

New England Opera Club



New England Opera Club Newsletter

Logo by Barbara Winston

Date: May 13, 2018
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Place: Watertown Free Public Library
123 Main Street, Watertown, MA 617.972.6421

Andrea Chenier

by
Umberto Giordano

Presented by Meredith Palmer



Andrea Chénier, a Verismo opera in 4 Acts by Umberto Giordano, will be an Audio-Visual presentation.

Andrea Chénier is widely considered to feature some of the most magnificent lyric-dramatic music written for the tenor voice. The opera also contains a heart breaking soprano aria.

The story is of passionate love and sacrifice set against the turmoil and terror of the French Revolution.

Production clips will also be shown discussing the set, costumes, music and the singers talking about their characters.

Directions and parking:

From the West: Take Route 20 East (Main Street) to Watertown Square. WFPL is at 123 Main Street.

From the East: Take Rte. 16 (Mt. Auburn St.) west. Turn right on Main Street. WFPL is at 123 Main Street.

Parking: Limited metered parking is in back of the library and on the street.

All parking is metered, on the street and behind the library with a 2 hour limit. The meters are monitored between the hours of 7am-6pm Monday through Saturday, Sundays are free.

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.

The Library is fully handicap-accessible

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Annual Membership:

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

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

2018 NEOC Programs

(listings are subject to change)

May 13, *Andrea Chenier*
Meredith Palmer, speaker

June 3, *Maria Callas*
Erika Reitshamer, speaker

BARBARA ANN WESTER (COSGROVE) WINSTON



Artist, genealogist, opera fan and dog lover, Barbara Ann Cosgrove Wester Winston of Newton died peacefully at her home on Wednesday, April 4. She was 86.

Born in Manhattan, Barbara was a resident of Newton since 1971. The daughter of naval engineer John D. Cosgrove II and Dorothy (Rohr) Cosgrove, she lived in

many places as a child, including the Bronx, Brooklyn, Sea Cliff, LI, Honolulu, and Coronado, CA. She graduated from The Punahou School in Honolulu, attended Barnard College, and worked for TWA in New York City. For many years she worked for Dr. Frank Donaldson of Newton and in the Legal Department of WR Grace in Cambridge.

Barbara was the widow of Samuel J. Winston of Brookline, with whom she shared a passion for opera. An original member of the New England Opera Club, she designed its logo. An accomplished artist, she painted the portraits of such opera greats as Verdi & Pavarotti. A point of pride was the 250-page family history she wrote, inspired by an 1825 needlepoint sampler sewn by her ancestor.

Barbara is survived by her four children and their spouses: Mark and Barbara Wester of Natick; Susan Wester and Gerardo Perez of El Paso, TX; Carolyn Wester and Richard DeLeon of Pasco, WA; and Michael Wester and Toni Ma of Beijing; her six grandchildren, Matthew, Andrew, Alexandra, Eric, Thomas, and Eloise; her brother, John Cosgrove of Corona, CA; her stepdaughters, Faye Lundberg of Dedham and Ellen Fitzgerald of Lynn and their families; her former husband / dear friend Rolly Wester of Wellesley; and her beloved dog Lily.

Donations in her memory may be made to the N.E. Opera Club, the N.E. Historic Genealogical Society, or Mikey's Chance Canine Rescue: www.mikeyschance.com.



See also: neoperaclub.org/newsletters/Barbara-Winston-obit.pdf

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

Five Singers Named 2018 Winners Of The Metropolitan Opera's National Council Auditions

After many months of competitions at the district, regional, and national levels, five singers have been named as the winners of the nation's most prestigious vocal competition, the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Each winner receives a \$15,000 cash prize and the exposure that comes with winning the competition that launched the careers of many of opera's biggest stars.

This year's winners are Jessica Faselt, 25, soprano (Upper Midwest Region: Iowa City, IA); Madison Leonard, 26, soprano (Middle Atlantic Region: Coeur d'Alene, ID); Ashley Dixon, 26, mezzo-soprano (Northwest Region: Peachtree, GA); Hongni Wu, 23, mezzo-soprano (Eastern Region: Jingdezhen, China); and Carlos Enrique Santelli, 26, tenor (Western Region: Orlando, FL).

Earlier this afternoon [4/29/18], this year's finalists performed on the Met stage in the final phase of the competition. Each finalist sang two arias with the Met orchestra, led by Bertrand de Billy. The audience for the Grand Finals Concert included artistic directors of leading opera companies, artist managers, important teachers and coaches, music critics, and many other industry professionals with the potential to play an influential role in the career of a young singer.

