



Hemmings Award to Flora L. Thornton

Concert and Dinner April 29th

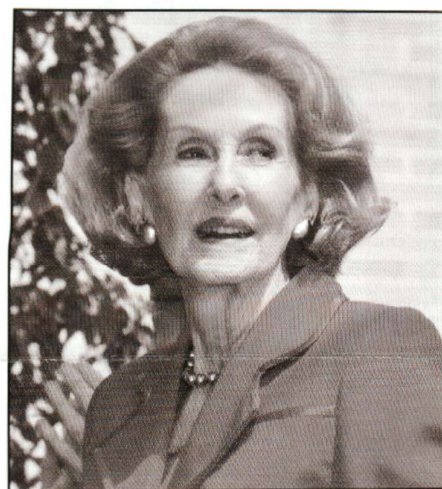
The Opera League of Los Angeles proudly recognizes Flora L. Thornton for the fourth Peter Hemmings Memorial Award. This award, created in 2004 in honor of LA Opera's first General Director Peter Hemmings, recognizes her significant contributions to opera in greater Los Angeles.

Flora L. Thornton has generously donated substantial gifts to three outstanding area programs to develop opera talent: the USC Thornton School of Music, the Flora L. Thornton Opera Program at Pepperdine University and, most recently, the Domingo – Thornton Young Artist Program at LA Opera. In addition, the Flora L. Thornton Foundation cosponsors, with the Opera League, the pre-performance opera lectures at LA Opera.

And how better to recognize,

celebrate and thank Flora L. Thornton for her incredible gifts to the opera community than with a special opera concert tribute to her. The concert will feature three former resident artists from the Hemmings' era and three artists currently in training with LA Opera. Rod Gilfry, Greg Fedderly and Malcolm MacKenzie, all here performing *The Merry Widow*, (see story page 3) join current young artists, David Lomeli, Karen Vuong and Natasha Flores (see story page 7) with a program of arias and duets from past and future repertoire. Each singer plans to honor Flora L. Thornton and the legacy of Peter Hemmings.

The annual Opera League gala event begins with the concert at 4 pm on Sunday, April 29 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel, with dinner served in the



Crystal Ballroom following the concert. Contact the Opera League message line at 213-972-7220 with questions or to request additional invitations, mailed to members in March.

Graham Master Class

By Brita Millard

"The Voice is the Most Expressive, Magical Instrument" – Susan Graham

Mezzo-Soprano Susan Graham, a versatile and compelling international Opera star, will conduct the thirteenth event of the "Celebrity Master Class Series" at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Monday, May 7, 2007. Sponsored by the Opera League of Los Angeles, six Domingo-Thornton young artists, Anna Alkhimova, Brian Cali, Natasha Flores, Rena Hams, David Lomeli, and Karen Vuong, will sing a prepared aria or duet,

which will become a personal coaching session, and a discussion of the singer's technique, breath control, language, posture and expression. The singers will be accompanied by the skilled pianist Yulia Levin.

Ms. Graham recently performed an unforgettable Poppea in LA Opera's production of Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, and will return to sing the part of Hannah Glawari, in one of the most beloved operettas of Franz L char, *The Merry Widow*, together with Rod Gilfry, a previous guest of one of the Opera League's Master Class Series.

Continued on page 8



a word from our president

The Opera League is built on the strength of its traditions, as well as the infusion of new ideas. I have worked to build on these strengths, as well as to introduce fresh approaches to educational programs, social activities, fundraising methods and volunteer appreciation. The overall goal is to maintain a vibrant, productive and financially sound Opera League. An important feature is to create "a smile on the face" of our organization and its members. We want satisfied members participating in a variety of high quality education, social and volunteer program. All of these activities focus upon enhancing our joy with opera. One aspect is the satisfaction of our members, while another is serving the growing needs of LA Opera, and a third is personal satisfaction and growth.

