

Fairytale Opera Theater

www.fairytaleoperatheater.com 646-645-1778

An Introduction to Opera: Hansel and Gretel

☛ Introducing *Fairytale Opera Theater*, an interactive K-5 assembly program that introduces elements of opera to students in a fun and engaging way. During this performance, students will experience a shortened version of the opera Hansel and Gretel by Engelbert Humperdinck based on the Brothers Grimm fairy tale performed by talented and knowledgeable opera singers with years of teaching experience.

☛ *Fairytale Opera Theater* features unique presentations during which your students will learn about operatic voices, review the story, and learn to sing short portions of the opera. The opera will be acted out and sung in character with basic representative costume pieces and props. In addition to strengthening musical and dramatic skills, the presentation will also reinforce Language Arts curriculum themes such as sequencing of events, characterization, and making predictions.

☛ *Fairytale Opera Theater* was founded and designed with New York City students in mind and since 2006 has worked in partnership with two well-known musical education organizations: Education Through Music, Inc. and Horizon Concerts. Through these organizations we have brought "Hansel and Gretel" to thousands elementary students in public and parochial schools. We hope that your school will be next to experience this innovative program!

☛ At *Fairytale Opera Theater*, we believe that music is an essential element of every child's education and that experiencing opera for the first time can invigorate your students and support what they are learning in the classroom.

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An Introduction to Opera: Hansel and Gretel Artist Roster 2006



Jennifer S. Greene

Jennifer S. Greene (Soprano, Gretel, Founding Director) is sought after both as a performer and a teacher. She was recently recognized as a *Champion for Change* by Lifetime Television and was given an award for exemplary music education from the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall. For over five years, Jennifer has taught private, public, and parochial students from Pre-K through High School ages in a wide variety of programs, including many curricula where she was the author. Jennifer currently is Voice Faculty at the United Nations International School, Staff Teaching Artist for the New York City Opera Education Department, and Teaching Artist for Education Through Music, Inc. Past teaching positions include the Metropolitan Opera Guild Education Department. Jennifer made her performance debut as *Cinderella* in the second grade play at the age of seven and much later earned both Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Mannes College of Music. Jennifer has performed leading roles with Regina Opera Company, Rockland Opera Society, Intermezzo Opera, Mannes Opera and has performed in concerts at the Aspen Music Festival, Lake Placid Institute for the Arts, as well as opera concerts throughout Italy with the Centro Studi Italiani Opera Program. Jennifer can be heard as a featured soloist on the NAXOS American Classics release "Left at the Fork in the Road."



Malena Dayen

Malena Dayen (Mezzo-soprano, Hansel) comes from Argentina, a country in the south of South America, where llamas and penguins live. She loves being a mezzo-soprano because she gets to play Cinderella, but also sometimes act like a boy or a granny. Malena began her musical education in her native city of Buenos Aires at the Conservatorio de Música Manuel de Falla. Later she moved to New York and earned a Master of Music degree and Professional Studies Certificate from the Mannes College of Music. She has performed in several operas in Israel, most recently as Suzuki in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*. Malena has been a featured soloist in the USA with the Columbia University Bach Society, South West Florida Symphony, Orchestra of St. Luke's, and Westchester Choral Society. She recently made debuts at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Concert Hall. Malena currently serves as Teaching Artist for the Metropolitan Opera Guild Education Department and Intern for Education Through Music, Inc.



Andrew Cummings

Andrew Cummings (Bass-Baritone, Father/Narrator), originally from Maine, is performing on concert and opera stages in the USA and Europe. Andrew has sung world premiere performances with the Bachanalia Orchestra at Merkin Hall in New York City and with the North Czech Philharmonic in the Czech Republic. Andrew has performed with Opera Delaware, Lake George Opera, the Janiec Opera Company, Martina Arroyo Foundation, Garden State Opera, Metro Lyric Opera of NJ, Glens Falls Symphony, Lansdown Symphony, and many more. Among his recent operatic roles are included Mozart's *Figaro*, Escamillo in *Carmen*, Sparafucile in *Rigoletto*, Il Re in *Aida*, and Colline in *La Boheme*. Andrew also frequently performs concert repertoire with orchestras throughout the USA. Andrew began singing at a young age and made his performance debut in the musical *Little Abner* when he was twelve years old. Andrew later studied voice at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA.



David Rosenmeyer

David Rosenmeyer is a conductor, pianist and accompanist born in Argentina who began his musical studies in Israel, where he lived as a child. He is the Executive Music Director for Horizon Concerts, Music Director of the Bach Society of Columbia University, Associate Conductor of The Oratorio Society of New York, and a Guest Conductor of The Israel Chamber Orchestra as well as orchestras in Brazil, Chile, and Argentina. He is a graduate of Mannes College of Music, and has a Master's in Conducting and Music Theory. David has worked in numerous outreach programs and is excited to bring his passion for music and opera to young people in New York City.

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QUICK FACTS:

- ✪ Interactive operatic performance of Hansel and Gretel in English.
- ✪ Students sing, dance, and act along with the story!
- ✪ Designed for grades K-5 for up to 100 students at a time.
- ✪ Available as individual assemblies or several successive presentations.
- ✪ Three professional opera singers and pianist in your school!
- ✪ Teachers receive a lesson plan and activity packet to prepare students for the assembly.

CONTACT INFO:

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 - E-mail: jgreene@fairytaleoperatheater.com
 - Website: www.fairytaleoperatheater.com

AVAILABLE DATES:

- ✪ Contact us today for our current rates and availability!