

**SPRING 2026
OPERA WORKSHOP
SECTION 2 SCENES PROGRAM**
presents

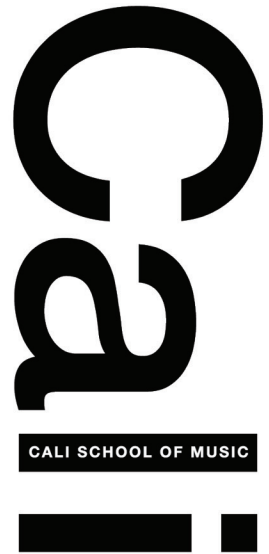
Woven

An Opera Pastiche

Van Fossan Theater
Sunday, May 3rd, 2026
5:00 pm

MSU Opera Workshop

Rebecca Loeb, director
William Hobbs, pianist
Victoria Schwartzman, pianist



**"Opening Scene"
from *Manon***

Music by Jules Massenet (1842-1912)
Libretto by Henri Meilhac (1830-1897) and
Philippe Gille (1831-1901)

Poussette — *Claudia Céspedes*, *Javotte* — *Brianna Coppolino*
Rosette— *Leah LaGuerre*
Brétigny— *Elvin Santana Roa*, *Guillot* - *Isaac Rodriguez*
Innkeeper - *Julio Santiago*

Gary Blackman, conductor

In a bustling restaurant, noblemen, actresses, and patrons grow increasingly impatient as their pleas for service go unanswered.

**"Opening Scene"
from *Così fan tutte***

Music by W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)
Libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte (1749-1838)

Guglielmo - *Clinton Garrison*
Ferrando - *Peiyuan Xie*
Don Alfonso - *Elvin Santana Roa*

In the same setting, two young men, Guglielmo and Ferrando, attempt to convince their friend Don Alfonso that their fiancées are faithful, while he argues that no woman is truly constant.

**"Saria Possibile"
from *L'elisir d'amore***

Music by Gaetano Donizetti
(1797-1848)
Libretto by Felice Romani (1788-1865)

Gianetta - *Sarah Sweeney*
ENSEMBLE

Gianetta shares gossip with her friends that Nemorino—spotted earlier—has inherited a great fortune, suddenly making him a highly desirable bachelor.

**"Watch Duet"
from *Die Fledermaus***

Music by Johann Strauss II (1825-1899)
Libretto by Karl Haffner (1804-1876) and
Richard Genée (1823-1895)

Eisenstein - *Isaac Rodriguez*
Rosalinde (Eisenstein's Wife) - *Victoria Mango*
Adele - *Claudia Céspedes*
Dr. Falke - *Julio Santiago*

Rosalinde searches for her husband Eisenstein, only to find him flirting with their maid Adele, attempting to charm her with his watch. Disguising herself as a Hungarian countess, Rosalinde plots to outwit him and steal it.

"Rain Quartet"
from *Regina*

Music by Marc Blitzstein (1905-1964)
Based on a play by Lillian Hellman
(1905-1984)

Alexandra - Brianna Coppolino
Birdie - Sarah Sweeney
Addie - Leah LaGuerre
Horace - Julio Santiago

Amid the surrounding chaos, four characters find a brief moment of stillness, joy and reflection as rain falls.

"My time of Day..."
from *Guys and Dolls*

Music and lyrics by Frank Loesser
(1910-1969)

Sky - Yadiel Rivera Colon
Sarah - Sophie Negrete

Sky shows Sarah the time of day when he feels most at peace, and in doing so, both begin to reveal their true feelings.

"Nemorino and Dulcamara Duet"
from *L'elisir d'amore*

Music by Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)
Libretto by Felice Romani (1788-1865)

Nemorino - Peiyuan Xie
Dulcamara - Yadiel Rivera Colon

Nemorino, longing to win a certain woman's love, turns to the quack doctor Dulcamara for a magical elixir like that of Tristan and Isolde. Dulcamara obliges, selling him a bottle of ordinary Bordeaux and instructing him in its "use" while swearing him to secrecy.

