

New England Opera Club



New England Opera Club Newsletter

Logo by Barbara Winston

Date: November 26, 2017
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 PM

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

November 2017 Presentation

Eleanor Steber, America's Most Neglected Diva **Jack Jarzavek, speaker**



Jack Jarzavek's talk will look at the full range of Eleanor Steber's career at the Met. It will also include a biographical account of her growth as a music student and emerging diva. His selections, played on CD, will cover most of the roles she sang at the Met, including two of which she performed the Met premiere, and one the world premiere. He will also examine her relationships with her two husbands and Rudolf Bing as they interacted and affected her relations with the Metropolitan Opera management.

Jack says, "I grew up with my father listening to the Met's Saturday afternoon broadcasts. I heard my first opera in Paris in 1961 when I was a student at the Sorbonne. My father gave me my first LP in 1955, Verdi's *Rigoletto*, and I have been collecting LPs and CDs ever since. I gave 17,000 LPs and 5,000 CDs to the Rivers Conservatory at the Rivers School where I taught for 40 years: French, English, and art history. I continue to buy CDs, especially of operas I don't know and singers who are just emerging. Modern opera, the more experimental, the better, is a great pleasure and focus of my CD purchases."

Directions and parking:

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.

Open to the Public - Free
The Library is fully handicap-accessible



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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

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2017 NEOC Programs
(listings are subject to change)

December 17: Verdi at the Ballet
Angelo Mammano, speaker

October Presentation:

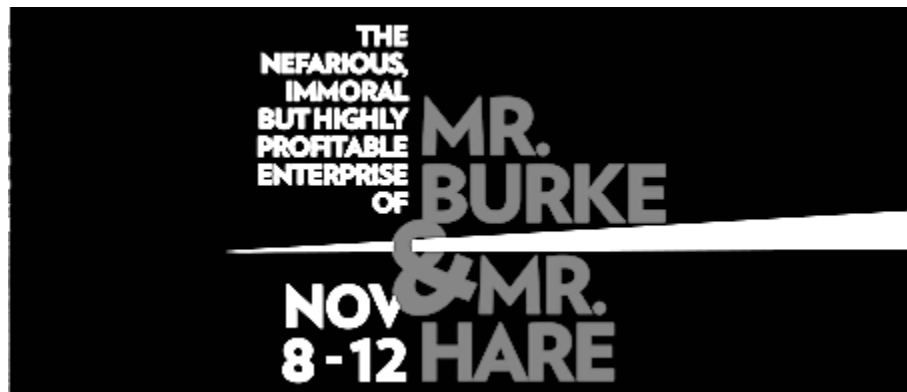
Great Singers Around Boston, An Historical Survey

Ed Tapper honored us with another of his engaging and enlightening presentations on Sunday October 22 at the Watertown Public Library. He started with Boston's late Nineteenth Century operatic beginnings and brought us up to date with present day singer/teachers Quintiliani and Fortunato. Along the way he talked about our first large-scale operatic venture, the Boston Opera Company, which opened the first of its only 6 seasons in 1908. If you can find Quaintance Eaton's history of the company, don't pass it up. It is fascinating. We listened to Gioconda's *Suicidio* as sung by Lillian Nordica, who was the company's opening night star, as the opera's hapless heroine. Her birthplace in Maine, the Nordica Memorial Homestead in Farmington, is worth visiting.

It is hard to choose from such a treasure trove of operatic rarities, but if I were stranded on a desert island I would favor Roland Hayes, Dorothy Maynor, Helen Traubel, Eunice Alberts, David Lloyd, Phyllis Curtin, Norman Kelley, Beverly Sills, Shirley Verrett, Barbara Quintiliani and Elizabeth Parcells. That would hold me until the next ship rolled in. *Retorna Subito Ed.*

Angelo Mammano

Boston Lyric Opera is excited to present the
brutally funny and highly theatrical
World Premiere opera...



see more at <https://blo.org/burke-hare/>



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November 3 & 4, 7:30 PM

Gloriæ Dei Cantores and Elements Theatre Company | *The Pilgrim's Progress*, Vaughan Williams
Church of the Transfiguration, Orleans, MA | 508.240.2400, pilgrimsprogress2017.org

November 3 & 4, 8:00 pm; November 5, 2:00 pm

Guerilla Opera | *Chrononhotonthologos*, Andy Vores | The Boston Conservatory at Berklee, 132 Ipswich Street, Boston
| 617.912.9222, guerillaopera.com/season/chrononhotonthologos/

November 5, 8 PM

WHRB 95.3 Sunday Night at the Opera | *Faust*, Gounod

November 5, 3 PM

Boston Wagner Society | *Wagner's Greatest Hits*, with Sarah Cole, Adam Russell, Philip Lima, and Matthew Larson |
Hibernian Hall, 184 Dudley St, Roxbury | 617.844.1323, bostonwagner@comcast.net

November 5, 9 PM

WCRB 99.5: Voices with Chris Vos | *Madama Butterfly*, Puccini

November 8 & 9, 7:30 PM; November 12, 12:00 & 4:00 PM

Boston Lyric Opera | *Mr. Burke & Mr. Hare*, Julian Grant | The Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539
Tremont Street, Boston | 617.542.4912, <https://blo.org/burke-hare/>

November 10, 8 PM

Boston Early Music Festival | *Le Poème Harmonique* (Pre-Concert Talk at 7 PM)
First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, 11 Garden Street, Cambridge | 617.661.1812,
www.bemf.org/pages/concerts/17-18/lph.htm

November 10 & 11, 8:00 PM; November 12, 3:00 PM

Boston Opera Collaborative | *Opera Bites - Seven short works, including three world-premieres*
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden Street, Cambridge | bostonoperacollaborative.org/opera-bites-nov-17

November 11- 19, varied times

Savoyard Light Opera Company | *Carousel*, Rodgers & Hammerstein | Corey Auditorium, 117 Church Street, Carlisle
| savoyardlightopera.org/

November 12, 8PM

WHRB 95.3 Sunday Night at the Opera | *The Legend of the Invisible City of Kitezh*, Rimsky-Korsakov

November 12, 9 PM

WCRB 99.5: Voices with Chris Vos | *A Celebration of Kiri Te Kanawa*

November 18, 12:55 pm

Metropolitan Opera Live in HD | *The Exterminating Angel*, Thomas Adès

November 19, 2:30pm

Boston Bel Canto Opera | *Celebratory concert commemorating the 25th Silver Anniversary: Bradley Pennington, piano, in
solo recital: Works of Scarlatti, Mozart, Chopin, Brahms* | Dante Alighieri Society, 41 Hampshire St., Cambridge, MA |
Admission: \$25, \$19 Seniors/Students | Free adjacent parking.

November 19, 8PM

WHRB 95.3 Sunday Night at the Opera | *Die Schweigsame Frau*, Strauss, R.

November 19, 9 PM

WCRB 99.5: Voices with Chris Vos | *Americana for a "Voices" Thanksgiving*

November 25, 8 PM; November 26, 3 PM

Boston Early Music Festival | *Almira* (opera in concert), Handel |
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough Street, Boston | 617.585.1260, necmusic.edu

November 26, 8PM

WHRB 95.3 Sunday Night at the Opera | *Penelope*, Fauré