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Onegin*

Pyotr Tchaikovsky

April 26 & 28, 2019

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Intermountain Opera Bozeman presents

Eugene Onegin

by Pyotr Tchaikovsky

From the poem by Alexander Pushkin

Conductor: Adam Turner

(sponsored by Lee Freemna)

Stage Director: Nathan Troup

(sponsored by Richard Wolff & Janel Carino)

Cast

Mark Womack - Eugene Onegin (sponsored by Doug & Jeanie Badenoch, The Wine Gallery)

Sarah Tucker - Tatyana (sponsored by ERA Landmark Real Estate, Robyn & Orville Erlenbush)

John Riesen - Lensky (sponsored by Linda Curtis)

Stephanie Sanchez - Olga (sponsored by Margaret & Rufus Cone)

Layna Chianakas - Larina (sponsored by Cathy Costakis)

Branch Fields - Prince Gremin

Janice Meyerson - Filippievna

Logan Henke - Zaretsky & Company Commander

Jon Harney - Triquet

Tristan Pritham - Guillot

THE SETTING

The action takes place upon a landed estate, and in St. Petersburg, in the 1820's

Act I: The garden of Madame Larina's country estate

Tatyana's bedroom

Another part of the garden

INTERMISSION (10-15 minutes)

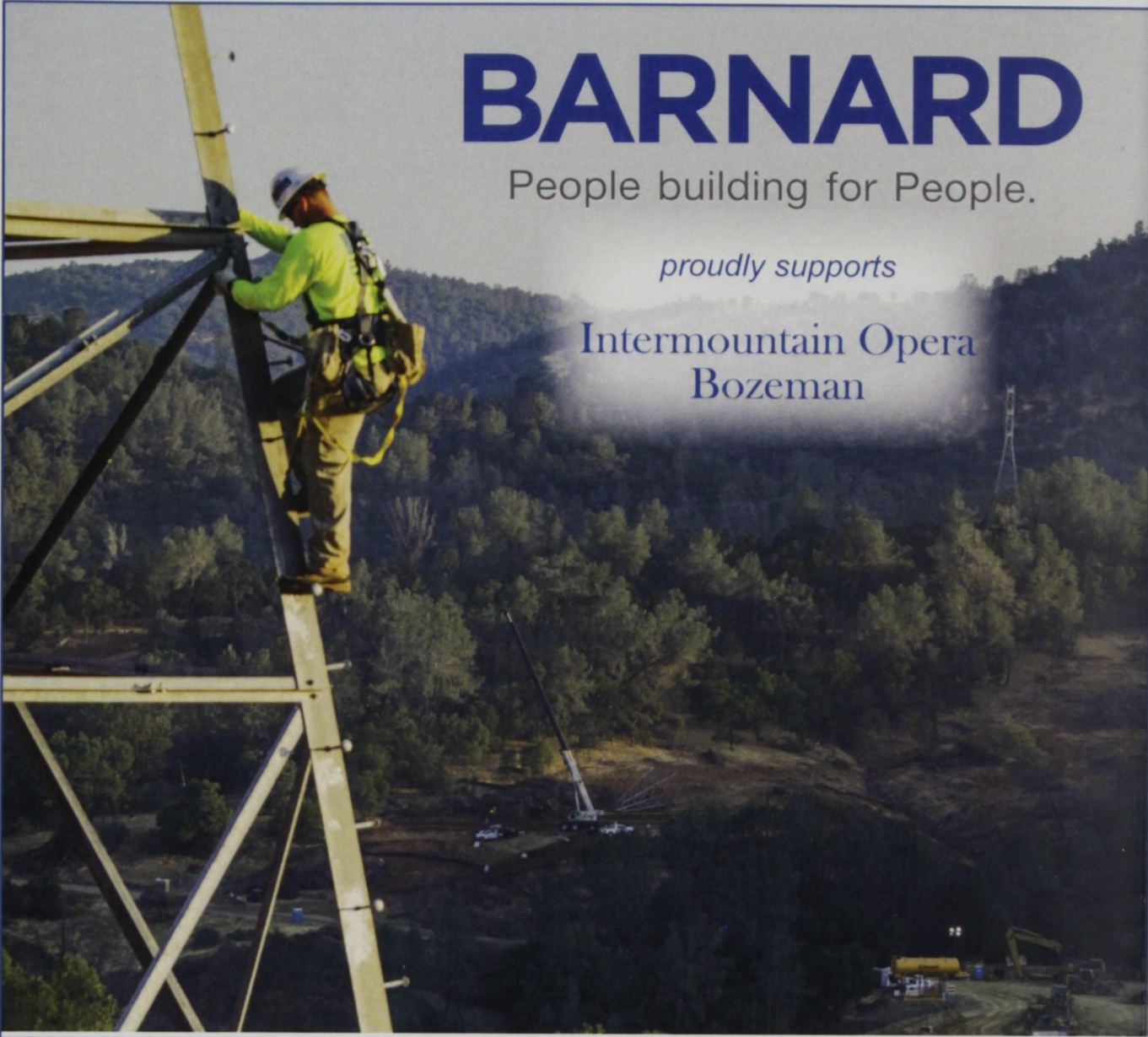
Act II: Larina's house

The bank of a stream near a milldam

INTERMISSION (10-15 minutes)

Act III: A fashionable house in St. Petersburg

A room in Gremin's house



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SYNOPSIS

ACT I

The Larin estate. Madame Larina reflects upon the days before she married, when she was courted by her husband but loved another. She is now a widow with two daughters: Tatyana and Olga. While Tatyana spends her time reading novels, with whose heroines she closely identifies, Olga is being courted by their neighbor, the poet Lensky. He arrives unexpectedly, bringing with him a new visitor, Eugene Onegin, with whom Tatyana falls in love. Tatyana asks her nurse Filippyevna to tell her of her first love and marriage. Tatyana stays up all night writing a passionate letter to Onegin and persuades Filippyevna to have her grandson deliver it in the morning. Tatyana waits for Onegin's response in the garden. He admits that he was touched by her declaration but explains that he cannot accept it and can only offer her friendship. He advises her to control her emotions, lest another man take advantage of her innocence.

