

Rusalka

Antonín Dvořák
(1841–1904)

Rusalka: Novalee Richard

Rusalka, a water-nymph, has fallen in love with a mortal prince who comes to the forest to swim in the lake. In this aria she asks the moon, who sees all, to tell the Prince of her love.

Werther

Jules Massenet
(1842–1912)

Sophie: Linda Forsyth

Charlotte: Rebecca Sacks

Sophie arrives at her sister Charlotte's house. Charlotte's new husband has been away and she has been alone at home on Christmas Eve, rereading the suicidal letters written to her by Werther, who is in love with her. Sophie, not knowing of the relationship between Charlotte and Werther, happily chatters about life and laughter, but when she mentions his name, Charlotte bursts into tears. Sophie leaves, insisting that she come home for Christmas. Charlotte, left alone, prays for strength to resist her attraction to Werther and for his safety.

The Merry Widow

Franz Lehár
(1870–1948)

Hanna: Katherine Price

Maxim's Grisettes

Emily Hopkins, Katherine F. Curtis, Lindsay Forsyth,

Alyse Jamieson, Novalee Richard, Mary Robles

Hannah Rudkin, Rebecca Sacks

Hanna, a rich and beautiful widow, hosts a "Pontevédrian" party in her mansion. She sings the well-known ballad of Vilja, a forest nymph who seduces a mortal. Later, the party moves on to Maxim's, a local hot-spot, where everyone is entertained by Zo-Zo and the Grisettes!

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PRODUCTION & MUSICAL STAFF

Karen Esquivel, stage direction/costume coordinator

Gustavo Castro, vocal coach

Shannon Mockli, choreographer

Novalee Richard, opera graduate teaching fellow

Lauren Servias', accompaniment graduate teaching fellow

Consuelo Esquivel & Margaret Gowen, seamstresses

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112th Season, 32nd program



SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

Beall Concert Hall
7:30 p.m.

Friday-Saturday evening
February 10-11, 2012

AN OPERATIC VALENTINE'S DAY

featuring

University of Oregon Opera Ensemble

Karen Esquivel, director

Katherine F. Curtis, soprano

Emily Hopkins, mezzo-soprano

Lindsay Forsyth, soprano

Alyse Jamieson, mezzo-soprano

Katherine Price, soprano

Novalee Richard, soprano

Mary Robles, soprano

Hannah Rudkin, soprano

Rebecca Sacks, mezzo-soprano

Lauren Servias, piano



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

PROGRAM

La Clemenza di Tito

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756–1791)

Vitellia: Novalee Richard
Annio: Emily Hopkins
Sesto: Katherine F. Curtis
Servilia: Linda Forsyth
Tito: Rebecca Sacks

Vitellia, daughter of a previous emperor, seeks revenge against Emperor Tito because he does not return her love and has chosen Berenice, a foreigner, for his Empress. She pressures Sesto, who is totally devoted to Tito and totally obsessed with Vitellia, to assassinate him as a sign of his devotion. Sesto's friend, Annio, arrives revealing that Tito has sent Berenice away and Vitellia's ambitions for the throne are revived.

Annio and Sesto's sister, Servilia, have their own plans for marriage, but Annio learns that the emperor has decided to marry Servilia himself. Annio assures Tito that he has chosen well and is sent to give Servilia the news and bring her to Tito. Annio painfully fulfills his duty, but Servilia reaffirms her love for Annio, and he confesses that his love is still true.

Sesto has unsuccessfully attempted to murder Tito and confessed to the crime. Tito demands to see him, in an effort to discover the cause of his betrayal and find a way to redeem him. Although Sesto is overwhelmed with remorse, he will not implicate Vitellia who is now in line to become Empress. He begs for understanding from Tito as he goes to his death and Tito struggles to stay firm in spite of his love for his friend.

Orphée et Eurydice

Christoph Willibald von Gluck
(1714–1787)

Orphée: Alyse Jamieson
Eurydice: Katherine Price

Orphée has braved the fires of Hades to rescue Eurydice and return her to the living, but on the condition that he not look at her or explain himself until they are safely out. Eurydice does not understand his actions and pleads for him to explain, but he refuses, desperate to bring her to safety. Eurydice takes his silence as rejection and decides that she would prefer to return to Hades and remain dead than live without his love.

The Mikado

Arthur Sullivan
(1842–1900)

Yum-Yum: Mary Robles
Peep-Bo: Hannah Rudkins
Pitti-Sing: Emily Hopkins

This trio of happy-go-lucky school girls, set in the world of Japanese Animé, return for the wedding of Yum-Yum and sing of their carefree attitudes and romantic illusions.

Giulio Cesare in Egitto

George Frideric Handel
(1685–1759)

Cornelia: Alyse Jamieson
Sesto: Rebecca Sacks

Cornelia, wife to the butchered Pompey, is to be taken into the harem of Tolomeo and Sesto, her young son, has been arrested and must go off to imprisonment. They share a tearful farewell and lament their sad fate.

INTERMISSION

Der Rosenkavalier

Richard Strauss
(1864–1949)

Octavian: Katherine F. Curtis
Sophie: Katherine Price

Sophie, who is to be engaged to Baron Ochs, receives the presentation of the Silver Rose, a promise of the marriage to come. It is presented to her by a young nobleman, Octavian, in his role as the "Knight of the Rose". He ceremoniously presents the rose to Sophie and the two young people immediately find themselves falling in love.

The Ballad of Baby Doe

Douglas Moore
(1893–1969)

Augusta: Emily Hopkins
Baby Doe: Linda Forsyth

The young and beautiful Baby Doe has fallen in love with Horace Tabor, a married man. She writes a letter to her mother in which she realizes that she must not pursue the relationship. Augusta, Horace's wife, pays Baby Doe a visit, warning her that there will be trouble if she doesn't leave. Baby Doe at first agrees, but, appalled by Augusta's harshness and spite towards Horace, she decides to stay with him.