

AN OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS
BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S
**THE RAPE OF
LUCRETIA**

THE SOUTHERN THEATER
APRIL 1ST & 2ND 2022 @ 7:30PM
APRIL 3RD 2022 @ 4PM



An Opera Theatre Presents:

THE RAPE OF LUCRETIA

April 1 -3, 2022
The Southern Theatre

composed by Benjamin Britten

libretto by Ronald Duncan

based on "Le Viol de Lucrece" by André Obey

Britten's RAPE OF LUCRETIA by arrangement with
Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., publisher and copyright owner

"ART SHOULD COMFORT THE DISTURBED,

AND DISTURB THE COMFORTABLE!"

- Cesar A. Cruz

The Rape of Lucretia, based on the ancient Roman tragedy of Lucretia, was the first of Britten's chamber operas. The story unfolds amid a war between the Greeks and Romans circa 510 BC, under the Roman rule of tyrannical Etruscan King Lucius Tarquinius Superbos. It is in this hostile society of toxic masculinity and violence that Lucretia's body is used as a tool for political ambition and power.

AOT's production encourages communities to gather in a supportive space of art and music and confront the uncomfortable realities that this story sheds on contemporary societal power constructs. Together, we will ask hard questions. Together, we will learn to better support survivors and envision a world free of gender-based violence.



We acknowledge that this will be a deeply disturbing story for many people, and in many ways. We encourage you to hold space with us to process and reflect. A roundtable discussion will be hosted directly after each performance with our Community Partners: **WOMEN'S ADVOCATES, VIOLENCE FREE MN, DOMESTIC ABUSE PROJECT, SOUTHER VALLEY ALLIANCE AND ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.**

A NOTE ON THE PRODUCTION:

It has been more than two years since our world was sharply thrust into upheaval with the COVID-19 pandemic halting our production just shy of opening. A cacophony of societal events followed, highlighting the necessity for a reckoning of deeply entrenched inequity. Climate crisis has reached emergency proportions, and Europe finds itself at war. Life today may feel as though at an apex. Is this a herald of a turning point toward a new age? It has to be.

Benjamin Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* presents a challenging allegorical story set at just such a turning point in ancient history. It is a story of tyranny, abuse of power, and the consequence of archetypal imbalance. The avant-garde opera composed not long after WWII is laden with Britten's strong pacifist beliefs. The Male and Female Chorus provide a Brechtian guidance through the narrative, ensuring one doesn't get too comfortable in this world of overt gender dichotomy in which leaders have no respect for borders or other boundaries.

In Etruscan mythology death and destruction was a part of a natural cycle, inextricably linked to rebirth and creation, a cycle of inevitability like the changing of the seasons. The religious dimension of this mythohistory can be difficult to connect to in contemporary reading. One of the more controversial dimensions of this opera is the Christian ideology laced through Ronald Duncan's libretto. Lucretia is superimposed as a Christ-like figure, resurrected after her death through the founding of the Roman republic. Her sacrifice of her own life is an act of civil virtue and patriotism. It is also her only opportunity to exercise any agency in a society so limiting that her chastity becomes her only currency. If only that resolution wasn't still so resonant today.

Our journey together greatly benefited from an incredibly generous cast, as well as a production team who just so happened to be made up of all female identified artistic leaders, an all too rare occurrence in the performing arts. We are so eager to share our examination of these evocative themes with you tonight through music and conversation.

- Teresa Mock
Stage Director

CREATIVE TEAM

STAGE DIRECTOR
Teresa Mock

ASST. DIRECTOR
Carole Schultz

STAGE MANAGER
Laini Devin

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Lara Bolton

INTIMACY DIRECTOR
Shae Palic

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Kelly M Turpin

CHOREOGRAPHER
Jennifer Mack

INTIMACY COACH
Maria Kosovich

SUPERTITLE COORDINATOR
Phoebe Mol

CAST

** denotes cover*

Female chorusTricia Van Ee
*Kristin Morant

Male chorus Brian Wallin
*Trevor Lemon-Todd

Lucretia Kara Morgan
*Anna Hashizume

Tarquinius Justin Anthony Spenner
*Anthony Potts

Collatinus Alex Ritchie
*Rodolfo Nieto

Bianca Sahar Hassan
*Alyssa Burdick

Lucia Meagan Seubert
*Jessica Nesbit

Juniu Joel Mathias
*Andrew Nalley

Dancers Hannah Benditt & Andy Lupinek

DESIGN TEAM

LIGHTING DESIGN
Claudia Errickson

COVER ART
Jerrald Dyon Spencer Jr.

