

GLIMMERGLASS OPERA GUILD GALA

You're invited to a Gala Evening At The Otesaga, honoring the Glimmerglass Opera Guild and sponsored by The Otesaga Resort Hotel. John D. Irvin, General Manager, is the host.

The date is August 9, 2011. It begins with a reception at 6:00 pm, including cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and a silent auction on the veranda overlooking Otsego Lake. Dinner at 7:00 pm features a gourmet meal especially prepared for the evening by Executive Chef Michael Gregory. Dessert will include a performance by members of the Glimmerglass Festival Young Artists Program.

Tickets: \$85 per person. Seating is limited. For reservations contact Dr. Dennis Banks, 607-432-5652, or banksdn@oneonta.edu for reservations.

SILENT AUCTION

The Glimmerglass Opera Guild Gala silent auction committee is pleased to announce the generous offering of a one-week stay in Francesca Zambello's London apartment. The dates available will be Aug. 30-Sept. 4, Oct. 25-30, Dec. 4-10, and Dec. 19-Jan 3. Dates for 2012 will be mutually agreed upon per request and availability. Francesca Zambello, Artistic & General Director of the Glimmerglass Festival, has again led off the silent auction with this exciting donation.

Please call Susan Huxtable, 315-822-6748, or Nancy Irvin, 607-547-1977, concerning items you may want to donate. Please call Nancy to arrange to deliver items on or before August 7. Your silent auction committee greatly thanks the donors for making this Glimmerglass Guild Gala one of the most exciting auction events ever!

SUSAN J HUXTABLE

FROM THE ARTISTIC & GENERAL DIRECTOR

Dear Guild Members:

I am so looking forward to working with you this summer. This winter I have had a chance to get to know many of you, and it is always wonderful to meet and speak with such devout Glimmerglass supporters.

You each contribute so much toward making the Festival happen. I am very grateful for all you do, and I will be excited for us to collaborate on many events this summer.

Thank you again for all your efforts in preparing for the 2011 Festival. See you at rehearsals, performances and picnics!

Warmly,
CESCA

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

The Glimmerglass Festival invites Guild members to attend the educational seminars listed below. At each seminar members of the production staff—conductor, director, or scenic, costume, or lighting designers—discuss their respective careers and their work for Glimmerglass.

Medea,

Tues., July 5, 2-4 pm, Thaw Pavilion

Annie Get Your Gun,

Wed., July 13, 2-4 pm, Thaw Pavilion

A Blizzard On Marblehead Neck & Later the Same Evening:

Mon., July 25, 10 am-12 noon, Woodcock Porch

GLIMMERGLASS FESTIVAL 2011, JULY 2 - AUGUST 23

BIZET/MEILHAC & HALÉVY

CARMEN

CHERUBINI/HOFFMANN

MEDEA

BERLIN/FIELDS

ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

MUSTO/CAMPBELL

LATER THE SAME EVENING

&

TESORI/KUSHNER

A BLIZZARD ON MARBLEHEAD NECK

GLIMMERGLASS OPERA GUILD

P.O. Box 191, Cooperstown, NY 13326

www.glimmerglass.org

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

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Member of

**NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome the following new members to the Guild:

Irene MacFadden
 Reed and Linda Metzger
 Joanne Tobey and Steve Zerby

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Food! As Dennis Banks, my predecessor in this office once said, "Feed them and they will come." And so it is. Much of what the Guild does involves the preparation of culinary delights by an experienced cadre of cooks.

The recently completed and highly successful series of six Talking Opera events featured tables of finger food over which speakers and audience were able to continue discussing the topics of the evening while enjoying tasty snacks prepared by Guild volunteers.

The Guild's annual Eat & Greet event at the Thaw Pavilion revolves around a cornucopia of lovingly prepared dinner fare prepared by Guild volunteers. Guild members and Company members—artists, production staff, and administrative staff—are able to get together for dinner in a comfortably relaxed setting as the season's productions are being readied for openings.

Following the opening performance of each of the season's productions, the Guild hosts a cast party to celebrate the artists involved. Each of these festive events is catered by local professionals and served by Guild volunteers.

One of the major fund-raising events each year is the Guild's Gala Dinner and Silent Auction, held at the Otesaga Hotel. Following an excellent gourmet dinner, we are treated to a recital by members of the Young Artists Program.

