

New England Opera Club



New England Opera Club Newsletter

Logo by Barbara Winston

August 2017 Presentation

Date: August 13, 2017
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Place: Watertown Free Public Library
123 Main Street, Watertown, MA (617) 972-6421

Great Singers on Television



For decades television has often featured performances by great singers, bringing into our living rooms vocal luminaries such as Leontyne Price, Jussi Bjoerling, Beverly Sills, Franco Corelli, Marilyn Horne, Robert Merrill. Programs that regularly broadcast these artists' appearances included *The Voice of Firestone*, *The Bell Telephone Hour*, *The Tonight Show*, *Great Performances*, *Evening at Pops*, and *Live from the Metropolitan Opera*. We will explore these and many more singers and television programs in a tribute to *Great Singers on Television*.

William Cotten, speaker

William Cotten's reviews have described his singing as "sweet-voiced" and "honey-toned," and his performances as "bursting full of life," "a natural scene-stealer," "making his part as lyrically enticing as a whole string of Schubertian Lieder." He performed with the Boston Opera Theater Company in *The Marriage of Figaro*, a production which was filmed in Vienna and aired on PBS's *Great Performances*. He also performed in Paris, at the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, and in the American Repertory Theater's world premiere of Robert Moran and Phillip Glass's *The Juniper Tree*. He has sung throughout the Boston and New England area, and was a Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center.

Bill is currently on the faculties of the Boston Conservatory at Berklee and the College of the Holy Cross, and has taught at the New England Conservatory. His students have sung throughout the United States and Europe in opera, concert, national tours, on Broadway, and have won numerous awards.

Directions and parking:

Public Transportation: The library is accessible via MBTA Bus routes Express 502, Express 504, 52, 57, 59, 70, 70A and 71. It is less than a five-minute walk to the library from the buses that arrive at Watertown Yard.

From the West: Take Route 20 East (Main Street) to Watertown Square.

From the East: Take Route 16 West (Mt. Auburn Street). Turn right on Main Street.

Parking: There are plenty of metered (free on Sunday) parking spaces at the rear of the library, from which you can access the library through the back door. Drive in on the passage just before the Fire House.

The Library is fully handicap-accessible

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2017 NEOC Programs

(listings are subject to change)

August 27: Berkshire Opera Festival's
Ariadne auf Naxos -
Michael Ouellette, speaker

September 17:
Kathleen McDermott, speaker

October 15:
Ed Tapper, speaker

November 19:
Jack Jarzavek, speaker

December 17:
Angelo Mammano, speaker

Past Presidents

William Miranda (*NEOC Co-Founder &
President Emeritus*)

Jack Fiddler
Maria Iantosca
Charlotte Wolfe
John M. Tischio

Letters or Articles to the Editor:

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Annual Membership Dues:

\$35 Single, \$40 Double
(Two persons at the same address)
\$15 student with valid ID

Mail check, payable to NEOC, to
Mima Leivi, Treasurer
80 Paul Gore St., #1
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Jacopo Peri Award

*The NEOC frequently honors
a person who has made a
significant contribution to the
local opera scene.*

1982 Eunice Alberts
1983 Schuyler Chapin
1984 Boris Goldovsky
1985 Phyllis Curtin
1986 Donald Gramm
1987 Eleanor Steber
1988 John Moriarty
1989 Ernest Triplett
1990 Ron Della Chiesa
1991 Patricia Craig and
Richard Cassilly
1992 John Balme
1993 Richard Conrad
1994 Susan Stone
1995 Robert Honeysucker
1996 Scott Brumit
1997 William Miranda
1998 Norman Kelley
1999 D'Anna Fortunato
2000 Jan Curtis
2001 Roland Hayes
(Posthumously)
2002 Bradley Pennington
2003 Sharon Daniels
2004 Sarah Caldwell
2005 Jeffrey Rink
2006 Stephen Lord
2007 Randolph J. Fuller
2008 Janice Mancini Del
Sesto
2009 John M. Tischio
2010 Carole Charnow
2011 Federico Cortese
2012 Martin Pearlman
2014 Esther Nelson

July 16: A Celebration of John Tischio's Life

On Sunday, June 16, 2017, almost 50 friends of the late John Tischio, Past President of the New England Opera Club, gathered at Newton's Jumbo Seafood Restaurant for a memorial banquet in memory of John. The diverse group included members of the New England Opera Club, John's students, his business associates, and his family.

Unfortunately, several long-time members of the New England Opera Club were prevented from attending by illness or travel, including Angelo Mammano, Bill Miranda, Peter Sullivan, Russell and Jeanette Mead, Maria Iantosca and Richard Feffer, but they were there in spirit.

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Several of the guests shared memories of John, including Janice Feffer, Erika Reitshamer, Charlotte Wolfe (*only remaining founding member*), Maria-Pia Antonelli, and Lew Schneider. They all agreed that John Tischio was larger than life—a true lover of Opera.

