

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2011.

'Opera by Twilight' in February featured a number of talented singers accompanied by Rosemary Barnes and enjoyed a near capacity audience. In March, with kind support from Arts Alive, we presented Benjamin Britten's riveting chamber opera 'The Turn of the Screw' as part of the Auckland Fringe Festival. This challenging production welcomed new audiences and received critical acclaim including an award for 'Best Production - Music'. Congratulations to the outstanding cast under the expert direction of Rosemary Barnes and Carmel Carroll, with innovative stage and lighting designs by John Eaglen.

Curtain Up is our annual programme for senior and advanced singers and many of them auditioned in March, followed by score-reading workshops in April. We look forward to providing extended opportunities to them and roles in our *Opera off Broadway* seasons.

Prologue is our annual programme for school student singers and many attended and enjoyed audition and performance workshops in April and May. They are now involved in a new project '**Opera-Pop**' towards their presentation of 'Papageno' in July.

A team of senior singers produced a Jazz concert at Opera Factory in April to demonstrate their lighter repertoire. Later in the month, we held a fundraising theatrical Garage Sale which was a great success, bringing in nearly a months rent of our home base and also clearing surplus stock.

I extend my great appreciation to our principal funders and donors, supporters, audiences and volunteers - without whom we could not exist.

We look forward to welcoming you to our monthly series of winter lunch recitals and especially to our July school holiday matinees of 'Papageno'.

Kindest regards
Sally Sloman (Director)



'Opera by Twilight' February 2011

Rosemary Barnes with Callum Blackmore, Emma Fussell, Philippa Mandeno, Elizabeth Mandeno, Rachel Day, Cameron Barclay, Phillip Hines, James Roberson, Rachel Dew, Bernice Austin, Isabella Moore,



'The Turn of the Screw' March 2011

Emma Sloman (Governess),
Cameron Barclay (Quint)
& Thomas White (Miles)

COMING EVENTS

DIVO & DIVAS IN MY SOUP

The first in our series of winter lunch recitals

'Pictures from New York'

Sunday 12 June - 12 noon

Featuring James loelu, Marlena Devoe, Tania Priebes with Rosemary Barnes (Pianist)

James loelu is home on vacation from opera studies at the Manhattan School of Music in New York and is joined onstage by **Marlena Devoe** (awarded a place in New York in September) and **Tania Priebes** (fellow University of Auckland voice student)



Book: www.iticket.co.nz or ph 09 361 1000

Tickets: Adult \$25, Seniors \$22.50, Student \$10

(Booking fee may apply)



Note: AMICI supporter discounted tickets are \$20 and may be booked direct with our office Ph 09 921 7801

Our winter series of lunch recitals continue on 3 July, 7 August and 4 September.

Ticket price includes a complimentary lunch

'OPERA POP' - HOLIDAY MATINEES

PAPAGENO

Adapted from Mozart's 'The Magic Flute'

Wed 20 - Fri 22 July

11am & 2pm daily

Onstage at Opera Factory Newmarket
7 Eden Street, Newmarket



♪ BREVE NOTES ♪

DAME KIRI TE KANAWA We are delighted to read news about our Patron. "Dame Kiri Te Kanawa is to take over from Dame Joan Sutherland as patron of the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World competition this June, after Sutherland's death in October last year. Dame Kiri's commitment to young singers was the driving force behind her documentary last year for the BBC's Opera Season, *What Makes a Great Soprano*, and the Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation helps talented young NZ singers further their vocal study and career opportunities".

CAN'T SING BUT LOVE THE THEATRE?

Get on board our production team for work experience and fun! Volunteers needed for rehearsal and production assistance, stage and costume creation, tech & lighting crews, Front of House, music library, office assistance.

OPERA FACTORY MERCHANDISE?

Support our fundraising. Opera Factory quality black T-Shirts Aprons, Music Satchels. All now reduced to \$15.

LOOKING FOR A VINTAGE WEDDING DRESS?

We have been kindly donated some beautiful vintage wedding gowns and accessories from a top name designer. Call us for details or viewing.

OUR THEATRICAL GARAGE SALE – April 2011



Men at Work!



Tavis & mates clown around!



Break time – the workers relax



'Research Heaven' - Rosie Barnes sells June Dams some light reading!

