Suor Angelica and Gianni Schicchi

Elisa Fraser Wilson, University of Texas at El Paso

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UTEPE Department of Music's
MUSIC THEATRE COMPANY
Presents

SUOR ANGELICA
&
GIANNI SCHICCHI
By
Giacomo Puccini

Thursday, March 30; Friday, March 31;
Saturday, April 1  7:30 P.M.;
Sunday, April 2, 2006  2:30 P.M.

Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall
at the University of Michigan in Voice Performance under the direction of George Shirley. He earned his M.M. and B.M. from Bowling Green State University and Houghton College, respectively.

Orif Amy Eylon
Orif Eylon has performed several operatic roles including First Lady, Antigoneae, Zita, Larina and Arnalta to name a few. With the Austrian American Mozart Academy in Salzburg, Austria, she performed the leading roles of the Countess in Marriage of Figaro and Vitellia in Clemenza di Tito. She also performed extensively as a recitalist touring Italy and Germany. She has had the honor to work with and perform operatic works from John Corigliano and Judith Weir. Orif is active in a church choir in El Paso, often a guest soloist for many area concerts and events in Texas, and participates in recording demo CDs for music publishing companies. She has recently appeared at the Festival De Las Naciones in Casas Grandes Mexico and in several faculty recitals at UTEP.

Orif is a Lecturer in Voice at the University of Texas at El Paso. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree and a Master of Music degrees in voice from Indiana University, and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Texas at Austin. Future engagements include the role of Annina in La Traviata with EPO in Fall 2006.

Gerardo Antonio Ramos
Gerardo Antonio Ramos is currently working on a Doctorate in Voice Performance with Opera Emphasis in the studio of Prof. William Lewis at the University of Texas at Austin. He received his MM in Opera Performance at the University of Texas at Austin and his BA in Music Education at the University of Texas at El Paso under the instruction of Dr. Hugh Cardon. In 2001, Gerardo participated in the Austrian American Mozart Academy program in Eine Nacht and in Venedig as Der Herzog.
Production Crew

Sets:
Adrian Marquez, construction
Jason Lucero, painting

Lighting:
Adrian Marquez, design
Parisa Leduc, design
Jorge Munoz, lightboard operator
Justin Conrow, spotlights

Sound Engineer:
Patrick Carillo

Costumes, Suor Angelica:
John James Rutuelos, design
Belinda Saenz, Karla Urias, construction coordinators
Suor cast, construction

Costumes, Gianni Schicchi:
Sharon Moore Jordan
Elisa Fraser Wilson

Supertitles:
Monica Escuer Sanchez-translations
Adrian Marquez- formatting/operation

Props:
Kimberley Wolfenbarger-Nakamoto, propmistress
Anthony Michael Stokes, assistant propmaster
Gianni Schicchi

Cast of Characters

Gianni Schicchi - Stephen Jackson
Lauretta, his daughter – Sarah Fobes, Vanessa Colón

Relations of Buoso Donati:
Zita, (La Vecchia), cousin of Buoso - Cynthia Hill
Rinuccio, nephew of Zita - Lem-kar Rodríguez, Gerardo Antonio Ramos*
Gherardo, nephew of Buoso - Guillermo Flores
Nella, his wife - Alejandra Pedraza
Gherardino, their son - Samantha Nava
Betto di Signa, brother-in-law of Buoso - Luis Orozco, Jorge Uribe
Simone, Buoso's cousin - Christopher Holguin
Marco, his son - Michael Lyle, Anthony Michael Stokes
La Ciesca, Marco's wife - Marissa Trujillo
Maestro Spinelloccio, doctor - Alex Herrera, Travis Aikman
Ser Amantio di Nicolao, lawyer - Travis Aikman, Alex Herrera
Pinellino, neighbor - Mathew Morin
Guccio, neighbor - Joseph Quintana
Buoso Donati, deceased - Abraham Villa

TIME: 1959
Place: Florence
THE UTEP MUSIC THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCES
FOR

Suor Angelica
&

Gianni Schicchi

Two one-act operas by Giacomo Puccini
Directed by Christopher Meerdink ** Conducted by Elisa Fraser Wilson
SPANISH SUBTITLES PROVIDED
STUDY GUIDES AVAILABLE
RUNNING TIME: APPROXIMATELY 90 MINUTES

Suor Angelica is a powerfully tragic one-act opera composed by Puccini in 1918. It tells the melodramatic tale of a 17th Century nun whose relatives have forced her into a convent after she has disgraced them by having a baby out of wedlock. In the company of the religious, Sister Angelica blossoms as a saintly, selfless woman, a favorite of the other sisters, a healer and confidante. Her happy world is shattered, however, when her scheming aunt appears with news of her infant son’s death. Angelica poisons herself, but immediately regrets her sinful action. As a sign of God’s forgiveness, she dies a happy death, envisioning herself in heaven holding her beloved child.

In contrast, Gianni Schicchi, also composed in 1918, is an unimprovable comedy. Buoso Donati’s relations are anxious about the property he may have left them in his will, which they search for and find. It reveals that, as they had feared, Buoso Donati had left everything to a monastery. Rinuccio, who hopes to marry Lauretta, daughter of Gianni Schicchi, suggests that the latter should be called, for whatever help he can give. After due consideration, he proposes taking the place of the dead man, convincing the doctor, speaking from behind the bed-curtains, and a lawyer, who draws up a new will, making smaller bequests to the family, but leaving the major properties to himself, threatening the family with legal penalties if they reveal anything, since they have all been party to the fraud. Rinuccio is now free to marry Lauretta.

APRIL 4, 5, & 6, 2006
9:30 AM
$4.00 PER PERSON (students, teachers, and chaperones)
Recital Hall, UTEP Fox Fine Arts Building

For reservations or information, please contact the Music Theatre office,
747-7815.
Payment Deadline: March 28, 2006