ACT II

The local community has been invited to the Larin estate to celebrate Tatyana's name day. Onegin has reluctantly agreed to accompany Lensky to what he mistakenly believes to be an intimate family celebration. Annoyed to find himself trapped at an enormous party and bored by the occasion, Onegin takes his revenge on Lensky by flirting and dancing with Olga. Lensky's jealousy is aroused to such a height that he challenges Onegin to a duel. The party breaks up. Before the duel, Lensky meditates upon his poetry, upon his love for Olga, and upon death. Lensky's second finds Onegin's late arrival and his choice of a second insulting. Although both Lensky and Onegin are full of remorse, neither stops the duel. Lensky is killed.

ACT III

St. Petersburg. Having travelled abroad for several years since the duel, Onegin has returned to the capital. At a ball, Prince Gremin introduces his young wife. Onegin is astonished to recognize her as Tatyana and to realize that he is in love with her. Onegin sends a letter to Tatyana. He arrives at the Gremin palace and begs her to run away with him. Tatyana admits that she still loves him, but that she has made her decision and will not leave her husband. Onegin is left desperate.

-Synopsis courtesy of The Metropolitan Opera

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President's Letter

Dear Friends of Intermountain Opera Bozeman!

On behalf of the Intermountain Opera Board of Directors we welcome you to the final production of our 41st season – Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's masterpiece *Eugene Onegin*.

Intermountain Opera's 41st season began with great success this past October with two performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*. The momentum from the success continued through our production of *Camelot* which was performed this past February in the historic Ellen Theatre in downtown Bozeman. Our collaboration with The Ellen was a first for Intermountain Opera, as is the production of Tchaikovsky's monumental Russian opera *Eugene Onegin*, which you are about to see!

It is exciting to look at our 42nd season in which Intermountain Opera again will be presenting a first! We begin our 2019 – 2020 season with a new opera – *Twenty-seven* by Ricky Ian Gordon. This is a beautiful opera with gorgeous music depicting the lives of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas and their wonderful soirees at 27 rue de fleurus in Paris. These soiree's included guests such as Picasso, Matisse, Hemingway and Fitzgerald. Not a bad group of people to mingle with, wouldn't you say? In February, Intermountain Opera will present, once again in the historic Ellen Theatre, Cole Porter's immortal *Kiss Me, Kate*. As spring arrives in Montana, in April, we will conclude the season with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's masterpiece *The Marriage of Figaro*.

It has been a great pleasure to see the success of our past season and I shall look forward to, along with all of our opera fans, old and new, our exciting 2019 – 2020 season. With the loyal dedication of you our audience, advocates and supporters, Intermountain Opera has a great future to look forward to. For that we sincerely thank you!

Best Regards,

Kenneth J. Christensen

Board President, Intermountain Opera Bozeman.



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ARTISTS



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Mark Womack - baritone (Eugene Onegin) Praised by Opera News as “strikingly warm and gracefully honey toned” Mark Womack’s recent performances include *Carmina Burana* with the Utah, Fargo-Moorhead and Allentown Symphonies, *The Verdi Requiem* with The Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra, Vaughan William’s *A Sea Symphony* at Jorgensen Auditorium with the UConn Symphony, Carl Magnus in *A Little Night Music* with Syracuse Opera, Marcello in *La Bohème* with Opera Birmingham, Danilo in *The Merry Widow* with The Northern Lights Music Festival and Juan Peron in *Evita* with Opera North. Mark is privileged to have performed both Marcello and Schaunard in the Tony Award-winning Broadway production of *La Bohème*, under the direction of Baz Luhrmann.

In recent seasons he has been heard as Giorgio Germont in Knoxville Opera’s *La Traviata*, Macheath in *The Threepenny Opera* with Amarillo Opera, Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly* with Sarasota Opera, Guglielmo in Skylight Opera Theater’s *Così fan tutte*, Henry Higgins in Opera North’s *My Fair Lady*, the title role in *Don Giovanni* with both Utah Festival Opera and Anchorage Opera, Friedrich Bhaer in *Little Women* with Syracuse Opera, Marcello in *La Bohème* and Enrico in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Chattanooga Symphony and Opera, Escamillo in *Carmen* with Utah Festival Opera, Count Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Mississippi Opera, Lescaut in *Manon Lescaut* with Dicapo Opera Theater and numerous appearances with Connecticut Opera, Chautauqua Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, El Paso Opera and Des Moines Metro Opera.

Mark is currently on faculty at the Hartt School of Theatre and Dance, the University of Connecticut School of Music, and the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City.

Sarah Tucker - soprano (Tatyana) Praised by Opera News for “impeccable pitch and phrasing,” and by Opera Today for “pure, clear tones,” soprano Sarah Tucker is demanding attention for her captivating vocal timbre and engaging stage presence.

