



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 • 7:30 PM

Friday, March 14, 2025 • 7:30 PM

Sunday, March 16 • 2:00 PM

DEPAUL OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS

**SUOR ANGELICA AND
GIANNI SCHICCHI**

GIACOMO PUCCINI, COMPOSER

GIOVACCHINO FORZANO, LIBRETTIST

Catherine O'Shaughnessy, conductor

Harry Silverstein, director

Sasha and Eugene Jarvis Opera Hall
2330 North Halsted Street • Chicago

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 • 7:30 PM

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Jarvis Opera Hall

SUOR ANGELICA AND GIANNI SCHICCHI

Catherine O'Shaughnessey, conductor

Harry Silverstein, director

PROGRAM

Suor Angelica

Orchestral edition by Bryan Higgins, by arrangement with Motet Music
Publishing Company

- Intermission -

Gianni Schicchi

*The running time is 2 hours
plus a 20 minute intermission*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DePaul Opera Theater thanks The Theatre School at DePaul University for their assistance with this production.

As a courtesy to those around you, please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices. Flash photography is not permitted.

SUOR ANGELICA CAST

Suor Angelica	Jorie Clark
La Zia Principessa	Samantha McGonigal
La Badessa	Gabriela Gonzalez
La Suora Zelatrice	Daniela Pepe
La Maestra delle Novizie	Brooke Craig
Suor Genovieffa	Alexandra Patin
Suor Osmina	Sierra Shoemaker
Suor Dolcina	Isabella Wiliford
La Suora Infermiera	Meghan Krueger
Le Cercatrici	Ally Lewkowski
	Jennifer Parr

SUOR ANGELICA CHORUS

Soprano

Grace Alberts
Sophia Altamirano
Ella Kozak
Sofia LoConte
Clara Lyons Jasper
Rylie Peck

Alto

Shayla Glaser
Clara Pancake
Kyla Peyser

Tenor

Aldo Alan
Jack Sullivan

Bass

Justin Bach
Aidan Costanzo
Rowan Foley
Elliot Kovitz
Zach Mendenhall
Michael Seybold

GIANNI SCHICCHI CAST

Gianni Schicchi	Kevin Wheatle
Lauretta	Sierra Shoemaker
Zita “La Vecchia”	Gabriela Gonzalez
Rinuccio	Aldo Alan
Gherardo	Jack Sullivan
Nella	Sophia Altamirano
Gherardina	Sofia LoConte
Betto di Signa	Michael Seybold
Simone	Elliot Kovitz
Marco	Zach Mendenhall
La Ciesca	Daniela Pepe
Maestro Spinelloccio, doctor	Rowan Foley
Ser Amantio di Nicolao, notary	Rowan Foley
Pinellino	Aidan Costanzo
Guccio	Justin Bach

ORCHESTRA

FLUTE

Christine McElligott
Elena Rubin

OBOE

Emily Mendez

CLARINET

Rachel Beil
Adam Boswell

BASSOON

Jason Huang

HORN

Eli Hoffmann
Katy Meffert

TRUMPET

Kai-Chun Chang
Jhoan Garcia

TROMBONE

Tim Warner

KEYBOARD

Amarin Wexler

HARP

Ksenia Sushkevich*

PERCUSSION

Pou I Chao
Mason Gilbertson
Adrianna Harrison

VIOLIN

Sean Hsi, *concertmaster*
Alyssa Goh
Jenna Krause
Hayla Martinez Gonzalez
Jason Hurlbut
Mia Smith, *principal 2nd*
Benjamin Mora Neira
Naomi Southard
Nicole Kwasny
Olha Tytarenko

