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THE MAGIC FLUTE



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THE ANN & FRANK BUMSTEAD SEASON

THE MAGIC FLUTE

The best fairy tales, as any storyteller knows, must both entertain and enlighten, and most do so with a wealth of concrete detail over a secure (sometimes hidden) ethical and moral structure. *The Magic Flute* is arguably opera's greatest fairy tale. Composed during the final year of Mozart's life, 1791, the opera was written to entertain the Viennese audience at their most childlike - at the Freihaus Theater in Wieden. This venue was very unlike the rigid and sometimes stuffy Vienna opera royal court. People went to this theater to let their hair down, laugh at high-spirited silliness on stage, ooh and ahh at the special effects, delight at characters vanishing in puffs of smoke, and cower and laugh at mythical beasts and creatures.

Freihaus Theater's proprietor and chief comedian, Emanuel Schikaneder (the opera's first Papageno) proposed a libretto set to a fairy tale by A. J. Liebeskind. Mozart, always in financial hot water, gladly accepted the commission even though he was in the middle of several other projects, including a production of one of his most serious operas, *La Clemenza di Tito*.

So, amidst Mozart's ceaseless activity, which soon proved disastrous to his health, *The Magic Flute* was composed in bits and pieces. Some scholars say this stop-and-start writing style actually shows in the finished script. In fact, the opera was about half-finished when Mozart learned that another Viennese theater had recently produced an opera called *Kaspar, the Bassoonist, or The Magic Zither*, which was based on the exact same story as *The Magic Flute*. In order to make their opera appear different, Mozart and his librettist suddenly turned the second act of *The Magic Flute* into an allegory of Freemasonry, a change that has perplexed audiences ever since.

How important is it to our enjoyment of *The Magic Flute* that we understand all the Freemason symbolism of Act II? Not very much, actually. *The Magic Flute* works on so many different levels that an audience can take it as an intellectual feast for the mind, an emotional delight for the heart, or a winning combination of both. Plot-shifting story aside, the truth is, the major factor that holds *The Magic Flute* together is the magnificent music of Mozart. In this, his final opera, Mozart seems to have saved some of his best tunes for last. From the somber chords that begin the overture to the power and exultation of the Trials by Fire and Water to the comic delight of the Papageno-Papagena duet, this is indeed Mozart at his musical peak. Stricken soon after the first performance, Mozart never lived to see *The Magic Flute* become the worldwide favorite it is today, but in it, he has left a timeless musical gift to children and adults alike.

We invite you to take in Mozart's fairy tale feast in Jackson Hall, April 12 and 13. The dazzling technicolor costumes by Marie Ann Chiment were designed and created expressly for Nashville Opera as part of our 1996 participation in the Tennessee Bicentennial. I can't say enough about this cast of singers who will close our 2023.24 season in grand style.

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CEO & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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THE MAGIC FLUTE

APRIL 12 + 13, 2024
TPAC JACKSON HALL

Music by **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**
Libretto by **Emanuel Schikaneder**
Premiered at Theater auf der Wieden
September 30, 1791

Directed by **John Hoomes**
Conducted by **Dean Williamson**
Featuring the Nashville Opera Orchestra

CAST

TAMINO..... **Joshua Sanders**
PAPAGENO..... **Jesus Vincente Murillo**
PAMINA..... **Jasmine Habersham**
SARASTRO..... **Matthew Anchel**
QUEEN OF THE NIGHT..... **Rainelle Krause**
*Ms. Krause's appearance sponsored by
Ann Marie and Martin McNamara*

FIRST LADY..... **Sabreena Cherrington**
SECOND LADY..... **Sara Crigger**
THIRD LADY..... **Maria De Conzo**
MONOSTATOS..... **Jordan Costa**
PAPAGENA..... **Dee Donasco**
SPEAKER..... **Andrew Payne**
SPIRIT No. 1..... **Emily Apuzzo Hopkins**
SPIRIT No. 2..... **Mary Katherine Stewart**
SPIRIT No. 3..... **Ivy Calvert**
TEMPLE PRIEST..... **Brian Russell**

