

2010 - 2011 Productions

The Department of Theatre & Dance and
The Crane Opera Ensemble & Orchestra will present

On The Town

music by Leonard Bernstein
book and lyrics by Betty Comden & Adolph Green
book based on an idea by Jerome Robbins

November 10 - 13, 2010
Sara M. Snell Music Theatre

**auditions will be the first week of
classes in the fall semester**

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Cosí fan Tutte

(abridged version)
music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
libretto by Lorenzo DaPonte

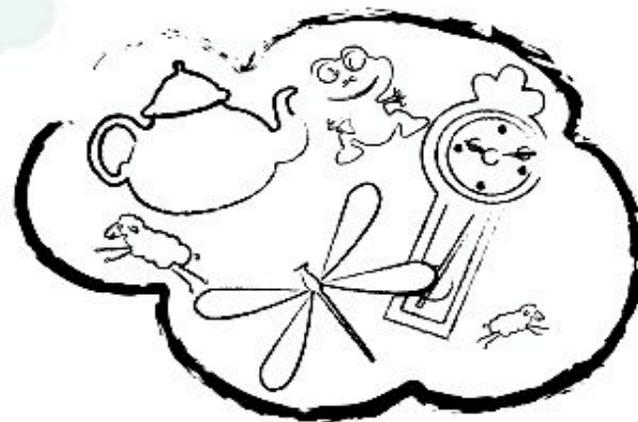
April 8 & 9, 2011
Sara M. Snell Music Theatre

**auditions will be the first week of
classes in the spring 2011 semester**

The Crane Opera Ensemble presents an opera for the entire family...

L'Enfant et les Sortilèges

(The child and the enchanted ones)
music by Maurice Ravel
libretto by Colette



Thursday, April 15, 10:00 AM
Friday, April 16, 7:30 PM
Saturday, April 17, 7:30 PM
Sara M. Snell Music Theatre | SUNY-Potsdam

CRANE  Potsdam
The Crane Opera Ensemble is a SUNY-Potsdam program



Audience, please note:

- The closest exit in case of an emergency
- Please, no recording devices or flash photography
- There will be no late seating for this performance
- Children who are capable of sitting quietly with an adult are welcome to this performance

Thank you for your cooperation,
and enjoy the opera

Opera Scenes Workshop Performance

Tuesday, May 4

4:30 PM

Sara M. Snell Music Theatre

featuring scenes by American composers

Susannah by Carlisle Floyd

The Crucible by Robert Ward

Of Mice and Men by Carlisle Floyd

Street Scene by Kurt Weill

A Hand of Bridge by Samuel Barber

free and open to the public!

The Crane Opera Ensemble and
CPS Meets the Arts Presents

L'Enfant et les Sortilèges:
Fantasia lyrique en deux parties

(The Child and the Enchanted Ones: A Lyrics Fantasy in Two Parts)

Music by Maurice Ravel
(edition: Puntos)
Poem by Colette

Performed by arrangement with S.A. Editions Musicales, A Universal
Music Publishing Group Company, publisher, and copyright owner

Thursday, April 15, 10:00 am
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Saturday, April 17, 7:30 pm

Sara M. Snell Music Theatre
SUNY Potsdam

Acknowledgements:

The Crane School of Music, Michael Sitton, Dean
Opera Angel
The Community Performance Series
School of Arts and Sciences; Galen Pletcher, Dean
Department of Theatre and Dance
Todd Moe, NCPR
Megan Hooper, The Design Lab
Lauren Champan, Costume Shop
Robert Swedberg, University of Michigan
Gary Galo

Artistic Personnel

Musical Directors/Vocal Coaches François Germain, Kirk Severtson
 Stage Director/Production Designer Carleen Graham
 Choreographer Kerri Canedy
 Costume Designer Julia Ferreri
 Rehearsal Pianists Maxwell Howard, Jessica Westerman

Cast (in order of appearance)