"Ah qual colpo inaspettato"
from *Il barbiere di Siviglia*

Music by Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)
Libretto by Cesare Sterbini (1783-1831)

Rosina - Gabriella Guida
Almaviva - Drazen Balarin
Figaro - Clinton Garrison

Rosina discovers that her "Lindoro" is in fact Count Almaviva in disguise, confirming his true love for her. As Figaro celebrates his successful scheming, the moment is cut short by approaching danger, and the trio hastily makes their escape.

~ 10 Minute Break ~

"All Along"
from *The Hours**

Music by Kevin Puts (b.1972)
Libretto by Greg Pierce (b. 1978) and the novel
by Michael Cunningham

Laura - Haiming Wu
Clarissa - Clara Luz Iranzo
Virginia - Carlee Carpenter

William Hobbs, conductor

In the final trio, three women from different times become aware of one another through their interwoven stories, discovering that, despite their struggles, they are not alone.

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"Spinning Scene"
from *The Rape of Lucretia*

Music by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
Libretto by Ronald Duncan (1914-1982)

Lucretia - Gabriella Guida
Female Chorus - Victoria Mango
Bianca - Carlee Carpenter
Lucia - Brianna Coppolino

Lucretia, her nurse, and her maid spin as the Female Chorus reflects on women's labor and fate. Hearing a knock, Lucretia hopes it is her husband, Collatinus—but no one arrives, and she must continue waiting.

"Douce Enfant"
from *Cendrillon*

Music by Jules Massenet (1842-1912)
Libretto by Henri Cain (1857-1937)

Fée - Haiming Wu
Faeries - ENSEMBLE

Cendrillon sleeps in sorrow as her Fairy Godmother appears. Moved to help her, she calls on her fellow spirits, as she prepares to transform the young woman into the belle of the ball.

**"Psst... Psst... Nanetta"
from *Falstaff***

Music by Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
Libretto by Arrigo Boito (1842-1918)

*Fenton - Drazen Balarin
Nannetta - Claudia Céspedes*

Two young lovers flirt and banter in the woods, continually interrupted as they try to steal moments alone.

**"See the flags"
from *Dido and Aeneas***

Music by Henry Purcell (1659-1695)
Libretto by Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

*Sorceress - Leah LaGuerre
Witch 1 - Sophie Negrete
Witch 2 - Seonyu Han*

An evil sorceress and her witches plot the downfall of their enemy.

**"Opening Scene"
from *Eugene Onegin****

Music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(1840-1893)
Based on a novel by Alexander Pushkin
(1799-1837)

*Olga - Gabriella Guida
Tatiana - Clara Luz Iranzo
Larina - Sarah Sweeney
Filipyevna - Carlee Carpenter*

Madame Larina and the nurse, Filipyevna, sit in the garden as the distant voices of her daughters, Tatyana and Olga, drift through a love song. Their singing prompts Madame Larina to reflect on her own youth, courtship, and marriage.

**"Todas las Mañanitas"
from *Don Gil de Alcalá***

Music and Libretto by Manuel Penella
Moreno (1880-1939)

*Soloists - Clara Luz Iranzo and Isaac Rodriguez
ENSEMBLE*

A lyrical habanera reflecting on hope, renewal, and the promise of a new day.

PRODUCTION TEAM

MSU OPERA

Karen Driscoll, Head of Artistic Operations/Opera
William Hobba, Music Coordinator/Opera

MUSICAL PREPARATION

William Hobbs, pianist/coach/repetiteur
Vica Schwartzman pianist/coach/repetiteur
*Anya Fidelia language and music coach

SCENES COACHES

Michael Caldwell
Peiwen Chen
Leanne Overton
Mory Ortman
Mary Pinto
Grant Wenaus

PRODUCTION TEAM

Direction & Concept: Rebecca Jo Loeb
Assistant Director and Props Assistant: Julio Santiago
Lighting Designer: Taylor Droege
Program notes: Rebecca Jo Loeb
Titles Creation: Opera Workshop Class 2
Titles Caller: Kailey Diggs
Publicity Design: Heather Kern
Social Media: Kailey Diggs, Maria Jo Phelps
Opera Graduate Assistant: Kailey Diggs

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