



MANITOBA OPERA

2014 | 15 Annual Report



Overview

Manitoba Opera is at the centre of the arts in Manitoba. Opera blends together theatre, dance, music, drama, and song into a single art form that paints life's victories and defeats so vividly, we see ourselves in the stories told. With the beauty of the human voice and the rich palette of orchestral colours, opera portrays compelling insights into the things we share as humans. To paraphrase Picasso, "Opera washes away from the soul, the dust of everyday life."

Manitoba Opera also creates rich experiences for our children with its education programs. Through its partnerships with other organizations and its audience engagement activities, MO connects the themes of the operas to the variety of communities we serve.

The 2014/15 Season

Fidelio - November 22, 25 & 28

Turandot - April 18, 21 & 24

1 | Manitoba Opera *14/15 Annual Report*

FIDELIO

*"Brilliantly performed...
extraordinary production...
powerfully authentic..."*

- WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

*"The music, singing, acting
and set were near flawless...
Congratulations, Winnipeg."*

- F. MAI,
PATRON FROM OTTAWA

TURANDOT

*"4½ Stars! ...Khudoley an operatic
force of nature, powerhouse vocals;
Ciekiewicz also shone; lavish
production...stunning eye candy..."*

- WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

Above: *Fidelio*.

Cover: *Turandot*.

Photos: R. Tinker



Artistic Programming

Manitoba Opera's (MO) 42nd season began with an emotionally charged production of *Fidelio*. Programmed to celebrate the opening of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR), MO's new production, designed by Director of Production, Sheldon Johnson, was reset to the late 1980's, around the time of the fall of the Berlin wall. The production was directed by General Director and CEO, Larry Desrochers, and lit by Bill Williams. MO Music Advisor and Principal Conductor Tyrone Paterson led the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra in a dynamic reading of Beethoven's score.

Soprano Ileana Montalbetti made her Canadian debut as Leonore. David Pomeroy (Florestan) and Valerian Ruminski (Rocco) made role debuts. Winnipeg soprano Lara Secord-Haid made her MO and role debuts as Marzelline. Kristopher Irmiter (Don Pizarro), Michael Colvin (Jaquino), and David Watson (Don Fernando) made return appearances with Manitoba Opera.

One of the most heart-rending moments of the opera was delivered by the men of the Manitoba Opera Chorus, under the direction of MO's Chorus Master, Tadeusz Biernacki, singing the famous Prisoners' Chorus.

Above (left): Ileana Montalbetti (Leonore), *Fidelio*; (right): Keith Klassen (Pang), Benjamin Covey (Ping), and Christopher Mayell (Pong), *Turandot*. Photos: R. Tinker

A special feature of the production was the inclusion of more than 50 former refugees who performed as supernumeraries. During the finale, as Florestan is reunited with Leonore, the refugees slowly streamed onto the stage as real-life witnesses to the defeat of tyranny. Their inclusion in the production reminded the audience that Beethoven's opera is as relevant today as it was when the final version debuted in 1814.

After an hiatus of 19 years, Puccini's spectacle *Turandot* was presented in April as Manitoba Opera's second offering. The production was directed by former Winnipegger Tom Diamond. The rented production from Opera Carolina incorporated new projections designed by Michael Baumgarten, who also lit the production.

Russian soprano Mlada Khudoley gave a thrilling performance as the title character, returning to MO following her success as Salome in 2011. She was joined on stage by Raúl Melo in his MO debut as Calaf, and Winnipeg soprano Lara Ciekiewicz, who gave a beautiful performance in her role debut of Liù. Timur was sung by Valerian Ruminski, and Gene Wu made his MO debut as The Mandarin. Ping, Pang, and Pong were sung by Benjamin Covey, Keith Klassen, and Christopher Mayell, respectively. Terence Mierau sang the role of Emperor Altoum.

Chorus Master Tadeusz Biernacki prepared the Manitoba Opera Chorus, who were outstanding in the production, as was the Manitoba Opera Children's Chorus under the direction of Carolyn Boyes. Tyrone Paterson conducted the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra through Puccini's lush score.

Manitoba Opera is proud of the relationships it has with many of North America's finest artists. The company offers exciting opportunities for artists to develop their craft and add roles to their repertoires. Veteran performers have the opportunity to revisit roles and emerging artists have the chance to share the stage with international stars. Manitoba Opera is honored that so many talented artists choose to perform at the company, bringing great stories told through beautiful music to life.



Former refugee *Fidelio* participants. Photo: R. Tinker

Fidelio Artistic Team & Cast

Music by Ludwig van Beethoven

Libretto by Josef Sonnleithner*

Based on a French libretto by Jean Nicolas Bouilly

*Libretto revised by Stefan von Breuning (1806) and by Georg Friedrich Treitschke (1814)

Conductor	Tyrone Paterson
Director	Larry Desrochers
Set & Costume Designer	Sheldon Johnson
Lighting Designer	Bill Williams
Stage Manager	Robert Pel
Assistant Stage Managers	Candace Maxwell Melania Radelicki
Costumes	Harlequin Costume Co.
Scenery and Prop construction	Scenic Elements
Projected Titles	Sheldon Johnson

PRINCIPAL CAST (IN ORDER OF VOCAL APPEARANCE)

Jaquino, a prison guard	Michael Colvin
Marzelline, Rocco's daughter	Lara Secord-Haid
Rocco, a jailer	Valerian Ruminski
Leonore, a woman, in male attire known as "Fidelio"	Ileana Montalbetti
Don Pizarro, governor of the prison	Kristopher Irmiter
Florestan, a prisoner (Leonore's husband)	David Pomeroy
Don Fernando, a government official	David Watson
First Prisoner	Peter John (PJ) Buchan
Second Prisoner	John Anderson

MANITOBA OPERA CHORUS

SOPRANO

Emily Diehl-Reader
Linda Feasby
Deborah Ginther
Kadri Irwin
Chantal Kuegle
Miroslava Paches
Kathryn Patrick
Marlise Ritchie
Ana Toumine
Cathy Wach-Dueck

MEZZO

Ember Benson
Chelsea Froese
Kelley Fry
Kathy Gawlik
Micheline Hay
Celoris Miller
Christina Pyrz-Kowall
Mavis Ritchie
Meghan Symon
Karla Weir



**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE
FOLLOWING PARTNERS FOR
THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF
THE MANITOBA PREMIERE OF
*FIDELIO***

Richardson Foundation
Anonymous
Children's Dental World
Art & Leona DeFehr
Johnston Group
Qualico
RBC Foundation
The University of Winnipeg
Wawanesa Insurance
Gary MacDonald
Morley & Marjorie Blankstein
Edward J. Ransby
Manitoba Hydro
The Pollard Family Foundation
Peter George & Tamara Bodi
Earl & Cheryl Barish
Ann Lawler
Jim Crawford
Jack & Zina Lazareck Family
Foundation

TENOR

Peter John (PJ) Buchan
Ben Erickson
Russ Foster
Peter Klymkiw
Michal Kowalik
David LaRue
George Nytepchuk
J. Craig Oliphant
Lawrence Pauls
Raymond Sokalski
Ernst Stiglmayr
Adam von Lau

SUPERNUMERARIES

Tim Brenan
Mark Brubacher
William Jordan

PRODUCTION PERSONNEL

Director of Production
Chorus Master/Repetiteur
Chorus Rehearsal Pianist
Apprentice Stage Manager
German Diction Coach
Firearms Safety Coordinator
Wardrobe Supervisor
Hair/Wig Designer
Hair/Wig Crew
Make-Up Designer
Make-Up Assistant
Make-Up Crew

Projected Titles Cueing

SCENIC ELEMENTS

Master Carpenter
Scenic Carpenters

Head Scenic Artist
Scenic Artists

BASS

John Anderson
Jerzy Bibik
Chris Caslake
Michael Cole
James Dutton
Richard Gusnoski
Elliot Lazar
Eric Loepp
Aiden Ritchie
Devan Ryner
Fred Simpson
Ted Wiens

Dennis Ng
Eric Rae
Tim Webster

Sheldon Johnson
Tadeusz Biernacki
Cary Denby
Ali Fulmyk
Henriette Schellenberg
Dave Brown
Jan Malabar
Lori Houston
Adriana Oliphant
Christian Hadley
Jean-Marc Lafond
Melissa Hart
Erin Kiazzyk
Emily King
Theresa Thomson
Kim Lavilla

Brent Letain
Aaron Frost
Louis Gagne
Christian Hadley
Carla Schroeder
Farrah Okolita
Andrea von Wichert



FIDELIO

"Manitoba Opera's Fidelio is probably one of the greatest achievements of the company."

