

24-25 Performance Opportunities

Opera and Musical Theatre

Dear Voice and Artist Diploma in Opera Studies Students:

Welcome to the 2024-25 academic year. We're very glad you're here!

Please take the time to peruse this information in its entirety, there is a lot here to take in.

The SFCM Opera and Musical Theatre Program is excited to announce our 2024-25 season which will consist of 4 fully staged operas and musicals as well as multiple scene showcases and winter term opportunities. Performances will take place at either Hume Hall, Osher Salon, Sol Joseph Recital Hall, or the Barbro Recital Hall at the Bowes Center.

- Below is repertoire information as well as available roles. In upcoming weeks, you will receive specific guidelines on audition schedule and requirements. *Please note, the Historical Performance audition and class information as well as Undergraduate Opera - Winter Term will be sent to you in separate communications as well, but the repertoire information is below.*
- Before you audition for us, please ensure that your schedule of required academic classes will allow them to take part in the specific ENS course listed for each of our productions.
- After you sign-up for an audition, you will be sent a link to complete a google form in which you will be able to select which productions you are interested in being considered for, based on the roles and your availability.
- The Undergraduate Opera during Winter Term information is below, auditions for that production will be held separately and also during orientation week. Other Winter Term opportunities will be sent out to students during Module 1.

We audition each and every student who expresses interest but we ultimately make casting decisions based on both audition performance (vocal and dramatic) as well as “supply and demand”. Like any other educational institution, we have a surplus of high female voices (which make up more than 60% of our Voice/Opera Studies student population) so it is highly competitive for those voice types. Whenever we are unable to cast within the SFCM cohort, we hire outside artists, always striving to engage SFCM alumni first (if appropriate for the roles available)

New students: Participation in any of our ENS designated ensembles below is by audition only. At the appropriate time, you may sign up for an audition and, if cast and placed into a ENS class, we will take care of enrolling you into the pertinent ensemble course (provided you accept our offer and can fit it in your schedule).

Please make sure you become familiar with your SFCM-assigned Email address (available in early August) as all future communication will be sent exclusively to it. You will also need an SFCM Email to access and complete an audition form that we will send you.

A note about ENS Opera Workshop Classes:

Graduate and PSC students - It is highly recommended that you audition for Opera Workshop as these are the classes that give you the tools you need to embody and apply the craft of Opera performance. Even if you have taken this class in the past, please audition again. Each Module will have a different focus either stagecraft or performance.

Undergraduate students, please refer to your curriculum checklist for your ensemble requirements. We are excited to work with you in Opera Workshop and Vocal Arts this year.

- ENS 508 Opera Workshop is designed for Undergraduates, Sophomores through Senior year.
- ENS 509.1 Advanced Opera Workshop is designed for Graduates students who are new to the SFCM Opera Program.
- ENS 509.2 Advanced Opera Workshop is designed for returning Graduates, and PSC students. This course is best suited for students with previous stage experience who are ready to learn assigned material quickly and move into staging shortly after (similar to a Scenes Program at a Young Artist's Program).
- ENS 610 Artist Diploma Showcase is designed for Artist Diploma in Opera Studies students only.

If you have any questions, please contact:

-For Opera: write to Professor Mathews at heather.mathews@sfc.edu or Professor Pajer at cpajer@sfc.edu

-For Musical Theatre: write to Professor Mohammed at mmohammed@sfc.edu

We look forward to seeing you all in the Fall!

Sincerely,

The Opera and Musical Theater Team

RELATED ENSEMBLE & SCHEDULE	PERFORMANCE TITLE, DATES & VENUE
<p style="text-align: center;">ENS 509.1 ENS 509.2 GRADUATE OPERA WORKSHOP Modules 1,2 and 3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OPERA WORKSHOP SHOWCASE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, December 4th 7:30 pm Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, December 5th 7:30 pm Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, February 25th 7:30 pm Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall</p>

Repertoire will be chosen to suit the specific students who are invited to take part in the ensemble.

<p style="text-align: center;">ENS 512 FALL OPERA THEATRE Fall Semester Only</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>COSI FAN TUTTE</i> - Mozart (Sung in Italian) Thursday, November 21st 7:30 pm Friday, November 22nd 7:30 pm Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall</p>
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Role	Voice Type
Fiordiligi	soprano
Dorabella	mezzo soprano
Despina	soprano/mezzo soprano
Ferrando	tenor
Guglielmo	baritone
Don Alfonso	bass baritone
Coro	SATB

ENS 508 UNDERGRADUATE OPERA WORKSHOP Module 4 Performance	OPERA WORKSHOP SHOWCASE Monday October 14th, 2:00 pm Osher Salon Friday April 25th 7:30 pm Sol Joseph Recital Hall
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Repertoire will be chosen to suit the specific students who are invited to take part in the ensemble.