Over the last two years, we built on the success of the *Carmen* event at the Egyptian Theater and added "Opera Films with Flair" themed parties in unique settings. With the success of the Met simulcast in theaters (if you haven't been yet, GO, they are fabulous) opera movies have reached a new aspect to fully enjoy.

The Opera Boutique is an outgrowth and expansion of the "Opera Cart" successfully operated by Warren Schubert for many years. With growth of merchandise and sales, the boutique replaced the long standing Luxury Drawing as the League's major fund raiser.

Carol Sholer has done a wonderful job re-instituting the "Opera Talks at Julianne's" with organizing speakers and building a great audience. We would like to see this replicated in other geographic parts of town, perhaps at restaurants, book stores, wine bars, tea shops or other accommodating places. Great opera information and socialization!



Rebecca Bowne, President

In an "all volunteer organization" (the League has no paid staff) it is important to foster a climate where members who participate take pride in shaping activities and events. Although focused in the same direction, the paths taken may vary. Seminars, musicales, gatherings, master class, annual events, community opera talks, newsletters, pre-performance introductions, boutique sales and other activities are shaped individually by those who participate. This brings us new ideas and diversity, as well as higher volunteer satisfaction. Recent successful Musicales organized by Anne Russell-Sullivan and Marcia McCormack reflect innovative volunteer ideas.

Over 300 volunteers are meeting the increasing needs of LA Opera in a variety of ways: driving, greeting, shopping, cooking, public speaking about opera, light walking, planning events, filing, imputing computer data, translating, assisting at educational programs, orienting students, teachers and seniors, mailings and coordinating programs. Volunteers need a strong sense of making a difference, being appreciated and enjoying what one is doing. LA Opera gives us all this and so much in return for our support. It is encouraging to see the mutual satisfaction and strength of the relationship between Opera League and LA Opera grow in such a positive direction. Let's keep it going. See you at the opera!



Executive Committee

Rebecca Bowne	President
Carol Sholer	Vice President
Margaret Merrett	Treasurer
Nina Haro	Secretary
Monica Weil	Chair
Toni Bird	Social/Parliamentarian
Ed Lieb	Education
Dale Ross	Membership
Dorothy Wait	Communications

Directors

Bob Bernard	Artist Services
Fred Dear	Dress Tickets
Gerald Elijah	Volunteers
Eleanor Gnuip	Volunteers
Monica Gutierrez Roper	Cast Dinners
Alma Guzman	Hemmings Event
Jackie Johns	Public Relations
Beverly Johnson	Dress Tickets
Steve Kohn	Student Matinees
Stella Leontsini	Gatherings
Judy Lieb	Boutique
Kathleen Leonard	Message Line
Marcia McCormack	Website
Brita Millard	Preview & Master Class
Margi Mostue	Boutique
Anne Kokawa Prokopovych	Membership
Ernie Prokopovych	Membership
Tadea Pylko	Boutique
Ed Shaff	Audit/Finance
John Spear	Overtures
Stanley Stocks	Asst. Treasurer
Anne Russell Sullivan	Musicales
Wendy Van Haerlem	Boutique

Consulting Director

Dr. W. Allan Edmiston Seminars
24-hour League Message Line: 213.972.7220

Visit us at www.operaleague.org

Send mail to: PO Box 1006
Montrose, CA 91021-1006

Send e-mail to: info@operaleague.org

Editor Dorothy Wait
Printer Licher Direct Mail
Newsletter Design Bacall:Creative

If you want to be eligible for last minute benefits, Inside Opera and League notices, please send your e-mail address to info@operaleague.org. We would love to have all members on our e-mail list! Send your "second member" addresses also!

May Opera Boutique Volunteers

It's a "May-a-thon" opera month with twenty performances of *The Merry Widow* and *Porgy and Bess* in May! Each performance requires three to five volunteers to staff the Opera Boutique – the major Opera League fundraising project. All net proceeds from the boutique are donated to LA Opera to support education programs, primarily the two student matinees of *La Bohème*. Volunteer at the Opera Boutique – do it for the kids!

