

SEPTEMBER 29TH & 30TH

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THE CORONATION OF DPPEA

MUSIC BY CLAUDIO MONTEVERDI

LIBRETTO BY GIOVANNI FRANCESCO BUSENELLO

INTERMOUNTAIN OPERA BOZEMAN **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL SAKIR**

STAGE DIRECTOR KRISTINE MCINTYRE

CAST

Ottone......Rodolfo Girón Seneca Daren Small

.....Caitlin Cisler

The production is 2 hours and there will be one 15-minute intermission. Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

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ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR & HARPSICHORDIST

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Andrew McIntosh	Violin
Kathryn Montoya	Recorder
Vicki Boeckman	Recorder
Elizabeth Motter	Harp
John Lenti	. Theorbo
Kevin Payne	. Theorbo
Adaiha MacAdam-Somer	Cello

SYNOPSIS

ACT ONE

Nerone

Ottavia .

Drusilla.

OTTONE, in love with POPPEA, stands outside her window at dawn. When he sees the Roman Emperor NERO sharing Poppea's bed, he laments his lost love. Nero and Poppea wake up and Poppea tries to persuade Nero not to leave her bedside. Meanwhile, Nero's empress OTTAVIA is distressed by Nero's adultery, but SEN-ECA, Nero's tutor, tries to calm her. Nero tells Seneca of his desire to marry Poppea and make her empress. Seneca tries to dissuade Nero, appealing to moral and political reason, but Nero angrily dismisses his tutor. Poppea persuades Nero that Seneca will be an obstacle to their love and Nero orders that Seneca kill himself by royal decree. Ottone returns to confess his love to Poppea, but she scornfully dismisses him and tells him she is Nero's lover. Re-

jected, Ottone turns to DRUSILLA, a lady of the court, and plots his revenge against Poppea.

ACT TWO

Seneca calmly receives the order from Nero that he must kill himself and prepares for his suicide. The empress Ottavia orders Ottone to kill Poppea. He plans to do this disguised in Drusilla's clothes. Poppea evades the plot. The disguised Ottone escapes, but Drusilla is accused in his place by Poppea of the attempted murder. When Ottone confesses, he and Drusilla are both exiled. Nero also exiles Ottavia and she bids a bitter farewell to Rome. The opera ends with Poppea's coronation as empress and a rapturous duet for the happy couple.

THE CORONATION OF **POPPEA**



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~ MIGUEL

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April 18-20

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Velcome to our 45th season! It is with great excitement that we welcome you to *The Coronation of Poppea*, our first-ever Baroque opera in partnership with Baroque Music Montana and Forward Montana. It's funny— by presenting one of the oldest operas ever written, we are actually embracing the future. By reconfiguring Hope Lutheran Church into an intimate three-quarter style thrust theatre, we are reimagining what's visually possible while maintaining one of the most impeccable acoustical experiences around. What's old is innovative. What's historic is absolutely modern.

Keep a lookout for other ways we'll be reimagining what's possible throughout the year. By inaugurating our ongoing military chorus, by including youth in our two upcoming productions,



by expanding Wheels of Harmony, our statewide school tour, and more, we're invigorating our operations on the daily.

Enjoy the show,

Douglas Bademoch Sucan Miller Doug Badenoch

Board President

Susan Miller General Director

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Claudio Monteverdi's masterpiece *The Coronation of Poppea* is not only the first Baroque opera presented in Intermountain Opera Bozeman's 45year history, but it is also one of

the first operas ever written. The Venetian court of 1643 sought a new and exciting opera for that year's carnival season. Monteverdi, at the age of 74, wrote his tenth and final opera for the occasion. He based it on the provocative reign of the real-life Roman emperor Nero who installed his mistress Poppaea as his empress.

But what is so special anyway about performing an opera from the Baroque era? That century and a half between 1600 and 1750 created some of the most thrilling and beautiful music in Western culture. Instruments like the violin, flute, and harpsichord were developed to share music with wider audiences in new concert halls and theaters. Opera offered the ultimate entertainment as it combined poetry, music, dance, and storytelling for the first



I want to thank our dear community partners in this production. Carrie Krause is a visionary leader in the Gallatin Valley. The stylish playing of her historically-informed ensemble Baroque Music Montana brings to life Monteverdi's score the way it was meant to be heard. Additionally, our partnership with Forward Montana reminds us that Nero's authoritarianism is sadly still prevalent around the world today and that it is up to young voters to change that.

Thank you so much for joining us tonight. Get ready for opera like you've never heard it before! Sincerely,

Michael Sakir

Michael Sakir Artistic Director

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Caleb Young, Conductor

THE CORONATION OF POPPEA LOCAL ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



Carrie Krause is the founder and Artistic Director of Baroque Music Montana, without whose participation this production would not be possible. She is also the concertmaster of Bozeman Symphony Orchestra, and teaches violin around the valley. Learn more about her here in this edition of our Local Artist Spotlight.

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND.

I started playing violin when I was three, and I was always lucky to be part of a vibrant musical community for young people. My dad was in the Army so we moved quite a bit but ended up in Fairbanks, Alaska, when I was 11. They have an amazing program up there, so I'm one of many professional musicians that came out of Fairbanks.

