

## after Charles Perrault's fairy-tale "Cendrillon"

Conductor Samuel McCoy Stage Director Rose Freeman

Choreographer Dylan Cole Intimacy and Movement Director Toni Machi

Scenic Designer April Thomson Costume Designer Becky Wetzel

Lighting Designer Iason Norris Props Designer Amanda Hatch

Wig Designer Kelsey Brooks Makeup Design Marielle Zakrzwski

Stage Manager John Troy Producer Brandon McShaffrey

Friday, November 8, 2024 • 7:30PM Sunday, November 10, 2024 • 3:00PM Tuesday, November 12, 2024 • 7:30PM

Tomlinson Theater | 1301 W. Norris St. | Philadelphia, PA 19122

Run time: 2 Hours 10 minutes plus a 15 minute intermission

This production is sponsored in part by The Temple University General Activities Fund.

Sixty-fourth, sixty-sixth, and seventy-fourth performances of the 2024-2025 season.

## Cast

Cendrillon	Katrina Dignum
Madame de la Haltière	Abigale Hobbs
Le Prince	Evgeniya Khomutova
La Fée	Kamaluon <b>ā</b> lani Matthias
Noémie	Emmanuelle Anidjar
Dorothée	Sarah Petko
Pandolfe	John Drake
Le Roi	Daniel Laverriere
Le Doyen de la Faculté	
Le Surintendant des plaisirs	Benjamin Chen
Le Premier Ministre	Derek Renzelman

# Les Six Esprits

Ali Crosley	Ree Randolph	
Faith Crossan	Sadie Roser	
Felicity Davis	Ashlee Terrill	

## Ensemble

Yumeng Ai	Roberto Guevara Jr.	Ree Randolph
Zachary G. Alvarado	Chelsea Haynes	Derek Renzelman
Benjamin Chen	Connor Husa	Roslyn Rich
Jessica Corrigan	Henry Malueg	Sadie Roser
Faith Crossan	Kyle McCurley	Leah Scialla
Felicity Davis	Charles McNeil, Jr.	Elizabeth Stump
Weizhong Ding	Madelyn Owens	Ashlee Terrill

### Covers

Cendrillon	Elizabeth Stump
Madame de la Haltière	Jessica Corrigan
Le Prince	Toby Ichniowski
La Fée	Roslyn Rich
Noémie	Madelyn Owens
Dorothée	Ali Crosley
Pandolfe	Daniel Laverriere
Le Roi	Derek Renzelman
Le Doyen de la Faculté	Kyle McCurley
Le Surintendant des plaisirs	Henry Malueg
Le Premier Ministre	Zachary G. Alvarado

### **Music Staff**

Ellen Rissinger (Principal Coach)

Elizabeth Beavers (Assistant Conductor/Chorus Master)

Sirapat Jittapirom (Assistant Coach/Pianist)

Andrea DeVito (Assistant Coach/Pianist)

### Orchestra

#### VIOLIN I

Giorgi Vartanovi, Concertmaster Ruslan Dashdamirov Hannah Emtage Emily Gelok Nina Vieru