Volunteers should be willing to arrive two and one half hours before curtain, stand and have lively communication with lobby patrons before the performance and during intermission, sell merchandise, as well as assist the manager with set up, display and closure. The rewards include free parking, earning volunteer hours towards dress rehearsal tickets, personal satisfaction raising funds to bring students to the opera, watching and interacting with the audience, listening to the performance or watching it by purchasing a \$20 cash "rush ticket" (if available), enjoying a 25 % discount on Boutique merchandise and socializing with the other volunteers. If you can help, even for one performance, contact Wendy Van Haerlem at vanhaerlem@pacbell.net or leave her a message at 213-972-7220, 24-hour League number. If you can't volunteer, give your support by making a purchase and spreading the word among your friends to buy gifts at the Opera Boutique.

Porgy and Bess plus *Luisa Fernanda*

Final Seminar of the Season—Great Speakers! Door Prizes!

Here is your opportunity to learn about Federico Moreno Torroba's *Luisa Fernanda* from distinguished speaker, Richard Traubner (last appearance for the League when he presented *The Grand Duchess*) and about George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* from one of our favorite presenters, Robert Winter (he last covered *The Marriage of Figaro*). The seminar will be held on Saturday, May 5 at The Wilshire Grand Hotel. Please arrive at 9:30 am for coffee and pastries.

Zarzuela, the indigenous Spanish form of opera in *Luisa*, was brought to life by LA Opera's Plácido Domingo's parents first in Spain and then in Mexico. This opera, described by one as lively action, abundant melodic grace and acerbic melancholy, premiered in 1932 and toured in the U.S. in the '30s and '40s.

Of the same time period but completely different genre, *Porgy* premiered in 1935. Based on the novel "Porgy" by DuBose Heyward, George and Ira Gershwin joined Heyward to write the opera. Although it was not truly successful during Gershwin's lifetime, he never ceased to wonder at the miracle of the composition. For years it was produced mainly in Europe and received its first uncut production in Houston in the '70s.

After coffee and pastries the program, moderated by Dr. Allan Edmiston, begins at 10 am and concludes at 12:30 pm with door prize drawings after the first speaker. Please make your reservations to hear these informative, entertaining speakers and you too will be conversant about zarzuela and these wonderful operas. See the invitation on page 5.

They're BAAACK! for the Hemmings Award Concert

Three wonderful former resident artists are back in town, kicking their legs high for LA Opera's *The Merry Widow*: Rod Gilfry, Greg Fedderly and Malcolm MacKenzie. As special guests at the Annual **Peter Hemmings Awards** on April 29, each of these established artists will perform a selection from the Peter Hemmings' era, as well as commenting on how Mr. Hemmings and the resident artist program shaped their careers. In addition, each will thrill us with an aria from their current repertoire.

Rod Gilfry, baritone, performed in his debut with Los Angeles Opera in 1986 with the company's initial production, *Otello*. One of his signature roles is Billy Budd. Rod developed over 40 roles with major opera houses world wide, including the creation of five world premier leading roles: Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire* with San Francisco Opera, Prospero in *The Tempest* at the Santa Fe Opera, Nathan in *Sophie's Choice* in London and Washington, D.C., Jack London in *Every Man Jack* in Sonoma, CA, and Nicholas in *Nicholas and Alexandria* with LA Opera. Rod is equally acclaimed as a recitalist, concert and cabaret artist.

Greg Fedderly, tenor, had his debut with LA Opera in 1988 in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He subsequently has roles in many operas here, including *Falstaff*, *Peter Grimes*, *Don Pasquale*, *Madama Butterfly*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Magic Flute*, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *La Rondine* and *Pagliacci*. His Metropolitan Opera roles include Don Basilio, Goro in *Madama Butterfly*, the four servants in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Valzacci in *Der Roserkavalier* and most recently as Monostatos in *The Magic Flute*, inter-



nationally telecast on live HD transmissions and PBS telecast. Greg will return here next season as Prunier in *La Rondine*.

