

NEWSLETTER OF THE SANTA FE OPERA GUILD

OPERAGRAM

Supporting the Education and Community Programs Department of the Santa Fe Opera

JULY 2018

VOLUME 12

ISSUE 10

KEVIN BURDETTE HEADLINES THIS YEAR'S MEET THE DIVO

MEET THE DIVO: KEVIN BURDETTE IN CONVERSATION WITH WILLIAM V. MADISON SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 3PM

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

STIEREN HALL, THE SANTA FE OPERA

MEMBERS \$25, NON-MEMBERS \$35

Fasten your seatbelts for a riveting afternoon of conversation with Kevin Burdette, famed bass and star of The Santa Fe Opera stage, when he talks with William V. Madison, a former editor of *Opera News*.

A look at Burdette's website gives an indication of how much fun he can be. If you click on "Contact info" on his contact information page, his contact lens prescription appears! To contact him in person this summer, come to Santa Fe, where audiences can enjoy his performances in *Candide* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

Mr. Burdette has wowed Santa Fe audiences with his winning combination of stunning vocal ability and arresting stage presence. Reviewing Burdette's performance at New York City Opera, Alex Ross of *The New Yorker* wrote that he "showed off his plummy, Thomas Hampson-like voice...and also his phenomenal agility." The *New York Times* dubbed him "The Robin Williams of opera" and the *San Francisco Chronicle* raved about his Leporello, saying, "His performance was a tour de force of vocal splendor and comic timing."

Since making his Santa Fe Opera debut in *The Last Savage* in 2011, Mr. Burdette has returned to our stage for star turns in *La grande duchesse du Gérolstein* and *Oscar* in 2013, the Mozart/Stravinsky double bill in 2014, *Cold Mountain* and *La fille du régiment* in 2015, and *The Golden Cockerel* and *Fledermaus* in 2017.

In addition to Santa Fe, this Juilliard graduate has sung at the Metropolitan Opera, Washington National Opera, Seattle Opera, Dallas Opera, Opera Philadelphia, and Teatro Colón.



Photo Credit: Simon Pauly



Mr. Madison also has an impressive resumé dating back to high school days when he interviewed Beverly Sills. Since then, he served as an editor at *Opera News* and has become a popular opera blogger. He published a biography of Madeleine Kahn, titled *Being the Music*, in 2015. His upcoming English-language adaptation of Czech opera singer Jarmila Novotná's memoir will be published later this year. While indulging his passion for opera, he spent many years as producer for Dan Rather on *60 Minutes*. As keynote speaker at our 2016 Annual Meeting, he was a hit with Guild members when recounting his experiences "Chasing Voices." He delighted Santa Fe Opera Guild members with his interview of Susan Graham in 2017 during that year's Meet the Diva event.

Don't miss this chance to hear Kevin Burdette in conversation with Bill Madison on **Sunday, August 5 at 3:00PM in Stieren Hall**. A reception will follow the event. Click [here](#) to register and purchase tickets, or phone Lucinda at 505-629-1410 x110.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING



Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, August 28, 2018 at 5:30PM**. You won't want to miss the Santa Fe Opera Guild's Annual Meeting on McCune Terrace at The Santa Fe Opera. Enjoy a stunning view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and the beauty of the Opera's surrounding gardens while you sip wine, munch on *bors d'oeuvres*, mingle with fellow members, and meet the team that will lead our Guild beginning in October.

The Annual Meeting is free for all members of The Santa Fe Opera Guild. Join in the fun as we meet friends and celebrate the Guild's mission in supporting The Santa Fe Opera. Watch the upcoming issue of the *Operagram* for a link to register for this event.

