

## THE PROGRAM

### Act I of LA BOHÈME by Giacomo Puccini

Mimi (seamstress)	Shadi Ebrahimi
Rodolfo (poet)	Gregory Hanson
Marcello (painter)	Daniel Draper
Schaunard (musician)	John Hendricks
Colline (philosopher)	Alexander Prokhorov
Benoit (landlord)	Andy Bonanno
<i>Director &amp; Pianist</i>	<i>Leonardo Ciampa</i>

\*\*\* First Intermission \*\*\*

Olga Lisovskaya, soprano  
Leonardo Ciampa, piano

Je marche sur tous les chemins (from <i>Manon</i> )	Massenet
Obéissons quand leur voix appelle (from <i>Manon</i> )	Massenet
Chom, chom ne pryjshov? (Why didn't you come?)	Ukrainian folk song arr. A. Kos-Anatolsky
Oy, ne svity, misyachen'ku (Oh, do not shine, moon)	Ukrainian folk song arr. L. Kaufman
Adele's Laughing song (from <i>Die Fledermaus</i> )	J. Strauss

\*\*\* Second Intermission \*\*\*

### Act III of L'AMICO FRITZ by Pietro Mascagni

Fritz (wealthy land-owner)	Gregory Hanson
Suzel (daughter of Fritz's tenant)	Shadi Ebrahimi
David (Rabbi)	Daniel Draper
Beppe (young gipsy violinist)	Heather Poduska
Federico (bachelor friend of Fritz)	Andy Bonanno
Hanezò (bachelor friend of Fritz)	John Hendricks
<i>Director &amp; Pianist</i>	<i>Leonardo Ciampa</i>

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### LA BOHÈME Act I Synopsis

Paris, Christmas Eve, c. 1830. In their Latin Quarter garret, the painter Marcello and poet Rodolfo try to keep warm by burning pages from Rodolfo's latest drama. They are joined by their comrades — Colline, a young philosopher, and Schaunard, a musician who has landed a job and brings food, fuel and funds. But while they celebrate their unexpected fortune, the landlord, Benoit, arrives to collect the rent. Plying the older man with wine, they urge him to tell of his flirtations, then throw

him out in mock indignation. As the friends depart for a celebration at the nearby Café Momus, Rodolfo promises to join them soon, staying behind to finish writing an article. There is another knock: a neighbor, Mimì, says her candle has gone out on the drafty stairs. Offering her wine when she feels faint, Rodolfo relights her candle and helps her to the door. Mimì realizes she has dropped her key, and as the two search for it, both candles are blown out. In the moonlight the poet takes the girl's shivering hand, telling her his dreams. She then recounts her solitary life, embroidering flowers and waiting for spring. Drawn to each other, Mimì and Rodolfo leave for the café.

### L'AMICO FRITZ Act III Synopsis

The Alsace Region of the German Empire, in the year 1890. Fritz Kobus, a wealthy and generous landowner, had sworn to remain a bachelor, and cannot fathom falling in love. David, a rabbi, predicted that within a year Fritz will march down the marriage aisle. After meeting Suzel, Fritz cannot forget her. Beppe attempts to comfort him with a song written under the influence of unhappy love. Left alone, Fritz laments that if even Beppe is troubled by love then all is hopeless indeed. Suzel, bringing fruit for Fritz, sings plaintively of her sorrow. Fritz asks if she is really to be married. She begs to be saved from a match she doesn't desire. Relieved, Fritz admits his love for her and they sing of their future bliss. David wins his bet and all wish the couple well. When David tries to convince Federico and Hanezo of the virtues of marriage, the two bachelors beat a hasty retreat.

### DRAMATIS PERSONÆ (alphabetical)

**Andy Bonanno** is a very experienced singer and actor. He appeared (credited as Victor Andrews) in the films *On the Fringe*, *Seaside Murder*, *Alex Blake*, *Hot Shot*, and *Author, Author*, and on television in *Rescue 911*, *Spenser for Hire*, and *Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow*. He is experienced in stage acting as well. As a singer he has appeared in the operas *Il Tabarro*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Trial by Jury*, *Rigoletto*, and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*.

**Daniel Draper** is a young baritone based out of the North Shore of Boston. He has been performing for the past 5 years with such organizations as the Commonwealth Opera of Mass and the Gordon Symphony Orchestra. Mastering roles such as the title from "A Doctor in Spite of Himself" and Fiorello from the "Barber of Seville", he is proving quickly to be a baritone to keep an eye on. Mr. Draper is a student of Craig Hart.