Malcolm MacKenzie, baritone, made his debut with LA Opera in 1996 in *Pagliacci*. Other performances here included *I Capuleti E Montecchi*, *Rigoletto*, *Faust*, *Billy Budd*, *La Boheme*, *The Merry Widow* and *Madama Butterfly*. He made his debut at New York City Opera as Escamillo in *Carmen*. A favorite of Sacramento Opera, major roles there include *Don Giovanni*, Count in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Germont in *La Traviata* and an upcoming Iago in *Otello*. Malcolm recently performed in *A Masked Ball* with Opera Santa Barbara. Malcolm creates the role of Ozlid the Owl in the world premier of *Keepers of the Night* this July with Lynette Tapia and Suzanna Guzman, conducted by Grant Gershon, at the Alex Theater in Glendale.

All three of these LA Opera favorite gentlemen promise us an exciting evening at the Hemmings Awards at the Biltmore Hotel, as well as rollicking nights of frivolity with *The Merry Widow*.

Rod Gilfry in LA Opera's *Billy Budd*, 2000

calendar

April

Opera Talks at Julienne's

April 9 (Monday) 7 pm
2649 Mission, San Marino
\$10 cash-beverages & nibbles
Additional \$10 cash - light "box supper"

Education Program*

April 14 (Saturday) 8 am-1 pm
Opera Challenge
Cal State LA

Education Program*

April 21 (Saturday) 8 am- noon
Opera Tales - Mozart Stories
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Education Program*

April 25 (Wednesday) 2 pm
Merry Widow
Senior Dress Rehearsal

Shining Stars Appreciation

April 26 (Thursday) 9:30-11:30 am
Special Guest Suzanna Guzman
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Hemmings Award Concert & Dinner

April 29 (Sunday) 4 pm
The Biltmore Hotel
Crystal Ballroom

Education Programs*

Contact: Edward Lieb
edwardlieb@sbcglobal.net

Cast Dinners**

Contact: Monica Gutierrez Roper
monylamony@yahoo.com

24-hour message line
213.972.7220

May

Porgy & Bess II Final Dress

May 2 (Wednesday) at 7:30 pm
Patron, Sustaining and Contributing
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Seminar

May 5 (Saturday) 9:30 am-12:30 pm
Porgy & Bess; Luisa Fernanda
Wilshire Grand Hotel
930 Wilshire Blvd.

Master Class

May 7 (Monday) 7 pm
Susan Graham & Domingo-Thornton
Young Artists
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
Rehearsal Room 3

Education Program*

May 12 (Saturday) 8 am-1 pm
Saturday Morning at the Opera-
Friday Night at Hodges' Cafe
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Opera Talks at Julienne's

May 14 (Monday) 7 pm
2649 Mission, San Marino
\$10 cash - beverages & nibbles
Additional \$10 cash - light "box supper"

AALAO Night at the Opera

May 15 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm
Porgy and Bess opera and dinner party in
Founders with the cast, post-performance
\$125 opera and dinner
\$50 dinner (with own opera ticket)
Contact Eva Grant 323-663-9735

Cast Dinner for Orchestra **

May 24 (Thursday) 5-7 pm
Luisa Fernanda
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

June

Opera Talks at Julienne's

June 11 (Monday) 7 pm
2649 Mission, San Marino
\$10 cash - beverages & nibbles
Additional \$10 cash - light "box
supper"

AALAO Annual Membership Recital

June 17 (Sunday) 3-6 pm
Hancock Park
Contact: Beverly Johnson
323-758-6109

African Americans Party with *Porgy & Bess*

Artists from *Porgy and Bess* will join the African Americans for Los Angeles Opera (AALAO) and their guests in the Founders Room for a post performance cast party on Tuesday, May 15. President Eva Grant plans a delicious Patina dinner menu with hosted wine. Orchestra ring seats to *Porgy and Bess* with inclusion of the cast dinner party are available for \$125. For those with their own opera tickets, the cast dinner party is \$50. Invitations will be mailed. Call the Opera League message line at 213-972-7220 for further information or reservations.

invitations

Please note that this is the **ONLY** invitation you will receive for these events.

