

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL WINNERS 2001-2002 Edition

Our most recent winners...

Joanna Mongiardo, one of our two **2001** winners, heard as soprano soloist in *Carmina Burana* with the Illinois and Detroit symphonies this past season, performs the piece again this season with the Lincoln Symphony. Earlier this fall, Joanna was featured in the Monadnock Music Festival Opera Gala and in the annual finalist recital at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. Also this season, she portrays Yum-Yum in *The Mikado* with the Boston Academy of Music and Adele with Chattanooga Opera. We can look forward next year to a Mahler Symphony No. 2 with Boston Civic Symphony.



Since her portrayals of Flora and Annina in *La Traviata* and Paquette in *Candide* for the Central City Opera last year, **Katherine Rohrer (2001)** finds herself increasingly in demand. She recently sang the role of Charlotte in the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis production of Offenbach's *La Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein*. Currently, the mezzo-soprano is on tour with Western Opera Theater singing Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*.



Perhaps her Special Encouragement Award in **2001** helped mezzo **Kristina Martin** land the role of Sarah Pocket in *Miss Havisham's Fire* by Argento with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis this past season. This was certainly a coup, following her placement as finalist in the 2000 Liederkranz Foundation Awards for Singers. Closer to home, Kristina joined forces with other recent winners for the annual finalists recital at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts.



One of the highlights of the past summer for **Lee Poulis**, who received a **2001** Special Encouragement Award, was performing as the baritone soloist in Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* both at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA and on a concert tour of China. He joined fellow 2001 alumni for the MFA recital this past September.

Also this fall he performs at the Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation Gala and sings the Mozart Requiem with Masterworks Chorale.

After his success singing Pluto in *Hippolyte et Aricie* this past summer with Opera Theatre of St. Louis, **Morris Robinson**, the **2001** 3rd place winner, will take the stage with Seattle Opera as Il Bonzo in *Madama Butterfly*. He will also be heard as Nourabad in *Les Pêcheurs de perles* with Nashville Opera next year. Among his most recent distinctions was his selection as a member of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program at the Metropolitan Opera.



Winners from the past...



Sandra Piques Eddy (2000), enjoyed spending her summer with Glimmerglass Opera performing Nerone in *Agrippina* and taking on Koukouli and covering Lazuli, two roles in Chabrier's *L'Étoile*. After performances with the Boston Baroque last season in Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, Sandra returns for the roles of Messaggiera and Speranza in *L'Orfeo* with that group. Look for her Metropolitan Opera debut this season in Strauss's *Die Frau ohne Schatten*. She returns to the Met later next year in *Rigoletto* and in Rav-el's *L'enfant et les sortilèges*.

Sandra DeAthos, a **2000** regional finalist, recently portrayed Susanna in Boston University's *Le nozze di Figaro* and Eternità in *La Calisto* with San Francisco Opera for their showcase opera earlier this year. The soprano sings Despina as part of the 2001 Merola Program with San Francisco Opera. She reprises that role in this year's tour of *Così fan tutte* with the Western Opera Theater.



Harold Gray Meers, one of our **2000** 3rd place winners, spent this past summer singing Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* with Opera North in New Hampshire. This fall he covers Valinace in *Arshak II* at San Francisco Opera. Also this fall the tenor will be heard in the roles of Simonson and Prince Myagkara in *Resurrection* by Tod Machover with Boston Lyric Opera. Next year he looks forward to singing Laertes in *Hamlet* with Opera Theatre of St. Louis.



Soprano **Kelly Kaduce (1999)** graced not only the opera stages, most notably as Mimi with Opera Delaware, but also appeared on screen, in the televised Boston Pops Christmas Festival last year. For Austin Lyric Opera this fall Kelly sings Marguerite in *Faust*. Next year, look for her to reprise her portrayal of Mimi with the Minnesota Opera and perform Gretel in Opera Colorado's *Hänsel und Gretel*, a success for her in the Sarasota Opera production earlier in 2001.



