eastman Opera Theater, and College Light Opera Company in Falmouth, Massachusetts.



SHERRY WATKINS (u/s Mrs. Higgins's Maid, u/s Servant) is a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus. She made her Lyric solo debut as Pepík/The Cunning Little Vixen (2004/05) and has performed in the ensemble for several other

Lyric productions, including *The King and I, Carousel, The Sound of Music, Oklahoma!, Show Boat, The Mikado*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Watkins is an alumna of the American Institute of Musical Studies (Graz, Austria), Arizona State University, and the University of Connecticut.



NIKOLAS WENZEL (Bystander, Cockney Quartet), onstage at Lyric this season as the Second Trojan Soldier/Les Troyens, is a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus. A graduate of Southern Illinois University and

Northwestern University, he has performed with Madison Opera (Prison Guard/Dead Man Walking, Sacristan/Tosca), Lyric Unlimited's Opera in the Neighborhoods (Sarastro/The Magic Flute, Don Magnifico/Cinderella), Opera Theatre of Saint Louis (Lillas Pastia/Carmen, Don Magnifico/Cinderella), and Chicago Opera Theater (An Argonaut/Médée). Wenzel was a semifinalist in the 2012 Bel Canto Foundation competition.



PAMELA WILLIAMS (Servant, u/s Maids) has been a member of the Lyric Opera Chorus since 1999 and has been seen during recent seasons in the ensembles of Carousel, The Sound of Music, and Oklahoma!. Major opera

credits include Miss Todd/*The Old Maid and the Thief* and Sally/*A Hand of Bridge* (both at Governors State University's Opera Up Close). Williams has also performed leading roles with the Natchez Opera Festival, Madison's Opera for the Young, and the Indiana University Opera Theater.



FRED ZIMMERMAN (u/s Alfred P. Doolittle) played Baron Pritschisch in Lyric's critically-acclaimed production of The Merry Widow. He is a Chicago-based singeractor and has starred in numerous national tours of

Broadway productions, among them Ragtime, Bounce, Radio City Christmas Spectacular, Strike Up the Band, Call Me Madam, and Show Boat. Zimmerman's film and television credits include Chicago Fire, Lowering the Bar, Dustclouds, Fred Claus, and the pilot for ABC's Doubt. He performed as Big Davy in Drury Lane's Jeff-nominated production of Billy Elliot.

#### Dancers



AUBREY ADAMS\* received her training from the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma City Ballet School. An active performer, she has appeared on the stages of Chicago's Paramount Theatre (West Side Story, A

Christmas Story, Oklahoma!, Les Misérables, The Who's Tommy), Fort Worth's Casa Mañana (Cats, 42nd Street, Grease, Rent, Hairspray, Evita, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat), and Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma (High School Musical 2, The Producers, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Music Man).

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SHANNON ALVIS has danced on the Lyric stage in five productions, most recently this season's *Carmen.* After nine years with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, she furthered her career in Europe with Nederlands

Dans Theater. She has toured internationally and danced works by many world-renowned choreographers, among them Jiri Kylian, Nacho Duato, William Forsythe, and Crystal Pite. Additionally, Alvis has created her own choreographic works for Thodos Dance Chicago, DanceWorks Chicago, and Joffrey Ballet Academy.



#### KRISTIAN BROOKS\*,

before receiving her bachelor's degree from the University of Rochester, spent five years on the U.S.A. Gymnastics Rhythmic National Team. An inaugural member and choreographer of the

University of Rochester's Louvre Performance Ensemble, she has also danced with Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, Aerial Dance Chicago, Cedar Point's Luminosity (as a featured aerialist), and most recently completed her first national tour in *Dirty Dancing: The Classic Story on Stage*.



DANIEL GOLD\* was in the national tour of *Beauty* and the Beast. Gold has performed with Utah's Tuacahn Center for the Arts (Peter Pan, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Tarzan), Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan,

Illinois (Mary Poppins, The Addams Family, Swing!), American Repertory Theatre's Club Oberon (The Donkey Show, Clubland: Monster Pop Party), Rhode Island's Theatre By The Sea (Mary Poppins, Grease), and most recently Fireside Theatre. Gold is on faculty with Broadway Connection and Liberate Artists.



TASHA HEGGEM\*, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, received her training at the National Academy of the Arts in Oslo, Norway. Onstage, she has been seen in *West Side Story* (Oslo New Theatre), *Czardasfyrstinnen* (Norwegian National Opera),

Peter Pan, Singin' in the Rain, and A Fireside Christmas (all three at Fireside Theatre). Heggem danced with the Oslo Dance Ensemble and was a dancer and dance captain for two national tours with the Norwegian State Theatre/Riksteatret.



## JAMES E. JOHNSON V

trained at the Chicago Academy for the Arts and the State University of New York – Purchase. He has worked with choreographers such as Robert Battle, Donald Byrd, Sidra Bell, and Lauri

Stallings and has danced with Hubbard Street 2, Chicago Opera Theater, Muntu Dance Theatre, West Indian Folk Dance Company, DanceWorks, and Cirque Du Soleil. Receiving NAACP awards for choreography and solo dance performance, Johnson has been seen in tours of *The Color Purple* and *The Lion King*.



#### ETHAN R. KIRSCHBAUM

debuted at Lyric in *Les Troyens* earlier this season, and has been a company member at Chicago's River North Dance since 2011. Among his other engagements have been the Saarländische

Staatstheater's Donlon Dance Company, Hubbard Street 2, The Santa Fe Opera, and Holland Dance Festival. Kirschbaum graduated with honors from the Ailey School at Fordham University with a bachelor's degree in dance and received additional training at the San Francisco Ballet School.



#### TERENCE MARLING\*,

a Chicago native, trained at the Ruth Page School under the direction of Larry Long. He then danced with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Nationaltheater Mannheim in Germany, and Chicago's Hubbard

Street Dance before becoming rehearsal director for Hubbard Street in 2010. In 2013 Marling moved on to direct Hubbard Street 2 where he remained until December of 2016. He has choreographed work for Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Hubbard Street, Hubbard Street 2, and Point Park University, among others.



JAMY MEEK, a dancer from Lubbock, Texas, has appeared at Lyric in *The Merry Widow* and *La clemenza di Tito*. He enjoyed a 13-year career with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, before he joined Nederlands

Dans Theater for three years. Since his return to Chicago, Meek has performed with the Goodman Theatre in *Brigadoon* and joined The Cambrians contemporary dance company for *The Nexus Project: Autumn and Jamy*. The Oklahoma City University alumnus has taught master classes in ballet and jazz throughout the country.



HAYLEY MEIER was previously seen at Lyric as a principal dancer in this season's *Les Troyens*. She trained at the University of Arizona, Chicago's River North Dance Summer Intensive program, and the Timothy Draper Center

for Dance Education. Meier has performed with numerous companies, including Chicago's River North Dance, C5 "Create With No Limits," and RPM Productions. She was a principal dancer with the Rochester City Ballet, where she was involved in the creation of Jamey Leverett's *The Blood Countess*.



JESSICA WOLFRUM RAUN performed at Lyric this season in *Carmen*. She was recently seen as the Lady in Green and Olga Mara in *Singin' in the Rain* (Marriott Theater). Prior to that, she danced for 14 years with River North Dance

Chicago, directed by Frank Chaves, where she performed works by Robert Battle, Ivan Perez, and Nejla Yatkin, among others. A graduate of the University at Buffalo, Raun is on faculty teaching ballet at Hubbard Street Dance.



TODD RHOADES has appeared in ten Lyric productions, most recently *Carmen* (2016/17), *Die Fledermaus* and *Parsifal* (both 2013/14). He received his B.F.A. from Point Park University (Pittsburgh) and danced as

a guest artist with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and as a company member with Ballet Austin.

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He has performed with Chicago Opera Theater, Goodman Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Marriott Theatre, Saint Louis's MUNY, New Orleans Opera, Finger Lakes Opera, and many local dance companies.



JACQUELINE STEWART has appeared at Lyric this season in *Les Troyens* and *Eugene Onegin*. She has also recently performed with the Chicago Repertory Ballet, New York's Artisan Dance Company (*The Nutcracker*), Thodos Dance

Chicago, and in the pre-Broadway presentation of *Anastasia*. Stewart's choreography has been showcased by numerous dance companies, including the Madison Ballet, the Chicago Repertory Ballet, and Winifred Haun. She is the recipient of the choreographic award from the Joyce Theatre Foundation's A. W. A. R. D. Show.



J TYLER WHITMER\* is an active Chicago performer, having appeared with the Marriott Theatre (Anything Goes, La Cage aux Folles, Cats, 9 to 5, The Producers, The Bowery Boys), Mercury Theatre (Barnum), and Paramount

Theatre (Miss Saigon, Oklahomal, The Little Mermaid). Performances at other venues include Carnegie Hall, Guthrie Theater, Write Act Repertory, The Gallery Players, Beef and Boards Theatre, and the Kansas City Pops. Whitmer also appeared in PBS's production of HMS Pinafore staged at the Guthrie Theater.

#### Principal Understudies



JEFF DIEBOLD (u/s Henry Higgins) has been featured in many leading roles throughout the Chicagoland area. Most recently he portrayed Sam Carmichael/Mamma Mia! at the Paramount Theatre, a role repeated on the U.S.

tour of the Broadway production. Other notable appearances include Lurch/*The Addams Family* (Mercury Theatre), Cornelius Hackl/*Hello Dolly!* (Drury Lane Theatre), and Joe Hardy/*Damn Yankees* (Metropolis Performing Arts Centre in Arlington Heights), as well as productions with Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Court Theatre, Theatre at the Center, and Noble

Fool Theater. Diebold received his master's degree in acting from Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts.



JENNIE SOPHIA (u/s Eliza Doolittle), who debuted at Lyric in The Merry Widow last season, has been featured with many Chicago-area theaters, including the Goodman (Brigadoon), Drury Lane Theatre (The Sound

of Music, Oliver!, Les Misérables), Chicago Shakespeare Theater (Passion, How Can You Run With a Shell on Your Back), Light Opera Works (Camelot), Court Theatre (The Secret Garden), and Circle Theatre (Kiss Me Kate!). She starred as Nellie Forbush in the U. S. Broadway national tour of South Pacific. Sophia was nominated for an IRNE Award for best lead actress in a musical for South Pacific (Ogunquit Playhouse).

#### **Production Team**



**DAVID CHASE** (*Conductor*) has been on the podium for Lyric productions of *Carousel* (debut) and *The King and I.* Chase has been music director, music supervisor, and/or dance arranger on 32 Broadway productions

and his work can currently be heard on Broadway in the new musical Anastasia and the Bette Midler revival of Hello, Dolly!, as well as on the national tours of Finding Neverland and Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella. He has two Emmy nominations for music direction for NBC's live 2013 telecasts of The Sound of Music and Peter Pan, and a Grammy nomination for co-producing the Broadway cast album of Nice Work if You Can Get It. His arrangements can also be heard in London's West End (revivals of Evita and Guys and Dolls, currently-running Dreamgirls). Beyond the theater, Chase has written multiple arrangements for the Boston Pops (including their signature "Twelve Days of Christmas"), the BBC Concert Orchestra, the Kennedy Center Honors, Essential Voices USA, and the Radio City Christmas Spectacular.



ROBERT CARSEN (Original Director, Co-Lighting Designer), whose production of Eugene Onegin was seen at Lyric this season, has directed five other operas for the company, most recently Dialogues des Carmélites and Iphigénie

en Tauride. His current season includes the Metropolitan Opera (Der Rosenkavalier, new production), Turin's Teatro Regio (Katya Kabanova), and Opéra de Lausanne (Monteverdi's Orfeo). Carsen has worked extensively at the Opéra National de Paris, in repertoire ranging from Les Boréades to Les contes d'Hoffmann, Rusalka, and Capriccio (all released on DVD). Other major achievements include Dialogues des Carmélites (10 major companies, among them Amsterdam, Covent Garden, and La Scala), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Aix-en-Provence and many other theaters), The Magic Flute (Baden-Baden), Falstaff (Covent Garden, La Scala, Met, Amsterdam, Toronto), and L'incoronazione di Poppea and Rinaldo (Glyndebourne). His Ring cycle has triumphed in Cologne, Venice, Barcelona, and Shanghai. Musical-theater productions include The Beautiful Game (West End), Sunset Boulevard (U. K. tour), Candide (Châtelet, English National Opera, La Scala), My Fair Lady (Théâtre du Châtelet, Mariinsky Theatre), and Singin' in the Rain (Châtelet). (See director's note, p. 35.)



**OLIVIER FREDJ\*** (*Revival Director*) studied British literature, drama, and music at the Hogeschool voor de Kunsten in the Netherlands. Starting off as a coor-dinator of educational and social projects in several cities

around Europe and South Africa, he then worked as a cultural journalist before attending the Studio Théâtre d'Asnières. He was a stage manager at the Opéra-Comique, Théâtre de Caen, and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées. In 2010 Fredj began his collaboration with Robert Carsen on the Théâtre du Châtelet's production of My Fair Lady and directed its reprise at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg. He worked again with Robert Carsen on Singin'in the Rain at the Châtelet, where he also assisted Lee Blakeley (Sweeney Todd) and Emilio Sagi (The Sound of Music) and directed Mozart's Il re pastore. He assisted Robert Carsen (Rigoletto) and Simon McBurney (The Magic Flute) at the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence. Fredj's current season highlights include Verdi's Macbeth

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(Brussels and Poland), and he will stage the inauguration of the new La Seine Musicale theater in Paris.



