

Dear Friends,

It's been another busy and successful year with varied productions and events, new audiences and increased demand for our unique services and products. Thank you for your great support. With the help of a newly formed 'task force' we're spring cleaning some areas of operations and we're very grateful for their expertise and innovative ideas. Two student workshops were well attended in November and rehearsals are now underway for our annual fundraising Christmas gala – 'A Night in Vienna'. Funds raised at the Gala will support our programme for next year scheduled to offer delectable fringe opera seasons, extended training opportunities, a new senior company and community outreach initiatives. In a recent survey I noted that we provide services and opportunity to 645 singers and colleagues, our database is at 2478 and every month we produce and provide varied training or performance opportunities and accessible community events. We provide stepping stones for young singers of all ages and levels, senior singers intending a career, budding theatre and arts administrators, trainee directors and crews and we are delighted to continue encouraging enthusiasts, exponents and audiences for opera into the future. We have been most grateful to our generous donors, sponsors, participants and audiences and especially to our L'Affitto donors who help us pay the rent on our happy home in the heart of Newmarket.

I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and holiday season with good health and prosperity for the New Year and I look forward to welcoming you to our activities in 2010.

Kind regards
Sally Sloman (Director)

HELP! – The new 'task force' are kindly updating our database and communicative systems and they would appreciate your help and responses before the end of the year so that they can better prepare for 2010.

This free mailing service of our newsletter comes with increasingly high costs so we'd like to offer you some options for next year. Some of you may prefer an emailed version - some of you may have moved on and/or no longer require this mailed newsletter – some of you may prefer to simply checkout our latest newsletter on our website – some of you may have new contact details - some of you may now have an email address you would like to register with us...

If we do not hear from you, we will presume you wish to continue reading and receiving our newsletter by mail? But please let us know if you would now prefer to receive newsletters and bulletins by email service?

Simply phone or email your preference
Ph 09 921 7801 or Email: admin@operafactory.com.

BOOK NOW

For our annual fundraising
Christmas Gala

A NIGHT IN VIENNA

At Opera Factory, 7 Eden St, Newmarket
Thursday 10 December 7.30pm
Friday 11 December 7.30pm



Come to the Ball

Enjoy favourite staged excerpts from opera, operetta and Gilbert & Sullivan including *La Bohème*, *The Gondoliers*, *Die Fledermaus*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Mikado*, *Lilac Time*, *The Magic Flute*, *Veronique* and more. Featuring guest artists, soloists and ensembles accompanied by Jesse Martins.

We suggest early reservations to ensure the best seats
Make up a group of friends and celebrate in style

ALL TICKETS \$40 (Amici \$35)

Includes interval refreshments

Book Online at www.iticket.co.nz

Or phone 09 361 1000 (booking fee may apply)



SOME OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2009

Thank you so much to audiences, participants & sponsors.

January/February 2009

- Orientation workshops for all ages & levels
- Opera by Twilight – opening summer concert

March 2009

- Stagecraft workshop for school students
- Stagecraft workshop for Auckland University singers

April 2009



- Opera off Broadway season – 'Prima Donna'
- Masterclass – Brian Castles-Onion (Australia)

May 2009

- 'Jazz'n it Up' – a new concert initiative at the Factory
- Audition workshops for seniors & school students

June 2009

- 'There's a Diva in my Soup' - winter recital series

July 2009

- *There's a Diva in my soup* – winter recital series
- *Opera off Broadway* – 'The Boy Who Grew Too Fast'



Coaching & Masterclass – Sir Andrew Davis (London)



August 2009

- *There's a Diva in my soup* – winter lunch series
- *Opera off Broadway* - *Orpheus in the Underworld*



August 2009

- *Curtain Up* - 3 day Senior Workshop & Masterclass with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa & guest tutors.

September 2009

- *There's a Diva in my soup* – winter lunch series
- Opera Idol – student song contest



October 2009

- Admin, foyer & office upgrades – time to breathe!

November 2009

- Two youth workshops for primary & secondary school level

December 2009

- *A Night in Vienna* - Christmas Gala

GENERAL AUDITIONS 2010

Tue 15 and Wed 16 Dec 4pm - 8.30pm

For senior and advanced singers wishing to be considered for principal roles in our fringe opera seasons, pro opera quartet, concerts, recitals and gigs
January-July 2010

10 min appointments
now available.

Email Jesse Martins at

production@operafactory.com

Or click on our website link...

