UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 23, 2014 at 3 p.m.
VCU GUITAR ENSEMBLE & COMMUNITY GUITAR ENSEMBLE
Directed by John Patykula. Admission is free.

Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 8 p.m.
JAZZ ORCHESTRA II
Directed by Bryan Hooten. Tickets are $7 advance and $10 at the door.

Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.
COMMONWEALTH SINGERS AND PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
The program includes the newly commissioned “Sky Vault” by VCU alumna Jonathan Kolm, which is a setting of William Wordsworth’s poem “Night Piece;” as well as “Balleilakka” by A H Rahman sung in Tamil with percussion ensemble. Directed by Rebecca Tyree and Justin Alexander. Tickets are $7 advance and $10 at the door.

Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.
CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY, STRING CHAMBER ENSEMBLE and VOCAL CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
Directed by Rebecca Tyree and Susanna Klein. Choral Arts Society will perform Mozart’s Missa Brevis in D Major and a special version of Candide, featuring guest soloists and actors, text by Voltaire, and music by Leonard Bernstein. Tickets are $7 advance and $10 at the door.

Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.
VCU SYMPHONY WITH THE WOMEN’S CHORUS
Directed by Daniel Myssyk and Erin Freeman. Women’s Chorus will be performing works inspired by the spheres, including Holst’s Hymns from the Rig Veda and Mark Gresham’s The Young Galileo, with text by Ray Bradbury. The Orchestra will perform Holst’s The Planets. Tickets are $7 in advance and $10 at the door.

Friday, December 5, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.
HOLIDAY GALA
Join us for our annual holiday gala! This family event benefits the Hospital Hospitality House, and features numerous VCU Music ensembles, faculty and students. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for children under 12.

For more information and additional listings, visit arts.vcu.edu/music.
To purchase tickets online, visit vcumusic.showclix.com.
Box Office: (804) 828-6776 | musicctlx@vcu.edu
VCU OPERA DOES THE ‘D’ LIST
Saturday, November 22, 2014 | 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 23, 2014 | 4 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

Don Giovanni.......................... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
Act II recitatives, sextet, and arias (sung in Italian)

Masetto: Malcolm Jones
Donna Elvira: Zarah Brock
Don Ottavio: Aaron Jones
Zerlina: Erika Straus
Donna Anna: Victoria Nochisaki-Kinney
Leporello: Ryan Blevins

Die Fledermaus.......................... Johann Strauss II (1825-1899)
Act I trio (sung in English)

Rosalinde: Emma-Claire Polich
Adele: Brenna Miller
Gabriel von Eisenstein: Collier Phillips

Don Giovanni.......................... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Act I, recitative and duet (sung in Italian)

Don Giovanni: Alex Harper
Zerlina: Margaret Taylor*

Regina................................. Marc Blitzstein (1905-1964)
“The Rain Quartet” (sung in English)

Birdie: India Reynolds
Addie: Alden Bean
Alexandra: Rachel Pietri
Horace: Evan Coldiron

Carmen................................. Georges Bizet (1838-1875)
“The Card Trio” Act II (sung in French)

Frasquita: Tess Ottinger
Mercedes: Emily Powers
Carmen: Margaret Mayes

Street Scene.......................... Kurt Weill (1900-1950)
“The Ice Cream Sextet” Act I (sung in English)

Lippo: Fred Newhouse
Mrs. Fiorentino: Paige Reisenfeld
George Jones: Alex Harper
Mrs. Olsen: Alden Bean
Mrs. Fiorentino: Paige Reisenfeld
Carl Olsen: Evan Coldiron
Mrs. Olsen: Alden Bean
Henry Davis: Collier Phillips

Mr. & Mrs. Charles B. Arrington, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Leonard
Ms. Lilibeth B. Ayucd
Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Leonard
Mrs. Francile Bivens
Dr. Taylor Barnett & Ms. Tiffanie Chan
Mrs. Mahone & Ms. Alice Talmadge
Ms. Melissa W. Marion
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Marrs
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Williams
Mr. James Mahone
Ms. Eunice C. Talmadge
Ms. Melissa W. Marion
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Marrs

