ERIC FERRING

<u>es</u>

The Florentine Opera

Al Fresco: Eric Ferring

Thursday, August 17, 2023

6:30 PM Cocktail Hour, 7:30 PM Performance

Hosted at the River Hills Home of Donna & Donald Baumgartner

Run Time: 75 minutes

| Eric FerringT | enor |
|------------------|-------|
| Michael Banwarth | Piano |

This evening's program will feature songs by composers from Tchaikovsky and Delibes to Jake Heggie and Florence Price.

Songs will be announced from the stage.

About Al Fresco

The Al Fresco summer series are some of the best events located in some of the most beautiful and intimate gardens around Southeastern Wisconsin that feature some of opera's top talents.

MAKE A GRANDIOSO GESTURE CLICK HERE TO DONATE

PRODUCTION

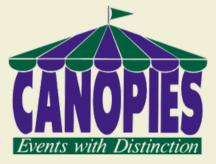
Studio Gear

EVENT PARTNERS





CUISINE & EVEN





Cocktails at 5:30pm Dinner at 7:00pm Performance with Dessert Complimentary Valet Parking

Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact Gail Valenti, Director of Development gvalenti@florentineopera.org 414-291-5700 X225

Table (\$5000) and individual seats (\$500/person) are available by calling David Kortes 414-291-5700 x231 or via email at rsvp@florentineopera.org



Eric Ferring

Tenor Eric Ferring, a native of Dubuque, Iowa, graduated magna cum laude from **Drake University** with his Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and **The Boston Conservatory** with his Master of Music in Opera Performance. He is a graduate of the **Lyric**

Opera of Chicago's Ryan Opera Center and the **Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Program,** a 2022 **George London Foundation** Award Winner, and the Top Prize Winner of the 2022 **Gerda Lissner Foundation International Vocal Competition**.

Eric Ferring's 2022-23 engagements bring several exciting house and role debuts. He makes his first appearance at the **Opéra national de Paris**, as Lurcanio in Robert Carsen's new production of *Ariodante*, conducted by Harry Bricket. He also makes his company debut at **Opéra national du Rhin**, singing Tamino in a new production of *Die Zauberflöte*, and returns to **Opéra de Rouen** as Lysander in Carsen's iconic production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, conducted by Music Director Ben Glassberg. Ferring is also featured in recital at his alma mater **Drake University**, appearing as the featured artist for its distinguished Jordan Concert Series. The 2023-24 season will feature Eric's house debut with *Opéra de Lille* as Don Ottavio, before making his return to **Opéra de Rouen** in the same role.

His 2021-2022 season included appearances as Beppe in the Lyric Opera of Chicago's filmed production of *Pagliacci*, his anticipated Metropolitan Opera debut singing Pong in *Turandot*, and further performances at the Met as Tamino in a holiday performance of *The Magic Flute*, Arturo in a new production of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and a Royal Herald in *Don Carlos*. In the summer of 2022, he recorded an album entitled *No Choice but Love* with Lexicon Classics, performed Beethoven's 9th *Symphony* with Spoleto Festival USA, and made his debut at Santa Fe Opera, singing Fenton in Sir David McVicar's new production of *Falstaff*.

ericferring.com

Mr. Ferring's COVID-19 impacted 2020-2021 season began with his debut as Walther in *Tannhäuser* with **Opéra de Rouen**, a fully-rehearsed production with performances unfortunately cancelled. He was also slated to make a repeat appearance with the **Jacksonville Symphony** as the tenor soloist for Handel's *Messiah* (performed), join **Florentine Opera** in recital (performed), and make his debut with **North Carolina Opera** as Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte* (cancelled). Other originally scheduled engagements included his return to **Pittsburgh Opera** as Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte* (cancelled), and covering the roles of Tamino and Don Ottavio in Don Giovanni at the **Metropolitan Opera** (cancelled).

Previous notable engagements include his principal role debut at Lyric Opera of Chicago as Lurcanio in Ariodante, for which the Chicago Tribune declared him "the most noteworthy solo breakthrough of the production", and Tamino in *Die Zauberflöteat* the Verbier Festival. With Pittsburgh Opera, he appeared as The Protagonist in the world premiere of the one-man opera Ashes & Snow in collaboration with American Opera Projects, bowed as Nemorino in a student matinee performance of in *L'elisir d'amore*, and sang Ricky in *The Long Walk* and Señor Alcalde in the world premiere of *The Summer King*.

Eric Ferring was an Apprentice Singer at **Santa Fe Opera**, where he was awarded the 2017 **Richard Tucker Memorial Scholarship**. He also participated in the **Académie du Festival d'Aix-en-Provence**, **Opera Theatre of Saint Louis'** Gerdine Young Artist Program, receiving a career award from the **Richard Gaddes Fund for Young Artists**, and was a Studio Artist at **Wolf Trap Opera**.

ericferring.com



Michael Banwarth

Pianist and vocal coach Michael Banwarth is currently in his first season as ensemble pianist for the Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago. He has held vocal piano and opera coaching fellowships at numerous festivals including Music Academy, the Bay View Music Festival, and the Atlantic Music Festival. A lover of the opera repertoire, Michael also enjoys opportunities to explore crossover, cabaret, and musical theater styles, and has a particular passion for the art song and vocal chamber music literature. Michael graduated with a Master of Music in Collaborative Piano from the New England Conservatory where he studied under Cameron Stowe and Vivian Hornik Weilerstein. At NEC he served as Teaching Assistant for the Song Lab initiative and appeared frequently in the Liederabend receital series and with the NEC Opera Department. He was a recipient of the Dean's Scholarship and the Gunther Schuller medal, awarded to a distinguished graduate student. Michael holds a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from lowa State University where he studied with Mei-Hsuan Huang.

SEASON AT A GLANCE

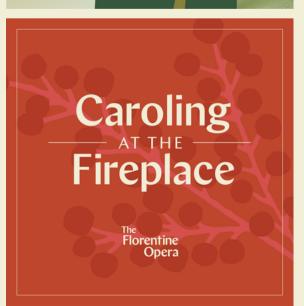


Spotlight on Marie-Eve Munger

Thursday, September 21, 2023 5:30pm The Atrium

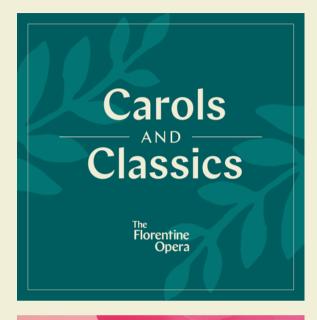
Elixir of Love

Friday, October 13, 2023, 7:30pm Sunday, October 15, 2023, 2:30pm Uihlien Hall, MPAC



Caroling at the Fireplace Tuesday, December 12, 2023 7:30pm Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts

SEASON AT A GLANCE



Carols and Classics

Thursday, December 14, 2023 7:30pm St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Songbird

Friday, February 16, 2024, 7:30pm Sunday, February 18, 2024, 2:30pm Wilson Theater at Vogel Hall, MPAC



Wanderlust

Thursday, March 21, 7:30pm Friday, March 22, 7:30pm Lueders Opera Center

SEASON AT A GLANCE



Spotlight on Chaz'men Williams-Ali

Thursday, March 28, 2024 5:30pm Milwaukee County Historical Society

Bronzeville Bohème

Friday, April 19, 2024, 7:30pm Sunday, April 21, 2024, 2:30pm Uihlien Hall, MPAC



María de Buenos Aires

Friday, May 17, 2024, 7:30pm Sunday,May 19, 2024, 2:30pm Turner Hall Ballroom