The wonderful event was concluded by the introduction of the New England Opera Club’s new officers –Peter McNamara, President, and Richard Brunson, Vice President. Peter and Richard have a hard act to follow, and everyone present wished them well.

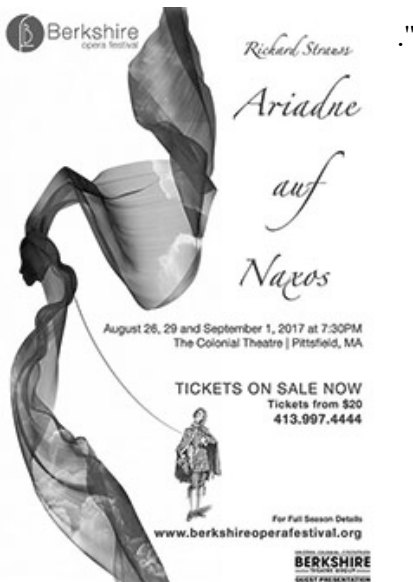
- Lew Schneider



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Berkshire Opera Festival: A new partner for the New England Opera Club



Our August 27 presentation, co-sponsored by the Berkshire Opera Festival and the New England Opera Club, will be led by Michael Ouellette, senior lecturer in theater arts from MIT, and will feature the Berkshire Festival's upcoming production of Richard Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

Ouellette, an actor, director, and librettist, guides MIT theater arts students to find the real depths beneath the surface of plays. In moving from reading to performing a play, he says, "I try to open the door and take my students into the world of the play."

Berkshire Opera Festival (BOF) is a fully-producing summer festival that opened in 2016. Adhering to the highest standards of artistic excellence, they are committed to restoring fully-staged opera to a place of prominence in the Berkshire community. Each summer, they present musically and dramatically compelling operatic productions, in addition to recitals and other related musical events.



Ariadne auf Naxos is a complex comic opera: A young composer has been hired to present a dramatic new work (based on the myth of Theseus and Ariadne) at a wealthy man's home, as part of a gala evening which includes the serious opera, a *commedia dell'arte* performance, and fireworks. In the midst of preparations for the performance of the young composer's serious opera, he is informed that his patron, worried that there might not be enough time for the fireworks, is demanding that the *commedia* performance and the *opera seria* performance take place at the same time. Interactions between the cast of the *opera seria* and the comedians leads to frustration and, ultimately, deeper understanding for all concerned.



Opera Diary

Local Opera and Classical Music, August 2017

For up-to-date activities, visit FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/NEoperaevents/>

August 2, 7:30 pm

Greater Worcester Opera | *Opera and Operetta Delights*

Briarwood Community Center, 65 Briarwood Circle, Worcester | www.greaterworcesteropera.org/

August 3, 8pm

Boston Symphony Orchestra | *Schubert's Summer Journey, Program 3*, featuring Jamie Barton, mezzo-soprano; Colin Jacobsen, violin; Yo-Yo Ma, cello; Emanuel Ax, piano

Tanglewood: Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West Street, Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85473

August 5, 8pm

Boston Symphony Orchestra | *Incidental music to A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Tanglewood: Koussevitzky Music Shed - Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85546

August 8-29, Tuesdays 7:30pm

Longwood Opera Summer Concert Series

Christ Church, 1132 Highland Ave., Needham | 781.455.0960, longwoodopera.org/index.html#summer

August 9, 8pm

The Handel and Haydn Society | *The Fairy Queen*, Purcell

Tanglewood: Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West Street, Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85475

August 10, 8pm

Boston Symphony Orchestra | *Festival of Contemporary Music*

Tanglewood: Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West Street, Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85516

August 16, 8pm

Boston Symphony Chamber Players | *Cantata No. 199: Mein Herze schwimmt im Blut*, Bach

Tanglewood: Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West Street, Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85476

August 18 and 22, 8pm

Boston Symphony Orchestra | Selections from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* and *Rückert-Lieder*, Mahler, featuring baritone Simon Keenlyside

Tanglewood: Koussevitzky Music Shed - Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85548

August 26, 10:30am

Boston Symphony Orchestra | *Saturday Morning Rehearsal Ives and Beethoven*, featuring Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9, Ode to Joy*

Tanglewood: Koussevitzky Music Shed - Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85610

August 26, 29, September 1: 7:30pm

Berkshire Opera Festival | *Ariadne auf Naxos*, R. Strauss

The Colonial Theatre, 111 South Street, Pittsfield, MA | www.berkshireoperafestival.org/ariadne-auf-naxos

August 26, 8pm

Boston Symphony Orchestra | *Arias, duets, and choruses from the Italian and Russian lyric stage*, featuring Kristine Opolais, soprano / Sir Bryn Terfel, bass baritone / Russell Thomas, tenor

Tanglewood: Koussevitzky Music Shed - Lenox, MA | www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/85540

More on Tanglewood: <http://bso.http.internapcdn.net/bso/images/uploads/brochures/2017-TWD-Brochure.pdf>