TIM HATLEY\* (Set Designer) has earned acclaim in opera, theater, dance, and film. His operatic work has been highlighted by productions at the Aix-en-Provence Festival (The Marriage of Figaro), Cologne Opera (The Love

for Three Oranges), Opera North (Carmen, Orpheus in the Underworld, Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria), and Scottish Opera (Ariadne auf Naxos). Theater credits include productions for the National Theatre and London's West End (Dreamgirls, Travesties, Humble Boy, The Bodyguard, Ghosts), and on Broadway (The Crucible, Vincent in Brixton, The Country Girl, Private Lives, and the original productions of Spamalot and Shrek the Musical which both moved to the West End and on U. K. and U. S. tours). Hatley has worked with the Royal Ballet (Don Quixote, Carmen), Rambert (Roughcut), Northern Ballet Theatre (Cinderella), and English National Ballet (Unrequited Moments). His film work includes Stage Beauty, Closer, and Notes on a Scandal. His work has been honored with multiple Tony, Drama Desk, Olivier, and Evening Standard Award nominations and wins. Winner of the Olivier for Best Set Design in 1997 (Stanley) and in 2002 (Humble Boy, Private Lives), he received Tonys in 2002 (Private Lives) and 2009 (Shrek the Musical, Drama Desk Award for both sets and costumes).



#### PHILIPPINE

ORDINAIRE\* (Assistant Set Designer) received her training from London's St. Martins College of Art. She has collaborated with, among others, designers Christian Fenouillat (Fin de Partie, Caligula, Pour

Ceux qui Restent), Chantal Thomas (La Grande-Duchesse de Gérolstein, La traviata), and Tim Hatley (Singin' in the Rain, My Fair Lady). In Paris she recently worked with Robert Carsen on two exhibitions, Splendeurs et Misères (Musée d'Orsay) and Volez Voguez Voyagez (Grand Palais). Ordinaire's designs have appeared in Le Brâme des biches (Bussang), Les Temps Aventureux (1, 2, 3 Opera! Festival), and Don Giovanni (Trieste's Teatro Verdi).



#### ANTHONY POWELL\*

(Costume Designer) is one of today's most distinguished figures in design for stage and screen. He launched his career with the world's first revival since its original 1712 premiere of Handel's Rinaldo (London,

Berlin, Dresden, and Halle). He then designed Sir John Gielgud's production of The School for Scandal, for which he won the Tony Award for best costumes and a nomination for best scenic design. Among his many film credits are Papillon, two of the Indiana Jones films, Hook, and Disney's 101 and 102 Dalmations. He has earned six Oscar nominations, of which he won three - Travels with My Aunt, Death on the Nile, and Tess. Powell's designs for Richard Strauss's Capriccio (with Renèe Fleming in Paris) can be seen on DVD. He collaborated with Andrew Lloyd Webber on the six worldwide productions of Sunset Boulevard, and his costumes for the recent Théâtre du Châtelet productions of My Fair Lady (reprised at St. Petersburg's Mariinsky Theatre) and Singin' in the Rain earned critical acclaim. Among many other international honors, he was given lifetime achievement awards in Hollywood, New York, and Italy and was appointed a Royal Designer in his native England.



#### FRÉDÉRIC LLINARES\*

(Assistant Costume Designer) has assisted in the design of productions at Paris's Théâtre du Châtelet (14 works, ranging stylistically from *The Barber of Seville* and Wagner's rarely heard Die Feen to My Fair Lady,

Carousel, Into the Woods, and The Sound of Music), Aix-en-Provence Festival (Rigoletto), Théâtre du Rond-Point (René l'Enervê), and Lausanne Opera (Eugene Onegin, The Magic Flute), among other venues. Llinares has also worked with St. Petersburg's Mariinsky Theatre (My Fair Lady) and Geneva's Grand Théâtre (Wozzeck).



#### GIUSEPPE DI IORIO\*

(Co-Lighting Designer) is originally from Naples and studied in London at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. His current season is highlighted by a wide variety of productions, including Anna

Bolena (Lisbon and Seville), Così fan tutte (Rome), Fidelio (Bucharest), Carmen (Athens),

and Cavalli's Hipermestra (Glyndebourne). He has designed a wide variety of productions ranging from The Golden Cockerel (Bergen National Opera) and Cinderella (Teatro Heredia in Cartagena, Colombia), to Rigoletto (Athens's Megaron), The Makropulos Affair, and Boris Godunov (both at St. Petersburg's Mariinsky Theatre). His production designer work can be seen in Elektra and Vittorio Gnecchi's Cassandra (Catania's Teatro Bellini), Il trovatore (Nuremberg), Macbeth (Münster), Otello (Kiel), Carmen (Saarbrücken Opera), and Semele (Scottish Opera, Milwaukee's Florentine Opera). He has also worked at Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre, the Salzburg Festival, and Paris's Théâtre du Châtelet. Di Iorio has received the highly prestigious Premio Abbiati prize for both Mosè in Egitto (Pesaro's Rossini Opera Festival, 2011) and Die Gezeichneten (Palermo, 2010).



MARK GREY (Sound Designer)'s association with Lyric Opera has encompassed seven productions since 2007/08, most recently The King and I, The Merry Widow (both 2015/16), and Carousel (2014/15). Grey made

history as the first sound designer of the New York Philharmonic (2002) and the Metropolitan Opera (five productions since 2015, most recently Iolanta/Bluebeard's Castle). For more than two decades, professional sound design relationships have led Grey to premiere works by such artists and organizations as John Adams, Steve Reich, Philip Glass, Peter Eötvos, Terry Riley, Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers, and many others. Productions include St. Matthew Passion (Berlin Philharmonic/Simon Rattle/ Peter Sellars at the Park Avenue Armory, New York, 2015). He designed and toured extensively with Kronos Quartet for nearly 15 years and is also a longtime collaborator of composer John Adams. As a composer, Grey has recently undertaken commissions for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. His opera Frankenstein premiered at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie (Brussels) on June 14, 2016.

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MICHAEL BLACK (Chorus Master) has served as chorus master at Lyric since 2013. At Opera Australia he progressed from rehearsal pianist to assistant chorus master and children's chorus master, before his appointment as

chorus master from to 2001 to 2013. He has served in that capacity for such distinguished organizations as the Edinburgh International Festival, Opera Holland Park (London), the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Choir, Motet Choir, and Cantillation chamber choir. His recent activities include preparing The Damnation of Faust chorus, continuing his association with the Grant Park Music Festival. As one of Australia's most prominent vocal accompanists, Black regularly performed for broadcasts and recordings and has chorus mastered on four continents. His work has been recorded and/or aired on ABC, BBC, PBS, and for many HD productions in movie theaters as well as on television. He has also been a lecturer at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, of which he is an alumnus. Black holds a master's degree in musicology from the University of New South Wales. Michael Black is the Howard A. Stotler Chorus Master Endowed Chair.



LYNNE PAGE\* (Choreographer) is renowned for her work in theater, opera, television, and film. Career highlights in opera include Les Troyens (La Scala), Medea (English National Opera), Andrea Chénier (Bregenz Festival), and

Carmen (Opera Holland Park). In film, Page has undertaken projects for Warner Brothers and Working Title as a movement director and choreographer. She has worked in London's West End and at the Royal National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company, as well as on Broadway. In addition to My Fair Lady (Paris's Châtelet, St. Petersburg's Mariinsky), her theater credits include Funny Girl (West End, Menier Chocolate Factory, U. K. tour), A Little Night Music (West End, Broadway), and American Psycho (Almeida, Broadway). She was nominated for Tony, Drama Desk, and Olivier awards for the West End and Broadway productions of La Cage aux Folles (2010). Page was choreographer for the Pet Shop Boys' world tours (2009-16) and her recent collaboration with GOGO Penguin (VEILS) was performed at the EFG London Jazz Festival (2015) and Latitude Festival (2016).



REBECCA HOWELL\* (Associate Choreographer) has choreographed for several productions, among them She Loves Me (Menier Chocolate Factory), Spamalot (English Theatre Frankfurt), The Life of the

Party (TheatreWorks, San

Francisco), and Falstaff (Covent Garden). As Lynne Page's associate, her credits include American Psycho (Almeida Theatre, Broadway), Funny Girl, A Little Night Music, and Little Shop of Horrors (all at Menier and in the West End). She is an alumna of the London Studio Centre.



SARAH HATTEN (Wigmaster and Makeup Designer) has served as Lyric's wigmaster and makeup designer since 2011/12 and has worked in a wide repertoire at Des Moines Metro Opera and Michigan Opera Theatre,

as well as Columbus Opera, Toledo Opera, the Cabrillo Music Festival, and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She has also worked at the Glimmerglass Festival and the major opera companies of Los Angeles, Omaha, Cleveland, Sarasota, and Central City, as well as Wisconsin's American Players Theatre and, in Los Angeles, the Pantages Theatre and the Geffen Playhouse. Hatten earned a B. A. in music at Simpson College. *Sarah Hatten is the Marlys Beider Wigmaster and Makeup Designer Endowed Chair.* 



MATTHEW OZAWA (Associate Director) has directed acclaimed Lyric productions of Don Quichotte (2016/17) and Nabucco (2015/16). His most recent productions include Florian Gassman's L'Opera Seria (Wolf

Trap Opera, American premiere), Emmerich Kálmán's Arizona Lady (Arizona Opera, American premiere), Matthew Aucoin's Second Nature (Lyric Opera's Lyric Unlimited, world premiere), and Stephen Sondheim's A Little Night Music, David Hanlon's After The Storm, and Marty Regan's The Memory Stone (Houston Grand Opera, the latter two in their world premieres). A Little Night Music will mark Ozawa's Des Moines Metro Opera debut this summer. 2017/18 season highlights include his debut at Opera Colorado with La bohème and a new production of The Barber of Seville (Kentucky Opera). As an associate

and assistant director, Ozawa has worked at Lyric and the major opera companies of Toronto, San Francisco, Santa Fe, and St. Louis, as well as off-Broadway and at the Oregon Shakespeare and Macau International festivals.



ELISE SANDELL (Assistant Director) has directed at the opera companies of Tulsa, Portland, Minneapolis, Madison, Tacoma, and Boise, and her recent production of Latraviata with Central City Opera was received with

critical acclaim. Sandell has staged two world premieres for HGOco, the outreach branch of Houston Grand Opera, and works frequently with the artists at Lyric's Ryan Opera Center. In 2009, her production concept of *Einstein on the Beach* was chosen as a finalist in OPERA America's Director-Designer Showcase.



JOHN W. COLEMAN (Stage Manager) has been a member of Lyric Opera's production staff for 27 seasons. Among his more than 100 Lyric productions have been five world premieres, two Ring cycles, and 47 new productions,

for which he has collaborated with many of the world's most distinguished directors, including Robert Altman, Götz Friedrich, Richard Jones, George C. Wolfe, and Graham Vick. Coleman is former production stage manager of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Chicago Opera Theater, Portland Opera, and Texas Opera Theater. Other regional credits include productions with the major companies of Pittsburgh, Houston, Santa Fe, and Miami. An alumnus of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he has served as adjunct faculty at DePaul University. Coleman is the first vice president of the American Guild of Musical Artists.



RACHEL C. HENNEBERRY

(Assistant Stage Manager) has been involved in more than 40 productions with San Francisco Opera, working with such distinguished directors as Francesca Zambello (Ring cycle), David Pountney

(Macbeth), Sir David McVicar (Don Giovanni), and Graham Vick (Lucia di Lammermoor, Tannhäuser). A graduate in stage management

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from both the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and DePaul University, Henneberry has also stage-managed for Seattle Opera, Utah Symphony and Opera, and Pittsburgh Opera.



RACHEL A. TOBIAS (Assistant Stage Manager)

has been a stage manager and assistant stage manager at Lyric for 16 seasons. Since 2009 she has spent part of each summer as lead stage manager for opera programming at the

Ravinia Festival in Highland Park. Tobias has held similar stage-management positions with San Francisco Opera, Michigan Opera Theatre, Glimmerglass Festival, and Chicago Opera Theater, among others.



**VALERIE MAZE** (Assistant Conductor) is a member of Lyric's musical staff. She received the After Dark Award for outstanding music direction for Cats at Theatre at the Center. She has served as music director at Drury Lane

Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Goodman Theatre, Writers Theatre, Peninsula Players, Repertory Theatre of Saint Louis, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Light Opera Works, and Provision Theater Company. Whether as assistant conductor or pianist, Maze has worked at Portland Opera, Indianapolis Opera, Utah Festival Opera, Light Opera Works (Evanston), Harrisburg Opera, and DuPage Opera. Among the recent acclaimed productions for which she has served as conductor are White Christmas (Drury Lane Theatre), Sondheim's Gypsy and Follies (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Brigadoon (Goodman Theatre), and A Little Night Music (Writers Theatre - Jeff Award nomination, music direction).



WILLIAM C. BILLING-

HAM (Musical Preparation), has been on the music staff at Lyric since 1995. An active recital accompanist and chamber musician, he received his training from the Oberlin Conservatory, Peabody Conservatory,

and the University of Southern California. Billingham has been a *répétiteur* for the Heidelberg and Düsseldorf opera houses and has served as a coach at the Aspen Music

Festival and School, Cleveland Orchestra, Florentine Opera (Milwaukee), LA Opera, Midsummer's Music Festival (Door County, Wisconsin), and Lyric's Ryan Opera Center.



TIM LENIHAN\* (Musical Preparation), an alumnus of DePaul University, is an active pianist and conductor in the Chicago area working with several theaters, including the Paramount Theatre (Sweeney Todd, The Little Mermaid,

Mamma Mia!, West Side Story, Cats, Miss Saigon, Annie), Drury Lane Theatre (West Side Story, Camelot, Sunset Boulevard, Hairspray, Aida, Spamalot, Miss Saigon, Mame), and Oriental Theatre (Newsies, Wicked, Billy Elliot). Lenihan has also performed with the Kalamazoo Symphony, Northwest Indiana Symphony, Elgin Symphony, Chicago Sinfonietta, and Chicago Civic Orchestra.



