

Angela Meade

VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE



JANUARY 17, 2019

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

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School of Arts and Communications
Department of Music
presents

Angela Meade

VOCAL COMPETITION FINALE

January 17, 2019, 7:30pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall

WELCOME

Dr. Brian Galante

Chair, Department of Music

FINALISTS

The program order was determined by Ms. Meade

Hai gia vinta la causa W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*

Verborgenheit Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)
Luke Hartley, baritone

Lascia ch'io pianga G. F. Handel (1685-1759)
from *Rinaldo*

The world feels dusty Aaron Copland (1900-1990)
from *Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*
Gillian Dockins, mezzo soprano

Papageno, Papageno, Papageno! W. A. Mozart
from *Die Zauberflöte*

Le Manoir de Rosemonde Henri Duparc (1848-1933)
Brennan Brichoux, baritone

O rendetemi...Qui la voce...Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835)
vien diletto, from *I Puritani*

AmorRichard Strauss (1864-1949)
Stephanie Pfundt, soprano

Questo amorGiacomo Puccini (1858-1924)
from *Edgar*

Zueignung.....Richard Strauss
Jordan Bowles, baritone

E Susanna non vien?...Dove sono.....W. A. Mozart
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*

Es träumte mir.....Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Marissa Moultrie, soprano

JUDGES DELIBERATION

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY ANGELA MEADE, SOPRANO

Io son l'umile ancella Francesco Cilea (1866-1950)
from *Adriana Lecouvreur*

Pace, pace mio dioGiuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
from *La Forza del Destino*

AWARDS PRESENTATION

JUDGES

Angela Meade, soprano
Marlette Buchanan, soprano
Leah Crocetto, soprano

PIANO

Sheila Bristow

ABOUT THE FINALISTS



Luke Hartley is a junior Music Education major with a secondary choral emphasis. He has been a member of the Choir of the West for three years, and holds leadership positions in various other ensembles on campus. Luke previously performed as Aeneas in *Dido and Aeneas* at PLU last January. He is currently in the midst of rehearsals for *Le Nozze di Figaro*, in which he plays Count Almaviva. Luke is a student of Barry Johnson.



Gillian Dockins is a senior Music and English double major from Portland, Oregon. She is a four year member of the Choir of the West, and involved in multiple other vocal ensembles on campus. Last summer at PLU, Gillian performed the role of Rose Murrant in the Kurt Weill opera, *Street Scene*. She is currently preparing for her upcoming role as Cherubino in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the end of January. Gillian is a student of Holly Boaz.



After spending much of his early life preparing for engineering school, **Brennan Brichoux** realized at the age of 17 that his true passion was for the operatic stage. Since that time, the Seattle native has been privileged to perform in numerous capacities with the PLU music department, including the role of Aeneas in the PLU production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. Brennan has also won multiple awards for achievement in the Tacoma NATS competition for classical voice. Brennan is a student of Barry Johnson.



Hailing from Petersburg, Alaska, soprano **Stephanie Pfundt** is a senior vocal performance major. Upcoming roles include Barbarina in PLU's January production of *Le Nozze di Figaro* and Johanna in PLU's March production of *Sweeney Todd*. Recent roles include Queen of the Night in *Die Zauberflöte* and 2nd Woman in *Dido and Aeneas*. Ms. Pfundt was recently named a district finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and will advance to the regional competition this February. Next fall she hopes to begin her master's degree in opera on the East Coast. Stephanie is a student of Cyndia Seiden.



Jordan Bowles is a 23 year old communications major, music minor, at PLU. Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, he currently resides in Gig Harbor. He will be graduating in Spring of 2019, and his love for opera was inspired by the voice of Dmitri Hvorostovsky. He currently works at MultiCare, but wishes to pursue a career in opera. Jordan is a student of James Brown.



Marissa Moultrie is a senior at PLU, completing her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology. At PLU, Marissa has performed the roles of Countess Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Mozart), Dido in *Dido & Aeneas* (Purcell), Suor Angelica in *Suor Angelica* (Puccini), and Minerva in *Orpheus in the Underworld* (Offenbach). Marissa also had the opportunity to cover the title role in faculty member Gregory Youtz's opera, *Fiery Jade: Cai Yan*. Marissa has also performed the roles of Pamina in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, and Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. A Mary Baker Russell Music Scholar and recent Encouragement Award Winner at the Washington District MONC auditions, Marissa is currently in the process of auditioning for Master of Music programs, hoping to begin her graduate studies in Fall 2019. Marissa is a student of Janeanne Houston.

ABOUT THE PIANIST



Sheila Bristow is a church musician, accompanist, and composer living in Tacoma, Washington. She holds degrees in music composition and organ performance from Cornish College of the Arts and the University of Washington. Ms. Bristow serves as Organist & Choirmaster at Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Kenmore, and is also an Affiliate Artist at Pacific Lutheran University, where she works with young singers on the concert and opera stage. As a freelance keyboardist, she has performed with Orchestra Seattle, Tacoma Opera, The 5th Avenue Theater, and Seattle Opera Guild.

