February 27 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
ONLINE STREAMING EVENT

Music Theatre + Opera

PRESENTS

RIDERS TO THE SEA

Music by

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Based on play by same name

JOHN MILLINGTON SYNGE

Director
DALE DREYFOOS

Music Director
YUN SONG TAY

Pianist
ALISON HSIEH

Technical Director,
Scenic Designer
ALFREDO ESCARCEGA

Costume, Hair, Makeup
Designer
SHARON JONES

Streaming Supervisor
HOLLY WOODSIDE

Lighting/Sound Supervisor
GERALD WILLOW

Assistant Stage Manager
MAX PLATA

Stage Manager
KATE LEONARD

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This production adheres to all federal, state, local and university guidelines for safety and physical distancing. University COVID-19 information may be found at https://eoss.asu.edu/health/announcements/coronavirus
SYNOPSIS

Before the opera begins: Maurya, an elderly Irishwoman, has lost her husband, father-in-law, and four of her six sons at sea.

Maurya's daughters Nora and Cathleen receive word that a body that may be their brother Michael, Maurya's fifth son, has washed up on shore in Donegal, far to the north. The sixth and last son, Bartley, is taking horses to the Galway fair. Maurya is fearful of the sea winds and pleads with Bartley to stay, but Bartley insists on going and will ride "on the red mare with the grey pony behind him". Maurya predicts that by nightfall she will have no living sons, and her daughters chide her for sending Bartley off with an ill word. Maurya goes after Bartley to bless his voyage. Nora and Cathleen receive clothing from the drowned corpse that confirms it as Michael. Maurya returns home, claiming to have seen the ghost of Michael riding behind Bartley and begins lamenting the loss of the men in her family to the sea. Nora then sees villagers carrying a load, which turns out to be the corpse of Bartley, who has fallen off his horse into the sea and drowned. Maurya laments: "They are all gone now, and there isn't anything more the sea can do to me."

CAST

KAREN KELLEY
Maurya

JENNY MADRUGA CHAVEZ
Nora

YOPHI ADIA BOST
Cathleen

MARIO MANZO
Bartley
KAREN KELLEY (Maurya) is elated to perform in Riders to the Sea at ASU. Originally from Jefferson City, Missouri, she is a first year graduate student pursuing her Master’s in Music for Opera Performance. She has performed with several programs including Springfield Regional Opera, Harrower Opera Workshop, and the American Institute for Musical Studies. Some of Karen's favorite roles performed include Meg Page in Nicolai’s The Merry Wives of Windsor and Third Lady in Mozart's Die Zauberflöte. Special thanks to her family, friends, and especially to her voice teacher Stephanie Weiss for all their love, support, and encouragement!

JENNY MADRUGA CHAVEZ (Nora) Graduating in 2018 with her B.M. in Music Education, and a B.A. in Art History from Arizona State University, Jenny has served the music community as a voice teacher, music educator and singer who has been so excited to debut Emily’s Aria from Ned Rorem's Our Town. She is a proud student of Stephanie Weiss and is continuing her education at ASU, completing the Masters program in Vocal Performance with an emphasis in opera this coming Spring. Both singing and teaching have been passions of love for Jenny. Her latest singing venture was playing as a principal role in ASU’s Xerxes and training at the Taos Opera Institute during the 2019 season. Jenny has been teaching privately since 2018 and loves watching her students grow as they discover their voice. She would like to thank her amazing husband for being a Super Dad, supporting her ventures and being the best father to their 11 month old son, Travis.

YOPHI ADIA BOST (Cathleen) Praised for her versatility, Yophi Adia Bost is an arts advocate, music educator, and active performer of varying genres. She received her BM in Music Education with a Musical Theatre minor from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and is currently pursuing her MM in Musical Theatre/Opera Performance at Arizona State University. She has performed as a featured soloist with Bel Canto Company of Greensboro, NC, the Greensboro Concert Band, and the UNCG Miles Davis Jazz Studies Program among others. She is excited to be involved in this production!