IAN BURTON\* (Dramaturg) has worked with director Robert Carsen since 1987. Among their collaborations have been Orfeo ed Euridice (2005/06) and Iphigénie en Tauride (2006/07). Burton, who has published eight volumes

of poetry, has had articles published by many opera houses, including the Vienna State Opera, Metropolitan Opera, English National Opera, Flemish Opera, Cologne Opera, Deutsche Oper am Rhein, and Opéra National de Paris. He has written many libretti, including — with Strasbourg composer Boris Boulanger-Haas — works based on Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus* and Dostoevsky's *White Nights*, as well as *Richard III* (Antwerp), *Citoyen de Genéve* (Geneva), *The Duchess of Malfi* (English National Opera), *Pop'pea* (Paris's Châtelet), and *CO2* (La Scala). Burton's work as a director includes the prize for best production of the year given by the Province of Antwerp for three one-act works by Peter Maxwell Davies: *Eight Songs for a Mad King, Vesalii Icones*, and *Miss Donnithorne's Maggot*.



CHRISTINE ADAIRE\*

(Dialect Coach) is a professor at the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. She began her career as an actor, later apprenticed with the renowned vocal coach Kristin Linklater for five

years, and has been a master teacher of Linklater's technique since 1987. Adaire has coached Tony Award-winning actress Deanna Dunagan, Tom Hardy, Keeanu Reeves, Matthew Modine, and Marlo Thomas, among others. She has worked on more than 150 productions at prestigious venues (including the Guthrie, Chicago Shakespeare, Goodman, and Steppenwolf theater companies), as well as the first national tour of *Mary Poppins*. Her current area of research is transgender voice modification.



Higgins's study, designed by Tim Hatley for the Châtelet production of My Fair Lady.

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## My Fair Lady: Almost – But Not Quite – a Love Story

By Jay Gummert



Julie Andrews portrayed Eliza Doolittle opposite Rex Harrison as Henry Higgins in the original Broadway production of My Fair Lady, 1956.



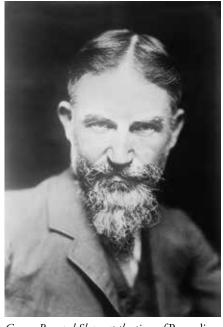
Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner

lan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe's My Fair Lady has thrilled audiences around the world since its 1956 premiere. Its memorable songs - "I Could Have Danced All Night," "On the Street Where You Live," "The Rain in Spain," and many more have made their way into the lives of millions, capturing hearts of all ages. The evolution of this masterpiece, while immensely challenging to its creative team, was wildly successful and rewarding for them all - a musical that truly illuminated and enhanced one of the most captivating plays and films in the English language.

Lerner and Loewe were already successful on Broadway (Brigadoon, Paint Your Wagon) by 1952, when the idea of a musical version of George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion was suggested to them. The instigator, film producer-director Gabriel Pascal, had previously fashioned brilliant film adaptations of four Shaw plays - Pygmalion, Major Barbara, Caesar and Cleopatra, and Androcles and the Lion. At first the task proposed by Pascal seemed too

daunting (Rodgers and Hammerstein had previously made the attempt and given up); after all, how could anyone create a great contemporary musical without a love story? Lerner and Loewe abandoned the project, but after Pascal's fruitless pursuit of Noël Coward and Cole Porter - two other musical-theater greats - they began again, starting work shortly after Pascal's death in mid-1954.

With the ever-present problem of an unromantic plot, the duo finally achieved a breakthrough in realizing that, as Lerner later explained, they "could do Pygmalion simply by doing Pygmalion." The foundation for their work would be the superb screenplay written by Shaw himself for Pascal's 1938 film. This meant a copious amount of dialogue, but Lerner insisted on retaining as much Shaw as possible. Shaw's characters were certainly strong and dynamic enough to stand on their own; Lerner and Loewe's great challenge was to create transitions that would compel them to express themselves through song.



George Bernard Shaw at the time of Pygmalion.

Lvric

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The development of the score was still at a comparatively early stage when Broadway superstar Mary Martin and her husband, producer Richard Halliday, caught wind that a musical *Pygmalion* was in the works. They requested a preview, but after hearing some of the songs, the couple left without saying a word. Halliday later told Lerner and Loewe that Martin had paced back and forth all night muttering, "Richard, those boys have lost their talent."

While attacking the thorny task of obtaining the rights to produce their show, the duo searched for a leading lady, now that Mary Martin was out of the picture. Attending a performance of Sandy Wilson's 1920s-style Broadway musical hit, *The Boy Friend*, Lerner and Loewe first laid eyes on an exceptionally poised 19-year-old English singer-actress. Her name was Julie Andrews, and in voice, diction, presence, and beauty she was exquisite. Lerner asked her to stay on call and not accept another project until they could confirm the rights to the show, and Andrews graciously agreed. Now that an ideal Eliza Doolittle was waiting in the wings, the duo needed to locate her leading man.

Though Noël Coward was thought of as a possibility, for Lerner there was only Rex Harrison, whom he considered the quintessential Prof. Henry Higgins. In 1955 the librettist and composer flew to London to secure the rights to produce the show, but also to meet with Harrison. After his performance in John Van Druten's comedy Bell, Book, and Candle in the West End, they found a piano to show the actor two of the completed numbers for Higgins: "Lady Liza" and "Please Don't Marry Me" (neither actually ended up in the final production). Harrison was hesitant to sign on; he disliked the music and was unconvinced of Lerner's clever word games. An even more serious problem - Harrison wasn't a singer! He was also nervous about following in the footsteps of Leslie Howard in Pascal's film, but having been assured that he was the best possible choice, Harrison decided to think it over. After a few days, he confirmed with Lerner and Loewe that he would play Higgins. His utterly distinctive half-singing/ half-speaking style would ultimately leave an indelible mark on the role.

The introduction of Eliza's father into the story developed as an aside from Shaw's original concept. The team decided to show what happened to Eliza between her meeting Higgins at Covent Garden and her arrival at his house the next morning. They imagined a scene in which the flower-girl – having been tossed a good bit of money by Higgins – is cajoled by her father into tossing *him* a coin or two. Alfred P. Doolittle is an incorrigible yet lovable man, reveling in the "good life" of





Wendy Hiller as Eliza in Gabriel Pascal's film of Pygmalion, 1938 – the bedraggled flower girl and the proper young lady.



A frustrated moment for Eliza (Audrey Hepburn) in George Cukor's 1964 film of My Fair Lady.

avoiding work and marriage while pursuing drink and philandering. Lerner and Loewe knew that London-born Stanley Holloway, with his experience as a comic monologist who'd also acted in two of Pascal's Shaw films, would be perfect as Doolittle.

After securing funding for production from CBS, the musical had everything in place – except a director and a title. The first problem was solved after Moss Hart, a major player on Broadway as both playwright and director, heard half a dozen of the songs. As for the title: Lerner and Loewe did *not* want to call

the musical *Pygmalion*, as it sounded too much like just a revival. *My Fair Lady* was originally rejected, since the duo considered it too operetta-ish. Other names were thought over, such as *Liza*, *Lady Liza*, *Come to the Ball*, *The Talk of London*, and *Fanfaroon* (British slang for "braggart"), but by the summer of 1955, the title *My Fair Lady* had stuck. As it turned out, in 1925 Ira Gershwin had written a musical of the same name that was then renamed *Tell Me More*. Out of courtesy, Lerner made a call to Gershwin to inform him that he and Loewe would be using the title.

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The creative process proved difficult; however, it helped that, with the deaths of both Shaw and his friend Pascal, Lerner and Loewe then felt comfortable allowing themselves some artistic liberties, although they stayed true to the spirit of Shaw's story. Shaw himself included some elaborations on his original play when adapting it for film, and Lerner and Loewe did the same for their musical (especially as regards Mr. Doolittle: his appearances in both his first scene and then in Act Two – the scene featuring his boisterous 11 o'clock number "Get Me to the Church on Time" – don't appear in Shaw.) But when it came to the matter of the love story – or lack thereof – Lerner and Loewe had a problem: how to write what amounts to an *almost*-love song? The answer would be found in the

In the final act of Pygmalion, Eliza makes the decision to leave and marry Freddy, now that her lessons in speech are over. She tells Higgins firmly that he'll have to do without her. In response, Higgins shows a bit of vulnerability, saying, "And I've grown accustomed to your voice and appearance. I like them, rather." It was from these very words that Lerner and Loewe were inspired to write "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face," certainly one of the show's most memorable songs. In this, the last of his four solo numbers, Higgins expresses an emotional ambivalence - in fact, a genuine inner turmoil – over Eliza's impending marriage to Freddy. He alternates between quietly reflecting on his feelings for the girl and gleefully predicting that she'll soon come crawling back to him. It was in the song's main theme that Lerner and Loewe developed the memorable "almost-love song" they'd searched for; it became one of Broadway's most frequently recorded and performed songs, covered by the likes of Johnny Mathis, Dean Martin, and even Kermit the Frog (!), to name just a few of its interpreters.

pages of Shaw's drama.

Now it was time to develop a similarly revealing song for Eliza. Loewe actually wrote the melody for "I Could Have Danced All Night" in a single day. The following day Lerner presented him with the finished lyric, in which we can sense her suppressed feelings for Higgins. Interestingly, Lerner was unhappy with one particular line – "Why all at once, my heart took flight"; he felt what he referred to as a "special loathing" for songs in which someone's heart took on anthropomorphic qualities. But he got over his reluctance: the phrase remained, and this exhilarating, show-stopping number went on to become arguably the most beloved song in *My Fair Lady*.

The absence of a typical love song doesn't divorce the show from romance completely; there is, after all, Freddy's "On the Street Where You Live" (even Shaw declared in his afterword that that once *Pygmalion* was over, Freddy and Eliza married), and in fact, Eliza's return to Higgins – not





part of Shaw's original play – constitutes the final moments of both the film and the musical.

Despite the odd structure and lack of a conventional love story, Lerner and Loewe were triumphantly successful in their adaptation. *My Fair Lady* was absolutely Broadway's hottest ticket of the 1950s. Without a doubt, for as long as musicals are performed, Lerner and Loewe's masterpiece will continue its reign. It is, quite simply, perfection.

Jay Gummert is a recent graduate of Michigan State University, where he majored in clarinet performance and music theory. He is currently working in the publications area of the marketing and communications department at Lyric.

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### Singing the War Between the Classes

# Robert Carsen, director of My Fair Lady, spoke with Geneviève Joublin in December 2010. Here are excerpts from that conversation.

From George Bernard Shaw's play Pygmalion (1913) to the musical comedy of Lerner and Loewe (1956), followed by George Cukor's film (1964) – have you found inspiration in each stage of the success of My Fair Lady?

They all offer something, and that includes the text of Ovid that inspired Shaw. In Ovid, Venus gives life to Galatea, the sculpture created by Pygmalion, with which he falls in love. With Shaw, the story isn't completed by a romance. The playwright objected to the idea of an adaptation, even more to a happy ending. The musical comedy premiered six years after Shaw's death and captivated the public. Its extraordinary success (2,717 performances of the original production on Broadway and 2,281 in London) is obviously due to the delicious music of Frederick Loewe and the extraordinary quality of the lyrics of Alan Jay Lerner. The music follows the action, supports it, and enlivens it. The lyrics are brilliant, light, witty, and full of spirit, but also pointed, rich in sense. The work's strength lies equally in its directness and sincerity, as well as its sophistication.

#### My Fair Lady isn't just a fairy tale?

Beyond the grand, primary emotions, it has to do with how George Bernard Shaw regarded the English society of his time – a profoundly inegalitarian society in which people judged other people according to their accent. Shaw anticipates that all of this will change. He is equally visionary in his perception of the rights of women, describing precisely the way in which women were regarded – that is, without respect. He makes himself the champion of their emancipation.

The story is solidly anchored in English society, in the duality between the working class with their Cockney speech and the snobbism of the upper classes. Shaw sometimes amuses himself with this, but he doesn't deal with anything lightly. He never loses his critical sense, nor his concern to show men as they are. So, in the scene in which Alfred Doolittle, Eliza's father, comes to see Henry Higgins to ask him for money – in fact, to sell him his daughter – Doolittle explains very simply to Higgins (who is shocked by his approach) that morality is a luxury that he, as a poor man, cannot afford.

#### Is the historic anchoring of the work a given that restricts you?

It's very important. One can't neglect the social and political side of this work. The piece is supposed to take place at the dawn of the First World War, in a frozen society. The only liberty that we've taken is an adjustment of the period, a shift forward of fifteen years, to place the action at the dawn of the Second World War. This doesn't change the given: at that time English society was even more frozen, even more unjust, and the rituals were the same. This slight but important shift in period allowed us the freedom to make the costumes more fluid, more modern to our eyes – and equally importantly, to allow some color into the show. However, this period is really the latest that one can situate the action – this world of privilege will disappear forever after World War II. Indeed, today one might go so far as to say you need to have a Cockney accent to be considered of interest or importance in London!

#### The principal characters are well defined: Higgins is unsympathetic, Colonel Pickering the most human, and Eliza the "poor sparrow" who ravishes every heart.

These characters aren't that simple. Their belonging to a particular social class doesn't determine who they are. What interests Shaw is the human condition in its complexity. Higgins is a complex personality, with

monstrous egotism, but he has the honesty to recognize it. Even if he belongs to the upper class, he is iconoclastic, mocks conventions, doesn't respect the rituals of attire, and is the despair of his mother when he shows up at Ascot. He is eccentric in the English manner, which gives him a good deal of charm. Colonel Pickering is much more traditional; he represents the England of the Empire, the England of "fair play" and "good sport," which will not change but which will soon disappear. It must be said that if he is less original than Higgins, he is also more human: he treats Eliza with respect, just as he does Higgins's mother.