ABOUT THE JUDGES



American soprano **Angela Meade** is the winner of both the Metropolitan Opera's 2012 Beverly Sills Artist Award and the 2011 Richard Tucker Award. In 2008 she joined an elite group of history's singers when, as Elvira in Verdi's *Ernani*, she made her professional operatic debut on the Met stage. Since then she has fast become recognized as one of today's outstanding vocalists, excelling in the most demanding heroines of the 19th-

century bel canto repertoire as well as in the operas of Verdi and Mozart.

The 2018-19 season begins with Ms. Meade joining forces with Yannick Nézet-Séguin and the Orchestre Métropolitain for a special performance of Verdi's *Requiem*, in memory of Jacqueline Desmarais. Domestic opera engagements will include a role debut as Margherita in the Robert Carsen production of Boito's *Mefistofele* at the Metropolitan Opera, a company debut with Seattle Opera as Leonora in Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, and a return to the Dallas Opera as Alice Ford in Verdi's *Falstaff*. Internationally, Ms. Meade returns to Spain in the title role of Rossini's *Semiramide* for Asociación Bilbaina de Amigos de la Ópera and revives her portrayal of Leonora in Verdi's *Il Trovatore* at Teatro de la Maestranza de Sevilla. Her schedule also includes a return to the Palacio de la Opera in A Coruña, Spain and the Sinfónica de Galicia for a concert of operatic highlights, a recital and masterclass with Vancouver's *The Singer Behind the Song* series, as well as a return to Verdi's *Requiem* in Dublin, Ireland, with the RTÉ National Symphony conducted by Michele Mariotti. Ms. Meade ends the season with a gala concert in her debut at the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Italy.

In the 2017-18 season, Meade sang the title roles in Bellini's *Norma* and Rossini's *Semiramide* (broadcast live in HD in theaters worldwide) at the Metropolitan Opera, Handel's *Alcina* with Washington National Opera, and Cilea's *Adriana Lecouvreur* with Oper Frankfurt. In addition, she sang the role of Giselda in Verdi's *I Lombardi* at Teatro Regio di Torino

and stepped in as a last minute replacement as Leonora in performances of *Il Trovatore* with Deutsche Oper Berlin. Concert performances included Mahler's *Symphony No. 8* with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with Seattle Symphony. She gave recitals in Philadelphia, Santa Fe, and Waterford (VA).

Since her momentous Met debut, Meade's numerous returns to the storied New York house include starring in the title roles of *Norma* and Sir David McVicar's new *Anna Bolena*; as Leonora in *Il Trovatore*; as Alice Ford in a new *Falstaff* under James Levine, as seen around the world in the Met's *Live in HD* series and released on DVD by Decca Classics; and as Mozart's Countess in *Le nozze di Figaro*. She also reprised Verdi's *Elvira* in a production seen both in the Met's *Live in HD* series and as a *Great Performances at the Met* presentation on PBS-TV. At Carnegie Hall, she headlined Bellini's rare gem *Beatrice di Tenda* and appeared in Rossini's *Moïse et Pharaon*, while at Lincoln Center she sang Giselda in *I Lombardi* with the Opera Orchestra of New York.

Other highlights of recent seasons include debuts at the Vienna State Opera as Elena in Verdi's *I vespri siciliani*; Deutsche Oper Berlin and Oper Frankfurt, in concert performances of Verdi's *I due Foscari* and Puccini's *Edgar*, respectively; Italy's Teatro Regio di Torino as Mathilde in a new production of *Guglielmo Tell*; Los Angeles Opera and Cincinnati Opera as Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*; and, in her first fully-staged title portrayal of *Norma*, at Washington National Opera, where she was subsequently honored as "2013 Artist of the Year." She was catapulted to prominence in a 2010 concert performance of *Norma* at the Caramoor International Music Festival, where she has also triumphed as Hélène in Verdi's *Les vêpres siciliennes*, and in the title roles of Donizetti's *Lucrezia Borgia* and Rossini's *Semiramide*. In 2010, Meade made her European operatic debut at The Wexford Festival in the title role of Mercadante's rarely heard *Virginia*.

On the concert stage, Meade has appeared in recital at the Kennedy Center, and as soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Baltimore Symphony, Boston Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Montreal's Orchestre Métropolitain, Philadelphia

Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony, and Seattle Symphony, among others. Conductors with whom she has collaborated include Roberto Abbado, Marin Alsop, Marco Armiliato, Maurizio Benini, Will Crutchfield, Thomas Dausgaard, Plácido Domingo, Charles Dutoit, Riccardo Frizza, Manfred Honeck, Sebastian Lang-Lessing, James Levine, Fabio Luisi, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Gianandrea Noseda, Donald Runnicles, Gerard Schwarz, and Osmo Vänskä.