- LA LIBERTE

Above: David Pomeroy (Florestan), *Fidelio*.

Below (top): Lara Secord-Haid (Marzelline).

Below (bottom): Kristopher Irmiter (Pizarro) and Valerian Ruminski (Rocco), *Fidelio*.

Photos: R. Tinker



Turandot Artistic Team & Cast

Music by Giacomo Puccini
Italian libretto by Giuseppe Adami and Renato Simoni
The last duet and the final scene of the opera were completed by
Franco Alfano

Conductor	Tyrone Paterson
Director	Tom Diamond
Set Designer	Anita Stewart
Costume Designer	Anna Oliver
Lighting and Projections Designer	Michael Baumgarten
Stage Manager	Robert Pel
Assistant Stage Managers	Kathryn Ball Candace Maxwell
Scenery and Costumes	Opera Carolina (Charlotte, NC)
Projected Titles	Sheldon Johnson

PRINCIPAL CAST (IN ORDER OF VOCAL APPEARANCE)

A Mandarin	Gene Wu
Liù, a slave girl	Lara Ciekiewicz
The Unknown Prince (Calaf)	Raúl Melo
Timur, the dethroned Tartar King (Calaf's father)	Valerian Ruminski
Ping, the Grand Chancellor	Benjamin Covey
Pang, the General Purveyor	Keith Klassen
Pong, the Chief Cook	Christopher Mayell
The Emperor Altoum	Terence Mierau
Princess Turandot, his daughter	Mlada Khudoley

ALSO APPEARING

The Prince of Persia	George Nytepchuk
1st Lady	Kadri Irwin
2nd Lady	Emily Diehl-Reader

MANITOBA OPERA CHORUS

SOPRANO

Elizabeth Abercrombie
Christy Bergen
Emily Diehl-Reader
Linda Feasby
Svetlana Gharagyozyan
Deborah Ginther
Kadri Irwin
Joanne Kilfoyle
Chantal Kuegle
Kathryn Patrick

Marlise Ritchie
Cathy Wach-Dueck

MEZZO

Ember Benson
Kelley Fry
Kathy Gawlik
Renata Gawlik
Donnalynn Grills*
Micheline Hay
Celoris Miller



TURANDOT

"The noteworthy performance of the night goes to Mlada Khudoley in the role of Turandot."

- PEPPER & VINE

Above: Raúl Melo (Calaf) and Terence Mierau (Emperor Altoum).

Below: Raúl Melo (Calaf) and Mlada Khudoley (Turandot), *Turandot*.

Photos: R. Tinker



Agata Ploszanski
Christina Pyrz-Kowall
Deanna Rempel
Mavis Ritchie
Karla Weir

TENOR

Peter John (PJ) Buchan
Ben Erickson
Russ Foster
Peter Klymkiw
Michal Kowalik
David LaRue
Rick MacLowick
Tim Magas*
George Nytepchuk
J. Craig Oliphant
Lawrence Pauls
Richard Ryland
Ernst Stiglmayr
Adam von Lau

CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Antonietta Bueti
Shea Carter
Reed Cohen
Rae-Anne Collard-Vivier
Jordi Haskerkehrer
Alejandro Hinojosa
Roman Huculak

BASS

John Anderson
George Bajer-Koulack
Jerzy Bibik
Chris Caslake
James Dutton
Don Larsen
Eliot Lazar
Eric Loepp
Devan Ryner
Fred Simpson
Juris Svenne
Jonathan Talbot
Ted Wiens
Tristan Zaba

* Appearing with permission
from Canadian Actors' Equity
Association



TURANDOT

"Visually impressive & dramatically sung, Turandot was one of the most well imagined shows I've seen in years."

- CBC RADIO



Above (top to bottom): Terence Mierau (Emperor Altoum), Mlada Khudoley (Turandot), and Raül Melo (Calaf).

Left: Children's Chorus, *Turandot*.

Below: Children's Chorus backstage during *Turandot* rehearsals.

Photos: R. Tinker



SUPERNUMERARIES

ADULTS

Cathy Davis
Diana Dizor
Ashley Kowalchuk
Megan Krohn
Bonita Reimer

Tim Brenan
Mark Brubacher

Matthew Lagace
Ron McIntosh
Thomas Miles
Hugo van Dun

CHILDREN

Seanne Buenafe
Jyoti Jhass
Keenan Lehmann

PRODUCTION PERSONNEL

Director of Production
Chorus Master/Répétiteur
Children's Chorus Master
Chorus Rehearsal Pianist
Apprentice Stage Manager
Wardrobe Supervisor
Wardrobe
Hair/Wig Designer
Hair/Wig Crew

Make-Up Designer
Make-Up Assistant
Make-Up Crew

Sheldon Johnson
Tadeusz Biernacki
Carolyn Boyes
Cary Denby
Holly LaJambe
Alena Zharska
Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet
Lori Houston
Jill Buhr
Adriana Oliphant
Marycel Tamayo
Andrea Yurkiw
Christian Hadley
Jean-Marc Lafond
Aileen Audette
Melissa Hart
Erin Kiazzyk
Sarah Mojelsky
Theresa Thomson
Sydney Wiebe
Kim Lavilla

Projected Titles Cueing



TURANDOT

"...I wept a river with Liù's final scene. It was A ++."

- M. RADUHA,
PATRON

"...art is about nourishing the soul as well as entertaining the mind. No one knows this and does this better than Manitoba Opera."

- BETTE JAYNE TAYLOR,
PATRON

Above: Mlada Khudoley (Turandot).

Left: Lara Ciekiewicz (Liù), *Turandot*.

Photos: R. Tinker

Enriching the Opera Experience

More than 1,000 people attended audience engagement events and activities that enriched the patron experience throughout the 2014/15 season. Events ranged from a walking tour of Brutalist architecture to an afternoon of Chinese tea tasting in a historic Roslyn Road mansion. Most events were free of charge.

OPERA AT THE WAG

Manitoba Opera kicked off the Winnipeg Art Gallery's summer concert series on Wednesday, June 11 on a high note. A full house enjoyed the two-hour concert held in the Muriel Richardson Auditorium.

It was a wonderful night of beautiful music featuring some great opera talent, all with Manitoban connections: soprano Sarah Kirsch, soprano Ileana Montalbetti, tenor Kurt Lehmann, and baritone Doug MacNaughton, along with the Manitoba Opera Chorus under the direction of Tadeusz Biernacki. Piano accompaniment was provided by Cary Denby, with Classic Radio 107's Bill Richardson hosting the evening.

Highlights of the evening included a preview of two selections from the season productions - Leonore's "Abscheulicher! Wo eilst du hin?" from *Fidelio*, sung by Ileana Montalbetti who starred in the November production, and "Nessun dorma" from *Turandot*, performed by Kurt Lehmann, with chorus accompaniment. Doug MacNaughton also surprised the crowd with his prowess on the guitar, performing "The Epicure" by J. Rutter. Even the guitar had a Manitoba connection, having been made by renowned guitar maker, Daryl Perry.