L'Enfant (the child) Katie Beck
 Maman (the mother) Sara Sania El Houssieny
 La Fauteuil (the armchair) Gino Philip Pinzone
 Bergère (the armchair) Giuliana Kendall
 L'Horloge Comtoise (the grandfather clock) Matthew Royal
 La Théière (the teapot) Manuel Del Castillo
 La Tasse (the teacup) Brittany Mruczek
 Le Feu (the fire) Meryl Gellman
 Un Pâtre (a shepherd) Lydiá Zervanos
 Une Pastourelle (a shepherdess) Laura Graham Doe
 La Princesse (the princess) Diana Gamet
 Le Petit Vieillard (the math teacher) Justin John Moniz
 Les Chiffres (the numbers) D'Nasya Jordan, Lydia Piehl, Emma Simon
 La Chatte Blanche (the white cat) Brittany Mruczek
 Le Chat Noir (the black cat) Robby Castro
 L'Arbre (the tree) Michael Celentano
 La Libellule (the dragonfly) Giuliana Kendall
 Le Rossignol (the nightingale) Laura Graham Doe
 La Chauve-Sauris (the bat) Lydiá Zervanos
 Le Rainette (the frog) Michael Lotano
 L'Ecureuil (the squirrel) Sara Sania El Houssieny

Emma Simon (Les Chiffres) Hometown: Poughkeepsie, NY. Sophomore Music Education and Communications major studying with Dr. Lorraine Yaros Sullivan. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include *Emmie*, *Albert Herring* (2009). She has also performed in various other operettas and musicals in or near her hometown. "Thanks to the cast and crew for making this such a fun experience. Singers can move!"



Lydiá Zervanos (Un Pâtre, La Chauve-Souris) Hometown: Athens, Greece. Senior Vocal and Cello performance major studying with Dr. Jill Pearson and Dr. Matt Wexler. Previous Opera Ensemble credits include *Lucia*, *The Rape of Lucretia* (2009); *Hero/Ora 3*, *L'Egisto* (2009). "Thank you to the Opera Ensemble for giving me the tools to pursue a career in opera and to my wonderful family for inspiring me to become a singer."

Emily Ziske (Assistant Stage Manager) Hometown: Barre, VT. Junior English, Theater, and Education major. "I have always had a musical interest, and while I am not pursuing it for my major, it is an absolute pleasure to take part in this production! This is my first Opera production and I have learned so much working with a great cast and crew. I wish them all the best, and I look forward to working with them in future productions."





Gino Philip Pinzone (La Fauteuil) Hometown: Buffalo, NY. Senior Vocal Performance major studying with Dr. Boris Loushin. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include *Sid*, *Albert Herring* (2009); *Ipparco*, *L'Egisto* (2009); *Betto*, and *Gianni Schicchi* (2008). He is excited to begin his Master's Degree in Vocal Performance at the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati in the fall. Thanks to friends, family, and teachers.

D. Jefferson Reeder (Technical Director) experience encompasses stage and screen, spanning some 35 years including Santa Fe Opera, Lyric Theatre in Oklahoma City, Fort Worth Opera, and the DHW Ballet. BFA in Theatre and MFA in design from Texas Christian University. Design work includes Ballet, Modern Dance, Opera, Drama, Film and even restaurant interiors. He has worked as an Interior Decorator, Rock and Roll roadie, and General Manager of Bechtel Chemical Corporation. Executive Director, The Reeder Children's School of Theatre and Design. Returned to the academic stage from professional theatre in the fall of 2003.



Matthew Royal (L'Horloge Comtoise) Hometown: Tappan, NY. Second Year Graduate Student in Vocal Performance studying with David Pittman-Jennings. Previous credits include *Marcello*, *La Bohème* (scene); *Lidio*, *L'Egisto*; *Magnus*, *The Sailor-Boy* and *the Falcon*; *Orpheus*, *Orpheus in the Underworld* and *Bob the Saw*, *The Threepenny Opera*. This summer, Matthew will be appearing with Opera New Jersey in *Faust* (Wagner Cover) as a part of the Studio Artist Program. Matthew would like to thank Carleen Graham, François Germain, Kirk Severtson and David Pittman-Jennings for their guidance, advice and patience throughout the past six years.

Audrey Saccone (Assistant Director/Production Manager) Hometown: Colonie, NY. Sophomore Music Business major studying with Dr. Lorraine Yaros Sullivan. Previous credits include *Cis*, *Albert Herring* (2009), Assistant Stage Manager for *L'Egisto* (2009), *Jack's Mother*, *Into the Woods* (2008). Audrey would like to thank her family and friends for their endless support, to all of her professors for their constant inspiration, and to all involved in this production for making it such an incredible learning experience.