MARIO MANZO (Bartley) is currently a Senior in Voice Performance studying with Carole FitzPatrick. He is a member of the ASU Chamber Singers and has performed in Poulenc’s Gloria and Bernstein's Mass with ASU choirs. Previously, Mario performed the roles of Betto in Puccini’s Gianni Schicchi, George Jones in Kurt Weill’s Street Scene, and Lars in Jay Anthony Gach’s Nora at the Altar Rail with ASU Music Theatre + Opera. Outside of school, Mario is the Bass Section Leader at King of Glory Lutheran Church. He would like to thank his family and friends for all of their continued support.

YUHAN SUN (Neighbor Woman) is a second-year master’s student in Opera Performance studying with Professor Nathan Myers. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance from Shenyang Conservatory of Music in China. She has been a member of the Shenyang Youth Choir throughout her undergraduate career and has performed duets on TV on behalf of the school yearly. After graduation, she worked as a vocal teacher in several art schools for three years. This is her first time being part of the show’s cast, and she's excited to work with these excellent students.
CREATIVE TEAM

DALE DREYFOOS

YUN SONG TAY

ALISON HSIEH

KATE LEONARD

MAX PLATA
DALE DREFOOS (Director) has had a multifaceted career as a stage director, character tenor, actor, educator, and arts administrator. He currently serves as professor of opera/music theatre at Arizona State University, a position he has held since 1994, where he received the Distinguished Professor Award for the College of Fine Arts in 1996. His many exceptional students have had internationally and nationally successful careers at many of the most prestigious opera houses throughout the world, including The Metropolitan Opera, Vienna State Opera, Salzburg Festival, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Bavarian State Opera, Glyndebourne Festival, Maggio Musical Fiorentino, San Francisco Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera, as well as on Broadway and Broadway National Tours. As a stage director, Dreyfoos has directed more than 50 productions of operas, operettas, and musicals, including THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO, THE MAGIC FLUTE, COSI FAN TUTTE, LE LELISIR DAMORE, THE BARTERED BRIDE, OKLAHOMA, GIULIO CESARE, XERXES, HMS PINAFLORE, LA PERICHOLE, THE SECRET GARDEN, THE TURN OF THE SCREW, DIDO AND AENEAS, AMAL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS, THE CORONATION OF POPPEA, GIANNI SCHICCHI, SUOR ANGELICA, SUSANNAH, LA SERVA PADRONA, HANSEL AND GRETEL, ARIADNE ON NAXOS, DON PASQUALE, THE IMPRESARIO, RIDERS TO THE SEA, THE BARBER OF SEVILLE, THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT, ALBERT HERRING, GALANTARY, DIE FLEDERMAUS, CINDERELLA, NUNSENSE, HELP! HELP! THE GLOBOLINKS, SIGNOR DELUSO and the world premiere of THE RANSOM OF RED CHIEF for such companies as Opera Carolina, Piccolo Spoleto Festival, Charleston Opera Company, Birmingham Civic Opera, Arizona Opera Education Tour, Milton Center Series, and Arizona State University’s Lyric Opera Theater. He has also served as an Assistant Director for productions of LA CENERENTOLA, THE MIKADO, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR, LA BOHEME, and DON PASQUALE with the Lyric Opera of Chicago Center for American Artists, Opera Carolina, Des Moines Metro Opera, Birmingham Civic Opera and the Mississippi Opera. His directing credits also include more than 40 Opera Scenes programs at ASU, Arizona Opera, Opera Carolina, Birmingham Civic Opera, Mississippi Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Charleston Opera Company, University of Texas, Baptist College at Charleston, and in Milton, Massachusetts.

