

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2010 - but some of you will have received earlier bulletins as a courtesy of your support and AMICI membership.

We opened the year with *Opera by Twilight* in February to a capacity audience. Our March fringe festival 'Four Comedies and a Funeral' presented rarities of Arne's *Thomas & Sally*, Vaughan Williams' dramatic *Riders to the Sea*, Bizet's light hearted *Doctor Miracle*, Mozart's *The Impresario* and Menotti's comedy *The Telephone*. In April we were delighted to feature our dear friend Max Cryer in an entertaining presentation of 'The Max Factor' accompanied by pianist Kim Naden. Also in April I travelled to Germany to support our Patron Dame Kiri Te Kanawa in her farewell operatic role as a divine Marschallin in Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier* at the Köln Opera House. This was a wonderful experience being part of the international audience of friends and fans in a continual standing ovation saluting Kiri's amazing 40 year operatic stage career. Dame Kiri now continues her busy schedule with constant recitals, concerts and master classes in every corner of the globe for the next decade at least! I was also fortunate to attend other operas almost every night of my 2 week visit, and even more so when my flights were delayed for a week due to the Icelandic eruptions! I've returned with amazing experiences, inspiration and knowledge to share with Opera Factory into our future.

I look forward to welcoming you all to our winter lunch recitals starting on Sunday 27 June and also to our exciting holiday season of 'Help! Help! The Globolinks'.

Kind regards

Sally Sloman ONZM (Director)

**Book now for the first in our series of
Winter lunch recitals by our singers and guests**

"THERE ARE DIVAS & DIVOS IN MY SOUP"

Sunday 27 June, 12pm – 1.30pm

Featuring winners from the North Shore Performing Arts Competitions & other emerging singers including

**Tavis Gravatt, Anthony Schneider, Yohan Ryoo,
Karuna Koukova, Brooke Miller,
Kiara Ferndandes, Francesca Flore-Lim and others**
Accompanied by Pianist ROSEMARY BARNES



Tickets Adults \$25 Seniors \$22.50 Students \$10 (inc lunch)
Bookings: www.iticket.co.nz Ph 09 361 1000

Amici tickets \$20 – Amici may book direct with our office

**DON'T MISS
Our July school holiday season**

The New Zealand premiere of

**Help! Help!
The Globolinks!**
A sci-fi fantasy by Menotti



WEDNESDAY 14 JULY – FRIDAY 16 JULY
11am & 2.30pm daily + Friday at 6.30pm

*A bus full of school children breaks down * alien creatures with weird electronic noises arrive * a brave student and a team of wacky school teachers march to the rescue * Menotti's marvellous score reveals the moral 'good music saves the day'*

Bring your families, grand-children and young at heart

Starring

Elizabeth Mandeno (Emily, a pupil), **Daniel O'Connor** (Tony, the bus driver), **Emma Sloman** (Madame Euterpova, the flamboyant music teacher), **June Dams** (Miss Newkirk, the mathematics teacher), **Graham Mandeno** (Dr Stone, the Dean), **Cameron Barclay** (Timothy, the janitor), **Anthony Schneider** (Dr Turtlespit, the science teacher), **Jarvis Dams** (Mr Lavender Gas, the literature professor) + our junior Prologue performers
With MD/pianists Rosemary Barnes & David Kelly

This season is kindly sponsored by
THE NEW ZEALAND OPERA SOCIETY INC.
OPERA GRANT 2009

Book online at www.iticket.co.nz
or phone 09 361 1000 (booking fee may apply)

TICKETS: Adults \$25, Seniors \$22.50,
Students/Children \$10

Amici tickets \$20 – Amici may book direct with our office



Early bookings are recommended to secure the best seats.
Last year our holiday matinees almost sold out!

♪ BREVE NOTES ♪

WINTER WORKSHOPS: *Performance* workshops on 23 and 24 May attracted 34 talented school students and a further *Theatrecraft* workshop over the weekend of 12 and 13 June attracted 19 enthusiastic community participants' of all ages. A bevy of professional experts included Paul Barrett, Linda Kitchen, Elizabeth Whiting, John Parker, Phillip Dexter, Kathryn Osborne, Jason Te Mete. The participant's talents will be seen on stage and backstage for our July holiday season.



Winter Workshops were kindly supported by Auckland City Council Creative Communities



THE METROPOLITAN OPERA FILMS (HDLive)

Watch out for series III of these fantastic opera screenings at our local Rialto Cinema, Newmarket. Checkout www.rialto.co.nz for more details.

OPERA FILMS AT THE ACADEMY CINEMA AT THE AUCKLAND LIBRARY

June 24 – La Bohème (Royal Opera)
 July 29 – The Tsarina's Slippers (Royal Opera & Ballet)
 August 5 – Don Carlo (Royal Opera)
<http://www.academycinemas.co.nz/operaballet/>



Pam Langham – Raffle winner



The next generation prepares



The directors current brick wall!

HELP

I've 8 more NZ Herald adverts to sell to sponsors ? Only \$250 ea – your company name included – Phone Sally now.