Kirk Severtson (Musical Director/Vocal Coach) Vocal coach at Crane since 2001. Music staff at Lake George Opera at Saratoga, NY. Previously coached at Opera North (NH), the Opera Theater of Lucca, Italy, the Cincinnati Opera outreach program, the Rising Star Singers festival, and Dorian Opera Theater, and held a fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival in vocal chamber music. B.A. from Luther College with majors in music, math, and computer science, and M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in piano performance from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music.

Orchestra

Piano François Germain
 Piano Kirk Severtson
 Cello Natasha Jaffe
 Flute Johanna Folk

Production Personnel

Technical Director D. Jefferson Reeder
 Production Stage Manager Andrew Frey
 Assistant Director/Production Manager Audrey Saccone
 Assistant Stage Manager Emily Ziske
 Projections Christopher Urban
 Box Office Manager Jim Christiansen
 Lightboard Operator..... Sydney Lant
 Costume Assistants..... Sydney Lant, Lily Tabolt
 Running Crew Clara Dempf, Elizabeth Munz
 Videographer CJ Robles
 House Manager Audrey Saccone
 Ushers The Sisters of Sigma Alpha Iota and Brothers of Phi Mu Alpha
 Outreach Coordinators Bernie Mulvaney, Heather Osowiecki
 Outreach Assistants Vincent Covatto, Derek Downs & the Cast
 Program Cover/Poster Jessica Rood

Original slide projections created by Robert Swedberg, Lisa Buck, and The College of Engineering, University of Michigan. Adaptations created with permission of the originators.

The Story

A young child is punished by his mother for neglecting his homework and throws a terrible tantrum leaving his room in shambles. From the rubble of his disheveled room to the magical serenity of his garden, he finds that the objects and animals of his childhood have their own lessons to teach.

Total running time: approximately 46 minutes.

National Opera Association 2008-2009 College Production Competition

Category II: 1st Place (tie)

L'Egisto, Crane Opera Ensemble, SUNY Potsdam,
Kirk Severtson, conductor; Carleen Graham, director

L'Orfeo, Queen's College, CUNY,
James John, conductor; David Ronis, director

3rd Place:

H.M.S. Pinafore, Nevada Chamber Opera, University of Nevada-Reno,
Damon Stevens, conductor; Sue Klemp, director

Congratulations to everyone for a job well done!



Giuliana Kendall (Bergère, *La Libellule*) Hometown: The Woodlands, TX. Junior Music Business major studying with David Pittman-Jennings. "Thank you to my family for being here and always believing in me."

Michael Lotano (*La Rainette*) Hometown: Schenectady, NY. First Year Graduate Student in Vocal Performance studying with Donald George. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include *Opera Scenes* (2009, 2003); *The Mikado* (2003); *Cabaret* (2002); *Eine Kleine Magic Flute* (2001). Michael is honored to be a part of this outstanding cast led by talented faculty members.



Justin John Moniz (*Le Petit Vieillard*) Hometown: Lake Ronkonkoma, NY. Junior Vocal Performance major studying with Dr. Jill Pearson. Previous credits include Albert in *Albert Herring* (2009); Vocal Fellow, Hawaii Performing Arts Festival (2009); SongFest (2009); Soloist, Orchestra of Northern New York (2009); Soloist, Crane Symphony Orchestra (2009); Gherardo, *Gianni Schicchi* (2008); Winner, New York & Eastern Region, National Association of Teachers of Singing Competition (2008); New York Grand Opera (2006). This summer Justin will be singing with the College Light Opera Company in Cape Cod, MA.

Brittany Mruzek (*La Tasse, La Chatte Blanche*) Hometown: Batavia, NY. Junior Music Education and Vocal Performance major studying with David Pittman-Jennings. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include *Musetta, La Bohème* (2009); *Venere, L'Egisto* (2009). "I want to give a big thank you to the cast and crew of *L'Enfant* and to my mother, father, and little brother for all their support. Love you all!"



Lydia Piehl (*Les Chiffres*) Hometown: Brockville, Ontario, Canada. Freshman Music Education major studying with Donald George. She has been part of many different kinds of musical performances throughout her growing up in Canada and is very excited for her first opera experience here at Crane.



