

# RAISE THE CURTAIN

on extraordinary opportunities  
for growth as a singer at

The Crittenden Opera Studio's  
26th Annual Summer

## OPERA WORKSHOPS



RICHARD CRITTENDEN  
Program Director

ELIZABETH KIRKPATRICK VRENIOS  
Associate Program Director

WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 7  
to July 21

Boston

July 28  
to August 10





# THE CURTAIN IS RISING

on the next stage of your  
professional training

**T**he Summer 2013 Opera Workshops offered by the Crittenden Opera Studio are designed for the serious, professionally oriented singer who understands the necessity of obtaining a comprehensive acting technique and an effective method of preparing roles. Along with a strong vocal technique, these performance skills provide the solid foundation for a successful career.

## A PROGRAM FOR THE TOTAL SINGER

Our curriculum is guided by the question: What does a singer need in order to become a competitive professional singer? The Opera Workshop answers that question with practical techniques and concepts that will eventually allow singers to make their own successful artistic decisions under all types of conditions.

The workshop's teachers approach opera as a total performance art. Instruction covers the musical, interpretive, and acting components of preparing a role; movement; scene performance; character development; musicianship; problem solving; stagecraft; and career guidance. The session culminates in public performances at the workshop's conclusion.

Singers not interested in opera as a career, but who want to realize their fullest potential, will also find the program fulfilling, with its intensive concentration on musical values, individual problems, and dramatic possibilities.

A scholarship program is available for coach-accompanists to improve their opera coaching skills. Auditors are also welcome.

## PROGRAM CONTENT

- Acting classes • Movement classes • Technique classes • In-depth scene rehearsals
- Scene performances • Personal attention • Information on auditions, career, style, interpretation • Lectures—comprehensive and detailed information on personal and professional preparation for an operatic career.

## TUITION

Singers \$650 Stage Directors \$550 Auditors \$200

A limited number of scholarships are available to applicants with exceptional ability. Optional housing: \$400

## AUDITIONS

Washington, D.C.—April 13 Boston—April 14

Applicants not auditioning in person should include a cassette tape, CD, or DVD of two arias with their application.

## APPLICATION

All participants should complete and return the application form and include the application fee of \$30 (made payable to Richard Crittenden), a résumé, photo, and a list of scenes and roles performed. Priority is given to applications received before April 27.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Richard Crittenden, Crittenden Opera Studio, 96 Van Buren Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666; (201) 836-9122; e-mail: richcritt@optonline.net; www.crittendenopera.org

Elizabeth Vrenios may be contacted at (301) 365-3368 or evrenios@netzero.com

## BE GUIDED BY AN EXCEPTIONAL FACULTY

### Program Directors

**Richard Crittenden**, program director. Teaches privately in New York, Boston, and Washington. Ran opera programs at Curtis Institute of Music (head of Master's Opera Program), Yale University School of Music, New York University, Mannes College of Music. Workshops at Oglebay Park; Cleveland; Elliott Lake, Canada; and Fletcher School of Music. Directed New York City Opera Theatre, Washington Civic Opera, Utah Opera Theatre, Western New York Opera, and Opera Music Theatre International of New Jersey. Writes a column on stage directing for the *National Opera Association Journal* and is the author of *The Career Track: How to Plan for a Professional Operatic Career*. Performed professionally as a baritone. Conducts master classes throughout the country.

**Elizabeth Kirkpatrick Vrenios**, associate program director. Professor emerita, The American University, Washington, DC. Workshops at Southeastern Massachusetts University, SUNY Purchase, New York University, and Oglebay Park. Directed American University Opera Theatre, Washington Opera Theatre, Springfield Opera, Washington Civic Opera, Mount Vernon Opera, University of Delaware. Opera and recital performances in the United States, South America, Scandinavia, Japan, and Europe. Recorded on Orion and CRI. She is artistic director of the Redwoods Opera Workshop in Mendocino, California. She is president emerita of the National Opera Association.

### Directing Staff

**Adriana Hardy** (movement/directing) is a voice teacher and certified Feldenkreis practitioner. She combines a background in singing, dance and choreography, movement therapies, yoga, and Alexander technique. She has performed in opera, recitals, and musical theatre and directed plays, musicals, and opera. Joseph S. Spann has served on the faculties of the University of Minnesota, the California State University at Chico and at Florida Southern College, where he served as director of the opera theater. He received his master's of music degree from the Hartt School of Music and doctorate from the University of Iowa.

**Joseph S. Spann** has served on the faculties of the University of Minnesota, the California State University at Chico and at Florida Southern College, where he served as director of the opera theater. He received his master's of music degree from the Hartt School of Music and doctorate from the University of Iowa.

**Lawrence Vincent** (Washington) has had an international opera career, including 10 years with the Vienna Volksoper and Staatsoper. Dr. Vincent is director of opera and professor of voice at Brigham Young University.