I did my undergrad at Carnegie Mellon in Pittsburgh, and for my masters, I went to the Cleveland Institute of Music. Quality of life was really important to me—not just amazing musical opportunities—and I wanted to make a living in a place of choice.

I came to Bozeman in 2005, and I was here for seven years before deciding to go back to school for the early music program at Julliard. I had realized my dream of being concertmaster in a mountain town by the age of 24, so by then I was ready for the next challenge. The two-year program focused on historical performance, and it was free! It was great to be able to circle back and just focus on high level playing. Historical performance gives you new ways to get at musical expression. It's a musical counterculture.

CAN YOU TALK MORE ABOUT THAT?

Besides being around other really fantastic artists, the other most striking and helpful element from my time at Juilliard was the illogic side of artistry. If you have a context for who the original musicians were, you're occupying a persona or going with a vibe or divergent idea, rather than trying to make something happen technically, it's a huge shortcut for good music making. It's about 100% commitment.

WHEN DID YOU FOUND BaMM?

From the time I moved here from Cleveland, I wanted to play Baroque music—the music I love so deeply in this place I love with the people I love. But to do that I had to organize it! And so I invited friends to Montana to play concerts. But after awhile, I thought that there had to be some way to create a broader impact. Ideally, as a series, it could represent this place. It is the most satisfying thing to create something that's truly meaningful

to you, while also being able to create opportunities for friends, audiences, and colleagues. We got a small grant to start Baroque Music Montana in 2015, but our first real season was 2017.

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE NOT MAKING MUSIC?

I love trail running and love nordic skiing. I can ski out my door or drive 10 minutes, so I try to take full advantage of being in this wonderful place. And I like to cook for my partner, Paul, when I have those rare evenings free.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO WITH THE CORONATION OF POPPEA?

I previously did a *Poppea* in Belgrade, Serbia, that had some funny things happen with the cast, so I'm looking forward to a more calm and polished

Audience gathers for "Backyard Baroque"

** IT IS THE MOST SATISFYING THING TO CREATE SOMETHING THAT'S TRULY MEANINGFUL TO YOU, WHILE ALSO Being Able to create opportunities For Friends, Audiences, AND colleagues. **

production. But also, it's fascinating to learn about these figures of Roman antiquity—Seneca and Nero—and it's just so exciting to be able to present an opera from the beginnings of this new incredible art form. I think it will be fascinating for the audience to see opera in context and how it evolved over time, and why it was so revolutionary—the idea of a singer being free to be expressive—that's so captivating.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE THAT WE HAVEN'T ASKED YOU?

I think it's amazing what the opera company does—that it's so grass roots. The staff is setting up the stage, everyone's involved. It's absolutely incredible what the IOB team does day in and out, and I think that's why it's so successful.



Genevieve Trygstad-Burke and Carrie perform 6 High Places, a collaboration between BaMM and Raison D'Etre Dance Project. (Photo: Blair Speed, Speed Creative & Coaching)

THE CORONATION OF POPPEA ARTIST PROFILES

SHAWNETTE SULKER POPPEA

(Die Zauberflöte) with Santa Rosa Symphony,

and Mary Jane Bowser (Intelligence by Heggie)

for a workshop of the soon to be premiered op-

era with Houston Grand Opera. In concert of

late, she's performed a recital of Brazilian music

in New York's Scorca Hall, Ein Deutsches Requiem

(Brahms) with the Stanford Symphonic Chorus,

and a staged performance of Carmina Burana

International highlights include a concert

of operatic repertoire at the Teatro di San Car-

lo in Naples, touring Die Fledermaus as Adele in

Holland and Belgium, and orchestra concerts

in Leipzig's Gewandhaus and Prague's Smetana

Hall. She has been a soloist with companies such

as the San Francisco Opera, American Bach So-

loists, Mark Morris Dance Group, Hawaii Opera

Theatre, Opera Memphis, Opera Fairbanks, Op-

era Idaho, Opera Naples, Union Avenue Opera,

and the Symphonies of Eugene, Winston-Salem,

Garden State, Oakland, and Berkeley. Upcoming

engagements include singing Dora in The Three

Feathers (Laitman), a workshop of the new opera

Bulrusher (as Bulrusher) by Stookey, and Barber's

Heather Jones (they/them) is a mezzo and perfor-

mance artist performing classical and contempo-

rary repertoire with "mischievous freshness and en-

thusiasm." Heather is gaining a reputation for their

work uplifting and embodying queer and trans sto-

ries in opera, most recently in regional productions

of As One with Opera Maine and Holy City Opera,

with Peninsula Ballet Theater.

Knoxville: Summer of 1915.

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NERONE

HEATHER JONES



Critically acclaimed soprano Shawnette Sulker has recently sung the roles of Poppea (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*) with West Edge Opera, Ariel in the world premiere of Prospero's *Island by Shearer*, *Die Königin der Nacht*



in the world premiere of Bryce McClendon's new play *The Smallest Sound in the Smallest Space* at the cell theatre in NYC, and in a chamber opera titled *Expostulation(s) of Mary* produced by the Grammy nominated Wild Up Ensemble in Los Angeles.

Expostulation(s) is a semi-autobiographical piece that explores gender, sexuality, and body autonomy using sacred music written about the Virgin Mary and features the music of Henry Purcell arranged and re-composed for string ensemble, electronics, vocal processing, and dance.

