

# Performances 51 Walden, Concord MA

Hansel and and

Saturday Dec 15, 2018 - 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm Sunday Dec 16, 2018 - 2:00 pm

pera A fundraiser for:

The Performing Arts Center at 51 Walden

www.opera51.org



### Chorus

**Angels**: Xinyi Du, Kristin Hagan, Ketti Muschler, Melanie Salisbury **Gingerbread Children**: Xinyi Du, Kristin Hagan, Sophie Knickerbocker, Sarah Mahon, Caroline Millot, Ketti Muschler, Melanie Salisbury, Qirui Shen

### Orchestra

Violín: Siri Smedvig, Oksana Gorokhovskiy, Olga Kradenova, Elisabeth Miller, Sue Stone, Judy Takata, Loretta Tramontozzi, Carole Wayland, Poliana Yee
Viola: John Glenn, Cathy Gates, Bruce Kinmonth
Cello: Julie Durrell, Rob Bethel
Bass: Charles McCauley
Flute: Sarah Tomasek
Oboe: Veronica Kenney
Clarínet: Jerry Vabulas, Elizabeth Connors
Bassoon: David Halpert
horn: Cam Owen, Cassandra LaRochelle
Trumpet: Alton Baggett
Trombone: Peter Norton
Tímpaní/Percussíon: Shane O'Donohoe, Mitch Dion, Zac Van Alst
harp: Judith Ross

### Production Staff

Costume construction: Margretta Beaty, Katelyn Chormicle, Alyssa Mae Doggett, Robin Farnsley, Sally Harris, Elizabeth Hoermann, Nancy Megrian, Beverly St. Clair **Costume design**: Roxanne Becker, Katelyn Chormicle, Robin Farnsley hair and make-up design: Elizabeth Hoermann Light board operator: David Siktberg Lighting designer: Rick Shamel Lobby decor: Roxanne Becker, Alyssa Mae Doggett, Robin Farnsley, Sue Stone **Program**: Lance Levine, Carol McKeen **Props fabrication:** Roxanne Becker, Alyssa Mae Doggett **Props master**: Alyssa Mae Doggett Publicity: David Siktberg, Carole Wayland\* Set construction and painting: Roxanne Becker, Alyssa Mae Doggett, Phil Drew, Kari McKlelland, David Missirian, Gail Murphy **Set design**: Roxanne Becker Sound board operator: Jordan Winkelmann Sound designer: Paul Gill Tickets: Carole Wayland\*

# Acknowledgments

Front of house: Sara Ballard\*, Dorrie Bean\*, Phil Drew\*, Ethan Mattor, Deborah Peirce\*, Jean Patterson\*, Gail Penrod\*, Susan Tucker\*
hall setup and strike: Sara Ballard\*, Phil Drew\*, Susan Tucker\*, Carole Wayland\*
Intermíssion assistance: Lissa Gilbert, Pamela Wolfe

\* 51 Walden Board Member

presents

Hansel and Gretel

Music by Engelbert Humperdinck Libretto by Adelheid Wette, based on the fairy taile by the Brothers Grimm

Robin Farnsley, director Alan Yost, conductor Jay Newlon and Robin Farnsley, choreographers

#### Cast

Gretel: **Robin Farnsley** Hansel: **Kathryn Tolley** Mother: **Lindsay Burroughs** Father: **James C. S. Liu** Sandman: **Emily Adams** Dew Fairy: **Laura Proctor** Witch: **Margretta Beaty** Cover for Mother, Sandman, Dew Fairy: **Alyssa Mae Doggett** 

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The Performing Arts Center at 51 Walden 51 Walden Street, Concord, MA 978-369-7911 • www.51walden.org

### Gast and Greative Staff



**Emily Adams** (Sandman), mezzo-soprano, has enjoyed singing throughout New England for the past several years in both concert and opera settings. Recent opera performances include *Orpheus in the Underworld* with Longwood Opera (Cupid), *Faust* with Opera 51 (Siébel cover), and *Le comte Ory* with Lowell House Opera (Coriphée, Isolier cover). As an oratorio soloist, Emily was the alto soloist for Nashua Choral Society's recent performance of Beetho-

ven's Mass in C. Emily teaches private voice lessons through Nashua Community Music School in Nashua, NH. In addition to her work as a singer, Emily also serves as a class pianist for Boston Ballet School and as the organist for Main Street United Methodist Church in Nashua.



**Margretta Beaty** (Witch), mezzo-soprano, is thrilled to be returning as the Witch to Opera51. She has most recently appeared as Martha in Opera51's *Faust* and Xenobia in Whole Tone Opera's zombie love story, *La Zombiata*. In addition to her operatic performances, Margretta has appeared in concerts in Germany, Italy, and the United States as well as in musical theater and plays. Currently, Margretta can be seen performing with Theatre @ First,

Whole Tone Opera, Opera51, and Opera on Tap throughout the Boston area.