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald P. McCarthy
Dr. Gita Massey
Ms. Sue Ann Messmer
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald P. McCarthy
Mr. & Mrs. John H. McGrath
Mr. Jacob Mertz
Ms. LaVerne P. Moffat
Mr. Daniel Myssyk
Mr. Perry Nelson
Mr. Leslie D. Owen
Ms. Carol R. Parke
Dr. & Mrs. Dean A. Permelee
Ms. Erin Patterson
Mr. John T. Patyukla
Mr. Edson Pederson
& Sharon Larkins-Pederson
Mr. & Mrs. Jaime Pelissier
Mr. & Mrs. Richard R. Ranney
Ms. Wendy Rosen
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher L. Rumsey
Ms. Nancy Saylor
Mr. & Mrs. Philip J. Schwarz
Ms. Marilyn J. Scott
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur J. Seidenberg
Ms. Cornelia Serota
Ms. Arline M. Shafer
Mr. L. Anderson Sheetz, Jr.
Mr. Michael C. Simpson
Ms. Theresa Ann Singleton
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Smith
Ms. Dorothy Smith
Mrs. Jane S. Smith
Mr. Duane Snead
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hill
Mr. Vernon W. Snipes
Mr. & Mrs. George F. Jacob, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Sajka
Dr. & Mrs. Robert F. Testin
Ms. Matthew Spady
Mrs. Anne L. J. Stoutamire
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Lee Waller
Mr. & Mrs. Kathleen Waterman
Mr. & Mrs. Richard W. Whitt
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Williams
Mrs. Barbara H. Kamps
Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Kassalow
Mr. & Mrs. James Mahone
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Eunice C. Talmadge
Ms. Linda S. Johnson
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas C. Jennings
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Williams
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Mrs. Barbara H. Kamps
Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Winifred H. Keller
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Williams
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Mr. & Mrs. Donald C. Williams

Thank You!

VCU Music gratefully recognizes these gracious donors
for their financial gifts and continued support.
Current student soprano ZARAH BROCK returned for her third season at the late Lorin Maazel’s Castleton Festival where she covered the role of Zerlina in Mozart’s *Don Giovanni* and performed opera and Broadway scenes.

CIARA HILLIARD, current student, participated in the Harrower Opera Institute in Atlanta last summer and also attended FAVA’s opera program in Salzburg, Austria, where she sang the role of Madame Silberklang in Mozart’s *The Impresario*.

Recent graduate CASSIE MACHAMER spent last summer in Canada at Opera on the Avalon, where she covered Hippolyta in Britten’s Midsummer Night’s Dream and sang in the chorus for Puccini’s *La Bohème*. In early November, she appeared with Capitol Opera in their production of *Sleepy Hollow*, and she will also sing in the chorus for Virginia Opera’s upcoming production of *HMS Pinafore*.

**WE INVITE YOUR SUPPORT!**

If you have an interest in assisting VCU Opera with student scholarship funding, sponsoring a guest artist for masterclasses and workshops, or helping with costuming or scenic production, please consider making a gift to VCU Opera! Please contact Linda Johnston, Administrative Director for the Department of Music, at (804) 827-4541 or by email at ljohnst@vcu.edu.

- Gilbert & Sullivan’s *The Mikado*.................. Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)  
  "Three Little Maids" Act I Trio
- Yum-Yum: **Abbie Haynes**  
  Peep-Bo: **Sarah Denison**  
  Pitti-Sing: **Emily Powers**

*Cosi fan tutte* ........................................... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Act I Finale (sung in English)

Fiordiligi: **Jennifer Piazza-Pick**, Guest Artist replacement  
Dorabella-Margaret Mayes  
Despina/Doctor-Ciara Hilliard  
Ferrando-Devonte Saunders  
Guglielmo-Alex Harper  
Don Alfonso-Forrest Glass

**PRODUCTION CREDITS**

Melanie Kohn Day, Artistic Director, Production Manager, Accompanist  
Dr. Kenneth Wood, Co-Director/Stage Director and Narrator  
Curt Blankenship, Lighting and Projections Designer  
Roland Karnatz, Technical Director/Props Construction  
*Margaret Taylor, Stage Manager and Guest Artist*

Aaron Frisbie, Assistant Stage Manager

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Dr. Darryl Harper; Curt Blankenship; Roland Karnatz; Margaret Taylor;  
Jennifer Piazza-Pick; Linda Johnston; Emerson & Kathy Hughes;  
Dr. Velimir Luketic; Dr. Sonia Vlahcevic; Perry Nelson of St. Louis, MO;  
Amy Sheets; Providence Road United Methodist Church; Dr. Sandie Goldie; and Ron Keller of Theatre VCU
ABOUT VCU OPERA

Founded in 1950 by L. Wayne Batty, VCU Opera has been directed by Melanie Kohn Day since 1983. In 2008, Dr. Ken Wood joined the VCU voice faculty and also assumed the position of Stage Director.