This season, Ms. Tucker makes her San Diego Opera debut, reprising her role as Micaëla in *Carmen*. She will also sing the role of Tatyana in Intermountain Opera Bozeman’s *Eugene Onegin*. She returns to the New York City Ballet as the soprano soloist for Brahms’ *Liebeslieder Waltzer* at Lincoln Center. Ms. Tucker recently made her Dallas Opera debut as Frasquita in *Carmen*, and her Opera Philadelphia debut, where she sang the role of First Memory in Lembit Beecher’s *War Stories: I Have No Stories To Tell You*, which she first premiered with Gotham Chamber Opera. This summer she sang the role of Echo in *Ariadne auf Naxos* at Santa Fe Opera, returning as a second-year apprentice. Last spring, Ms. Tucker made her international debut as Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi* with the Seiji Ozawa Music Academy in Japan, and performed as the soprano soloist in Stravinsky’s *Les Noces* with the New York City Ballet in Lincoln Center. In recent seasons, Ms. Tucker sang with the San Francisco Opera as Jano in *Jenufa*, and performed at Utah Opera as Micaëla in *Carmen*.

Ms. Tucker was a National Semifinalist in the 2014 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and is a recent graduate of the Arizona Opera Studio.



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ARTISTS



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Stephanie Sanchez - mezzo-soprano (Olga) Praised for her “full voiced sound,” Ms. Sanchez is quickly creating a name for herself as an exciting young mezzo soprano. This season, Ms. Sanchez looks forward to debuting the roles of Baroness Nica in *Charlie Parker's Yardbird* with Arizona Opera; Gertrude in *Hansel and Gretel* with Brava Opera Theatre; and Olga in *Eugene Onegin* with Intermountain Opera Bozeman. Ms. Sanchez is a recent alumna of the Arizona Opera Studio, where she performed such roles as Persephone in *Hercules vs Vampires*, Paquette in *Candide*, Berta in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and Flosshilde in *Das Rheingold*. She was also a member of the Gerdine Young Artist and Gaddes Festival Artist programs at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis from 2014-2016.

Other notable companies of engagement include Teatro Nuovo, St Petersburg Opera, The Glimmerglass Festival, Sarasota Opera, Opera Maine, El Paso Opera, and Atlanta Opera. Ms. Sanchez has won first place in the Young Texas Artist Music Competition, second place in Opera Connecticut's Opera Idol Competition, and received grants from the Anna Sosenko Assist Trust and the Igor Gorin Foundation. She completed her artist diploma from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in 2017 and earned her masters degree from New Mexico State University in 2012. Ms. Sanchez was born and raised in Las Cruces, NM and currently resides in Houston, TX.



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Cathy Costakis

Layna Chianakas - mezzo-soprano (Larina) Mezzo-Soprano, Voice Teacher, and Stage Director, Layna Chianakas has been hailed for her “vocal talents which are matched by her poignancy as an actress” (Des Moines Register) in her portrayal of Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana*. She has performed over 50 leading opera roles across the United States, including over 80 performances of *Carmen*. She was heard as The Secretary in Menotti's *The Consul* with Dayton Opera and recently sang the role of Ruth in *The Pirates of Penzance* with Intermountain Opera Bozeman. She will be with Livermore Valley Opera in September 2019 to sing Filippievna, in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*. Her stage directing credits include Mozart's *Le nozze di*

Figaro, Cavalli's *L'Ormindo*, Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld*, Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*, the National Opera Association's award-winning *Postcard from Morocco* by Argento, Strauss' *Die Fledermaus/The Revenge of the Bat*, and a fully-staged and conceptualized Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, among others, for the San José State Opera Theater.

Ms. Chianakas recently made her Carnegie Hall debut, sang the alto solos in the *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Limerick Music Festival in Limerick, Ireland, and was the mezzo-soprano soloist in Bernstein's *Jeremiah Symphony No. 1* with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra and for the San Jose Wind Symphony's *Symphony No. 4* by Johan de Meij.

In addition to a thriving private voice studio, she is a voice teacher at Valley Christian Conservatory in San Jose, CA as well as the Artistic Director of the Performing Arts division and Voice Teacher for the Assyrian Arts Institute.

Ms. Chianakas holds a Master Degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Illinois and served as an Artistic Ambassador of the United States to Central and South America. She lives in San Jose, CA with her husband, and two children, her greatest productions.

ARTISTS

Branch Fields - bass (Prince Gremin) Mr. Fields whom Opera America describes as "a bass of resonant richness," and The New York Times declared to be "a gifted young bass," is delighting audiences and critics alike, whether it be in opera, concert, or musical theater. He has sung with Santa Fe Opera, New York City Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Opera Carolina, Michigan Opera Theatre, Utah Opera, Opera San Jose, and many other regional companies throughout the U.S.

Engagements have included the world premiere of the opera version of Kurt Vonnegut's play *Happy Birthday Wanda June*, Count Monterone in *Rigoletto*, William Dale in *Silent Night*, Angelotti and Sciarrone in *Tosca*, the Vet in *Animal Tales* and the world premiere of *An Extra Penny*. Recent and upcoming engagements include Mephistopheles in *Faust* and Speaker in *Die Zauberflöte* for St. Petersburg Opera, Tommaso in *Tiefland* for Sarasota Opera, Colline in *La Bohème* for Opera Roanoke, his recently completed Lancelot in *Camelot* for Intermountain Opera Bozeman, Brahms' *Requiem* for the Virginia Choral Society and Beethoven's 9th *Symphony* for the Sarasota Orchestra.

Mr. Field's versatility as a singing actor led to his Broadway debut in *South Pacific*, understudying the role of Emile de Becque in the Lincoln Center Theater production, which won seven Tony Awards. Mr. Fields has been nominated for "Best Actor in a Musical" awards for his Emile de Becque by theater critic circles in Boston, Massachusetts, and Richmond, Virginia.

