

THE
SANTA FE
OPERA



SANTA FE OPERA GUILD
THE GUILDS OF THE SANTA FE OPERA, INC

OPERAGRAM

June 2021
Volume 15, Number 9

HELP FUND OPERA GUILD PROGRAMS

FOUR SCORES IN 2021: VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER

AUCTION, JUNE 12, 8:00AM-JUNE 17, 10:00PM MDT

PERFORMANCE: MAESTRO JOE ILLICK, JUNE 17, 5:00PM MDT

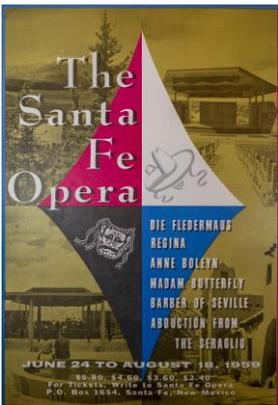
VIRTUAL FORMAT

\$20.00 PER DEVICE INCLUDES PERFORMANCE & SILENT AUCTION

Four Scores in 2021, the virtual fundraiser on behalf of the Guilds of the Santa Fe Opera, is about to begin and you can **preview** our auction items from now until the official opening on **June 12 at 8AM!** Due to COVID-19 restrictions this exciting event replaces the annual Opening Night Dinner, the primary fundraiser for the not-for-profit corporation that is known as “Guilds, Inc.” There are over 90 items to browse, including art, photography, dining experiences, and travel packages. For opera enthusiasts, there are a variety of indulgences, including

unique pieces from the Santa Fe Opera stage, collectible posters, and opportunities to attend Met Opera performances. The auction officially begins on **Saturday, June 12 at 8AM and ends on Thursday, June 17 at 10PM.**

The perfect ending to our week-long event is a virtuoso performance by one of the Guilds’ dear friends and supporters, Maestro Joe Illick on **June 17 at 5PM MDT.** He will perform virtually from The Lensic Performing Arts Center and will guide the audience through highlights of each of this summer’s four operas: Mozart’s, *The Marriage of Figaro*, Corigliano’s, *The Lord of Cries*, Tchaikovsky’s, *Eugene Onegin*, and Britten’s, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Guild members have become accustomed over the years to hearing his insights on opera while he plays musical excerpts...and occasionally sings...captivating his audience with his endearing style. **Maestro Illick’s virtual performance begins at 5:00PM MDT on June 17.** Tickets can be purchased for **\$20 per device** and will provide access to both Maestro Illick’s performance and the auction. To register, purchase tickets and begin your preview of the silent auction, click [here](#). Go to Browse Items to find that perfect item or experience!



1959, The Santa Fe Opera’s first year

About the Guilds of the Santa Fe Opera: The Guilds of the Santa Fe Opera, Inc. have supported the Santa Fe Opera since 1963. Each year Guild volunteers provide time, energy, and enthusiasm by offering educational and social activities designed to demystify opera, build audiences, and engage youth in five locations – Albuquerque, Española Valley, Los Alamos, Santa Fe, and Taos. In collaboration with the opera, our volunteers support programs such as Youth Nights at the Opera, Preview Dinners, and free behind-the-scenes tours every Saturday during the opera’s Festival Season.



LET'S GO SHOPPING!

After a year of being cooped up at home are you ready to travel, dine out, buy art and jewelry? If so, go to Guilds Inc. auction site and start choosing your guilty pleasure. You deserve a treat, and its all for a good cause. There is not enough space in the *Operagram* to preview all the fabulous items up for auction. **To register, purchase tickets, and preview the silent auction, click [here](#).**

TRAVEL



Metropolitan Opera Packages

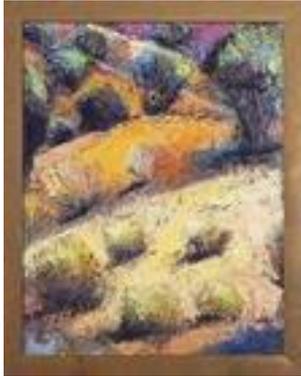


The Romance of Tuscany



Tropical Paradise

ART



Original Paintings



Costume Drawings



Photography of Santa Fe Opera Productions by Norman Doggett



Suitcase from *Candide*



Toy Horse from *La bohème*

FINE DINING



Sassella



Sazon



La Fonda

SHAKESPEARE: READING OUT-LOUD, TOGETHER

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

THREE READINGS: MONDAY, JULY 12,
WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, AND FRIDAY, JULY 16

MEETING TIME: 3:00PM-5:00PM MDT

CHECK-IN: 2:50PM MDT

FACILITATOR: ROBIN WILLIAMS, PHD

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING FORMAT

COMPLIMENTARY



Robin Williams, PhD

The final opera this season is *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, by composer Benjamin Britten, based on Shakespeare's play. In preparation for the opera, the Guild invited Dr. Robin Williams, esteemed Shakespeare educator, to bring a fresh approach to one of Shakespeare's most fanciful plays. She believes that "reading the plays out loud and in community is a delightful and time-honored way to become familiar with and develop a personal relationship with the Shakespearean works."