CULTURE DAYS

Manitoba Opera, along with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and Music for Young Children, offered activities at the Concert Hall on Saturday, September 27, including backstage tours, children's activity areas, and costume and prop displays.

DIAGNOSING GENIUS: NARRATIVE MUSIC PRESENTATION

Dr. Francois Mai, author of *Diagnosing Genius*, a book on Beethoven, and pianist Richard Konrad, provided a unique opportunity to learn about Beethoven's musical genius and hear selections of his music. A full house of 271 attended the event at the Franco-Manitobain Centre the afternoon of Sunday, November 2.

BRUTALIST ARCHITECTURE WALKING TOUR/LECTURE

On the snowy evening of Tuesday, November 18, Serena Keshavjee, Associate Professor at the University of Winnipeg, led 35 adventurous patrons on a short walking tour in the vicinity of the Centennial Concert Hall to learn about the architecture that inspired the set design for

Fidelio. Warmed with hot chocolate, patrons viewed iconic examples of Winnipeg's Brutalist architecture such as the Public Safety Building and Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre. Patrons then returned to the Concert Hall for a backstage tour and presentation by set designer Sheldon Johnson. They also had a sneak preview of the set and attended the Sitzprobe rehearsal.

SPEAKING OUT FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS – PANEL DISCUSSION

Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, gave the keynote address at Manitoba Opera's Speaking Out for Political Prisoners Panel Discussion the evening of Monday, November 24 held at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR).

The panel discussion explored the themes of political prisoners and taking action for freedom, advocacy work, and what can be done to champion the rights of political prisoners.

The moderator was Louise Simdandumwe, volunteer, Amnesty International - Group 19, and featured panelists: Ali Saeed, former Ethiopian political prisoner and activist; Jaime Carrasco, former Chilean political prisoner; Karen Busby, Professor of Law and Director of Centre for Human Rights Research, University of Manitoba; and Jeremy Maron, Researcher-Curator, CMHR.

POLITICAL PRISONERS AWARENESS – SEAT CARDS

Though *Fidelio* is a fictional story about the rescue of a political prisoner, MO wanted to recognize the plight of real political prisoners (living and dead) worldwide and those who have been forced to flee their homes and countries because of persecution. For each performance of the opera, every seat of the Centennial Concert Hall featured a card which identified one such person or persons. There were more than 2,000 people featured on the cards.

Karen Busby, Professor of Law and Director of the Centre for Human Rights Research at the University of Manitoba and law students Karl Peters, Bryn Rieger, Tristan Sandulak, and Caycie Soke provided research for this project. Jane Stewart, Maraya Raduha, and Valerie McPherson served as proof-readers for the project.



FIDELIO

"Beethoven's Fidelio at the Manitoba Opera, what an amazing production!"

- K. POST,
PATRON

Above: Examining a sample of Brutalist architecture, the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, with tour guide, Professor Serena Keshavjee.

Below (top): Alexander Neve, Secretary General, Amnesty International Canada giving the keynote address at the Speaking Out for Political Prisoners Panel Discussion.

Below (bottom): Political Prisoner Seat Cards on every chair in the Concert Hall at *Turandot*.



THE TURANDOT PROJECT – FILM SCREENING

The audience at the Cinematheque theatre Saturday, March 28, was transported to Beijing's Forbidden City to get a behind-the-scenes look at one of the most spectacular operas ever staged. The film showcased the pageantry of this opulent opera production with a cinematic portrait of the struggles and triumphs of renowned conductor Zubin Mehta and celebrated Chinese film director Zhang Yimou.

CHINESE TEA APPRECIATION

A capacity group of 40 people spent a delightful afternoon on Sunday, March 29, in a historic Roslyn Road mansion where they were introduced to the world of Chinese tea by Si Chen, tea art master and Michael Case, a tea enthusiast. The afternoon included a formal Chinese tea service and teas to take home.

AN AFTERNOON OF ART AND OPERA

Held at the Gurevich Art Gallery in the Exchange, An Afternoon of Art and Opera on Sunday, April 12, explored the works and life story of Chinese-born visual artist Aliana Au. Visual artist Sarah Swan emceed the event and Q & A with Ms. Au. Students from the Desautels Faculty of Music performed three works with piano accompaniment.

CHINESE TEA SAMPLING & TRADITIONAL DANCE DEMONSTRATIONS

Master tea expert Si Chen, along with Michael Case and Nan Cui, and their assistants offered Chinese tea samples to patrons prior to curtain and at intermission of *Turandot*.

Julia Zhu and Olivia Ma, along with performers from Manitoba Great Wall Performing Arts and the Lan Classic Chinese Tearoom, presented traditional Chinese dance demonstrations during intermissions on the Piano Nobile.

UNDERSTANDING THE MUSIC

Dr. Dietrich Bartel, Associate Professor of Music, Canadian Mennonite University, presented hour-long evening lectures on the music of both productions. Understanding the Music of *Fidelio* was held at the Canadian Mennonite University



Above (top): Master tea expert Si Chen providing an authentic tea service for some of the Chinese tea workshop participants.



Above (bottom): Patrons enjoy an opera performance at An Afternoon of Art & Opera at the Gurevich Gallery.

Below (top): Julia Zhu performs The Fantasy of Jasmine on the Piano Nobile during intermission at *Turandot*.

Below (bottom): Performers from Manitoba Great Wall Performing Arts and Lan Classic Chinese Tearoom put on a Chinese costume show on the Piano Nobile during intermission of *Turandot*.



on Thursday, October 30 and Understanding the Music of *Turandot* was held on Wednesday, April 1 at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Winnipeg.

OPERA PRIMERS

Music expert Don Anderson, presented 60-minute lectures, music highlights, and DVD excerpts again this season. The afternoon and evening sessions for both operas were held at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights three weeks before each production.

CLOSING NIGHT DINNERS

Both Closing Night performances were kicked off with a dinner and lecture before the show. Held on the Piano Nobile of the Centennial Concert Hall, the *Fidelio* dinner was inspired by Beethoven's heritage and featured authentic German food including schweineschnitzel (pork cutlet) and spätzle (egg noodles). In April, guests were treated to a Chinese buffet catered by Kum Koon Gardens. Lectures were given by Donna Fletcher and Simeon Rusnak, respectively. (See pre-show chats for more information on the speakers.)

PRE-SHOW CHATS

A 20-minute lecture on the show held a half-hour before every performance was offered again this season. Donna Fletcher, an actor, singer and director was the guest speaker for the *Fidelio* chats in November; Simeon Rusnak, a singer and host on Classic Radio 107 was the guest speaker for *Turandot* in April.

OPERA PARK AND RIDE

Manitoba Opera launched an Opera Park & Ride service on a trial basis at *Turandot* to make attending the opera easier for our patrons by providing transportation to the venue.

On the Tuesday night performance, a 24-passenger Winnipeg River Charter Services bus picked up patrons from the Unicity and Grant Park Shopping Centres, and drove them to the Concert Hall for the opera. Patrons were driven back to their vehicles after the performance.

The service will be offered again in the 2015/16 Season.



OPERA PARK & RIDE

"The Opera Park & Ride was phenomenal. It was quick, easy, and enjoyable. The bus driver was really friendly and great."

- D. AUDETTE,
PATRON

"I was really thrilled with the Park & Ride service. I was traveling alone that night, and the feeling of security was so much better. I think it's a great idea."

- M. MANN,
PATRON

"I very much appreciated it. I have some mobility issues right now, so it worked out very well for me."

- D. MORPHY,
PATRON

Above: The 24-passenger Winnipeg River Charter Services Opera Park & Ride Bus.

Below: Closing Night of *Turandot*.