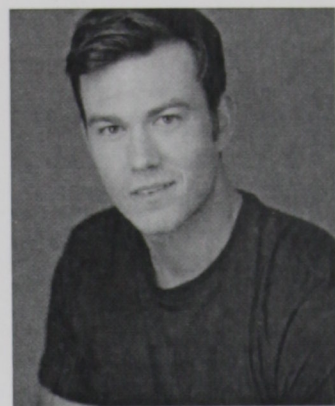


Janice Meyerson - mezzo-soprano (Filippyevna) Miss Meyerson made her debut as Brangäne with Leonard Bernstein and the Philadelphia Orchestra. She has appeared as soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony, Mexico City Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony, American Symphony, and London Proms in such works as Verdi's *Requiem*, Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, Brahms's *Alto Rhapsody*, and all works of Gustav Mahler. Miss Meyerson has performed a wide operatic repertoire, including the title role in *Carmen*, Amneris, Eboli, Ulrica, Herodias, Kostelnicka, Fricka, Santuzza, Judith in *Bluebeard's Castle*, Adriano in *Rienzi*, and Laura in *La Gioconda* in theaters including Deutsche Oper

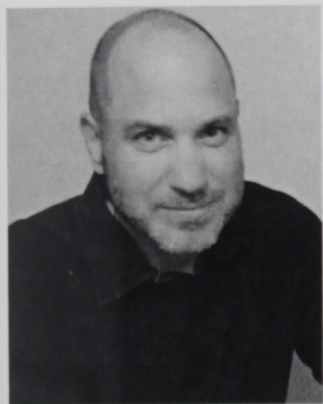
Berlin, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Oper Frankfurt, New York City Opera, Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, Barcelona's Liceu, Washington National Opera, Florida Grand (Miami), Houston Grand Opera, Opera Theater of St. Louis, and companies of New Orleans, Philadelphia, San Diego, Boston, Montreal, London, Dublin, Antwerp, Taipei, Rio de Janeiro, and Montevideo. Recent roles include Kabanicha in *Káťa Kabanová*, Old Prioress in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, and Klytämnestra in *Elektra*. Festival appearances include Tanglewood, Marlboro, Spoleto USA, Aspen, Bard, Schleswig-Holstein, and Wolf Trap. A native of Nebraska, she holds a B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis and an M.M. from the New England Conservatory.

ARTISTS

John Riesen - tenor (Lensky) Hailed as "impassioned...and vibrant" (Opera Today), award-winning American tenor Mr. Riesen is consistently impressing audiences with his "fantastic, powerful voice" (Texarkana Gazette). The 2018/2019 season brings Lensky in *Eugene Onegin* with Intermountain Opera Bozeman, Alfredo in *La Traviata* with Gulf Shore Opera, Younger Thompson in *Glory Denied* with Des Moines Metro Opera and Opera Birmingham, Ralph Rackstraw in *H.M.S. Pinafore* with Anchorage Opera, and the Prince in Massenet's *Cendrillon* with Opera Company of Middlebury. Recent highlights include Candide in *Candide* with Chautauqua Opera, Tony in *West Side Story Suite* with New York City Ballet, Tony in *West Side Story* with Boulder Philharmonic/Central City Opera, Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast* with Shreveport Opera, Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* with Pensacola Opera, Frederic in *The Pirates of Penzance* with Ithaca Opera and Shreveport Opera, Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi* with Crested Butte Summer Festival, Rodolfo in *La Bohème* with Shreveport Opera, and Alfredo in *La Traviata* with Tri-Cities Opera.



sponsored by Linda Curtis



Jon Harney - tenor (Triquet) Mr. Harney is an associate professor of music at Montana State University where he teaches voice and choir. He received his Bachelor of Music degree in music education from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, where he studied under Weston Noble, and Masters and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in vocal performance from the University of Minnesota where he studied with Clifton Ware. As a tenor soloist, he has sung more than twenty-five principal and supporting roles in opera, operetta, and major works with orchestra and chorus. Harney was chorus master for Intermountain Opera from 2001-2015, preparing the choruses for twenty productions. He has been the chorus director

of the Bozeman Symphonic Choir since 2011. His students have gone on to several graduate voice programs including the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, the Manhattan School of Music, the Mannes School of Music, and the University of Oregon.



Logan Henke - bass (Company Commander & Zaretsky) Mr. Henke is a graduate of Montana State University, holding degrees in Music Education and Music Technology. A native of Miles City, MT, he is a fifth-generation Montanan. Henke studied vocal arts with Dr. Jon Harney and Dr. Kirk Aamot. Henke also studied piano with Prof. Laurel Yost and Mrs. Janine Yates. Additionally, Henke has studied composition with Dr. Carrie Leigh Page, Dr. Greg Young, and Prof. Eric Funk. He was a long-standing member of MSU's auditioned vocal ensembles, Chorale and Montanans, and served as their bass section leader. He is also a member of the elite regional choral ensemble, the Aoide Chamber Singers, and serves on their

board and as their Assistant Conductor. Competitively, Henke was selected as a finalist in the MSU Concerto & Aria Competition three years running. Henke was also selected as a participant in the Student Conductor Masterclass at the 2018 NW American Choral Directors Association Regional Conference. This past season found him singing in

ARTISTS

venues across Europe as a soloist on tour with the MSU Chorale and Montanans, including a performance in Notre Dame de Paris. The ensemble premiered a composition of Mr. Henke's on this tour, as well. He also had the pleasure of performing in a joint concert between the Aoide Chamber Singers and the Grammy award winning choir, The Crossing, during their 2018 residency at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center in Big Sky, MT. This is Mr. Henke's fourth engagement with Intermountain Opera Bozeman, and he couldn't be more thrilled to be joining them.

