

## ROSSINI, BEL CANTO, THE LADY OF THE LAKE

The Guild is presenting a free educational program on March 14 at 12:00 noon, prior to the Metropolitan Opera's High Definition simulcast of Rossini's *La Donna del Lago* at the Foothills Performing Arts Center.

Guild members Abby Kreh Gibson and Tom Simpson will give this 30-minute program in the production room on the first floor of the Center at 24 Market Street in Oneonta.

The Center will open at 11:30 am for this special program. Attendees will be able to "save" seats for the opera simulcast that begins at 12:55 pm by picking up a reserved seat sign when they purchase their tickets. In this way your seat is saved for the Met performance while you learn more about the opera you are about to experience.

JANET POTTER

## TALKING OPERA — SAVE THE DATES

The Guild's pre-season opera talks this year are planned for May 11 and 18, and June 1 and 8. The Education Committee is busily preparing some great programs to enlighten and entertain you. This is certainly going to be an outstanding season for Glimmerglass Festival, so you'll want to get the background and insights for each of the productions. More detailed information will be available on the Guild's website, [glimmerglassoperaguild.org](http://glimmerglassoperaguild.org) and in the May newsletter.

MARY BRODZINSKY

## FIRST NIGHT FUND SEEKS 2015 SPONSORS

As The Glimmerglass Festival prepares for its 40th anniversary, the Guild's First Night Fund celebrates its own special milestone. In the five years since its inception, the Fund has raised nearly \$30,000 in contributions from members and other supporters that are used exclusively to help fund the opening performance cast parties.

The cast parties bring together cast, crew, directors, orchestra, and ushers for a post-performance celebration of hard work and opening success. First Night Fund exclusive sponsorships are available if you would like to support the 2015 Festival cast party of your choice (subject to availability). Sponsors are recognized in the Festival program and Guild publications and on the party poster presented to the sponsors at the party's close. At the cast party, sponsors have a reserved table for eight and receive the public thanks of a grateful crowd and the Guild.

Tax-deductible sponsorships are \$1,500 and are open to individuals, whether or not Guild members, and small groups. For more information or to become a sponsor please contact either Tom Simpson, email [tlullsimpson@msn.com](mailto:tlullsimpson@msn.com), phone 646-468-1484; or Corinne Plummer, email [plummercm@oecbluecom](mailto:plummercm@oecbluecom), phone 607-965-6326.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

With spring comes the time to renew your Guild membership for the 2015 Festival Season. Renewal forms will be mailed in early March and are due back by April 15. We hope you will continue your membership and enjoy access to all Guild benefits and the many Guild opportunities to support the company.

CORINNE PLUMMER

## SPRING MEMBERSHIP GATHERING

Save the Date: Tuesday, June 16, 6:00 pm, for the Guild's Spring Membership Gathering. The company invites the Guild to join with the National Council in a Pre-Season Preview Party, hosted by John Webb and Nelson Mondaca, at the Roseboom Historical Association. Watch for your invitation from the company.

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## ★ GLIMMERGLASS FESTIVAL 40: JULY 10 – AUGUST 23, 2015 ★

MOZART  
*The Magic Flute*



VERDI  
*Macbeth*



VIVALDI  
*Cato in Utica*



BERNSTEIN  
*Candide*

Glimmerglass Opera Guild  
P.O. Box 191, Cooperstown, NY 13326  
www.glimmerglassoperaguild.org

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*News & Notes* is the bimonthly newsletter of the Glimmerglass Opera Guild.

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Member of



**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

Dear Fellow Guild members,  
It is now mid-February. Tonight’s upstate New York wind chill factor is predicted to hover around -30. Five feet of layered ice and snow, the result of frequent plowing, line my driveway. The deer can’t get to the yews, and the birdseed is frozen solidly in the feeders.

Flipping a few pages ahead in my calendar assures me that summer is four, hopefully short, months away. Given that each day under the current conditions seems quite a bit longer than twenty-four hours, those four months seem an eternity, and I wonder if my faith in Mother Nature’s constancy is misplaced.

Then I recall why I am here at this particular time and my mood brightens. Tomorrow [i.e., Feb. 18] members of the Guild Board will face the elements to meet for a discussion of our plans for the summer ahead. Be sure they are not the only volunteers to brave these blizzard conditions – the Education Committee met recently to plan this year’s Talking Opera events which begin on May 11.

There will be a full calendar of Guild events this summer beginning June 16 when we join members of the National Council for a spring reception and season preview.

On June 28, we will roll out the red carpet to welcome the entire company at our annual Eat & Greet. For the following eight weeks we will host four first performance cast parties, hand out patron picnics, and feed hungry crew members at change-over suppers.

We look forward to August 4 and our popular Guild Gala and Silent Auction. And, on August 14, we will show our support of the Festival’s Young Artists Program by sponsoring its performance of *The Magic Flute*, followed by a reception celebrating all the members of this exceptional program.

Several other items are on the Board’s agenda, chief among them a discussion of ways by which the Guild might participate in the celebration of the Festival’s 40th anniversary. I encourage members who would like to join this discussion to contact me or a Board member to express your interest and ideas.

Now I look forward to the warm summer ahead and spending short-sleeve time with you all in pursuit of our common goal, the success of The Glimmerglass Festival.

TOM

**NEW MEMBER**

We welcome Ann L. Slocum to membership in the Guild.

## THE MAGIC FLUTE

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's final opera, *The Magic Flute*, will be the first production presented on the Festival stage this summer. A highlight of the production will be a new English translation prepared by Dramaturg Kelley Rourke. An article by Kelley about her work was published in the November edition of *News & Notes*. I urge you to reread her excellent piece "The Magic Flute at Glimmerglass" (also available on the Guild's website) for a preview of *what* you will hear and see on stage this summer; following is *whom* you will see.