Sally's Study Trip to Germany, 8-29 April 2010.

Snippets from my travel log!

I arrived in Frankfurt to glorious blue skies covered with jet vapour trails which unbeknown to me, would soon disappear for two weeks due to the Icelandic eruptions. Highlights of my journey..

❖ Emerging from the rail station to see the glorious Cologne Cathedral exactly as

Barry Mora described it...cobble streets and the endless hours of walking by myself feeling entirely safe even after midnight.

- ❖ The glories of the Düsseldorf spring gardens.
- ❖ The simplicity of orderly audiences in the Opera Houses finding their own seats in time for the overture and the enthusiasm of the audiences.
- ❖ The white veal schnitzels and white asparagus, the two for one *Berliners* and the refreshing kirsch!
- ❖ The thronging streets of Saturday shopping yet the empty streets of a Sunday + the invisible loo doors!
- ❖ The disciplined priorities for pedestrians and immaculate public transport schedules (why I went to Cologne twice on the wrong high speed train!)

Frankfurt Opera: *Simon Boccanegra*, *Papageno* Children Opera in a circus tent in the Palm Gardens, *Daphne* by Strauss (my favourite -awesome setting).

Cologne Opera: : *Madama Butterfly* with a blonde bimbo Cio Cio San and dramatic throat slitting finale, *Don Carlos* majesty of stage depth, *Der Rosenkavalier* enchanting rose stem forest and Kiri's 12 foot wide paniered gown and the emotionally charged standing ovations of farewell for her. The enchanting *Puppet Theatres* (which I must try and include at Opera Factory), the suburban *Kinderoper* in a warehouse of red and white spotted mushrooms presenting Respighi's fairytale *Dornröschen* (children's opera) with a house like Opera Factory but with a 10 piece orchestra over the stage. The young MD called Sam asked if I knew a NZ singer called Wade Kernot, whom he had just worked with! A small scale *Kammeroper La Bohème* with an obviously self-costumed cast!, a mighty *Meistersinger* with amazing vanishing scenery and the tenor strolling in from the audience as a latecomer. Dame Kiri's exquisite solo recital at Köln Opera beautifully accompanied by Julian Reynolds plus Kiri's two amazing masterclasses with European Emerging Artists in the foyer of the Opera House.



Düsseldorf: *Giulio Cesare* set in a restaurant with terrorists firing machine guns, a riveting *Rigoletto*, *Das Geischt im Spiegel* (new opera by Widmann), *Marriage of Figaro* by a suburban post-grad college set in the 60's with excellent large student orchestra etc etc....

PASSAGIO Singers journeys

Paul Barrett, Tizane McEvoy & Catherine Reaburn bounce the boards in 'Sweeney Todd' now on at Maidment Theatre, 3 – 26 June. **Jason Te Mete** taps the light fantastic in Auckland Theatre Company's 'Stepping Out' on now at Sky City Theatre 10 June – 10 July. **Tavis Gravatt** (baritone) won the North Shore Becroft Grand Opera Aria and soon departs for the McDonalds Aria (Les & Sonia Andrews Foundation) in Sydney as part of his sponsored prizes. **Tizane McEvoy** was 2nd, **Pene Pati** 3rd. **Anthony Schneider** won the Seamus Casey memorial Award. Anthony and **Cameron Barclay** were in the chorus of the NBR New Zealand Opera's stunning production of Figaro superbly directed by Aidan Lang.



Jessé Martins is back in his homeland of Brazil preparing for his masters degree in Collaborative Piano at Mansfield University, Pennsylvania (US). We all miss him but wish him great success on his new adventure

towards a professional career. **Elizabeth Mandeno** and other OF regulars performed Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* for the School of Music Opera Project directed by **Linda Kitchen**. Congratulations to **Tizane McEvoy** who has been made Hamilton Civic Choir's 2010 Associate Artist. **Wade Kernot** (one of our foundation singers) made our 'bosoms swell with pride' when he starred in the title role of NBR New Zealand Opera's Marriage of Figaro season. **Emma Sloman** and **Emma Roxburgh** are Resident Artists with NZ Opera and have been covering the roles of Countess and Susanna respectively and **Alexandra Ioan** (EA this year and regular OF performer) has just debuted as Barbarina in The Marriage of Figaro, with NBR New Zealand Opera. We are delighted to hear that **Cameron Barclay** (regular principal roles with OF) will also be an Emerging Artist NZ Opera this year. **Alex Milligan** featured in St Cuthberts College's 'Anything Goes' and we enjoyed 'Les Miserables' at Dilworth College musically inspired by **Claire Caldwell** (early Opera Factory Music Director) and featuring a number of OF student singers onstage. **Karuna Koukova** is now studying voice at the Sydney Conservatorium and will be one of our featured artists at our June lunch recital. We are delighted to announce that Wellington baritone and NZ Opera Emerging Artist **Daniel O'Connor** will join the cast of 'Help Help the Globolinks' in our July holiday season.