NEWS FROM THE SANTA FE OPERA: TECH AND THE WEST

TECH AND THE WEST SYMPOSIUM

FRIDAY, JULY 13 AND 14

NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM AND THE LENSIC PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

2 DAY REGISTRATION \$100.00 PER PERSON

1 DAY REGISTRATION \$60.00 PER PERSON

Tech and the West is a two-year initiative presented as part of the recent world premiere of *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* and the 2018 production of *Doctor Atomic*. Continuing the Opera's commitment to engaging community and broadening the experience and understanding of opera, Tech and the West uses the themes of these productions as the baseline for an intellectual exploration through exhibits, concerts, and symposia.

Many minds will come together for Tech and the West to facilitate and participate in discussions – composers, scientists, designers, directors, historians, and lecturers, among others. Take a moment to look at the myriad of [Related Events](#) that will explore how and if these two operas of biographically-inspired fiction contribute to the historical truth. Participants will also analyze the similar nature of Steve Jobs and

Robert Oppenheimer: how these two monumental influencers wanted control of their worlds and creations yet also desired a greater understanding of the world around them. Click [here](#) to register for the conference.

Among the Tech and the West related events, is the highly anticipated talk, ***Nuclear Weapons in New Mexico: A Disruptive Futures Dialogue***, that features *Doctor Atomic* Librettist and Director Peter Sellars, Choreographer Emily Johnson, and Dr. Ernest J. Moniz, former US Secretary of Energy. The event is moderated by Sam Donaldson and held at the Lensic Performing Arts Center on **Sunday, July 8 at 3:00PM**. Tickets can be purchased [here](#) or by calling The Lensic at (505)988-1234.

Also, the Center for Contemporary Arts Cinematheque in Santa Fe will screen the film ***Wonders are Many: The Making of Doctor Atomic*** on **Thursday, July 12, from 5:00PM until 8:00PM**. Drawing upon recently declassified documents, archival footage, and behind-the-scenes interviews, *Wonders Are Many* chronicles the creation of the monumental opera based on the mysterious and paradoxical “father of the atomic bomb,” Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, as his team prepares to detonate the world's first atomic weapon. The CCA Cinematheque is located at 1050 Old Pecos Trail and tickets can be purchased [here](#).

Finally, add to your Santa Fe Opera experience with a guided visit to Los Alamos, the home of the Manhattan Project, plus dinner before the show! Presented by the Los Alamos Historical Society. The tour **Secret & Scenic: Oppenheimer's Los Alamos**, is offered on **July 27 and August 2**. For more information and to purchase tickets click [here](#).



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH THE OPERA TOURS

SANTA FE OPERA TOURS

\$10 FOR ADULTS, \$8 FOR SENIORS AND FREE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS UP TO AGE 22

GUILD MEMBERS RECEIVE A FREE TOUR FOR TWO EACH SEASON

OPERA INSIDER DAYS, FREE



The Santa Fe Opera tours provide an insider's view of what goes into the season's productions and the opera grounds. Don't miss these tours that are designed to engage the opera lover in all of us. *Reservations are not required for the three tours listed below. Comfortable dress and footwear are recommended. Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office.*

Backstage Tours allow attendees discover how an opera production comes together. On the "behind-the-scenes" tour, participants will explore many of our production areas. One-hour tours for the 2018 season are **offered once daily at 9:00AM, Monday through Friday; May 28, through August 24.** Participants should meet at the Box Office shortly before 9:00AM.

Ranch Tours offer an extended tour of The Santa Fe Opera grounds known as the "Opera Ranch" on the following Fridays: **June 29, July 27, and August 24** at 10:00AM. The tours include a "Meet the Artist" presentation by one of our apprentice singers. The Ranch Tour is \$10. For this tour meet at the Box Office at shortly before 10:00AM.

Opera Insider Days are **free** events hosted by The Guilds of The Santa Fe Opera on **Saturdays, June 2 through August 25 at 8:30AM.** Join us at the Box Office for coffee, juice and pastries followed by a lively talk about a particular area or opera-related craft from an opera insider, and then concluding with a tour of the backstage. For those attending with children, ask about our scavenger hunt.