YUN SONG TAY (Music Director) Praised by the Polish Radio presenter Adam Rozlach as a “cheerful, vibrant and musically active conductor,” Yun Song Tay has guest conducted orchestras across Asia, Europe and North America. Born and raised in Singapore, he began his musical journey on the flute, winning the position of principal flautist with the Singapore National Youth Orchestra from 2007 to 2009 and receiving a top prize at the Singapore Flute Festival Competition in 2009. Since that time, his musical passions have turned to conducting and he has begun a vibrant career having conducted ensembles such as the Orchestra de Camera Fiorentina, Berlin Sinfonietta, European Youth Wind Orchestra, Dutch Royal Guards Band, Parnu Linnaorkester, Orchestra Collective (Singapore) and Cleveland Heights Chamber Orchestra. In May 2019, he led the The Phoenix Symphony in their Education Concert Series at Tuscano Elementary School and Mountain View Elementary. He was also a finalist in the recent Houston Symphony Assistant Conductor search. Yun Song received his Master’s degree in Orchestral Conducting at Cleveland Institute of Music in 2018 and Bachelor’s degree in Wind Conducting at Conservatorium van Amsterdam in 2016 where his conducting mentors included Carl Topilow, Danny Ooosterman and Sam ten Velden. He has also conducted in masterclasses and lessons for esteemed conductors such as Leonid Korchmar, Lutz Kohler, Colin Metters, Jahja Ling, Brett Mitchell, Tito Muñoz, Carl St.Clair and JoAnn Falletta. He is currently pursuing his Doctoral in Musical Arts at Arizona State University where he serves as Assistant Conductor of the ASU Orchestras under Jeffery Meyer.

ALISON HSIEH (Pianist) is a doctoral candidate in the Collaborative Piano program at Arizona State University studying with Dr. Andrew Campbell. She most recently graduated from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University with her second master’s degree in Collaborative Piano with Virginia Weckstrom Kantor. She also received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Piano Performance through the five-year dual degree program at the Cleveland Institute of Music, as a student of Kathryn Brown and Dr. Daniel Shapiro. Alison has performed with the Lansdowne, Old York Road, and Ambler Symphonies as both piano and cello soloist. She has spent summers at the Bowdoin International Music Festival, Aspen Festival and Music School, and Centrum Foundation Chamber Intensive. Since a young age, she has had an active interest and passion for collaborative playing.

KATE LEONARD (Stage Manager) This is Kate’s 9th season with ASU Music Theatre and Opera! Favorite shows include 35mm, Musical of Musicals (The Musical!), Grey Gardens, Reefer Madness, and A New Brain. She graduated from ASU in 2016 with a BA in Theatre. Thanks to the lovely cast and production team, the oh-so-fabulous MTO faculty and staff, her incredible friends and family, and YOU for supporting local theatre!

MAX PLATA (Assistant Stage Manager) is a student of Barrett, the Honors College studying Theatre Writing & Dramaturgy. His previous experience with Music Theatre & Opera includes Stage Manager for 35mm: A Musical Exhibition and ASM for The Light in the Piazza, among several other productions. Max would like to thank the production team and cast for their hard work and high spirits under challenging circumstances, and for reminding him of how integral art is to our community. It’s been great to be backstage again!
FACULTY

Brian DeMaris, Artistic Director
Dale Dreyfoos, Associate Artistic Director
Robert Mills, Vocal Coach
Toby Yatso*, Musical Theatre Coordinator
Robert Kolby Harper*, Musical Theatre, Acting
Molly Lajoie, Musical Theatre, Dance

*denotes Phoenix Theatre affiliate

STAFF

Linda Bennett, Program Coordinator
Alfredo Escarcega, Technical Director
Sharon Jones, Costume Coordinator, Hair and Makeup
Kate Leonard, Production Stage Manager
Gerald Willow, Master Electrician

STUDENT WORKERS

Randi Ellen Rudolph, Graduate Assistant
Kevin White, Graduate Assistant
Max Plata, Assistant Stage Manager
Ellie Barrett, Office Assistant

VOICE FACULTY

Amanda DeMaris
Carole FitzPatrick
Gordon Hawkins

Nathan De’Shon Myers
Andrea Pitman Will
Stephanie Weiss

If you enjoy our performances, please consider making a financial contribution to the ASU School of Music, Dance and Theatre for Music Theatre and Opera. Information may be found at musicdancetheatre.asu.edu/giving.

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