CREATIVE

Video & Lighting Design..... **Venus Gulbranson**
Scenic Designer..... **Troy Hourie**
Costume Designer **Marie Ann Chiment**
Wig & Makeup Designer.... **Sondra Nottingham**

Scenery designed by Troy Hourie for Sarasota Opera
Scenery constructed by Center Line Studios, Cornwall, NY
Scenic Backdrops painted by Michael Hagen, Inc., South Glens Falls, NY

PRODUCTION

Director of Production..... **Randy Williams**
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Costume Crew..... **Ellen Adalaide**
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Dakota Williams
Chorusmaster..... **Stephen Carey**
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ARTISTS



Stage Director

JOHN HOOMES

Nashville Opera CEO & Artistic Director

1995-Present

Nashville Opera

The Lighthouse, Samson and Delilah, Elmer Gantry, Aida, Don Giovanni, Andrea Chénier, The Fall of the House of Usber, The Girl of the Golden West, The Difficulty of Crossing a Field, The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat, Romulus Hunt, Florencia en el Amazonas, Hydrogen Jukebox, Così fan tutte, Glory Denied, Three Way, María de Buenos Aires, Tales of Hoffmann, The Cradle Will Rock, Beach Party Cinderella, Favorite Son, Rigoletto Noir, Das Rheingold, La Bobème, The Medium, Stuck Elevator, The Pirates of Penzance, Pagliacci, The Man Who Mistook His Wife For a Hat, Florencia en el Amazonas

Recent

Florencia en el Amazonas – New York City Opera and Pensacola Opera

Elmer Gantry, Don Giovanni – Florentine Opera

Three Way – American Opera Projects, Brooklyn Academy of Music

Upcoming

La Traviata - Opera North Carolina

Die Fledermaus - Opera Pensacola

Hometown Mobile, Alabama

Residence Nashville, Tennessee



Conductor

DEAN WILLIAMSON

Nashville Opera Music Director

2015-Present

Nashville Opera

Romeo and Juliet, Samson and Delilah, The Girl of the Golden West, The Difficulty of Crossing a Field, Cinderella, The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat, The Barber of Seville, Romulus Hunt, Florencia en el Amazonas, Hydrogen Jukebox, Three Way, María de Buenos Aires, Madame Butterfly, Beach Party Cinderella, Rigoletto Noir, Das Rheingold, La Bobème, The Medium, Stuck Elevator, The Pirates of Penzance, Pagliacci, The Man Who Mistook His Wife For a Hat, Florencia en el Amazonas

Recent

Florencia en el Amazonas – New York City Opera

La Cenerentola – Arizona Opera

Three Way – American Opera Projects, Brooklyn Academy of Music

Merola Grand Finales Concert – San Francisco Opera

Madama Butterfly – Opera Idaho

Le Nozze di Figaro – Arizona Opera

Il barbiere di Siviglia - Opera Saratoga

Don Giovanni - Inland Opera Northwest

Hometown Taipei, Taiwan

Residence Seattle, Washington



Tamino

JOSHUA SANDERS

Tenor

Nashville Opera

Debut

Recent

Don Ramiro (Cover) in *La Cenerentola* - Lyric Opera Chicago

Roméo in *Roméo et Juliette* - Opera San José

Don Ottavio (Cover) in *Don Giovanni* - Los Angeles Opera

Upcoming

Baker/Carter/Rodriguez in *An American Soldier* - Perelman Performing Arts Center,
co-produced with Boston Lyric Opera