### VIOLIN II

Veronika Sveshnikova, Principal Congling Chen Kyle Stevens

### **VIOLA**

Meghan Holman, Principal Nora Lowther Madalyn Sadler Michael Pogudin

#### CELLO

Nathan Lavender, Principal Richard Ridpath Yohanna Heyer Anwar Willams

### **DOUBLE BASS**

Daniel Virgen, Principal Leia Bruno Brian McAnnely

### **FLUTE**

Camille Bachman, Principal Nicole Hom

### PICCOLO

Anee Reiser

#### OBOE

Izaiah Cheeran, Principal Kay Meyer

### **ENGLISH HORN**

Kay Meyer

#### CLARINET

Jonathan Leeds, Principal Sarah Connors

#### BASSOON

Adam Kraynak, Principal Julia Clement

### **HORN**

Arlet Tabares, Principal Ethan Stanfield Hannah Eide William Czartoryski

#### **TRUMPET**

Antonie Jackson, Principal Jake Flaschen

#### **TROMBONE**

Dalton Hooper, Principal Carynn O'Banion Diogo Fernandes

### **TUBA**

Mike Loughran

### **HARP**

Medgina Maitre, Co-Principal Zora Dickson, Co-Principal

#### CELESTE

Andrea DeVito

#### TIMPANI

Livi Keenan

#### PERCUSSION

Adam Rudisill, Principal Jacob Treat Ian Kohn Jose Soto

### Land Acknowledgement

"The land upon which we gather is part of the traditional territory of the Lenni-Lenape, called "Lenapehoking." The Lenape People lived in harmony with one another upon this territory for thousands of years. During the colonial era and early federal period, many were removed west and north, but some also remain among the continuing historical tribal communities of the region. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of this land and their continuing relationship with their territory. In our acknowledgment of the continued presence of Lenape people in their homeland, we affirm the aspiration of the great Lenape Chief Tamanend, that there be harmony between the indigenous people of this land and the descendants of the immigrants to this land, "as long as the rivers and creeks flow, and the sun, moon, and stars shine."

### **Content Warning**

**Content Notice**: The production of *Cendrillon* includes the following elements: Themes of familial abuse and/or neglect, supernatural elements, depictions of sadness, isolation, low self-worth, and grief.

## Temple University On-Campus Resources

Tuttleman Counseling Services are available during business hours at (215) 204–7276

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(When calling after hours, please listen to the recording and press "1" when instructed.)

Crisis Line: Text "HOME" to 741741

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Student Health Services Students may report confidentially at 215-204-7500. temple.edu/studenthealth

Psychological Services Center Report confidentially at 215-204-7100 or request an appointment at psc@temple.edu.

### **Synopsis**

#### Act I

In the house of Madame de la Haltière, the servants are busy preparing for the ball. Pandolfe, her husband, feels guilty for moving his daughter, Lucette (Cendrillon), away from their country home after her mother's death. Madame instructs her two daughters on how to attract attention at the ball as they get dressed. Pandolfe accompanies the Madame and two step daughters to the ball, leaving Lucette alone by the hearth to dream of the ball. The Fairy and her attendants appear, magically dressing Lucette in a beautiful gown and slippers to wear at the ball. The slippers will protect her from being recognized by her family until the clock strikes midnight.

#### Act II

In the royal ballroom, the courtiers, doctors, and ministers are failing to entertain the gloomy Prince Charming. The king orders his son to find a wife, and several princesses present themselves to the Prince. Only one catches his eye, an unknown beauty (Cendrillon) entering the room to everyone's amazement. They fall in love at first sight, but Cendrillon refuses to answer the Prince when asked her name. Cendrillon flees at the stroke of midnight, leaving behind her slipper.

### **INTERMISSION**

### Act III

Cendrillon has returned home, devastated at the thought of leaving the Prince. She apologizes to The Fairy for losing one of the slippers, but the Fairy remains invisible. Madame and her two daughters enter, berating Pandolfe. The Madame tells Cendrillon about the ball, and insists that the Prince rejected the unknown stranger. Cendrillon nearly faints at this news, prompting Pandolfe to come to her aid, sending the Madame and stepdaughters away. Pandolfe promises to take Cendrillon back to their country home, but Cendrillon decides to instead run away alone and die under the oak tree. Under the tree, the Fairy and spirits see the two lovers approaching and make them invisible to each other. They pray to the Fairy to ease their pain. Hearing each other's voices, they speak of their love for one another, and Cendrillon tells the Prince her true name. The Fairy allows them to see one another, and they fall into a deep sleep by the stream.