COSTUME DESIGN
Samantha Haddow

GRAPHIC DESIGN
SharkyLemon Design

SET DESIGN
Emily Jaques

ORCHESTRA

BASSOON
Alexandra Berndt

DOUBLE BASS
Jennifer Rubin

FLUTE
Ming-Hui Lin

HORN
Allison Akins

PIANO
Jordan Buchholtz

CLARINET
Paul Schimming

VIOLIN 1/CONCERTMASTER
Claire Loudon

OBOE
Lindsey Thompson

CELLO
Rebeccah Parker Downs

PERCUSSION
Eri Isomura

VIOLIN 2
Mary Alice Hutton

HARP
Hannah Palmquist

VIOLA
Matthew Mindeman

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

THE ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The mission of The Advocates for Human Rights is to implement international human rights standards to promote civil society and reinforce the rule of law.

[LEARN MORE](#)

VIOLENCE FREE MN

Founded in 1978, Violence Free Minnesota represents victim/survivors of relationship abuse and member programs; challenge systems & institutions; promote social change; and support, educate, and connect member programs.

[LEARN MORE](#)

SOUTHERN VALLEY ALLIANCE

Southern Valley Alliance helps all those impacted by domestic violence in Carver and Scott counties, including victims, families, organizations and communities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

WOMEN'S ADVOCATES

Women's Advocates walks with victim/survivors and our community to break the cycle of domestic violence. Using the tools of radical hospitality, advocacy and collective action, they work toward a community free from violence, where all are safe and can live productive and healthy lives.

[LEARN MORE](#)

DOMESTIC ABUSE PROJECT - PROVIDING ON-SITE THERAPY

DAP was founded in 1979. They build communities free from violence by providing holistic healing for every member of the family.

[LEARN MORE](#)

visit www.anoperatheatre.org/lucretia for more information.

BIOGRAPHIES



TRICIA VAN EE

She/Her

Female Chorus

Fav MN Thing:

The MN State Parks system

Recent Credits:

Acis and Galatea, Out Of The Box Opera
Songs With and Without Words, Mount Olive
Lutheran Church Fine Arts



BRIAN WALLIN

He/Him

Male Chorus

Fav MN thing:

All the delicious food and drink

Recent Credits:

Independence Eve, Opera Birmingham
The Ghosts of Versailles, Château de Versailles
Spectacles

Upcoming:

Adriana Lecouvreur, Baltimore Concert Opera
La traviata, Out of the Box Opera/Opera
Columbus



KARA MORGAN

She/Her

Lucretia

Fav MN thing:

Our lakes

Recent Credits:

Hansel & Gretel, Pacific Opera Project
Dido & Aeneas, Sarasota Opera

Upcoming:

“Ladies, Lyrics, & Lagers: Texts and Songs by Women” recital in collaboration with Carson Schneider, OOPS MN
Lamb of God Easter Oratorio, Minnesota Saints Chorale & Orchestra



JUSTIN ANTHONY SPENNER

He/Him

Tarquinius

Fav MN thing:

A looot of activists

Recent Credits:

La Bohème, Theater Latte Da
I Enter as a Stranger, Self-Produced

Upcoming:

Finalist, Edward Grieg Society of Minnesota
Is This Music?!?! (podcast)
barispenn.com



ALEX RITCHIE

He/Him

Collatinus

Fav MN thing:

State Parks

Recent Credits:

Silent Night, MN Opera



JOEL MATHIAS

He/Him
Junius

Fav MN thing:
Haralson Apples

Recent Credits:

Anonymous Lover, Minnesota Opera
Amahl and the Night Visitors, Skylark Opera

Upcoming:

Ghosts Behind The Glass, Journey North Opera Company
Proving Up, Journey North Opera Company



