

**THE GLIMMERGLASS
 FESTIVAL 2020**

July 11–August 25

On the Mainstage

Rodgers / Hammerstein II

The Sound of Music

July 11–August 25

Handel / Rossi

Rinaldo

July 12–August 18

Wagner

Die Feen (The Fairies)

July 16–August 21

Mozart / Da Ponte

Don Giovanni

July 17–August 24



Special Events

Sankaram / Rourke

The Jungle Book

YOUTH OPERA

August 3–18

Mozart

Così?

ADAPTATION

August 4–22

Isabel Leonard

August 7

John Holiday

August 14

Rhiannon Giddens

August 18



Both renewals and new ticket packages (for as few as two performances) available now

All tickets available

January 27, 2020

Box Office: 607-547-2255

www.glimmerglass.org

THE SOUND OF MUSIC, OPENING JULY 11

The 2020 Festival opens with a new production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*. Artistic and General Director Francesca Zambello will direct; Music Director Joseph Colaneri will conduct; and Eric Sean Fogel is co-director and choreographer for this co-production with Houston Grand Opera.

Isabel Leonard (in her Glimmerglass debut) and William Burden (no stranger to the Glimmerglass stage) star as Maria and Captain von Trapp. They will also be Artists in Residence for the 2020 Festival.

The Sound of Music is based on the story of the Trapp Family Singers, a major international musical group from the 1930s to the 1950s. Their heritage lives on through this musical as well as their Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe, Vermont.

Planning for the original production began in the 1950s when Mary Martin secured stage rights to the family's story. She began preparations for a play about the Trapp Family Singers with a text by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse. The thought was to use numbers from the family's musical repertoire and possibly add a few new pieces. Martin, Lindsay, and Crouse approached Rodgers and Hammerstein to prepare these additional numbers, and Rodgers and Hammerstein answered with their own proposal: they offered to prepare all of the music for the show. Martin and her colleagues accepted, and work got underway.

The Sound of Music continued on page 3

DON GIOVANNI, OPENING JULY 17

Following the success of *Le Nozze di Figaro* in Prague in 1786, Mozart accepted a commission to write an opera for the Estates Theater in that city and invited Lorenzo da Ponte, librettist of *Figaro*, to collaborate. The result, *Don Giovanni*, premiered in Prague the following year.

Based on the legend of the seducer Don Juan, *Don Giovanni* is universally recognized as one of the greatest of the world's operas. This will be its fourth production at Glimmerglass, matching in number those of *La bohème*, *La Traviata*, and *Il barbiere di Siviglia*.

Over the course of the opera, Don Giovanni is referred to as a villain, wretch, deceiver, liar, miscreant, and monster. Driven by the need to satisfy his narcissism, no one, man nor woman, may stand in his way to achieve his desires. Giovanni describes his addiction to seduction and women: *You know I need them more than the bread I eat, more than the air I breathe. If a man keeps faith with one, he is cruel to all the others.* Men, in Giovanni's view, exist to serve him or to be removed as obstacles to the pursuit of his conquests.

Not all is drama in *Don Giovanni*, however. Mozart described the work as an opera buffa, one in which the forces of comedy and drama, good and evil exist together. He and da Ponte succeeded in combining attempted seductions, bullying, and murder with high comedy into a seamless whole.

Singing the role of Don Giovanni will be baritone Michael Adams. He was

Don Giovanni continued on page 3

The Guild of Glimmerglass Festival
 P.O. Box 191, Cooperstown, NY 13326
www.glimmerglassguild.org

Officers

President.....Mary Margaret Kuhn
 Vice President.....Laura Tansey Wetzel
 Secretary.....Mary Brodzinsky
 Treasurer.....Joanne Tobey

Committee Chairs

CommunicationsMary Margaret Kuhn
 Education/Community Engagement Kathy Eisele
 Fundraising.....Christine Weiss
 Grounds (ad hoc).....Jean Lyon
 HospitalityCynthia and William Goertemoeller
 Membership Winifred Olsen
 Nominating..... Walter Ashley
 Volunteer Services Rita Emanuel
 Website Committee (ad hoc).....Mary Brodzinsky

Board Members (at large)

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Ernest Adams, Jr. | Rhonda King |
| Martha Duke | Jean Kohler |
| Abby Kreh Gibson | Janet Potter |
| Jane Grastorf | Carol Steigelman |
| Kate Johnson | Janet Vinyard |

Guild Liaison to the Board of Trustees

Mary Margaret Kuhn

Company Representative

Brittany Lesavoy

Trustee Liaison to the Guild

Thomas Simpson

Member of



OVI Liaison

Rita Emanuel

News & Notes is the bimonthly newsletter of
The Guild of Glimmerglass Festival

Editor: Kate Johnson
 652 Glimmerglen Road
 Cooperstown, NY 13326
 Phone: 607-547-7267
 Email: kate.gogf@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to one and all. In this dark time of year it is always good to reflect upon the joys of summer and our Festival experiences. It will not be long before the 50 Young Artists arrive and the campus is filled with sounds of music. Our Board has been working to prepare for the Guild's part in the 2020 season.