A group of Young Artists also provides musical entertainment prior to a Guild sponsored benefit dinner held at the Cooperstown Country Club. The fine staff of the Country Club serve an excellent meal at candle-lit tables out on the club's open veranda.

On Saturdays when there are both matinee and evening performances, Guild volunteers prepare and serve dinners for the crews involved in the changeover of scenery, lighting, etc. This is one more way for the Guild to have an active part in how Glimmerglass Festival goes together.

Many Guild members are involved in all of these events and more. But let me mention here just some of the key people who coordinate it all— Chris McNaughton, Bill and Cynthia Goertemoeller, Dennis Banks, Fran Bliven, and Susan Huxtable.

Thanks to you all.
 ED BRODZINSKY

VOLUNTEER RECEPTION

The Glimmerglass Festival will host its volunteers on Tuesday, August 16, in the Thaw Pavilion, at 5:00 pm, following the matinee of *Medea*. Using this opportunity to thank its volunteers, the Festival will also announce the Usher of the Year and Volunteer of the Year awards.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Glimmerglass Opera Guild fall membership meeting will be Sunday, September 25, at Lime Kiln in Cherry Valley, beginning at 3:00 pm. (The Board will meet at 2:00 pm.) Please add this date to your calendar.

FIRST NIGHT FUND SUCCESS

The Guild's First Night Fund is fully subscribed for the 2011 Glimmerglass Festival Season! Sponsors of this summer's First Performance Cast Parties are:

- *Carmen*: Karin and Hans de Waal, in appreciation of all Glimmerglass volunteers.
- *Medea*: Cynthia Green Colin and the Malcolm Gibbs Foundation.
- *Annie Get Your Gun*: The Family of Irving Berlin
- *A Blizzard On Marblehead Neck & Later the Same Evening*: Dennis Banks, Ed and Mary Brodzinsky, William and Patricia Dornburgh, Don and Susan Drake, Robert and Patricia Huntington, Mary Dunkle, and Lona and George Smith.

The First Night Fund offers contributors (individual or group) an opportunity to sponsor one of the Guild's popular First Performance Cast Parties for cast, crew, orchestra and guests. On behalf of the Guild, the First Night Fund Committee expresses its sincere appreciation to the 2011 sponsors for their very generous support that is so crucial to the Festival's success.

FIRST NIGHT FUND COMMITTEE

ZAMBELLO AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA

Washington National Opera (WNO) has appointed Glimmerglass Festival Artistic & General Director Francesca Zambello to be its Artistic Advisor. She will hold this position concurrently with her position at The Glimmerglass Festival.

In this new assignment, Zambello will offer the company advice and expertise related to opera repertoire and casting and creative teams. She noted, "This relationship builds on my 10-year history with the company. In terms of Glimmerglass, this appointment allows for me to continue my work in larger companies with reciprocal benefits for the Festival, such as the sharing of principal artists and programming, and placing our Glimmerglass Young Artists in other opera houses."

YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM 2011

An important ingredient in The Glimmerglass Festival is the Young Artists Program. This year we shall have 32 artists — 24 YAPs, plus four who specialize in music theater and four pianists.

As reported by Artistic & General Director Francesca Zambello, the company received more than 750 applications. Company staff studied applications and listened to audition CDs, then narrowed the group to 250. This group was then invited to appear in auditions in Dallas, Chicago, and New York City. Young Artists Program Director Michael Heaston, Music Director David Angus, and Francesca Zambello conducted the auditions. Glimmerglass 2011 Artist in Residence Deborah Voigt joined the group for the New York City auditions.

To quote Francesca's report, "Every artist was asked to sing two arias and read scenes from *Annie Get Your Gun*. Usually we asked them to first sing an aria of their choice and then we chose from their list what we wanted to hear next. In advance, Michael, David, and I created a 'casting grid' that enabled us to know what we were actually looking for: how many sopranos, tenors, baritones, and basses, as well as who will perform which role, who will cover others, and who will have various chorus assignments. Everyone has a long list of responsibilities. As you can imagine, it is a large puzzle — something akin to filling out a tax form!"

