

New England Opera Club



New England Opera Club Newsletter

Logo by Barbara Winston

June 2016 Program

Date: June 5, 2016
Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Newton Free Library
30 Homer Street Newton Centre, MA 02459 (617) 796-1360

This month's talk:

The Tenors Sing Out!

Speaker: Erika Reitshamer



Let's go on a tour beyond The Three Tenors!

*Learn how the tenor voice first came into being.
Get to know the famous champions of the high C!*

Discover the different kinds of tenor voices through contemporary and historic audiovisual excerpts of great tenors singing great arias.

Get to know the challenges and significances that make the tenor voice unique.

Speaker: Erika Reitshamer is an engaging teacher whose knowledge and love of opera will inspire all, and whose open style and sense of humor are irresistible. She is a board member of the New England Opera Club, former VP of the Boston Wagner Society, and teacher of opera appreciation for LLARC at Regis College, Newton Lifetime Learning and WISE at Assumption College. Her last offering for Newton Free Library was *Divas* in June 2015.

Directions and parking:

By car: **From North, South, West:** Take Route 128 to Exit 24 (Rte. 30 East/Commonwealth Ave.) Turn right onto Rte. 30 and go East towards Newton for 3.1 miles and bear right at the traffic light onto Homer Street.
From East: Take Mass Pike or Comm. Ave. West towards Newton. Leave Mass Pike at Exit 17. Go straight onto Washington St. Continue 1.3 miles to Walnut St. Turn left onto Walnut and drive South 1.1 miles to Homer Street. Drive past the Library to the adjacent parking lot on the left.
By Subway: Take the green line to Riverside (D) to the Newton Highlands stop. The library is approx. one mile from the Newton Highlands subway stop, on the corner of Walnut and Homer Street.

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2016 NEOC Programs

(listings are subject to change)

June 5: *The Tenors Sing Out!*
Erika Reitshamer, speaker

July 17: *Matzkin Award Dinner*

August 21: Bill Cotten, speaker

September: *A Bel Canto Program*
Lew Schneider, speaker

**October 16: *Jacopo Peri Award
Banquet***

**November: *Tribute to Jonas
Kaufmann***
Meredith Palmer, speaker

December: Jack Jarzavek, speaker

Letters or Articles to the Editor:
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Annual Membership Dues:
\$35 Single, \$40 Double
(Two persons at the same address)

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To contact NEOC
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Jacopo Peri Award

*Each year the NEOC 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

Our May meeting: *Young Siegfried – the hero it's hard to like*

Last month David J. Collins, musician, musicologist, and opera lecturer was gracious enough to come and deliver an extremely informative and well-received lecture on Richard Wagner's opera *Siegfried* at the Watertown Library for our Club. It was brilliantly presented, informative, yet humorous and superbly illustrated with video excerpts and orchestral examples. What an ideal way to take away the common "fear" of Wagner's operas!

The lecture was titled "Young Siegfried – the hero it's hard to like" – and we all understood *Siegfried* so much better and consequently did like him.

Many thanks, Dave! We hope that you will return next year with another of your enlightening presentations.

- Erika Reitshamer

This WATERTOWN TAB article was provided by a member of the N.E.O.C. Board, Maria Pia Antonelli. It gives us the history and development of the restaurant Stellina (It was edited and reduced in order to fit in this page). This restaurant has been selected for the **Matzkin Award Dinner**, to take place in July 17, 2016, to honor **Erika Reitshamer**, a member of the Board, in appreciation for her enthusiastic and brilliant involvement in the functioning of the Club.

***** **Mark your calendars to participate in this very important event!** *****

Spotlight on Stellina: Thriving for 30 years.

Watertown restaurant serves up Italian cuisine, opera and authors

By Dana Forsythe

Stellina has been a mainstay in Watertown Square for almost three decades.

When Stellina owners and founders Frank and Ginnie Cursio, opened their restaurant on Main Street, they stuck to Frank's mantra: *simple ingredients breed exceptional flavors*.

Carrying that ideal, chef Marc Bouchard, who has been at the restaurant since 1987, has expanded the Italian-centric menu and curated an extensive wine list, which offers approximately fifty bottles from Italy, the U.S. and other notable growing regions.