VCU Opera has the longest-running tradition of annual full-scale productions in the state of Virginia. We produce a fully-staged gala of opera scenes and arias in the fall and in the spring, VCU Opera presents a full-scale production with scenery and costumes in collaboration with the VCU Symphony.

VCU Opera is proud of its longterm relationship with Virginia Opera, which includes regular field trips, workshops and master classes with staff and artists.

With a significant emphasis on the holistic training of the complete “singer-actor,” VCU Opera has prepared numerous students who have been awarded significant scholarships to The Manhattan School of Music; Peabody Conservatory; Eastman School of Music; New England Conservatory; The Curtis Institute of Music; University of Maryland; Boston University; Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and others. VCU Opera has an impressive history of alumni career success stories! Our alumni are singing in opera houses all over the world!

RECENT NEWS FROM VCU OPERA

PRIZES: In 2011, VCU Opera was awarded 2nd place by the National Opera Association (NOA) for our production of Hansel & Gretel. In 2012, VCU Opera won NOA’s 1st place for our production of The Old Maid and the Thief, as well as 3rd place for our Carmen quintet scene.

Just this month, we were notified that our 2014 Opera Scenes submission has advanced to the finals for 2015. VCU Opera has once again been invited to present a scene for the finals competition at the national convention of The National Opera Association in January 2015!

VCU OPERA once again sponsors an impressive roster of masterclass/guest artist events for fall 2014. In August, we hosted renowned Richmond actress/choreographer Robin Arthur for a workshop in Movement for Singing Actors. In December, we will host Professor Emeritus Gary Hopper of Theatre VCU for a seminar in “Audition Monologues for Actors.” Shortly after, we will sponsor pedagogue and countertenor Michael Harper (from London!), who will present a voice masterclass and a series of private coachings. Finally, we will host Theatre VCU Professor Emeritus Elizabeth Hopper for a workshop on “Leading Lady/Leading Man Stage Makeup.”

VANESSA NAGHDI ('12) currently completing her graduate studies at Arizona State University, recently sang the lead role of Belinda in ASU's production of Purcell's Dido and Aeneas. She was also cast as Guadalena in Offenbach's La Périchole for ASU Opera. With regional company Arizona Opera, she recently covered the roles of Musetta in La Bohème and Norina in Don Pasquale.

COLBY MULLEN ('14) will be singing the tenor solos for Bach's Magnificat with the Williamsburg Choral Guild and will also perform the Magnificat for York River Symphony Orchestra. Having served as an arts administration intern in New York City's Louis Armstrong Museum, Colby is now under consideration to be a Fulbright Student Scholar to study Arts Management, Policy & Practice in the United Kingdom.

JESSICA HARIAK graduated in May from The New England Conservatory of Music where she sang Arnalta in last spring's production of Monteverdi's L'incoronazione di Poppea and also the alto solos in Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the NEC Philharmonia. She was then invited to be a Gerdine Young Artist for The Opera Theatre of St. Louis this past summer.

Current student ALEX HARPER was one of 12 singers chosen internationally this past summer to participate in the Atlantic Music Festival in Maine. While there, he performed multiple opera scenes, aria galas, and song recitals.

Recent graduate JOHN TYNDALL debuted with Bronx Opera as Baron Duphol in Verdi's La Traviata in May 2014. In addition to singing professionally with Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in midtown Manhattan, he recently performed at Carnegie Hall with Musica Sacra and the St. Luke's Orchestra in November 2014.

May graduate MEGAN ELLENBERGER is now employed full-time as the general music teacher at John M. Gandy Elementary School in Hanover County. She continues to sing as Guest Artist at various churches in the Metro Richmond area.

Current student AARON JONES attended the Harrower Opera Institute in Atlanta last summer where he sang the role of Snout in Britten’s Midsummer Night’s Dream. Following the Harrower program, he attended the Crittenden Opera Institute in Washington, DC, where he performed opera scenes. In December, he will serve as the tenor soloist for Handel's Messiah at Bon Air Presbyterian Church.

After singing a lead role in Britten’s Noye’s Fludde and covering the lead role of Laurie in Copland's The Tender Land with Capitol Opera, recent graduate STEPHANIE AULD began graduate studies in September at The Petrie School of Music, Converse College, where she was awarded a major graduate assistantship in opera. She has been invited to create the role of Cassandra in the world premiere of S. David Berry's Troilus with Converse Opera Theatre.