Lindsay Burroughs (Mother), mezzo-soprano, moved to Boston from the Pacific Northwest last year and is thrilled to be performing again with Opera51. She has appeared in past productions of *Faust* and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Before moving out East, she was a soloist for the Corvallis Repertory singers and appeared in local productions of *Carmen, The Medium*, and Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. In addition to her operatic performances, Lindsay is an and will appeared to the grant full months of the production.

also an avid runner and will complete her first full marathon in 2019.



Alyssa Mae Doggett (cover for Mother, Sandman, Dew Fairy), soprano, received her MM degree in Vocal Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of music and a Professional Studies Certificate in voice from the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. Previous roles and performances include: Manon Lescaut in Massenet's *Manon*, Stephanie in Jake Heggie's To Hell and Back, Belinda in Purcell's Dido and *Aeneus*, Lauretta in Puccini's *Gianni* 

*Schicchi*, and soprano soloist in Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Idaho Falls Symphony Orchestra. She lives in the Boston area with her husband, tenor Elijah Hopkin.



**Robin Farnsley** (Gretel, director), soprano, is equally at home on the opera, operetta, musical theater, and concert stages. Ms. Farnsley has sung starring roles for Opera51 in *Faust, Fledermaus, La Bohème, The Merry Widow, La Traviata, L'Elisir d'Amore*, and *Romeo and Juliet,* among others. She is very proud and grateful to have been named as Artist in Residence by the 51 Walden Board of Directors. Other operatic leading roles include Juliette in *Romeo et* 

#### Cast and Creative Staff (continued)

Juliette and the title role in Lakmé with Arizona Opera, Rosina in The Barber of Seville with West Bay Opera, and Lakme with Lowell House Opera. Her operetta roles have included Sonia (Lehar The Czarevitch), Kathy (Romberg The Student Prince), Crystal (Zeller Der Vogelhändler), Nina (Friml The Firefly), and Hanna Glavari (Lehar The Merry Widow). Robin also sang the role of Ninon in The Violet of Montmartre for the Ohio Light Opera, the American premier of this Emmerich Kalman operetta. She has made several recordings of rare operettas and musical theatre on the Albany Records and Operetta Archives labels.



James C. S. Liu (Father), baritone, has sung with Opera51 in *Roméo et Juliette* (Capulet), *Fledermaus* (Falke), *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (King Balthasar), and *Faust* (Valentin), and is excited to return as the Father. He is a physician who has announced and produced classical music programming at WHRB. He sings with Cantata Singers and the Choir of First Church in Boston, whose services can be heard every Sunday on WERS. He has

appeared with Indian Hill Music, Lowell House Opera, Harvard Early Music Society, Opera del West, Longwood Opera, NEMPAC, Boston Opera Collaborative, and Opera Boston. Roles include *The Magic Flute* (Second Man in Armour, Papageno), *The Marriage of Figaro* (Antonio, Bartolo, Almaviva), *Così fan tutte* (Guglielmo), Verdi's *Otello* (Montano) and *Falstaff* (Pistola), *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Music Teacher), *Fidelio* (Don Fernando), *Orpheus in the Underworld* (Jupiter), and John Eccles's *Semele* (Jupiter). He is indebted to his voice teacher, Frank Kelley, and to his infinitely patient wife who makes all of this possible. <u>www.jamescsliu.com</u>.



Laura Proctor (Dew Fairy), soprano, is delighted to be joining Opera51 for *Hansel and Gretel*. Former roles with Opera51 include Ida in *Fledermaus*, Adina (cover) in *Lèlisir d'amore*, and featured dancer in *Faust*. Laura has also performed regularly with North Shore Summer Concert Series (formerly NELO/NEGASS) in Hamilton, MA. Other opera roles include Vixen (*The Cunning Little Vixen*), Susannah (*Susannah*), Anne (*A Little Night Music*),

Zdenka (*Arabella*), and Dorine (*Tartuffe*). Laura has a Bachelor of Music from Ithaca College and has also studied at the Johanna Meier Opera Institute in South Dakota, Opera Viva in Verona, Italy, and La Musica Lirica in Novafeltria, Italy. Laura is the music director at Trinity Episcopal Church in Topsfield, MA and runs a private voice and piano studio. She can be reached at <u>lauraproctor22@gmail.com</u> or 978-423-1455.