RECENT EVENTS in February



Opera by Twilight



Couldrey House Wenderholm

March Festival – Four Comedies & A Funeral

Music Directors Rosie Barnes & Jesse Martins
Scenery: John Eaglen Lighting: Phillip Dexter



Riders to the Sea:
Directed by Carmel Carroll
June Dams (Maurya), Sarah-Kate Wood (Cathleen), Brooke Millar (Nora), Jarvis Dams (Bartley) and chorus.

Thomas & Sally: Directed by Sally Sloman



Robert Hughes (Thomas) and Marlana Devoue (Sally)



Bernice Austin (Dorcas), Adam Thompson (Squire)

Dr Miracle: Directed by Carmel Carroll



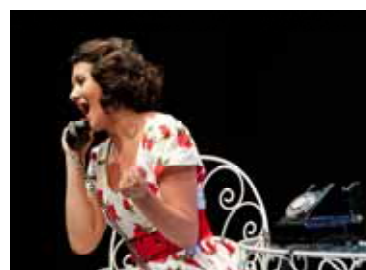
Sian O'Gorman (Laurette), Jarvis Dams, (Mayor) Catherine Reaburn, (Veronique) Cameron Barclay (Silvio).

The Impresario:

Directed by Sally Sloman
Kerry Scurr (Madame Silvertongue), Elizabeth Mandeno (Madame Heartfelt), Alex Milligan (Impresario), Jesse Martins (Signor Martini), Grant O'Connor (Signor Fagioli)



The Telephone: Directed by Sally Sloman
With Tizane McEvoy (Lucy) & Warren Kilham (Ben)



Festival pics: Michael Smith Photography
NEWSLETTER & BULLETINS BY EMAIL?

Don't forget to update us if your email contact changes especially if you're a performer and don't want to miss out on opportunities and news freely available to you.

SINGERS are reminded (or ask us for training) to always remember the professional courtesies you need in responding either way to invitations or receiving a helping hand!

OPERA FACTORY CALENDAR 2010

Unless specified all events are at Opera Factory
Checkout our website for updates – or contact us

WINTER LUNCH RECITALS: 12 noon to 1.30pm

Sunday 27 June, Divas & Divos in recital
Sunday 25 July David Hartnell – celebrity guest
Sunday 29 August Artists to be advised
Sunday 26 September Artists to be advised

HELP! HELP! THE GLOBOLINKS – school holiday show

Wednesday 14 July 11am & 2.30pm
Thursday 15 July 11am & 2.30pm
Friday 16 July 11am, 2.30pm & 6.30pm

THE TURN OF THE SCREW: Benjamin Britten's drama
Late August/September dates to be confirmed

OPERA IDOL: Contest for school students
September/October Dates to be advised.

Opera Factory reserves the right to make any alteration to the calendar, programmes, cast or events that may be necessary.



A Night in Vienna – Christmas Gala 2009

Amici Our friends & loyal members

ONLY \$50 per year supports the administration and management of our activities and provisions. Membership entitles you to ticket discounts, priority booking services, opportunities & special bulletins.

If you enjoy receiving and reading this free newsletter or you are a performer and freely partake in our varied programmes – please consider joining AMICI.

Forms are available on our website or phone us now. *Jeepers – you get nearly \$100 worth of discounts each year alone - our accountant is not happy with me!*

Jesse's farewell



Last year we premiered school holiday matinees We were thrilled to see our theatre full of children of all ages, adult opera buffs, grandparents and new families all eager to experience affordable entertainment in Newmarket without the hassles of city parking, stress or needs of censorship or supervision! Now we present another sparkling short holiday season of mystery, melodies and adventure with innovative setting and electronic alien inventions - suitable for all ages!

JOIN US FOR THE COMING HOLIDAY SEASON

The moral - 'Good music always saves the day'

Help! Help! *The Globolinks!*

Menotti's 70 minute sci-fi fantasy

14 – 16 July

11am & 2.30 pm daily + Frid 6.30pm

Book now to secure your best seats

Book online at www.iticket.co.nz
or phone 09 361 1000

Amici can book direct with the Opera Factory office

WHY WRITE AN OPERA FOR CHILDREN?

"Writing an opera for children is as an exciting a challenge as it is enjoyable experience. Of all audiences, children are the easiest to inspire – but they are also the most sensitive and easiest to lose. So why would a composer choose to write for such a demanding public? First and foremost, because children are the only truly honest audience to be found anywhere in the world – they come to the theatre without the least aesthetic prejudice, care little who the composer is and demand nothing of him. But also because in a strange sort of way I see myself as a grown-up child who has always felt at ease in the presence of children" Gian Carlo Menotti.

Support Opera Factory and our future?

The Opera Factory Trust has met the requirements of registration under the Charities Act, and is proven to have a charitable purpose. Opera Factory Trust CC24596 is a registered charitable entity in terms of the Charities Act 2005 and we have IRD tax donee status. If you would like to hear more about how you can help us and invest in our future by way of sponsorship, philanthropic donation or discreet bequest, please contact the director, Sally Sloman, to discuss the wide ranging benefits available to you.



L'affitto

SOCCORSO

Amici

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