Heading the cast will be tenor Sean Panikkar as Prince Tamino. Panikkar sang The Leader in the 2012 Glimmerglass production of Kurt Weill's *Lost in the Stars*. He has been lauded for his "surpassing musicality and passion, commanding self-confidence and gorgeous expression." This season, he appeared at the Metropolitan Opera as Molqi in John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer*.

As Pamina, soprano Jacqueline Echols returns for her third season with the company. As a member of the Young Artists Program, she had featured roles in *King for a Day* (2013) and *Ariadne in Naxos* (2014). But perhaps she is best remembered for her show stopping performance of Justice Ginsburg's Aria from *Scalia/Ginsburg* in last season's Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Opera and the Law presentation. Echols is currently a member of Washington National

Opera's Domingo-Cafritz Young Artists Program.

Bass Soloman Howard will sing the role of the priest Sarastro. Howard is a recent graduate of WNO's Domingo-Cafritz Young Artists Program where he appeared in productions of *Show Boat* (directed by Francesca Zambello), *Don Giovanni*, *Nabucco*, and as Mohammed Ali in the world premiere of *Approaching Ali*. This season he made his Metropolitan Opera debut as the King in Verdi's *Aida*.

*The Magic Flute* will be directed by Madeline Sayet in her Glimmerglass debut. Sayet is a recipient of The White House Champion of Change Award for Native America for her work as a director, writer, performer, and educator. She is the resident

director at Amerinda (American Indian Artists) Inc. Performances will be conducted by Carolyn Kuan, music Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, also in her Festival debut.

Of special interest to Guild members will be the performance of *The Magic Flute* on Friday, August 14. That afternoon, members of the Festival's Young Artists Program will sing all the roles in the opera. The Guild is pleased to continue its tradition of promoting the annual YAP mainstage performance, and I encourage all members, your friends, and guests to get tickets now. There will be 12 performances of *The Magic Flute* beginning July 10.

TOM SIMPSON

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### PATRICIA DORNBURGH

We report with sadness the death of Patricia Dornburgh on January 28. Until their recent move to Rhode Island, Pat and her husband Bill were active members of the Guild, with Bill having served as Guild president from 1998-2000. We extend our sympathy to Bill and their family.

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### ORFEO IN MASSACHUSETTS

The Guild is planning a bus trip to see the Boston Early Music Festival production of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., on Sunday, June 21. Included in the day trip will be a tour and luncheon at the Mount, Edith Wharton's magnificent estate in Lenox. Dinner following the performance will be included. For further information contact Walter Ashley, email [ashleywalt@hotmail.com](mailto:ashleywalt@hotmail.com), phone 607-544-1077. Complete details and a registration form will be emailed in March.

WALTER ASHLEY

## FESTIVAL HOUSING NEEDS

Every year, the Housing & Transportation Department leases between 65-80 local homes, apartments, cottages, and efficiencies to house the 300+ seasonal staff members who travel to Glimmerglass to contribute to the success of our Festival.

This year, securing housing is especially challenging, as our programming has expanded, increasing the number of individuals in residence. Also, many of the homes we lease are for sale, and several have sold since the end of the 2014 season. We are currently looking for additional residences for artists, creative teams, and production staff.

If you know of any available housing, please contact Dianne Ciano, Director of Housing & Transportation, at [dciano@glimmerglass.org](mailto:dciano@glimmerglass.org) or (607) 547-0700. Ext. 221. Your ongoing support and always willing assistance is so appreciated! Thank you.

DIANNE CIANO

## LIMERICK CONTEST CONTINUES

Last year one of our winners was a goat. I heard that she ate her tickets, but got to see *Ariadne* anyway.

For your submitted limerick you can win two tickets to one of the four main stage events. Send your entry to: Limericks, PO Box 191, Cooperstown, NY 13326. Deadline: June 20. Must be suitable for all ages and about some aspect of the upcoming season. Black humor, double entendres, and puns welcome. Do your best.

'Tis the Festival's fortieth year,  
So everyone give a loud cheer.  
Join 'Tonio, Wolfie,  
Giuseppe, and Lennie  
And sing out your praise loud and clear.

MARY BRODZINSKY

## OPERA CONFERENCE 2015

Opera Volunteers International and OperaAmerica join this spring for an annual Opera Conference 2015 in Washington, DC, May 6-9. There will be special conference rates for first-time attendees and special OVI conference rates.

For more details contact the Guild's OVI representative Mary Margaret Kuhn, email [kuhnpaulormary@aol.com](mailto:kuhnpaulormary@aol.com), phone 607-547-6181.

**Glimmerglass**  
OPERA GUILD 

News & Notes

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## GLIMMERGLASS FESTIVAL A FINALIST FOR TWO AWARDS

We are pleased to announce that The Glimmerglass Festival has been nominated and is a finalist for two prestigious awards. The International Opera Awards are to be presented in London on April 26, 2015, at the Savoy Theatre and The Savoy Hotel.

The awards include a variety of categories. Glimmerglass is a finalist in two of them: as one of six festivals and also for the best Strauss production in the Strauss Centenary. This second nomination acknowledges the Glimmerglass production of *Ariadne in Naxos* in 2014. It was one of six Strauss productions nominated.

## ODYSSEY

A special attraction this summer: A children's opera, *Odyssey*, music by Ben Mohore and libretto by Kelley Rourke. This is an action-packed retelling of the hero's homeward journey. The opera will feature the Glimmerglass Festival Children's Chorus and members of the Young Artists Program. Performances at the Cooperstown Theatre Festival, a short distance from the main campus, at 11:00 am, August 11, 13, 18, and 20.