SAVE AT FAMILY NIGHTS AT THE OPERA

Family Nights make coming to the Opera a more accessible experience for all, and provide an incredible opportunity for families to purchase tickets that would normally cost much more. Family Night tickets are \$15 each for youths, \$30 each for the first two adults, and \$50 for any additional adult. What a wonderful way to introduce, or reintroduce, young people to the magic of Opera. Family Night tickets go quickly, so call the **Box Office at (505)986-5900** to order. Families with youths from ages 6 to 22 years can enjoy performances of the Santa Fe Opera on the following dates.

Wednesday, July 4 | *Candide*

Saturday, July 28 | *Ariadne auf Naxos*

Wednesday, July 18 | *Doctor Atomic*

Friday, August 24 | *Madame Butterfly*



2018 OPERA INSIGHT SEMINARS



Building upon the success of previous season's Opera InSight, 2018 expands to a weekend seminar for psychologists and the psychologically-minded and is now offered with 12 CEU credits. This new area of performance psychology utilizes music, the libretto, staging, and the director's interpretation of the opera. This summer the program examines the balance in personal and relational identity in two of the season's offerings: Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* and Rossini's *The Italian Girl in Algiers*. We experience the passion and spectacle of opera while learning about ourselves.

Opera InSight seminars will enhance any clinician's ability to help their patients and all seminar participants will enhance their capacity to empathize and relate better to the people in their lives. Find out more information and how to register [here](#).

VIVACE BOOK GROUP

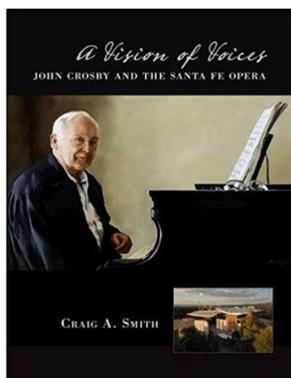
MONDAYS, JULY 9, SEPTEMBER 10, 6:15PM - 7:30PM

PRE-DISCUSSION SOCIAL 5:45PM

COLLECTED WORKS

202 GALISTEO STREET, SANTA FE

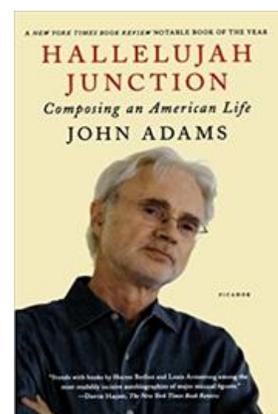
COMPLIMENTARY FOR GUILD MEMBERS; NONMEMBERS: \$5 PER PERSON



Monday, July 9: *A Vision of Voices*, by Craig A. Smith. The Santa Fe Opera would not exist were it not for the drive and vision of its founder and leader for forty-five years, John O’Hea Crosby; he launched the company when he was only thirty years old. This volume is the first-ever close look at Crosby, a man with great passion for the arts and music, a shrewd businessman, a programmer, conductor, and critic. He was known for tough oversight and an insistence on quality of the highest order. These qualities helped Crosby create a company that changed forever not only Santa Fe - its Opera Company indisputably the center of its art scene - but New Mexico and the world of opera as well.

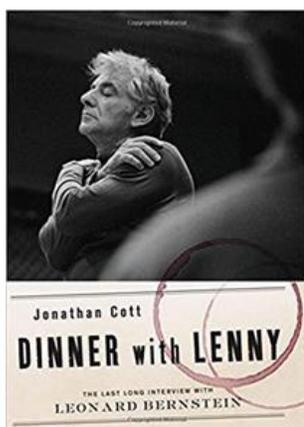
searingly introspective autobiography reveals the workings of a brilliant musical mind responsible for some of contemporary America's most inventive and original music.” Another reviewer noted that “Adams writes candidly of his compositions and those of his contemporaries in language accessible to the lay reader.” With inspirations that ranged from Mozart to the Grateful Dead to Miles Davis, Adams brings the reader on a creative odyssey, illuminating the mysterious process of composition while exploring the social history that helped to shape his music and life.