In the 2023-2024 season, Heather joins Intermountain Opera Bozeman making a role debut as Nerone in Monteverdi's L'incoronazione di Poppea and they reprise two favorite roles: Hannah in As One with Kentucky Opera and Dido in Dido and Aeneas with Savannah Voice Festival. Heather will also join Apollo's Fire and the New York Philharmonic to sing Handel's Israel in Egypt at Lincoln Center. In concert, Heather has appeared as a soloist with Beth Morrison Projects, American Contemporary Music Ensemble, NOVUS NY, ChamberQUEER, Albany Symphony, Sequoia Symphony, Trinity Wall Street, and Spoleto Festival USA, and was a recent finalist in the American Traditions Vocal Competition and winner of the Sherrill Milnes American Opera Award.

Offstage, Heather has co-produced two iterations of the multi-disciplinary, durational work *Vexations in Time*, based on Satie's experimental piano solo of the same name, as well as two short films: *Abraham and Isaac*, featuring abstract artist Meredith Walker live painting Britten's duet for mezzo and tenor and Weill's *Lost in the Stars*, shot remotely during quarantine at Juilliard and featuring dancer-choreographer Lindsay Phillips. Heather has spoken on LGBTQ+ panels with American Opera Project, Wild Up, Opera Maine, and Savannah Voice Festival, and is currently touring a recital titled *Still Running* which chronicles the common trans experience of escapism and searching for belonging within a family, a community, and one's own body. heatherjonesmezzo.com and instagram: @hbeeejay

BLYTHE GAISSERT OTTAVIA

Mezzo-soprano Blythe Gaissert has established herself as one of the preeminent interpreters of



some of the brightest stars of new classical music. A true singing actress, she has received critical acclaim for her interpretations of both new and traditional repertoire in opera, concert, and chamber repertoire. Gaissert is known for her warm tone,

powerful stage presence, and impeccable musicianship and technical prowess... "Mezzosoprano Blythe Gaissert was impossible to ignore... She has a pure, powerful and appealing voice and a forceful stage presence to match." (*Denver Post*)

Recent performances include the Soprano in Marc Neikrug's A Song By Mahler with the ARC Ensemble in Toronto, Judd Greenstein's A Marvelous Order at the Center for Performing Arts at PSU, Linda Larson in Laura Kaminsky's Hometown To The World at Santa Fe Opera and at New York Town Hall, Katharine Wright in Laura Kaminsky's Finding Wright for Dayton Opera, Eva Crowley An American Dream for Opera Idaho, the role of Georgia O'Keefe in Laura Kaminsky's Today It Rains with Opera Parallele and American Opera Projects, Sadie in Ricky Ian Gordon's Morning Star with On-Site Opera, creating the role of Walker Loats in Mikael Karlsson's The Echo Drift for American Opera Projects at the Prototype Festival, Hansel Hänsel Und Gretel with San Diego Opera, the role of Hannah After in Laura Kaminsky's As One with Atlanta Opera, American Opera Projects, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, New York City Opera, Opera Colorado, Opera Columbus, Opera Idaho, Opera Memphis and San Diego Opera.

Ms. Gaissert's debut album *Home*, comprised of world premieres written specifically for her, was released in 2021 to superb reviews and reached Number 1 in the *Billboard* Classical Charts. Your source for Buying or Selling Gold, Silver, & Rare Coins



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ARTIST PROFILES CONTINUED

RODOLFO GIRÓN OTTONE



Mexican American Countertenor Rodolfo Girón is excited to join Intermountain Opera in their production of *L'incoronazione di Poppea*. He will be performing the role of Ottone. Mr. Girón is currently working with Beth Morrison Production to devel-

op a new opera by innovator and composer Paola Prestini. The work will be based off of Hemingway's novella *The Old Man and the Sea* and will be performing opposite acclaimed baritone Nathan Gunn. The production will tour in Massachusetts, Arizona, New York, and North Carolina.

He also joined the Dallas Opera in their performance of *Flight* by Jonathan Dove. Later this season he will be a soloist with Musica Viva New York in their performance of *Carmina Burana* and Bach's Weihnachts-Oratorium.

Mr. Girón recently joined Musica Viva New York where he has already performed as a soloist in their performances of Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach's *Magnificat*, and Joel Thompsons *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*. He also made his debut with Opera Dell'arte in their production of *Il ritorno d'Ulisse*, where he performed the role of Melanto. He will also be apart of their production of *Juana* written by Mexican-American Composer Carla Lucero.

Mr. Girón was a Semi-Finalist in Fort Worth Opera's McCammon Voice Competition as well as won second place at the New Hampshire Idol Competition. He also won the Metropolitan Opera Council Audition District of Puerto Rico and won an Encouragement award at the Minnesota District. He also was awarded the Legacy Award at Carolyn Bailey Argento Vocal Competition.

Other credits of his include Oberon in A Midsummer Night's Dream, Ruggiero in Alcina, Arsamene in Serse, Nerone in L'incoronazione di Poppea, The Blood in A Gathering of Souls, Cherubino in Le Nozze di Figaro, and The Sorceress in Dido and Aeneas, Mr. Girón received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Pepperdine University and a Masters of Music Degree in Opera Performance from The Boston Conservatory at Berklee.