This summer **Jossie Pérez (1999)** joined the cast of the Met in the Park's *La Traviata*. In 2001 Jossie won the Sara Tucker Study Grant (along with Barbara Quintiliani—see below). In this, her third and final year as a part of the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, she sings in *L'enfant et les sortilèges* and in *Hänsel und Gretel*, an opera that seems to be a part of the rosters at more and more opera houses this season. After enjoying several debuts last season, including Mercedes in *Carmen* at the Met and



Isabella in *L'italiana in Algeri* with Wolf Trap Opera, this spring will see Jossie in the title role of *Carmen* in Valencia, Spain: an ideal locale for this opera; an ideal role for this singer.

Part of the regional and national winning triumvirate of 1999, soprano **Barbara Quintiliani** counts the prestigious Sara Tucker Study Grant from the Richard Tucker Foundation as one of her many honors in 2001. Last season, she became a member of Houston Grand Opera's Young Artists Studio and performed in many of their productions, including Janacek's *Katya Kabanova*, Copland's *The Tender Land*, and Verdi's *Don Carlo*. Among Barbara's many recent successes are performances in Cincinnati Opera's *Die Zauberflöte* and in Mahler's Symphony No. 2 with the Buffalo Symphony. On March 16, 2002, Barbara will be featured as soprano soloist in the Verdi *Requiem* with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center, Washington, DC. In addition to recitals in Williamsburg, VA in January and in Chicago in June, 2002, she will be recording the *Three Poems of Fiona McLeod* with the Buffalo Symphony.



Last year, **Stephen Humes**, winner of the 1999 Encouragement Award, debuted with the Glimmerglass Opera as a member of the Young American Artist Program and with Chicago Opera Theater in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*. This season has already seen Mr. Humes' debut with Wolf Trap Opera in *Midsummer Night's Dream* and in *Le nozze di Figaro*. In



the current season, his plans include returning to New York City Opera for four more of that company's productions.

This past summer **Keith Phares (1998)** starred as the Count in Wolf Trap's *Le nozze di Figaro* and was featured as Demetrius in *Midsummer Night's Dream*. In addition to his recent performance at the Monadnock Music Festival's Opera Gala, this fall Keith will join the New York City Opera as Telemaco in *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria* and as Schaunard in *Bohème*. Next year



will mark his Marilyn Horne Foundation debut recital as well as a world-premiere, as Charles Lindbergh, in *Loss of Eden* at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. Look for future engagements with the New York Philharmonic in performances of Berlioz's *Béatrice et Bénédict*.



1998 3rd place winner **Sol Kim** was accepted into the Spectrum Resident Artist Program with Virginia Opera this year. Last summer saw her apprenticeship with the Central City Opera, where she played Sœur Mathilde in Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites*. She returns in the fall of 2001 to Longwood Opera's *Carmen* as Micaëla, after last season's Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro* and Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*.

Last season, success followed success as debut followed debut for tenor **Theodore Green (1997)**. Among his firsts, Ted portrayed Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Seattle Opera, Tonio in *La Fille du régiment* with Boston Lyric Opera, and Florville in Rossini's *Il Signor Bruschino* with Orpheus Chamber Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. This season the tenor is slated to perform Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* with St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* with St. Louis Symphony. Ted revisits the role of Edgardo next season, this time for Minnesota Opera, and he bows as Cassio in Michigan Opera Theatre's *Otello*.



After successful performances as baritone soloist in *Messiah* for Boston's Handel & Haydn Society and as Jake in Opera Company of Philadelphia's *Porgy and Bess* last season, **Stephen Salters (1996)** has much to look forward to. A standout this season will be the role of Enrico for Opéra de Genève's production of a real rarity, Donizetti's *Maria di Rohan*. If you are unable to travel across the pond to hear Stephen, you can always turn to a recently released Telarc recording of Gluck's *Iphigénie en Tauride* with Boston Baroque.

