



# HIGH NOTES

Northwest  
Region  
Newsletter

July 2017

## Message from Our Chairman, Clint Singley

I hope you enjoy our inaugural issue of High Notes! We have developed this newsletter for you, our MONC NW audiences, to notify you about our upcoming events, alumni and local opera scene.

Just a quick word about our organization: MONC NW puts on a regional Met audition each year. We are a non-profit, all-volunteer group that relies on generous donor support to organize the auditions and award prize money to deserving contestants. We are so grateful to all of our donors and volunteers for helping us to identify and develop the next generation of opera talent.

Thanks for being a member of our Met Opera family in the Pacific NW. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming classical music events!

## Save the Date

### Reception and Mini-Musicale To Launch Our 2017-2018 Auditions Season

Sunday Afternoon, September 24, 2017  
(Please stay tuned...)

## Next MONC NW Region Finals

Sunday, March 4, 2018

Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall • 200 University St, Seattle, WA 98101

## News from our MONC NW Grand Prize Winners



### Lawrence Brownlee (tenor)

Representing our NW Region, Larry was a winner in the MONC Auditions in NYC in 2001. He was a Young Artist with Seattle Opera in '01-'02 and debuted at the Met in 2010 in Rossini's *Armida*. MONC NW proudly purchased a new wig for Larry when he made his *La Scala* debut in 2011! He is now a major operatic star, performing to great acclaim all over the world, including the Met, Opéra National de Paris, Santa Fe, San Francisco and Houston Grand Opera, etc. We enjoyed his starring roles at Seattle Opera in *La fille du régiment*, *Don Giovanni* and *Le Comte Ory*, and look forward to his future performances here!



### Rachel Willis-Sørensen (soprano)

Representing our NW Region, Rachel was a winner in the MONC Grand Finals in 2010. In the 2010/11 season, she sang the role of Kate Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* and Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* with the Houston Grand Opera Studio. As a member of the ensemble at the Semperoper in Dresden, Rachel sang Elettra in *Idomeneo*, Rachel in *La Juive*, as well as in revivals of *Don Giovanni*, *Alcina*, and *La clemenza di Tito*. She was part of a special film project to commemorate the bicentennial of Richard Wagner's birth in 2013. Rachel made her Met debut in 2014 as Countess Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro*. In Plácido Domingo's Operalia Competition the same year, Rachel won first prize in all three categories: opera, Strauss/Wagner and zarzuela!

## Upcoming Opera Events in Our Region

July 28, 2017

*Sarah Larsen in Recital*  
Seattle Art Song Society  
Queen Anne Christian Church  
1316 3rd Ave W, Seattle, WA 98119  
[www.seattleartsongsociety.org](http://www.seattleartsongsociety.org)

August 5-19, 2017

*Madama Butterfly*  
Seattle Opera at McCaw Hall  
(206) 389-7676  
[www.seattleopera.org/tickets](http://www.seattleopera.org/tickets)

September 15, 17, 2017

*Lucia di Lammermoor*  
Vashon Opera  
[www.vashonopera.org](http://www.vashonopera.org)  
(206) 388-2926

September 23, 2017

*Bern Herbolzheimer Celebration*  
Julia Benzinger, Erica Row  
& John Marzano  
Seattle Art Song Society  
Queen Anne Christian Church  
1316 3rd Ave W, Seattle, WA 98119  
[www.seattleartsongsociety.org](http://www.seattleartsongsociety.org)

October 1, 2017

*Songs of Love and Passion*  
Pacific MusicWorks  
St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral  
1245 10th Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102  
(206) 323-0300

October 12-22, 2017

*Jenufa* - Pacific Opera Victoria  
Royal Theatre of Victoria, BC  
[www.pov.bc.ca/2017-18](http://www.pov.bc.ca/2017-18)  
250-385-0222

October 13-21, 2017

*Turandot* - Vancouver Opera  
Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Vancouver, BC  
[www.vancouveropera.ca/2017-2018-Season-and-Festival](http://www.vancouveropera.ca/2017-2018-Season-and-Festival)  
(604) 682-2871

October 14-28, 2017

*The Barber of Seville*  
Seattle Opera at McCaw Hall  
(206) 389-7676  
[www.seattleopera.org/tickets](http://www.seattleopera.org/tickets)

October 27-November 5, 2017

*Tales of Hoffmann*  
Pacific Northwest Opera at McIntyre Hall  
2501 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, WA  
(360) 416-7727 Ext. 2  
[www.mcintyrehall.org](http://www.mcintyrehall.org)

October 28, 2017

Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*  
Pacific MusicWorks  
St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral  
1245 10th Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102  
(206) 323-0300

October 28-November 5, 2017

*Marriage of Figaro*  
Tacoma Opera at Rialto Theater  
[www.tacomaopera.com](http://www.tacomaopera.com)  
(253) 627-7789

October 29, 2017

MONC Washington District Auditions  
Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall  
Questions?  
[maxine.a.levy@comcast.net](mailto:maxine.a.levy@comcast.net)  
(253) 874-6525

November 5, 2017

*Wilderness Mute*  
Music of Remembrance  
Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall  
200 University St, Seattle, WA 9810  
[www.musicofremembrance.com](http://www.musicofremembrance.com)

## Meet Our MONC NW Executive Committee

Clint Singley (Chair)  
Stew Law (Member-At-Large)  
Maxine Levy (Auditions Director)  
Paul Levy (Treasurer)  
Cornelius Rosse (Member-At-Large)  
Penny Rosse (Secretary)

For More News: [www.metoperanw.org](http://www.metoperanw.org)  
Contact Us: <http://metoperanw.org/contact>