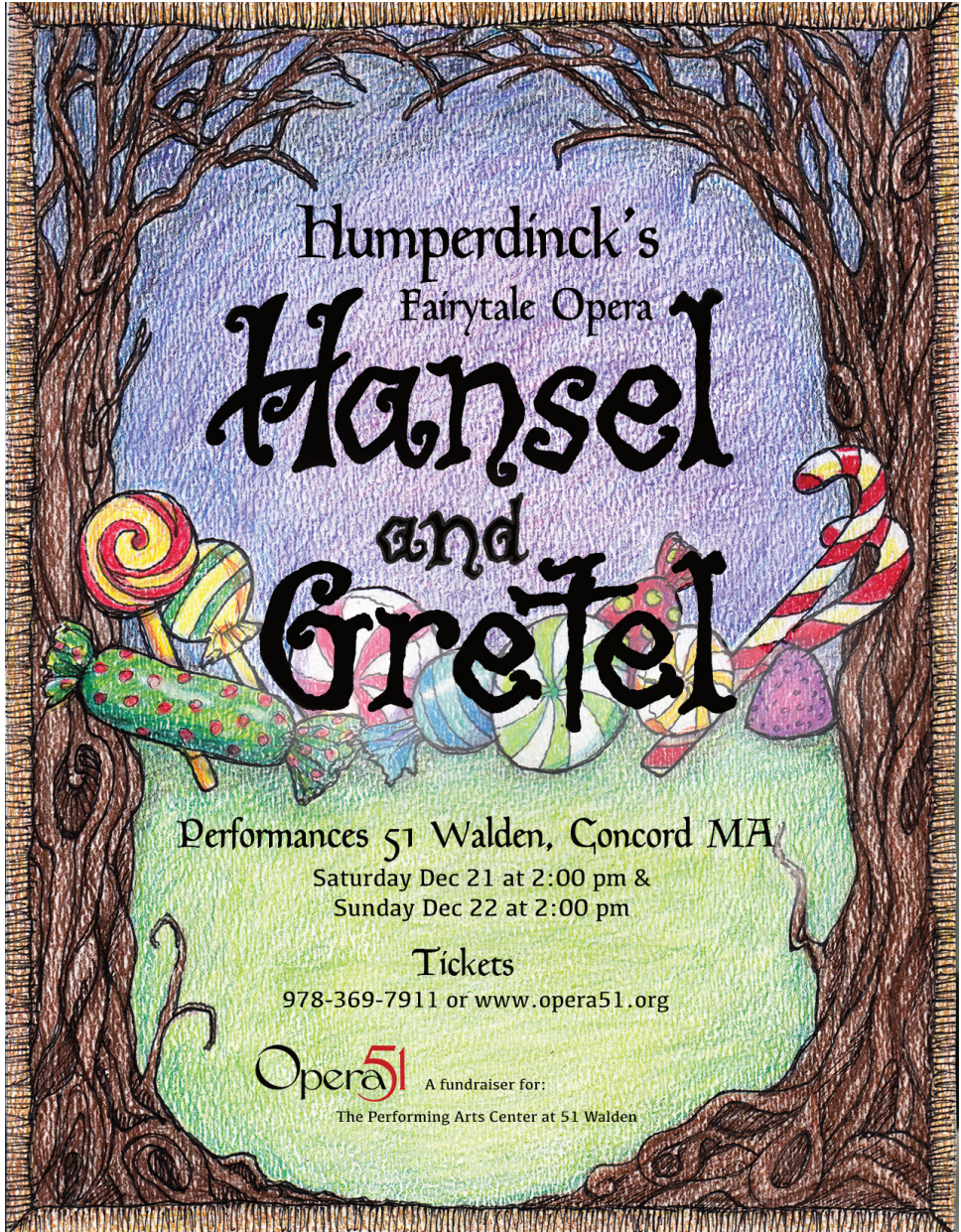


Opera51



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Fairytale Opera
**Hansel
and
Gretel**

Performances 51 Walden, Concord MA

Saturday Dec 21 at 2:00 pm &

Sunday Dec 22 at 2:00 pm

Tickets

978-369-7911 or www.opera51.org

Opera51

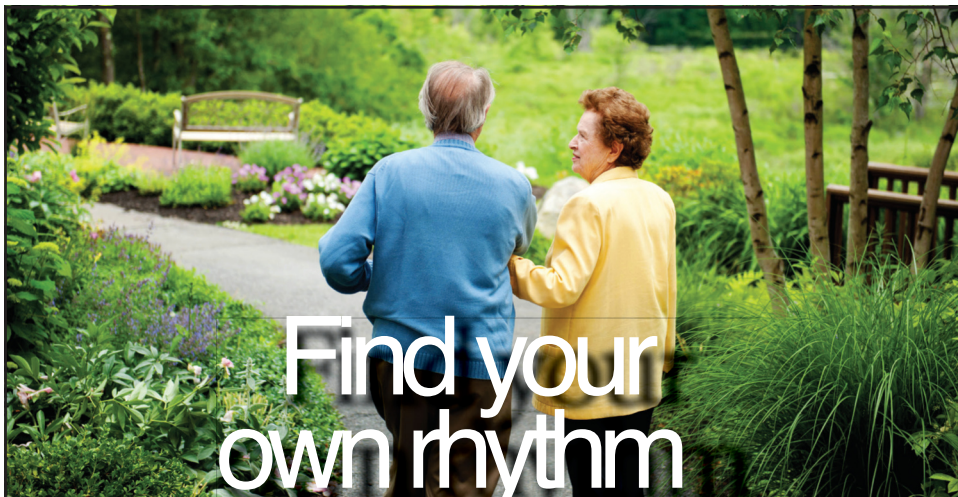
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Opera 51