DAREN SMALL Seneca



Daren Small is a distinguished bass-baritone soloist in the American Northwest. He enjoys sharing his passion for singing, both on stage as well as in the classroom and voice studio. Small earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Vo-

cal Performance at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). Based in his hometown of Billings, Montana, Dr. Small is currently Assistant Professor of Voice at Montana State University Billings. Throughout his entire career, he has enjoyed opportunities to share his "clear and rich-timbred voice" with all audiences.

Dr. Small made his soloist debut at Montana State University during their 2006 performance of Mozart's Requiem. Since then, he has performed as a soloist in many venues. His most recent operatic appearances include: Awakenings, Die Zauberflöte, Turandot, Aïda, The Crucible, Rigoletto, Tosca, and La Bohème. He is continually hailed as one of the finest bass soloists to sing Handel's Messiah. His recent concert appearances include performances of Bach's Mass in B Minor and St. John Passion, Stravinsky's Les Noces, Fauré's Requiem, Mozart's Requiem, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, and Handel's Messiah. Small was also a winner of the District Metropolitan Opera National Council (MONC) Auditions for Montana and Idaho in 2015. He went on to win the 3rd place Encouragement Award at the Northwest MONC Finals in 2016. Additional information about can be found at darensmall.com

CAITLIN CISLER DRUSILLA

Caitlin Cisler (soprano), from Appleton, Wisconsin, made her professional debut headlining as Cunegonde in *Candide* with Four Seasons Theatre in Madison. Praised for her "breathtaking range of voice", Caitlin has appeared as Marie in *La fille du régiment*, Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Oscar in *Un ballo in maschera*, Adele in *Die Fledermaus, Queen of the Night*, Pamina and



Papagena in *Die Zauberflöte*, Armida in *Rinaldo*, Madame Herz in *The Impresario*, Josephine in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, among many other beloved coloratura roles. Caitlin also debuted the role of the Queen in Jordan Jenkins' prequel to the *Magic Flute*, *Queen of the Night*, in 2018. In concert, Caitlin most

recently appeared with the Missoula Symphony Orchestra for their 2022 Holiday Pops! concert. Other notable concert works include: Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Strauss' *Brentano Lieder*, Mozart's *Requiem*, *Exsultate Jubilate* and Vespers *solennes de confessore*, the Faure *Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and *Magnificat*, Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, Beethoven's *9th Symphony*, and Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem* and *Liebeslieder op. 52*.

Caitlin holds a Masters in Opera Performance from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and Bachelor degrees in vocal performance and biology from Lawrence University. She is a published researcher in vocal health and the effects of singing on the immune system. Currently, Caitlin happily lives in Missoula with her husband Jesse. Upcoming performance information and media can be found on her website: www.caitlincisler.com

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THE CORONATION OF POPPEA ORCHESTRA

CARRIE KRAUSE VIOLIN & BAMM FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Violinist Carrie Krause's "elegant, sparkling performance brought audience cheers"– Seattle Post Intelligencer. Raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, Carrie Krause performs as a baroque violinist with ensembles across the country and on numerous

international series. Carrie was guest artistic director and concerto soloist with Seattle Baroque in a performance of Vivaldi's Four Seasons. She has performed as concertmaster of New Trinity Baroque in Atlanta, as guest concertmaster of Pacific Baroque in Vancouver and the San Francisco Bach Choir, as associate concertmaster of Apollo's Fire in Cleveland, and as principal with Spire in Kansas City and the Oregon Bach Festival. Carrie has also appeared with Chatham Baroque, New York State Baroque, Portland Baroque, Passamezzo Moderno, Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado, Clarion, The American Classical Orchestra, and Concert Royale in New York. Festival engagements include the Leipzig Bach Festival as soloist, the Belgrade Early Music Festival in Serbia and Sastamalla Gregoriana in Finland as concertmaster, and the Utrecht Early Music Festival, Festival Dan les Jardins de William Christie in Nante, France, and the BBC Proms in London. Carrie has worked under such conductors as Jordi Savall, Ton Koopman, Richard Egarr, Nic McGegan, and Masaaki Suzuki.

Carrie founded Baroque Music Montana, a presenting organization for a series of concerts across the multi-state region and the annual Period Performance Workshop, providing employment and learning engagement to local, national, and international musicians.

As a modern violinist, Carrie serves as concertmaster of the Bozeman Symphony. Carrie was concerto soloist with the Billings Symphony, Fairbanks Symphony, Casper Symphony, National Repertory Orchestra, String Orchestra of the Rockies, and Bozeman Symphony. She has served as guest concertmaster of the Big Sky Festival Orchestra, Billings Symphony, Helena Symphony, and guest artistic director of String Orchestra of the Rockies. She was thrice featured in the Grammy Award-winning TV series, 11th and Grant. She founded and directs the Second String Orchestra for amateur players and the Bozeman Chamber Ensembles for youth. Carrie maintains a studio of twenty-five students, including award winners at the MTNA and ASTA competitions. Carrie received degrees from Carnegie Mellon under Andres Cardenes, a master's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music in violin performance and Suzuki Pedagogy, and a second master's degree from The Juilliard School in Historical Performance. An avid adventurer, Carrie placed first in her age group in the Springfield Missouri Marathon, and third overall female in the Old Gabe 50k Trail race, and occasionally loves to Nordic ski even more than practicing the violin.