Special Events

DINNER AT DE LUCA'S

Our annual fall fundraising dinner took place on Saturday, October 25 at De Luca's Cooking Studio. The packed room enjoyed a night of good company, wine, interactive cooking demonstrations and Italian cuisine, highlighted by a performance of opera arias by Winnipeg soprano Lida Szkwarek, accompanied by Cary Denby. A lucky raffle winner went home with a deluxe gift basket of De Luca products and fine wines. Event partners: De Luca's, Planned Perfectly, Academy Florists, and Mile Road Productions.

OPENING NIGHT DINNER

In celebration of the 2014/15 season, the annual Opening Night Dinner was held on the Piano Nobile prior to curtain on opening night of *Fidelio*. It was one of the largest season-launching dinners with 117 people in attendance. Guests enjoyed catering by Bergman's on Lombard. Following the performance, guests, donors, and sponsors attended the post-show reception and had an opportunity to meet the cast.

Above: Three generations of opera supporters: Constance Sarchuk, Tasia Patmore, and Leslie Sarchuk, at Bravo Gala, March 2015.

Below: Soprano Monica Huisman performs at Bravo Gala.

Photos: Artistic Impressions



BRAVO GALA

On Saturday, March 14, Manitoba Opera hosted its 7th annual Bravo Gala at the Delta Winnipeg to raise funds for season productions and community programs. A feature of the unique Asian-inspired meal - dry ice soup – was a crowd favourite. The evening was hosted by emcee Colleen Bready from CTV. Soprano Monica Huisman showcased four beautiful operatic selections. Guests enthusiastically participated in a raffle draw, as well as live and silent auctions that featured an impressive array of prizes courtesy of generous donors and sponsors. The Danny Kramer Event Band provided live dance music that was enjoyed by guests until the wee hours. It was an exquisite and memorable evening.

BRAVO GALA SPONSORS & CORPORATE SUPPORTERS



Adesa Auctions
Ambassador Mechanical
Artistic Impressions
Chocolatier Constance Popp
Elite Lighting
Independent Jewellers
Manitoba Centennial Centre
Corporation
Mile Road Productions
Osprey Capital Partners Inc.

Premier Printing
Realcare Inc.
Rosalie Drysdale –
RE/MAX Executives
Realty
St. James Audi
Unisource
Winnipeg Free Press



Above (top to bottom): Young professionals;
Dry ice soup; Red River College
International Business Volunteers; Bravo
Gala Committee.

Photos: Artistic Impressions



Student Programming

STUDENT NIGHT AT THE OPERA

This season, a total of 2,020 students, ranging in age from five to 75, attended the dress rehearsals of *Fidelio* and *Turandot* through the Student Night at the Opera initiative. This initiative provides educational groups with an opportunity to experience live opera at just \$12 a ticket. Students from public and private schools, home schools, and music programs throughout Winnipeg and as far away as Boissevain and Wanipigow, took part in the program this year.

Eighteen rural schools traveled a total of approximately 64 hours and 4,878 kilometres in order to attend the *Fidelio* and *Turandot* Student Nights this season.

STUDENT NIGHT AT THE OPERA - *FIDELIO*

"Hearing Beethoven's only opera intrigued us, and we were not disappointed. We were impressed by the incredible singing and powerful storyline."

- TRUDY VOTH,
MUSIC EDUCATOR

STUDENT NIGHT AT THE OPERA - *TURANDOT*

"Students love the quality of all aspects of the music and the staging. [Student Night] is a wonderful way for students to see a superior performance in a fantastic venue for an affordable price."

- CHERYLENE KENTNER,
BOISSEVAIN SCHOOL

OPERA IN A TRUNK

This program was started five years ago as a means to enhance the experience for students attending the dress rehearsal through Student Night at the Opera or for teachers looking to introduce opera to their students in a classroom setting.

A trunk filled with props, costumes, books, games, CDs, DVDs, as well as a study guide related to an opera is available to teachers on loan. Trunks for *La Bohème*, *Aida*, *Carmen*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *The Magic Flute* are available.

Since the program's inception, over 1,500 students across Manitoba have been introduced to opera through the Opera in a Trunk program.

OPERA SCHOOL TOUR

Manitoba Opera was a sponsor of the University of Manitoba's Desautels Faculty of Music Opera Theatre School tour. In May 2015, students from the program performed *The Brothers Grimm*, a popular children's opera by Canadian composer Dean Burry.

Approximately 2,500 students from grades K-8 attended the performances at 10 schools throughout the city, as well as in Oakbank and MacGregor. A free performance took place at five inner-city schools.

SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM

In August, Manitoba Opera introduced the art form to 200 students through Seven Oak School Division's *Balanced Experiential Education Program* (B.E.E.P.), an activity-based summer learning program. Opera workshops took place at Governor Semple School and Constable Edward Finney School. Students from grades 1-5 participated in a crash course on opera, singing exercises, music activities, costume displays and dress-up, and were treated to a performance by soprano Lara Ciekiewicz.



STUDENT NIGHT AT THE OPERA - *TURANDOT*

"My students have had interrupted schooling in war affected countries around the world. They have not had opportunities to become involved in cultural activities. Many never get out of their homes except to go to school, or work to bring in income, or help out with their families. In many cases the female students do not come from cultures where they attended cultural events at all. They did not have the opportunities. As an educator, I believe so strongly that we have to 'educate the whole person.' Opera is a universal language...the music, the drama, the set, the costumes, the energy - ALL speak for themselves."

– VAL PIERCE,
GRANT PARK HIGH SCHOOL



Connecting with Communities

In exploring aspects such as the themes, stories, and messages of the operas produced each year, Manitoba Opera looks for opportunities to include, partner, and work with a wide spectrum of the community. Its goal is to enhance the various initiatives and audience enrichment events.

FIDELIO

Former Refugees & Immigrants

- **Former Refugees Participate in *Fidelio***

Manitoba Opera invited former refugees now living in Winnipeg to participate in the season opening production of *Fidelio*, Beethoven's only opera and uplifting ode to freedom. Upwards of 50 former refugees joined the cast on stage for the final act. The inclusion of former refugees who came to Canada to rebuild their lives reminded us that we do not yet live in a world free from oppression.

- **The Stories of Our Former Refugees – Videos**

Eleven of the former refugees participating in *Fidelio* agreed to share their stories of coming to Canada to make a new life and their reasons for deciding to participate in the opera. Short video presentations were available on Youtube for patrons and the general public to view.

The following organizations and individuals provided their expertise and assistance with this initiative:

- Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc.
- Hospitality House Refugee Ministry Inc.
- Immigrant Centre Manitoba, Settlement Services

Above: Former refugee *Fidelio* participants.
Photo: R. Tinker

- Institute for International Women's Rights, University of Winnipeg, Global College
- Accueil Francophone
- Ali Saeed and Jamie Carrasco

TURANDOT

Chinese Community

- Si Chen, master tea expert and her volunteers who led a Chinese tea workshop and provided tea sampling in the lobby at all three performances of *Turandot*.
- Julia Zhu, tea expert and dancer, who provided a tea service experience at the Bravo Gala and along with Olivia Ma and a team from Manitoba Great Wall Performing Arts and the Lan Classic Chinese Tearoom, performed traditional dance demonstrations at intermission of all three performances of *Turandot*.
- MO worked with both the *Manitoba Chinese Times* and *Manitoba Chinese Tribune* in the production of print ads translated in Mandarin and offering readers a special ticket discount.
- MO filmed a promotional video on the opera at the Huasing Buddhist Temple and at the Manitoba Chinese Canadian Cultural Centre.
- MO General Director & CEO, Larry Desrochers and Director of Development, Monica Wood attended the Chinese New Year's celebration held at Kum Koon Garden on Saturday, February 14. Larry Desrochers gave a presentation on *Turandot* and invited all guests to attend the opera.



Turandot print ad translated in Mandarin.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Manitoba Opera's ongoing partnership with various faculties of the University of Manitoba continued in the 2014/15 season with a number of activities from surveys to performances.