#### Act IV

Back in Madame's house, Pandolfe watches over Cendrillon as she rests, having found her asleep in the forest. She awakes, and her father tells her that she had been talking during her sleep of adventures at the ball and of the Prince. Cendrillon begins to believe it was all a dream. Madame and her daughter enter the room excitedly, telling Pandolph and Cendrillon that the King has summoned maidens all over the land in the hope that one of them will be the unknown beauty. The Madame is certain the prince will pick one of her daughters as his bride. The princesses come from all kingdoms to try on the glass slipper. None of the princesses are the Prince's unknown love. The Prince despairs, until the Fairy and Cendrillon appear. The Prince immediately recognizes Cendrillon, and the lovers are reunited and celebrated by all.

### Director's Note

We all are deserving of love and joy. We all have a place in this world. Sometimes it takes a little magic to accept that we are worthy of such things. Our Cinderella doesn't quite fit into her family as she wrestles with her grief of her lost mother. Her father is a bit unable (or unwilling) to give her the care she needs and her step mother and sisters don't know what to do with her. They're too busy climbing social ladders.

Our Fairy Godmother shows up with a mother's love, giving our Lucette (aka Cinderella) the courage to go and have a little fun, dare to dream, and know her place in the world. She deserves to feel beautiful and be in the world. We all do.

Our Prince has a similar conundrum: surrounded by all the sparkle and pomp of a royal ball, is also miserable. Bored and without love, our Prince must find a wife, but all of these potential princesses don't feel quite right. They don't seem to understand the prince and neither do all of the courtiers. Here, we have another father (the king) wanting to help his child, but not succeeding and not really knowing how.

Then, the fateful moment that every Cinderella story requires: our prince and girl see each other. Its love. It's instantaneous. It's I-want-to-know-everything-about-you curiosity. It's all dancing and the love of your life because nothing else in the room matters magic until the bell tolls and our Cinderella runs away, leaving behind a single hint to her identity-a shoe.

After the ball, Lucette's father finally stands up for her and delivers the care she has so desperately needed, promising to return to their country home, but it all feels too little too late, she runs into the woods set on death and comes to the tree of the mother spirit. There, an equally distraught prince also visits La Fée. Both pray to find each other, knowing that little else matters without love.

This could be the end, but they aren't ready to love each other yet. Lucette must dream and heal and our prince must journey to find this future princess. Its only after this healing, and a king's wails to help his heartbroken child are they revealed to each other. It's only when both step into the light of who they are, heal and search for the other that they are in each other's arms and the families can be united. After all, we are all deserving of joy and love. Accepting love and joy isn't easy, but that's where the magic is. And sometimes that magic is a little help from the fairies.

- Rose Freeman Stage Director

### Musicologist Note

When true character wins out over the hustle, it's a good day, amiright? Put another way, one of the most important bourgeois values of the last 150 or so years is the worth of inner nobility above the outward displays of wealth favored by aristocrats. In Charles Perrault's tale "Cendrillon," known to many in the audience today via Disney's Cinderella (1950) and treated by Jules Massenet in Cendrillon (1899, libretto by Henri Cain), the moral of the story is that one's true merit as a person is on the inside: although Cinderella is poor and mistreated, the prince instantly prefers her instead of all the other spoiled and ungraceful princess who parade in fancy dresses but have no personal charm.

In some ways, the Cinderella story is a wonderful moment of escapism. When Massenet's version of the work premiered in Paris, one critic called it his "grandfatherly" opera, likely inspired by the stories the composer would tell to his grandson and his grandson's friends. Moreover, the Opéra-Comique where *Cendrillon* was staged, one of the two very fancy state-funded opera houses in nineteenth-century Paris (both of which still stand today and still stage operas) was the destination for love stories, happy endings, and moments of fanciful delights in the hubbub of the industrial city. The whole point of the theater was to show young couples a good example of domestic happiness, thereby instilling them with positive social values, and doing with a smile and a song.

