
Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: A glorious musical celebration awaits when SUU Opera presents a diverse program highlighted by a performance of Henry Purcell's Baroque classic *Dido and Aeneas*. In addition to Purcell's masterpiece, the evening includes scenes from the opera and musical theatre repertoire. Featuring stage and vocal direction by Professor Carol Ann Modesitt, this SUU Opera production runs November 12-15, at 7:30 pm in the intimate Thorley Recital Hall within SUU's Music Building. Tickets are $10 for adults, $8 for SUU Alumni with card, and $5 for children. SUU Faculty, Staff and Students are free with a valid student I.D. This is a Music Masterworks Series event produced by SUU's Department of Music.

Based on Book IV of Virgil's *Aeneid*, *Dido and Aeneas* recounts the love of Dido, Queen of Carthage, for the Trojan hero Aeneas, and her despair when he abandons her. A monumental work in Baroque opera, *Dido and Aeneas* is remembered as one of Purcell's foremost theatrical works. It was also Purcell's first opera, as well as his only all-sung dramatic work. The opera features Janese Pentico (Wednesday and Friday) and Lindsey Lopez (Thursday and Saturday) alternating in the role of Dido, Amanda Gagnon (Wednesday and Friday) and Melissa Rebman (Thursday and Saturday) alternating in the role of Belinda, and Taylor Rowley as Aeneas. The cast also includes Karl Cranney, Madi Davis, Rebecca Dayley, Bandon Grayson, Corlissa Jensen, Leslie Perkins, Macey Naumann, Shayla Rowley, Ashlee Shipman and Jocelyn Taylor.

Featuring music by Mozart, Bernstein and Gilbert and Sullivan, the evening includes a series of scenes from the opera repertoire and songs from the musical theatre. From the opera realm, Rachel Spilsbury and Malinda Siggard sing the beloved “Brother Come and Dance with Me” and “Song of the Sandman and Prayer” from Engelbert Humperdinck’s *Hansel and Gretel*. Johann Strauss II is represented with Macey Naumann and Shayla Rowley singing “To Vienna” from *The Gypsy Baron*. The delightful world of
Gilbert and Sullivan’s *The Mikado* comes to life with a duet sung by Karl Cranney and Ashlee Shipman. The magic of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s *Cosi Fan tutte* is captured in a duet performed by Rebecca Dayley and Corlissa Jensen. From the golden age of musical theatre, there are songs from Frank Loesser’s *Guys and Dolls*, “Fugue for Tinhorns” sung by Taylor Rowley, Brandon Grayson and Karl Cranney, and Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim’s *West Side Story*, “A Boy Like That/I Have a Love” sung by Jocelyn Taylor and Madi Davis.

Collaborating with Professor Modesitt on this SUU Opera production are choreographer Tiana Chambers and lighting designer Joshua Draper and Tracey Bradshaw on keyboard.

Enjoy an entertaining evening of opera and musical theater when SUU’s Department of Music presents this Music Masterworks event. For more information on the SUU College of Performing and Visual Arts events, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/arts.

**ABOUT THE COLLEGE**
Southern Utah University’s College of Performing and Visual Arts is home to nationally-accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts, and Dance. The College offers 17 degrees, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science, professional Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre, and Arts Administration Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts. It houses the Center for Shakespeare Studies, which offers a degree minor. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff teach and mentor over 550 arts majors. Over 1100 students enroll each year in more than 195 arts classes. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions annually. Its affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

**FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: SUU OPERA: DIDO AND AENEAS, AND OPERA MUSICAL THEATRE SCENES**

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**WHO:** Southern Utah University, Department of Music

**WHEN:** Wed-Sat, November 12-15, 2014

**TIME:** 7:30pm

**WHERE:** Thorley Recital Hall, Music Building, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT

**TICKETS:** (435) 586-7872, M-F 8 am-4:30 pm, online: www.suu.edu/arts, or at the door
PRICES: Adults: $10, SUU Alumni with card: $8, Youth $5
SUU Faculty, Staff and Students are free with a valid student I.D.

INFO: www.suu.edu/pva/arts