Desautels Faculty of Music

- Manitoba Opera's Education & Outreach Coordinator, Livia Dymond, assisted the School of Music with bookings and promotion of its school tour of *The Brothers Grimm*.
- Performances of School of Music opera students were promoted to the MO patron base through social media, as well as electronic and printed communication. This season, MO helped to promote activities including students who performed in the WSO New Music Festival and the Opera Excerpts Concerts March 6 and 7.
- Director of Marketing, Darlene Ronald visited the university in January to give a two-hour presentation on marketing the arts to Faculty of Music students.



Students from Mulvey School enjoy a performance of *The Brothers Grimm* put on by the University of Manitoba's Opera Theatre.

Asper School of Business

- Manitoba Opera once again worked with Professor Kelley Main and students in her Marketing Research Course Summer Session. This year, students developed and tabulated results for an Attending the Arts online survey of university-age adults. The survey examined various attendance aspects such as respondent's arts and culture experiences, opera awareness, attendance barriers, communication, and ways to enhance the opera experience.
- In April, Manitoba Opera assisted a PhD candidate by inviting patrons to be part of a research project. Patrons at *Turandot* were asked to participate in an online survey to determine how people perceive live events and the factors that can help them to optimize their satisfaction and happiness from such experiences.

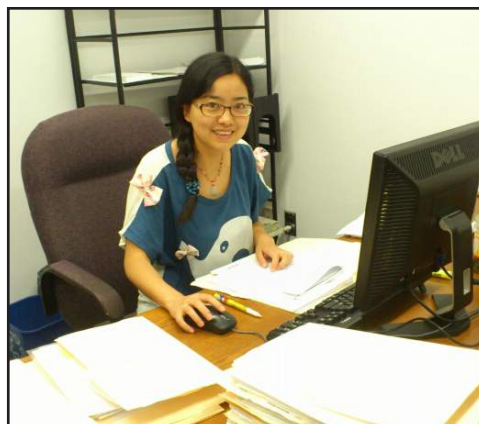
Faculty of Law

- Research for the *Fidelio* Political Prisoners Seat Cards project was provided by Karen Busby, Professor of Law and Director of the Centre for Human Rights Research and law students Karl Peters, Bryn Rieger, Tristan Sandulak, and Caycie Soke.

RED RIVER COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS PROGRAM

The internship program is part of the International Business post graduate course at Red River College. Its main goal is to provide students with real-life experience in a Canadian work environment, as well as to allow them to practice all the concepts and tools learned in class. Students are required to seek and complete a minimum six-week work experience component.

Over the past year, two Red River students, Xian (Ruby) Li and John Teye, chose Manitoba Opera as the organization with which to have their internship experience. Through Manitoba Opera, students receive on-the-job training and a unique opportunity to learn how an arts organization operates.



Xian (Ruby) Li working in the Manitoba Opera office.

“During my internship, the development team gave me the opportunity to work on a variety of projects. I had the chance to gain practical knowledge about fundraising, databases, archiving, research and other administrative work. I appreciated the fact that I was afforded the opportunity to take on significant responsibility, which I would not have gained in the classroom alone. Thank you, again, for helping to make my first Canadian job a rewarding experience.”
- Xian (Ruby) Li

OPPORTUNITIES TO ATTEND

- **Subsidized Tickets to *Fidelio***

793 new Canadians, former refugees, immigrants, and military personnel received subsidized tickets to *Fidelio* distributed by Manitoba Opera to enable people from all over the community to experience a live opera performance, many for the very first time. Tickets were distributed through organizations including Accueil Francophone, the Dept. of National Defence, Hospitality House Refugee Ministry Inc., Immigration Centre of Manitoba, Inc., Institute for Canadian Citizenship, and Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc.

- **Opera Access Program**

Through our ongoing Opera Access program, over 100 tickets were distributed over the 2014/15 season through organizations including Andrews Street Family Centre, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Canadian Mental Health Association, Community Ownership Solutions, Eyaa-Keen Healing Centre Inc., Forensic Psychological Services, Girl Guides, Independent Living Resource Centre, Inner City Renovation, West Broadway Youth Outreach, and Main Street Project, Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts, Marymount Winnipeg, Misericordia Health Centre, and SEED Winnipeg.

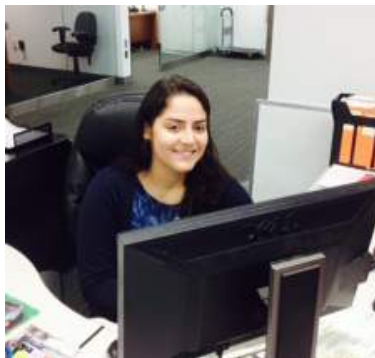
The Move & The Flood

In June 2014, Manitoba Opera relocated from the old restaurant to office space down the hall in the concourse level of the Centennial Concert Hall.

On Thursday, August 21, just over a month after settling in to its newly renovated office space, the office was unexpectedly “christened” when severe thunderstorms in parts of Winnipeg caused flooding on the concourse level of the building.

Nearly two inches of water rushed in from the courtyard down the hall, quickly sweeping through the entire office.

Larry Desrochers, General Director & CEO and Sheldon Johnson, Director of Production were on hand to rescue many items. And with the quick response from the clean-up crew, damage was kept to a minimum. After four days of draining, drying out items, and cleaning the carpets, as well as work on the drywall which continued for several weeks, the office got back to normal.



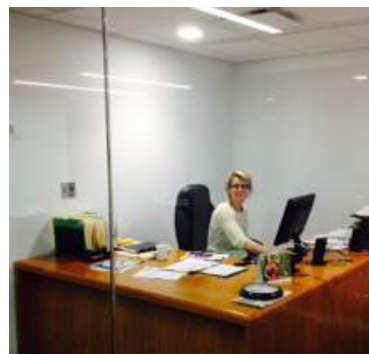
Natasha Macdonald-Sawh, Patron Services & Communications Coordinator



Livia Dymond, Education & Outreach Coordinator



Sheldon Johnson, Director of Production



Valorie Block, Event & Sponsorship Manager



Finance

Manitoba Opera posted a surplus of \$5,867 on an operating budget for 2014/15 of \$2,015,501. The accumulated debt is now \$234,198, down from \$654,000 in 2000.

Grants

Funding from the Winnipeg Arts Council increased by \$10,000 to \$110,000. The Manitoba Arts Council grant of \$220,000 was augmented with a special grant of \$200,000. Funding from the Canada Council for the Arts remained at \$134,900.

Box Office

Subscriptions increased by 9% from 2,683 in 2013/14 to 2,917 in 2014/15. This number of subscribers is higher than the 15-year average number of subscribers (2660) since 2000/01. At \$349,655, revenues from subscriptions reached 106% of budget goal.

Single Tickets increased by 6% from 2,591 in 2013/14 to 2,737 in 2014/15.

Total box office revenues increased by 9% from \$527,854 in 2013/14 to \$575,138 in 2014/15.

Subscription prices for the 2014/15 season averaged \$59.40 per seat, and single tickets averaged \$76.69 per seat.

Fundraising

Sponsorships were up by \$23,600 (22%); Corporate Annual Gifts decreased by \$2,874 (9%), Camerata Gifts (more than \$1,250 per donation) were up \$16,023 (19%), Major Gifts increased by \$49,894 (63%), Friends Gifts (less than \$1,250 per donation) increased by \$1,779 (3%).

Gifts from foundations for specific projects were \$85,000.

Fundraising from Special Events decreased from \$120,737 to \$108,041, in part due to one less event being produced in 2014/15.



Expenses

On the expense side of the budget, management achieved savings in all departments, as well as bringing all the productions in under budget.

Endowment Fund

To help solidify the long-term future of Manitoba Opera, the Board of Trustees established an endowment fund through The Winnipeg Foundation. Launched in 2009/10, gifts made to the Manitoba Opera Endowment Fund will grow over time and provide a significant stream of revenue to help Manitoba Opera continue to serve the community with meaningful and inspiring programming.