ANDREW McINTOSH



Andrew McIntosh is a violinist, violist, composer, and baroque violinist who teaches at the California Institute of the Arts, with a wide swath of musical interests ranging from historical performance practice of the

Baroque era to improvisation, microtonal tuning systems, and the 20th-century avant-garde.

As a baroque performer McIntosh is a member of Tesserae, Bach Collegium San Diego, and Musica Angelica, has served as guest concertmaster for baroque operas with LA Opera and Opera UCLA, was recently both music director and concertmaster of Long Beach Opera's all-Handel pastiche production *The Feast*, and has performed with the Washington National Cathedral Baroque Orchestra, Musica Pacifica, and the American Bach Soloists. He is also a frequent recitalist, performing with historical keyboardist Ian Pritchard and fortepianist Steven Vanhauwaert, and also appeared at the San Francisco Symphony's *SoundBox* series in 2016 performing solo Bach on baroque violin.

As a solo artist he has performed at Miller The-

atre in New York, REDCAT, and festivals and concert series across Europe and the US. As a chamber musician he is a member of the Formalist Quartet, Wild Up, and Wadada Leo Smith's Red Koral Quartet. As a composer he often works with forms and ideas found in nature or in other artistic disciplines, and was described by Alex Ross in the *New Yorker* as "a composer preternaturally attuned to the landscapes and soundscapes of the West".

KATHRYN MONTOYA Recorder



Kathryn appears with a variety of orchestral and chamber music ensembles, including the Boston Early Music Festival Orchestra, Tafelmusik, and Apollo's Fire. She received her degrees at Oberlin Conservatory and Indiana University

School of Music, Bloomington. While at IU, she received the prestigious Performer's Certificate and was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Germany.

Kathryn teaches historical oboes at Oberlin Conservatory and has been on the faculty of Longy's International Baroque Institute, the Baroque Performance Institute at Oberlin, SFEMS workshops, and has given masterclasses in the US and China.

She enjoys a varied musical career performing for the Grammy award-winning recording of Charpentier's *La Couronne de Fleurs* with BEMF and Tony award-winning production of *Twelfth Night* and *Richard III* on Broadway with Shakespeare's Globe of London.

Kathryn can regularly be found in Hereford, England, converting an 18th century barn into a home with her husband, James.

VICKI BOECKMAN Recorder

Vicki Boeckman has been performing and teaching since the 1980s.

Before settling in Seattle, she resided in Denmark from 1981-2005 and had the opportunity to collaborate with some of the finest musicians



and composers of the day. Her Danish recorder trio Wood'N'Flutes had a fantastic 15-year run performing all over Europe and working with contemporary composers in addition to doing children's

theater. She was an adjunct professor at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen for 12 years and taught at the Ishøj Municipal School of Music for 23 years. Many of those students are now professionals, performing and teaching in conservatories in Denmark and around Europe.

In the Pacific Northwest Vicki has been a featured soloist with the Seattle Symphony, Seattle Baroque Orchestra, the Yakima Symphony, Portland Baroque Orchestra, The Oregon Symphony, Portland Opera, Medieval Women's Choir, Gallery Concerts, Boise Philharmonic, Philharmonia Northwest Orchestra, and the Skagit Symphony. She is currently a member of the Farallon Recorder Quartet, Music director for the Seattle Recorder Society, co-director for the Recorder Orchestra of Puget Sound (ROPS), and Artistic Director for the Port Townsend Early Music Workshop. She adores teaching children as well as adults and has been on the faculty at Music Center of the Northwest since 2005 in addition to having a thriving home and Zoom studio. She is overjoyed (and relieved) to be returning to live, in-person concerts after the pandemic hiatus and thrilled to be a part of this incredible collaboration of L'incoronazione Di Poppea.

ELIZABETH MOTTER HARP



Highlights in Elizabeth Motter's career on modern harp include concerts with Singapore Symphony, Spoleto Festival, Aspen Music Festival, Des Moines Metro Opera, Lancaster Festival, New World Symphony, Peninsula Music

Festival, a residency in Japan, and performing as a regular substitute in the Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and Columbus Symphony Orchestras. She

ORCHESTRA CONTINUED

has had the privilege of playing in the orchestras of such legends as Marvin Hamlisch, Sarah Vaughan, Aretha Franklin, Manhattan Transfer, Al Jarreau, The King's Singers, and Frank Sinatra, and participated in recordings made by Nashville Chamber Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestras, and Indianapolis Symphony. Elizabeth obtained her B.M. in Harp Performance at Oberlin College Conservatory and also studied at Indiana University. Her journey into historical performance practice began in 2011 and has led her to attend the Amherst Early Music Festival, Accademia D'Amore (Seattle), Oberlin's Baroque Performance Institute, Tafelmusik's Baroque Summer Institute (Toronto), and Festival le Arpe in Villa (Italy). In addition to performing regularly with Cincinnati's Catacoustic Consort, Elizabeth has performed and recorded with Consortium Carissimi (Minnesota), participated in the Monteverdi Project at Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music, and was a member of the continuo teams for Cincinnati Opera's 2014 production of La Calisto, 2018 production of L'Incoronazione di Poppea, and a 2015 production of La Purpura de la Rosa at the University of Illinois. She is featured in Catacoustic's 2018 CD release, Ai sospiri. Elizabeth teaches at the University of Cincinnati's CCM Preparatory Department and freelances throughout the region, performing in many professional ensembles. She is also a founding member of Three 2 Tango, a trio that specializes in improvisatory Argentine tango music.