In November we sadly accepted the resignation of Frederick Johnson and elected two new members, Jane Grastorf and Janet Vinyard. We are delighted to have them on board. And we are grateful to Laura Tansy Wetzel for accepting the position of Vice President. Laura and Jane are working together on changeover dinners.

In December the Guild threw a holiday party for the Company. Heartfelt appreciation to Bill and Cynthia Goertemoeller for coordinating the party and managing a one day postponement required by Mother Nature. The holiday cheer was enjoyed by all.

The Education/Community Engagement Committee is working on arrangements for Talking Opera 2020. For a preview, be sure to check the Guild's website to read Richard Johnson's 2019 presentation on *Show Boat*. This is an innovative collaboration between board committees; we thank Kathleen Eisele and Mary Brodzinsky.

Want to show support for Glimmerglass's heralded 2019 World Premiere *Blue*? Join us at Washington National Opera to see *Blue* at the Kennedy Center on March 28, 2020, complete with behind the scenes peek with Francesca. Be sure to check your email for details.

We will welcome everyone for the 45th Glimmerglass season with our June 20 Eat and Greet, again spearheaded by Cynthia and Bill Goertemoeller. On July 10 the Guild will host a party celebrating the opening of the Festival; we hope you all will join us.

Carol Steigelman will chair the 2020 Guild Gala on August 4, with Martha Duke chairing the auction committee.

All these efforts need your ideas, talent, and participation. I invite you to call me or any board member to become involved. I enjoy working alongside Guild members, and I am sure it will brighten your days too!

Finally, our thanks to the staff who work so hard all year round to make the Festival grow and flourish.

Everyone stay warm and safe wherever you are!

MARY MARGARET KUHN

PIRATES AT OPERA SARATOGA

The Guild is planning a bus trip on June 29 to Opera Saratoga for a matinee performance of *The Pirates of*

Pirates continued on page 3

The Sound of Music continued from page 1

With the title, *The Sound of Music*, rehearsals began in late 1959, and the new musical opened on Broadway in December 1959. It was well received, especially by audiences, and shared the Tony award for best musical of the year 1959–1960 with *Fiorello*. A road company and a production in London made the show available to larger audiences, and a film version followed in 1965, starring Julie Andrews. The film was a phenomenal success, not only financially but also winning the Academy Award as best film in 1965.

Hammerstein died early in 1960. The song “Edelweiss” from *The Sound of Music* was the last piece the two men wrote together. They left a wonderful legacy of nine musicals for the Broadway stage and a musical for television (*Cinderella*) and for film (*State Fair*). Both these shows later were produced on Broadway.

As a novel add-on, the Festival will present on Monday, August 17, a sing-along performance of *The Sound of Music*, featuring William Burden. Watch for details.

RICHARD JOHNSON

FROM THE FESTIVAL BOARD CHAIRMAN

Happy New Year! and a few updates:

- The Roof!!!! The theatre roof is complete with the exception of some finishing touches which will be made during wardrobe house roof replacement this spring.
- The Lady Juliet Tribute Garden will be installed in the courtyard later in the spring along with the start of courtyard improvements making for a great dining experience.
- As I write, we are building the set for *The Sound of Music* in the GGF shop.
- *The Ghosts of Versailles* sets will be returning shortly, after an amazing and emotional production in Versailles, France in December. To personally witness some of our cast and crew taking bows on the Versailles stage was spectacular. The audience were physically stomping their feet along with lengthy applause with each curtain call.

Don't be left behind: January is a huge month for our box office and ticket packages are on sale now!

ROBERT NELSON

Pirates continued from page 2

Penzance. Trip details have not been finalized but Jean Seroka would very much like to hear from anyone interested. Friends and relatives are welcome to join us. Let Jean know if you prefer to buy tickets we have reserved and provide your own transportation.

For more information, go to www.operasaratoga.org

JEAN SEROKA

607-988-7007

jjwilser3@yahoo.com

Don Giovanni continued from page 1

Gaylord Ravenal in last season's *Show Boat* and has appeared recently in several roles with the Washington National Opera (WNO).