This summer we shall be able to enjoy the vocal and stage skills of these Young Artists in the main stage productions as well as two "Arias and Asides" concerts (Sunday, July 17, 1:30 pm, and Friday August 19, 7:30 pm; phone 607-547-2255 for tickets) and in the new Meet Me at the Pavilion series. (Look at the 2011 calendar for dates and times. Tickets \$10.) In addition, there will be a special performance on August 5 of *Carmen*, in which the YAPs will assume all the roles.

2012 FESTIVAL

The Glimmerglass Festival has announced its 2012 season: Verdi's *Aida*, Meredith Willson's *The Music Man*, Lully's *Armide*, and Kurt Weill and Maxwell Anderson's *Lost in the Stars*. They will run in repertory July 7 through August 27 in the Alice Busch Opera Theater.

The mainstage productions will be supplemented by special performances, concerts, and lectures throughout the season. American bass-baritone Eric Owens joins the company as the 2012 Artist in Residence.

Glimmerglass

OPERA GUILD

News & Notes

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A BLIZZARD ON MARBLEHEAD NECK & LATER THE SAME EVENING

During a recent Metropolitan Opera broadcast, composer John Adams spoke about artistic collaboration. He referred to opera as a “remarkable art form for collaborators,” stressing that, to be successful, collaborators “need to find themes that the public can identify with.”

This summer, Glimmerglass audiences will have the enviable opportunity to experience the recent collaborative efforts of two of America’s highly successful composer/librettist teams. As Adams advised, these collaborations evoke themes all of us can appreciate: the give and take, loneliness, and confrontations of “lives lived behind closed doors.”

A Blizzard On Marblehead Neck

The first opera in this “Double Bill” and the sixth opera to receive its world premiere at Glimmerglass is Jeanine Tesori’s, *A Blizzard On Marblehead Neck*. Her librettist is Tony-Award winning playwright, Tony Kushner. The two have collaborated previously on the Tony nominated *Caroline, Or Change* and a highly regarded adaptation of *Mother Courage* for The Public Theater in New York City.

The plot of *Blizzard* centers on a tempestuous event in the lives of Eugene O’Neill, author of *Long Day’s Journey Into Night* and *The Iceman Cometh*, and his wife, artist Carlotta Monterey O’Neill.

Bass-baritone David Pittsinger, well known to Glimmerglass audiences for his performances in *Death in Venice* (2005) and *Orlando* (2003), will sing the role of Eugene O’Neill. Carlotta will be sung by Pittsinger’s “real-life” wife, Patricia Schuman, whose career has included appearances with the Metropolitan Opera, Salzburg Festival, and Covent Garden.

Five featured roles will be sung by members of the Young Artists Program including returning YAPs Lindsay Russell and Stephanie Foley Davis (*The Tender Land*, 2010). *Blizzard* will be directed by Glimmerglass

Artistic & General Director Francesca Zambello and will be conducted by the composer.

Later the Same Evening

Later the Same Evening is the second opera in the “Double Bill.” It is the work of composer John Musto and librettist Mark Campbell whose collaboration began in 2004 with their Grammy-nominated *Volpone*.

In *Later the Same Evening*, Musto and Campbell find common ground in five paintings by Edward Hopper, weaving together a story at times plaintive, reflective, humorous, and, ultimately immensely moving.

Patricia Schuman and Jake Gardner will sing two of the roles. Gardner made his Glimmerglass debut in *Little Women* (2002) and appeared as the Baron de la Force in *Dialogues of the Carmelites* that same year.

Nine other roles will be sung by Young Artists including returning YAP Andrew Stenson (*The Tender Land*, 2010). *Later the Same Evening* will be directed by Leon Major (*The Marriage of Figaro*, 2010) and conducted by Glimmerglass Music Director David Angus.

To learn more about these collaborators, their inspirations and their work, I refer you to two articles in the recent issue of The National Council’s *Fanfare*—the conversation with Jeanine Tesori and “Curating an Opera,” by Mark Campbell. In addition, the November 2010 issue of the Guild newsletter features a very interesting article on the genesis of *Later the Same Evening*.

Throughout the season, there will be opportunities to meet, hear, and question members of the creative teams who are bringing these operas to life. The “Double Bill” opens July 21 and runs for only six performances. Don’t miss this opportunity to enjoy these exciting new works.

THOMAS SIMPSON