This week, the Watertown TAB caught up with head chef Bouchard to talk about the history of Stellina, how the restaurant has grown and what's next for the Italian eatery.

Can you tell us a bit about opening in the Watertown in 1986?

Long-time Watertown regulars will remember that Stellina opened back in 1986 across the river, on Galen Street, in a hole-in-the wall that once was the home of a "dive" known as The Galen Pub. Stellina began as a classic family operation with both owners fully involved: Frank Cursio ran the kitchen and Virginia Curcio ran the front.

I've been involved since early 1987. After a few years on Galen Street, the Curcios found the Main Street location. With multiple dining rooms, a larger bar, adjacent parking lot, plus ample space for outdoor seating, it has been perfect for us.

What are the specialties at Stellina?

We have always specialized in regional Italian food, with a special emphasis on local products. For decades we actually had our own private farmer who grew Heirloom tomatoes exclusively for us every summer. Over the years we've taken pride in making our own bread, pasta and desserts daily.

Can you tell us about how you've expanded past fine dining?

We discovered that our regular clientele wanted more than just a fine dining experience. They were intellectually stimulated by literature, music and food, and enjoyed events that celebrated these interests.

We have three regularly recurring monthly events: *Author's Night*, *Wine testing* and *Sunday Night at the Opera*. Sunday Night at the Opera presents live classical and popular music performed by professional singers, complete with a three-course dinner.

For more information call 617-924-9475 or go to stellinarestaurant.com

Opera Diary

Local Opera and Classical Music, June 2016

June 5, 8 pm

WCRB Sunday Night Opera, A Trio of One-Act Operas: *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Mascagni | *Pagliacci*, Leoncavallo | *Gianni Schicchi*, Puccini

June 5, 2:30 pm

Longwood Opera/New England G&S Society: *The Mikado* | Christ Episcopal Church, 1132 Highland Ave, Needham | Free, audience welcome to sing choruses | More: longwoodopera.org/ and negass.org

June 10 & 11, 8 pm; June 12, 2 pm

Opera 51: *Romeo et Juliette*, Gounod | 51 Walden, Concord MA | French with English supertitles | fully staged and costumed, with orchestra | More: 978-369-7911, www.opera51.org

June 11th, June 16th-18th 8pm, June 12 & 19th, 3pm

The Edward M. Pickman Hall at Longy School of Music | 27 Garden St, Cambridge, MA | *Idomeneo*, Mozart | More: (617) 517-5883, <https://bostonoperacollaborative.secure.force.com/ticket/>

June 12, 10 am

Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St, Brookline | Salzburg Festival, *Il Trovatore*, Verdi
More: (617) 734-2501 | www.coolidge.org/

June 11-12 & 16-19

Boston Opera Collaborative, *Idomeneo*, Mozart | more: www.bostonoperacollaborative.org/idomeneo/

June 12, 8 pm

WCRB Sunday Night Opera, *Carmen*, Bizet

June 16 - 19: Hibernian Hall, 184 Dudley Street, Roxbury

June 24 - 26 : The Villa Victoria Center for the Arts, 405 Shawmut Ave, Boston

OperaHub | *El Gato Con Botas*, Montsalvatge | Spanish with English supertitles
More: (508) 254-6607, www.operahub.org/

June 19, 8 pm

WCRB Sunday Night Opera, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Donizetti

June 23-26, 7:30 pm

North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC), *La Cenerentola*, Rossini | In Italian, fully staged, with chamber orchestra and Sophie Michauld as Cinderella | Faneuil Hall, 1 Faneuil Hall Sq, Boston
More: 617-227-2270, www.nempacboston.org/archives/6046

June 24, 7:30 pm and June 26, 2:00 pm

Greater Worcester Opera, *The Marriage of Figaro* | Robert R. Jay Performing Arts Center at St. John's High School, Shrewsbury, MA | More: greaterworchesteropera.org/Figaro_2016.htm

June 26, 8 pm

WCRB Sunday Night Opera, *Don Giovanni*, Mozart

June 26, 12:30 pm

Channel 2: *Turandot*, Puccini

Broadcasts from Chicago Lyric Opera on-line:

<http://www.wfnt.com/listen/>