"DIANA" IN ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD

by

ALISON NYSTROM

B.A., York University, 2001

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF MUSIC

in

THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

(Opera)

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

April 2005

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ABSTRACT

The thesis for the Master of Music degree in Opera consists of performing a major role in an opera.

My role was Diana in Offenbach's opera, Orpheus in the Underworld. I performed this role on December 11, 2004 and December 15, 2004.
UBC Opera Ensemble
Presents
Orpheus in the Underworld
Operetta in Three Acts
By Jacques Offenbach
Libretto by Hector Crémieux and Ludovic Halévy

Director Nancy Hermiston
Conductor John Van Deursen
With
The Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra
SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Orpheus and his wife Eurydice argue over their dysfunctional marriage. Not only are they each unfaithful to each other but he is a musician, and she doesn't care about his music. Eurydice has fallen in love with a shepherd who is also a bee keeper. She thinks he is Aristeus, but in reality he is the God of the Underworld, Pluto. Pluto plants an idea in Orpheus's head of how to set a trap for Eurydice and her "lover". Pluto uses Orpheus' trap to help convince Eurydice to accompany him to the Underworld. Orpheus's delight at his wife's departure is cut short by Public Opinion, a formidable figure, who insists he goes to Olympus to demand the return of his wife.

INTERMISSION

ACT II

On Olympus the gods are bored and rebelling against Jupiter's tyrannical rule, but they are interrupted by the arrival of Orpheus with Public Opinion. In a fit of righteous indignation Jupiter grants the return of Eurydice, and when he announces that he will go to the Underworld himself to ensure justice is done, all the gods and goddesses beg to go too. Jupiter agrees, and the entire company join him in a lively, lustful dance as they make their way down for their godly holiday in the warm and wild climate and culture of Hades.

ACT III

Meanwhile in the Underworld Eurydice is bored with being left alone with only Bacchus as her jailer, so when a diversion arrives, in the shape of Jupiter disguised as a fly, she is at first eager to run away with him. They plan to escape at a party being held by Pluto in honour of the visiting gods from Olympus. Eurydice comes disguised as a bacchante. The arrival of Orpheus looks like it will upset everyone's plans, but Jupiter manages to trick him out of Eurydice for good. But who is to have her instead, Pluto or Jupiter? Eurydice settles it by choosing ...

(now that would be telling) ...
Orpheus, a renowned musician
Eurydice, his wife
Pluto (aristasius), god of the underworld
Jupiter, father of the gods
Public Opinion
Bacchus, god of wine
Diana, goddess of the hunt
Mercury, Messenger of the gods
Juno, wife of Jupiter
Venus, goddess of love
Amor, god of love
Mars, god of war
Minerva, goddess of wisdom
Hebe, goddess of youth
Apollo, god of the sun
Aurora, goddess of the dawn

The students of Orpheus

Cancan Girls

CAST

Dec. 11, 15
Blaine Hendsbee*
Jennifer Farrell*
John Conlon

Dec. 12, 14
Stephen Bell
Katie May
Andrew Jameson

Matthew Mori
Evie Vassilikakis
Diana Oros—Wilder
Nancy Hasiuk
D.J. Calhoun
Margo Le Vae
Elaine Lee
Adrian Glaubert
Melanie McTaggart

Megan Brown, Erin Fisher, Chloe Hurst, Teyla Kasahara, Vicki Lewis, Melanie McTaggart, Simone Osborne, Lucy Smith

Erin Fisher, Chloe Hurst, Laurren Iacobellis, Gina McLellan, Melanie McTaggart, Simone Osborne, Whitney Sloan

*courtesy of Actor’s Equity
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conductor</td>
<td>John Van Deursen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Conductor</td>
<td>John Trotter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concertmaster</td>
<td>Etsuo Saito *</td>
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<td>Violins</td>
<td>Karina Abe</td>
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<td>Rodney Blackwell</td>
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<td>Gayane Bobloyan</td>
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<td>David Brownstein</td>
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<td>Joan Carne</td>
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<td>Bronya Cerna</td>
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<td>David Clark</td>
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<td>Jim Dery</td>
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<td>Barbara Dominik</td>
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<td>Shirley Dunfield</td>
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<td>Patrick Ernst</td>
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<td>Reita Goldberg</td>
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<td>Freya Kristensen</td>
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<td>Michael She</td>
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<td>Anne Worthington</td>
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<td>Deirdre Rogers *</td>
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<td>Jennifer Montgomery</td>
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<td>Jessica Werb *</td>
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<td>Zoe Druik</td>
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<td>Keith Ellis *</td>
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<td>Jennifer Hodge</td>
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<td>Janet Measday *</td>
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<td>Sara Franks</td>
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<td>Paul Butcher</td>
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<td>Horn</td>
<td>*Chris Buckner</td>
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<td>Maureen Hole</td>
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<td>James Marcia *</td>
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<td>Brian Thomson *</td>
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<td>Ron Morrill</td>
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<td>Carrie Chapman</td>
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<td>Rod Ellard</td>
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<td>Timpani</td>
<td>Pamela O *</td>
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<td>Percussion</td>
<td>Joshua Dublin</td>
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Andrew Jameson
Bryan Pollock
Jeremy Baxter
Kevin Louden
Jane Loong
Valerie Moffat
Michelle Nelson
Jason Conroy
Parvin Mirhady
Gina McLellan

Set Design:
Lighting Design:
Lighting Assistant:
Lighting Operator:
Properties Head:
Properties Crew:

Wardrobe Supervisor:
Wardrobe Assistant:

Makeup Supervisor:
Makeup Assistant:
Hairdressing and Wigs:
Assistant:
Stage Manager:
Asst. Stage Managers:

For the Chan Centre:

SPECIAL THANKS
A very special thank you to all the UBC Opera Ensemble students, past and present, who helped make this production possible!
Thanks also to Martha Lou Henley Charitable Foundation, the David Spencer Endowment Encouragement Fund, the Chan Family, the UBC School of Music and staff, the Vancouver Opera Guild, Dunbar Lumber, Diane’s Lingerie, Jacques Vert at the Bay, and the Vancouver Opera Freddie Wood Theatre, Janet Bickford, Lynn Burton.
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Public Opinion’s costume graciously supplied by

Jacques Vert Plc

Located on the third floor at the Bay Downtown

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With the UBC Opera Ensemble

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Eugene Onegin

Composed by Tchaikovsky
Director: Nancy Hermiston
Guest Conductor: Norbert Baxa
Co-production with Theatre UBC
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CanCan Girls
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UBC OPERA ENSEMBLE CHORUS
Shepherds, Shepherdesses, Bacchantes

Mimi Roth—Miller, Whitney Sloan, Gina McLellan, Brian Lee, Kevin Lee, Kevin Louden, Joyce Ho, Scott Brooks, Iain Taylor, Lauren Iacobellis, Esther Choi, Tomas Bijok

*courtesy of Actor’s Equity
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Viols
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Lighting Design: Bryan Pollock
Assistant: Jeremy Baxter
Lighting Operator: Kevin Louden
Jane Loong
Properties Head: Valerie Moffat
Crew: Michelle Nelson
Jason Conroy
Wardrobe Supervisor: Parvin Mirhady
Assistant: Gina McLellan

Makeup Supervisor: Nel Volrich
Assistant: Carmen Garcia
Hairdressing and Wigs: Elke Englicht
Assistant: Dionne Sellinger
Melissa Tsang
Marijea Brusse
Sì Wing Ng
Karine Berruè
Cameron McGill
Owen Schellenberger

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