JOHN LENTI THEORBO



John Lenti specializes in music of the seventeenth century and has made basso continuo improvisation on lute, theorbo, and baroque guitar the cornerstone of a career that

encompasses baroque and modern orchestras, chamber music, recitals, and opera. He has played for the Metropolitan Opera, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Seattle Symphony, and many other orchestras both modern and baroque. He has made some well-regarded recordings with groups like Acronym, Wayward Sisters, Baroque Music Montana, Musica Pacifica, and Ostraka, and has played with groups of all sizes and kinds at festivals and concert series all over the place. His primary artistic influences are Vladimir Horowitz and T.S. Eliot, though he doesn't really write or play the piano. He studied lute with Nigel North, Jacob Heringman, and Elizabeth Kenny. He comes from South Carolina and lives in Seattle and spends lots of time in Montana.

KEVIN PAYNE THEORBO



Lutenist Kevin Payne is active as a recitalist, accompanist, and continuo player. Recent ensemble work includes performances with Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Tempesta di Mare, Philharmonie Austin, and Bach Col-

legium San Diego. Festival appearances include Caramoor, Tanglewood, Spoleto, and Newport Classical.

Performance venues include Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the National Concert Hall in Taipei, Taiwan, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, and the Festspielhaus in Baden-Baden, Germany. His playing has been broadcast on a number of nationally syndicated radio programs including Sunday Baroque and Performance Today.

Kevin is a graduate of the Peabody Institute, the Juilliard School, and the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Basel, Switzerland. When not performing, Kevin enjoys cooking, reading, watching *Star Trek* (P'Tach!) and attempting to delay the inevitable (and often imminent) demise of the houseplants he shares with his wife, cellist Caroline Nicolas.

ADAIHA MacADAM-SOMER CELLO

Multi-instrumentalist Adaiha MacAdam-Somer is highly sought after as a teacher, chamber and orchestral musician across the United States and Europe. She splits her time and passion equally



between cello, baroque cello, and all branches of the viola da gamba family. From her home base in Portland, Adaiha performs with a variety of ensembles including Amadeus Chamber Or-

chestra, Portland Baroque Orchestra, Seattle Baroque Orchestra, 45th Parallel, Byron Schenkman and Friends, Gallery Concerts, Voices of Music, Voice of the Viol, OrpheusPDX Opera, and various other chamber and vocal ensembles across the states. As an educator she maintains a studio of private students, coaches the Bridgetown Baroque Ensemble, Trillium Baroque Orchestra, and substitute teaches for youth orchestras and chamber ensembles across the Pacific Northwest. Adaiha is regularly sought after as a guest instructor of workshops nationwide.

Miss MacAdam-Somer holds a Masters in Chamber Music and a Professional Studies Diploma in cello performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. While in attendance she had the opportunity to work and perform with such esteemed artists as Kim Kashkashian, Robert Mann, Menahem Pressler, Ian Swenson and Joseph Swensen. While completing her undergraduate degree in cello performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Adaiha taught for the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra and was tenured into Madison Symphony Orchestra as their assistant principal cellist. Her primary teachers include Jean-Michel Fonteneau, Elisabeth Reed, Uri Vardi, and Laszlo Varga. In the summer you can find her performing with various festivals and teaching chamber music and cello at Kinhaven Music School. Adaiha is forever grateful to Indre Viskontas and Adam Bristol for facilitating the acquisition of her 7-string bass viol, made by master luthier Francis Beaulieu.

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KRISTINE MCINTYRE STAGE DIRECTOR



Stage director Kristine McIntyre has more than 100 operas to her credit with a focus on new, contemporary and American works. Recent productions include the world premiers

of Hometown to the World at the Santa Fe Opera and Town Hall, NYC, A Thousand Acres at Des Moines Metro Opera, and Galaxies in Her Eyes for the Culp Planetarium; the film Unknown for UrbanArias, based on the song cycle by Shawn Okpebholo and Marcus Amaker; a technologically-innovative immersive production of Bluebeard's Castle; many revivals of her film-noirinspired Don Giovanni; Emmy-award winning productions of Billy Budd and Manon with Iowa Public Television; as well as productions of Moby Dick, Flight, Wozzeck, Dark Sisters, Semele, Sweeney Todd, Florencia en el Amazonas, Peter Grimes, Trouble in Tahiti and The Seven Deadly Sins. Kristine regularly teaches and directs in the studio artist training programs at Houston Grand Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera and Pittsburgh Opera and also adapts and directs operas for education and community opera programs throughout the US.