A native of Washington State and an alumna of Pacific Lutheran University and the Academy of Vocal Arts, Ms. Meade has triumphed in an astounding number of vocal competitions: 57 in all, including many of the opera world's most important prizes. In addition to being a winner at the 2007 Met National Council Auditions, as documented in *The Audition*, a film that was subsequently released on DVD by Decca, she was also the first singer to take first prize in both the opera and operetta categories of the prestigious Belvedere Competition.



PLU voice faculty member **Marlette Buchanan** is an accomplished performer of opera, musical theatre and other genres of music and has been noted by reviewers as a “soprano of extended range, flexibility, warmth, color... and beauty”. Ms. Buchanan’s operatic roles include Fiordiligi and Despina in *Così fan Tutte*, Euridice in *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Marenka in *The Bartered Bride*, Antonia

in *The Tales of Hoffman*, Blanche in *Dialogue of the Carmelites* as well as roles in *Porgy and Bess*. Her musical theatre credits include roles in *Showboat*, *Ain’t Misbehavin’*, *Once on this Island*, and *Ragtime*.

Marlette is a graduate of Boston University with a Master of Music degree. She attended Fisk University for a Bachelor of Arts degree where she toured nationally and recorded as the lead soloist with the Jubilee Singers. A regional finalist at the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Ms. Buchanan also was a finalist in the national MacAllister Awards and the Eleanor Lieber Awards. Her concert performances include Orff’s *Carmina Burana*, Fanshawe’s *African Sanctus*, Spohr’s *Sechs Deutsches Lieder*, and Carter’s *Spiritual Cantata*. Ms.

Buchanan has recorded with a broad range of recording artists extending her versatility in vocal performance. Additionally, she can be heard as the soloist in the film documentary entitled *The Freedom Riders*.



Described by the New York Times as possessing an “agile coloratura technique and a feeling for the Italianate style...with warmth, full penetrating sound and tenderness,” American soprano **Leah Crocetto** continues to astonish audiences with her moving portrayals of opera’s greatest heroines.

In the current season, Ms. Crocetto returns to Seattle Opera as Leonora in *Il Trovatore*. She sings her first performance of Bellini’s *Norma* in concert with North Carolina Opera, and makes her debut at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Hall in recital with pianist Mark Markham, with additional performances in Washington, D.C. and Easton, Pennsylvania. Ms. Crocetto makes her Australian debut with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra as the soprano soloist in Verdi’s *Requiem*, and with the Los Angeles Philharmonic she sings Soprano II in Mahler’s epic *Symphony No. 8* “Symphony of a Thousand,” under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel.

Last season, Ms. Crocetto performed the title role in *Aida*, first with Washington National Opera, and subsequently with Seattle Opera. She sang Leonora in *Il Trovatore* with Oper Frankfurt, returned to San Francisco Opera as Liù in *Turandot* and performed the title role of *Tosca* with Pittsburgh Opera. In concert, she sang Verdi’s magnificent *Requiem* with the National Symphony and the NTR Symphony, and performed a solo recital in Ann Arbor, MI.

Ms. Crocetto sang her debut performances as the title role in *Aida* with the San Francisco Opera in the 2016-2017 season. Also in this season, she made her role debut as *Eleonora* in the first US performances of Donizetti’s *L’assedio di Calais* with the Glimmerglass Festival. On the concert stage, she performed *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5* with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center at Alice Tully Hall and sang a solo recital in her hometown of Adrian, Michigan.

THANK YOU

We are grateful to Angela Meade '01 and her husband John Myers for establishing the endowment that makes the Angela Meade Vocal Competition possible. In addition, we are grateful to a number of PLU alumni and friends for their gifts to both the Angela Meade Endowment Fund and the Angela Meade Vocal Competition Fund.

Contributions to either of these funds may be made through the Office of Advancement at Pacific Lutheran University.

JOIN US NEXT WEEK FOR *LE NOZZE DI FIGARO*

Did you enjoy this evening? If so, don't miss the PLU Opera production of Mozart's comic masterpiece *Le Nozze di Figaro*. If weddings make you cry, this wedding will make you laugh! Performances are January 24, 25 and 26, 2019 at 7:30pm; and January 27, 2019 at 3pm, in the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. The production is double-cast, and will be sung in Italian—with English supertitles—with full orchestral accompaniment. Barry Johnson directs the production, and James Brown conducts. Tickets are \$17 general admission; \$10 seniors citizens (60+), military, alumni, PLU community; \$5 PLU students, 18 and under. Tickets available through the PLU Concierge Desk (253-535-7411).

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