Further auditions for chorus, student and new singers are at the end of January



GRAZIE! Phew...another fabulous year at Opera Factory. It's been inspirational to work under the expertise of Rosemary Barnes and the phenomenal professional and international stars and guest tutors that are attracted to come and help at the Factory. We've had so much excitement with new projects (Jazz'n it up), school holiday matinees (The Boy who Grew too Fast), Opera off Broadway seasons, recitals, masterclasses, gigs and workshops. It's being great working with such a range of ages and to find out that, in their own way everyone improves and personally I believe that Opera Factory programmes offer an amazing facility for this. I did a workshop in Brazil (Oct 09) and the University singers were truly amazed with what Opera Factory offers and sad for not having anything similar for them. And that's what we're here for – to help you in any extent we can. Don't hesitate to make an appointment with Sally or I to discuss repertoire, languages, stagecraft, learning a role or steps for performance... we also have an amazing library and would be thrilled to help singers of all ages and levels.

Jesse Martins: Assistant Music Director/Music Admin

♪ BREVE NOTES ♪



Pene Buchanan (foundation trustee, treasured friend and fantastic costume creator) is making great progress towards full recovery from a very serious illness, recently experienced while in America. Pene has now returned to the UK to be with her

family (Andrew and Kirsty) for continued therapy and recuperation. We're thinking of her with love and prayers and look forward to welcoming Pene safely home to New Zealand in the New Year.

Snippets from Front of House

The great thing about being on Front of House duties is that one is in the middle of all the buzz seeing familiar faces, greeting new ones, hearing all their news and meeting their friends. We have a loyal team of volunteers who are passionate about what Opera Factory stands for and it is this team that swings into action when opening night looms. We hear many compliments as happy patrons exit our theatre and it's so rewarding to be part of such a happy and positive environment doing what we love doing. This year has been a particularly busy one with a variety of productions and events and for the first time we did a matinee season in the school holidays of Menotti's charming youth opera "The Boy Who Grew Too Fast". It was hugely successful to see nearly full houses of grandparents and parents enjoying the shows with their grandchildren, children and babies alike. And it was a joy to see our bar area full of pushchairs, walkers and carrycots! It really did excite many children and open up their minds to opera and encourage them to return.

Carole Fuhrmann (Front of House Manager)

A CHILLY CHRISTMAS! Our amazing M.D. and mentor Rosie Barnes is generously taking her son on a most wonderful journey round the world, including touring in Antarctica to celebrate Alex's 21st. Have a fantastic and safe trip Rosie and Alex.

THEATRE SUPERSTITIONS: *There is a belief in the theatre industry that ghosts haunt empty theatres, keen to produce the opposite result of whatever requests they hear. In order to thwart these spirits, performers often say the opposite of what they actually mean. By telling someone to "break a leg" instead of "good luck," the hope is that the spirit will be tricked into providing real good luck for the performer!*

AMICI supporting Friends of the Factory

If you are not already a member, or you think your membership may have expired, we would love to welcome you or welcome you back for 2010.

Membership is only \$50 per year and if you regularly attend our events you receive well over \$50 worth of ticket discounts for starters! Your Amici membership helps us heaps with our marketing and administration and Singers are especially encouraged to join up to help with the costs of providing their many benefits.

APPLY NOW ON THE ENCLOSED FORM?

DON'T MISS OUR CHRISTMAS GALA

★ A NIGHT IN VIENNA ★

Thursday 10 December 7.30pm

Friday 11 December 7.30pm

Book now to secure your best seats and support our exciting new programme for 2010

Book online at www.iticket.co.nz

Or phone 09 361 1000

Tickets incl complimentary interval refreshments
Christmas merchandise & raffle also on sale.



**Renewing or new
L'AFFITTO (our rent)
DONORS NEEDED!**

Help us pay our rent - we invite your consideration.

Our rented premises at 7 Eden Street are vital for our mission and enable us to provide a happy, accessible and well resourced home for singers, opera enthusiasts, our events and the general community. Our annual lease has been kindly supported in past years by generous private L'Affitto donors and a grant from Auckland City Council Community Group Accommodation Support Fund.

If you think you could sponsor \$5000 for a month's rent in 2010 please contact Sally Sloman.

We must be BATS to do this!

But – what fun we all have and what fabulous results!

Join Opera Factory's backstage and technical teams for 2010. Share your skills and learn new ones by participating in our creative and backstage work – help design, construct, paint and install stage sets and props – help maintain and operate our technical & lighting equipment – help stage management and production teams for our staged events – help create and coordinate costumes, makeup and wigs.

**Contact John Eaglen Ph 360 8223 or 021 930 470
Or Email: admin@operafactory.com**

SOLTI-TEKANAWA ACCADEMIA DEL BEL CANTO 2009

We were delighted to notice that former singers with Opera Factory, Philip Rhodes and Wade Kernot were fortunate to be selected as participants in this magnificent Italian summer school under the expertise of our Patron Dame Kiri Te Kanawa with guest tutors including José Carreras, Dennis O'Neill, Jonathan Papp and Terence Dennis. Check out their website www.soltitekanawaaccademia.org



PASSAGIO Performers' Journeys

Opera Factory Bambino's - future board bouncers have been regularly arriving by stork to past and present Opera Factory participants - congratulations to all the new mums and dads!

