

Fall 2018

University of
Nevada,
Las Vegas
Opera Theater

Director

- Dr. Linda Lister
- linda.lister@unlv.edu

Tickets

- UNLV Box Office
- (702) 895-ARTS

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Opera Rebels



World premiere: *State of Grace*

On October 11 and 12 at 7:30 pm in the Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV Opera will present the world premiere of *State of Grace* by Dr. Linda Lister. This one-act opera explores the emotional journey of Grace, a yoga teacher whose breast cancer diagnosis brings her a new understanding of the principles of yoga. The show stars Erin Gonzalez as Grace, with Hunter Rose Turner as her cover. The cast in-

cludes Casey Dakus and Tyler Urbano-cover as cancer survivor and new yoga student Mary, Emily Clements and Lisa Elliott as Instagram yogini Felicity, Ranon Pador and Matthew Sink as the friendly jock Randy, and Aaron Pendleton and Andrew Williams as the hippie Leif. Moriah Berry and Tamara Richards share the dual role of the Doctor and yoga teacher Breezy. Katie Leung is pianist for the production. Directed by Linda Lister, the production is being presented during Breast Cancer Awareness Month and a portion of ticket sales will benefit Stand Up to Cancer.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Emily Clements and **Kate Meyer** were young artists at the Druid City Opera Workshop in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

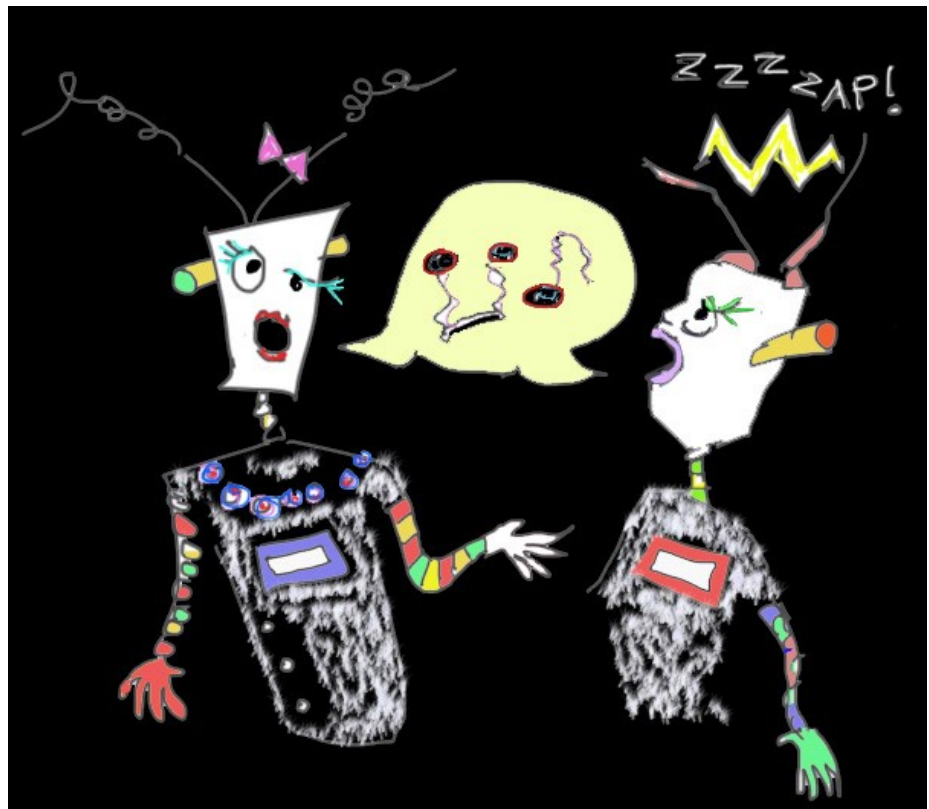
Emily Clements and **Kristina Tullgren** were young artists at the Harrower Opera Workshop in Atlanta, Georgia.

Moriah Berry, **Karin Hochman**, and **Tamara Richards** were young artists at the American Institute of Musical Studies (AIMS) in Graz, Austria.

Casey Dakus was a semi-finalist in the NATS National Student Auditions, and worked with Metropolitan Opera star Dolora Zajick as part of the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices in Reno, Nevada.

Workshop production: *No Guarantees*

On November 16 and 17 at 7:30 pm in the Black Box Theatre, UNLV Opera presents excerpts from the work-in-progress *No Guarantees* by composer **Cynthia Lee Wong** and librettist **Richard Aellen**. Assistant Professor of Composition at UNLV, Dr. Wong received funding from Opera America's Opera Grants for Female Composers. She collaborates with librettist Aellen on this futuristic musical comedy about two business partners, Jay Newman and Dara Green, who discover they're in love while trying to recover a malfunctioning android. Filling out the roles are **Alex Price** and **Karsten Pudwill** as Jay, **Erin Gonzalez**, **Rabuel Aviles**-cover as Dara; **Valentine Baron** as android Maddie-2; **Linda Lister**, **Jenelle Magbutay**-cover as Skye, Jay's former-lover-turned-pop-star-diva; **Mariah Wilcox** and **Kristina Tullgren** as opera director Anne Drakov; **Adonis Abuyen** and **Chase Gutierrez** as wealthy app developer Dwayne Dingo; **Andrew Williams** and **Kurt Sedlmeir** as android janitor Hoss; and **Tiffany-Anne Calabro** and **Tyler Urbano** as Heidi the Head. **Bonita Bunt** directs, **Dean Balan** music directs, and **Jack Gaughan** conducts.



Artwork: *Soprandroids* by Cynthia Lee Wong (2013)

Opera and Art at the Barrick Museum

On May 3, UNLV Opera presented Art, Opera, and Identity, an evening of visual and performance art featuring excerpts from *Don Giovanni*. Bonita Bunt directed the opera scenes and narrated the connection between Mozart's masterwork and the *Plural* exhibit in the East Gallery of the Barrick Museum.



Left to right: Celeste Dixon (Donna Elvira), Mark McCreery (Don Giovanni),
Alessandra Las (Zerlina)

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Erin Gonzalez was a young artist with the Palm Springs Opera Guild in Palm Springs, California.

Jenelle Magbutay played Joanne in the world premiere of the musical *Bigfoot* at the Majestic Repertory Theatre.

Matthew Sink, Chase Gutierrez, Kurt Sedlmeir, and Ranon Pador performed in the Opera Las Vegas production of *La cenerentola*, which also starred UNLV Opera alum Brian Myer.

Emily Clements, Jenelle Magbutay, Rabuel Aviles, and Chase Guttierrez performed in Sin City Opera's *The Pirates of Penzance* at the Super Summer Theatre alongside UNLV alumni Bonita Bunt, Nicole Harris, David Casey, Stephanie Redman, Miguel Alasco, and Victor Romero.

Save the dates!

UNLV OPERA THEATER

Opera Rebels

UNLV

Editor: Linda Lister

Fall 2018 Performances

October 11-12	UNLV Opera Workshop II: <i>State of Grace</i> (world premiere)
November 16-17	UNLV Opera Workshop II: <i>No Guarantees</i> (workshop production)
November 27	UNLV Opera Workshop I: <i>Kings & Queens: Scenes about Royalty</i>

UNLV Opera's November 2017 production of

Die Fledermaus

Left to right: Adonis Abuyen (Falke), Alex Price (Eisenstein)

Photo by Dr. Ashley Stone