Monday, September 10: *Hallelujah Junction*, by John Adams. This memoir, written by the famed American composer, promises to deepen appreciation for *Doctor Atomic*, one of this summer’s most anticipated productions. *Publishers Weekly* praised the book, saying, “Adams’



Monday, November 12: *Dinner with Lenny: The Last Long Conversation*

with Leonard Bernstein by Jonathan Cott. Leonard Bernstein was the first American-born-and-trained conductor of the New York Philharmonic and made his spectacular, unrehearsed debut from the podium in 1943. Not only an historic and celebrated conductor, Bernstein was also a pianist, composer, lecturer, and teacher – he did all with unforgettable élan. He is without a doubt the reigning American classical-music giant and genius of the 20th-century. Who among the baby-boom generation, for instance, does not cherish some memories of his 14 years of televised Young People’s Concerts? This series, launched in 1958, won every award for educational television there was to be had. Says reviewer Ray Olson of this volume, “Music and the love that informs it and animates its performance are the great themes of this talk that scarcely touches anything nonmusical.” (Nota bene: There is no abridged version of this book, contrary to some misinformation book buyers may see online.)



NEW MEMBERS

With the greatest pleasure, we welcome Jeanette Ollivier and Michael & Dinah Ragsdale to the Santa Fe Opera Guild. We look forward to meeting you at our events and we thank you for joining us.

JULY MEMBERS: IT’S TIME TO RENEW

When your renewal comes due, you’ll receive an email alert. Renew by clicking [RENEW NOW!](#) We accept the four major credit cards and PayPal, or mail a check to: The Santa Fe Opera Guild, Membership, P.O. Box 2371, Santa Fe, NM, 87504 - 2371. You can renew at any of our upcoming events. Send membership questions via email to Eileen Woodbury at MembershipVP@santafeoperaguild.org, or telephone her at (505) 629-1410 x100. The Membership Committee will send your membership tax receipts and membership cards to you by email. Those of you without email will continue to receive these communications by US mail. If you don’t have a printer at home or if you still prefer a hardcopy tax letter and membership card, you will be able to get these at any of our education events.

APPRENTICE WATCH BRANDON JOVANOVIĆH

Brandon Jovanovich, Santa Fe Opera apprentice during 1996 -1997, is taking on some of the most treasured tenor roles and finding himself among the world's most esteemed opera artists. In the 2017/18 season Brandon Jovanovich makes his role debut as Dick Johnson in *La fanciulla del West* at Opernhaus Zürich. Additional roles this season include Lohengrin at the Deutsche Oper Berlin, Don José at the Los Angeles Opera, Siegmund at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and San Francisco Opera. Additionally, Brandon makes an exciting house debut at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Sergei in *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*.

A native of Billings, Montana, Brandon Jovanovich received his training at Northern Arizona University and Manhattan School of Music. He was the recipient of the 2007 Richard Tucker Award and was twice a New York City district winner in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. As a member of the Santa Fe Opera Apprentice program, he was given the Anna Case Mackay Award. Mr. Jovanovich is praised by *The Wall Street Journal* for his "ardent, heroic tenor and strong acting." Mr. Jovanovich is sought after by the world's finest opera companies for his passionate stage portrayals of leading roles in French, Italian, German, and Slavic opera.



OPERAGRAM SEEKING NEW ASSOCIATE EDITOR



The Santa Fe Opera Guild reaches its 380+ members each month with the *Operagram*. We are looking for a volunteer with strong writing and editing skills and a proficient knowledge of Microsoft Word to begin as an Associate Editor, and, after a few months, step into the role of Editor. No need to be an opera expert or have desktop publishing software.