Tristan Pritham (Guillot) Tristan Pritham is thrilled to be performing with Intermountain Opera Bozeman again after his debut performance in *Camelot* this past February. You might have seen him around the Bozeman area in a variety of performances including *White Christmas* and *Annie* at The Ellen Theatre. He has also performed in several student shows including *Grease*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Hamlet* and *Alice in Wonderland*. He hopes you enjoy the opera and thanks you for coming to the show!



ARTISTIC STAFF



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Lee Freeman

Adam Turner (conductor) American conductor Adam Turner is quickly gaining momentum as a conductor to watch on international opera stages. Recently named Artistic Director of Virginia Opera (following four seasons as Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor), Maestro Turner garners critical acclaim for the breadth of his repertoire, artistic vision, and polished technique. Of his recent performance of *Der Freischütz* with Virginia Opera, Opera News hailed: "Conductor Adam Turner ... ensured crackling rhythms as much as lyrical spaciousness, resulting in a performance that felt vital and spontaneous throughout."

In his inaugural season as Artistic Director of Virginia Opera, Maestro Turner will conduct performances of *Street Scene*, *Don Giovanni*, *The Elixir of Love*, and *Madama Butterfly*, in addition to Jack Perla's *An American Dream*. On top of his productions at Virginia Opera, he will conduct *The Seven Deadly Sins* for the Buffalo Philharmonic, *Eugene Onegin* with Intermountain Opera Bozeman, and Jake Heggie's *Three Decembers* with San Diego Opera. Mo. Turner will also return to Central City Opera to conduct *Madama Butterfly* for the 2019 summer season.

Prior to his appointment as one of the youngest artistic leaders in Virginia Opera's history, Mo. Turner proved he has a vision for the future of the industry as a member of the next generation of leaders while holding several administrative and music staff appointments at houses across the country including Seattle Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Central City Opera, Portland Opera, Tulsa Opera, Syracuse Opera, and Ash Lawn Opera. In these positions, Turner worked side-by-side with world-renowned maestri including Asher Fisch, Stuart Bedford, John DeMain, Gary Thor Wedow, and Broadway veteran Rob Fisher. Mo. Turner holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Morehead State University, and a Master of Music degree from The Catholic University of America. He furthered his training with internationally acclaimed conductors and pedagogues Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Marin Alsop, Jorma Panula, Gustav Meier, Kenneth Kiesler, and Kate Tamarkin.

ARTISTIC STAFF



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Carino

Nathan Troup (stage director) Mr. Troup maintains a body of work spanning standard operatic repertoire, new work premieres, uniquely curated site-specific projects, and distinct collaborations with multidisciplinary artists. He made his international directorial debut in October 2017 at Ireland's Wexford Festival with his acclaimed production of Rossini's *La scala di seta* described as "neatly dramatised" (Opera Today UK) and "especially well-crafted" (OperaWire). Career highlights include collaborations with Jessica Lang Dance on Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* for Lincoln Center's White Light Festival and *The Wanderer* for BAM's NextWave Festival; Missy Mazzoli's new opera *Proving Up*, serving as associate director on James Darrah's production for the inaugural Opera Omaha ONE

Festival and stage director for the New York premiere presented by the Miller Theater; Lee Mingwei's *Sonic Blossom* for the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Ragnar Kjartansson's *Song* for the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston. Mr. Troup's work has garnered Best of Boston accolades (2009, 2014) and he was named Boston Lyric Opera's Emerging Artist for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons. Other notable engagements include Santa Fe Opera, Glimmerglass Festival, Wolf Trap Opera, Castleton Festival, and Des Moines Metro Opera where he serves as a resident stage director for the company's Apprentice Artist Program. Mr. Troup currently serves on the faculties of Boston Conservatory and Boston University and has spent the past decade as outreach artist with Sarasa Chamber Music Ensemble's award-winning Outreach Program ("Outstanding Merit and Contribution" by Early Music America), accessing classical music to neglected and incarcerated youth.



Anderson Nunnelley (assistant director/stage manager)

Mr. Nunnelley is currently on production staff at the Santa Fe Opera and the Lyric Opera of Chicago. Mr. Nunnelley has worked as an assistant director at the Boston Lyric Opera, Opera Omaha and Guerilla Opera. As a former Jane and Steven Akin Emerging Artists Stage Director at Boston Lyric Opera from 2016-2018, he staged *Shakespeare Unauthorized*, an extension concert featuring fellow Boston Lyric Opera's Emerging Artists in conjunction with the Boston Public Library. Additionally, Mr. Nunnelley has held various positions in production and artistic departments at Seattle Opera, Opera Colorado and Chicago Opera Theater, and holds a Bachelor of Music from Chicago College of Performing Arts. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Mali, West Africa from 2010 – 2012.

Genevieve Trygstad-Burke (Choreographer)

Raison D'être Dance Project was founded in 2017 by Genevieve Trygstad-Burke and Erin Levy in Bozeman, Montana. The idea was born out of their deep-rooted love of dance and music, and the desire to share their artistic passions with the community. RDE's purpose is to foster collaboration with artists, musicians, choreographers, and philanthropic organizations, while providing an avenue for visions and ideas. Performances grow out of deep investigation into history, music, psychology, and contemporary ideas. For its upcoming season, RDE will explore the turbulent life and times of Sergei Rachmaninov through choreography and costume, to produce an entire act of contemporary ballet set to Rachmaninov's compositions. RDE is also working with a local composer to develop "Plutonia", a contemporary space ballet that explores themes of loneliness and inner conflict.