SAHAR HASSAN

She/Her
Bianca

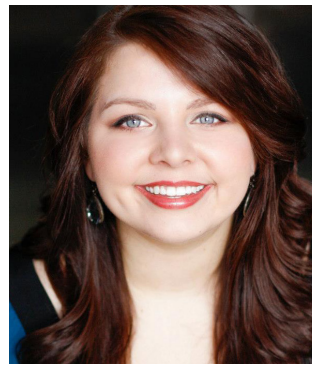
Fav MN thing:
The arts community
& frozen custard

Recent Credits:

Home, Hope & Humanity recital, Ladyslipper Ensemble
Schubert Mass in C, Church of St. Agnes

Upcoming:

Ghosts Behind The Glass, Journey North Opera Company
Daughters of the Bloody Duke, Journey North Opera Company
Die Zauber Flöte, Opera Reading Project
saharhassan.com



MEAGAN SEUBERT

She/Her
Lucia

Fav MN thing:
Performance opportunities for

young, local artists

Recent Credits:

The Rake’s Progress, Lakes Area Music Festival



HANNAH CELINE BENDITT

She/Her
Dancer

Fav MN thing:
Living close to family, beautiful

parks, & the arts community

Recent Credits:

“La Dolce Vita” LDV at Live at the Shed choreographed by Berit Ahlgren and Helen Hatch

VIM with 10th Wave Chamber Orchestra choreographed by Yuki Tokuda

Upcoming:

BoleroBolero with HatchDance and HoneyWorks, Orchestra Hall

www.hannahbenditt.wixsite.com/mysite



ANDREW LUPINEK

He/Him
Dancer

Fav MN thing:
All 4 seasons

Recent Credits:

Transcribed 8:20 Dance Company
Live @ the Shed choreography by Jennifer Mack



ANNA HASHIZUME

She/Her

Cover: Lucretia

Fav MN thing:
The arts community

Recent Credits:

La Bohème, Theater Latté Da
Don Giovanni, Fargo-Moorhead Opera

Upcoming:

Celebrating Sondheim: Act II, Theater Latté Da
& Crooners Supper Club
annahashizume.com



KRISTIN MORANT

She/Her

Cover: Female Chorus

Fav MN thing:
State Fairgrounds

Recent Credits:

OktoberFRAU, LOFTRecital
Anonymous Lover, MN Opera



TONY POTTS

He/Him

Cover: Tarquinius

Fav MN thing:
The Lakes

Recent Credits:

La bohème, Theater Latté Da

Upcoming:

Lamb of God oratorio, MN Saints Chorale and Orchestra



TREVOR LEMON-TODD

He/Him

Cover: Male Chorus

Fav MN thing:
All the plant-based eateries

Recent Credits:

Spotlight 3.0, OOPS MN
Classical Christmas, OOPS MN
trevorlemontodd.com



RODOLFO NIETO

He/Him

Cover: Collatinus

Fav MN thing:
Minnesota Beer

Recent Credits:

La bohème, Theater Latté Da
All Is Calm, Theater Latté Da

Upcoming:

Various projects with Border CrosSing
Celebrating Sondheim Act II, Theater Latté Da
and Crooners Supper Club



ANDREW NALLEY

He/Him

Cover: Junius

Fav MN thing:

So much theater and
music

Recent Credits:

La bohème, Theater Latté Da

Upcoming:

Carmen, MN Opera



ALYSSA BURDICK

She/Her

Cover: Bianca

Fav MN thing:

Beautiful sparkling
snow & camping by
the water

Recent Credits:

Classic Christmas concert with OOPS MN
Black Voices Amplified concert with Minnesota
Chorale

Upcoming:

Bach's B Minor Mass, Bach Society of Minnesota
Joel Thompson's 7 Last Words of the Unarmed,
MN Orchestra & Chorale



JESSICA NESBIT

She/Her

Cover: Lucia

Fav MN thing:

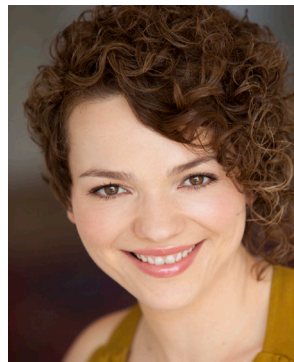
The snow

Recent Credits:

FINNEGANS on Broadway
Opera on Tap

Upcoming:

La Traviata, Opera Reading Project



TERESA MOCK

She/Her

Stage Director

Fav MN thing:

Summer after a long
cold winter

Recent Credits:

The Uncertainty Principle, MSAB Artist
Initiative Grant, hosted by Open Eye Theatre
Hit The Wall, Mixed Precipitation
teresamock.com



LARA BOLTON

She/Her

Music Director

Fav MN thing:

Strong seasons

Recent Credits:

Guns N' Rosenkavalier, Eugene Opera
Hamlet, Washington Concert Opera

Upcoming:

Carmen, MN Opera



JENNIFER MACK

She/They
Choreographer

Fav MN thing:
The park system
(city & state)

Recent Credits:

Anonymous Lover, MN Opera
Right Here Right Now Showcase, Jess Peterson
LDV, Hatch Dance & Honeyworks Dance

Upcoming:

Dances at the Lakes (Mpls), Christopher
Watson Dance Co. & Open Door Project

Ballet Program Director & Instructor:
Danceworks Performing Arts Center
Instructor: St. Paul Ballet & PiM Arts HS



SHAE PALIC

She/Her
Intimacy Director

Fav MN thing:
Lake Superior and
The State Fair

Recent Credits:

RAP Showcase, MN Opera

Upcoming:

The School for Lies, The Guthrie Dowling
Studio
Don Giovanni, The University of Minnesota



LAINI DEVIN

She/Her
Stage Manager

Fav MN thing:
That it can be 70
degrees one day &
snow the next

Recent Credits:

Mamma Mia, The Zephyr Theatre

Upcoming:

Ruddigore, Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera
Company
lainidevin.com

Season apprentice with the Playwrights' Center



**CAROLE
SCHULTZ**

She/Her
Assistant Director

Fav MN thing:
Firepits & patios in
the summer

Recent Credits:

Soireé, The Overdressed Duo
Lucia, Journey North Opera Company

Upcoming:

Journey East, Chamber Music Society of
Minnesota
Overdressed Duo's Summer season

Adjunct Professor of Voice- University of St.
Thomas



**JORDAN
BUCHHOLTZ**

She/Her
Pianist

Fav MN thing:
Thousands of lakes

Recent Credits:

High School Musical, Armstrong Highschool
Closed Door Disorder, Wildwood Theater

Upcoming:

TELLUS, Analog Dance Works
The Show That Goes Wrong, Armstrong
Highschool
claudiaerrickson.com

Recent Credits:

Amahl and the Night Visitors, Skylark Opera
Hometown to the World, UMN Opera Theater

Upcoming:

Piano Teacher at Dorian Summer Camps at
Luther College
Figaro for Kids, St. Croix Valley Opera

Piano Teacher for All Things Musik



EMILY JAQUES

She/Her
Set Design

Fav MN thing:
Camping in the
state parks

Recent Credits:

Technical Director at Mounds Park Academy

Upcoming:

Anne of Green Gables, Mounds Park Academy



**MARIA
KOSOVICH**

She/They
Intimacy Coach

Fav MN thing:
Science Museum of
Minnesota

Recent Credits:

Festival of New Plays, Simpson Productions
Dvorak's Requiem, Minnesota Valley Chorale

Upcoming:

Soloist, Musicorum



**SAMANTHA
FROMM
HADOW**

She/Her
Costume Design

Fav MN thing:
Our beautiful
county & state parks

Recent Credits:

Tuck Everlasting, Stages Theatre
The Mousetrap, Lyric Arts

Upcoming:

Passing Strange, Yellow Tree Theatre
Raisin in the Sun, Guthrie Theater



**CLAUDIA
ERRICKSON**

She/Her
Lighting Design

Fav MN thing:
Winter Sports - like
ice skating



DR. ALEXANDRA BERNDT

She/Her
Bassoon

Fav MN thing:
Enjoying all four seasons

Recent Credits:

