

TULSA OPERA

Sarah Coburn

A Benefit Concert for Tulsa Opera

with Lyndon Meyer, piano



Saturday, December 2, 2023

Lorton Performance Center | University of Tulsa

Sarah Coburn

A Benefit for Tulsa Opera

Sarah Coburn, soprano

Lyndon Meyer, piano

“Una voce poco fa”
from *Il barbiere di Siviglia*

Gioachino Rossini
(1792-1868)

“Eccomi in lieta vesta... Oh! quante volte”
from *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*

Vincenzo Bellini
(1801-1835)

Josh East, horn

Paraphrase de Concert: Rigoletto de Verdi

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

Lyndon Meyer, piano

“Il dolce suono mi colpì di sua voce!... Spargi d’amaro pianto”
from *Lucia di Lammermoor*

Gaetano Donizetti
(1797-1848)

Burak Göçer, flute

- Intermission -

Nocturne

Joseph Marx
(1882-1964)

Cäcilie, Op. 27, No. 2

Richard Strauss
(1864-1949)

“Sì, mi chiamano Mimì”
from *La bohème*

Giacomo Puccini
(1858-1924)

Cinnamon Grove
II. Adagio cantabile

R. Nathaniel Dett
(1882-1943)

Lyndon Meyer, piano

“Ain’t It a Pretty Night?”
from *Susannah*

Carlisle Floyd
(1926-2021)

“Over the Rainbow”
from *The Wizard of Oz*

Harold Arlen
(1905-1986)

Benefit Concert Sponsors

We wish to acknowledge the generosity of tonight's benefactors:

Frederic Dorwart, Lawyers PLLC **\$10,000** Mrs. Peggy Helmerich

Mr. & Mrs. Scott H. Filstrup **\$5000+** The Guild of Tulsa Opera

Mr. John A. Brock **\$1000+** Mr. Skip M. Teel Jr.
Mr. Clint & Mrs. Christine McQueen Dr. & Mrs. Timothy R. Young
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Special thanks to the University of Tulsa.

**AARON BECK*****Tulsa Opera Artistic Director***

Aaron Beck joined the team at Tulsa Opera, the twelfth-oldest opera company in the United States, in 2010, and was appointed Artistic Director in 2022. As Artistic Director, Mr. Beck oversees the extensive artistic programs of the company, which include the annual mainstage productions, the Filstrup Resident Artist Program, the Tulsa Opera Orchestra, the Tulsa Opera Chorus, the Tulsa Opera Signature Chorale, and the Tulsa Youth Opera, and he collaborates on dozens of annual outreach performances. As a native of southwest Missouri and an adopted Tulsan, Mr. Beck affirms a revitalized commitment to both local and international artists, bringing the best of both worlds together in Tulsa's premiere performing arts organization. Mr. Beck is Music Director of the Tulsa Youth Opera, Tulsa Opera's prestigious vocal music training program. Under his baton, Tulsa Youth Opera has presented productions ranging from Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors* to Dean Burry's *The Hobbit*. In 2017-2018, Mr. Beck spearheaded the development of Tulsa Opera's Raise Your Voice program (now the Raise Your Voice Tour), bringing vocal music to disadvantaged schools throughout Oklahoma. Mr. Beck received his Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from the Manhattan School of Music (with additional studies at the Eastman School of Music) and a Master of Music in Opera Coaching from Florida State University. He lives in northeast Oklahoma with his wife and two children.

**LORI DECTER WRIGHT*****General Director & CEO***

Lori Decter Wright is an unwavering champion of the arts and its profound ability to elevate and enrich individuals and communities. Her lifelong commitment revolves around pursuing artistic excellence, educating and engaging communities, and fostering equitable access for diverse populations. Her dedication to the company extended to leading the Fundraising Committee and serving on both the Board Development and Strategic Planning Committees. In October 2023, she was appointed by the Board of Directors as the General Director and CEO, a testament to her vision and leadership. As a multifaceted professional artist, educator, entrepreneur, and executive leader, Ms. Decter Wright envisions a world where the arts are accessible to all. She is committed to offering captivating classical vocal performances and innovative storytelling of the highest artistic caliber. An award-winning soprano, Ms. Decter Wright has graced the stages of world-class opera companies and symphonies across the United States and abroad. She holds a Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts Degree in Vocal Performance from San José State University, where she was mentored by Dr. David Rohrbaugh and late, great world-renowned mezzo-soprano, Miss Irene Dalis.

