

PLU Opera presents

The Cunning Little Vixen

Thursday, November 14th – Saturday, November 16th, 2019 at 7:30pm

Sunday, November 17th, 2019 at 3pm

Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center

PLU Opera presents

The Cunning Little Vixen

by Leoš Janáček (1854-1928)

Opera in three acts after the story by Rudolf Tésnohlídek

Jim Brown, *conductor/stage director*

Amy Boers, *coach/pianist*

Sheila Bristow, *coach/pianist*

Kathleen Anderson, *costume designer*

Ivory Turner, *choreographer for dancers*

Christopher Conway, *stage manager*

Anna Hartman, *assistant stage manager*

Ella Ekstedt, *costume committee leader*

Art Giddings, *stage services*

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Welcome to Eastvold Auditorium.

Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.

Use of cameras, recording equipment and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

PROGRAM

CAST

Gamekeeper	Hugh Davis (11/14, 11/16) Luke Hartley (11/15, 11/17)
Gamekeeper's wife	Gillian Dockins (11/15, 11/17) Rae Hyra (11/14, 11/16)
Schoolmaster/Mosquito	Trevor Kytola
Parson/Badger	Ben Axlund
Harašta	Trevor Hansen (11/14, 11/16) Arthur Keast (11/15, 11/17)
Pásek	Kendan Bendt
Mrs. Páskova	Ella Ekstedt

Pepík	Kaitlyn Ochs
Frantík	Isabella Daltoso
Young Vixen	Marina Pierce
Sharp-Ears, the Vixen	Sabrina Husseini (11/15, 11/17) Mackenzie Taylor (11/14, 11/16)
Gold-Spur, the Fox	Lindsey Hansen (11/15, 11/17) Aria Manning (11/14, 11/16)
Cricket	Maria-Viktoria Kovalsky
Grasshopper	Isabella Daltoso
Frog	Maddy Murphy
Lapák, the Dog	Janessa Wilson
Rooster	Amanda Ades
Chocholka	Rachel King
Woodpecker	Madelynne Jones
Owl	Gillian Dockins (11/14, 11/16) Rae Hyra (11/15, 11/17)
Jay	Kayla Linqvist

DANCERS

Blue Dragonfly	Allison Zakharov
Midge	Hailey Wharton
Midge	Taylor Greig
Midge	Hana Sasaki
Midge	Jade Vanags
Midge	Emily Dean
Midge	Lisa Kelley

PLU OPERA ORCHESTRA

** PLU faculty, + PLU student, ~ Guest Artist*

Concertmaster	Evelyn Gottlieb ~
Violin	Colin Todd ~
Viola	Padua Canty ~
Cello	Mara Finkelstein ~
Bass	Anna Jensen *
Flute	A. J. Moore +
Oboe/English horn	Shannon Spicciati *
Clarinet/Bass clarinet	Craig Rine *
Bassoon/contrabassoon	Thomas Mallos +
Harp	Alec Sjöholm +
Horn	Carrie Rexroat ~
Horn	David McBride ~
Trumpet	Kyle Doughton +
Trombone	Ben Woodbury +
Percussion	Matthew Kusche ~
Synthesizer	Sheila Bristow *

Reduced version arranged by Jonathan Dove

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COSTUME CREW

Annika Peterson
Annie Taylor
Nykolaj Freshwater
Kat Reagin
Kylie Steves
Ashley Weaver

Director's Notes

The Cunning Little Vixen can be enjoyed on many levels. Initially, one is delighted by the tuneful (and sometimes quirky) music, the boozed-up humans stumbling through the forest, and the cartoonish antics of the forest creatures. However, there is something very deep going on under the surface in this opera. Janáček is exploring not only the difficult relationship between humans and nature, but also delving into the depths of the forest of the human psyche. There is a stark difference between the way human relationships are depicted in the opera and the interactions between the animals. In nature, things come easily between the creatures that seek to feed, mate, and play. In the alcohol-drenched human world, relationships are complicated. The very desirable "Terynka" is notably never seen on the stage. Her virtues are extolled by various male characters in a way that makes her an object or a prize, rather than a person. Her character serves as more of a source of torment than of love. By extension, the humans on stage want to make a prize of the vixen. Her only value seems to be as a plaything for the children (who only torment her), or to provide a new muff for the Gamekeeper's wife (or for the fabled Terynka). The Parson mumbles Latin and Greek to protect himself from dark desires. All of the humans are deeply flawed, because they cling to constructs that are outside their true natural selves. It is only when the Gamekeeper literally embraces the natural world that we see that game was not meant to be kept. He experiences a sort of epiphany in a simple but beautiful way. However you enjoy this opera, I know that you will experience Janáček's genius.

- Jim Brown

Act 1

In the forest, the animals and insects are playing and dancing. The Gamekeeper enters and lies down against a tree for a nap. A curious Vixen Cub inquisitively chases a frog right into the lap of the surprised forester who forcibly takes the vixen home as a pet. Time passes (in the form of an orchestral interlude) and we see the Vixen, now grown up into a young adult, tied up in the Gamekeeper's yard with the Dog. Fed up with life in confinement, the vixen chews through her rope, attacks the Rooster and Chocholka the hen, kills the other chickens, jumps over the fence and runs off to freedom.