Concerts with the Minnesota Sinfonia and South Dakota Symphony Orchestra

Upcoming:

Chione Quintet tour of the Southeastern Libraries Cooperating (SELCO) library system, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra

Gustavus Adolphus College Basson Instructor
Private lesson Instructor



ALLISON AKINS

She/Her
Horn

Fav MN thing:
Delicious food at amazing local restaurants

Recent Credits:

Living Composers Quintet Recital Series, Chione Quintet
Latin Rhythms, Music Saint Croix

Upcoming:

Carmen, MN Opera
houa and the Northern Lights Dragon, Chione Quintet



CLAIRE LOUDON

She/Her
Concertmaster

Fav MN thing:
True variety of seasons - especially a proper snowy winter

Recent Credits:

MN Sinfonia winter concert series

Macphail Center Violin/Viola Instructor
Mount Olivet School of Music Instructor
International School of MN Instructor
Private Violin/Viola Instructor



ERI ISOMURA

She/Her
Percussion

Fav MN thing:
The state fair

Recent Credits:

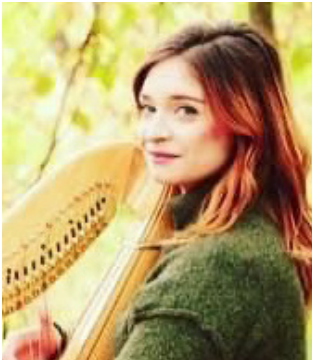
Champagne Confetti, NY Mills Cultural Center
The Singers, Minnesota Choral Artists

Upcoming:

10th Wave Chamber Collective, MPR Class Notes
National Lutheran Choir, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Faculty at St. Olaf College & Yinghua Academy
Private Lesson Instructor

eriisomura.com // 10thwave.org



**HANNAH
PALMQUIST**

She/Her
Harp

Fav MN thing:
The Lakes

Recent Credits:

Duo Leon, Hastings Art Center
St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra

Upcoming:

Winona Symphony Orchestra



**MARY ALICE
HUTTON**

She/Her
Violin

Fav MN thing:
Kayaking on
Medicine Lake

Recent Credits:

Come Back, Be Here, Red (Taylor's Version)
The Anonymous Lover, MN Opera

Upcoming:

Bruckner Symphony No. 4, Duluth Superior
Symphony Orchestra
National Repertory Orchestra, Breckenridge,
Colorado



JENNIFER RUBIN

She/Her
Double Bass

Fav MN thing:
The natural beauty

Recent Credits:

MN Sinfonia
South Dakota Symphohny
Sioux City Symphony



**MATTHEW
MINDEMAN**

He/him
Viola

Fav MN thing:
Not winter! But I
love how Minnesota
comes alive in the spring.

Recent Credits:

Minnesota Orchestra
South Dakota Symphony

Upcoming:

South Dakota Symphony
Duluth Superior Symphony

MacPhail Center for Music Violin/Viola
Instructor



**LINDSEY
THOMPSON**

She/Her
Oboe

Fav MN thing:
Spring time & the
State Fair

Recent Credits:

The Nutcracker, State Theater

Pavia Wind Quintet, Oboe



MING-HUI LIN

She/Her
Flute

Fav MN thing:
The snow

Recent Credits:

Fantasy faculty solo recital, University of Minnesota Duluth
Beethovenfest, Mankato Symphony Orchestra

Upcoming:

Sonatas, Serenades, and Boleros: Music of the Americas, University of Minnesota Morris
SDSO Centennial Finale, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra



REBECCA PARKER DOWNS

She/Her
Cello

Fav MN thing:
Camping

Recent Credits:

Warenfetisch, University of Louisville
Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra

Upcoming:

Seven Last Words of Christ, Mount Olive Lutheran Church
Solo/chamber recital, Sundin Hall



PAUL SCHIMMING

He/Him
Clarinet

Fav MN thing:
Cuyuna County State Recreation Area

Recent Credits:

Minnesota Orchestra
Rick Steves faculty trio recital, Concordia University

Upcoming:

Chione Quintet, Minnesota tour

Concordia University, St Paul Clarinet/
Saxophone Adjunct Faculty

THANK YOU!