Papageno

JESUS VINCENTE MURILLO

Baritone

Nashville Opera

Debut

Recent

Figaro in *Le Nozze di Figaro* - Portland Opera

The Commentator in *Scalia/Ginsburg* - Anchorage Opera

Flemish Envoy in *Don Carlo* - Metropolitan Opera

Upcoming

Alfio in *Cavalleria Rusticana* - Helena Symphony Orchestra



Pamina

JASMINE HABERSHAM

Soprano

Nashville Opera

Debut

Recent

Frasquita in *Carmen* - Liceu Opera Barcelona

Gilda in *Rigoletto* - Atlanta Opera

Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette* - San Jose Opera

Upcoming

Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* - Central City Opera

Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette* - Minnesota Opera

Ashley in *The Listeners* - Lyric Opera of Chicago



Sarastro

MATTHEW ANCHEL

Bass

Nashville Opera

Debut

Recent

Friar Laurent in *Roméo et Juliette* - Arizona Opera

The Judge Advocate General in *Grounded* - Metropolitan Opera Workshop

Second Armored Man in *The Magic Flute* - Metropolitan Opera

Upcoming

Il Re in *Aida* - Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Bartolo in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* - Minnesota Opera

First Soldier in *Salome* - Houston Symphony Orchestra



Queen of the Night

RAINELLE KRAUSE

Soprano

Appearance sponsored by Ann Marie and Martin McNamara

Nashville Opera

Soloist, La Bella Notte 2023

Recent

The Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* - English National Opera

The Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* - Royal Danish Opera

The Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* - Staatsoper Berlin

Upcoming

Soloist in *Carmina Burana* - Brevard Music Center

The Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* - Atlanta Opera

The Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute* - Danish National Theater



First Lady

SABREENA CHERRINGTON

Soprano

Nashville Opera

Mary Ragland Emerging Artist, 2024

Recent

Mrs. Gleaton in *Susannah* - Marble City Opera

Annina in *La Traviata* - Bay View Music Festival

Rosalinda in *Die Fledermaus* - University of Tennessee Opera Theatre

Upcoming

Soprano Soloist in Summer Recital Series - Venice Presbyterian Church of Cincinnati



Second Lady

SARA CRIGGER

Soprano

Nashville Opera

Mary Ragland Emerging Artist, 2019

Nicklausse in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, 2019

Kate Pinkerton in *Madame Butterfly*, 2019

Recent

Count Barigoule in *Cendrillon* - APSU Opera Theater

The Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* - Opera Louisiana

Addison Moore in *The Copper Queen* - Marble City Opera



Third Lady

MARIA DE CONZO

Mezzo-Soprano

Nashville Opera

Mary Ragland Emerging Artist, 2024

Recent

Gertrude (Cover) in *Roméo et Juliette* - The Glimmerglass Festival

Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd* - Opera Saratoga

Berta (Cover) in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* - Opera Saratoga

Upcoming

Herodias (Cover) in *Salome* - Des Moines Metro Opera



Monostatos

JORDAN COSTA

Tenor

Nashville Opera

Mary Ragland Emerging Artist, 2024

Recent

Count Almaviva in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* - Virginia Opera

Comte Ory in *Le Comte Ory* - Yale Opera

Le Remendado in *Carmen* - The Glimmerglass Festival

Upcoming

Lord Arturo Bucklaw in *Lucia di Lammermoor* - Opera in Williamsburg

Count Almaviva in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* - Opera Theatre of St. Louis



Papagena

DEE DONASCO

Soprano

Nashville Opera

Mrs. Gobeineau in *The Medium*, 2022

Recent

Featured Guest Artist in Holiday Pops - Seattle Symphony Orchestra

Guest Artist in Music City Christmas - Nashville Symphony Orchestra

Featured Guest Artist in A Very Merry Pops - Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

Upcoming

Featured Guest Artist in Signature Stars and Stripes - Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

Featured Guest Artist in Pop Hits and Power Ballads - Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra



