

**COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**  
Michael O'Hara, *interim dean*  
Robert A. Kvam, *dean emeritus*

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC**  
Ryan Hourigan, *director*  
Rebecca Braun, *assistant to the director*  
Linda Pohly, *coordinator of graduate programs in music*  
Kevin Gerrity, *coordinator of undergraduate programs in music*

**VOICE FACULTY**  
Meryl Mantione, *mezzo-soprano, voice area coordinator*  
Colleen Beucher, *soprano*  
Cara Chowning, *vocal coach*  
Kelci Kosin, *soprano*  
Kathleen Maurer, *mezzo-soprano*  
Craig Priebe, *bass-baritone*  
Yoko Shimazaki-Kilburn, *soprano*  
Elizabeth Truitt, *soprano*  
Jon Truitt, *baritone, director of opera*  
Mei Zhong, *soprano*

#### **UPCOMING OPERA THEATRE EVENTS**

**Don Giovanni**  
Friday, March 29 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall  
Sunday, March 31 | 2 p.m. | Sursa Hall

#### **UPCOMING SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS**

**AD Recital: Alvise Pascucci, piano**  
Tuesday, February 5 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall  
**Tom Shah Memorial Jazz Scholarship Award Concert**  
Wednesday, February 6 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall  
**Guest Artist Master Class: Pei-Chun Liao, piano**  
Friday, February 8 | 9 a.m. | Sursa Hall  
**Guest Artist Recital: Aether Eos**  
(Leah Asher, violin, and Christopher Goddard, piano)  
Friday, February 8 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall  
**Guest Artist & Faculty Recital: Pei-Chun Liao, piano**  
**with Ball State String Faculty and Guests**  
Monday, February 11 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall  
**Guest Artist Master Class: Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet**  
Tuesday, February 12 | 10 a.m. | Sursa Hall  
**Arts Alive! Concert Series: Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet**  
Tuesday, February 12 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall  
**Faculty Artist Series: Lisa Kozenko, oboe**  
Thursday, February 14 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall

Series LXXIII – Number 112

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**BALL STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**College of Fine Arts  
School of Music**

**Ball State Opera Theatre  
presents:**

# ***Sing to Love***

## **Third Annual Opera Gala**

**Saturday, February 2, 2019 | 7:30 p.m. | SURSA HALL**

**Giuseppe Verdi**            **“Libiamo ne’ lieti calici”**  
(1813–1901)                    from *La Traviata*  
*Alexandra Billhartz and Seth Allen*

**Gioacchino Rossini**       **“Cat Duet”**  
(1792–1868)  
*Emma Helfgott and Meryl Mantione*

**Ruggiero Leoncavallo**   **“Decidi il mio destin”**  
(1857–1919)                    from *I Pagliacci*  
*Isis Carvalho and Marcel Ramalho*

**Franz Lehár**                **“Women”**  
(1870–1948)                    from *The Merry Widow*  
*Alex Gushrowski, Zac Biddle, Stephen Fernung, Cameron Clevenger,  
Carrington Neal, Jon Truitt, and Joseph Bloom*

**Gaetano Donizetti**       **“Quanto Amore”**  
(1797–1848)                    from *The Elixir of Love*  
*Alexandra Billhartz and Craig Priebe*

**Stephen Sondheim**       **“Sunday”**  
(b. 1930)                        from *Sunday in the Park with George*

---INTERMISSION---

**Giacomo Puccini**           **“Entrance of the Geisha”**  
(1819–1880)                    from *Madama Butterfly*  
*Kelci Kosin and Women of the Chorus*

*(program continues on the next page)*

## PROGRAM

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**W. A. Mozart**  
(1819–1880)

**“Sola Sola in buio loco”**  
from *Don Giovanni*

*Mindy Wesley, Rebekah Willson, Julianna Shamel,  
Rory Wallace, Matthew Kosin, and Cameron Clevenger*

**Jacques Offenbach**  
(1819–1880)

**“Belle nuit”**  
from *Les contes d’Hoffman*

*Erin Davis and Katharine Wilhelm*

**W. A. Mozart**

**“Il core vi dono”**  
from *Così fan Tutte*

*Rachel Lesh and Carrington Neal*

**Jacques Offenbach**  
(1819–1880)

**“Tu ne chanteras plus”**  
from *Les contes d’Hoffman*

*Mindy Wesley, Emma Helfgott, and Jon Truitt*

**Johann Strauss II**  
(1825–1899)

**“Champagne/Sing to Love”**  
from *Die Fledermaus*

*Isis Carvalho, Maegan Pollonais, Julianna Shamel,  
Alexandra Billhartz, Rebekah Willson, Matthew Kosin,  
Alex Gushrowski, Katharine Wilhelm, Rory Wallace, and Mindy Wesley*

## PROGRAM NOTES

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**“Libiamo ne’ lieti calici”** from *La Traviata*

In this scene from *La Traviata*, Violetta Valery hosts a late night party when a young Alfredo Germont confesses his feelings for her. Alfredo accepts his friend Gaston’s invitation to propose a toast. He sings a *brindisi*, or lively drinking song making a passionate tribute to beauty and love with Violetta and all the guests joining in.