Soprano Raquel Gonzáles will sing Donna Anna. She appeared at Glimmerglass as The First Lady in *The Magic Flute* (2015) and the following season as a radiant Mimi in *La bohème*.

Bass Raymond Aceto will sing Leporello. Recent appearances include roles in *Madama Butterfly* and *The Queen of Spades* at the Metropolitan Opera, and as Mephistopheles in Francesca Zambello's production of *Faust* at WNO.

Soprano Teresa Perrotta returns as Donna Elvira, in her second season with the Festival's Young Artist Program. In December 2019, she sang Marie Antoinette when the Company presented *The Ghosts of Versailles* at the Palace of Versailles.

Bass Tim Bruno, Commendatore, was heard at Glimmerglass as the French General in *Silent Night*. As a member of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program at WNO, he appeared in many roles including the Commendatore.

Don Giovanni will be directed by Brenna Corner. An alumna of the Glimmerglass Festival's Young Artist Program, she directed *Scalia/Ginsburg* (2017) and the Youth Operas *Odyssey* and *Noah's Flood*.

Conductor Lidiya Yankovskaya, currently Music Director of Chicago Opera Theater and Founder and Artistic Director of the Refugee Orchestra Project, will lead the Festival Orchestra. This is her debut season with the Company.

THOMAS SIMPSON

EDUCATION/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In partnership with the Company, the Education/Community Engagement Committee has begun planning for the 2020 Festival season. We will schedule Talking Opera programs on the four mainstage productions and the new youth opera, *The Jungle Book*. Guild member Richard Johnson is preparing a program on *The Sound of Music*. It will be Richard's tenth presentation to a Talking Opera audience! Visit the guild's website to read the text of his talk on *Show Boat* from last season; it will soon be posted there.

We will host **A Day at the Festival** for students on July 23. The event will include the matinee performance of *The Sound of Music*.

KATHLEEN EISELE

GUILD HOSTS STAFF HOLIDAY BUFFET

Oh, the weather outside was frightful, but the company inside delightful!

Due to a winter weather advisory, the annual holiday party for the year-round staff was postponed one day, to Wednesday, December 18. Regardless of the change in busy schedules, two dozen guild members brought delicious appetizers, main dishes, and desserts to host a party in the Woodcock kitchen and conference room.

Happy chatter around the wassail and eggnog station was accentuated by a visit from General and Artistic Director, Francesca Zambello, who came to thank everyone for a great festival season and wish them wonderful holidays and a blessed New Year. She expressed mega thanks to the Guild for all the food events, education endeavors, and other volunteer gifts that they host each year to make the Glimmerglass Festival experience so unique. Many staffers joined her in thanking us for all we do to enrich their lives throughout the year.

Special thanks to the generous, ambitious Guild members who helped to create a nice holiday gathering for our very deserving and dedicated staff.

CYNTHIA AND BILL GOERTEMOELLER

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Guild Board of Directors has scheduled the following meetings for 2020:

Board meetings:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday, January 22 | July–To be determined |
| Wednesday, March 25 | Wednesday, August 26 |
| Wednesday, April 22 | Wednesday, October 28 |
| Wednesday, May 27 | Wednesday, November 18 |
| Wednesday, June 24 | |

Annual Membership Meeting:

Sunday, September 27

If you'd like to attend a board meeting, or have business you'd like to board to take up, please contact Mary Margaret Kuhn ahead of the meeting date for details of time and location.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The following new and renewing members have joined since the November newsletter:

Gemma Hall

Thomas C. Ragan

We're delighted to have you as members of the Guild!

WINIFRED OLSEN

THE GUILD OF Glimmerglass FESTIVAL

News & Notes

P.O. Box 191

Cooperstown, NY 13326

www.glimmerglassguild.org

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 422
Oneonta, NY

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

At a recent Guild board meeting, a wise board member suggested that Guild members might like to get to know the Guild board. We begin this occasional feature with our president, **Mary Margaret Kuhn**.

Year you joined the board: 2005

Where do you live? Cooperstown

Board mentor(s): Susan Drake and Mary Brodzinsky

Why do you serve on the board? Before we even moved to Cooperstown my husband Paul and I traveled from Strafford, Pennsylvania to attend Glimmerglass. My niece Elizabeth Polley worked two summers in the Glimmerglass costume shop while attending the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music.

Favorite opera of the 2019 season: *Blue*

Most anticipated of 2020: *The Sound of Music*

Education: University of Pennsylvania, 1982; Temple University, 1990

Life's work: Educator

Hobbies and other volunteer activities: I love to cook and garden. I volunteer at Bassett Hospital, teach at St. Mary's Church, and I am a Eucharistic Minister and a Diocesan VIRTUS Facilitator.