As for Eliza, it's a magnificent role, a dream for an actress, with a very wide compass from the rough and noisy flower girl to the gracious lady of high society, the queen of the ball. It's a role that requires temperament. Eliza has ambition, in the human sense of the word; she wants to make something of her life, and she seizes the opportunity of the fortuitous encounter with Higgins by the entrance of the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden to shape her destiny. It is she who goes to see him to ask for lessons in speech. She wants to progress socially, and it is she who hopes to become – thanks to her mastery of the language – a florist in a shop. She fights, she refuses to be only an object. She is Cinderella gifted with a real personality, and her story joins the myths of other fairy tales.

# Does the great popularity of My Fair Lady allow for any freedom in the staging?

This work, which has been called the perfect musical comedy, doesn't need a director to change everything. My role is to put into place a coherent and convincing vision in approaching the scenic challenges, the numerous set changes, the frequent moves from one world to another, from speech to sung text, from the working-class world to high society - and this can happen very quickly at times. Certain scenes last five minutes, others more than fifteen. One must find the proper rhythm to make the transitions fluid and to maintain the magic of the big numbers and the famous scenes: the market at Covent Garden, the horse race at Ascot, the embassy ball. The whole piece takes place in London, and perhaps our vision of this great city (before the terrible destruction of the Second World War) is rather different from what has been seen in other productions: lighter, whiter and more open. For this piece, teamwork is fundamental. One part of the production's attraction rests in the elegant and intelligent sets of Tim Hatley, the other in the rich beauty and exciting elegance of the costumes designed by Anthony Powell. Not to mention Lynne Page's lovely and witty choreography.

#### Is work on the language fundamental?

It is essential. *Pygmalion* is a play about the English language, about the confrontation between ways of speaking during a specific period, with importance in respect to the word. You need actors of great quality to do justice to both the spoken and sung episodes, and to embody personalities more complex than they might seem.

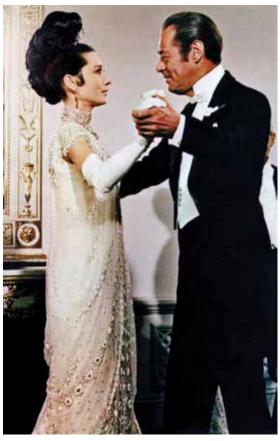
#### And the ending? A possible romance between Eliza and Higgins?

The ending needs special treatment. In our production, it's a bit different from what one usually shows onstage. We have tried to imagine what Shaw – who opposed the idea of a romance between between Higgins and Eliza – had in mind, and, being faithful to his spirit, imagine what a possible happy ending could really signify for his Pygmalion and Galatea...

Translation: Roger Pines Reprinted by permission of the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris.

# My Fair Lady: After the Curtain Falls

When the performance is over, try discussing it with your companions and any other theater lovers you know! You can continue your pleasure in *My Fair Lady* for hours – even days – by exchanging ideas about it. Here are some topics we can suggest:



- At the end of the musical, Eliza Doolittle returns to Henry Higgins.
   What happens next? Does Eliza still marry Freddy? Or do the repressed feelings of both Higgins and Eliza blossom?
- Both *Pygmalion* and *My Fair Lady* share the notion that different groups
  of people use different types of language in this case, specifically
  English. What different types of vernacular do you use or notice other
  people using (whether family, friends, or strangers)? How does the
  emphasis on language influence the show?
- When compared with other hit musicals of its time, My Fair Lady
  is very different in that it isn't a love story. How does the absence of
  this signature element have an effect on the relationships the characters
  develop with each other?
- What is it about the music of *My Fair Lady* that makes this musical so popular? Is it the lyrics? The melodies? What's your favorite song from the show and why?
- Compare the roles of Eliza Doolittle and Henry Higgins. What is the general attitude of each and how is this highlighted in their songs and dialogue?
- What elements of the set, costume, and lighting designs are the most memorable to you in this production? How do these elements help convey the musical's shifting moods?

Audrey Hepburn (Eliza Doolittle) and Rex Harrison (Henry Higgins) in director George Cukor's 1964 film version of My Fair Lady.

To continue to enhance your experience of My Fair Lady, Lyric dramaturg Roger Pines suggests the following performances:

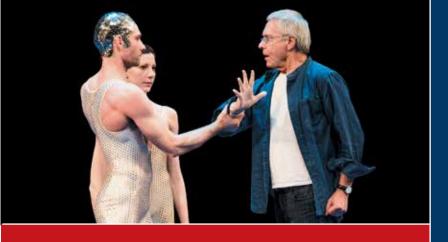
- CD Rex Harrison, Julie Andrews, Stanley Holloway, Robert Coote, John Michael King (Masterworks Broadway)
- CD Jonathan Pryce, Martine McCutcheon, Dennis Waterman, Nicholas Le Prevost, Mark Umbers (First Night – Red)
- CD Jeremy Irons, Kiri Te Kanawa, Warren Mitchell, John Gielgud, Jerry Hadley (Polygram Records)
- CD Alec McCowen, Tinuke Olafimihan, Michael Bauer, Michael Denison, Henry Wickham (Jay Records)

 DVD – Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, Stanley Holloway, Wilfred Hyde-White, Jeremy Brett (Warner Home Video)

#### Shaw's Pygmalion:

- CD Anton Lesser, Lucy Whybrow, David Burke, Geoffrey Palmer, Charlie Simpson (Naxos Audiobooks)
- DVD Leslie Howard, Wendy Hiller, Wilfrid Lawson, Scott Sunderland, David Tree (Criterion Collection)
- DVD James Villiers, Lynn Redgrave, Emrys James, Ronald Fraser, Nicholas Jones (BBC Home Entertainment)

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#### ABBOTT FUND

Abbott and the Abbott Fund are leading corporate contributors to Lyric Opera of Chicago, with a longstanding tradition of dedicated support. Over the last three decades, Abbott has generously cosponsored 22 Lyric productions, including this season's Das Rheingold, The Marriage of Figaro (2015/16) and Don Giovanni (2014/15). Abbott has championed Lyric's achievements as a contributor to the Great Opera Fund, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, and Wine Auctions,

among other efforts, and made a leadership commitment to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Lyric is honored to have Abbott's Abbott Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Miles D. Fund White, serve on its Board of Directors.

#### ADA and WHITNEY ADDINGTON

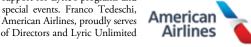
Ada and Whitney Addington are dedicated Lyric subscribers and donors. For many seasons, they have contributed to the Annual Campaign, and have generously supported the Great Opera Fund, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. The Addingtons have also invested in the company's

future through their planned gift to Lyric. Last season they cosponsored Lyric's world premiere of Bel Canto, and have committed a generous leadership gift in support of Lyric's new Ring cycle, which begins this season with Das Rheingold. Lyric is fortunate to have Dr. Whitney Addington as a member of its Board of Directors and Executive Committee.



#### AMERICAN AIRLINES

This season we celebrate 35 years of vital corporate partnership with American Airlines, the Official Airline of Lyric Opera. In recognition of the company's significant contribution to the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the mezzanine level of the Civic Opera House is named the American Airlines Mezzanine. American Airlines provides important in-kind support for Lyric's programs and



Vice President of American Airlines, proudly serves on Lyric's Board of Directors and Lyric Unlimited Committee.

#### PAUL M. ANGELL FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Paul M. Angell Family Foundation strives to advance society through the performing arts, conservation of the world's oceans, and alleviation of poverty. The Foundation's namesake, Paul M. Angell, founder of Newly Weds Foods, dedicated the early part of his life to serving his country and performing as a member of John Philip Sousa's U.S. Navy Band during World War I. He believed in hard work, self reliance, and optimism, and the Foundation is intended to honor him and his ideals. At Lyric, the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation has been a generous supporter of Lyric's Annual Campaign and Lyric Unlimited programming, cosponsoring The Magic Victrola (2014/15) and The Family Barber (2013/14).

#### ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTORS

Lyric Opera is extremely grateful for Aria Society support received from five anonymous contributors during the 2016/17 season.



#### JULIE and ROGER BASKES

Lyric treasures the exemplary leadership and dedication of Julie and Roger Baskes. Subscribers for more than three decades, they have generously supported Lyric's Ryan Opera Center activities as previous cosponsors of Rising Stars in Concert, and currently underwrite the Ryan Opera Center Recital Series on 98.7WFMT. They have cosponsored numerous productions including,

most recently, La Clemenza di Tito (2013/14), Il Trovatore (2014/15), Romeo and Juliet (2015/16), and this season's Norma. They also made a leadership commitment to the Breaking New Ground Campaign to help safeguard the future of Lyric Opera. Lyric is honored to have Julie Baskes serve on its Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Julie is also Chairman of the Production Sponsorship Committee, and is a past President of the Ryan Opera Center Board.



#### JAMES N. and LAURIE V. BAY

Jim and Laurie Bay are passionate supporters of the arts in Chicago and have been members of the Lyric Opera family for more than three decades. They have previously contributed to Lyric's Wine Auction, 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball, Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park, the Annual Campaign, and education programs. They also cosponsored Madama Butterfly

(2013/14) and have made a leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. This season, Jim and Laurie generously cosponsor Lyric's production of Carmen. Lyric is honored to have Jim Bay, a principal of Bays Corporation, serve on its Board of Directors and Compensation Committee.



#### MARLYS A. BEIDER

As an aficionada of Lyric for more than 30 years, Marlys has contributed to the Annual Campaign and is a Bel Canto Benefactor of the planned giving Overture Society. Her planned gift commitment created the Marlys Beider Wigmaster and Makeup Designer Endowed Chair in memory of her late husband, Harold Beider. Marlys Beider cosponsored several productions including Elektra (2012/13), Parsifal (2013/14) and

Tosca (2014/15), and cosponsored last season's Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park concert. Marlys has committed generous leadership gifts to cosponsor Lyric's new productions of this season's Das Rheingold and Götterdämmerung (2019/20), part of Lyric's new Ring cycle.



#### RANDY L. and MELVIN R. BERLIN

Devoted fans of opera education and the arts, Melvin and Randy Berlin are vital members of the Lyric Opera family. They have contributed significantly to the Annual Campaign and have made a leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Melvin and Randy have cosponsored several productions including last season's new production of The Marriage of Figaro,

and generously cosponsor this season's new production of The Magic Flute. Lyric is honored to have Melvin Berlin serve on its Board of Directors.



#### BMO HARRIS BANK

BMO Harris Bank proudly supports Lyric Opera in the spirit of community partnership that has identified the bank for over 125 years. As a longstanding corporate contributor to Lyric, BMO Harris Bank has generously supported Lyric's Annual Campaign, the Facilities Fund, the Great Opera Fund, the Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park concert, Fantasy of the Opera, the Renée Fleming Subscriber Appreciation Concert (2010/11), the Renée Fleming & Susan Graham Subscriber Appreciation

Dousmanis-Curtis Concert (2012/13), Lang Lang in Recital (2013), and last season's Plácido Domingo and Ana María Martínez Concert. This season, BMO Harris Bank is the Exclusive Sponsor of Lyric's Celebrating Plácido Concert. Lyric is honored to have Alexandra Dousmanis-Curtis, Group Head, U.S. Retail and

Business Banking, BMO Harris Bank, serve on its Board of Directors and Investment Committee.





#### HENRY M. and GILDA R. BUCHBINDER

Dedicated lovers of the arts, Henry and Gilda Buchbinder are longstanding members of the Lyric Opera family. Committed to sustaining the exceptional quality of Lyric's artistic product, the Buchbinders made a leadership gift to Lyric's Breaking New Ground Campaign to name the Henry and Gilda Buchbinder Family Foundation Rehearsal Room. They have also

been longtime generous donors to the Annual Campaign, including cosponsoring Boris Godunov (2011/12) and this season's production of Eugene Onegin. Lyric is honored to have Gilda Buchbinder serve on its Board of Directors and the Production Sponsorship Committee.

Lvric 38 April - May, 2017

#### ARIA SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT | 2 0 1 6 - 2 0 1 7

#### CAROLYN S. BUCKSBAUM

Lyric Opera sincerely appreciates the extraordinary leadership and generosity of Kay Bucksbaum. An avid subscriber and longtime patron of Lyric with her late husband Matthew, the Bucksbaum Family's very generous challenge grant re-established Lyric's regional and national/international radio broadcasts in 2006. Kay's incredible continued matching support makes possible The Lyric Opera Broadcasts, which draw 16 million listeners annually.

"Lyric is a great national institution," Matthew once said, "and it gives our family great pleasure to know these broadcasts bring Lyric's wonderful performances to so many in Chicago and around the globe."



hn and Iackie Bucksbaum

#### THE JOHN and JACOLYN BUCKSBAUM FOUNDATION

Passionate philanthropists in the Chicago community, John and Jackie Bucksbaum are major supporters of the arts. John Bucksbaum is founder and CEO of Bucksbaum Retail Properties, LLC, a fully-integrated owner and developer of retail real estate. This season, John and Jackie, with their family, generously provide matching funding for The Lyric Opera Broadcasts,

which air on 98.7WFMT live during each opening night performance.



**BULLEY & ANDREWS** 

Founded 1891, Bulley & Andrews is one of the Midwest's most trusted and accomplished construction companies. The fourth generation, family-owned firm offers clients a full-range of construction services including general contracting, construction management, design/build, and masonry and concrete restoration. Bulley & Andrews has, for many seasons, supported Lyric Unlimited's Performances for Students program and this season serves as cosponsor of Das Rheingold.