The Met Auditions, currently in their 64th year, were the public's first introduction to many of today's best-known stars, including Renée Fleming, Susan Graham, Frederica von Stade, Deborah Voigt, Lawrence Brownlee, Thomas Hampson, Eric Owens, Angela Meade, Nadine Sierra, Jamie Barton, and Ryan Speedo Green. Recent winners who have gone on to embark on major operatic careers include Paul Appleby, Anthony Roth Costanzo, Lisette Oropesa, Susanna Phillips, and Alek Shrader. Over 100 singers who participated in the National Council process early in their careers are on the Met's roster in the current season.

The Grand Finals Concert featured a performance by guest artist Bryan Hymel and host Joyce DiDonato. The concert was recorded for broadcast at a later date on public radio stations across the United States. The remaining four finalists, Danielle Beckvermit, 25, soprano (Eastern Region: Kingston, NY); Emily Misch, 28, soprano (Eastern Region: Santa Monica, CA); Megan Grey, 24, mezzo-soprano (Upper Midwest Region: Cedar Falls, IA); and Gretchen Krupp, 25, mezzo-soprano (Central Region: Manassas, VA), each received a cash prize of \$5,000.

The regional and district-level auditions, held across the U.S. and Canada, are sponsored by the Metropolitan Opera National Council and administered by National Council members and hundreds of volunteers from across the country. Given the reach of the auditions, the number of applicants, and the program's long tradition, the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions are considered the most prestigious competition for singers seeking to launch an operatic career.

sent by Jack Sauer

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Local Opera and Classical Music, May 2018

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

May 4, 7:30 PM; May 6: 2 PM & 6:30 PM

Cambridge Chamber Ensemble | *Cendrillon*, Pauline Viardot-Garcia
Warehouse XI, Union Square, Somerville, MA | cambridgechamberensemble.org

May 4, 7:30 PM; May 6, 3 PM

Handel + Haydn Society | *Hercules*, Handel
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston | bostonsingersresource.org/postings/events/show/10775/

May 4, 5, 10, 11, 8:00 PM; May 6, 12, 2:00 PM

MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players | *HMS Pinafore* (*Star Trek* style), Gilbert & Sullivan
La Sala de Puerto Rico, Stratton Student Center, 84 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge | gsp.mit.edu/

New England Opera Club Newsletter

May 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 at 8pm; May 6 at 2pm

Concord Players | *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, Alan Menken
51 Walden St, Concord, MA | 978.369.2990, concordplayers.org/

May 5, 8 PM

Boston Opera Collaborative | *Amor, Vida de mi vida* | bostonoperacollaborative.org/amor-vida-de-mi-vida
Stillman Willis House, 1 Potter Park, Cambridge

May 6, 10 AM

Emmanuel Music | *BWV 225 Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied*, Bach
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston | *More Bach: bostonsingersresourcepostings/events/show/11044/*

May 6, 1:30 PM lunch; 3 PM concert

La Donna Musicale/Rumbarroco | *Venezuelan lunch/Fiestas & Fandangos concert* (lunch by Los Chamos, Viva Mi Arepa, and Iggy's Bread. Proceeds support humanitarian aid for Venezuela.)
Gordon Chapel at the Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston | 617.461.6973, rumbarroco.org/fiesta-fandangos/

May 6, 5:30 PM

Opera on Tap | *Opera Night at Stellina: Bernstein Bash*
Stellina Restaurant, 47 Main St, Watertown | hstellinarestaurant.com/events/

May 11, 8 PM

Boston Early Music Festival | *Hesperion XXI*
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston, | bemf.org/pages/concerts/bostonconcerts.htm

May 12, 7 PM

Boston Opera Collaborative | *What am I doing here?*, Sirgourney Cook
Loring Greenough House, 12 South Street, Jamaica Plain | bostonoperacollaborative.org/what-am-i-doing-here

May 13, 10 AM

Emmanuel Music | *BWV 37 Wer da gläubet und getauft wird*, Bach
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston | *More Bach: bostonsingersresourcepostings/events/show/11044/*

May 20, 10 AM

Emmanuel Music | *BWV 165 O heiliges Geist- und Wasserbad*, Bach
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston | *More Bach: bostonsingersresourcepostings/events/show/11044/*

May 21, 7 PM

Boston Opera Collaborative | *La vie est là!*
Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge | bostonoperacollaborative.org/la-vie-est-la

May 26th, 7:30 PM

Longwood Opera and Greater Worcester Opera | *The Yeomen of the Guard*, Gilbert & Sullivan - *an unrehearsed performance by a talented cast, with audience as chorus.*
56 Briarwood Circle, Worcester | greaterworchesteropera.org / negass.org

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**Opera quotes (from [workinghumor.com/quotes/opera.shtml](http://workinghumor.com/quotes/opera.shtml))**

- In opera, there is always too much singing. ~ Claude Debussy
- How wonderful opera would be if there were no singers. ~ Gioacchino Rossini
- If a thing isn't worth saying, you sing it. ~ Pierre Beaumarchais
- Opera is where a guy gets stabbed in the back, and instead of dying, he sings. ~ Robert Benchley