Mezzo **Danièle LeBlanc** debuted with Opera Columbus as Cherubino earlier this year. A fellow 1996 regional first place and national winner, Danièle portrayed Rosina in Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* in Montréal and Adalgisa in Bellini's *Norma* at the Opéra de Québec among other roles just last year. This season she returns to Québec as the Witch in *Hänsel und Gretel*.



Jean-Pierre Trevisani (1995) enjoyed many successes last season with Opéra National de Paris including his portrayals of Gralsritter in *Parsifal*, Conte di Lerma in Verdi's *Don Carlo* and Nathanael in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*. Having recently completed a series of solo performance concerts in places as far-flung as Petra, Jordan and Worcester, MA, Jean-Pierre returns to Paris as Rodriguez in *Don Quichotte*.



Earlier this year **Sheryl Heather Cohen (1994)** graced the Utah Opera stage as Berta in Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siv-*



iglia. While there, she also covered the roles of Gilda in *Rigoletto* and Baby Doe in the eponymous opera. The soprano has the distinct honor of opening the Sylvan Opera 2001-2002 Season at their Gala Concert, an evening of Gilbert and Sullivan with the Fairfield County Chorale.

Our 1994 second-place winner, soprano **Jami Rogers** recently added Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro* with Honolulu Opera to her list of triumphs. Earlier this year Knoxville Opera was treated to her Josephine in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and in 2002 Jami takes on what is sure to become a signature role for her, Zerbinetta in Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos* with Sarasota Opera.



After such accomplishments as his portrayal of Count Almaviva with Opera Columbus and Marcello in Puccini's *Bohème* at Opera Theatre of St. Louis earlier this year, **Lester Lynch**, a 1994 3rd place winner, has an exciting season in store. The baritone will return to Columbus Symphony to sing in Mozart *Requiem* and sing the role of Tonio in *I Pagliacci* with Dayton Opera.



Symphonic music was a big part of **Jill Grove's** (1993) summer this past season, when she performed as mezzo soloist in Mahler's 8th Symphony and Beethoven's Ninth. Santa Fe, too, featured in her summer plans, where Jill debuted in two very different roles: Dame Quickly in *Falstaff* and Omniscent Mussel in Strauss's *Die Aegyptische Helena*. This fall she will join the Met's cast of Wagner's *Die Meistersinger*, a production to be recorded for a PBS telecast. For her Dallas Opera debut this season she sings the First Norn in Wagner's *Götterdämmerung*.



The upcoming season takes soprano **Janna Baty**, 1993 3rd place winner, throughout the country. She will be heard in recital from Iowa to Connecticut to New York, and even Boston. After a solo concert at Longy School in Cambridge, earlier this year, Janna portrayed Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* for Opera North's production this past summer in Hanover, New Hampshire.

The 2001-2002 season brings yet another debut for our 1991 winner, **Diane Alexander**. The soprano takes on the role of Curley's Wife in *Of Mice and Men* for her debut with the Washington Opera. Elsewhere, Diane sings Hanna Glawari in *The Merry Widow* (Arizona Opera) and Leila in *Les Pêcheurs de perles* (Nashville Opera). Chattanooga hears her as Rosalinde this season in J. Strauss's perennial favorite *Die Fledermaus*. Among recent highlights are the title role in *The Ballad of Baby Doe* in Indianapolis and *Musetta* for Central City Opera.



Samuel Mungo (1991 3rd place winner) is looking forward to a wonderful 2001-2002 season. For his Vancouver Opera debut the baritone plans on Falke in *Die Fledermaus*; for his Utah Opera debut the role of Karl Magnus in *A Little Night Music* is scheduled. These roles come hot on the

heels of his portrayal of the title role in *Don Giovanni* and his debut as Escamillo in *Carmen* for Virginia Opera.

