LOTTE LENYA COMPETITION
Thursday, November 12, 1998 12:30 p.m.

About the Competition

The Lotte Lenya Singing Competition has been established by the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music in honor of Kurt Weill's wife and foremost interpreter on the occasion of the centenary of her birth. The competition fosters excellence in the performance of music for the theater, in its broadest sense, including opera, operetta, and the American musical theater. While vocal technique and beauty of the vocal instrument will be relevant, criteria for adjudication will also include interpretation, acting, idiomatic performance practice, and stage presence. The competition is open to all students at the University of Rochester. Each contestant has prepared four selections, including one from the operatic repertoire, a selection from the American musical theater, and two pieces by Weill; at least one selection must be in German. Cash awards will total $5,000, and the winner(s) will be featured in a recital on Saturday, November 14, at 2 p.m. in Kilbourn Hall.

Judges for the Competition

Teresa Stratas is the foremost operatic performer of her generation. In a career spanning four decades, she has sung more than 50 roles, in six languages, at virtually every major opera house in the world. She has made more than two dozen opera films, won three Grammy awards, an Emmy, a Gemini, a Drama Desk Award, a Tony nomination, and an Academy Award citation. After hearing Stratas sing Jenny in Mahagonny at the Met, Lenya declared her Weill’s “dream Jenny”: “Teresa, here is my crown. I give it to you now. You are the one, so you carry on.” Stratas has recorded Die sieben Todsünden, The Unknown Kurt Weill, and Stratas Sings Weill.

Julius Rudel emigrated from his native Austria in 1938, made his debut with City Opera in 1944, and became its Director in 1957, serving in that capacity until 1979. He has championed Weill’s music for four decades, producing and conducting at City Opera Street Scene, Lost in the Stars, Die Dreigroschenoper, and Silverlake. He has recorded Lost in the Stars as well as the Second Symphony, and he has agreed to conduct the American premiere of Die Bürgschaft at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston next May. He served as musical director of the Broadway Threepenny Opera starring Sting and serves on the Board of Trustees of the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music.

Mark Cuddy is Artistic Director of Geva Theatre in Rochester. During his four seasons in that post, he has initiated collaborations with both the Rochester Philharmonic and the Garth Fagan Dancers. At the Sacramento Theatre Company, he produced 65 plays and directed 22 productions. In 1995 he was named “Professional Artist of the Year” by the California Educational Theatre Association. He also serves as producing director of the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and worked on the directorial staff of the Denver Center Theater Company. His directorial experience has ranged from Sophocles to Shepard. Geva’s 1998-99 season will climax with My Fair Lady.
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Thursday, November 12, 1998
12:30 p.m. Kilbourn Hall
(selections may not be sung in the order listed)

12:30
Elizabeth McDonald, soprano
from the studio of William McIver
Sonia Kim, piano

Piangero, la sorte mia (Giulio Cesare)        Handel
Brack Weaver, my true love (Down in the Valley)        Weill
Berlin im Licht-Song (Weill)        Weill
That'll Show Him (A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum)        Sondheim

12:45
Tami Petty, mezzo-soprano
from the studio of Carol Webber
John Greer, piano

Il vecchiotto cerca moglie (Il Barbiere di Siviglia)        Rossini
Ballade von Räuber Esteban (Der Kuhhandel)        Weill
Mr. Right (Love Life)        Weill
What a Movie! (Trouble in Tahiti)        Bernstein

1:00
Teresa Winner, soprano
from the studio of Carol Webber
Jennifer Undercofler, pianist

Norina's Cavatina and Aria (Don Pasquale)        Donizetti
Ich bin eine arme Verwandte (Der Silbersee)        Weill
The Saga of Jenny (Lady in the Dark)        Weill
How Could I Know? (The Secret Garden)        Simon & Norman
1:15 Lauren Pastorek, mezzo-soprano
from the studio of Carol Webber
Jennifer Undercofler, piano

Chacun à son goût (Die Fledermaus) Strauss
What Good Would the Moon Be? (Street Scene) Weill
I’m a Stranger Here Myself (One Touch of Venus) Weill
What More Do I Need? (Marry Me A Little) Sondheim