Lyric Opera is pleased to have Allan E. Bulley, III as a member of its Board of Directors.





#### MARION A. CAMERON

Lyric is sincerely honored to have the support and leadership of Marion A. Cameron. A subscriber and donor for over 20 years, Lyric gratefully acknowledges her outstanding generosity through her leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign, her cosponsorship of Rusalka (2013/14), and her additional gift in support of Tannhäuser (2014/15). This season she generously cosponsors Lyric's production of Eugene Onegin. Ms. Cameron

is the CEO of Sipi Metals Corp., which continues to support the widely popular Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park concert. Marion Cameron is a member of Lyric's Board of Directors, Executive and Finance Committees, and Chair of the Investment Committee.



#### DAVID and ORIT CARPENTER

David and Orit Carpenter have been staunch supporters of Lyric Opera for many years, and have recently made a generous planned gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign to help ensure that Lyric will be available for many future generations to enjoy. In addition to their longtime personal support of Lyric's Annual Campaign, David Carpenter has helped secure

numerous production cosponsorships, including this season's company premiere of Les Troyens, through Sidley Austin LLP, where he was a Partner for more than 30 years. Lyric is honored to have David serve on its Board of Directors and Production Sponsorship Committee.



#### THE ELIZABETH F. CHENEY FOUNDATION

Lyric Opera remains deeply grateful for the longterm generosity of The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, one of Chicago's nonprofit leaders in arts support. The Cheney Foundation has made an enhanced multi-year commitment to the Ryan Opera Center/Lyric Opera. During the 2016/17 season, The Cheney Foundation is supporting Guest Master Teacher and Artist residencies; the Director of Vocal Studies faculty position; access to a behind-the-scenes view of the Ensemble selection process

by opening the Ryan Opera Center's Final Auditions to a greater number of Lyric donors and subscribers for the fourth year; and singer sponsorship of bass Bradley Smoak. Lyric Opera is honored to have as a major supporter The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, whose directors are committed to celebrating Ms. Cheney's legacy through the philanthropic support of the arts.



#### NELSON D. CORNELIUS PRODUCTION ENDOWMENT FUND

Nelson Cornelius was a longtime subscriber and supporter of Lyric Opera and a cherished friend of legendary former Lyric Opera General Director Ardis Krainik, with whom he shared his passion for opera and for making sure that Lyric would keep Chicago on the world's opera map. That passion was also shared by Julius Frankel, and as a trustee of the Julius Frankel

Foundation for many years, Mr. Cornelius fulfilled Mr. Frankel's wishes by directing significant Foundation support to Lyric Opera's Annual Campaign and production cosponsorship. Mr. Cornelius was also personally generous, supporting Lyric's Annual Campaign. His legacy created the Nelson D. Cornelius Production Endowment Fund, which this year cosponsors the Lyric premiere of Les Troyens. Lyric is honored to remember its close friend Nelson Cornelius.



#### MR. and MRS. JOHN V. CROWE

Jack and Peggy Crowe are generous and passionate members of the Lyric family, evidenced by their production sponsorship of Turandot (2006/07) and Tosca (2009/10) and major support of the Breaking New Ground Campaign and the Renée Fleming Initiative. Jack and Peggy Crowe's significant contribution to Lyric was recognized in naming the Isabelle Cavagnaro Crowe

Foyer on the fifth floor in memory of Jack Crowe's mother. The Crowes were leading contributors to the Campaign for Excellence and the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign. Lyric is very fortunate to have Jack Crowe as an esteemed member of the Executive Committee of Lyric's Board of Directors.



Lester and Renée Crown

#### THE CROWN FAMILY

Two of Chicago's leading philanthropists, Renée and Lester Crown, are devoted patrons of Lyric Opera. The Crown Family is a sponsor of the Renée Fleming Initiative and made a generous commitment to Lyric's Breaking New Ground Campaign. They have also made major contributions to the Annual Campaign, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, and the Great Opera Fund. This season,

the Crown Family is a Diamond Record Sponsor of the Chicago Voices Gala Benefit Concert. Mrs. Crown is a past President of the Women's Board. Mr. Crown joined Lyric's Board of Directors in 1977 and has served as Chairman of the Executive Committee ever since. In 2004, Renée and Lester Crown were recipients of the Carol Fox Award, presented in recognition of their outstanding leadership and commitment to Lyric. Lyric is also honored to have Mrs. Nancy Carrington Crown serve on its esteemed Women's Board. Lyric is forever indebted to The Crown Family for their many years of dedicated service to Lyric Opera of Chicago.

#### THE DAVEE FOUNDATION

Lyric Opera is extremely grateful to The Davee Foundation and the late Ruth Dunbar and Ken M. Davee for their tremendous generosity over the years. The Foundation's exemplary support of Chicago-area charities reflects the Davees' wideranging interests, including their great love of music and the arts. Lyric Opera is fortunate to be among the organizations benefiting from The Davee Foundation's enduring philanthropy, which helps secure Lyric's future for generations to come. Recently, The Davee Foundation provided critical support to enhance amplification and sound systems used in the American Musical Theater Initiative. The Foundation has generously cosponsored Lyric premieres of Oklahoma! (2012/13), The Sound of Music (2013/14), Carousel (2014/15), The King and I (2015/16), and this season's My Fair Lady.

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#### LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO



#### STEFAN T. EDLIS and GAEL NEESON

Passionate patrons of the arts, Stefan Edlis and Gael Neeson are actively involved with organizations in Chicago, New York, and Aspen. Mr. Edlis and Ms. Neeson have supported and subscribed to Lyric Opera for more than 30 years. They have previously cosponsored the Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park concert and

named their seats through the Your Name Here program. Stefan and Gael have previously cosponsored five mainstage operas, and are generously cosponsoring this season's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. They also made a leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Lyric is honored to have Stefan Edlis serve on its Board of Directors and Production Sponsorship Committee.

#### **EXELON**

The philanthropic initiatives of Exelon Corporation help generate and sustain Chicago's cultural stature and economic vitality. For several decades, Exelon has generously supported the Annual Campaign, Fantasy of the Opera, Wine Auction, and the Great Opera Fund as well as Lyric's education and community engagement programs. Exelon's many cosponsorships have included *The Mikado* (2010/12), the Renée Fleming and Dmitri Hvorostovsky Subscriber Appreciation Concert (2011/12), *La bohème* (2012/13), *Rusalka* (2013/14), Lyric's second mariachi opera, *El Pasado Nunca Se Termina* (2014/15), and *The Marriage of Figaro* (2015/16). This season, Exelon cosponsors Lyric's production of

This season, Exelon cosponsors Lyric's production of *Carmen*. Lyric Opera is fortunate to have Exelon as an outstanding corporate partner.



#### FORD FOUNDATION

Lyric is honored to have the tremendous support of the Ford Foundation. For nearly 80 years, the Foundation has worked with visionary leaders and organizations worldwide to ensure that all people have the opportunity to reach their full potential, contribute to society, have a voice in the decisions that affect them, and live and work in dignity. Lyric is deeply grateful for the Ford Foundation's essential support for Lyric's landmark Chicago Voices initiative during the 2015/16 and 2016/17 seasons.



JULIUS FRANKEL FOUNDATION

A founding patron of Lyric Theatre (now Lyric Opera) and a Lyric Opera Board member at the time of his death in 1982, Julius Frankel devoted his philanthropic giving to making Chicago a great place to live and enjoy life. In past seasons, Julius Frankel sponsored Lyric productions of *Andrea Chénier* (1979) and Lohengrin (1980) in memory of Betty Frankel. The Julius Frankel Foundation has sustained this noble legacy under the guidance and longtime dedication of former trustees Nelson Cornelius and

John Georgas and current trustee BMO Harris Bank N.A. Lyric's audiences have benefited greatly from the Foundation's major grants for general operating support and production sponsorships. The Julius Frankel Foundation has generously sponsored/cosponsored many celebrated new productions at Lyric, including *Die Fledermaus* (1989/90), *Xerxes* (1995/96), *Carmen* (1999/00) in memory of Ardis Krainik, *Cavalleria rusticanalPagliacci* (2002/03), *Il Trovatore* (2006/07), and *La Traviata* (2013/14) in honor of the late Nelson D. Cornelius. Lyric has named Mezzanine Box 25 in honor of Julius Frankel in grateful recognition of the Foundation's significant gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign.



ELIZABETH MORSE GENIUS CHARITABLE TRUST

One of two trusts established in memory of Elizabeth Morse Genius, daughter of 19th-century industrialist Charles Hosmer Morse, the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust is a major, and deeply appreciated, leader among Lyric's contributors. Through the Trust's support of classical fine arts, Co-Trustees Bank of America, N.A. and James L. Alexander seek to enrich the quality of life in Chicago, especially for youth and elderly citizens. In recognition of the Trust's Building on Greatness Capital

Campaign support, Lyric named the distinctive Opera House chimes and music library in honor of the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust. Along with its sister trust, The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, the Genius Trust has sponsored many mainstage productions and will be one of the cosponsors of this season's company premiere of *Les Troyens*. In addition to production sponsorship, the Trust has helped underwrite Lyric's ongoing efforts to diversify its various boards, and preserve Lyric's history through support of its Archives project.

#### ANN and GORDON GETTY FOUNDATION

Lyric is extremely grateful for the longstanding support of the Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation. The Foundation has made vital contributions to the Annual Campaign, providing essential general operating support to foster Lyric's achievements. Gordon Getty served on Lyric's Board of Directors from 1988-2015.



#### **BRENT and KATIE GLEDHILL**

Brent and Katie are proud supporters of numerous causes in Chicago, and they have made a leadership gift to Lyric's Breaking New Ground Campaign. This season Brent and Katie are a Diamond Record Sponsor of the *Chicago Voices* Gala Benefit Concert. Brent Gledhill is the Global Head of Investment Banking at William Blair & Company, and a member of the firm's Executive Committee.

Lyric is honored to have him serve on its Board of Directors, Executive Committee and Audit Committee, and as Chairman of the Innovation Committee.



#### WILLIAM and ETHEL GOFEN

William and Ethel Gofen have been attending Lyric Opera productions for more than 50 years. They are generous donors to Lyric's Annual Campaign, and cosponsored the Overture Society Luncheons for many years. In 1997, Bill and Ethel named seats for each other in the Ardis Krainik Theatre as part of the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign. The Gofens generously

cosponsored Lyric's world premiere of *Bel Canto*, based on the novel by Ann Patchett, and are supporting the opera's appearance on PBS Great Performances. They have also made a leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Lyric is thrilled to have Ethel Gofen as a member of the Board of Directors and Lyric Unlimited Committee.



# KAREN Z. GRAY-KREHBIEL and JOHN H. KREHBIEL, JR.

Lyric is deeply grateful for the friendship and support of Karen Z. Gray-Krehbiel and John Krehbiel. A devoted member of the Women's Board, Karen has served on its Executive Committee as Vice President – Education, 2011 Opera Ball Chair and 2016 Board of Directors' Annual Meeting Chair. In addition, she contributed

a very generous gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign in support of stage renovations. The Krehbiel family plays a prominent role in the continued success of the company; this season, Karen and John join the production sponsor family with their generous support of *Carmen*.



#### **HOWARD GOTTLIEB and BARBARA GREIS**

Among Lyric's most devoted subscribers and patrons, Howard Gottlieb and Barbara Greis have generously supported Lyric Opera through major contributions to the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, Campaign for Excellence, Breaking New Ground Campaign, and Annual Campaign. They have cosponsored many productions, most recently Otello (2013/14), Il Trovatore

(2014/15), *The Merry Widow* (2015/16), and this season's *Don Quichotte*. Mr. Gottlieb and Ms. Greis are also the exclusive sponsors of this season's Itzhak Perlman in Recital. Mr. Gottlieb is the retired chairman of the Glenwood Investment Corporation and an accomplished violinist. Lyric is honored to have him serve as an active member of Lyric's Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

#### GRAMMA FISHER FOUNDATION

With an unparalleled record as sponsor of more than 26 Lyric new productions since the 1960s, the Gramma Fisher Foundation of Marshalltown, Iowa is a cornerstone of Lyric's legacy of world-class achievement in the arts. The Gramma Fisher Foundation has made a leadership commitment to cosponsor each of the four operas that make up Wagner's *Ring* cycle, starting with this season's *Das Rheingold* and concluding with the complete cycle in 2019/20. Lyric is sincerely grateful for the enduring friendship and leadership of Christine Hunter and other members of the Fisher family. Lyric is fortunate to have Matthew Fisher serve on its Board of Directors and Stephanie Fisher as an esteemed member of the Women's Board.

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#### ARIA SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT | 2 0 1 6 - 2 0 1 7



#### MR. & MRS. DIETRICH M. GROSS

Lyric deeply appreciates the enduring friendship and tremendous generosity of Dietrich and Erika Gross. Together, they have sponsored/cosponsored a total of 22 Lyric productions since 1987/88, including last season's Der Rosenkavalier and this season's Das Rheingold. Through yearly challenge grants, they also help generate important momentum for Operathon, Lyric's annual

fundraising broadcast heard live on 98.7WFMT. They made a leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign in support of Lyric's future. Dietrich Gross is an esteemed member of Lyric's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. In 2009, Lyric recognized the dedicated leadership and vital involvement of Dietrich Gross by awarding him the Carol Fox Award, Lyric's most prestigious honor.