After her debut earlier this year with Seattle Opera as Meg Page in *Falstaff*, **Mary Ann McCormick**, our first place winner in 1990, can look forward to a season that includes Opera Colorado's *Hänsel und Gretel*, among others. Last year the mezzo-soprano also garnered critical acclaim for performing Copland's *The Tender Land* with the BBC Orchestra under Leonard Slatkin.

This season, **Guiping Deng**, one of the 1990 3rd place winners, returns to the role of *Cio-Cio San* in Winston Salem after singing Puccini's tragic heroine last year throughout the country with performances at the Boston Lyric, Sacramento, Calgary, and Festival operas. Arizona Opera will be next for this signature role. Earlier this year, Guiping sang *Yellow River Cantata* with Chorus pro Musica and Newton Symphony at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. Looking ahead to the 2002-2003 season, the soprano is slated to sing another Puccini heroine, Mimi, for Sacramento Opera.



The other 1990 3rd place winner, **Kathryn Honan-Carter**, fresh from her portrayal of Meg Page with Opera International's *Falstaff* this summer, has planned a season that features a performance as Hänsel in the Humperdinck chestnut for Capital City Opera. In spring of 2002, the mezzo-soprano will be Opera Delaware's Rosina in their production of *Il barbiere di Siviglia*.



Last year, **Dominique Labelle** (1989) debuted with Seattle Opera in the title role of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and this season she makes her Moscow solo recital debut. Also this season, the soprano will travel to France to sing in Debussy's *Le Martyre de St. Sébastien* with Orchestre de Paris; to St. Louis for that city's symphony's performances of *Alexander's Feast*; and to Utah for the state symphony's performances of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. Look for Dominique also in Haydn's *The Creation* with Handel & Haydn Society in Boston, as well as in Handel's *Messiah* with the orchestras of Minnesota, Philadelphia, and Cleveland.

A return to Baltimore Opera is part of the upcoming season's highlights for **Dean Anthony**, the 1989 3rd place winner. For that company the tenor sings Monostatos in *Die Zauberflöte*. Also this season, Dean will sing in the character tenor roles in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* in Orlando and Pong in Puccini's *Turandot* for both Nashville and Memphis operas. He will portray Puck in Milwaukee's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and for his Vancouver Opera debut the tenor has chosen the role of Curley in *Of Mice and Men*.



Haijing Fu (1987-1988) has much to look forward to this season. Not only will the baritone take his first solo bow at the Teatro Municipal de Santiago in Chile as Ford in Verdi's final masterpiece, *Falstaff*, a role he covers at the Met in the 2001-2002 season, but he also per-



forms in the Met's staging of Prokofiev's monumental *War and Peace*.



Denyce Graves (1987-1988) recently wrapped up a tour of solo recitals around North America from Los Angeles to Sacramento to Baltimore to Phoenix to Tampa Bay to Calgary to St. Louis. The mezzo embodies Nicklausse for Washington Opera's production of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* early this fall and is featured as Federica in the Met's new production of *Luisa Miller*. For Houston it will be Dalila in 2002, and for Philadelphia *La Périochole*. Opéra de Paris welcomes her in the title role for their staging of *Carmen* in the summer of 2002.



From her musical home base in Germany, our **1986** regional and national winner **Deborah Cole** has been engaged most recently as Romilda in Handel's *Xerxes* and in concerts of opera and operetta with the Johann Strauss Orchestra in cities throughout Germany. Earlier this fall with the Hamburg Ballet she performed in *Messiah*, and later on in the 2001-2002 season she sings Phénice in Gluck's *Armide* for Ludwigshafen and Clorinda in Rossini's *La cenerentola* with Theater Bielefeld.

Musical America proclaimed **Lorraine Hunt Lieberson (1985)** the 2001 Vocalist of the Year. Also in the 2000-2001 season, for Lyric Opera of Chicago the mezzo-soprano reprised the role of Myrtle Wilson in *Great Gatsby*, a role she created in the 1999-2000 world premiere of the opera at the Met and which served as her debut at the Met. The role calls again in 2001-2002 for the Met's reprisal of the Harbison opera. Future engagements for Lorraine take her to Scotland for performances of Mozart's *Idomeneo* and Berlioz's *Les Troyens* at the Edinburgh Festival.