Speaker

ANDREW PAYNE

Baritone

Nashville Opera

Mary Ragland Emerging Artist, 2024

Recent

Aeneas in *Dido and Aeneas* - Savannah Voice Festival

Angelotti in *Tosca* - Charlottesville Opera

Baron Douphol in *La Traviata* - Shreveport Opera

Upcoming

Bello in *La fanciulla del West* - Central City Opera

Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance* - Central City Opera



Spirit No. 1

EMILY APUZZO HOPKINS

Soprano

Nashville Opera

Isabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* - 2004, 2015, 2023

Child in *Elmer Gantry* - 2007

First Spirit in *The Magic Flute* - 2013

Recent

Isabel in *The Pirates of Penzance* - Nashville Opera

Featured performer - Nashville Opera on Wheels



Spirit No. 2

MARY KATHERINE STEWART

Soprano

Nashville Opera

Chorus - *Florencia en el Amazonas*, 2024

Recent

Woman No. 2 in *Ruth* - Belmont University Opera



Spirit No. 3

IVY CALVERT

Soprano

Nashville Opera

Debut

Recent

Countess Ceprano / The Page (Cover) in *Rigoletto* - Atlanta Opera

Monica in *The Medium* - Amarillo Opera

Upcoming

Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* Studio Tour - Atlanta Opera



The Temple Priest

BRIAN RUSSELL

Nashville Opera

Mr. Williamson / Magistrate in *The Difficulty of Crossing a Field* - 2012

Ivan / Frosch in *Die Fledermaus* - 2016

Dr. Specialist in *The Cradle Will Rock* - 2019

Narrator in *Cinderella* - 2021

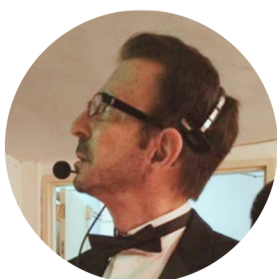
Recent

Jacob Marley in *A Christmas Carol* - Nashville Repertory Theatre

Verges/Friar Frances in *Much Ado About Nothing* - Nashville Shakespeare Festival

Launce in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* - Conasauga Shakespeare Coalition

PRODUCTION



Stage Manager

JOE GLADSTONE

Nashville Opera

Florencia en el Amazonas, 2024

Pagliacci, 2023

The Pirates of Penzance, 2023

The Medium, 2022

Das Rheingold, 2022

Recent

La Traviata - North Carolina Opera

La Cenerentola - Opera Maine

The Medium and *Savitri* - First Coast Opera

Upcoming

Die Fledermaus - Pensacola Opera

Aida - Opera Maine



Scenic Designer

TROY HOURIE

Nashville Opera

The Magic Flute (2013)

Recent

Odditorio | A Performance Installation - FIAMS Puppetry Festival and Eil Marionetta, Porto, Portugal

Positive/Negative Liberty - Performance Arcade, New Zealand

Fall of the House of Usher - Mannes School of Music, NYC

Upcoming

Opera en 3 Legendes - Musique 3 Femmes, Montreal



Lighting and Video Designer

VENUS GULBRANSON

Nashville Opera

Debut

Recent

Vietgone - Oklahoma Repertory Theater

My Mama and the Full-Scale Invasion - The Wilma Theater

The Dragon King's Daughter - The Kennedy Center

Upcoming

Three Works by Benjamin Millepied + Nico Muhly - Philharmonie de Paris

Choice - McCarter Theatre

10,000 Dreams: A Celebration of Asian Choreography - Kennedy Center



Costume Coordinator

PAM LISENBY

Nashville Opera

Susannah, The Pearl Fishers, Salome, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Hansel and Gretel, The Difficulty of Crossing a Field, The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat (2013), Romulus Hunt, Hydrogren Jukebox, Maria de Buenos Aires.