JOHN R. HALLIGAN CHARITABLE FUND

John R. Halligan was a devoted subscriber and patron of Lyric for many years until his death in 2001. With support from his Charitable Fund under the direction of the Fund's President, Norman J. Gantz, Mr. Halligan's philanthropic legacy continues through very generous annual contributions to Lyric. The Halligan Fund is proud to support numerous artistic, cultural, and civic organizations which enhance our lifestyles, preserve our sense of history and heritage, instill knowledge, and advance our

appreciation of nature. The fund focuses its attention on organizations based in the Chicago and Honolulu metropolitan areas, being the communities in which Mr. Halligan resided during his lifetime.



The Harris Family Foundation, represented by Pam and Joe Szokol and King and Caryn Harris, is a valued member of Lyric's production sponsorship family, most recently cosponsoring Tosca (2014/15), Nabucco (2015/16), and this season's Carmen. The Harris Family Foundation also supports the Annual Campaign, and made a generous

THE HARRIS FAMILY FOUNDATION

commitment to the Breaking New Ground Campaign to help secure Lyric's future. Lyric is thrilled to have Vice President of the Foundation Pam Szokol as a member of its Board of Directors and serving on its Production Sponsorship Committee. Lyric is also grateful for the dedicated involvement of Caryn Harris. Caryn is an active member of the revered Women's Board and has held many leadership positions, most recently as Opera Ball Chair in 2012, and last season as Co-Chair of Opening Night/Opera Ball.



Alyce H. DeCosta

#### WALTER E. HELLER FOUNDATION

Alyce H. DeCosta was a dedicated philanthropist who loved Chicago and helped nurture cultural life in the city through her generous support for the arts and higher education. Mrs. DeCosta was a leading member of the Lyric family, having served as a National Director of Lyric's Board. For many years, she was president of the Walter E. Heller Foundation, a philanthropic foundation named after her late husband, the founder and past Chairman of Walter E. Heller Co. The Walter E. Heller

Foundation has generously funded many Lyric productions, most recently Madama Butterfly (2013/14). The Walter E. Heller Foundation cosponsored Lyric's world premiere of Bel Canto, and is proudly underwriting its appearance on PBS Great Performances. This season, the Foundation cosponsors Don Quichotte.

#### J. THOMAS HURVIS

Tom Hurvis is an avid opera fan and longtime Lyric subscriber. As part of the Breaking New Ground Campaign, Tom and his beloved late wife Julie made a generous leadership commitment in support of Lyric Unlimited, comprising the company's education and community engagement activities. In an effort to help keep Chicago a haven for the cultural arts, Tom Hurvis sponsors the Renée Fleming Initiative, and Ms. Fleming's role as a creative

consultant. Tom has also made a generous leadership gift in support of Lyric's Chicago Voices initiative during the 2016/17 season. Lyric gratefully acknowledges the Hurvis family's more than 20 years of contributions to the Annual Campaign, including support for The Lyric Opera Broadcasts. The Hurvises previously sponsored four mainstage productions, including last season's The Merry Widow starring Renée Fleming. This season, Tom Hurvis is providing leadership support for many aspects of the Chicago Voices initiative. Lyric is honored to have Tom Hurvis serve on its Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Innovation Committee, and Lyric Unlimited Committee.



Lyric Opera deeply appreciates the long tradition of sustaining support from Illinois Tool Works Inc. (ITW). The company has made vital contributions to the Annual Campaign, the Breaking New Ground Campaign, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Great Opera Fund, 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball, and Wine Auction, and since 2002, it has cosponsored the Opera Ball, one of Lyric's most important traditions. ITW has cosponsored The Pearl Fishers (1997/98 and

2008/09), The Barber of Seville (2000/01), The Elixir of Love (2009/10), Hansel and Gretel (2012/13), and Tosca (2014/15), and generously cosponsors this season's production of Carmen and the Chicago Voices Gala Benefit Concert. Lyric is proud to have Chairman and CEO Scott Santi on its Board of Directors and Executive Committee, along with past ITW Chairmen and CEOs W. James Farrell, John Nichols, and the late David Speer.



#### EDGAR D. JANNOTTA

Lyric is extremely grateful for the longstanding of support from Ned Jannotta and his beloved late wife Debby. A lifelong opera lover, Ned has been an integral part of the Lyric Opera family, joining the Board of Directors in 1987, serving as President and CEO of Lyric Opera from 1996 to 2000, and is currently serving as Co-Chairman Emeritus. Lyric is honored to have received leadership gifts from the Jannottas for the Building on Greatness

Capital Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, and the Breaking New Ground Campaign to create the Ryan Opera Center Music Director Endowed Chair, in addition to their generous gifts to the Annual Campaign.



#### JENNER & BLOCK

Founded in 1914, Jenner & Block is a leading law firm with global impact and substantial experience in a broad range of legal issues. The firm has long played a prominent role in Chicago's legal and business communities, and is consistently ranked as one of the top firms in the country. Jenner & Block has provided significant pro bono legal expertise to Lyric, along with generous contributions to the Breaking New Ground Campaign, the Annual Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, Fantasy of the

Opera, Opera Ball, the Spring Musical Celebration, and Wine Auction. Lyric is fortunate to have Craig C. Martin, Partner and Chair of Jenner & Block's Litigation Department, as a valued member of its

Board of Directors, Nominating, and JENNER&BLOCK Executive Committees.

#### JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

Lyric gratefully acknowledges the vital corporate leadership and support of JPMorgan Chase & Co. Along with the bank's predecessors The First National Bank of Chicago and Bank One, JPMorgan Chase has generously contributed to the Annual Campaign, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, Lyric Unlimited, Facilities Fund, the Great Opera Fund, and white Asserting Fund, and the Great Opera Fund, an

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#### LYRIC O P E R A O F CHICAGO



#### THE RICHARD P. AND SUSAN KIPHART FAMILY

Susie is an esteemed member of the Lyric Opera family. She is immediate past President of the Ryan Opera Center Board, Chair of the Ryan Opera Center Nominating committee, and serves on the Lyric Unlimited Committee. Along with her beloved late husband Dick Kiphart, Susie is a passionate philanthropist. Dick and Susie generously cosponsored several Lyric productions,

most recently The Passenger (2014/15). In honor of Lyric's Golden Jubilee (2004/05), they made a significant gift to Lyric to establish the Richard P. and Susan Kiphart Costume Director Endowed Chair. They have made leadership contributions to the Campaign for Excellence, of which Dick served as chairman, and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. They also continue to provide major support for Lyric's radio programming as members of the broadcast consortium and are generous sponsors of the Renée Fleming Initiative. Lyric will forever be grateful for the visionary leadership of the late Dick Kiphart. He was a past President and CEO as well as Chairman of Lyric's Board of Directors, Chairman of the Nominating/Governance Committee, and a member of the Executive, Finance and Production Sponsorship Committees. The Kipharts' enthusiasm for opera and heartfelt commitment to Lyric are tremendous assets to the company, and in recognition of their passion and immense dedication they received the Carol Fox Award, Lyric's highest honor, in 2013.



#### KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

Kirkland & Ellis LLP has a more than 100-year history of providing exceptional service to clients in Chicago and around the world in complex litigation, corporate and tax, intellectual property, restructuring, and counseling matters. The firm is committed to enhancing quality of life through educational opportunities, cultural awareness, youth programs, and community outreach. For many years, Kirkland & Ellis LLP sponsored Lyric Opera's Board of Directors Annual Meeting. More recently, Kirkland

& Ellis LLP cosponsored Boris Godunov (2011/12), A Streetcar Named Desire (2012/13), and The Merry Widow (2015/16), and was Lead Sponsor of Lyric's 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball. Lyric Opera is fortunate to have Linda K. Myers, a Partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, as a member of its Board of Directors, Executive and Production Sponsorship Committees. This season, Kirkland & Ellis LLP is the Lead Corporate sponsor of KIRKLAND & ELLIS the Chicago Voices Gala Benefit.

#### NANCY W. KNOWLES

Opera has always played an important role in the life of Nancy W. Knowles. Her love for the art form was nurtured by her family's musical traditions. "My father had hundreds and hundreds of records to play," she fondly recalls, "so classical music was always in my home." A devoted subscriber and patron, Nancy Knowles is a prominent member of the Lyric family. She generously invests her time, talents, and leadership abilities to advance

Lyric as a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee, and formerly as a Guild Board member. Chairman Emeritus of Knowles Electronics, a manufacturer of hearing-aid components, Nancy Knowles is president of The Knowles Foundation. The Knowles Foundation is a leading contributor to Lyric's Annual Campaign and has cosponsored several mainstage productions. As part of the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Foundation provided an assisted listening system to enhance the operatic experience for hearing-impaired patrons. In recognition of her extraordinary gift to the Campaign for Excellence, Lyric named the Nancy W. Knowles Lobby in 2007. Mrs. Knowles has once again made a significant gift in support of the Breaking New Ground Campaign to underwrite the Nancy W. Knowles Student and Family Performances fund. In recognition of her outstanding generosity and enthusiasm, she received the Carol Fox Award, Lyric's highest honor, in 2014. Most recently, Ms. Knowles is generously underwriting the appearance of Lyric's world premiere Bel Canto on PBS Great Performances.



#### MR. and MRS. FRED A. KREHBIEL

Kay and Fred Krehbiel are longstanding dedicated members of the Lyric Opera family. Lyric gratefully acknowledges their generous contributions to Lyric's Wine Auction, the Annual Campaign, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Kay Krehbiel is a leading and cherished member of

Lyric's Women's Board, and Fred Krehbiel is a National Director of Lyric's Board of Directors.



#### JOSEF and MARGOT LAKONISHOK

Devoted members of the Lyric family, Josef and Margot Lakonishok have subscribed to Lyric for many seasons. They have contributed to the Annual Campaign, and made significant gifts to the Campaign for Excellence and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. They have also cosponsored several mainstage productions, including last year's Cinderella and this season's Eugene Onegin. The CEO of LSV Asset Management, Josef Lakonishok is a

dedicated member of Lyric's Board of Directors, serving on the Executive, Finance, and Investment Committees.

#### JOHN D. and CATHERINE T. MacARTHUR FOUNDATION

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including overincarceration, global climate change, nuclear risk, and significantly increasing financial capital for the social sector. In addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program, the Foundation supports arts and culture organizations in Chicago and the region as an expression of its civic commitment to where the Foundation has its headquarters

and where John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur made their home. Grants are designed to sustain the cultural MacArthur life of the city and region. Lyric Opera is very grateful for the ongoing support of the MacArthur Foundation.





#### MALOTT FAMILY FOUNDATION

Robert H. Malott, Retired Chairman and CEO of FMC Corporation, is a fervent fan of opera and music, and Lyric is delighted to call him a longtime friend, staunch leader, and generous supporter. The Malott Family Foundation made a leadership commitment to Lyric's Breaking New Ground Campaign, and the Malott Room was named in his family's honor in recognition of their gift to the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign. He also plays a leadership role as a Life Director of

Lyric's Board of Directors. In recognition of the Malott Family's commitment to the Breaking New Ground Campagin, Box 18 is named in perpetuity in honor of Robert H. Malott for his extraordinary generosity and steadfast dedication to Lyric Opera of Chicago through the Malott Family Foundation.



Joseph O. Rubinelli, Jr., Mary Jane Rubinelli, Nicholas J. Lavezzorio, and Joan Lavezzorio Schniedwind

#### MAZZA FOUNDATION

Lyric deeply appreciates the abiding friendship and generosity of the Mazza Foundation. Under the guidance of its directors, Mary Jane Rubinelli, Nicholas J. Lavezzorio, Joseph O. Rubinelli, Jr., and Joan Lavezzorio Schniedwind, the Mazza Foundation provided major support for the Student Matinees from 1994 through 2004, helping Lyric introduce the majesty and grandeur of opera to thousands of young people

each season. Since 2005, the Mazza Foundation has been part of the production sponsorship family, most recently cosponsoring Otello (2013/14), Il Trovatore (2014/15), and The Merry Widow (2015/16). This season, the Mazza Foundation generously cosponsors Carmen.

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#### THE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION

Lyric is deeply grateful for The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's long and tremendous history of support. Through a multi-year commitment to Lyric's American Horizons initiative in 2000, the Mellon Foundation encouraged presentation of American operas and expansion of the operatic repertory by providing major support for Lyric Opera premieres; the centerpiece of the initiative was Lyric's mainstage world premiere of Bolcom's A Wedding. The Mellon Foundation provided essential matching funds which enabled Lyric to resume radio broadcasts in 2006. During the 2012/13 season, the Mellon Foundation provided leadership funding to launch Lyric's visionary new Lyric Unlimited programming, which included the Chicago premiere of Cruzar la Cara de la Luna, the world's first Mariachi opera. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation continued its generous partnership with Lyric Unlimited by providing outstanding support for Lyric's world premiere mariachi opera El Pasado Nunca Se Termina, and continued its unparalleled legacy by cosponsoring last season's world premiere of mainstage production *Bel Canto*. Most

recently, the Mellon Foundation has provided generous leadership funding for Lyric's Chicago Voices initiative, playing a vital role in bringing together Chicago's diverse communities and vocal traditions in celebration of the human voice.



#### THE MONUMENT TRUST (UK)

Lyric is grateful for the generosity of The Monument Trust and its Chairman of trustees Stewart Grimshaw, who initiated their support for the cosponsorship of Rusalka in 2013/14 and cosponsored Anna Bolena (2014/15) and Wozzeck (2015/16). The Monument Trust is a

passionate supporter of the arts in the U.K. and U.S. and cosponsors The Magic Flute this season.



#### MR. and MRS. ROBERT S. MORRISON

Susan and Bob Morrison are devoted members of the Lyric Opera family. Both are loyal subscribers and patrons who take an active role in nurturing Lyric's success. Susan Morrison is a leading member of the Women's Board. Lyric is fortunate to have Bob Morrison serve as a member of its Board of Directors. The Morrisons have generously supported the Opera Ball and Wine Auction as well as the Annual Campaign for many years. They provided a substantial gift to the Campaign for Excellence and Breaking New Ground

Campaign, and have cosponsored each installment of Lyric's American Music Theatre Initiative, including My Fair Lady this season.



