



Royal Conservatoire
of Scotland

MMus Performance Opera Workshop

Thu 23 - Fri 24 Mar 2017

Alexander Gibson Opera Studio

RCS

Programme

Creative / Technical team

Director | Nicolette Molnár
Musical Director | Julia Strehle Lynch

Thanks to

David Thomson for the loan of his guitar
Ralph Strehle for his help with *Die Zauberflöte* dialogue.

"The Magic Flute", libretto by Emanuel Schikaneder for the opera by W A Mozart,
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L'incoronazione di Poppea - Monteverdi

Prologue

La Fortuna - Charlotte Kenny

La Virtù - Jacqueline Yu

Amore - Jasmine Munns / Sunhee Lee

The goddesses of Fortune and Virtue quarrel over which of them has the most power over humankind. They are interrupted by the god of Love, who claims greater power than either and declares that both will be forced to acknowledge his superior powers.

Idomeneo - Mozart

Act II Trio

Idomeneo - Andrew Powis

Idamante - Inkeri Kallio

Electra - Stephanie Stanway

On his way back from the Trojan Wars, Idomeneo's ship is caught in a storm. He makes a vow to Neptune to sacrifice the first living creature he sees in exchange for a safe return home. Unfortunately it is his son, Idamante, whom he meets first upon his return. Idamante is in love with the Trojan princess, Ilia who (although in love with him) rejects his advances out of loyalty to her defeated people, and dead father and brothers.

In order to avoid sacrificing his son, Idomeneo arranges for him to sail to Argos with Electra. Idamante is distraught at what he perceives to be his father's rejection and at having to leave Ilia. Electra, who is also in love with Idamante, rejoices at successfully triumphing over her rival.

Idomeneo - Mozart

Act III Duet

Ilia - Héloïse Bernard

Idamante - Beth Taylor

The ship is unable to depart because of the appearance of a sea serpent in the port. Ilia is surprised in the gardens by Idamante's unexpected arrival. He wishes to bid her a final farewell before going to fight the serpent. Ilia struggles with her love for Idamante and her duty to her family and homeland. When, however, Idamante says he would rather die than suffer the torments of his rejected love, Ilia confesses her love.

Act one

Le nozze di Figaro - Mozart

Act I Trio

Susanna - Katie Dobson / Rebecca Murphy
Count Almaviva - Laurens Macklon
Don Basilio - Vasco Vagnoli
Cherubino - Inkeri Kallio

Cherubino is with Susanna when they are surprised by the arrival of the Count. Cherubino hides and the Count seizes the opportunity of finding her “alone” to continue his seduction. When Basilio is heard approaching, the Count also hides. Susanna tries to get rid of the prying Basilio. When he finds Cherubino’s song, Basilio gossips about the young boy’s obvious attraction to the Countess. The jealous Count reveals himself. He’s had enough of Cherubino constantly being in his way. In an unsuccessful attempt to distract the two men, Susanna pretends to faint. The Count describes how he found Cherubino under the table at Barbarina’s. His irritation turns to anger when he finds the hidden Cherubino...

Le nozze di Figaro - Mozart

Act II Recitatives and “Un Moto di Gioia”

Countess Almaviva - Stephanie Stanway / Hazel Neighbour
Susanna - Aneta Kolton / Xinhui Lai
Cherubino - Inkeri Kallio
Count Almaviva (offstage) - Laurens Macklon

Susanna teases Cherubino about his infatuation with the Countess and coaxes him into singing the song he wrote for her. After his song, the Countess sees Cherubino’s military commission and notices that the Count was in such a hurry to get rid of the young man that he forgot to seal it with his signet ring. Susanna sings about her feeling of approaching happiness; fate and love are not always cruel. As part of Figaro’s plan to trap the Count being unfaithful, Susanna and the Countess dress Cherubino as a young girl. The Countess discovers that Cherubino is using one of her ribbons to bandage a small injury. They are interrupted by the Count knocking on the locked door.

Die Zauberflöte - Mozart

Act I Dialogue and Quintet

Papageno - Laurens Macklon
Tamino - Andrew Powis
First Lady - Claudia Hausmann
Second Lady - Jacqueline Yu
Third Lady - Beth Taylor

Tamino recovers from his ordeal with the serpent and introduces himself to Papageno, whom he believes killed it. Papageno happily takes the credit, claiming to have strangled it with his bare hands. The three ladies appear and instead of giving Papageno wine, cake and figs, in return for the birds he's caught, they give him water, a stone and a lock over his mouth as a warning not to lie. They tell Tamino they killed the serpent and give him a portrait of the Queen of the Night's daughter, Pamina. She will be his if he rescues her from Sarastro, a supposedly evil sorcerer. The ladies remove the lock from Papageno's mouth with a warning not to lie any more. He is pressured into accompanying Tamino on his quest. Tamino is given a magic flute which has the power to change sorrow into joy and Papageno is given magic bells for protection. Three child-spirits will guide them on the way.

Interval

Act one

Opera

Act two

Così fan tutte - Mozart

Act II Aria and Duet

Despina - Sunhee Lee / Jasmine Munns

Fiordiligi - Jessica Hurst

Dorabella - Lauren Young

Despina encourages the two sisters to surrender to the advances of the two foreign men (in reality their disguised lovers) and lectures them on how to handle men. The sisters decide there would be no harm in a little innocent flirtation and that it would help them pass the time until their lovers return. They choose which of the two men they prefer.