VIOLA

Facundo Ortega, *principal*
Lucie Boyd
Darren Carter
Elena Galentas
Phoebe Hu

CELLO

Aurian Kutner, *principal*
Gita Srinivasan
Alex Moore

BASS

Adam Wang, *principal*
Yuyan Wang

*denotes guest musician

PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW

Conductor	Catherine O'Shaughnessy
Director	Harry Silverstein
Musical Preparation	Nicholas Hutchinson
Stage Manager	Katilynn Meine
Assistant Stage Manager	Bruno Diaz Miranda
Production Manager	Darren Lee Brown
Costume Designer	Rachel Lambert
Lighting Designer	Michael Goebel
Scenic Designer	Shane Cinal
Props Designer	Grace Reynolds
Supertitles Design	Cori Ellison
Asst Lighting Designer	Hannah Wien
Technical Director	Darren Lee Brown
Master Electrician	Hannah Wien
Wardrobe Supervisor	Jennifer Lightfoot
Carpenters	Josiah Tennett Roman Jones
Scenic Artists	Erin Chin Devin Meseke
Electricians	Sarah Knoke Nik Hunder Sebastian Medina
Lighting Programmer	Sebastian Medina
Wardrobe	Megan Pirtle Megan Turner Margot Bardeen Kim de Paula dos Anjos
Board Operator	Sarah Knoke
Titles Operator	Gisella Milla
Jarvis Technical Director	Michael Sportiello
Jarvis Assistant Technical Director	Payton Kaye
Facilities Coordinator	Julia Miller

SYNOPSIS

Suor Angelica

Banished to live in a convent after having an illegitimate child, Sister Angelica has not heard from her family in seven years. Finally a visitor is announced: it is Angelica's aunt, the princess. Rejecting Angelica's gestures of affection, she explains that when Angelica's parents died, she was made guardian of both her and her younger sister. The sister is to be married, and the princess demands Angelica sign her share of the inheritance over to her. Crushed by her aunt's cruelty, Angelica asks about her little son. The princess coldly tells her that he died two years earlier. The devastated Angelica signs the document, and the princess leaves. Angelica grieves that her child died without her mother by her side. She drinks poison, then suddenly realizes that suicide is a mortal sin. Praying for forgiveness, she dies with a vision of her son greeting her in heaven.

Gianni Schicchi

The greedy relatives of the wealthy Buoso Donati discover that the deceased has left his fortune to the church. The young Rinuccio suggests that Gianni Schicchi, a shrewd, self-made man and the father of his girlfriend, Lauretta, can help them. Schicchi appears with his daughter. Disgusted by the hypocrisy and avarice of the aristocratic family, he is about to leave but persuaded to stay by Lauretta who proclaims her intention to marry Rinuccio. Reading the will, Schicchi devises a plan to impersonate the dead man. The relatives send for the notary and Schicchi, wearing Buoso's nightshirt and cap, from his sickbed dictates a new will, in which he leaves the greater part of the estate, including the house they are in, to his "dear friend Gianni Schicchi." The relatives are furious, and steal what they can from the house, chased out by Schicchi, who remains behind with Lauretta and Rinuccio. Turning to the audience, he points out how happy his fraud has made the young lovers and pleads that he not be judged too harshly.

BIOGRAPHIES

Catherine O'Shaughnessy is a rising orchestral and opera conductor in the United States and abroad. Avidly committed to Chicago's dynamic musical scene, she is delighted to return to conduct a third production as part of the DePaul team (previously *Albert Herring* and *Street Scene*). Catherine also serves as the executive and music director of Chicago Fringe Opera, the assistant conductor of Opera Festival of Chicago, and has appeared conducting productions at Chicago Opera Theater and North Park University. In 2020, she helped produce Fringe's contribution to the Decameron Opera Coalition's *Tales From a Safe Distance*—winner of the "Best Collaboration" award from 360° of Opera. A semi-finalist in the 2016 Spazio Musica International Conducting Competition, Catherine made her New York debut conducting Antonio Salieri's *La Cifra* with the dell'Arte Opera Ensemble. She has also music directed *Pyramus* and *Thisbe* in Freiberg, Germany (Mittelsächsisches Theater) and conducted *Don Giovanni* and *La Traviata* in Orvieto, Italy (Teatro Mancinelli). In 2013 she conducted the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra at a sold-out performance in Tchaikovsky Hall.