Elizabeth Morse Genius

#### THE ELIZABETH MORSE CHARITABLE TRUST

Lyric sincerely appreciates the tremendous ongoing support of The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, as well as the invaluable leadership of the Trust's Co-Trustees JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and James L. Alexander. One of two trusts established in memory of Elizabeth Morse Genius, daughter of 19th-century industrialist Charles Hosmer Morse, The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust supports non-profit organizations that reflect the values of thrift, humility, industry, self-sufficiency, and self-

sacrifice, such as Lyric Opera, where the Trust will support this season's company premiere of Les Troyens. After providing cosponsorship support of The Cunning Little Vixen (2004/05) in honor of Lyric's Golden Jubilee, The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust raised challenge grant support for Orfeo ed Euridice (2005/06), and continued on to cosponsor many more productions, along with its sister trust, the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust. From 2000-2008, the Morse Trust provided leadership support of the Stars of Lyric Opera concerts at Grant Park and Millennium Park.

The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust



#### ALLAN and ELAINE MUCHIN

Allan and Elaine Muchin are longtime, valued members of the Lyric Opera family. Allan served as President and CEO of the company from 2001 to 2006, and is currently Co-Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Directors and serves on the Executive Commitee. The Muchins have staunchly supported the Annual Campaign, Fantasy of the Opera, Operathon, and the

Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park concert, and have committed leadership gifts to the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Lyric is extremely grateful for Allan and Elaine Muchin's munificent friendship.

#### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS

Serving the public good by fostering creativity and artistic excellence in America, grants awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) have played a leading role in the advancement of Lyric's programming and expansion of the operatic repertoire. Through production and program funding as well as a major challenge grant, awards from the NEA have nurtured Lyric's world-class artistic achievements. The Endowment has funded important artistic initiatives at Lyric such as American Horizons, Great American Voices, and Toward the 21st Century. The NEA has provided vital support for numerous Lyric Opera premieres, new productions, and revivals, most recently A Streetcar Named Desire

(2012/13), Rusalka (2013/14), Porgy and Bess (2014/15), and Bel Canto (2015/16). This season, the National Endowment for the Arts is supporting Lyric's company premiere of Les Troyens.





#### THE NEGAUNEE FOUNDATION

The founder of The Negaunee Foundation has great affection for music, the performing arts, and Mozart. These interests, combined with a strong admiration of Lyric Opera, have been instrumental in bringing operas to Lyric's mainstage. The Negaunee Foundation has cosponsored many productions, most recently Don Giovanni and Carousel (both 2014/15), The Marriage of Figaro and The King and I (both 2015/16), and cosponsors Lyric's productions of *The Magic Flute* and *My Fair* Lady this season. The Negaunee Foundation has also made a generous gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Lyric is very fortunate to be among the Chicago cultural institutions benefitting from The Negaunee Foundation's leadership and financial commitment. Lyric is honored to have The Negaunee Foundation's president serve as a member of its Board of Directors and Audit Committee.



#### SYLVIA NEIL and DANIEL FISCHEL

Sylvia and Dan have been loyal Lyric Opera subscribers and donors for many years. They sponsored the Symposiums for Lyric productions of Hercules (2010/11) and Show Boat (2011/12), and have cosponsored several mainstage opera productions, including this season's production of Lucia di Lammermoor. They made a generous gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign

to help secure Lyric's future. Sylvia is Lecturer in Law, University of Chicago Law School. She is founder and chair of the Project on Gender, Culture, Religion and Law at Brandeis and is co-editor of its book series (Brandeis University Press). Dan is President, Chairman and Co-Founder of the Compass Lexecon consulting firm. He is the Lee and Brena Freeman Professor of Law and Business Emeritus at the University of Chicago Law School. Lyric is honored to have Sylvia Neil serve on its Board of Directors, Production Sponsorship, and Lyric Unlimited Committees.



Jerry and Elaine Nerenberg

#### THE NERENBERG FOUNDATION

During their lifetimes, Jerry and Elaine Nerenberg were passionate supporters of Lyric Opera and subscribed for more than 30 years. They were especially supportive of The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center and loved to watch these young artists perform and grow at Lyric Opera. Jerry Nerenberg and his wife Elaine passed away in 2005 and 2007, respectively. In their wills,

they established The Jerome and Elaine Nerenberg Foundation, which was funded to make generous annual grants to Lyric Opera for many years to come. Lyric is very appreciative of the Nerenbergs' thoughtfulness and generosity in creating this planned gift.

Lvric

#### LYRIC O P E R A CHICAGO $\mathbf{O}$ F

#### NIB FOUNDATION

Founding owners/managers of former radio station WNIB, Sonia and the late William Florian established the NIB Foundation to extend their support to many worthwhile arts and environmental causes. Sonia is a devoted member of the Lyric family, having subscribed to Lyric for more than four decades. The NIB Foundation continues to cosponsor many mainstage productions, most recently Tannhäuser (2014/15), Romeo and Juliet (2015/16), and this season's production of Lucia di Lammermoor. The

Foundation made a significant and deeply appreciated contribution to Lyric's endowment, establishing The NIB Foundation Italian Opera Endowed Chair, and the NIB Foundation made major contributions to the Campaign for Excellence and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. In addition to their magnanimous financial support, Mr. and Mrs. Florian and the NIB Foundation gave their valuable collection of operatic and other vocal recordings to Lyric, making Lyric's Educational Library Collection one of the most extensive collections of its kind in the country. Sonia Florian very generously provided a naming gift for the Florian

Opera Bistro located on the third floor of the Civic Opera House. Sonia is a vital member of Lyric's Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and Production Sponsorship Committee, and was awarded the Carol Fox Award, Lyric's most prestigious honor, in 2015 for her outstanding commitment to the company.



#### JOHN D. and ALEXANDRA C. NICHOLS

Longtime enthusiasts of arts and culture in Chicago, John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols have steadfastly supported the Annual Campaign, and are generous sponsors of the Renée Fleming Initiative. This season John and Alexandra are a Diamond Record Sponsor of the Chicago Voices Gala Benefit Concert. By providing major support to Lyric's endowment, Mr. and Mrs.

Nichols established the John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols Music Director Endowed Chair. Principal Dressing Room 110 is named in their honor due to their very benevolent contribution to the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign. Lyric Opera is extremely grateful for John and Alexandra Nichols' significant leadership contributions to both the Campaign for Excellence and the Breaking New Ground Campaign, establishing the John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols Grand Staircase. Retired Chairman and CEO of Illinois Tool Works and Retired Vice Chairman and CEO of The Marmon Group, Inc., John Nichols is also a dedicated National Director of Lyric's Board of Directors. Lyric is immensely grateful for the unwavering generosity of John and Alexandra Nichols.



#### NORTHERN TRUST

Lyric is honored to have Jana R. Schreuder, chief operating officer of Northern Trust, serve as a member of Lyric's Board of Directors, Executive and Finance committees, and William A. Osborn, Northern Trust's retired chairman and CEO, serve as a member of Lyric's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. A leading global financial services provider, Northern Trust has enjoyed a long-standing and significant relationship with Lyric. Based in Chicago, the firm has played a major role supporting

the Annual Campaign, Facilities Fund, Great Opera Fund and Lyric Unlimited. Northern Trust also provides vital leadership contributions to Lyric as presenting sponsor of our wine auctions (2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018) and as cosponsor of the Opera Ball (annually since 1998.) In addition, Northern Trust

cosponsored Faust (2009/10), Oklahoma! (2012/13), The Sound of Music (2013/14), The King and I (2015/16) and this season's My Fair Lady.



#### **NUVEEN INVESTMENTS**

Nuveen Investments, represented by Lyric Board member John P. Amboian, has been an enthusiastic supporter of Lyric Opera for over three decades. Dedicated to developing the next generation of opera lovers, Nuveen Investments has most recently cosponsored Lyric Unlimited's family productions The Magic Victrola (2014/15) and The Family Barber (2013/14), has provided general support for Lyric's education and community engagement initiatives, and has underwritten NEXT student discount tickets.

Nuveen Investments has also cosponsored several mainstage opera productions, Lyric's Radio Broadcasts, and has recently committed a leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground NUVEEN Campaign.



#### MR. and MRS. DAVID T. ORMESHER

Lyric Opera is sincerely grateful for the devotion of David and Sheila Ormesher. David is founder and CEO of closerlook, inc., a Chicago-based digital marketing agency serving the pharmaceutical industry since 1987. closerlook has given generously to Lyric Opera for many years, sponsoring Fantasy of the Opera from 2009 to 2014 and the Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park

concert for five consecutive years. Most recently, David and Sheila generously provided an Operathon Challenge Grant and supported the Opera Ball. Lyric is proud to have David T. Ormesher serving as its Chairman of the Board of Directors, on the Executive Committee, and on seven sub-committees of the Board of Directors.



#### MR. and MRS. WILLIAM A. OSBORN

Bill and Cathy Osborn are devoted members of the Lyric Opera family. They have subscribed to Lyric for two decades and enjoy participating in special events such as Opening Night/Opera Ball and Wine Auction. The Osborns have generously contributed to the Annual Campaign, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, the

Breaking New Ground Campaign, and Wine Auctions. Cathy Osborn, a valued member of Lyric's Women's Board, was Co-Chairman of Lyric's highly successful Wine Auction 2009, and Chairman of Opera Ball 2013. William A. Osborn, Northern Trust's Retired Chairman and CEO, is a leading member of Lyric's Board of Directors and Executive Committee.



Seymour H. Persky

#### SEYMOUR H. PERSKY CHARITABLE TRUST

The late Seymour H. Persky was an avid supporter of Lyric Opera since its inception in 1954. Seymour was introduced to Lyric through his lifelong friend and Lyric's beloved public relations director Danny Newman. In addition to his regular annual support, Seymour made a special gift in support of Lyric Unlimited's Klezmer commission The Property in 2015, combining his love of Klezmer music with his passion for Lyric. Among his favorite Lyric memories, according to his family, were

arriving to Lyric's Opening Night celebrations in antique cars from his collection. Seymour's favorite operas were Carmen, La bohème, and Tosca. His Charitable Trust fittingly cosponsors this season's production of Carmen in his memory.



Dan Draper

#### POWERSHARES QQQ

PowerShares QQQ, represented by Dan Draper, Managing Director and Head of Global ETFs, PowerShares by Invesco, is proud to sponsor the arts as a corporate partner of Lyric Opera. Last season, they cosponsored the productions of Cinderella and Romeo and Juliet, and they are generously cosponsoring Lyric's new production of The Magic Flute this season. PowerShares global network recognizes the value in helping investors around the world, but with headquarters in Downers Grove, we also

support Lyric Opera's deep engagement with the local community to foster a rich culture of arts right POWEISHARES QQQ here in Chicago.

by Invesco

#### ARIA SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT | 2 0 1 6 - 2 0 1 7

Mr. and Mrs. Jay A. Pritzker

#### PRITZKER FOUNDATION

The Pritzker Foundation is a leading supporter of arts and education philanthropies in Chicago. Lyric Opera of Chicago is truly grateful for the Pritzker Foundation's generous support of the Breaking New Ground Campaign to underwrite the Pritzker Family Concert Shell, designed by renowned Chicago architect Jeanne Gang and Studio Gang architects. Lyric Opera is honored to have Life Member Mrs. Jay A. Pritzker and M. K. Pritzker serve on its esteemed Women's Board.



Vinay Couto

Iohn Oleniczak

A world-wide leader in professional services, PwC is a prominent member of Lyric Opera of Chicago's Business Ensemble. PwC has staunchly supported Lyric's Annual Campaign for over three decades, underwriting such special projects as production sponsorship, the Board of Directors, Annual Meeting, and Lyric Signature Events. PwC has provided a leadership gift to the Breaking New

Ground Campaign, having previously supported the Campaign for Excellence. Lyric is fortunate to receive generous in-kind consulting services from Strategy&, part of the PwC network. Lyric Opera is proud to have several PwC representatives as members of the Lyric family: John Oleniczak, PwC's Midwest Region Assurance Managing Partner, serves on Lyric's Board of Directors, Executive, and Finance Committees, and as Chairman of the Audit Committee; Vinay Couto, Principal, Strategy&, part of the PwC network, serves on Lyric's Board of Directors and Lyric Unlimited Committee; Maggie Rock Adams, Director and Client Relationship Executive, is a dedicated member of Lyric's Guild Board; and Tamara Conway, Director at Strategy&, part of the PwC network (formerly Booz & Company), is a committed member of the Ryan



Opera Center Board.





#### **PROTIVITI**

Protiviti, represented by Managing Director Tom Andreesen and President and CEO Joe Tarantino, is a global business consulting and internal audit firm composed of experts specializing in risk, advisory and transaction services. They help solve problems in finance and transactions, operations, technology, litigation, governance, risk, and compliance. Their highly trained, results-oriented

pwc

professionals provide a unique perspective on a wide range of critical business issues for clients in the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. Protiviti and its independently owned Member Firms serve clients through a network of more than 70 locations in over 20 countries. The company's more than 3,800 professionals provide a host of consulting and internal audit solutions to over 60 percent of FORTUNE 1000 and 35 percent of FORTUNE Global 500 companies. Protiviti is proud to provide in-kind consulting services to Lyric Opera of Chicago



#### J. CHRISTOPHER and ANNE N. REYES

Anne and Chris Reyes are prominent members of the Lyric family. Immediate past President of Lyric's Women's Board, Anne was recently elected to serve on Lyric's Board of Directors, Executive and Lyric Unlimited Committees; Chris is also a valued member of the Board of Directors, and serves on its Nominating/ Governance and Finance Committees. Together they

have made important contributions to Lyric as cosponsors of several mainstage productions, most recently Carousel (2014/15) and this season's My Fair Lady. They have staunchly supported Wine Auctions 2009, 2012, and 2015, Lyric's 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball, and are major supporters of the Annual Campaign. In addition, they provided significant and much appreciated gifts to the Campaign for Excellence and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Chris and Anne Reyes provided leadership support for Lyric Unlimited's world premiere of Second Nature (2015/16), and Lyric deeply appreciates their leadership gift for this season's new opera for youth, Jason and the Argonauts.

