

New England Opera Club



New England Opera Club Newsletter

Logo by Barbara Winston

Date: February 16, 2020
Time: 2:00 - 4:30

The Public Library of Brookline, Venue: Coolidge
Corner 31 Pleasant St, Brookline, Massachusetts

Climbin' Up the Mountain: A History of the Great African American Opera Singers

Speaker: Ed Tapper:



Some years back, guest lecturer Ed Tapper gave a presentation for the NEOC which focused on historic African-American singers and their struggle to gain entry to, and acceptance on, the operatic stage and concert platform. Since then, Mr. Tapper has continued to research the topic, and gather rare recordings by pioneering opera singers of color. As February is national Black History Month, he has received a commission to present a new audio lecture on the subject which will be given later in the month. Fortunately for us, Ed will be premiering the lecture for the NEOC on Sunday, the 16 at the Coolidge Corner branch of the Brookline Public Library.

The audio presentation will highlight several historically significant African American opera and concert singers from the 19th century to the present, who persevered in the face of racial prejudice and violence, blazing the trail for future generations of singers from every race. It will include rare vocal performances by these legends, many of them not commercially available.

Having taught music and opera history at both UMass/Boston and Suffolk University, Ed Tapper lectures extensively throughout New England as well as in New York. He writes music and film criticism for a popular online journal, with thousands of reviews to his credit. In addition to teaching and writing, he is the owner of Orpheus, located at 362 Commonwealth Avenue in Back Bay. It is an internationally known retail store that specializes in opera and classical music.

Directions and parking:

- Follow MA-28 S and Storrow Dr to Charlesgate W. Take the exit toward Kenmore Square from Storrow Dr .
- Follow Beacon St to Pleasant St in Brookline
- Continue onto Charlesgate W
- Turn right onto Beacon St
- Use the middle 2 lanes to turn slightly left to stay on Beacon St
- Turn right onto Waldo St
- Turn right at the 1st cross street onto Pleasant St

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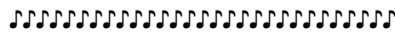
\$40 for each individual
/ \$45 for a couple at
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\$15 student with valid
ID

Mail check, payable to
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(see address above)

2020 NEOC Programs

Programs will be held March 15, April 19, May 17, and June 7
(topics to be announced; dates are subject to change)



Egyptian soprano Fatma Said signs with Warner Classics
By Angy Essam



CAIRO - 17 January 2019:
Egyptian international soprano Fatma Said has signed a recording contract with the leading Warner Classics to launch her debut album.

Warner Classics is the home of iconic recordings, cooperating with great international stars such as the late opera icon Maria

Callas, Jacqueline du Pré, Karajan and other legends.

Said wrote on her Facebook account that she felt "lucky and blessed" to have a supportive team working with her on her album.

"Welcome to the Warner Classics family, @FatmaSaid! The Egyptian soprano, who in 2016 was named a *BBC New Generation Artist*, studied at the Hanns Eisler School of Music and Accademia del Teatro alla Scala. Her debut album will release later this year" Warner Classics announced on its official Twitter account.

At the age of 14 Said enrolled at the vocal studio of Neveen Allouba.

After finishing her high school in Egypt, Said traveled to Germany to study music and joined Hanns Eisler School of Music in Berlin, where she studied under Renate Faltn.

Said won a number of prominent international awards. The international Egyptian soprano won the 8th Veronica Dunne International Singing Competition in Dublin.

In 2011, Said won the second award at the 16th *International Schuman Lied Contest*, as well as the Grand Award at the *Giulio Peroti International Opera Contest*. In 2012, she won both first prize and the audience prize at the 7th *Leyla Gencer Voice Competition* that took place in Istanbul, Turkey.

After Said applied for a scholarship at the La Scala Academy in Milan. After four rounds of screenings, the academy chose Said from thousands of applicants, among a group of 11 young talents.

She was the first Egyptian singer to be accepted to La Scala Academy, and went on to perform there in Mozart's *Magic Flute*.

Said was also one of six musicians selected by *BBC Radio 3* to take part in its *New Generation Artist Scheme* from 2016 to 2018.

Past Presidents

William Miranda
NEOC (Founder &
President
Emeritus)
Jack Fiddler
Maria Iantosca
Charlotte Wolfe
John M. Tischio

The mission of this nonprofit association is educational: To promote appreciation of the art of opera; to support performances of quality opera in New England; to encourage talented students in their pursuit of operatic careers.

To subscribe to our newsletter or to join our mailing list, please send your name and email address to neoperaclub@gmail.com

Jacopo Peri Award

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

Eunice Alberts
John Balme
Scott Brumit
Sarah Caldwell
Schuyler Chapin
Carole Charnow
Richard Conrad
Federico Cortese
Patricia Craig and
Richard Cassilly
Phyllis Curtin
Jan Curtis
Sharon Daniels
Janice Mancini Del Sesto
Ron Della Chiesa
D'Anna Fortunato
Randolph J. Fuller
Boris Goldovsky
Donald Gramm
Roland Hayes
Robert Honeysucker
Norman Kelley
Stephen Lord
William Miranda
John Moriarty
Esther Nelson
Martin Pearlman
Bradley Pennington
Jeffrey Rink
Eleanor Steber
Susan Stone
John M. Tischio
Ernest Triplett

♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ **Opera Diary** ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

Local Opera and Classical Music, February 2020

For up-to-date activities, visit FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/NEoperaevents/>
Join NEOC! Visit <https://neoperacub.org/membership.html#form2>