1:30 Heidi Bieber, soprano
from the studio of John Maloy
Alexandra Nguyen, piano

When I am Laid (Dido and Aeneas) Purcell
Seeräuber Jenny (Die Dreigroschenoper) Weill
Der Abschiedsbrief (Kastner) Weill
I am Easily Assimilated (Candide) Bernstein

1:45 Elisa Cordova, soprano
from the studio of Robert McIver
Melody Fader, piano

The Jewel Song (Faust) Gounod
Zuhälterballade (Die Dreigroschenoper) Weill
What Good Would the Moon Be? (Street Scene) Weill
I Feel Pretty (West Side Story) Bernstein

2:00 Rachel Albert, mezzo-soprano
from the studio of Dale Moore
Rose Grace, piano

Non so più cosa son (La Nozze di Figaro) Mozart
Denn wie man sich bettet (Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny) Weill
Je ne t’aime pas (Magré) Weill
I’m a Little Bit in Love (Wonderful Town) Bernstein
2:15
Natalie C. Lerch, soprano
from the studio of William McIver
Anat Paul, piano

Prendi per me sei libero (L'elisir d'amore)  Donizetti
What Good Would the Moon Be? (Street Scene)  Weill
Es Regnet (Cocteau)  Weill
Green Finch and Linnet Bird (Sweeney Todd)  Sondheim

3:00
Leah Arington, soprano
from the studio of Carol Webber
Jerry Lee, piano

Nina's Aria (The Seagull)  Pastieri
Seeräuber Jenny (Die Dreigroschenoper)  Weill
The Princess of Pure Delight (Lady in the Dark)  Weill
Adelaide's Lament (Guys and Dolls)  Loesser

3:15
Danielle Frink, soprano
from the studio of Masako Toribara
Shu-chuan Cheng, piano

Depuis le jour (Louise)  Charpentier
What Good Would the Moon Be? (Street Scene)  Weill
Nanna's Lied (Brecht)  Weill
All the Things You Are (Very Warm for May)  Kern

3:30
Brian Mulligan, baritone
from the studio of Dale Moore
Sharon Nomi, piano

Vedri mentiro sospiro (Le Nozze di Figaro)  Mozart
Ballade vom angenehmen Leben (Die Dreigroschenoper)  Weill
Come up from the Fields, Father  Weill
Soliloquy (Carousel)  Rodger
3:45 Megan Loomis, soprano
from the studio of Rita Shane
Beryl Garver, piano

The Tipsy Waltz (La Périchole)
Stay Well (Lost in the Stars)
Klops Lied (trad. text)
Vanilla Ice Cream (She Loves Me)

4:00 Katia Escalera, mezzo-soprano
from the studio of William Mclver
Charlene Biggs, piano

Prés des remparts de Séville (Carmen)
Nanna’s Lied (Brecht)
I’m a Stranger Here Myself (One Touch of Venus)
I Dreamed a Dream (Les Misérables)

4:15 Meshell Dillon, soprano
from the studio of Rita Shane
Melody Law, piano

Bester Jüngling (Impresario)
What Good Would the Moon Be? (Street Scene)
That’s Him (One Touch of Venus)
If I Loved You (Carousel)

4:30 Rebecca Comerford, mezzo-soprano
from the studio of John Maloy
Gianine Burgo, piano

Sposa son disprezzata (Il Bajazet)
Sie soll sein wie ein Netz (Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny)
Wie lange noch? (Mehring)
Much More (Fantasticks)
Laura Nowlin, soprano  
from the studio of Carol Webber  
Tracy Cowden, piano

Durch Zärtlichkeit und Schmeicheln  *(Die Entführung aus dem Serail)*  
What Good Would the Moon Be?  *(Street Scene)*  
Youkali  *(Fernay)*  
Green Finch and Linnet Bird  *(Sweeney Todd)*

5:00  
Todd Queen, tenor  
from the studio of John Maloy  
Sharon Nomi, piano

Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön  *(Die Zauberflöte)*  
Lonely House  *(Street Scene)*  
Dirge for Two Veterans  *(Whitman)*  
On the Street Where You Live  *(My Fair Lady)*

Don’t miss the Winners’ Recital  
Saturday, November 14, 1998 2:00pm  
Kilbourn Hall  
Free Admission