

UNT OPERA

May 2017 Auditions

Jonathan Eaton, our new Director of Opera, will be in Denton Monday-Wednesday, May 8-10. As we prepare for the 2017-2018 season, it is important that he be familiar with as many of our singers as possible. We would like to hold auditions on **Tuesday, May 9** for all students who may be interested in participating in UNT Opera next year. Please sign up for an audition slot on the opera bulletin board in the Murchison Performing Arts Center or contact Stephen Dubberly [Stephen.Dubberly@unt.edu; 940-367-8770] so he can sign you up.

Please note that the *principal* auditions for the season will be held on Saturday and Sunday, August 26 and 27, 2017. But your participation in the May auditions will be of great help to us as we consider repertoire options.

If you cannot audition for us on May 9, you may submit a recording. Please contact Stephen immediately about the details.

We will provide a pianist for these auditions; of course, you are also welcome to bring your own.

Feel free to contact Stephen with any and all questions.

Dear College of Music faculty, staff, and students,

I am very pleased to announce that Mr. Jonathan Eaton will be joining our distinguished college this coming fall as Professor of Music and Margot and Bill Winspear Chair in Opera Studies. Mr. Eaton currently serves as Artistic and General Director of the Opera Theater of Pittsburgh.

During Mr. Eaton's tenure, the Opera Theater of Pittsburgh has attracted attention and praise for its varied and unusual repertoire, featuring a number of American operas, including a historic revival of Duke Ellington's *Beggar's Holiday*, *Porgy and Bess*, Kurt Weill's *Lost in the Stars* conducted by Julius Rudel, and the world premiere of Matthew Rosenblum's multi-media opera *RedDust*. His production for the company of Philip Glass's *Sound of a Voice* was invited to tour to the Royal Opera Covent Garden. Other American operas include the world premiere of Nathan Davis's Jazzopera *Just Above My Head*, and the Pittsburgh premieres of William Bolcom's *A View from the Bridge* and Lee Hoiby's *Summer and Smoke*.

Mr. Eaton has directed widely in opera houses throughout North America and Europe. In America his work has been seen at New York City Opera with *Turandot*, *Carmen*, and *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*, which were televised for nationwide broadcast on "Great Performances Live from Lincoln Center." He has also directed for the Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, Opera Company of Philadelphia, The Dallas Opera, San Diego Opera, Kentucky Opera, Indianapolis Opera, Opera Memphis, and the Santa Fe Opera and Spoleto, U.S.A. In Canada, he has directed for the Canadian Opera Company and Vancouver Opera; in Great Britain, at the Royal Opera Covent Garden, English National Opera, Welsh National Opera and Opera North; in Germany for the Hannover State Opera, the Kurt Weill Festival in Dessau, the Bochumer Symphoniker and the Würzburg and Bielefeld operas. Elsewhere in Europe he has directed at the Netherlands Opera and the operas of Nantes, Lyons and Nancy.

Mr. Eaton began his studies at King's School, Canterbury and earned an MA with Honors in German and French language and literature from Trinity College.

Mr. Eaton's faculty duties will begin in August 2017. His teaching assignment will include operatic acting (both undergraduate and graduate) and opera directing (graduate).

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Eaton on his appointment and welcoming him to our UNT family!

Sincerely,
John W. Richmond, Ph.D.
Dean