In 2014/15, the fund grew by \$13,610 including matching contributions of \$7,268 from Canadian Heritage through the Endowment Incentives program and \$1,535 from The Winnipeg Foundation. As of May 31, the Manitoba Opera Fund has a balance of \$99,848.

FIDELIO

"It's impossible not to be moved during this scene as the chorus is joined by real refugees who have come to Canada in the hopes of finding freedom from tyranny. It's enough to want to make this a better country, one that does not disappoint the hopes of those who have fled oppression to be here. But that's the power of the opera—it can truly move you."

- PEPPER & VINE

"...we enjoyed a production that we found essentially flawless in every aspect...It was a wonderful evening, and I thank you for it."

- N. SPASOFF,
PATRON

Manitoba Opera Board of Trustees, Committees & Staff

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Vineberg, Chair
Liz Barron+
Wayne Benson
Dr. Robert Biscontri
Brent Bottomley
Abbie Grieder
Elba Haid
Peter Heavysege
Leona Herzog◊
Dr. Amanda Huminicki
Dr. Anthony Iacopino
Sue Jurkovic
Dr. Hermann Lee
Dr. Henri Marcoux
Luisa Matheson
Kimberley Puhach◊
Dr. Bill Pope◊
Heather Sarna
Dr. Jeffrey Sisler
Jennifer Snyder
Ian Trump+
David White◊

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Robert Vineberg, Chair
Wayne Benson
Dr. Robert Biscontri
Peter George
Elba Haid
Dr. Anthony Iacopino
Jennifer Snyder

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Peter Heavysege, Chair
Dr. Amanda Huminicki
Larry Desrochers
Livia Dymond
Leona Herzog
Natasha Macdonald-Sawh
Darlene Ronald
Robert Vineberg*

BRAVO GALA COMMITTEE

Sue Jurkovic, Chair
Donna Balcaen
Valorie Block
Abbie Grieder
Elba Haid
Dr. Amanda Huminicki
Kathryn Patrick
Aldina Picanco
Leslie Sarchuk
Robert Vineberg*
Sheryl Watt
Monica Wood

CAMERATA COMMITTEE

Elba Haid, Chair
Brent Bottomley
Abbie Grieder
Luisa Matheson
Robert Vineberg*
Monica Wood

COMMUNITY SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Dr. Anthony Iacopino, Chair
Wayne Benson
Valorie Block
Brent Bottomley
Larry Desrochers
Dr. Hermann Lee
Heather Sarna
Dr. Jeffrey Sisler
Robert Vineberg*
Monica Wood

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dr. Robert Biscontri, Chair
Wayne Benson
Larry Desrochers
Dr. Anthony Iacopino
Dale Sulymka
Robert Vineberg*

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Jennifer Snyder, Chair
Liz Barron
Larry Desrochers
Robert Vineberg*

STAFF

Larry Desrochers,
General Director & CEO
Tyrone Paterson
Musical Advisor & Principal
Conductor
Tadeusz Biernacki,
Assistant Music Director &
Chorus Master
Michael Blais
Director of Administration
Valorie Block
Events and Sponsorship
Manager
Livia Dymond
Education and Outreach
Coordinator
Sheldon Johnson
Director of Production
Natasha Macdonald-Sawh
Patron Services &
Communications Coordinator
Darlene Ronald
Director of Marketing
Dale Sulymka
Chief Financial Officer
Monica Wood
Director of Development

STUDENT INTERNS

Ruby Li
John Teye

* *Ex Officio*

◊ *Appointed during season*

+ *Retired during season*



Governance & Leadership

The Board of Trustees has made good governance a cornerstone of Manitoba Opera. As the governing body, the Board of Trustees operates by the principle that it holds the organization in trust for the future benefit of the community. The Board of Trustees uses this principle as a guide to make important decisions about the organization.

The 2014/15 Annual General Meeting marked the first year of Robert Vineberg's term as Chair of the Board of Trustees. Retiring from the Board of Trustees was Peter Heavysege after completing a six-year term and serving on a number of committees including the Bravo Gala Committee and chairing the Community Support and Audience Engagement Committees. Also retiring from the board were Liz Barron and Ian Trump. New trustees Leona Herzog, Dr. Bill Pope, Kimberley Puhach, and David White were elected to the Board of Trustees.

Trustees continue to play important roles in advocacy at local and national levels with their involvement in conferences and committees committed to strengthening the field of opera. Trustee Elba Haid attended the Opera America National Trustees Forum in New York in February, while Robert Vineberg attended the Opera America Conference in Washington in May. Robert Vineberg also begins his second year on the board for Manitobans for the Arts.

General Director & CEO, Larry Desrochers began his year as a member of the Board of Directors for Opera America, serving on the Membership, Artistic, and Governance Committees. He also serves on the Strategy Committee for Opera.ca and the Governance Committee for Manitobans for the Arts.

These types of activities provide professional development opportunities for board and staff and demonstrate Manitoba Opera's commitment to being leaders in the cultural sector, as well as advancing the interests of opera locally, nationally, and internationally.

Above: Christopher Mayell (Pong), Benjamin Covey (Ping), and Keith Klassen (Pang), *Turandot*. Photo: R. Tinker

Manitoba Opera Volunteers

Olga Alekseeva
Dorothy Bailey
Sandra Baldwinson
Carol Beardsley
Shannon Burns
Jan Carmichael
Huili Chen
Margot Christie
Annah Coleman
Daena Coleman
Donna Cumming
Karen Delorme
Antonio do Amaral Jr.
Lauren Doecker
Marlene Dressler
Tim Dymond
Hedie Epp
Jenaya Espenell
Rubab Fatima
Caroline Ferguson
Danica Fran
Cheri Frazer
Victor Frush
Claudia Gallego
Francine Gillman
Rita Greco
Elena Greene
Derrick Heaton
Ryan Heaton
Stewart Heaton

Barb Herriot-Miller
Kennedee Hills
Lena Horne
Xiaowei Huang
Mira Hummerston
Irene Hunter
Bree-Ann Jubinville
Maggie Kahler
Susan Kelso
Lori Klassen
Jessica Kos-Whicher
Ljiljana Kovacevic
Jean Kowbel
Beverly Laurin
Eva Lavalee
Yunxuan Liao
Xin Li
Hailey Macdonald
Andrea Mahalek
Pam Mason and Sisler High
School students
Heather McIntyre
Shirley McLean
Rhonda McRorie
Ted Miller
Dan O'Dell
Bill Owen
Renald Paul
Maraya Raduha
Peggy Rishlati

Annette Ronald
Lois Ronald
Rebecca Ronald
Vanessa Ronald
Marjorie Russell
Akhil Sajikumar
Marj Sawatsky
Signy Schellenberg
Rebecca Schimnowski
Elfrieda Schroeder
Linda Scholcz
Kurt Schwartz
Beth Shoenut
Anastasia Simonovich
Irina Simonovich
Marilynn Slobogian
Shenna Song
Pablo Steinberg
Jane Stewart
Sybil Stokoloff
Holly Stratton
Teresa Tacchi
John Teye
Priyanka Tuteja
Judith Utulu
Anna Vananh
Louanne Wilson
Elena Yemelyanova
Jiale Zhang
Irena Zlatanovic-Kovacevic



Partners in Opera

Manitoba Opera gratefully acknowledges the encouragement and financial support given by many individuals, foundations, businesses, and corporations in 2014/15, allowing it to bring live opera to Manitobans. Listings include donations made between June 1, 2014 and May 31, 2015.