Ann Panagulias (1985) made her Opera Columbus debut as Violetta last season and took a bow as the tender Blanche in Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites* at Portland Opera. This season sees the soprano as Helena in *Midsummer Night's Dream* in Milwaukee.



There is much to look forward to from **Victoria Livengood (1984)** this season. She begins this fall by joining the Washington, DC Opera as Giulietta in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*; makes her debut with San Francisco Opera as Meg Page in *Falstaff* with Bryn Terfel; and stays on with that company for the Mayor's Wife in *Jenufa*. Later on the mezzo-soprano returns to the Metropolitan Opera as Helene in *War and Peace* and as Hippolyta in *Midsummer Night's Dream*.



Lisa Saffer (1984) made her National Arts Centre debut in Knussen's Symphony No. 2 earlier this year, after enjoying successes such as Hilda Mack in Hans Werner Henze's *Elegy for Young Lovers* with the Schoenberg Ensemble and performing *Messiah* with Detroit Symphony. Other recent highlights are



performances with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and with the Seattle Opera, where she sang Woglinde and the Forest Bird in Wagner's *Ring*. The English National Opera will hear her this season in the title role of *Lulu*.

This past season has proved to be quite busy for **Marcus Haddock (1984)**. The tenor spent the earlier part of the year performing *Simon Boccanegra* at Deutsche Oper Berlin, *Rigoletto* in Dallas, and *Roméo et Juliette* in Lyon. For his upcoming debut with Teatre Liceu in Barcelona he has chosen Alfredo in *La Traviata*. Also this season are performances as Pinkerton at



Washington Opera, tenor soloist in Verdi Requiems in both Belgium and England, and *Don Carlo* in Cologne.

Aida is seemingly the role **Marquita Lister (1983)** was born to sing. She has sung the role for the Houston Grand Opera, L'Opéra de Montréal, Edmonton Opera, Calgary Opera, and Saxon State Opera in Dresden. In the fall of the 2001-2002 season, the soprano will again return to that role in Salzburg's Festspielhaus, but she will also perform another signature role, Tosca, for Stuttgart. Closer to home, in January, 2001, Marquita sang to critical acclaim as Salome with the Boston Lyric Opera. For the New York City opera she will portray Bess in *Porgy and Bess*. Also this season Marquita takes on Giorgetta in *Il tabarro* for Connecticut Opera and the title role in Floyd's *Susannah* for Opera Carolina.



Sondra Kelly (1982), has already appeared in over 250 performances of 23 different roles at the Metropolitan Opera where she began her professional career. Her recent portrayal of Ulrica in the Deutsche Oper Berlin's new production of *Un ballo in maschera* won her critical acclaim. In upcoming seasons the mezzo-soprano looks forward to several engagements, including Azucena in *Il trovatore* for Opera Carolina and The Innkeeper in *Boris Godunov* for Florida Grand Opera.



Sharon Baker, a 1981 3rd place winner, returns to the Boston Baroque once again this season, this time to perform in Bach's *Hercules at the Crossroads*. Earlier this year the soprano portrayed Drusilla in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, the Princess in the *Beneficent Dervish* (recorded by Telarc), and sang as soloist in Vivaldi's *Gloria* with the Boston Baroque. For the close of 2001, the soprano will sing in the Boston Baroque's New Year's performance, a program to feature dramatic cantatas by Handel.



After a stint in 2000 with the Santa Fe Symphony in Berlioz's too rarely-performed Christmas oratorio, *L'enfance du Christ*, soprano **Janice Hall (1976)** had the honor of singing the title role in *Salome* this summer in Hof, Germany. She begins the 2001-2002 season as Violetta in Shreveport, LA.