Recent

Taylor Swift Eras Tour (2023), Brandy Clark - Americana Awards (2023), Brenda Lee & Trisha Yearwood - ABC Opry

Christmas Special (2023), Ken Marlowe - People's Choice Country Music Awards (2023), High Valley - Canadian

Country Music Awards (2023), Meghan Patrick - Canadian Country Music Awards (2023), Parker McCollum -

ACM Awards (2023), David Lee Murphy - Songwriters' Honors Awards (2023), Maren Morris - CMA Awards (2022),

Carolyn Dawn Johnson - Ryman (2022), Brett Eldridge "Songs About You" Album Cover (2022), Luke Combs' Middle

of Somewhere Tour (2022)



Wig & Makeup Designer

SONDRA NOTTINGHAM

Nashville Opera

La Bobème, Florencia en el Amazonas, Salome, Elmer Gantry, Il Trovatore, The Student Prince, The Fall of the House of Usher, Rigoletto, The Girl of the Golden West, Madama Butterfly, The Difficulty of Crossing a Field, The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat, Romulus Hunt, Glory Denied, Tales of Hoffmann, The Cradle Will Rock, Madama Butterfly, Pepito, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Turn of the Screw, Beach Party Cinderella, One Vote Won, Favorite Son, Rigoletto Noir, Das Rheingold, La Bobème, The Medium, Stuck Elevator, The Pirates of Penzance, Pagliacci, The Pearl Fishers, Salome, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Hansel and Gretel, The Difficulty of Crossing a Field, The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat (2013), Romulus Hunt, Hydrogren Jukebox, Maria de Buenos Aires.

Recent

Abduction from the Seraglio, Ariadne auf Naxos - St. Petersburg Opera

Das Rheingold, La Traviata - North Carolina Opera

Turandot, Dead Man Walking - Shreveport Opera

Witches of Venice, Il Postino, Figaro, The Long Walk - Opera Saratoga

Carmen, Un Ballo in Maschera - Opera Tampa

Three Way - American Opera Projects, Brooklyn Academy of Music

NASHVILLE OPERA ORCHESTRA

Dean Williamson, Conductor
Anne Dickson Rogers, Contractor

FIRST VIOLIN

Christina McGann, CM
George Meyer
Carolyn Wann Bailey
Maria Romero Ramos
Deidre Fominaya Bacco
Esther McMahan

SECOND VIOLIN

Zoya Leybin
Allison Gooding Hoffman
Mia Hagarty
Emily Hanna Crane
Melissa Bull
Chuck Callahan

VIOLA

Razvan Berindean
Cristina Micci-Barreca
Michael Holub
Kristin Wilkinson

CELLO

Sari Reist
Meghan Berindean
Kaitlyn Vest

BASS

Craig E. Nelson
Quentin Flowers

FLUTE & PICCOLO

Deanna Little
Kristen Holritz

OBOE

Jared Hauser
Michael Adduci

CLARINET

Todd Waldecker
Mark J. Cramer

BASSOON

James Lotz
Laura A. Hauser

FRENCH HORN

Jennifer Kummer
Harry F. Ditzel

TRUMPET

Joel Treybig
Jeff Bailey

TROMBONE

David L. Loucky
Jacob Marlow
Evan Clifton

TIMPANI

Ron Sorbo

CELESTA

Steve Kummer

NASHVILLE OPERA CHORUS

Stephen Carey, Chorusmaster

SOPRANO

Ivory Bodnar
Deborah Gil
Emily Packard
Claire Paschal
Cassandra Pinataro
Krista Adams Santilli

MEZZO SOPRANO

Sarah Antell
Mara Bloomfield
Jada Duff
Robin Hutton
Jessica Taylor

TENOR

Alex Baldwin
Vincent Davis
Andrew Hutton
Matthew Roberts
Kevin Salter
Matthew Villar

BASS

Walker Barnett
Billy Dodson
Mark Filosa
Ben Kahan
Warren Quandt
Blake Ryan

SUPERNUMERARIES

Luciana Bull Di Gaetano
Liliana Bull Di Gaetano
Avery Hoffman
Rowan Hopkins

Claire Parker
Jonathan Paschal
Abigail Louise Taylor
Quintin Arthur Thompson

Vivienne Marie Thompson
Genevieve Warren-DeHoff
Persephone Warren-DeHoff