JEFFREY GROSSMAN Conductor & Harpsichordist



Keyboardist and conductor Jeffrey Grossman specializes in vital, engaging performances of music of the past, through processes that are intensely collaborative and historically informed. As the artistic director of

the acclaimed baroque ensemble the Sebastians, in recent seasons Jeffrey has directed concerts including Bach's *St. John* and *St. Matthew Passions* and Handel's *Messiah* from the organ and harpsichord, in collaboration with TENET Vocal Artists, and he is a frequent performer with TENET, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, and numerous other ensembles across the country. Recent seasons include his conducting operas of Haydn and Handel with Juilliard Opera, leading *Monteverdi Vespers of 1610* with the Green Mountain Project in New York and Venice, and conducting a workshop of a new Vivaldi pastiche opera for the Metropolitan Opera. As musical director for the 2019 and 2023 Boston Early Music Festival Young Artists Training Program, he conducted Handel *Orlando* and Jacquet de La Guerre *Cephale et Procris* from the harpsichord. For thirteen seasons, he toured portions of the rural United States with artists of the Piatigorsky Foundation, performing outreach concerts to underserved communities. A native of Detroit, Michigan, he holds degrees from Harvard College, the Juilliard School, and Carnegie Mellon University. Jeffrey teaches performance practice at Yale University. jeffreygrossman.com

MICHAEL SAKIR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Conductor Michael Sakir has been praised for his "artistic authority," "fluidity of expression," and "great delicacy of feeling." He serves as the Artistic Director of Intermountain Opera Bozeman which was recently

praised by the London-based *Opera Now* magazine as "a small but thriving opera company that it not restrained by convention." He recently completed his fourth and final season as Music Director of Opera Memphis with whom, in addition to conducting nearly two dozen production, he was deeply involved in the company's groundbreaking civic practice programs, community partnerships, and commissioning projects.

In the 2023-2024 season, Sakir conducts *Carousel* and *La bohème* with Intermountain Opera Bozeman. He also makes his guest conducting debut with his alma mater Oberlin Conservatory of Music in *Albert Herring*.

Other recent conducting engagements include Seattle Opera, Arizona Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera Baltimore, Brevard Music Center, Opera Company of Middlebury, Opera Orlando, Shreveport Opera, Eugene Opera and Temple University.

Sakir has held chorus master, assistant conductor, and coach positions for nearly three dozen productions with Santa Fe Opera, Washington National Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Sarasota Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Pensacola Opera, and Opera Boston.

Sakir holds degrees from the Oberlin Conser-

vatory of Music and The Boston Conservatory. He was a participant in the 2017 OPERA America Leadership Intensive.

STACY HOSTETTER COSTUME DESIGNER



Stacy is happy to join the team at Intermountain Opera once again. She most recently worked on IOB productions of *The Falling and the Rising, Into the Woods,* as well as

Rigoletto, and previously on properties for MSIP/ IOB collaborations of Man of La Mancha, My Fair Lady, and A Little Night Music. Stacy grew up in Bozeman and has been helping to bring characters and stories to life professionally as part of the theater scene for over 25 years as a drama/art teacher in the schools, the Founder and Artistic/Program Director of Kaleidoscope Theater, a creative team member of Montana Shakespeare in the Parks where she has served since 2002 in many positions, most recently as a costume shop artist/craftsperson and prop designer, and as a costume designer for the Ellen Theatre for their productions of A Christmas Carol, Much Ado About Nothing (with Tate Academy), and The Sound of Music. Stacy is also a playwright with over 60 original plays/musicals, which during her time in the schools and at Kaleidoscope she produced, directed, and designed sets, props, and costumes to bring close to 300 productions to the stage. In her free time she can be found working on her house and yard, hanging out and creating art with her three amazing grandkids, singing in a choir, or buried in a good book.

JONATHAN DOVE LIGHTING DESIGNER



Jonathan Dove is thrilled to return to Intermountain Opera Bozeman, having collaborated with them on numerous occasions, including the recent production of *Rigoletto*.

Beyond IOB, he lends his lighting expertise to Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, managing the lighting for the outdoor venue at MSU as well as the intimate setting of the Black Box Theatre. A staple in the Bozeman theatre scene, Jonathan has designed for various local groups and calls Belgrade his home. Above all, he wishes to express his profound gratitude to his wife for her unwavering support and encouragement in his theatrical endeavors.

BROOKE MONROE PROPERTIES DESIGNER



Brooke worked for nearly 20 years in the film and television industry in many capacities including prop master, on-air talent, and producer. She then went on to pursue other

creative endeavors, such as single parenting, working for Classics for Kids, Arts Without Boundaries and Montana Shakespeare in the Parks. She progressed to empty nesting, and is thrilled to assist Intermountain Opera Bozeman.

NATALIE WAGNER STAGE MANAGER



Natalie Wagner (she/her) is a stage manager working in opera, theatre, and dance. *Opera: Nightingale/Ewartung* (West Edge Opera); *Book of Mountains and Seas* (Beth Morrison

Productions); La Traviata (City Lyric Opera); Turandot, Le Comte Ory, Zorro (Opera Southwest); Sky on Swings (Opera Saratoga); Le nozze di Figaro (Manhattan School of Music). Selected dance and theatre: The Servant of Two Masters (Synetic Theater Company); Freedom Riders, Normativity, Spot on the Wall, and multiple concerts (NYMF); The Light Fantastic, Ideation (Jackalope); Consumed (Chicago Danztheatre).