Robin has generously proposed **three, two-hour Zoom sessions** that will allow participants to choose and read character parts from the play. She will facilitate the three sessions and emphatically states: "No experience is necessary! Volunteers will choose their own parts. No one is *required* to read. The discussions are great, whether you read or not. We will stop often to clarify language and issues. Any edition of the play can be used."

There are three sessions, however, do not worry if your schedule does not permit you to attend all three meetings. Come as often as you please and be ready to have a lot of fun. Register [here](#) to sign up for the Shakespeare reading series. One sign-up covers all three sessions.

Robin is an internationally recognized Shakespeare scholar who earned an MA in Shakespeare Authorship Studies and a PhD in the history and future of reading Shakespeare out loud in community from Brunel University London, UK. She is director of [iReadShakespeare.org](#), which publishes Readers' Editions of Shakespeare's plays specifically designed and edited for reading groups. She is founder of the International Shakespeare Center Santa Fe. She also teaches Shakespeare and leads the Shakespeare Close Readers reading and discussion groups about individual plays.

DAVID LOMELI HAS ARRIVED!

David Lomeli has begun his tenure as Chief Artistic Officer. Mr. Lomeli will be responsible for the artistic operations of the company including casting. This newly created position combines key aspects of two current positions, that of outgoing Artistic Director Alexander Neef and recently retired Director of Artistic Administration Brad Woolbright. Mr. Lomeli comes to Santa Fe from The Dallas Opera, where he will continue in the role of Artistic Consultant. Lomeli has served The Dallas Opera in various capacities since 2014, most recently as the Director of Artistic Administration. Before joining The Dallas Opera, Mr. Lomeli performed as a world-renowned tenor with many leading companies including the Santa Fe Opera, where he made his company debut in the role of Rodolfo in Paul Curran's production of Puccini's *La bohème* in 2011. In addition to his musical talent, Mr. Lomeli brings with him degrees in International Marketing and Computer Science, which aided his development of new social media programming strategies through The Dallas Opera's TDO Network, a social media channel that attained 70 million unique views in 2020.



David Lomeli

VIRTUAL VIVACE BOOK CLUB

VIRTUAL VIVACE BOOK CLUB

MONDAY, JULY 19, 2021 6:00PM-7:30PM MDT

VIRTUAL CHECK-IN, 5:50PM MDT

GUEST FACILITATOR: ROBIN WILLIAMS, PhD

ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING FORMAT

COMPLIMENTARY

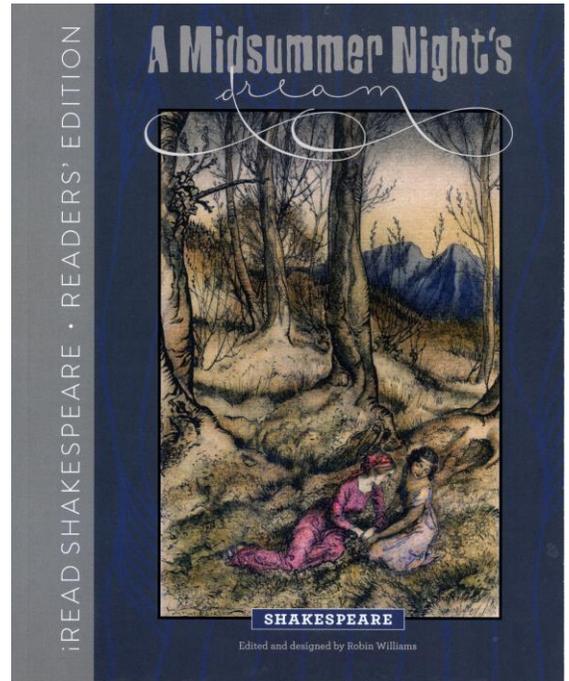
On the surface, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* can be a delightful romp with fairies and love and marriages. A closer reading, however, shows a father who wants to murder his daughter, a terrifying night in a dark forest with inhuman (and inhumane) creatures who pull the wings off bats and rip the legs off bees, the marriage of a serial rapist with a woman he has conquered, and more. How do both of these layers exist in the same play?

