

Loyola University New Orleans
School of Music and Theatre Arts
Presents

Loyola Opera Theatre:
The Impresario
(Der Schauspieldirektor)

A Comedy with Music in One Act

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Libretto by Gottlieb Stephanie
English translation by Giovanni Cardelli
Dialogue revision by Carol Rausch

with

Irini Kyriakidou Hymel, Stage Director
Carol Rausch, Pianist & Music Director
Sofia Riggio, Conductor



Saturday, April 24, 2021, 3 & 5 p.m.
Dixon Court

3 p.m. Cast

Mr. Scruples,
old-school Impresario

Kenneth Weber

Mr. Bluff,
assistant

Samuel Ater

Mr. Antoine Angel,
soprano-stalking businessman

Nicholas Smith

Madame Gloria Goldentrill,
aging diva

Michelle Guillot Lane

Miss Selena Silverpeal,
aspiring opera star

Allison Waguespack

5 p.m. Cast

Mr. Scruples,
old-school Impresario

Kenneth Weber

Mr. Bluff,
assistant

Lukas Kolb

Mr. Antoine Angel,
soprano-stalking businessman

Andrew Burgmayer

Madame Gloria Goldentrill,
aging diva

Michelle Guillot Lane

Miss Selena Silverpeal,
aspiring opera star

Elizabeth Peters

Synopsis

Overture

After a frustrating year of struggling to produce opera in New Orleans during the pandemic, Mr. Scruples has finally been rewarded with a contract as General Director of the Crescent City Opera. Exhausted, he seems more inclined to retire to his crawfish farm. Bluff, his assistant, hints that being assigned a few small roles onstage would be incentive for his continued administrative help. Mounting a new season seems financially impossible to Scruples, considering the many expensive components of opera, but Bluff suggests ways for modernizing live opera in 2021 to make it simpler....and cheaper! Enter Antoine Angel, wealthy owner of a successful chain of local frozen daiquiri franchises. He begs Scruples to help save his relationship with Madame Goldentrill, a famous and semi-retired soprano, who is now determined to launch a series of comeback performances. To secure a contract for her, Angel is prepared to offer half a million dollars. Gloria Goldentrill, a larger-than-life personality, dramatically appears and agrees to audition on the spot!

Aria - My love and I are parted

Reassured by Angel's sizeable donation, Scruples agrees to hire Madame Goldentrill as the resident prima donna for her demanded fee. The diva exits so the men can work out business details. Angel then begs Scruples to help him with a second difficult liaison, this time with the ambitious young singer, Selena Silverpeal. When Scruples hesitates at juggling a company with TWO resident stars, Angel throws in a daiquiri franchise to sweeten the pot. But he suggests that his monetary gifts might give him the right to have a say in the running of the company. Angel then ushers in Miss Silverpeal, an attractive young "emerging artist," who promises that her singing will match her looks!

Rondo - Come my love, my dearest treasure

Angel feels smug in his ability to spot new talent, and Scruples is genuinely impressed. He offers Silverpeal a contract for \$400 a week. She rejects this as an "apprentice fee," and, despite her inexperience, demands all the comic leads, a weekly salary higher than Goldentrill's AND a backstage assistant. Angel steps in, offering to fund this final request. Goldentrill unexpectedly crashes the party, incensed that her patron is negotiating a contract for a young, unknown soprano, and for more money than she was promised! Angel quickly suggests that he was only backing Selena's dictates so that he could then get Gloria's own fee raised. A squabble breaks out between the two women, with Angel desperately trying to placate and appease both.

Trio - My method's flexibility explains my versatility

The hostility between the women and Angel's hapless negotiating continue. Scruples announces officially that he will retire to his crawfish farm in Terrebonne Parish and names Bluff as his successor. Bluff then appoints himself leading baritone for the upcoming season, and designates Angel as the new Impresario. Angel is convinced he can keep the Crescent City Opera in the black and run the company in his spare time! When the singers lament the potential loss of integrity in the field of opera, Scruples gives an eloquent speech about the durability of the art form, and exits. Angel tokenly promises to maintain the high standards of his predecessor, but makes it clear that the artists' careers will be dependent on HIS wealth. Bluff, Silverpeal and Goldentrill instantly proffer their cooperation, and, with daiquiris, toast the new Impresario.

Finale - Every artist strives for glory

Special Thanks

Frohnmayer Legacy Fund

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Olivia Winter, New Orleans Opera Scenic Studio

Frohnmayer Legacy Fund

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Loyola Voice Faculty

Loretta Bybee
Meg Frazier
Ellen Frohnmayer
Irina Kyriakidou
Dreux Montegut
Marcus St. Julien
Claire Shackleton
Tyler Smith
Betsy Uschkrat

Upcoming Events

Junior Recital: Jayne Edwards, piano

Sunday, Apr. 25, 2 p.m.

Senior Recital: Taylor Fontenot, flute

Sunday, Apr. 25, 7:30 p.m.

Junior Recital: Diego Kopado, bass

Thursday, Apr. 29, 7:30 p.m.

Graduate Recital: Samantha Resser, soprano

Friday, Apr. 30, 7:30 p.m.

Graduate Recital: Andrew Burgmayer, voice

Saturday, May 1, 12 p.m.

Senior Recital: Allison Waguespack, voice

Saturday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.

Graduate Recital: Claire Putnam, voice

Sunday, May 2, 3 p.m.

Keys2Inclusion: Piano Masterclass

Tuesday, May 4, 12:30 p.m.

Graduate Recital: Michelle Lane, soprano

Wednesday, May 5, 7:30 p.m.

All events are free and virtual unless otherwise stated.
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