Season Funders



Conseil des arts
du Canada

Canada Council
for the Arts



Season Sponsors



Production & Performance Sponsors



Chorus Sponsor



Projected Titles Sponsor



Media Sponsors



Education, Outreach & Audience Development Partners



Student Night at the Opera



Official Sponsors

IT Sponsor



Hotel Sponsor



Fidelio Sponsors



CORPORATE SUPPORT

FUNDERS

Manitoba Arts Council
Canada Council for the Arts
Winnipeg Arts Council
Richardson Foundation
The Winnipeg Foundation

DIRECTORS

\$10,000 +
Mile Road Productions

PRINCIPALS

\$5,000 TO \$9,999
Terracon Development Ltd.
Red River Cooperative Ltd.

CHORUS

\$2,500 TO \$4,999
Nova 3 Engineering Ltd.
Parrish & Heimbecker
Limited

SUPERS

\$1,000 TO \$2,499
HSA Design Inc. (Heather
Sarna & Associates Inc.)
Melet Plastics Inc.

ARTISTS

\$500 TO \$999
Edmond Financial Group
Indutec Alchemist (1987)
Inc.
Morier Benefits Inc.
Number Ten Architectural
Group
Price Industries Limited
Reitmans Canada Limited
Viewpoints Research Ltd.
Winmar Property Restoration
One Anonymous Donor

FRIENDS

\$100 to \$499
Crosier Kilgour & Partners
Ltd.
GHY International
InterGroup Consultants Ltd.
Saper Agencies Ltd.



* Member, Board of Trustees
◊ Manitoba Opera Staff
† Deceased

IMPRESARIO CIRCLE \$5,000 +

Susan Brownstone Brock in
memory of her father, Jack
Brownstone
John & Bonnie Buhler
Elba Haid* in memory of
Marshall Haid
Bill & Shirley Loewen
Michal F.B. Nesbitt
TD Bank Group - Bravo Gala
Gold Sponsor
The Gail Asper Family
Foundation
Mrs. Deborah Thorlakson
in memory of Dr. Robert H.
Thorlakson
One Anonymous Donor

MAESTRO \$3,000 to \$4,999

Gail Asper & Michael
Paterson
Mr. James Burt
Mr. & Mrs. Armin & Denise
Martens
Lorraine Beck & Craig
McIntosh
The Michael Nozick Family
Foundation Inc.
Mrs. Donna Plant
Edward J. Ransby
Hartley & Heather
Richardson
Drs. William Pope* &
Elizabeth Tippet-Pope
Mrs. Tannis Richardson
Robert Vineberg* & Lena
Horne
One Anonymous Donor

VIRTUOSO \$2,000 to \$2,999

Jim & Margaret Astwood
Audrey F. Hubbard
Robert B. Jackson
Mr. B. Roslycky & Dr. P. Kmet
Hon. Christopher Mainella &
Christine Van
Cauwenberghe
Bill & Donna Parrish
Mr. & Mrs. H. Sanford &
Deborah Riley
Vic & Ruth Thielmann
The Hon. A. Kerr Twaddle † &
Susan Twaddle

One Anonymous Donor

CAMERATA \$1,250 to \$1,999

Aubrey & Dr. Linda Asper
Patricia Chaychuk
Robert & Alison Darling
Laurie Lam & Larry
Desrochers◊
Dr. Michael Dyck & Ms. Lisa
Bueckert
Dale Evanyshyn & Heather
Sarna*
Susan Glass & Arni
Thorsteinson
Garth & Abbie* Grieder
Leona Herzog*
Sheldon Johnson◊
Katarina Kupca & Bartley
Kives
Mr. Ralf Kyritz
Dr. David Lyttle
Ms. Patricia Nesbitt & Mr.
Paul Infuso
Darlene Ronald◊ & Stewart
Heaton
Eleanor & Robert Siddall
Jeff Sisler* & Cathy Rippin-
Sisler
Leigh & Beverley Taylor
Dr. Reid & Ruth† Waters



* Member, Board of Trustees
◊ Manitoba Opera Staff
† Deceased

BENEFACTOR \$500 to \$1,249

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bartolo
Bruce & Shelley Bertrand
Meadows
Bernice Blakeman
Gerhard & Helga Bock
Mr. & Mrs. Brian & Cathie
Bowerman
Bjorn and Roberta
Christianson
Mr. Piotr Czaykowski
Pendeshuk Family Fund at
the Winnipeg Foundation
John & Gay Docherty
Ms. Penny Gilbert
Bruno Gossen
Peter Heavysege*
Investors Group Matching
Gift Program
Barry Konzelman

Ms. Ljiljana Kovacevic
Zlatanovic
Drs. Herman Lam & Laura
Chan
Dr. Hermann Lee*
Ted & Wanda Lismer
Dr. John & Natalie Mayba
Ron & Sandi Mielitz
Carla and Josef Nejmark
Ms. Norma Anne Padilla
Margaret & Paul Shuckett
Dr. & Mrs. Murray R.
Steinbart
Dr. Milada A. Toffler
Shirley & Herb Wildeman
Two Anonymous Donors

SUPPORTER \$250 to \$499

All Charities Campaign
Carol Campbell & Andrew
Krentz
Mario & Josie Audino
Wayne and Ember Benson
Sheila & David Brodovsky
Mr. Richard Chartier & Liza
Maheu
Mr. Lawrie Cherniack
Dr. George & Irene Chuchman
Ron Clement
Martin Reed & Joy Cooper
Karen A. Duncan
Lawrence & Brenda Ellerby
Kathleen Estey
Mrs. Elaine Finnbogason
Reg Friend
Ms. Laurie Gyde
Barry Haines
Jacob & Judi Janzen
Loretta Kampeas & John
Gartner
Irene Hamilton & Tim Killeen
M. & M. Kinnear
Mr. Thomas G. Kucera
Marion Lewis
Dr. Littleford
Dr. Douglas W. MacEwan
Ms. Iona McPhee
Mr. Marc Monnin and Ms.
Donna Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Fred & Margaret
Mooibroek
Parker Hannifin Canada
Matching Gift Program
Levi & Tenu Reimer
Roger Rigelhof & Marjorie
Russell
Dr. C. Michael Sampson
Mr. Scott Sarna
Barbara Scheuneman
Dr. Wilfrid Francis Schlosser
Thomas & Wanda Struthers

Carolyn Taubensee & Randy Kohuch
 Ian R. Thomson & Leah R. Janzen
 Mr. & Mrs. H. Voigt
 Edna Walpole
 Florence & Donald Whitmore
 Four Anonymous Donors

SUSTAINER \$100 to \$249

P. Achtemichuk
 Monica Allison
 Jay & Judy Anderson
 Tatiana Arcand
 Doug Arrell and Dick Smith
 Richard & Nancy Ball
 Dick & Minnie Bell
 Audrey Belyea
 Christian Benhamou
 Ms. Gertrude Bergen
 Ruth Berry & Hugh Larimer
 Mr. & Mrs. Morley & Marjorie Blankstein, C.M.
 Ms. Jaqueline Brignall
 Mrs. Donna Byrne
 Ms. Mary Clarke
 Mr. Micah Cohen
 Agnes & John K. Collins
 Ken & Lynn Cooper
 Andree Dagenais
 Judy & Werner Danchura
 Ms. L. Daniels
 Mr. Gary R. Davis
 Anna M. Desilets
 Mrs. Helene Dobel
 Jeanie M. Dubberley
 Harry and Mary Lynn Duckworth
 Mr. Spencer Duncanson
 Ms. Jillian Dale Epp
 Mr. Richard J. Falk
 Mr. Willie Falk
 Mr. & Mrs. James & Linda Feasby
 James R. Ferguson
 Paul Fieldhouse
 Dr. & Mrs. D. D. Fillis
 Gayle Fischer
 Ms. Patricia Fitzpatrick
 Myra & Arnold Frieman
 Mrs. Inge Froese
 Patricia Guy
 Ian & Gerry Hamilton
 Glen & Margaret Harrison
 Evelyn Hecht
 Rhonda Hogg
 Sonia Hosfield
 June Hunnie
 Maureen and Gary Hunter
 James & Margaret Jeffries
 J.H. Kaminsky
 Donald & Sheila Keatch

