

The Bellingham Music Club
September 3, 2008
10:30 a.m.
Faith Lutheran Church



The Newsletter of the Bellingham Music Club
Dorothy Wachter, Editor Emerita

*Our mission is
"to foster and encourage the
growth and development of
musical appreciation and per-
formance in the community."
We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit
organization and your dona-
tions are tax deductible. See
any Board member for details.*

Join us on
October 1,
at WWU
Performing Arts
Center to hear
Ford Hill
and Friends.

The Bellingham Music Club
P.O. Box 193
Bellingham, WA 98227



Today's Program Presented by Jack Frymire

Skagit Opera Artists

Ron Wohl, General Director

Megan Chenovick, soprano

Marcus Shelton, tenor

Erich Parce, baritone

with Glenda Williams, piano

Opening Notes

Today we welcome you and celebrate the start of our 93rd season with a classy act; artists from the **Skagit Opera** will charm you with excerpts from their upcoming production of *La traviata* and other favorites. You will discover exceptionally talented musicians who will surely entice you to venture south; this year, our gifted neighbors will present three operas in McIntyre Hall, the jewel of Skagit. Don't miss any!

Our October 1 Concert will take place at **WWU Concert Hall** in the Performing Arts Center starting at 10:30 a.m.

Park and Ride:

From Lincoln Creek Parking Lot:

Bus #190 leaves at 10:00 a.m., arrives at the PAC at 10:13 a.m.

From Faith Lutheran Church:

Bus #232 passes going downtown every 15 minutes. Best is 9:47 a.m. since you don't have to change bus at main station. It arrives at the PAC 10:16 a.m.

From Fairhaven Haggan on 12th Street:

Bus #14 leaves at 9:56, arrives at 10:13.

From 10th St. and Old Fairhaven Parkway:

Bus #105 leaves at 9:30, arrives at 9:52.

Buses from The Willows, Merrill Gardens, Parkway Chateau, etc.

Unload at PAC and park in "C" lot 12A (gravel) during concert.

Driving: On-campus parking is limited; carpooling is recommended. Pay-boxes are not in effect before 5 p.m. therefore, you must stop at the drive-through parking/police center on campus and buy a permit to hang on the rearview mirror. It costs \$2 per hour per car.

Further information:

WTA Buses: 676-7433 ext. 2
or www.ridewta.com

WWU Parking: 650-2945
or www.ps.wwu.edu

From the Board

Dues are due!!! Those who are paid up by Sept. 15 will be listed in the fall handbook; please see Will Ellender or Sarah Jacobson to join the BMC or renew your membership (still only \$20 per year). Those who pay after Sept. 15 will be listed in the February supplement. Listings in the directory will include all the information we are given—address, phone, e-mail—unless you specify otherwise. Rejoining members: we will assume

that last season's information is still valid unless you amend it. Please let Isabelle Cormier know of any changes or requests.

Welcome to new members Becky O'Day, and Allan and Norma Taylor.

In memoriam: We regret the loss of BMC members **Calene Lebeau, Phyllis Lee and Margie Murray** over the summer months; we will miss them dearly.

Summer Review



Did you know that we have music at our fingertips 24/7? Thanks to **Comcast Cable TV**, you can listen to (sound only) **Masterpieces** on channel 939, **Light Classics** on channel 940 and **Opera** on channel 947. And of course TV channel 26, **Classic Arts Showcase**, transmits fascinating film and video, afternoons 1-3 and evenings 9-midnight. As for radio, it is too soon to tell what will come of the shake-up at CBC; in the meanwhile, tune in to **KZAZ 91.7** and **KING-FM 98.1!**

The Bellingham Festival of Music made a triumphant comeback for two glorious weeks in July, featuring three Beethoven symphonies and two concertos, alongside lush music by Mahler and Richard Strauss. On opening night, Maestro Michael Palmer faced his musicians without a score for a sizzling "Eroica" Symphony; at the season finale, BMC members Clyde Hiss, Susan Johnson and Isabelle Cormier were upon the risers for their umpteenth Beethoven Ninth, along with Lena Montgomery Award winner Lindsey Nakatani for her first! Aaron Nicholson flew in to serenade retiring WWU President Karen Morse; Palmer made up for lost time by bringing in Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony in under 20 minutes! The whole operation, from soup to nuts, was run by the volunteer board, who did a bang-up job.