Soprano **Shadi Ebrahimi** has appeared as Fiordiligi in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* with Longfellow Chamber Opera, as a soloist in Brahms's *Requiem* with Masterworks Choral, Mahler's *Symphony no. 2* with Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, Vaughan Williams's *Dona Nobis Pacem* with Harvard-Radcliffe Chorus, Poulenc's *Gloria* and Handel's *Messiah* with Coro Polifonico, and Haydn's *Nelson Mass* with Longy Chamber Choir. She has also performed new music by contemporary composers such as, John Howell Morrison, Paul Brust, Eva Kendrick, and Nikan Milani and has premiered a new song cycle by composer Gregory Wollenman. A Graduate of the Longy School of Music, Miss Ebrahimi is a member of the faculty at Allegro Music School, MJ's Music School and Riverside Theatre Works.

**Gregory Hanson** is a young tenor from the North Shore of Massachusetts and has recently been enjoying a busy performance schedule. This summer he made his debut with Opera del West, singing Rinuccio from Puccini's "Gianni Schicchi". Gregory will also be singing in their "Once Upon an Opera" show in a highlight from Rossini's "Cenerentola" as the role of Don Ramiro. In addition to this, he spent his summer being the tenor soloist for the Lakes Region Opera's "Broadway's Best" concert series.

His other recent performances have been the role of Parpignol in Puccini's "La Bohème" and Lucas in Gounod's "The Doctor in Spite of Himself". He has sung scenes from Mozart's "Die Entführung aus dem Serail" as Pedrillo, Weill's "Street Scene" as Lippo and as a chorus member in Rossini's "Barber of Seville".

Gregory graduated from Gordon College on the North Shore of Boston with a Bachelor Degree in Computer Science in the spring of 2006. He currently works there as the Technology Support Center Manager. He has been performing choral and chamber music for the past 10 years and is now pursuing a solo career while studying voice with basso Craig Hart, protégé of Jerome Hines

The promising young baritone **John Hendricks** has sung in such operas as *The Doctor in Spite of Himself*, *The New Moon*, *The Bartered Bride*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *The Rake's Progress*, *Fidelio*, *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *The Pearlfishers*, and other important operas. Currently Mr. Hendricks is a student of Craig Hart.

**Olga Lisovskaya**, coloratura soprano, is a native of Kiev, Ukraine. Ms. Lisovskaya was a winner of the regional NATS vocal competition in 2005, winner of the Middlebury College Concerto Competition in 1999, and a finalist of the Connecticut Opera Guild Young Artist Scholarship Competition in 2004. Her recent operatic engagements include the role of Cinderella in the U.S. premier of Vaynshtein's opera *Cinderella*, opera scenes with the Lakes Region Opera Company and a well-reviewed performance of the Dew Fairy in Opera Providence's production of *Hansel and Gretel*. Other roles include: Fanchette (Offenbach's *Mariage aux Lanternes*), Torbisco (Offenbach's *Les Bavards*), and Amahl (Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*); as well as appearances in numerous opera scenes performing Baby Doe, Adele, Adina, Zerbinetta, Mme. Goldentrill, Blonde, Lakmé, Papagena, Fiordiligi, Norina and others.

**Heather Poduska** Soprano, Heather Poduska has performed with many of the performing arts organizations in New England including Boston Lyric Opera, Opera New England Outreach, Operatunity, Operafest! of New Hampshire, Cambridge Chamber Opera, and Opera Chaminde, and Opera Unmet. Some of her operatic roles have included, Massenet's *Cinderella*, *Roselinda* from *Die Fledermaus*, *Lucy* from *The Telephone*, *Genevieve* from *Suor Angelica*, *Apollonia* from *La Cantarina*, and *Papagena* and *2<sup>nd</sup> Lady* from *The Magic Flute*. She was soloist at the Wang Center for the Performing Arts in collaboration with Boston Ballet and Commonwealth Shakespeare. Ms. Poduska has also forayed into film acting with two independent film projects to her credit.

**Alexander Prokhorov**, bass-baritone, originally from Russia, has a Master of Music Degree from the Longy School of Music and recently graduated from Boston University's Opera Institute. Alexander appears regularly with the Boston Early Music Festival, Handel & Haydn Society, the Boston Lyric Opera and other New England opera companies. Alexander's repertoire varies from opera and oratorio to Russian romances, church music and art songs. These days, Alexander is combining a concert and performance career with teaching and vocal coaching in the Boston area. He is and Director of the Vocal Arts Studio and the assistant music director of Boston Russian Chorus.

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