presents

Hansel and Gretel

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

Robin Farnsley, director
Alan Yost, conductor
Elijah Hopkin, assistant conductor
Jay Newlon and **Robin Farnsley**, choreographers

Cast

Gretel: **Robin Farnsley**
Hansel: **JoAnna Pope**
Mother: **Lindsay Burroughs**
Father: **James C. S. Liu**
Sandman, Dew Fairy: **Alyssa Mae Doggett**
Witch: **Margretta Beaty**
Cover for Gretel: **Rebecca Lawson**
Cover for Sandman, Dew Fairy: **Melanie Salisbury**

Saturday, December 21, 2019 at 2:00 pm

Sunday, December 22, 2019 at 2:00 pm

The Performing Arts Center at 51 Walden

51 Walden Street, Concord, MA

978-369-7911 • www.51walden.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.

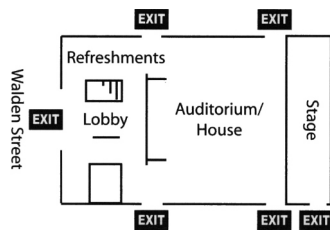
General Information

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.

Chorus

Angels: Jenna Eiten, Katelyn Geary, Sophie Urquhart, Jennifer Zabelsky

Gingerbread children: Lauren Busa, Jenna Eiten, Emily Ennis, Katelyn Geary, Rebecca Lawson, Melanie Salisbury, Sophie Urquhart, Jennifer Zabelsky

Orchestra

Violin I: Siri Smedvig, Oksana Gorokhovskiy, Olga Kradenova, Judy Takata, Poliana Yee

Violin II: Loretta Tramontozzi, Elisabeth Miller, Sue Stone, Carole Wayland

Viola: John Glenn, Cathy Gates, Bruce Kinmonth

Cello: Julie Durrell, Eleanor Blake

Bass: Charles McCauley

Flute: Sarah Tomasek

Oboe: Sandy Ayres

Clarinet: Jerry Vabulas, Jane Bailey, Elizabeth Connors

Bassoon: David Halpert

Horn: Cam Owen, Cassandra LaRochelle

Trumpet: Margaret Romero

Trombone: Peter Norton

Timpani/Percussion: Mitch Dion, Beth Munn Griffin, Jack Liebold

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

Front of house and hall setup/strike: Charlie Atherton*, Dorrie Bean*, Dave Brownell*, Holly Cratsley*, Chris Durning*, Linda Menkin*, Jean Patterson*, Gail Penrod*, Carole Wayland*

Hair and make-up design: Elizabeth Hoermann

Intermission assistance: Lissa Gilbert, Sally Harris, Nancy Megrian, Carol McKeen, Joan Sherman, Pamela Wolfe

Light board operator: David Siktberg

Lighting design: Susan Tucker

Lobby decor: Roxanne Becker, Alyssa Mae Doggett, Robin Farnsley, Sue Stone

Program content and editing: Lance Levine, Carol McKeen

Program ad coordinator: Carol McKeen

Program ad sales: Sally Harris, Carol McKeen, Jon Saxton

Props fabrication: Roxanne Becker, Alyssa Mae Doggett

Props master: Alyssa Mae Doggett

Publicity: Alyssa Mae Doggett, Sally Harris, Nancy Megrian, Joan Sherman, David Siktberg, Carole Wayland*

Set construction and painting: Roxanne Becker, Alyssa Mae Doggett, Philip Drew*, Kari McClelland, David Missirian, Gail Murphy

Set design: Roxanne Becker

Sound board operator: Paul Gill

Sound design: Paul Gill

Surtitles and setup: David Siktberg

Surtitles operator: Joe McIlwain

Tickets: Carole Wayland*

* 51 Walden Board Member

Cast and Creative Staff



Margretta Beaty (Witch), mezzo-soprano: Praised for her distinctive voice and acting abilities, Margretta Beaty has been charming audiences worldwide. Margretta most recently appeared as Carmen in Opera51's *Carmen* and the Witch in last year's *Hansel and Gretel* and is thrilled to reprise the role. Margretta was also Xenobia in the parody opera *La Zombiata* and she has appeared as Madama Butterfly in Fidenza, Italy. Also in Italy, Ms. Beaty thrilled audiences with her portrayal of La femme in Poulenc's *La voix humaine*, displaying both her precise musicianship and superb acting skills. She has performed extensively in the greater Boston area, with highlights including Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*) with Boston Opera Collaborative and as Lise in the play *Magic Fire* with Theatre@First. Ms. Beaty has proven her versatility by singing the role of Lucretia in Benjamin Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* to great acclaim as well as Martha (*Faust*) with Opera51. 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. Margretta holds a Bachelors degree in Music from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Master in Music - Voice Performance from The Boston Conservatory. Currently, Margretta can be seen performing with Opera on Tap throughout the Boston area.