## Washington Coaches

**Stephen Brown** is a coach and accompanist in the Washington, D.C., area and has performed with many of the region's established and aspiring singers. Dr. Brown has been a member of the piano faculty of George Washington University since 1993. Staff of the Washington Opera Institute for Young Singers and coach at the New Opera Festival di Roma, Italy.

A graduate of Peabody Conservatory, pianist **Laurie Vivona Bunn** collaborates with vocalists, instrumentalists, and dancers. She is a longtime coach for baritone Richard Stilwell, and as the accompanist for choral groups has performed in the U.S., China, New Zealand and Ireland. She has performed with the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, Alexandria Symphony, Piedmont Symphony, and Washington Ballet Orchestra, among others, and is a member of the Fairfax Symphony

**Michael Crabill** has been an adjunct professor and head opera coach for the vocal program at George Mason University. He has been the coach-accompanist for the Opera Academy of Rome's productions of *Falstaff* and *The Marriage of Figaro*, for Studio Lyrico, and Opera at Noon in New York City with Janet Bookspan.

**Thomas Hetrick** earned a master of music degree from the Peabody Conservatory and is an organist, harpsichordist, pianist, conductor, and vocal coach. He is the keyboard specialist for the Handel Choir of Baltimore. He currently is organist and choirmaster at St. John's in the Village Church in Baltimore. He is music director of the Crittenden Opera Studio's fall and spring Washington sessions.

**Andrew Kraus** was staff accompanist at James Madison University where he played for recitals, performed with the JMU Wind Ensemble, and presented solo recitals. He joined the Mantovani Orchestra as a featured soloist for a 2009 tour of Mainland China

**Robert Thieme** (Washington and Boston) is a professor at West Virginia University, where he is director of the WVU Opera Theatre and coordinator of Vocal Studies. He teaches classes in accompanying, vocal repertoire, and diction. He is a member of the board of directors of the National Opera Association and the editor of the NOA Journal. He has been on the faculty of American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, since 1987 and served as co-artistic director until 2008

## Boston Coaches

**Eric Mazonson** received his bachelor's and master's of music degrees from Boston University and has been heard in solo, chamber music, and vocal recitals in the U.S. Canada, and Europe. He is currently at the Rhode Island Music School and is the accompanist for the Lexington Master Singers. He was affiliated with Bradford College, Brandeis University, Roger Williams University, the University of Rhode Island, and Providence College.

Pianist and vocal coach **Scott Nicholas** has toured Europe, Latin America and the U.S. in recitals. He has been an accompanist for the Minnesota Opera, Suffolk University/Boston Lyric Opera's Contemporary Music Theatre Project, and the Leontyne Price

Vocal Arts Competition. He has served as music director for opera and music theatre in the Boston area. He is currently pianist for the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, the Concord Women's Chorus, the Boston Secession, and E.C. Schirmer's Philovox Ensemble.

Coach and conductor **Kathleen Scott** has coached at Ireland's Wexford Festival and with companies in the United States and Canada. Faculty appointments include the Curtis Institute, Manhattan School of Music, Boston University, and SUNY Purchase, among others. She leads popular master classes and lives in Portland, Maine.

For more information, visit  
[www.crittendenopera.org](http://www.crittendenopera.org)



## CRITTENDEN OPERA WORKSHOP 2013

MAIL ALL MATERIAL TO:

Crittenden Opera Studio, 96 Van Buren Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BEFORE APRIL 27 RECEIVE PRIORITY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Voice \_\_\_\_\_

School attended \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Teachers \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ALL APPLICABLE BOXES

I am a

Singer  Stage Director  Auditor

I wish to attend the

Washington, D.C. session

Boston session

I plan to audition in

Washington (April 13)

Boston (April 14)

I enclose a CD, DVD, or tape

I am  I am not interested in housing

Include with your application

- A \$30 application fee (payable to Richard Crittenden)
- A photo, résumé, and list of scenes and roles performed

## CRITTENDEN OPERA STUDIO

96 Van Buren Avenue  
Teaneck, NJ 07666

[www.crittendenopera.org](http://www.crittendenopera.org)



The essential workshop  
for the total singer!



# THE STAGE IS SET AT THE CRITTENDEN OPERA STUDIO'S SUMMER OPERA WORKSHOP

WASHINGTON, D.C. July 7 to 21

Guest artist:  
Carl Tanner, Metropolitan Opera

BOSTON July 28 to August 10

Guest artist: To be announced

Photos: David Goldman



### SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR DIRECTORS AND YOUNG SINGERS

**Directors** A special program is available for stage directors in the Washington session. Lectures and demonstrations by the staff will cover the training of the opera stage director, including sessions on how to stage operas, the technique of the singing actor, motivation, movement, and the integration of the various aspects of the singing-acting performance. Workshop students will take part in scenes staged by directing students.

**Youth Group** The same workshop will feature a Youth Group, composed of talented high school students and recent high school graduates. Members will study opera and light opera scenes, working both in classes with adult singers and in separate, more personalized sessions. Each summer our Youth Group has been comprised of 9 to 12 singers and has been an extremely rewarding experience for the singers and the staff.