BRAVA & BRAVO to all who have achieved (or will shortly achieve) fabulous results in examinations, competitions, scholarships & other performances.

Pene Pati recently won the NZ Aria in Rotorua. **Alex Ioan** is now an Emerging Artist with the NBR NZ Opera. **Joanna Foote** was a finalist in the McDonald's Aria and is now auditioning overseas.

Elizabeth Mandeno (recipient of the Margot Lloyd Scholarship) features as soloist with the 100 voice chorale concert on 28 November, 7.30pm, St Georges church, Takapuna. **June Dams & Jarvis Dams** recently starred in the fabulous premiere of David Griffiths/Lynn John's new opera *The Secret Suffragette* in Hamilton. **Tizane McEvoy & Catherine Reaburn** are currently performing in ATC production of 'Oliver' at Sky City directed by Raymond Hawthorne. **Kerry Scurr** performs the lead role of Magnolia in Auckland Music Theatre's November production of 'Showboat'.

OPERA IDOL 09: 40 entries were received this year and the finals were like a mini youth Lexus voice contest! Next year additional age levels will be introduced. Congratulations to all participants and special thanks to the many skilled singing teachers for their support.

THE WINNERS: Watch for future stars!
15 yrs and over 1st - **Ella Smith**

2nd - **Yohan Ryoo**

3rd - **Christina Orgias**

14 yrs & under 1st - **Callum Blackmore**

2nd - **Hyun Young Park**

3rd - **Phoebe Jasper.**



THE METROPLITAN OPERA FILMS (HDLive)

Watch out for these fantastic screenings at cinemas.
Rialto Newmarket/Bridgeway Northcote/Matakana

Tosca - you've just missed it! ♦ **Aida** (26 Nov-2 Dec)
Turandot (17-23 Dec) ♦ **Tales of Hoffman** (14-20 Jan)
Der Rosenkavalier (4-10 Feb) ♦ **Carmen** (4-10 March)
Simon Boccanegra (25-31 March) ♦ **Hamlet** (22-28 April) ♦ **Armida** (27 May-2 June)

Checkout the website www.nzmetropera.nz



SHARE OUR BEAUTIFUL INTERVAL WINE?

We receive many compliments on this perfect partnering of Italian vino kindly privately sponsored for audiences attending our opera seasons and special events. Checkout www.sapori.co.nz for information

OPERA FACTORY CALENDAR

Unless specified all events are at Opera Factory

Thurs 10 December 7.30pm Christmas Gala
Frid 11 December 7.30pm Christmas Gala
Tues 15 Dec 4pm - 8.30pm Senior AUDITIONS
Thur 16 Dec 4pm-8.30pm Senior AUDITIONS

2010:

21-24 January: Auditions & orientation workshops
Sun 21 February: Opera by Twilight
2 - 12 March: Opera Outreach
17 - 28 March Opera off Broadway fringe festival
16-18 April: Jazz at the Factory
May: Student workshops & Opera off Broadway
June: Tech/creative workshops & Recital series
July: Opera off Broadway & recital series 2#

We reserve the right to make any alteration to calendars, programmes, schedules or events that may be necessary.

Join AMICI or Keep an eye on our website for updates

The Opera Factory Trust sincerely thanks all those who share our passion and support our mission.

We thank our wonderful volunteers and creators for their generous time and skills throughout the year, our talented participants, their families and teachers, our audiences and supporters for their encouragement and attendances.

GRAZIE - GRAZIE - GRAZIE TO OUR PRINCIPAL DONORS & SPONSORS

L'Affitto - generous donors towards our monthly rent
Auckland City Council Community Group Accommodation Support Fund - contribution towards our annual rent
Creative New Zealand - programme funding 09 -7/10
ASB Community Trust - staff & lighting installations
The Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation - Curtain Up workshops
Anonymous donor - Youth education and training, support & development for senior singers and community outreach
Auckland City Council Arts Alive - sponsors of 'Orpheus in the Underworld' August 2009
Kiromar & Paroma Partnerships - annual sponsorship
The Lois & William Manchester Trust - Education & training
Auckland Varicose Vein & Leg Ulcer Clinic - sponsorship
HLB Wylie McDonald Ltd - our kind honorary auditors
Auckland City Council Creative Communities - Opera Idol
The Taurus Trust - Education, training & performance
Philanthropic Trusts & private donors - towards areas of our annual programme and production opportunities.
Private Sponsor - donation of fine Italian wine



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