Porgy and Bess and Luisa Fernanda Seminar

Saturday, May 5, 2007 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

9:30 am Coffee and Pastries, 10 am program

The Wilshire Grand Hotel

930 Wilshire Boulevard, just off the 110 Harbor Freeway

Speakers: Robert Winter, Ph.D. Richard Traubner, Ph.D.

Allan Edmiston, M.D.

\$25 or 1 flexible voucher for Members, \$35 for Non-members and at door, \$10 Student Club Members

Valet parking is available through garage on Francisco St. for \$8.00

Self-parking in the Ernst and Young garage for \$8.00

Susan Graham Master Class

Monday, May 7, 2007 at 7 pm

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 4th Floor, Artist's Entrance

135 North Grand Avenue, Entrance on Grand Avenue

LA Opera's Domingo-Thornton Young Artists

Anna Alkhimova • Brian Cali • Natasha Flores

Rena Harms • David Lomeli • Karen Vuong

\$25 or 1 flexible voucher for Members,

\$35 for Non-members and at door, \$10 Students

ORDER FORM

Seminar and Master Class reservations must be received by May 1

May 5 Seminar	<input type="checkbox"/> x Member or vouchers @ \$25	\$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> x Non-member @ \$35	\$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> x Student Club members @ \$ 10	\$ _____
May 7 Master Class	<input type="checkbox"/> x Member or vouchers @ \$25	\$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> x Non-member @ \$35	\$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> x Students @ \$10	\$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Enclose your check or voucher(s) to the Opera League, together with a self-addressed stamped envelope and the tickets will be mailed to you. No refunds. Mail to: The Opera League of Los Angeles, P.O. Box 1006, Montrose, CA 91021-1006.

Questions? Call the Opera League 24 Hour message line at 213.972.7220 or e-mail OLLA at: info@operaleague.org.

Porgy and Bess and Luisa Fernanda Gathering Schedule

Santa Clarita

Thursday, April 12, 7-9:30 pm
28201 River Trail Lane, Valencia
Olga Joseau 661.297.3086

Heart of LA

Saturday, April 14, 2-4:30 pm
418 S. McCadden Pl., Los Angeles
Sandra Kohn 323.935.9943

Orange County

Sunday, April 15, 2-5 pm
3064 Java, Costa Mesa
Claire Chambless 714.533.4186

San Fernando Valley

Sunday, April 15, 3-5:30 pm
4830 Brandenburg Pl., Tarzana
Jackie Johns 818.980.5743

San Gabriel Valley

Porgy & Bess
Tuesday, April 17, 7-9:30 pm
2455 Adair St., San Marino
Michael Sholer 818.502.1988

Luisa Fernanda

Tuesday May 22, 7-9:30 pm
5278 La Canada Blvd., La Canada
Michael Sholer 818.502.1988

Claremont

Sunday, April 22, 2-5 pm
150 N. Mountain Ave., Claremont
Patricia O'Donnell 909.447.5038

Ventura County

Sunday, April 22, 2-5 pm
4399 Sweetbriar St., Ventura
Dorothy Wait 805.578.0246

Westside

Monday, April 30, 7:15 to 9:30 pm
453 South Bundy Dr., Los Angeles
Alice & Chuck Bragg 310.454.9662
Monika Whitaker 310.826.4743

Antelope Valley

Sunday, May 6, 2-4:30 pm
43422 25th St., W., Lancaster
Harald Krueger 661.728.0671

getting together

The Opera League wishes to give a special thank you to our Patron Members!