Diana Gamet (La Princesse) Hometown: Rodman, NY. Junior Vocal Performance major studying with Dr. Deborah Massell. Previous Opera Ensemble credits include *Semele*, *L'Egisto* (2009); Lauretta, *Gianni Schicchi* (2008); Elizabeth, *Mozart and the Highwayman* (2008). "Thank you to my family for always believing in me, and to my teachers for their hard work and steadfast support!"

Meryl Gellman (Le Feu) Hometown: Buffalo, NY. Junior Vocal Performance major studying with Dr. Jill Pearson. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include *La Ciesca Donati* (Gianni Schicchi), *Hero / Ora* (L'Egisto), and most recently, *Mimi* (Opera Scenes: *La Bohème*) Meryl would like to thank her friends, family and teachers for their unending support and patience and extends a special "thank you" to a wonderful cast and crew who have helped to put together such a magical show!



François Germain (Musical Director/Vocal Coach) Solo and collaborative performances in Europe, Canada and the USA. First prizes in Radio-France, Valmaète and Gélinas competitions. Teaches piano and vocal coaching at the Crane School of Music. Vocal accompanist and assistant to Rosemarie Landry and the University of Montréal (2002-2007), emphasis on French lyric diction and repertoire. Vocal coach for the University of Miami at Salzburg program (2008-09). Holds Master's and Doctorate Degrees in Piano Performance under Jean Saulnier and Marc Durand (University of Montréal) and a Master's in Political Science from Sciences-Po in France.

Carleen Graham (Stage Director/Production Designer) Guest stage director for Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama and Curso Internacional de Música Vocal summer program in Aveiro, Portugal. 2009 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2007 SUNY-Potsdam's Volunteer Fundraiser Award; 2006 SUNY-Potsdam President's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Director of the Center for Undergraduate Research at SUNY Potsdam. Ed.D., Teachers College, Columbia University; M.M., New England Conservatory; B.Mus.Ed., Ohio University-Athens. Recent publications include articles for the Journal of Singing, and Opera America's Perspectives Series.



D'Nasya Jordan (Les Chiffres) Hometown: Brooklyn, NY. Freshman Vocal Performance major, Music Business minor studying with Donald George. D'Nasya was in the production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers* in her senior year of high school. D'Nasya dedicates her performance to her family and friends for believing in her, and also thanks her teachers for their guidance.

Production Notes

Europe was an exciting place for music and culture at the beginning of the 20th century. After World War I, Paris continued to be the cultural center of Europe. Artists of all kinds (musicians, painters, writers, and dancers) were greatly influenced by each other and the expanding world around them. It was in this diverse artistic climate that the controversial writer Colette (born Sidonie Gabrielle Claudine Colette) invited composer Maurice Ravel to compose the music to a new fairytale ballet. After extended negotiations (including changing the ballet into an opera), she agreed to change the title to the now well-known *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges: Fantaisie lyrique en deux parties* (*The Child and the Enchanted Ones: A Lyric Fantasy in Two Parts*).

This is my fourth staging of *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* and it is no coincidence that it is the first opera to be repeated in my 19 years on this campus. *L'Enfant* is simply one of the gems of the operatic repertoire, and completely appropriate for young singers to perform.

Imaginative opportunities abound for both the creative artists and the audience. We took advantage of current practices in scenic design that allows for the exploration of mixed-media images while supporting the rapid-changing scenes within the opera. Using an original slide presentation created by Robert Swedberg and associates at the University of Michigan, we were granted permission to adapt it to our own production concept. Costumer Julia Ferreri and staff's clever headpieces are so unique, that they simply had to be incorporated into the images to maintain continuity. The headpieces also serve a practical purpose – they allow the cast to change characters quickly, often on stage, because they are required to play multiple roles throughout the opera. It is not unlike a child playing dress-up using whatever is on hand to support his or her imagination.

Finally, a proper French opera would not be complete without a ballet! Despite Ravel's resistance to composing a ballet, he certainly provides more than ample opportunity for dance and creative movement. Perhaps the composer was poking fun at this tradition by devoting his ballet to the frogs - among a rich assortment of living creatures the child discovers in his garden at night. They are but some of the many opportunities our student performers entertain throughout the opera via the imaginative movement artfully choreographed by Kerri Canedy.