Responsibilities include writing and researching copy for the *Operagram*, and editing submitted copy. The qualified candidate

will work with the VP of Communications to meet monthly deadlines. This is an excellent opportunity to become more involved with the Guild. Email Rebecca at communications@santafeoperaguild.org for more information.

DIVERSIONS

The Santa Fe Opera and **Creative Santa Fe** present Disruptive Futures Dialogue: A Conversation with Peter Sellars, on **Sunday, July 8, at 3:00PM** at The Lensic. Sellars will direct, and has written the libretto for, this season's Santa Fe Opera presentation of John Adams' *Doctor Atomic: I Am Become Death*. The talk will be moderated by Sam Donaldson. General Admission tickets may be purchased at [The Lensic](http://TheLentic.com), or by calling the box office at (505) 988-1234. See the article on page 2 of this issue of the *Operagram* for more information and related events.

The Wagner Society of Santa Fe presents *Liederabend: A Recital of Art Songs and Wagner Music*, on **Sunday, July 8 at 5:30PM (the doors and bar open at 5:00PM)**, at the Quail Run Clubhouse, which is located at 3101 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe. Bass baritone Sam Handley and pianist Carol Anderson will perform: Wolf's *Michelangelo Lieder*, R. Strauss' *Baßlieder*, Wagner's *Senta's Ballad* from *Der fliegende Holländer*, and Wagner's *Farewell* from *Die Walküre*. Enjoy a wine reception with the artists immediately after the recital. The cost is \$25 at the door (cash or check payable to Performance Santa Fe). Please reserve your seat in advance by emailing: wagnersocietyofsantafe@gmail.com.

The Santa Fe Opera presents Tech and the West. Continuing the Opera's commitment to engaging community and broadening the experience and understanding of opera, Tech and the West uses the themes of these productions as the baseline for an intellectual exploration through exhibits, concerts, and symposia. The Symposia will be held **Friday, July 13** and **Saturday, July 14**. Registration information for the Symposia is available [here](#). See the article on page 2 of this issue of the *Operagram* for more information and related events.

The Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival presents its 46th season of concerts from **Sunday, July 15 through Monday, August 20**. For tickets and information about the concert programs click [here](#), or call 505.982.1890 or 888.221.9836, Ext. 102.

The Santa Fe Desert Chorale presents Bernstein, Bolcomb, and Barber: Twentieth Century American Masters, on the following dates: **Saturday, July 21 at 8:00PM; Wednesday, July 25 at 8:00PM; Saturday, August 4 at 4:00PM; and Wednesday; August 8 at 8:00PM**. All performances will be at The Church of the Holy Faith, 311 East Palace Avenue. Guest conductor Craig Jessop will preside and Kathleen Ritch will deliver the pre-concert lecture. For more information and tickets, call (505) 988-2282, or click [here](#).

The Santa Fe Desert Chorale presents Sure on this Shining Night: Choral Works that Evoke the Beauty of the Natural World on the following dates: **Sunday, July 29 at 4:00PM; Friday, August 3 at 8:00PM; and Tuesday, August 7 at 8:00PM**. All performances will be at The Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi (131 Cathedral Place). The Chorale's Artistic Director, Joshua Habermann, will conduct, and David Bashwiner, PhD, will present the pre-concert lecture. For more information and tickets, call (505) 988-2282, or click [here](#).

The Santa Fe Desert Chorale presents The New World: Journey from the Inca Trail on the following: **Thursday, August 2 at 8:00PM; Sunday, August 5 at 4:00PM; Thursday, August 9 at 8:00PM**. All concerts will be at The Cristo Rey Church (1120 Canyon Road). Joshua Habermann, the Chorale's Artistic Director, will conduct; the pre-concert lecture will be provided by Michael Shih, M.M. For more information and tickets, call (505) 988-2282, or click [here](#).

**SANTA FE OPERA GUILD IS A MEMBER OF
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