Yet in other ways, light and airy as it is, the opera also offers a fascinating picture of more complex Parisian social mores from the turn of the century. For example, one of the reasons for the Wicked Stepmother's wickedness, as we learn in Act III, is her fullthroated claims to aristocratic lineage, a position that was not exactly politically correct in Third-Republic France. Still in the living memory of Massenet and his audience was the attempted coup d'état organized by General Boulanger and his monarchist supporters, which left middle-class and upper-middle-class Parisians in a defensive position toward their democratic republic. Another cultural touchstone of the time that slips into this opera is the conciliatory stance between secular republicans and Catholics, indicated by Cinderella's moment of reverent prayer when she reflects on the grief she carries due to her mother's death. Finally, and most importantly of all, the special treatment of the Fairy Godmother as one who appears only in dreams causes the true conflict of the opera's third act. Cinderella's Wicked Stepmother falsely proclaims to the household that the beautiful woman at the ball with whom Prince Charming falls in love had been denounced and rejected by the guests, and that she had fled the castle out of shame. Because Cinderella's transformation had occurred during her sleep, this story caused her to doubt her memory of attending the ball. Psychological trouble ensues, and the tormented Cinderella resolves to run to the woods and take her own life. In the woods, she again falls asleep and has another dreamy encounter with Prince Charming, who himself has gone wandering. French psychologists and philosophers had begun reading Freud and working on their theories of the unconscious and dreams by the time, and it is easy to see this particular plot-twist as an expression of the interest French thinkers

and artists had taken in women's personalities and the difficulty they experience when their agency is curtailed.

These social dimensions are just a small part of Cendrillon, whose raison d'être is to be a highly enjoyable work of comic opera. Deeply satisfying jewels of nineteenth-century operatic grandeur and lyricism adorn the score: to those who love opera but are unfamiliar with this particular work, Massenet's music for Cendrillon sounds like a light Puccini opera sung in French. The overture to the first act sets the scene with a regal and suggestively neoclassical procession. As the most successful French opera composer of his time as well as a leading professor of composition at the Paris Conservatoire, Massenet's music tends to serve as a textbook example of the genre. In this way, each character has a distinctive musical style, perfectly attuned to their archetypal role. The opera first introduces Cendrillon's father Pandolfe, a baritone whose power and authority the audience can trust even if he doesn't seem to himself. His arias are musically frustrated, featuring sustains on unresolved cadences. The evil stepmother, Madame de la Haltière, is a maleficent alto whose commanding presence inspires both fear and contempt. She often sings in a minor key and has some passages that sit strikingly low in a woman's range, invoking a genderqueer uneasiness, as if musically affirming who wears the pants in her marriage to Pandolfe. Her dark side is contrasted by both the Fairy Godmother and Prince Charming, the two of them sopranos whose job is to sound lovely and appealing. Finally Cendrillon, as good as she is beautiful, is a wonderful soprano whose solo arias are all powerfully tender: though she is both meek and mild, she is not weak. Musical highlights to listen for are the ensemble numbers at the ball, just before Cendrillon arrives and just after she does, as well as Cendrillon's duets with, first, Prince Charming in Act II and Act III, and then, with Pandolfe in Act IV.

Putting our feet back in the twenty-first century for a moment, the anti-monarchist, Republican belief that character has more power than money feels hard to accept in this economy. We've been told that nice guys finish last, and I don't know any women or men who are waiting for Prince Charming to sweep them off their feet. But for one evening, Massenet makes a compelling argument for keeping that belief alive. As the Fairy Godmother sings, "believe in the dream."

- Megan Sarno Assistant Professor of Instruction, Music History

### The Boyer Vocal Arts Department Opera Workshop Classes present

### Aria Night

### Monday, December 9, 2024

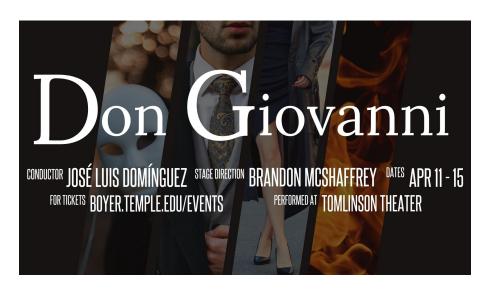
Graduate Arias 6:00 p.m. Undergraduate Arias 7:30 p.m.

