

chicagooperatheater

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CHICAGO OPERA THEATER ANNOUNCES CAST AND ARTISTIC TEAMS FOR THE 2012 SEASON

CHICAGO, IL – (January 20, 2012) **Chicago Opera Theater (COT) announces the final artistic teams for their upcoming 2012 Season.** The season opens April 14 with Shostakovich's *Moscow, Cheryomushki*, followed by the concluding opera in COT's "Medea" trilogy, Handel's *Teseo*; and in September COT will present a new production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. Chicago Opera Theater's 2012 Season will be presented at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance in Millennium Park.

Since the season was originally announced last March, Michael Beattie has replaced Christian Curnyn as conductor for *Teseo*, due to conflicts with Christian's schedule. Michael, making his Chicago conducting debut, will conduct from the harpsichord. He is a regular guest conductor at Boston's Emmanuel Music, and has appeared at Glimmerglass Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, and American Repertory Theatre.

Also changed from last March, is the replacement of the Diane Paulus/Jane Glover production of *The Magic Flute* from Canadian Opera Company with a new production by Michael Gieleta for Chicago Opera Theater. The opera will be conducted by Stuart Bedford.

Stuart has worked with all of the great opera companies of the world including Metropolitan Opera, the Royal Opera Covent Garden and Opéra de Paris. He returns to Chicago Opera Theater after leading the highly-acclaimed production of Britten's *Owen Wingrave* in 2009. Michael Gieleta, a theatre and opera director, has worked at Wexford Festival Opera, Glyndebourne Festival, and Capetown Opera, and directed a new Peter Nichols's play *Lingua Franca* for the 2010 Brits Off-Broadway series at 59E59 Theatres in New York.

Season Subscriptions are on sale now for the 2012 Season, which include a ticket to all three operas. **This season, Chicago Opera Theater is offering 50% off subscriptions to new COT Subscribers.** Tickets to individual shows of the 2012 Season go on-sale February 29, 2012.

Tickets available at **312.704.8414** or online ChicagoOperaTheater.org.

The complete cast and artistic team for all three 2012 operas follows.

2012 Season

Dimitri Shostakovich

MOSCOW, CHERYOMUSHKI*April 14, 20, 25 at 7:30pm; April 22 at 3pm*

Conductor: ALEXANDER PLATT
Director: MIKE DONAHUE
Set & Costume Designer: ANYA KLEPIKOV
Lighting Designer: JULIAN PIKE
Choreographer: ERIC SEAN FOGEL
New English Adaptation: MEG MIROSHNIK

Sung in English with English supertitles.

<u>Role</u>	<u>Cast (Alphabetical)</u>
Sergei (Tenor)	DOMINIC ARMSTRONG
Drebednev (Bass)	MATT BOEHLER
Barabashkin (Bass-Baritone)	PAUL CORONA
Masha (Mezzo)	EMILY FONZ
Liusia (Soprano)	SOPHIE GORDELADZE
Lidochka (Soprano)	SARA HEATON
Sasha (Baritone)	ADRIAN KRAMER
Boris (Baritone)	PAUL LAROSA
Baburov (Bass)	PAUL SCHOLTEN
Vava (Soprano)	ASHLEIGH SEMKIW

COT Young Artists Ensemble: LOREN BATTIESTE, WILLIAM DWYER, ANDREW HARRIS, ADAM HENDRICKSON, DREW LADD, MATTHEW NEWLIN, LOUISE ROGAN, CATHERYNE SHUMAN, CORRIE STALLINGS, CAROLYN STEIN, VALERIE VINZANT, MEGAN ROSE WILLIAMS

George Frideric Handel

TESEO*April 21, 27, May 2 at 7:30pm; April 29 at 3pm*

Conductor: MICHAEL BEATTIE
Director: JAMES DARRAH
Set Designer: FRANÇOIS-PIERRE COUTURE
Costume Designer: JAMES DARRAH
Lighting Designer: JULIAN PIKE

Sung in Italian with English supertitles.

<u>Role</u>	<u>Cast (Alphabetical)</u>
Agilea (Soprano)	MANUELA BISCEGLIE
Clizia (Soprano)	DEANNA BREIWICK
Teseo (Mezzo)	CECELIA HALL
Medea (Mezzo)	RENEE TATUM
Egeo (Countertenor)	GERALD THOMPSON
Arcano (Countertenor)	DAVID TRUDGEN

COT Young Artists Ensemble: LOREN BATTIESTE, ANDREW HARRIS, DREW LADD, MATTHEW NEWLIN, CORRIE STALLINGS, CAROLYN STEIN, VALERIE VINZANT, MEGAN ROSE WILLIAMS

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

THE MAGIC FLUTE

September 15, 19, 21 at 7:30pm; September 23 at 3pm

Conductor: STEUART BEDFORD
Director: MICHAEL GIELETA
Set Designer: JAMES MACNAMARA
Costume Designer: GREGORY GALE

Sung in English with English supertitles.

Role

Tamino (Tenor)
Pamina (Soprano)
Papageno (Baritone)
Sarastro (Bass)
Queen of the Night (Soprano)
Monostatos (Tenor)

Cast (Alphabetical)

SEAN PANIKKAR
ELIZABETH REITER
MARKUS BEAM
GRIGORY SOLOVIOV
CLAUDIA BOYLE
ALEX MANSOORI