It takes a lot of help and generous people to keep the little AOT train running. Thank you for the extra love and support from our volunteers and community members!

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Bill Gamble
Brenisen Wheeler
Chris Park
Elise Parker
Elizabeth Cutter
Grant Dawson
Greg Thompson
GTCYS (Greater Twin Cities Youth
Symphonies)
HaoPay Lee
Janette Davis
Kelley Lindquist
Lauren Hofmeister
Lindsay Price
Lyra Baroque Orchestra
Mari Oyanagi Eggum
Mary Beth Becker
Mary Willis
Rosalyn Park
T'Nina Westbrook
Tom Forsythe
Twyla Olson
Yunyue Liu

AOT VOLUNTEERS:

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Brian Ingalsbe
Ellen Turpin
Eryn Tvette
Dan Greco
David Morris
Jane Schneider
Jane Weis
Jill Hartman
Joy Amel
Justine Scarbrough
Kathleen Hanson
Krista Costin
Noah West
Pat Kent



Keys 4/4 Kids generously provided the Baldwin grand piano for AOT's Lucretia performances.

Keys 4/4 Kids accepts used pianos as donations and places them back in the community through their retail store, their placement program, and the Pianos on Parade program.

Check out their meaningful work at keys44kids.net.

HURRAY FOR ARTS SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the people that keep the AOT train chugging along. We couldn't do it without you!

LIST REFLECTS DONATIONS MADE OCTOBER 1, 2021-MARCH 13, 2022

Anonymous
Andrew and Sunshine Eggum
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Vincent and Barb King
Yunyue Liu and Marco Real-d'Arbelles

GRANTS & FOUNDATIONAL SUPPORT



SPIRE Credit Union

Trillium Family Foundation

Twin Cities Opera Guild



This production is made possible through the generous support of The Sparkplug Foundation, The Minnesota State Arts Board, and individual donors.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Metropolitan Regional Arts Council

BECOME AN ARTS SUPPORTER!

LIKE WHAT YOU WATCHED TONIGHT?



CONSIDER GIVING BACK!

This production was postponed in March 2020 and we've returned two years later to many extra expenses. In order to [keep our artists safe](#) throughout production AOT supplied [COVID PCR lab testing](#) and added a cast of covers.

The additional costs for these came out to around **\$9,000!!**
Who has that kind of money?!

If you are able, please consider sending along a donation to help us out. Every amount makes a difference.



CLICK HERE TO GIVE NOW!

An Opera Theatre is a 501c3 non-profit organization. All donations are fully tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

ABOUT AOT:

Thank you for coming aboard the AOT community!

AOT was founded in 2018 with the vision of creating a company that inspires community engagement by utilizing local MN artists of the highest caliber and presenting opera theatre works focused on social justice and community action. The two main beliefs of AOT are that art should break down societal, financial, and cultural barriers, and that art should always be of the people and for the people.

With the help of an Artist Initiative Grant from the MN State Arts Board, founder Kelly M Turpin and a group of dedicated donors made this vision a reality in 2018 with AOT's inaugural production, *The Consul*, which focused on themes of immigration with Community Partner Advocates for Human Rights. Since then, AOT has gone on to become a staple of the Twin Cities arts scene with productions such as the show-stopping *DIVAS & DRAG* (June 2019), *WE OUT: Voicing Our Truth* (July 2020), new commissions *The Sky Where You Are* (October 2020) which was inducted into the Library of Congress in February 2021 and *In the Midst of Things: In Medias Res* which premiered to 1,002 high school students in May 2021.

AOT actively engages communities both inside and outside the venue. At our productions, audiences can take part in post-show roundtable discussions with local organizations. Outside the venue, AOT hosts Voice Lab, a free monthly-facilitated peer-to-peer workshop for all singers, regardless of genre and ability. Our education immersion program at LEAP International High School and South High School replaces the standard historical focus of opera education programs with a focus on storytelling, authentic expression, movement, and sharing.

CLICK HERE to visit our website and sign up for our newsletter to stay up to date with the latest AOT happenings and behind the scenes scoop!