Mr. Gordon C. Keatch
 Alan & Shirley Kessler
 Mr. Allen Kimelman
 M.J. King
 Dr. Istvan Kinizsi
 Ms. Heather Kozubski
 Katherine Lee
 Richard Lobdell & Evelyn Forget
 Shirley Lynch
 Debbie Mackenzie
 Cam Mackie & Doris Mae Oulton
 Pat Trainor MacRae
 Ms. Elaine Margolis
 Gert & Katherine Martens
 David & Francesca McBean
 Barbara McCandless
 Donald & Martha McCarthy
 Dr. Thomas McKenzie
 Maria Stapleton & Michael Lea
 Walter & Gladys Mildren
 Charlotte Murrell
 Ms. Sunyung Oh
 Wayne & Linda Paquin
 E. & D. Paryzek
 Lesia Peet
 Brian Perchaluk
 Ingrid Peters-Fransen
 Ms. Beverly Phillips
 Mr. Rick Pinchin
 Ms. Marina Plett-Lyle
 Mrs. Anne Ratuski
 Mr. Jason Regula
 Ricou-Manfreda
 Mrs. Helene Riesen
 Emery and Karen Ruff
 Mr. Johnny Rule & Ms. Pearly Salangad
 Ms. Connie Sarchuk
 Gail & Johann Schnabl
 Mr. & Mrs. Hans Schneider
 Shirley Schroeder
 Ms. Vivian Schubert
 Mr. Gunter Schupke
 Mr. Morse Silden
 Mr. T. David & Mrs. Lorraine Smith
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Snidal
 Mrs. Rae Spear
 Ellen Spencer
 Mr. & Mrs. Stano Spina
 Brenda Keith St. Clair
 William & Peggy Stewart
 M. & H. Stinson
 Ms. Karen Sutton
 Dr. Shelley Sweeney
 Reeh Taylor
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Catherine Thiessen
 Nicola Spasoff

Suzanne Ullyot
 Dory Vanderhoof
 Eve Vickar
 Dr. Robert D. Walker
 Mr. A.M.C. Waterman
 Kathy Gough & Tim Wildman
 Debbie Wilson
 Dr. & Mrs. Graham & Vicki Young
 Donn K. Yuen
 Dwayne Zaba
 Mr. Ivan Zimmer
 Nine Anonymous Donors

CONTRIBUTOR \$50 to \$99

Jeanette Block
 Ms. Marilyn Boyd
 Carolyn Buckley
 Mrs. F. Buckmaster
 Mr. Robert Campbell
 Mr. Kevin Cassidy
 Dr. Teresa Cavett & Mr. Gary Goodwin
 Gina Chodirker
 Margot Clayton
 Bradley J. Curran
 Dr. Dorothy Easton
 Mr. & Mrs. H.R. Entz
 Mr. Gregory Fearn
 Ms. Marguerite Fredette
 Gitta Fricke & Andrea Cibinel
 Mr. George Gamvrelis
 Andre Gautron
 Rob Giesbrecht & Shannon MacFarlane
 Ms. Deborah L. Ginther
 John & Louise Greenaway
 Lorraine Griffiths
 Esther Haluschak
 Ann Hanks
 Mr. John & Carrie Harder
 Dr. & Mrs. Earl S. Hershfield
 Mr. & Mrs. Stan J. & Eldith Hildebrand
 Dr. & Mrs. Arno Jansen
 Mr. & Mrs. Reinhard & Liesel Jansson
 David & Heather Jenkins
 Lucie Joyal
 H. Kilbrai
 Mr. Raymond Leslie Kohanik
 Betty Laing
 Mr. Gilles Landry
 Ms. Shirley Layne
 Mr. Camille Legare
 Joseph H. MacPherson And Helen Gullivan
 Mrs. Iris Maurstad
 Mrs. Keith McNamee
 Ms. Emily Mikolajewski
 Mr. Tony Mitousis
 Mr. Peter Morgan

Clare Pollock
 Anne Ratuski
 Ms. Valerie Regan
 Mr. Arthur Rey
 Mrs. Waltraut Riedel-Baun
 John & Nerina Robson
 Ms. Jeannine Rozzi
 Beverly Ryman
 Danielle Saranchuk
 Dr. & Mr. Cynthia Sawatzky
 Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Scott
 Rita Schroeder
 Ms. Linda Sexsmith
 Shelagh Sinclair Fund
 through the Winnipeg Foundation
 Ms. Evelyn R. Smith
 Erica Smith
 Robert Smith
 Mr. Peter Sribniak
 Ms. Helena Stelsovsky
 Bill & Billie Stewart
 Donald & Lorraine Swanson
 Ms. Bette Jayne Taylor
 Ross Taylor
 Marilyn Thompson
 Mr. Norman D. Toms
 Mrs. F.A. Trott
 Mrs. Shirley Tyderkie
 Anne Walli
 Edna Walpole
 Barbara Williams
 Mr. Dave Wreford
 Ten Anonymous Donors

ENCORE CIRCLE Manitoba Opera's Planned Giving Program

Larry Desrochers & Laurie Lam
 Elba Haid*
 Donn K. Yuen

ENDOWMENT FUND GIFTS

In Honour of Dr. William Pope's Retirement - Elba Haid*
 Canadian Heritage Canada
 Cultural Investment Fund
 Tracy Dahl
 Robert G. & Allison Darling
 Donald & Diana Hodgson
 Mr. Fred Kisil
 Marion Lewis
 Grant & Janet Saunders
 Barbara Scheuneman
 Howie & Sue Simpson
 Terracon Development Ltd.
 Dr. Francisco C. & Estela Violago
 Mrs. Faye Warren
 The Winnipeg Foundation

The Anonymous Fund at the
Winnipeg Foundation

BEQUESTS

The Estate of Frank Fred
Gladky
The Estate of Gordon P.
Linney

TRIBUTES

In Memory of...

Archibald Kerr Twaddle

The Gail Asper Family
Foundation
Mr. R Burley
Mrs. Florence De Pauw
Mrs. Rosalind Dick
Jeanie M. Dubberley
Maureen & Gary Hunter
Mr. & Mrs. Ross & Betty
Johnston
Bryan Klein

Mr. Bruce H. Lang
Mr. Marc Monnin
Ms. Patricia Skurnik
Mrs. Deborah Thorlakson
Dr. & Mrs. G. Yuill

Ross Houston and Leo & Margareth Mol

Ms. Patricia Gartrell

Harold Pollock

Arnice Pollock

Max Kettner

Ms. Ruth B. Kettner

Graham Dixon

Faye Dixon

John Hodge

Rod & Sandra Cline

Pamela Taylor

Mrs. Rosalind Dick

Mrs. Deborah Thorlakson
Jozef Biernacki
Jeanie M. Dubberley

Dr. Lawrence Soloway

Mr. Bruce H. Lang
Jeanie M. Dubberley

Marylla Van Ginkel

Ramon Zelech

Lillian Kushniaryk

Ms. Anne Dunlop

Wayne Tefs

Ms. Abbie Grieder*

George Hansen

Ms. Abbie Grieder*

Dr. Irving Guttman

Mr. Bruce H. Lang

In Honour of...

Dr. Bill Pope on His Retirement

Marilyn & John Wade

Douglas MacEwan's 90th Birthday

Robert B. Jackson
Dr. W. Reid & Ruth Waters

Dr. Paul Adams' 95th Birthday

Ms. Marina Plett-Lyle

Laurie Lam's Birthday

Steven Schipper

The Marriage of Carla and Josef Nejmark

Ms. Suzanne Lynne Marie
Soulodre



Ileana Montalbetti (Fidelio) and David Pomeroy (Florestan), *Fidelio*. Photo: R. Tinker



Mlada Khudoley (Turandot),
Turandot. Photo: R Tinker.