Harry Silverstein has professionally directed over 100 productions of 45 operas on 5 continents. His work has been seen in such theaters as Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, English National Opera, New York City Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Seattle Opera, Dallas Opera, Washington National Opera and companies in England, Northern Ireland, Germany, The Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Brazil, as well as more than 15 American companies. Mr. Silverstein has staged many contemporary works, including world premieres of works by Philip Glass, in all 8 Glass operas, as well as many works from the standard operatic repertory both for professional companies and for DePaul Opera Theater. Well known for his Mozart interpretations he has directed 10 different Mozart operas for companies ranging from San Francisco Opera to Opera Northern Ireland. Recent projects include a new production of *MAGIC FLUTE* for San Francisco Opera with visual artist Jun Kaneko, which was recorded for video release and was the subject of a book now in its second printing, and *RIGOLETTO* for San Francisco Opera which was simulcast to an audience of 30,000 at AT&T baseball park in San Francisco. The *Magic Flute* production was seen at Washington National Opera where it was simulcast to 20,000 people at National's Park. A frequent judge for the Metropolitan Opera National Competition, Mr. Silverstein served on the staff at Lyric Opera Chicago and Houston Grand Opera. Harry Silverstein is Professor Emeritus of Opera at DePaul University in Chicago where he was the Director of DePaul Opera Theatre from 1990 to 2023 and taught performing skills to a number of today's most successful opera singers.

Grace Reynolds is a Chicago-based props designer and actor who is so excited to be working with DePaul Opera Theatre for the first time! Recently, she has worked on props with Peninsula Players Theatre and Viterbo University; and she is currently performing with The National Theatre for Children. Love to Mom, Dad, Annie, Gabby, Deacon, and Shawn.

Costume Designer **Rachel Lambert** is thrilled to be working with the DePaul School of Music again. Her Chicago design credits include productions with Goodman Theatre, The Second City, Northlight Theatre, Remy Bumppo Theatre, First Folio Theatre, The Gift, Eclipse Theatre, Greenhouse Theatre, BoHo Theatre, Underscore Theatre, Signal Ensemble and American Blues Theatre. Regionally she has designed for Peninsula Players and the Texas Shakespeare Festival.

Shane Cinal (Scenic Designer) is a designer, artist and educator who enjoys curating an environment which allows stories to be told and experienced. He has received awards and accolades for many productions around the US, in addition to recently designing for the Emerging Artists Exhibit representing the United States at the Prague Quadrennial 2023. Noted favorite productions include, Oklahoma, The Jedi Handbook, Carousel, The Rape of Lucretia. Other featured work include set designer for FX's *The Bear*, Peacock's *Pokerface* and NBC's *ChicagoMED*. Shane holds a BA in Theatre and History from Indiana University-Bloomington and received his MFA in Scenic Design from The Ohio State University. www.shanecinal.com.

Katilynn Meine is a versatile artist and manager originating from northern Minnesota. She works as the company manager of Music Theater Works in Wilmette, IL. With a background in stage management and performance, she has worked with the Opera Festival of Chicago and stage-managed various productions at Roosevelt University and the Evanston Chamber Opera Company, including classical operas and lesser-known works. Her experience also includes assistant directing under renowned directors. She is a co-founder of the Eleanor Ensemble, Meine also serves as Operations Manager for The Collaborative Music Project, showcasing her leadership in the arts. Currently, she studies with countertenor Mark Crayton, further enhancing her craft.

A Dayton, Ohio native and Chicago resident, **Darren Lee Brown** has worked in theatre, film, and live events across Chicagoland since 2018. Most recently he's served as Production Manager and Technical Director for *Opera Festival of Chicago*, Technical Director for storefronts *Steep Theatre* and *Prop Thr*, collaborator with the *Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival*, and as a backstage manager with cirque arts company, *Teatro Zinzanni*. He joins the DePaul Opera Program this winter and spring to production manage and technical direct *Street Scene* and the forthcoming *Dark Sisters*; after which, he'll return to *Opera Festival of Chicago* this summer to production manage their 2024 Season. In addition to technical theatre work, Darren holds an MFA in Acting from the University of Connecticut and performs and teaches extensively as a puppeteer. Acting and puppeteering credits include: *Connecticut Repertory Theatre*, *The Monomoy Theatre*, *ESPN*, *Sesame Workshop*, *Mumford & Sons' Gentlemen of the Road Tour*, *The Zoot Theatre Company*, and *Glass Apple Theatre*. Most recently he served as lead puppeteer in Threaded Films' Midwest Regional Emmy winning children's program *Adventures of Em*, as well as contributing in scenic design and technical direction. He is the founder and Artistic Director of Ohio-based Rocky Horror Picture Show troupe, *Dayton Rocky*. IG: @darrenlybrown

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