February 1, 12:55 PM

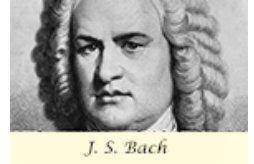
Metropolitan Opera Live in HD | *Porgy and Bess*, Gershwin
<https://www.metopera.org/season/in-cinemas/2019-20-season/porgy-and-bess-live-in-hd/>

February 1, 7:30 PM

Odyssey Opera | *The Chronicle of Nine*, Arnold Rosner
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | 617.826.1626, <https://www.odysseyopera.org/2020-rosner-the-chronicle-of-nine/>

February 2, 10 AM

Emmanuel Music | Bach Cantata Series: BWV 14 - *Wär Gott nicht mit uns diese Zeit*
| 617.536.3356 x 5, emmanuelmusic.org/
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston



February 6, 8, 8 PM February 9, 3 PM

Boston Opera Collaborative | *The Marriage of Figaro*, Mozart
Longy School of Music of Bard College, 27 Garden St, Cambridge, MA
<https://www.bostonoperacollaborative.org/>

February 7, 7 PM



Barbara Strozzi

WIMFest2020 | *Che si può fare*, recital of solo vocal music by Barbara Strozzi, mezzo-soprano Sophie Michaud and friends | <https://www.stpaulboston.org/new-events/che-si-puo-fare>
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St, Boston

February 9, 10 AM

Emmanuel Music | Bach Cantata Series: BWV 92 - *Ich hab in Gottes Herz und Sinn*
| 617.536.3356 x 5, emmanuelmusic.org/
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston

February 11, 6 PM

Boston Lyric Opera | *Opera Night at the BPL: Norma* | 617.536.5400,
<https://www.facebook.com/events/2613500318882073/>
Abbey Room, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St, Boston

February 14, 7:30 PM: February 16, 3 PM

Handel + Haydn Society | *Beethoven + Mozart* | 617.262.1815, <https://cart.handelandhaydn.org/614>
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston

February 14, 6 PM

Musical Aperitif Concert Series | *A Valentine Cabaret - Songs of the Heart!*
45 Mount Auburn St, Cambridge | 617.666.7973, <https://www.democracycenter.org/calendar>

February 15, 7:30 PM

Handel + Haydn Society | *Beethoven Birthday Celebration* | 617.262.1815, <https://cart.handelandhaydn.org/879>
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston

February 14, 7:30 PM; February 16, 3 PM

Handel + Haydn Society | *Beethoven + Mozart* | 617.262.1815, <https://cart.handelandhaydn.org/614>
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston

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February 16, 10 AM

Emmanuel Music | Bach Cantata Series: BWV 197 - *Gott ist unsre Zuversicht*
| 617.536.3356 x 5, emmanuelmusic.org/
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston

February 16, 2 PM

Sudbury Opera Lovers Organization | *Elizabetta Regina d'inghilterrae*, Rossini - talk
by David Collins 978.443.7262, <http://www.sudburyoperalovers.org/>
Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road, Sudbury



February 23, 10 AM

Emmanuel Music | Bach Cantata Series: BWV 127 - *Herr Jesu Christ, wahr' Mensch und Gott*
| 617.536.3356 x 5, emmanuelmusic.org/
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston

February 21, 7:30 PM

Chase Young Gallery | *Träume: Music for Piano, Voice, and Cello*, Wes Hunter, tenor
Chase Young Gallery, 450 Harrison Avenue, Boston
<https://www.bostonsingersresource.org/vocal-music-calendar/traume-music-piano-voice-and-cello>

February 21, 22, 28, 29 - 8:00 PM; February 23, 29 - 2 PM

Sudbury Savoyards | *HMS Pinafore*, Gilbert & Sullivan
Lincoln-Sudbury High School, 390 Lincoln Road, Sudbury
sudburysavoyards.org/shows/2020_pinafore

February 22, 7 PM; February 23, 5:00 PM

Cappella Clausura | *Ordo Virtutum (the very first opera)*, Hildegard von Bingen |
https://www.artful.ly/cappella-clausura/store/events?mc_cid=e5f7e5fcb4&mc_eid=04cb62b549
Feb 22: Eliot Church of Newton, 474 Centre St., Newton
Feb 23: St. Paul's Church in Brookline, 15 St Paul St, Brookline



February 28, 7:30 PM; March 1, 3 PM

Handel + Haydn Society | *Haydn + Beethoven* | 617.262.1815, <https://cart.handelandhaydn.org/635>
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston

February 29, 2 PM



New England Gilbert and Sullivan Society / Sudbury Savoyards | *HMS Pinafore*, Gilbert & Sullivan. *Frederic's Birthday Celebration*: In honor of Frederic's birthday, the New England Gilbert and Sullivan Society cordially invites you to join us in attending a performance of *H.M.S. Pinafore*, presented by The Sudbury Savoyards on Saturday, February 29th at 2:00 PM, followed by cake at the theater and dinner at the Oak Barrel Tavern located at 528A Boston Post Road in Sudbury. Please understand that each guest will be paying for a meal and/or beverages of his or her choice. To join us for dinner please reply by February 22nd to Lindsey Soboleski at lindsaysoboleski@gmail.com. Tickets for *H.M.S. Pinafore* can be purchased online at sudburysavoyards.org or at the door at a discounted group rate. We hope to see you there!

February 29, 12:55 PM

Metropolitan Opera Live in HD | *Agrippina*, Handel
<https://www.metopera.org/season/in-cinemas/2019-20-season/agrippina-live-in-hd/>