Former Nancy Bussard pupil and Enid Carrick Award winner **Cole Anderson** drew a sizeable contingent of BMC members to Lairmont Manor on August 20 for a summery program of Schumann, Grieg, Ravel, Chopin and Liszt. Cole, who studies with Peter Takacs at Oberlin Conservatory, won accolades for sensitivity and imagination, set off by subtle pedaling and amazing pianissimos. His *Kinderszenen* was a marvel of porcelain beauty, especially *Träumerei*.

– Jack Frymire

After our wonderful Festival, we had an exceptional experience with **Marrowstone Summer Music** at WWU. About 185 young people from 22 states (including 11 students from the Bellingham area) entertained us royally. Their faculty, also from all over, blessed us with three special chamber music events. The students, age 13 to 23, played in symphonic orchestras; each of their concerts was impressive, but what was most unforgettable was the renditions of Respighi's *Pines of Rome* and their grand finale, Richard Strauss's *Also Sprach Zarathustra*. The audience was bowled over both times! Marrowstone will be back next year. It's a thrilling experience, not to be missed!

– Hélène Minari

Katie Van Kooten has been a busy young lady since graduating from Meridian High School in 1997: Biola University, London's Guildhall School, selection for the Young Arts Program of Covent Garden Opera, covering Angela Georghiu in Puccini's *La rondine*. She has moved her base of operations back to Lynden, and gave a recital on August 30 at **Glen Echo Garden**, a three-acre botanical marvel (4389 Y Road, off Mount Baker Highway; 988-9358). The concert began at 4, then adjourned at 5 for a picnic intermission à la Glyndebourne.

– J. F.

Coming Events

Thursday, Sept. 4, at 8 p.m.
Fairhaven Pub and Martini Bar

Saturday, Sept. 6, at 7 p.m.
The Public Market
1530 Cornwall Ave.

Sunday, Sept. 21, at 3 p.m.
Jon Mutchler Home in Ferndale
\$20 (reserve in advance)

Monday, Sept. 22, at 6:30 p.m.
SilverCity in Richmond, B.C.
Regal Alderwood in Lynnwood
\$18/22

Saturday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 28, at 3 p.m.
Bellingham High School
Adults \$10/Free to children

Dorothy Wachter highly recommends **vocalist Jami Templeton** who will have a release celebration and listening party for *Purple Skies*, her latest CD. Free.

Just back from a fabulous Alaska trip, **Millie and the Mentshn** will play once more before taking off for Argentina. Free admission; CDs and cool T-shirts available for purchase. Information: www.millieandthementshn.com.

The Bellingham House Concerts present jazz pianist and composer **Jon Mutchler** who will play music from his CDs, "La Place Sur La Mer," and "Still Wandering." Call 671-6104 or e-mail bellinghamhouseconcerts@gmail.com for tickets.

The Metropolitan Opera launches its season in grand style with a HD broadcast gala featuring **Renée Fleming** in *La traviata* (Act II), *Manon* (Act III), and *Capriccio* (Final Scene). Ten operas will follow later this year. For schedule and tickets, call 1-800-638-6737 or visit metoperafamily.org/metopera.

How exciting!!! The Whatcom Symphony Orchestra opens its 34th season with a full scale production of *Hansel and Gretel* featuring Carla Hildebrand, Amber Sudduth-Bone, David Meyer, and Beth Wallace, among others. Kids will also enjoy pre-concert activities, one hour before curtain. Call 756-6752 for tickets.