#### LLOYD E. RIGLER-LAWRENCE E. DEUTSCH FOUNDATION

A graduate of the University of Illinois and life-long arts philanthropist Lloyd E. Rigler established the Lloyd E. Rigler-Lawrence E. Deutsch Foundation in 1977 in memory of his partner to provide major support to arts organizations in Los Angeles and nationwide. In 1994, the late Mr. Rigler established the Classic Arts Showcase in an effort to provide free arts programming to those who could not afford to attend live performances. Mr. Rigler's nephew James Rigler now serves as President of the Foundation and continues the important legacy established by his late uncle. As Lyric strives to expand its reach and relevance, it is grateful to the Rigler-Deutsch Foundation for its support of the annual Operathon broadcast on 98.7WFMT. This season, the Rigler-Deutsch Foundation also generously cosponsors the Lyric's company premiere of Les Troyens.



#### PATRICK G. RYAN and SHIRLEY WELSH RYAN

Lyric cherishes the enduring friendship and dedication of Patrick G. and Shirley Welsh Ryan. Since 1966 when they first subscribed to Lyric as newlyweds, they have shared their leadership, talents, vision, and resources to advance Lyric's mission. Over the past four decades, the Ryans have contributed generously to the Annual Campaign, the Great Opera Fund, Wine Auctions

(which Mrs. Ryan initiated in 1988), and the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign for which Lyric named the Pat and Shirley Ryan Family Rehearsal Center located backstage to honor their major contribution. In recognition of his leadership role in the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, Pat Ryan was a recipient of the 1994 Carol Fox Award. For many seasons, they have sponsored Lyric Opera Commentaries, underwriting this special project to honor the memory of their parents. The Ryans are sponsors of the Renée Fleming Initiative, and supported the 60th Anniversary Concert and Diamond Ball. This season they are a Diamond Record Sponsor of the Chicago Voices Gala Benefit Concert. In recognition of their extraordinary gift to the Campaign for Excellence, Lyric's premier artist development program was renamed The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center. Pat and Shirley serve as Honorary Co-Chairs of the Ryan Opera Center. Lyric is deeply grateful for their major leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign in support of the Innovation Initiative. A Vice President and a member of the Executive, Nominating, and Innovation Committees of Lyric's Board of Directors and a distinguished former President of the Women's Board, Shirley Welsh Ryan was awarded the 2008 Carol Fox Award, Lyric's most prestigious honor, in recognition of her many years of devoted service to the opera company.



lack and Catherine Scholl

#### DR. SCHOLL FOUNDATION

Since 1983, the Dr. Scholl Foundation's commitment to children, families and educational enrichment through the arts has led it to provide essential support for one of Lyric's most popular cultural engagement opportunities available to young Chicagoans, the Student Matinees. Each year, these widely accessible performances at the Civic Opera House reach audiences of junior high and high school students, many of whom are experiencing

opera for the first time. The Foundation has generously supported family presentations of The Magic Victrola (2014/15) and The Family Barber (2013/14). Lyric Opera is deeply grateful to the Dr. Scholl Foundation for its generous ongoing support of Student Matinees/Performances for Students, commemorating Catherine A. and Jack E. Scholl, who championed cultural and institutional education.



#### EARL and BRENDA SHAPIRO FOUNDATION

Prominent members of the Lyric family for many seasons, Brenda Shapiro and her late husband Earl provided vital support to the Annual Campaign, the Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, the Campaign for Excellence, and the Breaking New Ground Campaign. The Foundation has cosponsored several mainstage productions, most recently The Passenger (2014/15) and this season's presentation of Norma. Lyric is honored to have Brenda Shapiro serve on the Board of Directors as well as the Executive,

Production Sponsorship, and Lyric Unlimited Committees.

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#### LYRIC O P E R A CHICAGO $\mathbf{O}$ F



#### SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP

A leader in the international legal arena, the law firm of Sidley Austin is a generous corporate contributor to arts and culture in Chicago. Lyric deeply appreciates Sidley Austin's cosponsorship of Lyric's new productions of Orfeo ed Euridice (2005/06), Lulu (2008/09), Hercules (2010/11), Werther (2012/13), Rusalka (2013/14), and The Passenger (2014/15). Additionally, Sidley Austin has supported Operathon, Fantasy of the Opera, and the Annual Campaign. This season, Sidley Austin LLP generously

cosponsors Lyric's company premiere of Les Troyens. Lyric is proud to have Larry A. Barden, chair of the firm's Management Committee and member of the firm's Executive Committee since 1999, on its Board of Directors and Compensation Committee.



#### LIZ STIFFEL



A passionate devotee of opera and loyal subscriber at Lyric, Liz is a prominent member of Lyric's Women's Board and a longstanding member of the Guild Board of Directors. Liz Stiffel was the Lead Sponsor of the Renée Fleming Subscriber Appreciation Concert (2010/11), the Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park concert (2013/14), and last season's See Jane Sing, and she is generously underwriting the appearance of Lyric's world premiere Bel Canto

on PBS Great Performances. She has also supported Lyric's Building on Greatness Capital Campaign, and Lyric has named Mezzanine Box 1 in recognition of her significant gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. She has cosponsored several mainstage productions, most recently Carousel (2014/15), and this season's productions of Das Rheingold and My Fair Lady. Liz Stiffel has also committed a generous leadership gift in support of Lyric's Chicago Voices Gala.



Carol and William Vance

#### MRS. HERBERT A. VANCE and MR. and MRS. WILLIAM C. VANCE

Lyric Opera appreciates the extraordinary generosity and leadership of the Vance Family. For more than 20 years, Mrs. Herbert A. Vance provided Lead Sponsorship of Opera in the Neighborhoods, one of Lyric's most popular youth-enrichment programs. The Vances have generously sponsored/cosponsored several Lyric premieres and new productions, most recently Oklahoma! (2012/13), The Sound of Music (2013/14), Carousel (2014/15), The King and I (2015/16), and this season's My Fair Lady. For many years, the Vances have supported young singers

through their sponsorship of Ryan Opera Center Ensemble members. In addition, Mr. and Mrs. William C. Vance contributed to the Campaign for Excellence and the Breaking New Ground Campaign, and are generous sponsors of the Renée Fleming Initiative. Mr. Vance is Vice President and an esteemed member of Lyric's Board of Directors, Compensation, and Executive Committees. He also serves on the Ryan Opera Center Board, of which he is a past President. Mr. Vance was awarded the 2016 Carol Fox Award, Lyric's most prestigious honor, in recognition of his leadership, steadfast support, and many years of devoted service to Lyric Opera.

Donna Van Eekeren

#### DONNA VAN EEKEREN FOUNDATION

Donna Van Eekeren is a devoted opera fan, Lyric subscriber, and generous supporter of the Ryan Opera Center. She enjoys encouraging talented young artists in her roles as a Ryan Opera Center Distinguished Benefactor and Lead Sponsor of Rising Stars in Concert and Exclusive Sponsor of its radio rebroadcast on 98.7WFMT. Reflecting her passion for introducing young people to opera, the Donna Van Eekeren Foundation has supported Lyric's Performances for Students, NEXT discount tickets for

college students, and Opera in the Neighborhoods, as well as Fantasy of the Opera and as a Singer Sponsor for the Ryan Opera Center. This season, the Donna Van Eekeren Foundation generously cosponsors the Lyric premiere of Les Troyens, having previously cosponsored several mainstage productions. Donna also made a leadership gift to the Breaking New Ground Campaign to secure Lyric's future. Executive Chairman of Land O'Frost, Donna Van Eekeren is a valued member of Lyric's Board of Directors, serving as Secretary of the Board, on the Executive and Production Sponsorship Committees, and on the Ryan Opera Center Board.

#### THE WALLACE FOUNDATION

The Wallace Foundation is a national philanthropy that seeks to improve learning and enrichment for disadvantaged children and foster the vitality of the arts for everyone. Wallace has an unusual approach: funding projects to test innovative ideas for solving important social problems, conducting research to find out what works and what doesn't and to fill key knowledge gaps - and then communicating the results to help others. Lyric Opera is the recipient of a multi-phase grant as part of the Foundation's Building Audiences for Sustainability initiative; the grant is funding research and analysis of Lyric Opera

audiences, and will reveal ways in which Lyric can maximize its reach in the community. Lyric's work will inform lessons that will be shared with the The Wallace Foundation® broader field.





#### ROBERTA L. and ROBERT J. WASHLOW

Roberta and Bob Washlow are cherished members of the Lyric family. For more than three decades, they have enjoyed attending Lyric performances and special events, and have generously supported the Annual Campaign. Since 1986, the Port, Washlow, and Errant Families sponsored more than 20 Lyric productions. Roberta and Bob made a generous commitment to the Breaking

New Ground Campaign to support Lyric Unlimited activities. The Washlows have annually remained valued members of the production sponsorship family, and generously cosponsor this season's new production of The Magic Flute. Lyric is honored to have Roberta Washlow as an esteemed member of its Board of Directors and Lyric Unlimited Committee.



#### **HELEN and SAM ZELL**

Helen and Sam Zell are passionate supporters of Chicago's vibrant cultural scene. They are longtime subscribers to Lyric Opera and have contributed to the Annual Campaign for many years. They were essential in bringing new work to Lyric last season, underwriting the world premiere of Bel Canto. Helen and Sam Zell have previously cosponsored several new productions, most

recently La Traviata (2013/14), The Passenger (2014/15), and Bel Canto (2015/16), and this season are generous cosponsors of Lyric's new production of Das Rheingold.

Lvric **46** April - May, 2017

#### LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO



The Breaking New Ground Campaign was launched in January 2013 to implement the company's blueprint for a world-class, twenty-first century opera company. This Campaign allows Lyric to continue to produce major productions of the highest caliber, update media, marketing, and audience development programs, and fortify Lyric's endowment. The current focus of the Campaign is to modernize the stage of the Ardis Krainik Theatre with state-of-the-art equipment.

To that extent, we have established a new Insull Society comprised of loyal patrons who are contributing \$10,000 or more for this critically important stage project. To join the Insull Society, please call (312) 827-5675.

Lyric Opera is grateful to the following donors who have made contributions of \$5,000 and above to the Campaign as of February 28, 2017.

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Lyric Opera is extremely grateful to the many donors who have made gifts of less than \$5,000 to the Breaking New Ground Campaign. Space limitations prevent listing the names of these donors but their generosity is sincerely appreciated.

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Lyric Opera of Chicago welcomes you to this performance. We are very glad you are here. In order to ensure maximum enjoyment for all guests during a performance, we ask for your compliance with some simple house rules:

- Please remain silent during the performance.
- As a gesture of respect for other audience members and the performing artists, please remain seated until an act or the opera is completely over. If you need to leave the auditorium, you may not be readmitted while the performance is in progress. The usher staff will help you understand when you can be reseated.
- Do note that the program and artists are subject to change without notice.
- Please silence all electronic devices and double check that phones, pagers, watches, and other personal devices are switched off before the performance begins.
- Please don't use any device with a glowing screen at any time during a performance. It is always more disruptive and distracting than you think it is.
- Noises from the lobby may disturb patrons in the auditorium during a performance.

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#### Tickets:

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#### **Consessions:**

To commemorate Lyric's production of *My Fair Lady*, prior to each performance and during intermission the concessions will offer a special "Eliza Doolittle Cocktail" (Smirnoff Vodka, Sprite, a splash of orange juice, and lemon garnish, served in a Lyric cup you can take into the theater). Full bar offerings – liquor, wine, sparkling wine, beer, soda, and water – will be available for all performances. Snacks are available – cheese plates (pre-order for intermission), chocolate bars, popcorn, handmade turtles, cookies, nuts, and granola bars.



#### If you arrive late:

Lyric has a tradition of starting performances right on time, and the doors to the house are closed promptly at curtain time. We realize situations arise that can delay your arrival, and we will try to accommodate latecomers in an available section of the house or at a predetermined break, which may be intermission. A video screen is available in the lobby, so you won't miss a moment of the performance. Please be aware that patrons who must leave their seats during a performance will not be readmitted until intermission or a suitable break.



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#### Patrons with Disabilities:

The Opera House is accessible to persons with physical disabilities, with elevator service to all floors except the Opera Club. The Ardis Krainik Theatre contains seating that is accessible to persons in wheelchairs, as well as seats with removable armrests. The Opera House has automatic door-openers on exterior doors, and accessible drinking fountains and public telephones. A TTY phone is available in the Box Office for outgoing calls only.







**Restrooms** facilities for female patrons with disabilities are located on all levels of the Opera House except the Opera Club level. For male patrons, these facilities are located on all levels except the Opera Club (lower) level and the sixth floor.

Assistive listening devices for persons desiring amplification are available at no cost at any open checkroom. A valid driver's license, state identification, or major credit card is required as a security deposit.

Large print and Braille programs may be available at the main floor coat check.

Audio description, touch tours, and American Sign Language interpretation is available for select performances; please see www. lyricopera.org/accessibility for dates and details.

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