ARTISTIC STAFF

Lukas Graf (choral conductor) - This is Dr. Graf's fifth time as chorus conductor for Intermountain Opera Bozeman. As a Montana native, Dr. Graf and his family are happy to be back in Bozeman contributing to the musical community. Dr. Graf has performed and conducted opera, operetta, and musical theater around the United States and Europe. His most recent operatic roles include Tamino from Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, Gherardo from Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, and Father Gleaton from Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*. Dr. Graf has also premiered the roles of Louis Tikas in Lori Laitman's *Ludlow*, Collins in Kirk Mechem's *Pride and Prejudice*, and Rosenkrantz from Hershel Garfein's *Rosenkrantz and Guildenstern* in workshops with the composers.



Dr. Graf currently teaches voice, opera scenes, University Choir, and Honors courses at Montana State University. He previously taught voice, choir, and opera at Minot State University. Dr. Graf holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice Performance and Pedagogy and two Masters of Music degrees in Voice Performance and Choral Conducting from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Montana State University under the direction of Lowell Hickman, David Cody, and Linda Curtis.



Alexei Ulitin (rehearsal pianist) A native of Kiev, Ukraine, Mr. Ulitin enjoys a career of a collaborative pianist, soloist and pedagogue. Mr. Ulitin currently serves on the piano faculty at Rowan University (New Jersey). From 2016 to 2018, he served as a visiting assistant professor of collaborative piano at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Mr. Ulitin worked as a member of the musical staff at several music festivals, including Aspen, Meadowmount, Siena, and the Northern Lights. He was a recipient of the New Horizons Fellowship at Aspen Music Festival for three years. He has appeared as a soloist and collaborative pianist across the United States and Europe. His recital partners were Stephen Wyczynski, Emilio Colón, Daniel Perantoni, Demondrae Thurman, Anton Belov, and Jon Garrison among others.

Mr. Ulitin's competition prizes include the 2014 Baltimore Music Club Competition (first prize), 2014 Wonderlic Piano Competition, 2013 Liszt-Garrison International Piano Competition, 2010 International Young Artist Piano Competition in Washington, D.C. (first prize), and 2010 Music Teachers National Association competition (Eastern Division Winner). He earned a Bachelor of Music from Rowan University, Master of Music from the National Music Academy of Ukraine (Kiev), and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Maryland. His primary teachers were Natalia Tolpygo, Veda Zuponcic and Rita Sloan.

Beth Lee (choral rehearsal pianist) Ms. Lee has several decades of experience as a piano accompanist. She studied piano at Florida State University and later privately with James Streem. Her experience includes work as a piano accompanist for music majors at Florida State University and Montana State University, church organist for many years, music director and accompanist in several community theater organizations, harpsichordist with a string quartet in an opera arts association, and accompanist for a varied assortment of choral, jazz and instrumental groups.



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Mary Kothman
Kayla Mallory
Stephen Cepeda

VIOLIN 2

Pico Alt - principal
Susan Platt
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VIOLA

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Zac Masiba

CELLO

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Peter Landeen

BASS

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FLUTE/PICCOLO

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OBOE

Sandy Stimson

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BASSOON

Dorian Antipa

HORN

Mike Nelson - principal
Lily Hawks

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! denotes sectional assistant conductor
+denotes section leader
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If you are interested in joining the opera chorus or participating in future productions,
please call 406-587-2889 for information.

DANCERS

Moria Glaus Else Trygstad-Burke Victoria Williams Genevieve Trygstad-Burke



Raison D'être Dance Project
raisondetredance.org

Artistic Director's Letter

Dear Opera Friends,

Welcome to Intermountain Opera's production of Tchaikovsky's opera *Eugene Onegin*. We are thrilled to bring this exquisite show to life in Bozeman's Willson Auditorium.

Tchaikovsky belonged to the non-nationalist school of Russian composers. His work is described as the result of melding slavic temperament with German training and an appreciation of both French ballet and Italian opera. He was also a precocious student of poetry, writing verse as a young man, before launching into composition.

Eugene Onegin premiered in 1879 in Moscow. It was described as having graceful melodies and expressive harmonies. The text is a novel written by Alexander Pushkin in verse... a poem, the length of a novel. Tchaikovsky adapted the novel into an operatic libretto himself with a friend, the amateur poet, Konstantin Shilovsky. Tchaikovsky described the opera as "lyric scenes."

Like so many of us, my personal relationship with Tchaikovsky's music came through my grandmother, who every Christmas took us to *The Nutcracker*. Then I remember being introduced to the symphonies and concertos and spending hours listening to the music. Fast forward to post-graduate school and a teaching job in Colorado. My first summer in residence I had the opportunity to work with a Russian coach at the summer music festival in Aspen. Her name was Olga Ryss and she decided that I needed to learn the role of Tatyana in *Onegin*. We worked on the Letter Scene, I bought Russian language textbooks and my love affair with this opera began in earnest.

For this Montana production, we have assembled a great cast and artistic team from around the country. Our chorus has valiantly tackled the Russian language and Willson auditorium is transported to another time and place. Michael Hillenius and his capable crew lead our local production team. The costumes are from Utah Opera, fitted, and supplemented by Madeline Garcia and her team. Faye Christensen and Margaret Cone collect from props all over the community. We are so fortunate to have such capable help here locally.

Thank you so much for joining us for this show.
Please enjoy!

Linda Curtis

Artistic Advisors

If there is ever a question regarding a particular production or artist, these outstanding professionals in the world of opera are called on to share their expertise with IOB. This collaborative relationship extends beyond productions that these artists are involved with and is deeply appreciated by everyone at IOB.

Christopher Allen (Conductor) John L. Margo Resident Conductor for Cincinnati Opera, Associate Conductor Los Angeles Opera and 2016 Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award winner and 2017 Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award.