Two separate bills featuring repertory from many opera genres

Featuring performances by:

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> Mitten Hall, 3rd Floor Auditorium 1913 N Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19122



For further information or to confirm events, please call 215.204.7661 or visit boyer.temple.edu.

### **Biographies**

Samuel McCoy (conductor) is thrilled to be making his debut with Temple Opera Theater. Previously based in NYC, McCoy has worked with the PROTOTYPE Festival, HERE Arts, Monk Parrots/Gertrude Opera, New Camerata Opera, Chelsea Opera, Juilliard Opera, Manhattan School of Music, Hunter Opera Theater, Opera Moderne, the Verdi Project and dell'Arte Opera Ensemble. Regionally, McCoy has worked with LA Opera/Beth Morrison Projects, Utah Opera, North Carolina Opera, The Mostly Modern Festival, Rogue Opera, and Puget Sound Concert Opera in Seattle. Orchestras with which McCoy has worked include members of the Refugee Orchestra Project, the Chamber Philharmonic of Catalonia, Bohuslav Martinů Philharmonic, Oklahoma City Philharmonic, Mannes American Composers Ensemble, UCLA Philharmonia, Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra, Cornell Chamber Orchestra, and the Oklahoma City University Orchestra.

Rose Freeman (stage director) (zie/zir) is an award winning stage director, teacher, writer, and producer of theatre and opera. Freeman directed Third Eye Productions include The Consul, The Medium, Sumeida's Song, Dark Sisters, With Blood With Ink, Stitch, Stitch/Witness, and Beowulf. Additional operatic stage direction credits include the revival production of Jason and the Argonauts at Chicago Lyric Opera, Puccini's La Boheme at LOON, Viardot's Cendrillon with City Lyric Opera, Strauss' Die Liebe Der Danae at Pittsburgh Festival Opera, Strauss' die Fledermaus with Opera Mississippi, Stravinsky's L'Historie Du Soldat, and Weber's Der Freischütz. Zie has directed many plays, space generated theatrical events, burlesque events, nationally touring hiphop concerts, and workshops of new musicals and operas, including Jill Sobule and Krista Knight's Crimson Lit. Zie once managed monster truck rallies and ran a sailboat company (not at the same time). Freeman wrote the musical, Chance the Snapper with Spicer Carr. Zie is a Founding Ensemble Member of Third Eye Theatre Ensemble. Freeman occasionally acts, including touring with Tetro di Viti. Freeman has spoken on the panels for National Opera Association, Chicago Theatre Symposium, and Opera America. Freeman is a recipient of the National Opera Association's 2020 IoElyn Wakefield-Wright Stage Director Fellowship, Philadelphia's 2022 Illuminate the Arts Grant, and served as a Directing Fellow for Wolf Trap Opera's 2020, 2021, and 2022 season as well as a Lead Artist at Mercury Store. Freeman is represented by Marvel Arts Management. Freeman is a proud Temple alum. www.rosefreeman.org

Ellen Rissinger (principal coach) came to European attention in December of 2008, when she accompanied a performance of Shostakovich's Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk for the Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf on one hour's notice. She spent a great part of her career in Germany, including nine years on the music staff of the Sächsische Staatsoper (Semperoper) in Dresden, Germany, returning to the U.S. full-time in 2019. Rissinger joined the faculty of Temple University in the fall of 2024, after four years on the faculty of Carnegie Mellon University. She has worked in opera houses in both the United States (with Detroit Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Kentucky Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Baltimore Opera among others) and Germany (Semperoper, Bregenz Opera Festival, Oper Frankfurt,

Deutsche Oper am Rhein among others), and has given master classes with several of the summer music programs in Europe. In recital, Rissinger has performed with such artists as Toni Marie Palmertree, Troy Cook, Jane Henschel, Kenneth Riegel, Mirko Roschkowski and Rachel Willis-Sørensen. As the founder of The Diction Police, she has led the way for classical singers and coaches from all over the world to hone their foreign language skills. Rissinger is fluent in German and English, is conversant in Italian, French, Spanish and Modern Greek, and continues to work on her conversational ability in Russian. Together with Toni Marie Palmertree, she also hosts the podcast So Lit Song Lit, to introduce lesser-known song repertoire and expand the art song canon.