Kathryn Tolley (Hansel), mezzo-soprano, is currently based in Boston, MA, where she received her Masters degree in Voice Performance from Boston University under the tutelage of Dr. Lynn Eustis. This past season, Kathryn performed the role of Siebel (*Faust*) with Opera51, the role of Jo March (*Little Women*) with the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival, and title role of *Rinaldo* with Chicago Summer Opera. This season, she returns to Opera51 as

Hansel in their upcoming production of *Hansel and Gretel*. Other roles of note include Cherubino (cover) in *Le nozze di Figaro* with Boston University Opera Institute, and Bradamante (cover) in *Alcina* with Opera del West in Natick, MA. She

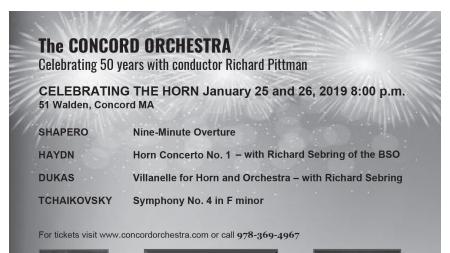
#### Cast and Creative Staff (continued)

has also performed in scenes as Cherubino, Sesto (*Giulio Cesare*), and Annio (*La Clemenza di Tito*). In concert, Kathryn performed as an alto soloist in Purcell's *King Arthur*, and was also featured as a choral soloist in the Ouroboros Trilogy Workshop Presentation of Scott Wheeler's opera *Naga* for the Beth Morrison Project.



Alan Yost (conductor) earned music degrees from the University of Northern Colorado and a Master's of Software Engineering from Brandeis University. He is a research aircraft pilot in IT with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Volpe Center in Cambridge, a former air traffic controller, and a former professor of Aerospace Studies at Metropolitan State College in Denver, CO. He has been principal timpanist with the Concord Orchestra for 19 years and

principal timpanist of the Colorado Mahlerfest Orchestra for 30 years. But Alan's true passion is conducting. Alan has conducted light opera, five fully-staged operas at 51 Walden, and many concerts of chamber music with the Concord Ensemble and Minuteman Chamber Orchestra. He has been engaged as guest conductor for the Evergreen, Jefferson, and Longmont Symphony Orchestras in Colorado. Alan is also the conductor of the Carlisle Chamber Orchestra in Carlisle, MA.



**Special thanks** to The Concord Players for use of set pieces, lighting instruments, and sound equipment.



# Performances

51 Walden, Concord MA Friday June 7 - 8:00 pm Saturday June 8 - 8:00 pm Sunday June 9 - 2:00 pm

**Bizet's** 

artwork courtesy of getdrawings.com

Tickets 978-369-7911 or www.opera51.org

# **Synopsis**

**Act I**: Hansel and Gretel are performing their chores, but Hansel complains he is too hungry to work. Gretel tells him a secret; their neighbor has given Mother a bottle of milk for dessert. Mother returns, and furious that the chores aren't finished, she accidentally knocks over the jug of milk. After sending Hansel and Gretel to the forest to pick strawberries, she prays for help in feeding her children. Father returns, drunk, but with a large pack of food. He is horrified to learn his children are in the forest, as a wicked witch who eats children lives there. Mother and Father rush out to search for Hansel and Gretel.

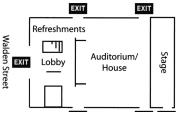
Act II: Hansel and Gretel delight in the forest but then realize they are lost. Suddenly, the Sandman appears. Gretel reminds Hansel to say their prayers, and the Sandman puts them to sleep. Angels surround the children to protect them. The next morning, the children are awakened by the Dew Fairy. They spot a large gingerbread house in the distance. Upon arriving, they begin to nibble on the walls. Shortly, the witch comes out, catching Hansel with a rope. She invites them into her house, promising sweets. Wary, they run away but the witch uses her wand to control them. After tying Hansel up, the witch says that she plans to fatten him, then eat him. As the witch feeds Hansel, Gretel steals the magic wand from her pocket and loosens Hansel's bonds. The witch tells Gretel to check the oven but Gretel pretends not to understand. The frustrated witch illustrates by sticking her head inside the oven. The children shove her in and slam the door. In seconds, the oven explodes, Hansel waves the wand and the gingerbread cookies forming the house's fence are turned back into children. Mother and Father arrive and all marvel at the witch having been turned into gingerbread as punishment for her evil deeds.

#### General Information

Running time for the opera is about 90 minutes. There is an intermission between Acts I and II. Refreshments are available for purchase in the lobby during intermission.

Restrooms are on the lower level, at the bottom of the lobby staircase. There is an accessible restroom on the main level.

As you prepare to enjoy the performance, please note the locations of the emergency exits—



-and please silence all phones and other sound-making devices.

# Please help 51 Walden

51 Walden is maintained by the generosity of its patrons. Donations may be mailed in the enclosed envelope to: 51 Walden, P.O. Box 251, Concord, MA 01742.