Dr. Robin Williams spent twenty-five years writing computer books, then went to London to formalize her lengthy study of Shakespeare with an MA and a PhD in Shakespeare. As with computers, her focus is on people who feel unfamiliar in the arena. Reading the plays out loud and in community is a delightful and time-honored way to become familiar with and develop a personal relationship with the Shakespearean works.

Robin has graciously assembled a list of questions that will help you prepare for the discussion of the play. If you are planning to attend the book club and would like a copy of the questions, email robin@iReadShakespeare.org.

You may use any copy of the play you choose for **both the readings and Vivace**. The edition of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* edited by Dr. Robin Williams is available to order from Collected Books Works by calling the store at (505) 988-4226 on Monday through Friday 10:00AM – 4:00PM, Saturday 10:00AM – Noon, or by ordering online at collectedworksbookstore.com. Books can be picked up curbside during business hours or shipped anywhere in the USA. It is highly recommended that you order this title as soon as possible so you have it for the Zoom readings.

To register for the Virtual Vivace Book Club meeting on Monday, July 19, click [here](#) to provide your email address. We will send a link the morning of July 19. If you have questions, please email educationvp@santafeoperaguildd.org.



ACHIEVING THE AMERICAN DREAM



We are pleased to announce that a 2021 SFO Singing Apprentice, Duke Kim, was one of the five winners of the Metropolitan Opera Eric and Dominique Laffont Competition (formerly known as National Council Auditions). The event was hosted by Ryan Speedo Green.

For the competition, Duke, a tenor, sang Tamino's aria "dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schon" from Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. Always up for a challenge, his second aria was "ah! mes ami" from Donizetti's *La Fille du Régiment*. One critic remarked, he "gleefully" and successfully, sang NINE high C's in the challenging aria. Bravo!

Duke was profiled in the April, 2021 *Operagram*. He is returning to Santa Fe in June, having been an apprentice in 2019. He will sing the role of Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and perform in the chorus for *The Lord of Cries*.

Duke is from Seoul, South Korea and lived in Germany before moving with his family to Irvine, California. In his gracious acceptance speech upon receiving the Dominique Laffont Award, Duke mentioned that he has been in the United States for 15 years, and that the award signified a step towards achieving his American dream. From what we have witnessed, Duke, you have already achieved the dream through hard work, determination, humility, a positive attitude, and a stunning voice. Congratulations! See you this summer in Santa Fe. To reach Duke's website, click [here](#).

OPERA REDUX

We have great news for anyone who missed any of the wonderful talks focused on the four operas being performed during the Santa Fe Opera's Festival this summer. Our members enjoyed a plethora of in-depth discussions about the source material for the operas, the composers, and the operas. Listed below are links to the various programs and the dates they will continue to be available.

Opera Virtually Unveiled: recordings of the four-part series with Desirée Mays will be available through August, 2021 and may be accessed [here](#).

Consider the Source: Conversations, moderated by Dr. Jennifer Rhodes, and **Opera InSight**, presented by Dr. Don Fineberg are both available on the Santa Fe Opera YouTube Channel. Click [here](#) to access all prior episodes of these two wonderful programs.

SANTA FE OPERA SEASON SEMINAR

Join us for a guided journey into masterworks of the operatic tradition presented with unmatched artistic excellence. The Santa Fe Opera offers two separate weekly seminars, with lectures and discussions centered on our 2021 Season. Participants will learn about and discuss the season's four operas, including their composers, plots, musical characteristics, and interpretations. Hosted by Dr. Jennifer Rhodes, the seminars will be held online and are designed for those new to opera as well as frequent opera patrons. The Seminars are limited to 12 participants per session. Packages can be purchased that include the seminar lectures only, or those that include opera tickets. For more information, click [here](#).

JUNE MEMBERS: ITS TIME TO RENEW

When your renewal comes due, you will receive an email alert. Renew by clicking **RENEW NOW!** We accept four major credit cards and PayPal, or mail a check to The Santa Fe Opera Guild, Membership, P.O. Box 2371, Santa Fe, NM, 87504 -2371. Send membership questions via email to Leslie Veditz at VPMembership@santafeoperaguild.org, or telephone her at (888)666-3430 ext. 502. The Membership Committee will send your membership tax receipts and membership cards to you by email.

Those of you without email will continue to receive these communications by US mail. If you do not have a printer at home or if you still prefer a hardcopy tax letter and membership card, please let us know and we will mail them to you.

DIVERSIONS

As local venues transition from virtual to in-person events, please be sure to check their websites frequently.