Così fan tutte - Mozart

Act II Duet

Fiordiligi - Lu Liu

Ferrando - Vasco Vagnoli

Fiordiligi has fallen for the charms of the one of the foreign men (her sister's fiancé, Ferrando, in disguise), but is determined to fight against her feelings. She decides to disguise herself in a uniform and join Guglielmo at the front. She is interrupted by Ferrando (still in disguise) who begs her to either give him her love or put him out of his torment by killing him. Fiordiligi struggles bravely, but eventually surrenders to his seduction.

Falstaff - Verdi

Act I Quartet

Alice Ford - Claudia Haussmann

Meg Page - Lauren Young

Nannetta - Xinhui Lai / Charlotte Kenny

Mistress Quickly - Beth Taylor

Sir John Falstaff has written love letters to Alice Ford and Meg Page, two wealthy married women, through whom he hopes to gain access to their husbands' money.

Both Alice and Meg wish to surprise the other with news of having received a love letter from Falstaff. To their astonishment they discover they've both been sent a letter and that the letters are identical. Together with Mistress Quickly and Alice's daughter, Nannetta, they resolve to punish Falstaff.

Die Entführung aus dem Serail - Mozart

Act II Quartet

Konstanze - Hazel Neighbour
Belmonte - Andrew Powis
Pedrillo - Vasco Vagnoli
Blonde - Aneta Kolton

Konstanze, her servant, Blonde, and Belmonte's servant, Pedrillo (who is in love with Blonde) have been captured by pirates and sold to the Pasha Selim. Belmonte has arrived and is planning to rescue his fiancée and their servants. Pedrillo plies Osmin with drink until he passes out, making it safe for the couple to meet.

After a joyous reunion, both Belmonte and Pedrillo anxiously question whether their respective fiancées have remained faithful during their forced separation. Konstanze responds with dismay at the thought she might love the Pasha, and Blonde responds with anger at the idea she might have given in to Osmin's advances. The women forgive the men their offensive questions and the couples look forward to escaping and being together again.

Act two

Opera

Nicolette Molnár - Director

Nicolette Molnár studied directing under Götz Friedrich at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg. She was a Staff Director with English National Opera from 1987 until 1994.

For the RCS she has directed *Così fan tutte*, *Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor*, *Dialogues des Carmélites*, and several Opera Scenes programmes. She was a member of the teaching staff in 2015/16.

Past productions include *Don Giovanni* (Utah Opera, Atlanta Opera, Seattle Opera Young Artist Program, Wolf Trap Opera); *Carmen* (Portland Opera), Michael Daugherty's *Jackie O*, the world premieres of *The Dreamy Kid* and *De Organizer* by James P. Johnson (University of Michigan); *Roméo et Juliette* (Utah Opera); *Street Scene* (Portland Opera); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Royal College of Music, London, De Nieuwe Opera Akademie, den Haag); *Der Fliegende Holländer* (Atlanta Opera, Orlando Opera); *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* (Lake George Opera); *La Cenerentola*, *The Turn of the Screw* (University of Michigan); Associate Director of *Street Scene* (Lyric Opera of Chicago); *Madame Butterfly* (Co-Opera/Opera Ireland); *Eugene Onegin* (Opera Ontario); *Così fan Tutte* (Atlanta Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Santa Fe Opera, English National Opera); *Turandot* (Orlando Opera); *Tosca* (Opera Ontario, Orlando Opera); The National Opera Studio Showcase (Queen Elizabeth Hall); *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* (Castleward Opera); the "Indoor Version" of *Fidelio* (Bregenzer Festspiele); *Maria Stuarda* (Caledonian Opera); *Lakmé* (Dublin Grand Opera); Finnissey's *Vaudeville* (Warsaw Autumn Festival); *Eine Nacht in Venedig* (Annaberg-Buchholz, Germany); *L'Elisir d'Amore* (Stadttheater Luzern); Balfe's *The Rose of Castile* (Wexford).

Julia Strehle Lynch - Musical Director

Born in Dublin, but raised in Aberdeen, Julia began piano lessons at the age of four. Studying with Denis Matthews and David Parkhouse at the North East Scotland Music School. In 1982 Julia won a scholarship to study piano at the RSAMD in Glasgow with Laurence Glover. Whilst a student at the academy, she won all the available prizes for piano solo, accompaniment and chamber music. Having gained her B.A. and completed a year of postgraduate study, Julia joined the staff of the academy as vocal coach, a post she still holds.

Julia is one of the busiest accompanists in the country, appearing in recital with many distinguished artists. Concerts have taken her all over the world, with recitals in London, Tokyo and Geneva as well as appearances at the Proms, the Edinburgh Festival and Cardiff Singer of the World. She appears as orchestra pianist with the BBC SSO, the RSNO and SCO, and broadcasts and records regularly. She is music assistant to Eberhard Friedrich at the Bayreuther Festspiele in Germany.

Along with Malcolm Martineau and Tom Allen, Julia is proud to be associated with the Samling Foundation, furthering the talents of a new generation of singers.

Creative team

Opera

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For further information about ways to support the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, please contact **Katie McCorkindale**, Development Manager:
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