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Selections from *La traviata*

Libiamo

Sempre libera

De' miei bollenti spiriti

Di Provenza

Germont-Violetta Duet

Giuseppe Verdi

1813-1901

I'm like a bird (*Rita*)

Gaetano Donizetti

1797-1848

Old Mother Hubbard

- with apologies to Handel

Victor Hely-Hutchinson

1901-1947

I want to be a prima donna (*The Enchantress*)

Victor Herbert

1859-1924

Nessun dorma! (*Turandot*)

Giacomo Puccini

1858-1924



September 3, 2008

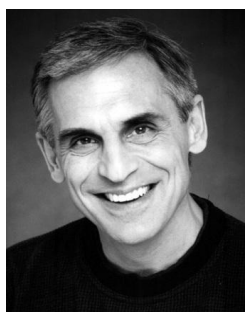
The Artists



Soprano Megan Chenovick came to the Northwest from her native Montana to pursue her B.A. in Music & Theatre with the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. She was Barbarina in Skagit Opera's *Marriage of Figaro* and will appear as Annina in the company's production of *La traviata*. Cover assignments have included such major roles as Violetta, Susanna and Musetta. Megan has appeared throughout the Puget Sound area, with Village Theatre, Re-Act, Second-story Repertory, Seattle Gilbert & Sullivan, and Tacoma Opera. Favorite roles include Frasquita in *Carmen* with Lyric Opera Northwest, and Linda Cole Porter in *Red, Hot & Cole* with Civic Light Opera. Megan is a 2006 Michael Mitchell Memorial Scholarship award winner. She studies with Erich Parce.



Marcus Shelton, tenor, will debut in November with the Greek National Opera in Athens, and early next year with the Croatia National Opera in Zagreb. Upcoming roles include Gastone and Alfredo in Skagit Opera's *La traviata* and a return to Seattle Opera's Young Artist Program (YAP) to guest in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. (During his two-year residency in YAP he appeared in one-act operas by Donizetti, Bernstein, Puccini and Ravel, as well as Bizet's *Don José* and Fenton in Verdi's *Falstaff*.) Marcus was awarded two career grants by the Seattle Opera Guild in 2006 and 2007, and appeared in Guild opera previews of *Die Fledermaus* and *Rigoletto*. He also sang the title role in *Tales of Hoffmann* with Northwest Opera In School Etc. (NOISE). From 2003 to 2006 Marcus was a member of the Seattle Opera Chorus.



Baritone Erich Parce has been a frequent guest of opera companies throughout North America and Europe, from New York's Metropolitan to opera companies of San Francisco, San Diego, Seattle, Greater Miami, Montreal and Nice. His roles include Rossini's Figaro, Mozart's Almadiva and Guglielmo, Zurga in Bizet's *Pearlfishers*, Valentin in *Faust*, and the Father in *Hansel and Gretel*. He has sung with Alfredo Kraus, Carol Vaness, and Plácido Domingo, and worked with such conductors as Carlos Kleiber and Trevor Pinnock. Mr. Parce is Artistic Director of Skagit Opera; *La traviata* and *Hansel and Gretel* will bring the total number of Skagit Opera productions directed by him to eight. He maintains an active teaching studio when not performing and directing.



Pianist Glenda Williams was the principal opera coach at the University of Washington and later at Cornish College of the Arts for several years. Her other opera credits include Seattle Opera's YAP, the Seattle Opera Guild's series of opera previews, professional companies in California and Nevada, and most recently, *The Marriage of Figaro* for Skagit Opera and Washington Opera East, *Die Fledermaus* for Bellevue Opera, Kalman's *Gypsy Princess* for the Hans Wolf Memorial Operetta Series, and *The Mikado* for the Seattle Gilbert and Sullivan Society. She is a frequent accompanist for vocal recitals, including recent concerts in Iceland; other musical adventures include creating choral arrangements for Seattle Pro Musica, four international tours as a choral singer, and music-directing about sixty theatre productions.