



Carthage

Department of Music presents

A Grand Opera-tunity to Rock!

A Junior Recital by
Nicholas Huff, tenor,
and
Michael Anderle, baritone
with
Gregory Berg, piano

Mr. Huff gives this recital in partial fulfillment of the degree requirements for music with an emphasis in vocal performance.

A current calendar of music events for 2013-14 can be found at
www.carthage.edu/music

Ushers Provided by Lambda Kappa Professional Music Fraternity

October 26, 2013
1:00 P.M.

H. F. Johnson Recital Hall
Carthage College

Carthage Music Department
2001 Alford Park Drive
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140
262-551-5859



Carthage

Welcome!

Thank you for taking time out to be here with us tonight! We are very excited to present our recital and have been working hard in anticipation of it since early June. The title comes from an idea we both share and feel strongly about - that opera, (and actually all classical music) may not be as popular as it once was with the general public, but even still it is among the most worthy forms of art ever to exist. No one would have ever even *considered* putting Singspiel (German comic opera) in the same league as Italian Opera in Mozart's day, but now it would be a fun challenge to find even one typical person off the street who could tell the difference. Similarly the lines between Sondheim and later opera are often blurred, even RENT is sometimes considered a period piece and differentiation between styles *within Music Theater itself* is standard these days. We think that, despite how odd it may sound *right now*, one day many of these masterworks will be lumped in with their opera counterparts in the minds of future generations much like singspiel, Italian opera and French grand opera are now. But to blur the line even more, we think that despite the historical, language and social perception barriers they face, most classical music, but especially opera, is still highly relevant and engaging if you come to it with an open mind and appreciation of great music! This is why we have broken ground by adding subtitles to our performance for ease of comprehension and enjoyment and also provided "freshments" to take with you to your seat for during the performance! With this idea of agelessness in mind, we see this recital as an opportunity to, (and plan to) rock through every single major era of music set on stage just like we would if we were playing the Beatles, Queen or Billy Joel. We are so glad you are here tonight to take advantage of what most definitely is A Grand Opera-tunity to Rock! Please enjoy!

A Message from Mike

I would like to thank so many people. Firstly, I would like to thank Nick Huff for pouring all of his energy into the music, advertising, and technical aspects of this recital. He is beyond dedicated and for that I am extremely grateful. I would also love to thank my family. To my grandma and parents, who have been my biggest fans since elementary school, I cannot thank you enough for always encouraging me to do my best. You have always been there for me and I love you all so much. I would like to thank Alicia for dealing with my sudden outbursts of Opera at random times these past 5 months, and for helping me when I am incredibly stressed. I would also like to thank all of my wonderful public school music teachers. Thanks to Kathy Meyer, who encouraged me to have my first solo in 5th grade, to Keri Bieri, for introducing me to my first Italian Aria in 6th grade, and to Elizabeth Steege, for helping develop my musicianship and performance abilities.

Lastly, and most importantly, I would like to thank Mr. Berg for the amount of time he has invested in not only me, but in all of his students at Carthage. Mr. Berg does not understand "free time", instead he would rather be encouraging young musicians to share their God given talents with the world. His hard work, dedication, and passion to help us grow and learn is something I will be indebted to for the rest of my life. It is hard to describe how we all feel about him, but I will sum it up with I love him and what he does for music.

GOD BLESS AMERICA AND SUPPORT THE TROOPS!

A Message from Nick

At events like these it is typical to see a series of acknowledgments stuffed somewhere in the program with equally stuffy language which is formal and borderline disingenuous. To me, that kind of acknowledgement simply will not do. In fact, I find that I cannot simply stop at *acknowledging* these people at all! I have to outright and publically thank them for being such wonderful forces in my life.

First, I thank all my schoolmates, but particularly Mike for being such excellent musicians and professionals, but more than that, good friends. Many campuses around the nation are filled with fierce competition, but despite the wealth of talent, I don't feel that here. It's a really pleasant way to learn and it's because of the wonderful people around me! Mike you are awesome for so many more reasons than just your sense of humor!

I also want to thank my family for being so supportive. Growing up as a homeschooled kid I didn't lack for any cultural experience. From mandatory music lessons and Dad's church choir to field trips with Mum to Chicago Shakespeare Theater and the Milwaukee Symphony, we were always encouraged to pursue the arts if we loved them and not to treat college as job-training. I can pursue music without being nagged to take on a second major or looked down at and that's huge. Thanks Mum and Dad for teaching me to do more than just make money, but live a happy life!

Last, I have to thank Greg Berg. Without Greg guiding me, I would not be the singer I am today – I would not even be the person I am. Greg has stuck with me closely through so many arduous times, helping me to be better at every step. He was even there (physically as well as emotionally) from my hospital bedside when I could hardly take any steps at all. Greg is always concerned for his students in his studio, but also in their lives and always radiates expertise and love. All I can say is I love him too for being such an excellent teacher and friend.

A Brief Note on the Modern Set

Peter Grimes could be described as something like to the 'original' "series of unfortunate events," the popular book series. Less for individual plot points and more because, in the opera, Peter Grimes is made to endure several awful run-ins with very poor luck, two of his fishing apprentices dying out at sea on his watch. The whole town turns against him, disapproving of the court's verdict of innocent. His refusal to uproot himself and his subsequent emotional downward spiral culminate in his choice to take his ship out to sea and sink it in an act of suicide. You will hear two of Grimes' soliloquies in which he pours out his aching sense of longing for a better life.

Billy Budd is another heart-wrenching story about a fisherman. He is a quiet and somewhat awkward young man whose presence aboard a not-always-safe fishing vessel is a point of contention. When someone pushes him too far and, unable to properly express him, it comes to blows Billy ends up killing the man in a raging loss of control. As he sits on death row he sings about his state of mind and contentedness despite dying by execution at such a young age.

This set is interesting since it was written at a time when segmentable arias were not really in vogue, especially not with this music's composer, Benjamin Britten. In light of this, we have taken sections from both these Britten operas, Mike's from *Billy Budd* Nick's two selections from Peter Grimes. We perform them tonight as arias and have used sections of their respective texts in lieu of actual titles.

Baroque

Samson:
Total Eclipse
Mr. Huff
G. F. Handel
(1685-1759)

Honor and Arms
Mr. Anderle

Go, Baffled Coward
Mr. Huff and Mr. Anderle

Classical

Die Zauberflöte:
Dies Bildnis
Mr. Huff
W. A. Mozart
(1756-91)

Ein Mädchen ober Weibchen
Mr. Anderle

Romantic Lieder

Adelaide
Mr. Huff
Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Winterreise:
Die Wetterfahne
Mr. Anderle
Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Liederkreis:
Mondnacht
Mr. Huff
Robert Schumann
(1810-56)

Bel canto

Vanne, a rosa fortunata
Mr. Huff
Vincenzo Bellini
(1801-35)

Leonora
Mr. Anderle
Gaetano Donizetti
(1797-1848)

Il barbiere di Siviglia :
Zitti, zitti, piano, piano
Mr. Huff, Mr. Anderle, and Elizabeth Tindall
Gioacchino Rossini
(1792-1868)

INTERMISSION

Romantic French

Les pêcheur de perles:
Je croiz entendre
Mr. Huff
Georges Bizet
(1838-75)

L'orage s'est calmé
Mr. Anderle

Au fond du temple saint
Mr. Huff and Mr. Anderle

Modern

Peter Grimes:
"Now the great bear..."
"What harbor shelters peace..."
Mr. Huff
Benjamin Britten
(1913-76)

Billy Budd:
Death Row Aria
Mr. Anderle
Britten