Act 2

The vixen takes over a badger's home and kicks him out. In the inn, the Pastor, the Gamekeeper, and the Schoolmaster drink and talk about their mutual infatuation with the Terynka. The drunken schoolmaster leaves the inn and sees the Young Vixen in the forest. He mistakes her for Terynka and confesses his devotion to her. The Gamekeeper, also on his way home, sees the vixen and fires two shots at her, sending her running. Later, the vixen, coming into her womanhood, meets a charming boy fox, and they retire to the badger's home. An unexpected pregnancy and a forest full of gossiping creatures necessitates their marriage, which rounds out the act.

Act 3

The poacher Harašta is engaged to Terynka and is out hunting in preparation for their marriage. The numerous fox and vixen cubs mock a fox trap that was set for them. Harašta shoots and kills the vixen, sending her children running. The Gamekeeper returns to the forest to reflect. He returns to the place where he met the vixen, and sits at the tree grieving the loss of both the vixen and Terynka. His grief grows until, just as in the beginning of the opera, a frog unexpectedly jumps around him, the grandson of the one who did so in act one.

*We would like to thank and acknowledge
the PLU Department of Theatre and Dance, Sarah Seder, Jeff Clapp, and Tom Smith.*

Fall Events

at Pacific Lutheran University

ALL MUSIC EVENTS ARE IN MARY BAKER RUSSELL MUSIC CENTER, LAGERQUIST CONCERT HALL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SEPTEMBER

- 15 Sunday, 3pm**
Regency Series: Regency Jazz Ensemble
- 22 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Paul Tegels, University Organist
Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 29 Sunday, 3pm**
Artist Series: Early Music Concert

OCTOBER

- 5 Saturday, 8pm**
Regency Series: Regency Voices
- 6 Sunday, 3pm**
Artist Series: Erik Steighner, Saxophone
- 8 Tuesday, 8pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 11 Friday, 12pm**
Orchestra Festival concert, free admission
- 12 Saturday, 5pm**
Artist Series: Jason Gilliam, Euphonium
- 13 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 13 Sunday, 8pm**
Regency Series: Regency String Trio. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall
- 20 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Bruce Neswick, Organist.
Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 22 Tuesday and 23 Wednesday, 8pm**
Choral Concert
- 27 Sunday, 5pm**
Regency Series: Lyric Brass Quintet

NOVEMBER

- 2 Saturday, 1pm**
Regency Series: Camas Wind Quintet. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall
- 4 Monday, 5pm**
Ricardo Odriozola Violin Masterclass. Mary Baker Russell Music Center Room 334, free admission
- 5 Tuesday, 8pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 6 Wednesday, 5:30pm**
Einar Røttingen Piano Masterclass, free admission
- 6 Wednesday, 8pm**
Music of Norway: Knut Vaage & the Valen Piano Trio. Scandinavian Cultural Center, Anderson University Center, free admission
- 8 Friday, 8pm**
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 9 Saturday, 3pm**
PLUtonic/HERmonic. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 9 Saturday, 8pm**
Choral Union. Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 14-16 Thursday-Saturday, 7:30pm; and 17 Sunday, 3pm**
Leoš Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center. Tickets: \$17 general admission; \$10 Senior Citizen (60+), Military, Alumni, PLU Community; \$5 PLU students & 18 and under
- 21 Thursday, 8pm**
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
- 22 Friday, 8pm**
Steel Band & Percussion Ensembles, free admission
- 23 Saturday, 3pm**
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission

NOVEMBER, Cont.

- 23 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 24 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 24 Sunday, 8pm**
Guitar Orchestra and Ensemble, free admission

DECEMBER

O Nata Lux, A PLU Christmas Concert

Tickets go on sale Monday, November 4

Saturday, December 7, at 8pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Sunday, December 8, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Monday, December 9, at 7:30pm - Benaroya Hall, Seattle
Saturday, December 14, at 8pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Sunday, December 15, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

- 3 Tuesday, 5:30pm**
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson University Center, free admission
- 6 Friday, 8pm**
Piano Ensemble, free admission
- 7 Saturday, 12pm**
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission
- 8 Sunday, 7pm**
PLU Ringers. Trinity Lutheran Church, free admission
- 10 Tuesday, 6pm**
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 10 Tuesday, 8pm**
String Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 11 Wednesday, 8pm**
University Concert Band, free admission
- 12 Thursday, 8pm**
Sounds of Christmas, featuring the University Singers and Knights Chorus
- 15 Sunday, 5:30pm**
Songwriters Workshop. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
- 15 Sunday, 8pm**
Composers Forum, free admission
- 17 Tuesday, 5pm**
Consonare Amici. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission

JANUARY

- 11 Saturday, 5 and 6:30pm**
Northwest High School Honor Band, free admission
- 20 Sunday, 5pm**
PLU Honor Orchestra for Strings, free admission

To Order Tickets:

- On Line: <http://www.eventbrite.com/o/pacific-lutheran-university-8233304504>
On Campus: PLU Concierge Desk (253-535-7411)
At the Concert: Lobby Desk in Mary Baker Russell Music Center

CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

All ticket sales are final - no refunds

MUSIC EVENT TICKET PRICES: \$10 GENERAL; \$5 SENIOR CITIZENS (60+); MILITARY, PLU ALUMNI & PLU COMMUNITY; FREE TO PLU STUDENTS & 18 AND UNDER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND SOME CONCERTS MAY BE ADDED AFTER PUBLICATION.
<http://www.plu.edu/music/calendar> (updated October 25, 2019)