Ari Pelto (Conductor) Music Director of Opera Colorado, with conducting engagements with Virginia Opera, Portland Opera, Lyric Opera Kansas City to name a few.

Curt Olds (Baritone & Stage Director) Butte native and specialist in Gilbert and Sullivan with an active career in Opera and Musical Theater.

Levi Hernandez (Baritone) Former Chicago Lyric Opera Ryan Center Apprentice Artist. Active performance career around the country, including the MET, Houston Grand & Philadelphia to name a few.

Sean Anderson (Baritone) A frequent artist with Sarasota Festival Opera. Active performance career in opera, theater and drama around the country, including Lincoln Center, Opera Delaware Knoxville and more.



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Assistant Director/Stage Manager: Anderson Nunnelley
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Rehearsal Pianist: Alexei Ulitin
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Choreographer: Genevieve Trygstad-Burke
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www.intermountainopera.org

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The Encore Society recognizes and thanks those generous individuals who have left or are leaving a future legacy to Intermountain Opera Bozeman through their wills, retirement plans, life-income plans, and many other creative planned giving arrangements. Please feel free to contact the opera office with any questions you have regarding planned giving.

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The Sustaining Member Society is made up of people who have pledged to give to Intermountain Opera Bozeman at a certain level on a continuing basis. Knowing in advance how much we'll be receiving helps us plan ahead and focus our time and funds on programming.

Sustaining Members are designated in our donor lists by the fermata , a musical notation which indicates that a note may be held as long as desired. A fermata next to your name symbolizes the enduring significance of your support. Please contact the office at 587-2889 to sign up at the level of your choice.

In addition to receiving the heartfelt thanks of the board, the benefits listed below are offered to those who pledge at the following levels:

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- Invitation to attend all evening rehearsals at the Willson
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- A production photograph, autographed by at least one guest artist