The Turn of the Screw – Review snippets

What the critics said: "A first rate cast ..Carmel Carroll's production created a riveting psychological ghost story ..John Eaglen's gauze & lighting design boosted the chill factor.. Emma Sloman was just the actor to suggest all the unbroken subtexts...an emotional focus to her great *Lost in my Labyrinth* aria...Mary Newman-Pound transformed the conventional Mrs Grose into a warm and believable character.. Tizane McEvoy with theatrical flair...her Lake scene proved one of the evenings highlights... with the clear-voiced Miles (Thomas White/Conrad Edwards) the perfect innocent caught up in a web of evil...Cameron Barclay...immaculately delivering. the Prologue as a full voice, every syllable made its impact ...complemented by Rachel Day's sinister Miss Jessel...utmost praise to Rosemary Barnes whose account of Britten's complex score..a feat the composer himself would have applauded...excellent story telling.. a triumph of theatrical story-telling over expensive special effects"

CHRISTMAS MIRACLES -CHRISTMAS GALA 2010 'Amahl & the Night Visitors' & operatic scenes.



Director Linda Kitchen prepares 'Amahl' villagers.

THE TURN OF THE SCREW – March 2011 Sponsored by ARTS ALIVE Auckland City



Maestro Rosemary Barnes



Director Carmel Carroll

Production photos by Michael Smith Photography.

NEWMARKET HOSTS THE ITALIAN TEAM FOR RWC



Opera Factory and elsewhere during the cup.

We hear that Newmarket is hosting the Italian team for RWC. We will be working with the Newmarket Business Association, so keep an eye on our website for Italian opera events at

PASSAGIO Performers' Journeys

NORTH SHORE COMPETITION SUCCESSES

Congratulations to a number of singers involved with Opera Factory for their resounding successes this year. **The Opera Factory Cup** for vocal duet was won by Alicia Cadwgan and Hannah Schunk-Hockings with Grace Neale and Ella Smith being awarded 2nd place.

Junior Classes Award winners included: Michaela Cadwgan, Hyun Young Park, Arthur Close, Alysia Han, Philippa Mandeno, Alicia Cadwgan, Rachael Dew, Hannah Schunk-Hockings, Ella Smith, Alicia Cadwgan, Alexander McDonald-Bull, James Roberson, Grace Neale. Hyun Young Park won the Elisabeth Gibson memorial Cup for most promising singer.

Senior Classes Award winner included: Linda Wootten Memorial Cup - Elizabeth Mandeno. Seamus Casey Memorial Cup - Darren Pene Pati. Vocal Championship - Edward Laurenson. Other award winning senior singers included Stephen Diaz, Tavis Gravatt, Bona Koo, Moses Mackay, Thomas Woodfield, Tizane McEvoy, Anthony Schneider, Breony Van der Wel, Sheridan Williams.



Becroft Grand Opera Aria

1st Prize: Anthony Schneider

2nd Prize: Darren Pene Pati

3rd Prize: Elizabeth Mandeno

Congratulations and best wishes to Anthony who shortly travels to Sydney to compete in the McDonald Aria as part of his prize sponsored by the Les & Sonia Andrews Cultural Foundation.

MARGOT LLOYD SCHOLARSHIP: Entries close 12 August

For singers between 17 and 25 years. Checkout www.northshorechorale.org or Ph 09 4448280



Congratulations to **Marlena Devoe** who has been awarded entry to the Manhattan School of Music and will travel to New York in September for formal opera studies. Marlena joined us as a teenager and we will follow her career with great interest and pride.

CLAIRE FILER has graduated from voice studies in Boston and is now auditioning in the UK and Europe. Claire credits Opera Factory for the early opportunities she received.

HADLEIGH ADAMS updates us from studies at the Guildhall School of Music in London that he'll soon be performing in the City of London Festival in a concert of New Zealand & Australian Art Song.

KAWITI WAETFORD continues to work hard and excel in his studies with Isabel Cunningham and Terence Dennis at Otago University.

CELESTE ORAM recently premiered her new opera Electrical Eclipse as composer and producer, with libretto by Claire Bracegirdle and music director Tianyi Lu. This was part of the University of Auckland Opera Project and also featured Opera Factory singers Elizabeth Mandeno, Anthony Schneider and Marlena Devoe.

NBR NZ OPERA - a number of singers involved in Opera Factory who will be in the Auckland chorus of Cavalleria Rusticana & Pagliacci at the Aotea Centre in September, including some of our younger singers who auditioned for the children's chorus.

OPERATUNITY - Catherine Reaburn and Tizane McEvoy are touring with Operatunity in August/September.

PHILLIP RHODES recently performed with our patron Kiri te Kanawa as part of the Israel Festival. A stunning concert was reported and Philip received glowing reviews for his expressive talent.

JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY MATINEES

Onstage at the Opera Factory Theatre

PAPAGENO

Adapted from Mozart's *The Magic Flute*

The kids take over the Factory these school holidays with a slick youth adaptation of Mozart's masterful opera 'The Magic Flute'. Join the carefree bird-catcher Papageno on his adventures through a fantastical world filled with myth, magic and mystery.