Lindsay Burroughs (Mother), mezzo-soprano, moved to Boston from the Pacific Northwest two years ago 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 also an avid runner and completed her first full marathon in 2019.



Alyssa Mae Doggett (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 Aeneas*, 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.

Cast and Creative Staff (continued)



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 *Roméo et Juliette* and the title role in *Lakmé* with Arizona Opera, Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* with West Bay Opera, and *Lakmé* 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.



Rebecca Laswon (cover for Gretel), soprano, is a native of Ventura, California. She received her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from California State University, Northridge, and her Master of Music in Vocal Performance at Boston University. Rebecca has performed with Boston University Opera Institute, California State University, Northridge, Red River Lyric Opera, Opera Festival di Roma and New England Opera Intensive. Recent roles include Miss Wordsworth (*Albert Herring*), Genovieffa (*Suor Angelica*), Denise (*Sweets by Kate*), Damigella (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*), and Amelia (*Amelia Goes to the Ball*). Partial roles include Susanna (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*), and Pamina (*Die Zauberflöte*).



James C. S. Liu (Father), baritone, is thrilled to return to Opera51 to reprise the role of the Father. He has sung with Opera51 in *Roméo et Juliette* (Capulet), *Fledermaus* (Falke), *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (King Balthasar), and *Faust* (Valentin). He is a physician who has announced and produced classical music programming at WHRB, and sings with Cantata Singers. 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, Alfonso), 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. www.jamescsliu.com.

Cast and Creative Staff (continued)




JoAnna Pope (Hansel), American mezzo-soprano, performs a wide variety of repertoire on stages throughout New England and beyond. Earlier this year, Ms. Pope made her professional ensemble debut with the Boston Lyric Opera in their critically-acclaimed production of *The Handmaid's Tale*. Past engagements include Carmen cover (*Carmen*) with Opera51, Prince Charmant (*Cendrillon*) with Opera del West, Prince Orlofsky (*Die Fledermaus*) with Vox New England (formerly Worcester

Schubertiade), Cherubino (*Le nozze di Figaro*) with the Bay View Music Festival, and Elizabeth Briggmann (*Sweets by Kate*) and Mrs. Bass (*Emmeline*) with the Boston University Opera Institute. In 2020, JoAnna is looking forward to joining Sarasota Opera for the first time as an Apprentice Artist in their 2020 winter Festival Season. As a 2018-2019 Sherrill Milnes VOICE Studio Artist, Ms. Pope enjoys regular collaborations with the legendary baritone in Savannah, GA. At this summer's Savannah VOICE Festival, Ms. Pope originated the role of D-Do in the world premiere of Michael Ching's *The Birthday Clown*. Ms. Pope is a Pi Kappa Lambda graduate of Boston University where she earned her MM in Vocal Performance. Originally from Jackson, MS, she currently resides in Boston.



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.



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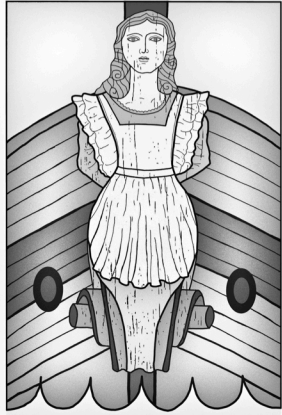

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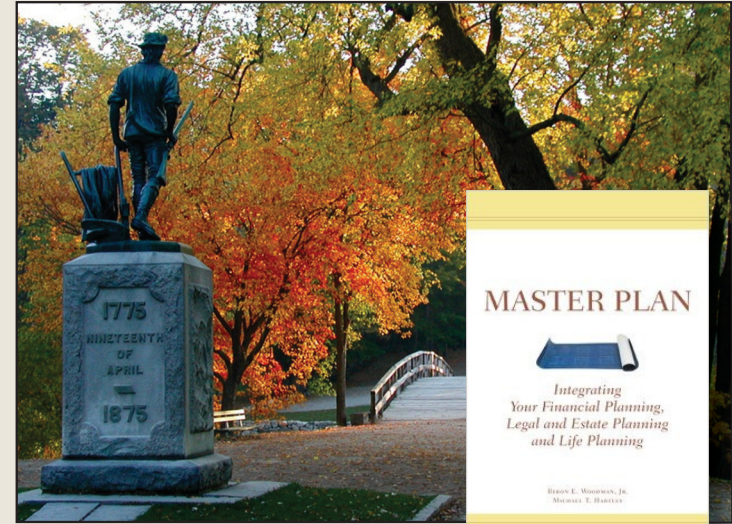


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