Wagner Society of Santa Fe will present "**For the Love of Opera**" **Concert II**, June 25th and 26th, at the club at Quail Run. The program will feature Harry Bicket, Joshua Dennis, Felix Fan, and Robert Tweten performing music composed by Verdi and Wagner. Doors open at 6pm and the concert will run from 6:30 to approximately 7:15. The event on June 25th will be indoors whereas concert-goers will be outside on the 26th. Seating will be limited, **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**, and COVID-19 precautions will be in place. Donations are suggested for both events. To learn when the concert registration opens, join the Wagner Society of Santa Fe's mailing list, by contacting WagnerSocietyofSantaFe@gmail.com.

Santa Fe Pro Musica: For the 2021-22 season, Pro Musica is offering a variety of subscription packages, featuring three distinct concert series, in three historic Santa Fe venues-the 1873 Gothic-style Loretto Chapel, the 1917 Pueblo Revival-style St. Francis Auditorium, and the 1930s Moorish-inspired Lensic Performing Arts Center. Click [here](#) for dates, venue seating charts, and subscription options. For subscriptions and single tickets contact the Pro Musica Box Office at **505.988.4640 x 1000**.

The Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra presents the Spring Virtual Concert Series Season Finale, **Bach on Stage, on Sunday, June 20, 2021 at 4:00PM at The Lensic Performing Arts Center**. The finale features a chamber orchestra presentation of works by masters Bach, Handel, Tchaikovsky, Philip Glass, and more. The cost is \$20.00. **This concert will premiere Sunday, June 20 at 4 pm but will be available to view through July 20, 2021. For more information, click [here](#).**

The next Russian/Eastern European Opera film screening will take place on **Wednesday, June 9, at 1 pm** in the Woman's Club on Old Pecos Road. Einojuhani Rautavaara's wonderful final opera from 2003, *Rasputin*, treats the final days and assassination of the Russian holy man whose flagrant behavior helped to bring down the Russian Royal family. The exceptional cast features the great Finnish bass Matti Salminen (for whom the opera was written) as the Mad Monk and Jorma

Hynninen as the ill-fated Tsar Nicholas II. Sung in Finnish with English subtitles. A contribution of \$5.00 per person. is suggested. Additional information may be obtained by sending an email to Bill Derbyshire at wwdcroat@aol.com

New Mexico Performing Arts Society presents the 2021 Season Finale Opera Concert on **Sunday, June 27, 2021 at 5:30 PM**, featuring the Music of Bellini, Bizet, Puccini, Rossini, Thomas, R. Strauss, Verdi and Zeller. Live streamed from St. Michael and All Angels Church in Albuquerque, NM. **Tickets: \$25 per household**. For more information, click [here](#).

Santa Fe Desert Chorale is thrilled to announce that their professional choral artists will be returning to Santa Fe this July for in-person **2021 Summer Festival!** **Tickets will be available to the general public beginning June 1, 2021**. Click [here](#) to learn more about their programs, and [here](#) to learn more about their ticketing process for this summer.

The Met: The company has announced its 2021-2022 season, when opera will return live to the stage. To read a list of the operas, click [here](#). **However, from May 19 to June 10, 2021 there are a limited number of performances on stage of *Ahknaten*** by Philip Glass and starring **[Anthony Roth Costanzo](#)**. For additional information about these performances, please click [here](#).

The Met's Nightly Opera Streams will continue while the Met's stage is dark. To access the weekly schedules, [click here](#).

The Met Podcasts: While you are browsing the Met's website, check out their podcast, *Aria Code*, a collaboration with WQXR and WNYC studios. The series features opera notables discussing interesting aspects of music and opera productions. Click [here](#) to listen to Aria Code podcasts on The Met's website. Click [here](#) to listen to the series at AriaCode.org.

Opera Wire offers a list of opera houses around the world streaming free performances. Click [here](#).

Idagio continues *Fridays with Fred Plotkin* and *Thomas Hampson's World of Songs*. Click [here](#).

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

The *Operagram* would not be possible without the dedicated members who contribute articles each month. We are grateful for their support. This month's list of contributors are as follows:

Bernadette Snider: *Operagram* Editor

Shelly Brock/ Lucinda Surber/Eileen Woodbury: *Guilds of the Santa Fe Opera Fundraiser*

Rebecca Jensen: *News from the Santa Fe Opera*

Bernadette Snider/Robin Williams: Shakespeare Immersion, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Preview July Vivace

Lucinda Surber: Web support, Guilds, Inc.

Leslie Veditz: All membership-related articles (recurring features)

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