David N. and Margie Barry

Frank and Kathy Baxter

Stuart and Rebecca Bowne

Bonnie Brae

Martin J. Brickman, M.D.

Jim and Claire Chambless

Don and Marilyn Conlan

Joe and Alice Coulombe

C. Coy

Missy Crahan and Hilary Crahan

Myrna CruzAedo

Jack and Barbara Dawson

Dan and Carol Donlan

John C. and Leslie A. Dorman

W. Allan Edmiston, M.D.

Linda Evans

Gerald Faris

Gordon and Virginia Footman

Bruce and Adele Gainsley

Edward and Eleanor Gnuv

Stuart R. Grant, M.D.

Alan and Audrey Hanson

Robert and Molly Holmes

H. Kirkland Jones

Olive M. Kemp

Ben and Delores Kerr

Norman Koplof and Leslie Falick

Rosalie Kornblau

Larry and Jennifer Levine

Mirjana and Natasha Mahnovski

Mike and Claudia Lin Margolis

Robert Marsh, M.D. and

Marguerite Marsh, Ph.D.

Morency Maxwell and Cecily Maxwell



Anthony Dean Griffey and Rebecca Bowne at the Patron and Sustaining Event.

Danielle McDonald

Jane Gray Morrison

Phyllis Pelizzare

Cat Jagger Pollon

Nancy Porter

Al and Laura Rabin

Larry Rappaport

Sol R. and Neddy Rubin

Anne Russell-Sullivan

Barbara and Armin Sadoff, M.D.

Warren and Melody Schubert

Charles and Barbara Schufreider

Richard Seaver

Doris M. Shimabukuro

Jack and Doreen Chastain Shine

Marie H. Song

Howard and Catherine Stone

Pamela Tinsley

James Updegraff

Libby Wilson, M.D.

Patron and Sustaining Event

Conversation with Anthony Dean Griffey

On Tuesday, February 27, 2007, the Opera League held its Salon for Patron and Sustaining members. Anthony Dean Griffey, who was Jimmy McIntyre in *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* was interviewed by Rebecca Bowne. As he shared with the audience his background, philosophy, current and future plans, everyone was completely captivated by his sweet and friendly, down-to-earth charm. Stuart Bowne also enjoyed getting to know Tony as he chauffeured him for the evening. Audre Slater generously provided her 1911 Craftsman home in Brentwood for this event. Guests enjoyed wine and other beverages before the interview, and partook of a sumptuous variety of fruit, cheeses and crackers, desserts and coffee afterwards, as they spent more time chatting with Tony Griffey, who was warmly sociable with all the guests.

behind the scenes

Planets, Soon To Become Stars

By Bob Bernard

When the formal announcement of the Domingo-Thornton Young Artist Program (DTYAP) was made in December of 2005, our operatic universe began to grow. By last summer, when nine “planets”—in the form of nine young singers—arrived here as part of the inaugural class of the DTYAP, we had a new operatic solar system orbiting about the sunburst motif at our Music Center.

On Sunday, April 29, three of these young artists/planets will come into alignment as part of the entertainment package for the League’s Annual Peter Hemmings Award Event. Following the lead of composer Gustav Holst, it is easy to associate each of these artists with an appropriate astrological counterpart.

Soprano Karen Vuong, a native of Los Angeles and graduate of UCLA, has always been close to our Sun center at 1st and Grand, and so she is our Mercury, a ‘Winged Messenger’: Her first occasions as part of LA Opera productions have, indeed, been of a nature associated with that of a messenger. For the Thursday, November 30, performance of *Poppea*, she delivered (on less than 24 hours notice) the role of Amore from the orchestra pit, and, for the recent production of *Tannhäuser*, she sang the voice of the Shepherd Boy from offstage.

Karen notes the dichotomous nature of her first performance opportunities at LA Opera: As (the voice) of Amore and the Shepherd Boy she has been heard, but not seen; as one of the Maidens of Mahagonny she was seen, but not-so-much heard. Unsurprisingly, Karen is most eager to assume a role that combines both the facets of sight and sound.