**“Cat Duet”**

This duet features sections of famous pieces, including selections from the opera *Otello* by Gioachino Rossini - all sung from the perspective of Italian cats on the word “miau.”

**“Decidi il mio destin”** from *I Pagliacci*

In the opera *I Pagliacci*, Nedda, a beautiful actress married to Canio, is entangled in a love affair with a townsman, Silvio. In this scene Silvio asks Nedda to run away from her jealous husband after her performance that evening. She initially refuses, but Silvio is able to coax her into agreement.

**“Women”** from *The Merry Widow*

In this scene from Act II of the Merry Widow, most of the male cast of the opera share their opinions on the joys and trials of relating to the opposite sex.

**“Quanto amore”** from *Elixir of Love*

In this scene near the end of *Elixir of Love*, Adina is stunned to learn that Nemorino truly loves her despite her long dismissal of his feelings. As she processes this information, the quack Dr. Dulcamara encourages her to use his “magic elixir” to win a wealthy, handsome suitor. Adina responds that her beauty and wit are elixir enough to win Nemorino’s heart.

**“Sunday”** from *Sunday in the Park With George*

The musical *Sunday in the Park with George* was inspired by Georges Seurat’s famous painting *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte*. The plot revolves around the artist George who immerses himself deeply in painting his masterpiece while grappling with the challenges of understanding life and art. As George sketches them, the audience sees his subjects come to life. In this scene, the characters become disgruntled and unruly; George regains control and everyone sings in harmony as they are transformed into the tableau of his finished painting.

## PROGRAM NOTES

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### **“Entrance of the Geisha”** from *Madama Butterfly*

In this scene from Act I of *Madama Butterfly*, Butterfly and the other geishas joyfully sing about the beauty of the sky and sea and their collective happiness about Butterfly’s upcoming marriage to the American sailor Pinkerton, whom she has yet to meet.

### **“Sola sola in buio loco”** from *Don Giovanni*

In this sextet from *Don Giovanni*, Leporello, disguised as Giovanni, abandons Elvira and leaves her alone in the dark. Trying to escape, Leporello is caught by Masetto, Anna, Otavio and Zerlina. Still under the impression that they have found Giovanni, they threaten to kill him for murdering Anna’s father and other crimes. When Leporello reveals himself, he pleads for his life. The group, shocked and surprised, is dumbfounded and not sure what to do with the present situation.

### **“Belle nuit”** from *Les contes d’Hoffman*

In their opening duet of Act III, Nicklausse and Giulietta, a Venetian courtesan, sing a barcarole, a folk song sung by gondoliers, about the beauty and intimacy of night.

### **“Il core vi dono”** from *Così fan Tutte*

Trying to play his part in a deception, Guglielmo is in disguise to attempt to seduce Ferrando’s lover Dorabella. Dorabella puts up a strong front and plays along with this feeble attempt of seduction to have the upper hand. But as the scene plays out, Dorabella’s strong front falls quickly into the arms of Guglielmo.

### **“Tu ne chanteras plus”** from *Les contes d’Hoffman*

In this scene, the evil Dr. Miracle tries to coerce Antonia into singing, despite her poor health. Dr. Miracle conjures a deceptive apparition of Antonia’s late mother. Antonia succumbs to the sound of her Mother’s voice, but the strain is too much for her weak body and she sings herself to death.

### **“Champagne/Sing to Love”** from *Die Fledermaus*

In the finale to the second act of Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, Prince Orlofsky leads his party guests in a rousing toast to champagne, the King of Wines. Following the toast (and a bit of drinking), Falke is moved to lead the guests in a chorus of love.

## PERSONNEL

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**Jon Truitt, director**  
**Cara Chowning, vocal coach and pianist**  
**Kerry Glann, chorus director**

Peter Douglas and Alvis Pascucci, *pianists*

Seth Allen, *tenor*  
Zac Biddle, *bass*  
Alexandra Billhartz, *soprano*  
Joseph Bloom, *baritone*  
Isis Carvalho, *soprano*  
Cameron Clevenger, *baritone*  
Erin Davis, *soprano*  
Stephen Fernung, *baritone*  
Alex Gushrowski, *tenor*  
Emma Helfgott, *mezzo-soprano*  
Kelci Kosin, *soprano*  
Matthew Kosin, *baritone*  
Rachel Lesh, *mezzo-soprano*  
Carrington Neal, *baritone*  
Maegan Pollonais, *mezzo-soprano*  
Marcel Ramalho, *baritone*  
Juliana Shamel, *soprano*  
Rory Wallace, *tenor*  
Mindy Wesley, *soprano*  
Katharine Wilhelm, *mezzo-soprano*  
Rebekah Willson, *soprano*

### Chorus

Seth Allen, Zac Biddle, Joseph Bloom, Cameron Clevenger, Stephen Fernung, Lindsay Fields, Faith Fleischman, Alex Gushrowski, Aaron Holloway, Cheyenne Johnson, Rachel Lesh, Erin Moody, Carrington Neal, Emily Reed, Asia Sampley, Kendra Vanderstar, and Mary Yong

### Faculty Guests

Meryl Mantione, *mezzo-soprano*  
Jon Truitt, *baritone*  
Craig Priebe, *baritone*