

OPERA STUDIES AT THE **BOSTON** CONSERVATORY



The Cunning Little Vixen by Leoš Janáček, November 2013



PREPARED TO PERFORM.
MUSIC DANCE THEATRE

DEGREE PROGRAMS

The opera curriculum focuses on practical skills to make you a better performer—vocally, musically, and dramatically. We build your toolkit and help you understand how to thrive in a difficult and highly competitive business. We offer undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate training in opera, including:



The Rape of Lucretia by Benjamin Britten, April 2014

- **Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance with an Opera Emphasis**
- **Master of Music in Opera Performance**
- **Graduate Performance Diploma in Opera Performance**

Our opera performance degrees are highly selective and we only accept a limited number of students per year. These degrees focus on the things you need to build and sustain a career in opera. Students take voice lessons and enroll in opera studio (our top performing ensemble in opera) each semester; students complete a full year course in both acting and movement; and students are offered a myriad of courses to help you understand operatic literature, history, role research, and business practices. The degree programs also offer some space for electives, which many students use for private vocal coaching.

Enjoy abundant performance opportunities

We are committed to giving our students ample performance experience in dynamic productions covering a variety of languages and styles. We double cast our operas to give more students performance opportunities, and present the operas with orchestral accompaniment in their original languages with projected English supertitles. We present our fall and spring opera on the main stage of The Boston Conservatory Theatre. Our winter production is a semi-staged, concert opera presented in another venue. Recent productions include:



La Bohème by Giacomo Puccini, April 2013

- *La Bohème* by Giacomo Puccini
- *Don Giovanni* by W. A. Mozart
- *L'enfant et les sortilèges* by Maurice Ravel
- *L'heure espagnole* by Maurice Ravel
- *Iphigénie en Tauride* by C. W. von Gluck
- *L'italiana in Algeri* by Gioachino Rossini
- *Přihody lišky Bystroušky (The Cunning Little Vixen)* by Leoš Janáček
- *The Rake's Progress* by Igor Stravinsky
- *The Rape of Lucretia* by Benjamin Britten
- *Riders to the Sea* by Ralph Vaughan Williams
- *Transformations* by Conrad Susa
- *La voix humaine* by Francis Poulenc
- *Die Zauberflöte* by W. A. Mozart

In addition to Main Stage operas, we present one-acts, scenes programs, children's operas, and concerts by our outreach ensemble, Troubadors. We also present special events at local arts partners such as The Museum of Fine Arts, The Boston Children's Museum, and The French Cultural Institute.

Gain a practical understanding of the opera business

We prepare our students for the real world. The courses offered for opera students present a range of topics, including how to prepare a role and develop a character, the nuances of different repertoire, and how to build a sustainable career. Our course called The Business of the Opera Business focuses on such practical matters as understanding your "brand;" creating a business plan; working with agents, managers, and unions; financial planning for short- and long-term goals; tax tips for singers; dealing with "life on the road;" surviving life in NYC; how to build a personal website; and facing career transitions.



Don Giovanni by W.A. Mozart, April 2012

We encourage our students to audition for top summer programs and competitions. Students of The Boston Conservatory have been represented at:

- Glimmerglass Opera
- Wolf Trap Opera
- Santa Fe Opera
- Opera Theatre of St. Louis
- Los Angeles Opera
- Fort Worth Opera
- Des Moines Metro Opera
- Bel Canto at Caramoor
- Chautauqua Opera
- Seagle Music Colony
- Brevard Music Center
- Aspen Opera Center
- Opera in the Ozarks
- Central City Opera
- Virginia Opera
- Sarasota Opera
- Nashville Opera
- Tulsa Opera

Thrive in an environment that supports maximum growth

Located in the heart of the Fenway, our students are immersed in a diverse cultural society. Boston has so much to offer as a city. There are amazing cultural organizations, such as The Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Lyric Opera, Boston Baroque, Museum of Fine Arts, Isabella Stewart Gardiner Museum, the Huntington Theatre Company, and the American Repertory Theatre. There are ample opportunities to audition and perform with smaller performance groups, including Boston Opera Collaborative, Boston Midsummer



Transformations by Conrad Susa, November 2012

Opera, Juventas New Music Ensemble, and Metrowest Opera. A supportive network of teachers, colleagues, and collaborators is available to help you explore performance options and grow as an artist at the Conservatory and within the greater Boston area.

Build your technique

Choosing a teacher is one of the most important decisions a young singer can make. The early 20s are critical years to build and solidify a sustainable technique that will prepare you to enter the professional arena. Find the teacher that can take you to the next level of your vocal development. The studio voice faculty at The Boston Conservatory builds strong technique and helps you find and develop your unique gifts as a singer.



L'enfant et les sortilèges by Maurice Ravel, February 2012



Die Zauberflöte by W.A. Mozart, February 2014

FACULTY

Patty Thom, Chair of Voice/Opera
Johnathon Pape, Director of Opera Studies
Andrew Altenbach, Music Director
Nathan Troup, Associate Director
Jean Anderson Collier, Principal Opera Coach

STUDIO VOICE FACULTY

Marilyn Bulli	Robert Honeysucker
William Cotten	Victor Jannett
Kerry Deal	Monique Phinney
Rebecca Folsom	Patty Thom
Sara Goldstein	Kevin Wilson
Thomas Gregg	Kathryn Wright

RELATED STUDIES IN VOICE/OPERA

Michelle Alexander	Charles Linshaw
Pamela Dellal	Karen Ruymann
Damien Francoeur-Krzyzek	Elizabeth Seitz
Sun Ho Kim	Michael Strauss
John Kuntz	Allison Voth

“The faculty refine our instruments, guide us and encourage us to blossom. This is not just ‘college opera;’ this is a professional quality operatic experience.” —Vanessa Becerra (M.M. '14, Opera Performance, now a Young Artist at Los Angeles Opera)



Adding to our faculty's expertise, we regularly sponsor masterclasses and residencies with top industry personnel, including:

- **William Burden**
- **Christine Brewer**
- **Catherine Malfitano**
- **Cori Ellison**
- **Sandra Piques Eddy**
- **Susan Ashbaker**
- **Rachelle Jonck**
- **Ken Benson**
- **Wolfgang Brendl**
- **Dawn Upshaw**



Student masterclass with Rachelle Jonck, October 2014



COME VISIT US!

We find that students who come for even a brief visit gain a better understanding of what The Boston Conservatory has to offer. You can arrange a trial lesson with a voice teacher, sit in on classes and rehearsals, and perhaps even see one of our productions. We also encourage you to talk with current students; they can give you their perspectives on daily life at The Boston Conservatory and what it's like to live in Boston. We offer many opportunities for prospective students to visit. Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays are some of our busiest days and will have more variety of classes and rehearsals to choose from.

Photography by Max Wagenblass



THE **BOSTON** CONSERVATORY

8 THE FENWAY, BOSTON, MA 02215

Phone: (617) 536-6340

Fax: (617) 912-9101

www.bostonconservatory.edu