

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS

# Boyer College of Music and Dance

Opera Workshop 4228: Opera Aria Presentations

Sirapat Jittapirom, Music Director and Pianist

Brandon McShaffrey, Stage Director

December 9th, 2024

Mitten Hall, Room 300

7:30 PM

## Program

"Lonely House" from *Street Scene*

Kurt Weill (1900-1950)

**Sam Kaplan: Charles McNeil Jr.**

New York, 1940s. Sam expresses his feelings of isolation and loneliness, while observing the bustling activity of the tenement building's residents outside his home.

"Single Bed Blanket" from *Willie Stark*

Carlisle Floyd (1926-2021)

**Willie Stark: Zachary G. Alvarado**

1935, in the state capital of an unnamed southern American state. Willie Stark is a southern American politician, of humble origin, now a state governor. He began his political career as an idealist and champion of the working class, but as his career progresses, he becomes more and more corrupt, shrewd and ruthless, willing to stretch the boundaries of the law as far as he can. Here he challenges Judge Burden's moral righteousness.

"Il est doux, il est bon" from *Hérodiade*  
1912)

Jules Massenet (1842–

**Salomé: Sucre Brown**

Salomé laments to her confidant, Phanuel about her fruitless search for her mother, but is then overtaken by her infatuation with John the Baptist, whom she met during the search.

"Una donna a quindici anni" from *Così fan tutte*

W. A. Mozart (1756-1792)

**Despina: Shuyi Fang**

Despina advises the sisters Fiordiligi and Dorabella to embrace their feminine power and not be afraid to flirt with and succumb to the advances of new men, suggesting that women should use their charms to rule over their partners and not be overly faithful to just one man

"All afflitto e dolce il pianto" from *Roberto Devereux*  
1848)

Gaetano Donizetti (1797-

**Sara, Duchess of Nottingham: Ali Crosley**

Sara is trying in vain to hide her tears from the eyes of the Court, as she reads the sad story of Fair Rosamond, the unfortunate lover of King Henry II of England, and therein recognizes a very similar situation to her own. She is in love with Robert Devereux, her husband's closest friend.

The Ladies of the court express concern, but she replies that she is happy, while privately revealing her sadness.

"Deh vieni non tardar " from *Le nozze di Figaro* W. A. Mozart (1756-1792)  
**Susanna: Shurui Chen**

Susanna, disguised as the Countess, sings a seductive serenade to seemingly entice the Count, but is really trying to lure her true love, Figaro, who is secretly listening and becomes jealous, despite not knowing her real identity.

"In quelle trine morbide " from *Manon Lescaut* Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)  
**Manon: Sucre Brown**

While taking a brief break from her benefactor's party, Manon thinks back fondly to her humble life with her lover, Des Grieux.

"En fermant les yeux" from *Manon* Jules Massenet (1842–1912)  
**Le Chevalier des Grieux: Charles McNeil Jr.**

des Grieux daydreams of a future life of happiness with Manon, unaware that she has chosen a wealthy man over him, expressing his hopeful vision for their life together even as his heart is breaking due to her betrayal.

"Us" from *The Grapes of Wrath* Ricky Ian Gordon  
(1956)

**Ma Joad: Ali Crosley**

After the family farm has been foreclosed on the Joad family decides to pack what they can fit in the truck and settle out west. Ma faces the families defeat and resistance and attempts to motivate them to pack only what is essential for survival.

"The Impossible Dream" from *The Man of La Mancha* Mitch Leigh (1928-2014)  
**Don Quixote: Zachary G. Alvarado**

Don Quixote represents his unwavering commitment to fight for justice and noble ideals, even when facing seemingly insurmountable odds.