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1991 - *Don Pasquale*

1992 - *Faust*

1993 - *Madama Butterfly*

1994 - *The Barber of Seville*

Mrs. Samuel Curtis

1995 - *La bohème*

1996 - *Il Trovatore*

1997 - *Don Giovanni*

Mrs. Joseph Schlobohm

1998 - *La traviata*

1999 - *Tosca*

Jack Day

2000 - *The Marriage of Figaro*

2001 - *The Old Maid & The Thief,
Sweet Betsy from Pike*

2001 - *Rigoletto*

Martha Biel

2001 - *My Fair Galatea*

2002 - *The Elixir of Love*

2003 - *Aida*

Rodger E. Clingman

2004 - *Lucia di Lammermoor*

2005 - *Cavalleria Rusticana &
Pagliacci*

2005 - *Pirates of Penzance*

2006 - *Manon Lescaut*

2006 - *The Mikado*

Janet K. Young

2007 - *The Magic Flute*

2008 - *Carmen*

2008 - *Die Fledermaus*

2009 - *La bohème*

Jane Hodges

2009 - *The Ballad of Baby Doe*

2010 - *Il Trovatore*

2010 - *Bravo! An Opera Celebration*

2011 - *The Barber of Seville*

2011 - *Hansel & Gretel*

2012 - *Madama Butterfly*

Richard Wolff

2012 - *Così fan tutte*

2012 - *Amahl and the Night Vistors*

2013 - *Roméo et Juliette*

2013 - *La traviata*

2014 - *La Cenerentola*

2014 - *H.M.S. Pinafore*

2015 - *Man of La Mancha*

2015 - *Suor Angelica &*

Gianni Schicchi

Dennis K. Wentz

2015 - *Don Pasquale*

2016 - *My Fair Lady*

2016 - *Don Giovanni*

2016 - *The Daughter of the Regiment*

2017 - *A Little Night Music*

2017 - *Tosca*

2017 - *The Tender Land*

2018 - *She Loves Me*

2018 - *Falstaff*

Kenneth Christensen

2018 - *The Pirates of Penzance*

2019 - *Camelot*

2019 - *Eugene Onegin*

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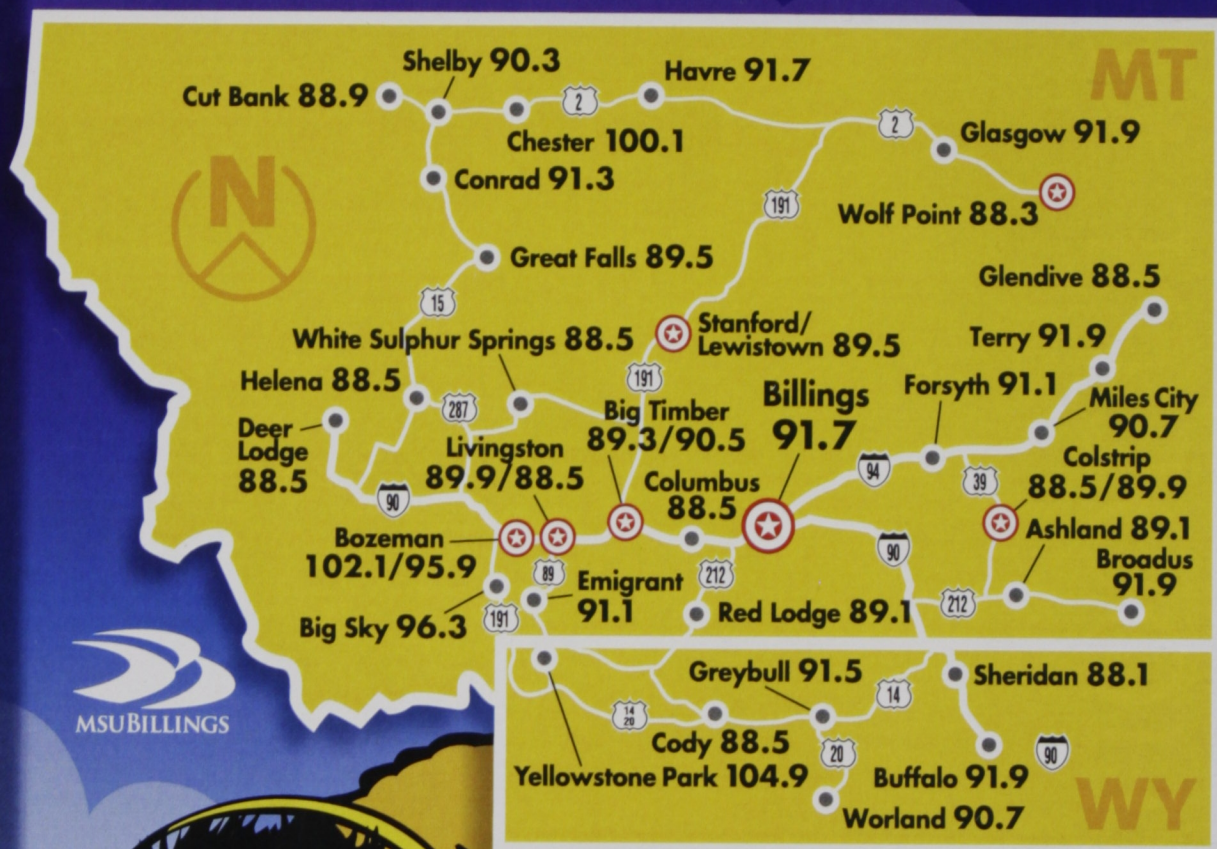
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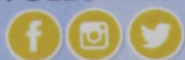
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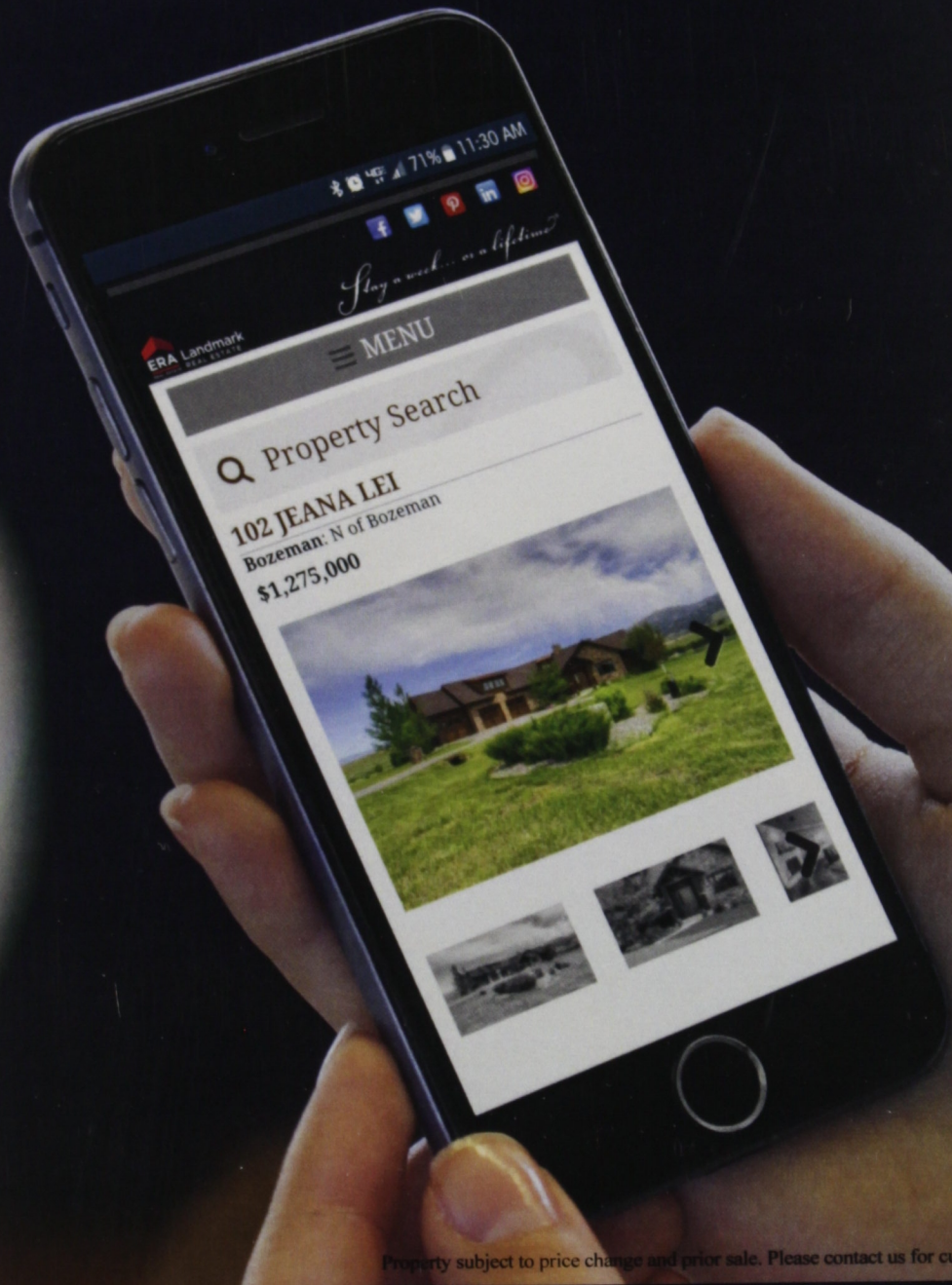
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