A talented cast of young singers from our *Prologue* programme include **Callum Blackmore** as Papageno and **Kelly Harris** as Papagena and all will contribute to the design and creative process. We welcome guest artists **Nicholas Forbes** (Music Director) and **Alex Milligan** (Monostatos).

Performances run from Wednesday 20 to Friday 22 July, at 11am & 2pm daily.



Tickets: Adults \$20, Student \$10 (under 5 free)
Bookings open soon at iTICKET

Auckland City
creativenz
COMMUNITIES

CURTAIN UP PROGRAMME Workshop Series

Senior auditions and introductory score-reading workshops were offered in February and April with the encouragement and expertise of Rosemary Barnes, Reg Towers, Paul Barrett and Sally Sloman. Senior singers will be cast in chamber operas later in the year, including further *Curtain Up* masterclass and workshops. Watch this space...

PROLOGUE PROGRAMME Opera-Pop Project

In May we commenced offering a series of workshops to include performance, presentation, musicianship, design and creative areas towards our July season of 'Papageno'. Opera-Pop is kindly supported by **Creative Communities Auckland City**.



'Opera-Pop' workshop



Callum Blackmore (Papageno)

OPERA FACTORY TRUST sincerely thanks all who have helped fund and support our operations and activities by way of philanthropic donation, sponsorship, funding, Amici membership and voluntary effort.



L'AFFITTO - ANGELI - DONORS

NEW OPERA COMPOSITION CONTEST



Opera Factory will soon launch a national contest seeking entries for a new chamber opera (piano score) for workshop towards presentation in 2012. Get out your quills and manuscripts. Keep an eye on our website....

SOCCORSO (Help)

For talented & committed Opera Factory performers. Awarded in 2010-2011 to **Tizane McEvoy; Jon Hunter; Darren Pene Pati; Cameron Barclay; James Ioelu**. Other senior singers have also received assistance.

Opera Factory sends special thoughts to Canterbury and especially to our colleagues at SOUTHERN OPERA following the devastating and ongoing earthquakes.

Some recent quotes from our performers

"I like Opera Factory because it is a place where you learn not only about opera and new music, but also the skills of the theatre". ...

"The training and opportunities I received at Opera Factory proved very valuable and gave me an impressive start to my performance resume"...

"Opera Factory has been a unique and challenging experience for me..."

"I've made many friends, learned new skills and most importantly, found every minute of it fun!"...

"Being involved in Opera Factory has made me realise there is much more to opera than just singing and that the skills required onstage are many and varied"

REMEMBER TO BOOK FOR 'PAPAGENO'



From our archives:
Ten years ago we presented a season of Mozart's 'The Magic Flute' plus matinees of 'Papageno'. Performances were held in our original homebase in Morgan Street and both shows played to capacity audiences. It was in the days when our seating was on old wooden pallets!

OPERA FACTORY CALENDAR 2011

Unless specified, all events are at Opera Factory

Sun 12 June	Divas Lunch Recital	12.00pm
Sun 3 July	Divas Lunch Recital	12.00pm
Wed 20 July	'PAPAGENO'	11am & 2pm
Thur 21 July	'PAPAGENO'	11am & 2pm
Fri 22 July	'PAPAGENO'	11am & 2pm
Sun 7 Aug	Divas Lunch Recital	12.00pm
Sun 4 Sept	Divas Lunch Recital	12.00pm

Opera Factory reserves the right to make any alteration to this calendar, programme or events that may be necessary. Contact us or checkout our website for news updates.

SUPPORT US IN 2011

Become our Friend (AMICI) for only \$50 pa
Singers, teams & crews are strongly encouraged to join. Checkout the enclosed flier for AMICI applications or renewals and/or other ways in which you can help us.

REGISTER FOR OUR EMAIL SERVICE?

Send us your email to receive news bulletins between our quarterly newsletters. We've noticed some bouncebacks lately – if you've not been hearing from us, have we got your correct email? Make sure you keep admin@operafactory.com on your SAFE list otherwise we'll sit in your spam folder and you might miss out on important opportunities.

PREMISES UPGRADE

We are continually upgrading our safety, security, storage and hosting facilities at Opera Factory, and we now have a significant project coming up. We have secured some generous funding thanks to ASB COMMUNITY TRUST. However, we need your help in approaching suppliers for discounted or donated goods and/or labour. Please contact Premises Manager John Eaglen if you can offer contacts for fire alarms, windows, doors, lavatory systems, plumbers, electricians, builders, awnings, construction material etc or if you can be involved or help in any way. Phone John 09 360 8223 or 021 930 470



OPERA FACTORY TRUST

The Opera factory Trust CC24596 is a registered charitable trust with IRD tax donee status

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