Brandon McShaffrey (director of opera production) has been teaching at Temple University since 2009 where he is currently the Head of Opera Production at Temple University. With TU Opera Theater he has directed Dark Sisters (Muhly), Le nozze di Figaro (Mozart), Turn of the Screw (Britten), L'elisir d'amore (Donizetti), Il Ritorno d'ulisse in patria (Monteverdi), Der schauspieldirektor (Mozart), La Canterina (Hadyn), Trouble in Tahiti (Bernstein), Dido and Aeneas (Purcell), The Merry Widow (Lehar), and Hansel und Gretel (Humperdink) and has directed and choreographed many plays and musicals in the theater department. He runs both graduate and Undergraduate Opera workshops and produces the annual Aria/Scenes program. Professionally he has directed over 20 productions at Maples Repertory Theater. He is an active member of the National Opera Association and is also on its board of directors. He is a founding member and Producing Director of the Mauckingbird Theater Company.

### Voice and Opera Faculty and Staff

Corbin Abernathy Kate Elmendorf Randi Marrazzo Christine Anderson Stearns Matthews Rachelle Fleming Elliott Archer Lorie Gratis William Mayo Elise Auerbach Lawrence Indik Brandon McShaffrey Kim Barroso Sirapat littapirom Daniel Neer David Barrus Laura Kav Ellen Rissinger **Jake Collins** Ioo Hee Kim Shane Tapley Abigail LaVecchia Grant Uhle Marcus DeLoach Sinae Lee Mark Yurkanin John Denman

Charis Duke Kathryn Leemhuis Meredith Eib Yoni Levyatov

### William Stone, Professor Emeritus

Paul Rardin, Chair, Department of Vocal Arts Brandon McShaffrey, Director of Opera Production Christine Anderson, Voice and Opera Area Coordinator Leslie Cochran, Coordinator, Department of Vocal Arts

## Department of Vocal Arts: Voice and Opera Graduate Assistants

Emmanuelle Anidjar Daniel Laverriere
Lucianna Astorga Henry Malueg
Anna Britt Kamaluonālani Matthias
Weizhong Ding Kyle McCurley
John Drake Derek Renzelman
Abigale Hobbs Roslyn Rich
Evgeniya Khomutova

## Department of Theater Graduate Assistants

Anna Beshoar Lauren Middlefield
Peter Boretskii Cory Steiger
Maddy Dozat April Thomson
Daniel DeFreeze Laurence Vance
Kit Longo Becky Wetzel

# Additional Staff for this Production

Director of Opera Production	Brandon McShaffrey
Production Manager	
Stage Manager	-
Lead Assistant Stage Manager (Props)	
Assistant Stage Manager (Costumes)	-
Assistant Stage Manager (Costumes)	
Associate Choreographer	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Costume Shop Manager	• •
Master Cutter, Draper and Tailor	
Costume Design Mentor	
Head of Lighting	
Production Head Electrician	•
University Head Electrician	
Sound & Projections Engineer	
Scenic Design Mentor	9
Production Stage Management Mentor	
University Stage Management Mentor	
Technical Director	•
Assistant Technical Director	
Head Carpenter	•
Scenic Construction and Painting	
•	at, Laurence Vance, Olivia Burrows,
	nes, Teppei Tsubachi, Joey Keeshan,
	riana Kudner, Donoma Frederisco,
Cori Strauss, Andrew	Kistler, Sophia Bosch, Jason Hipp,
N. 1 .	John Yoeurm, Hugh Cleland-Batt
Marketing	-
Audience Services Coordinator	9
Spotlight Operator 1	
Spotlight Operator 2	•
Deck Electrician	-
ElectriciansRyan A	
	John Troy, Sophia Vautrin
Light Board Operator	
Sound Board Operator	-
Title Operators	
Wardrobe Supervisor	Kit Longo