Tenor David Lomeli, a native of Mexico, came to us last summer fresh



Domingo-Thornton Young Artists David Lomeli and Karen Vuong.

from what was then a war zone in Israel, and so he is our Mars, the ‘Bringer of War’: As a measure of the sort of warrior/competitor he is, David won both the Opera and Zarzuela competitions at the 2006 Operalia Competition in Valencia, Spain.

At Valencia, both David and Karen, the winner of the CulturArte Prize, had to overcome the double-barreled difficulty imposed upon them by chance and the competition’s rules. As a matter of chance, both David and Karen were randomly placed at the end of the preliminary competition. Then, having been graded with the most points for this round, they were, by rule, placed at the beginning of the next day’s competition, the finals. Overcoming both the lack of rest and the impossibility of scheduling any warm-up with the orchestra, they brought home their awards.

David, as manifested by his entering both competitions at Valencia, is a workaholic. At the beginning of the season he jumped into the cast for Don

Carlo, singing the roles of both Count Lerma and the Royal Herald. Right now he is time-sharing his talents, auditioning for a role with the San Francisco Opera and has scheduled himself to enter the annual Montserrat Caballé vocal competition (in the Principality of Andorra, Spain), as well as another competition in Palm Beach. He most eagerly anticipates singing the role of El Saboyano in *Luisa Fernanda* at the end of our season.

Mezzo Natasha Flores is a native of San Diego and has been, in parallel with her studies with the DTYAP, working towards a Master of Music degree at the Thornton School of Music at USC. Her ebullience makes her an obvious choice to be our Jupiter, the ‘Bringer of Jollity’.

The cast members of *Poppea* reciprocated Natasha’s enthusiasm. She will never forget the night of Saturday, December 16. She was to sing the final performance of *Poppea* as Nutrice, Octavia’s nurse. As she walked to her dressing room at the end of the corridor on the mezzanine level (above stage right), David Daniels, Reinhard Hagen and the other occupants of the dressing rooms along this path all stepped out and applauded her approach. Later, after her initial scheme with Frederica von Stade (Octavia) was completed, Ms. von Stade spontaneously embraced her after they exited, exclaiming, “Good job!”

Ms. Flores also appeared as one of the Maidens of Mahagonny. Natasha’s biggest laugh ensuing from that engagement was motivated by the gift given by Audra McDonald to each of the Maidens: a bottle of “Dirty Girl Body Spray”.

Natasha praises the teaching staff of the DTYAP, citing in particular the contributions of Anthony Manoli as a

Continued on page 8

Young Artists (cont'd. from page 7)

voice and diction coach. Ms. Flores, eager as ever to progress with her technique, has contracted with Dolora Zajick for a week of one-on-one studies in Reno.

These three young artists/planets will be joined by the returning comets of Rod Gilfry, Malcolm MacKenzie, and Greg Fedderly to provide the entertainment for the League's Annual Peter Hemmings Award Event. This aggregate will undoubtedly outshine even the crystal in the Crystal Ballroom of the Biltmore.

Don't miss it!



Domingo-Thornton Young Artist Natasha Flores with Frederica von Stade in Poppea.

Graham Master Class (cont'd. from page 1)

Ms. Graham has sung leading roles in the greatest opera houses of the world, including the Opéra National de Paris, The Royal Opera House Covent Garden, La Scala Milan, the Vienna State Opera, the Metropolitan Opera, and the Salzburg Festival. The Grammy Award-winning mezzo-soprano captivates audiences with her voice, expressive ability, and her tall and graceful stature. A *Gramophone* magazine cover article dubbed her as "America's most favorite mezzo."

See the invitation on page 5.



135 North Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Pasadena, CA
Permit #740

INVITATIONS ARE INCLUDED

- ★ Seminar • May 5
- ★ Master Class • May 7