ENS 505 MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMANCE Fall Semester and half of Module 3	(To Be Announced Shortly once rights are secured) Friday, February 21st 7:30 pm Saturday, Feb 22nd 7:30 pm Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall
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ENS 513 SPRING OPERA THEATRE Module 2 and Module 3	CANDIDE - Bernstein In English Friday March 14th 7:30 pm Saturday March 15th 7:30 pm. Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall
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Role (principal)	Voice Type
Candide	tenor
Cunegonde	coloratura soprano
Voltaire/Dr.Pangloss	baritone
Old Lady	mezzo soprano
Maximillian	baritone
Paquette	Mezzo soprano
Chorus/Dancers	SATB
Many comprimario roles to be cast from Chorus	

ENS 504 MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP Module 1 (Fall) and Spring Semester	MUSICAL THEATRE SHOWCASE (Students will participate in the process of creating and writing a thematic revue) Saturday, May 2nd 7:30 pm Barbro Osher Recital Hall
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ENS 510 CHAMBER OPERA Spring Semester only	ANON - Errollyn Wallen (Sung in English) & (other one act to be announced shortly) Thursday, May 8th, 7:30 pm Friday, May 9th 7:30 pm Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall
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Role (Anon)	Voice Type
Girl 1	soprano
Girl 2	soprano
Girl 3	soprano
Girl 4	soprano
Actor 1	any
Actor 2	any
Role (TBD)	

Historical Performance Information

The fall program will be an exploration of vocal (and instrumental) American music composed 1890-1935, instrumental music and songs with music and lyrics written for the theatrical and concert stages by Anne Caldwell, Kay Swift, Frank Tours, Ann Ronell, Dana Suesse, Ruth Lowe and Dorothy Fields. This unjustly neglected repertoire is absolutely amazing. The fall semester chamber program performance will be on Oct 6, 2024

The major project for next year will be Handel's *Orlando*

Orlando: mezzo-soprano

Angelica: soprano

Medoro: mezzo-soprano

Dorinda: soprano

Zoroastro: baritone

The project is double cast and the performances are scheduled for April 12 and 13, 2025.

Undergraduate Opera - Winter Term Project

The undergraduate opera winter term project aims to provide benefits to the SFCM students and community. Offering a chance to foster creativity and collaboration among students and faculty, this unique opportunity for musical and theatrical training will provide a platform for foundational skills, performance, and community enrichment.

The first opera produced for undergrads at SFCM occurred in 2023 with Handel's *Acis and Galatea*. This past January of 2024, SFCM presented a double bill of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* paired with a world premiere of Jodi Goble's *Meow and Forever*. Building on the success of these operas, our goal is to continue this undergraduate opera experience with a full length opera with chamber orchestra, sets, costumes, and two performances. This is a performance opportunity open to undergraduate students only, and we will seek support from our graduate students to aid with stage managements, administrative work, costume and set design.

We are thrilled to announce that in January 2025 we will present ***Die Zauberflöte*** by Mozart. This is one of the most often performed operas in the repertoire and we know how important it is to make sure our undergrads have the experience of performing standard repertoire. We will perform this opera in German with English dialogue. We will make some cuts, but plan to perform the opera in its entirety.

To audition for this opportunity, you will sign up for an audition time during orientation week in August of 2024. That form will be forthcoming as we get closer to the end of summer. You will be asked to prepare two pieces. They can be anything that you love to sing. They don't have to represent the German language although you are welcome to present German songs/arias. You are encouraged to bring classical, musical theater, or any genre you really love to sing. A pianist will be provided and the audition will be a low pressure, welcoming, and understanding environment. We know that many of you will be new to SFCM and we strongly encourage you to audition. If you audition for this opera, you will be cast. We will have more information about venue, production team, module 2 preparation time, and performance dates as we approach August but our hope is that this information will excite you and give you something to look forward to as we welcome you to SFCM!

Note from Prof. Jones, Director of UG Opera:

A score will be made available closer to the end of the summer, and I encourage you to spend some time this summer familiarizing yourselves with the show. I'm including a list of roles below along with voice types, remembering that I remain flexible to casting with creativity when it comes to voice types that we may not currently have. For example, Sarastro is usually sung by a bass but I've always thought it would be pretty great to have a mezzo sing that role.

ROLES:

Tamino	Tenor
Papageno	Baritone
Pamina	Soprano
Queen of the Night	Soprano
Sarastro	Bass/Contralto
First Lady	Soprano
Second Lady	Soprano/Mezzo
Third Lady	Mezzo
Monostatos	Tenor
First Spirit	Soprano
Second Spirit	Soprano/Mezzo
Third Spirit	Mezzo
Speaker of the Temple	Bass-baritone
First Priest	Tenor
Second Priest	Bass/Baritone
First Armored Man	Tenor/Soprano

Second Armored Man	Bass/Mezzo
Third Priest	Speaking role
Papagena	Soprano/Mezzo
Chorus (solos available)	All voice types