GENE GOLDENFELD HEAD USHER



Gene has coordinated the ushers and been Head Usher, as well as help recruit other front-of-thehouse volunteers for Intermountain Opera since 2015. An old R&B-er, he developed a love for opera after

hearing Leontyne Price, *Porgy & Bess* and *Carmen* in the 1970s. He's grateful to all the volunteers who've lent the Opera their efforts over the years.

INTERMOUNTAIN OPERA BOZEMAN COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Community Partnerships have become a cornerstone of Intermountain Opera Bozeman's mission in the past couple of years. In the 2022-23 season alone we partnered with 17 various Gallatin Valley organizations in large and small ways. This season, we're partnering with Forward Montana, Baroque Music Montana, Haven, HRDC, and many more.

Our partnerships with Veteran Service Organizations through last year's production of *The Falling and the Rising* were particularly meaningful to the staff and organization.

In November 2022, Intermountain Opera Bozeman gathered currently serving and retired members of the U.S. military to perform in *The Falling and the Rising*. This new American opera used interviews with wounded

veterans to tell true stories of strength, service, and sacrifice. Real-life servicemen and women from throughout Montana joined the principal



cast to sing together in the opera's climactic finale.

Today, the Intermountain Opera Bozeman Military Chorus continues to gather and sing together twice each month at the American Legion, Gallatin Post #14. The chorus offers performances for special occasions like Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, etc.

If you are an active duty or retired military member and

interested in joining the IOB Military Chorus, please visit our website to learn about how you can become a part of the fun.



MONTANA

IA haven



INTERMOUNTAIN OPERA BOZEMAN EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT



Educational engagement is at the heart of the mission of Intermountain Opera Bozeman. In the last school year alone, we reached 1,100 local students through classroom visits and two preview events featuring *Into the Woods* for nearly every fourth grader in the valley. In addition to that,



we launched our first-ever statewide school tour, traveling nearly 1,300 miles to reach over 1,100 students in 12 schools with *Wheels of Harmony*, sharing Indigenous culture and music alongside traditional opera.

This year, we're expanding our efforts, and adding a week to the *Wheels of Harmony* tour in March of 2024, while im-

> plementing more educational elements along the way. On top of this, we're including a youth chorus into both *Carousel* and *La Bohème*, led by music educator Jessica Graf.

> If you'd like more information on how to involve a young person

in your life with the joy of opera, contact Susan Miller at susan@intermountainopera.org or at 406-587-2889.



INTERMOUNTAIN OPERA BOZEMAN ENCORE SOCIETY • IN MEMORIAM

e at Intermountain Opera Bozeman would like to recognize and remember some incredibly generous individuals who included the opera in their estate plans in recent years. While these few lines do not pay justice to the fullness of their lives, we'd like to share their memory with you. Their generous bequests help to ensure IOB will continue to have a positive impact on future generations.

_____% _____

PATRICK DONEHOO, BOZEMAN

Pat was born July 19, 1946, and passed February 12, 2015. He belonged to the First Presbyterian Church, various Masonic organizations, Eagles Club and the American Legion. He worked at the MSU Book Store and volunteered for the Intermountain Opera, Bozeman Senior Center, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital and Gallatin County Museum. He left very generous bequests to a number of non-profit organizations throughout town, including IOB.

FRED SANTILLI, BOZEMAN

Fred was born May 2, 1939, and passed July 14, 2020. He spent his high school years in Hartford City, Indiana, and enjoyed playing for the school basketball team, the Airedales. He graduated from Indiana University, and after which, spent many years in Colorado and Arizona. Fred was a writer with a special interest in family history. He had a lifelong passion for music, especially opera.

* _____

* _____*



TROY LEGATO, GLENDIVE

Troy was born February 26, 1965, and died July 4, 2023, after a seven-year struggle with cancer. Troy wrote that "it's amazing how music—sounds and words—can inspire the human spirit. It's a very powerful experience when you find the hope and strength you need within the creative output of another human being." Music was a source of comfort, a way to understand the human connection, and a way to see the world in a new light. He traveled from Glendive to Bozeman nearly a dozen times to see Intermountain Opera productions.

AUDREY "JEANNIE" HAIGHT, BOZEMAN

Jeannie was born November 13, 1932, in Richey, Montana, and died July 18, 2023. She attended the University of Montana where she met her future husband, Robert Haight. They married in 1956 and had a wonderful 57 years together until he passed in 2013. Jeannie worked for 46 years as a reference librarian at Montana State University after obtaining her Masters of Librarianship at the University of Washington. She was an active member of the Bozeman United Methodist Church and contributed to a long list of charities her entire life including her church, the library, the opera, symphony, and many more.



If you would like to learn how to join the Encore Society by including Intermountain Opera Bozeman in your estate plans, please contact Development Director Genevieve Trygstad-Burke at 406-587-2889 or at genevieve@intermountainopera.org.

* ____

INTERMOUNTAIN OPERA BOZEMAN ENCORE SOCIETY

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

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Sustaining Members are designated in our donor lists by the fermata (\frown), a musical notation which indicates that a note may be held as long as needed. A fermata next to your name symbolizes the enduring significance of your support. Please contact the office at 406-587-2889 to sign up at the level of your choice or pledge online at IntermountainOpera.org.

Sustaining Members at any level will receive the heartfelt thanks of the Board of Directors. Those donating at the following levels will be offered additional benefits:

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