-Carleen Graham

Meet the Cast and Artistic Personnel



Katie Beck (L'Enfant) Hometown: Bennington, VT. Sophomore Music Education and Vocal Performance major studying with Dr. Deborah Massell. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include Emmie, *Albert Herring* (2009); L'Aurora, *L'Egisto* (2009). "To the directors, cast, and crew of *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, congratulations! It is such a privilege to be a part of this production, and I'm so grateful for the chance to work with such an amazing group of people. Thank you times a million to my friends, family, our directors, cast members, Dr. Massell, and Regina Tan."

Robby Castro (Le Chat Noir) Hometown: White Plains, NY. Junior Music Education and Vocal Performance major studying with Donald George. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include *The Highwayman*, and Papageno in *The Magic Flute* (Scenes, Fall 2009). "In life we look at the obstacles that we have to face and we may be hesitant to approach our goal, but I don't see obstacles; I see strength, hope, and the destination."



Kerri Canedy (Choreographer) Kerri was born and raised in California. She received her BA from California State University, Fullerton. She danced with Benita Bike DanceArt Company and studied the Pilates Method under Rael Isacowitz, as well as working toward her Massage Therapy License. Kerri earned her MFA at Smith College and worked with the Javanese Gamelan Music and Dance Ensemble and the Chaos Theory Company and Collaborations Dance Group. She worked professionally and taught in the Boston area for four years. Kerri has taught and choreographed all age levels from pre-school to college, including Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Bowling Green State University. She is currently an adjunct faculty member in the Theatre and Dance department at SUNY Potsdam and loves living in the North Country with her husband and three sons.

Michael Celentano (L'Arbre) Hometown: Patchogue, NY. Junior Music Education and Vocal Performance major, Acting minor, studying with Dr. Boris Loushin. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include Superintendent Budd, *Albert Herring* (2009); La Notte, *L'Egisto* (2009); Simone, *Gianni Schicchi* (2008); Priest, *Mozart and the Highwayman* (2008). Michael is looking forward to the rest of his academic career in Potsdam and would like to thank Dr. Carleen Graham, Dr. Boris Loushin, the Crane voice faculty, and his family for their continued support on his aspiration towards a professional singing career.



Manuel Del Castillo (La Thériere) Hometown: Madelia, MN. Previous Crane Opera Ensemble credits include the Mayor, *Albert Herring* (2009). He graduated with honors from Southwest Minnesota State University. "I would like to thank my family for their continued love and support, my mother in particular, for always providing unconditional support for everything I pursue."

Laura Graham Doe (Pastourelle/Rossignol) Hometown: Hyde Park, NY. Junior Music Education major studying with Dr. Jill Pearson. Last performed as the First Lady in the Act 1 quintet scene of *Die Zauberflöte* with the Crane Opera Ensemble. In addition, she has performed in dozens of theatrical productions throughout the Hudson Valley. Laura is obsessed with French music in general, and is having a field day with this splendid French opera.



Sara Sania El Houssieny (Maman, L'Ecureuil) Hometown: Grand Island, NY. Junior Bachelor of Arts in Voice major studying with David Pittman-Jennings. This is Sara's fourth experience with the Crane Opera Ensemble. She has performed previously in Gianni Schicchi, *L'Egisto*, and *Albert Herring*. Sara would like to thank her loving family, Zack, and her wonderful friends for all of their continued support.

Julia Ferreri (Costume Designer) Costume Shop Manager for SUNY Potsdam department of Theatre and Dance, Costume Shop Floor Manager for Glimmerglass Opera, Costume Shop assistant for The Shakespeare Theatre In Washington DC, Costume Shop Manager for The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Draper for Heritage Theatre Festival in Charlottesville VA, Draper for Berkshire Theatre Festival in Stockbridge MA. Costume Designer for SUNY include: Urinetown, Hedda Gabler, American Muse, Gianni Schicchi, *L'Egisto*. MFA in Costume Technology, Ohio University-Athens. Sends love to her BMG-Bernie.



Andrew Frey (Production Stage Manager) Hometown: Kings Park, NY. Senior Music Education and Theater major. Previous credits include Asst. Stage Manager, *Albert Herring*; Dr. Spinellochio/Guicciolino, *Gianni Schicchi*; ASM, *L'Egisto*; Director, *Laundry and Bourbon* (One Act Play Festival), Musical Director, *The Last Five Years* (Dept. of Theater & Dance). "I would like to thank this absolutely incredible cast and production staff for such a fun and enjoyable opera semester to mark the end my time with the Crane Opera Ensemble, as well as, my friends and family for all of their continued love and support!"