Assistant Wardrobe Supervisor	V. Hope
Dressers	Genevieve Teasley, Marya Montez,
	Mikayla Holbrook
Hair and Makeup Supervisor	Marielle Zekrzwski
Hair and Makeup Crew	Halligan Upton
Costume Maintenance	Kaitlyn Meggison, Chloe Davies
Director of Instrumental Operations	Eric Schweingruber
Orchestra Librarian	Danielle Garrett
House Managers	Rasheda Sesay, Brantley Evans,
	Zachary Albuck
Assistant House Managers	Autumn Hogan, Andy Pavuk,
	Jacob Hammerman
Opera Social Media Manager	Daniel Laverrierre
Opera PR and MarketingE	mmanuelle Anidjar, Derek Renzelman
Photography	Joseph Labolito
Recording Studio Manager	David Pasbrig
Livestream	Abby Almas
Live Stream and Recording Engineer	Isaac Kraus

### Boyer College of Music and Dance

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### The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts consists of the Boyer College of Music and Dance, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, the George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater and the Temple Performing Arts Center. The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts engages gifted students with nationally and internationally recognized faculty scholars and professionals. A hallmark of the School of Theater, Film and Media Arts is the Los Angeles Study Away program. The George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater engages visiting performers, guest artists, set designers, playwrights and other Broadway professionals. The Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC), a historic landmark on campus, is home to a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat auditorium and 200 seat chapel. More than 500 concerts, classes, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

arts.temple.edu

### Temple University

Temple University's history begins in 1884, when a young working man asked Russell Conwell if he could tutor him at night. It wasn't long before he was teaching several dozen students—working people who could only attend class at night but had a strong desire to make something of themselves. Conwell recruited volunteer faculty to participate in the burgeoning night school, and in 1888 he received a charter of incorporation for "The Temple College." His founding vision for the school was to provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, regardless of their backgrounds or means. The fledgling college continued to grow, adding programs and students throughout the following decades. Today, Temple's more than 30,000 students continue to follow the university's official motto—Perseverantia Vincit, or "Perseverance Conquers"—with their supreme dedication to excellence in academics, research, athletics, the arts and more.

temple.edu

## Temple University Opera Theater Past Productions

Spring 2024	Ariodante	George Frideric Handel
Fall 2023	Lucretia	Benjamin Britten
Spring 2023	Hänsel und Gretel	Engelbert Humperdinck
Fall 2022	Dark Sisters	Nico Muhly
Spring 2022	Le nozze di Figaro	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Fall 2021	Impressions de Pelléas	Claude Debussy / Marius Constant
Spring 2021	Die Fledermaus (Virtual)	Johann Strauss
Fall 2020	The Turn of the Screw (Virtual)	Benjamin Britten
Fall 2019	L'elisir d'amore	Gaetano Donizetti
Spring 2019	Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria	Claudio Monteverdi
Fall 2018	Le Pauvre Matelot	Darius Milhaud
	Suor Angelica	Giacomo Puccini
Spring 2018	Così fan tutte	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Fall 2017	Dido and Aeneas	Henry Purcell
	Trouble in Tahiti	Leonard Bernstein
Spring 2017	Werther	Jules Massenet
Fall 2016	Der Schauspieldirekter	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
	La Canterina	Joseph Haydn
Spring 2016	Lucio Silla	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Fall 2015	The Merry Widow	Franz Lehár
Spring 2015	La Finta Giardiniera	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Fall 2014	Hänsel und Gretel	Engelbert Humperdinck
Spring 2014	Ofreo ed Euridice	Christoph Willibald Gluck
Fall 2013	Albert Herring	Benjamin Britten
Spring 2013	Gianni Schicchi	Giacomo Puccini
	Suor Angelica	Giacomo Puccini

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Contributing to these funds not only supports young artists on their way to becoming professionals, but also perpetuates the memory of those who have made a significant difference in the lives and developing artistry of young singers.

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