

# MESSIAH UNIVERSITY OPERA WORKSHOP

## “A NIGHT OF OPERA SCENES”

*Dr. Damian Savarino, Music and Stage Director*

*Tom Ryan, Lighting Designer*

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**Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.**

*Poorman Black Box Theater*



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DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

# PROGRAM

*Die Zauberflöte* (Act I, scene 1) ..... Wolfgang A. Mozart  
(1756-1791)

Tamino – Michael Azar, tenor  
1st Lady – Julie Knott, soprano  
2nd Lady – Anne McIlvaine, mezzo-soprano  
3rd Lady – Alysse Whaley, mezzo-soprano  
Abby Stewart – piano

*The Marriage of Figaro* (Act I, scene 3) ..... W. A. Mozart

Susanna – Brielle Finkbeiner, soprano  
Marcellina – Alysse Whaley, mezzo-soprano  
Julia Laessig – piano

*Suor Angelica* (scene 4) ..... Giacomo Puccini  
(1858-1924)

Sister Angelica – Victoria Lang, soprano  
Aunt Principessa – Elizabeth Volpe, mezzo-soprano  
Ellen Miner – piano

*The Ballad of Baby Doe* (Act I, scene 5) ..... Douglas Moore  
(1893-1969)

Augusta Tabor – Aria Walker, mezzo-soprano  
Friend #1 – Brielle Finkbeiner, soprano  
Friend #2 – Julie Knott, soprano  
Friend #3 – Abigail Weller, soprano  
Friend #4 – Elizabeth Volpe, mezzo-soprano  
Abigail Stewart – piano

*The Marriage of Figaro* (Act II, scene 4).....W. A. Mozart

Susanna - Elizabeth Hill, soprano  
Cherubino - Anne McIlvaine, mezzo-soprano  
Ellen Miner - piano

*L'incoronazione di Poppea* (Act III, scene 4).....Claudio Monteverdi  
(1567-1643)

Poppea - Julie Knott, soprano  
Nerone - Abigail Weller, mezzo-soprano  
Julia Laessig - piano

*The Crucible* (Act III, scene 1).....Robert Ward  
(1917-2013)

Abigail Williams - Elizabeth Hill, soprano  
John Proctor - Michael Azar, baritone  
Abigail Stewart - piano

# MESSIAH UNIVERSITY OPERA WORKSHOP ENSEMBLE, 2023

## **Sopranos:**

Brielle Finkbeiner – Junior, Music Education  
Elizabeth Hill – Junior, Music Education  
Julie Knott – Junior, BM Performance  
Victoria Lang – Sophomore, Music Education  
Abigail Weller – Sophomore, Music Education

## **Mezzos:**

Anne McIlvaine – 1st Year, Music Education  
Elizabeth Volpe – Senior, BFA Music Theatre  
Aria Walker – Senior, BFA Music Theatre  
Alysse Whaley – Junior, BFA Music Theatre

## **Tenor/Baritone:**

Michael Azar – Sophomore, BS Biology/BA Composition

## **Pianists:**

Julia Laessig – 1st Year, Music Education  
Ellen Miner – Junior, BA General Music  
Abigail Stewart – Junior, Music Education

The Messiah University Opera Workshop was founded by Dr. Damian Savarino in 2006 and is currently under his direction. In the last 17 years, Opera Workshop has presented many opera scenes programs as well as fully produced one and two-act operas and Opera Pops concerts, both with orchestra and with piano accompaniment. Works have included *Gianni Schicchi* (Puccini), *Trial By Jury* (Gilbert & Sullivan), *The Old Maid and the Thief* (Menotti) and *The Night Bell* (Donizetti). In 2014, Dr. Savarino's production of *The Medium* (Menotti) received 1st Prize in the National Opera Association Opera Production Competition. In 2016, Dr. Savarino's production of *The Tender Land* (Copland), in collaboration with the Department of Theatre and Dance, received two awards: 2nd Prize in the National Opera Association Opera Production Competition and 2nd Prize in the American Prize Opera Performance Competition.

For details on the 2022-2023 Performing Arts Series and Concerts  
visit [arts.messiah.edu](http://arts.messiah.edu).

## PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

*Handel's "Messiah"*

*Messiah University Choral Arts Society and Concert Choir*

*Joy Meade, director*

April 30 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 4:00 p.m.

*Susquehanna Chorale Spring Concert*

*Linda Tedford, artistic director, founder and conductor, professor emeritus, Messiah University*

May 14 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 4:00 p.m.

## CONCERTS

*Messiah University Concert Choir*

*Joy Meade, conductor*

March 19 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 4:00 p.m.

*Messiah University Chamber Ensembles*

March 27 and April 3 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Messiah University Jazz Combo*

*Todd Goranson, director*

March 30 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Messiah University Symphonic Winds*

*Travis Weller, conductor*

*Messiah University Brass Choir*

*William Stowman, director*

April 4 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Messiah University Symphony Orchestra*

*Timothy Dixon, conductor*

April 14 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Messiah University Handbell Choir*

*Shawn Gingrich, director*

April 22 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 1:30 p.m.

*Messiah University United Voices of Praise*

*Eric Byrd, director*

April 22 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Messiah University Wind Ensemble*

*James Colonna, conductor*

April 23 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 3:00 p.m.

*Messiah University Spring Choral Showcase*

*Rachel Cornacchio and Eric Dundore, conductors*

April 26 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Musica Nova: Student Compositions*

April 27 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Messiah University Jazz Ensembles*

*William Stowman and Mark Hunsberger, conductors*

April 28 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Messiah University Guitar Ensemble*

*Gavin Horning, director*

April 29 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 1:00 p.m.

*Messiah University Vocal Jazz*

*William Stowman, director*

April 29 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 4:00 p.m.

*Messiah University Percussion Ensemble*

*Aaron Trumbore, conductor*

April 29 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Performing Arts Series require tickets • To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at [messiah.edu/tickets](http://messiah.edu/tickets).*

**WE ASK YOUR COOPERATION**

Please silence or turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices. Video and audio recording and/or broadcasting is strictly prohibited by copyright laws. Devices used in this manner will be confiscated until after the performance.

**A WORD ABOUT CHILDREN**

Families with children are always welcome at Messiah University Music Department events. For the courtesy of our performers and other patrons, we ask that you exit quickly and for as long as necessary with unsettled children. Everyone, regardless of age, must have a ticket.

**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY**

Please take a minute now to locate the exits closest to your seat. During an emergency evacuation, an alarm will sound. If this happens, proceed calmly to that exit. Once you are out of the building, move to a location that is out of the path of emergency response vehicles.