**SARAH COBURN**

A native of Oklahoma, soprano Sarah Coburn is captivating international audiences with her "precision placement, mercury speed, and a gorgeous liquid gold tone, gilded by a thrilling top and bottom register" (The Globe and Mail). Following her performances as Lucia in *Lucia de Lammermoor* at Glimmerglass Opera, the New York Observer noted "she turns out to have qualities that have made legends out of so many of her predecessors, from Adelina Patti to Maria Callas: stage charisma, a thrilling upper register and, crucially, a fearlessness about abandoning herself to opera's most abandoned heroine ... this is a palpably exciting voice ... Ms. Coburn is a budding prima donna of exceptional promise." Coburn has performed on many of the world's great stages, including The Metropolitan Opera, Washington National Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Seattle Opera, Los Angeles Opera, the Wiener Staatsoper, and Welsh National Opera. Ms. Coburn created the role of Kitty in the world premiere of *Anna Karenina* at Florida Grand Opera and Opera Theatre of St. Louis. She has sung Adele in *Die Fledermaus* with Seattle Opera and Michigan Opera Theatre, Oscar in *Un ballo in maschera* with Opera Company of Philadelphia, Florida Grand Opera, and Cincinnati Opera, Olympia in *Les Contes d'Hoffman* and Sophie in *Der Rosenkavalier* with Cincinnati Opera, Norina in *Don Pasquale*, Sandrina in *La finta giardiniera*, and Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro* with Florida Grand Opera. Ms. Coburn's many appearances at Tulsa Opera have included productions of Delibes' *Lakmé*, Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, and Verdi's *Rigoletto*. She has received awards from the George London Foundation, The Richard Tucker Foundation, The Jensen Foundation, The Liederkrantz Foundation, Opera Index, and was a National Grand Finalist in the 2001 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

**LYNDON MEYER**

Lyndon Meyer is a Tulsa-based pianist and conductor. He has served as chorus director, assistant conductor, principal pianist, and vocal coach for the Tulsa Opera since 2014. As a vocal coach, Meyer has held positions at the University of Oklahoma, Michigan State University, and the Eastman School of Music, as well as at the Florida Grand Opera, the OK Mozart International Festival, and in Urbana, Italy. In February 2019, he made his professional conducting debut for Heartland Opera's production of *La bohème*. In the world of music theatre, he has directed numerous productions around the country and has served as staff accompanist for the annual Lotte Lenya competition since 2009. Meyer also appears frequently as a recitalist and chamber musician throughout the region. In Tulsa, he holds the post of Director of Music at the Church of Saint Mary and appears as a guest choral conductor and clinician, in addition to maintaining an active coaching studio. Mr. Meyer is a graduate of the University of Arkansas (BM) and the Eastman School (MM).

Tulsa Opera's 2023-24 Season Continues!

Amahl and the Night Visitors



JANUARY 6 | 2:30 & 7:30PM

JANUARY 7 | 2:30PM

LIDDY DOENGES THEATRE
TULSA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

COMPOSED BY GIAN CARLO MENOTTI
LIBRETTO BY GIAN CARLO MENOTTI
\$15 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT TULSAOPERA.COM/AMAHL

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2023-24 Season

The Musical Guide to Relationships: First Dates, Break-Ups, Marriage, Children, Growing Old, and more!

I LOVE YOU,
YOU'RE PERFECT,
NOW CHANGE

Book & Lyrics: Joe DiPietro
Music: Jimmy Roberts
February 9th, 10th, & 11th
Lynn Riggs Theater



Opera Fizz: A Bubbly Night of Music and Mixology

Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 7:30pm
Living Arts of Tulsa

Opera ROCKS the Country

Saturday, June 1st, 2024, 6-9pm
THE Church STUDIO



TULSA OPERA

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