



☼ CELEBRATING 5 SEASONS ☼

Berkshire
opera festival

Announcing BOF's Fifth Anniversary Gala Concert!

Hosted by Legendary Mezzo-Soprano Stephanie Blythe



Join Berkshire Opera Festival as we kick off our Fifth Anniversary Festival Season with a special one-night-only Gala Concert on the stage of the majestic Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center!

Artistic Director and BOF Co-Founder **Brian Garman** and Chorus Master **Geoffrey Larson** have curated an evening of performances with something for every musical taste, including selections from beloved operas such as *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Die Fledermaus*, and *La Bohème*, as well as many other selections that are sure to become new favorites.

The star-studded list of performers will include the internationally renowned cast of our upcoming production of [*Don Giovanni*](#), joined by the Berkshire Opera Festival Chorus and Orchestra. Plus - as a special treat for BOF audiences - we are thrilled to welcome back to The Berkshires beloved artists from past seasons: **Matthew Grills** ("Ernesto") from 2019's *Don Pasquale*, **Marcy Stonikas** ("Ariadne") and **Adriana Zabala** ("Composer") from our 2017 production of *Ariadne auf Naxos*.



Photos L-R: Matthew Grills, Marcy Stonikas, and Adriana Zabala

Photo Credit: Ken Howard

Serving as Master of Ceremonies for this evening of operatic revelry will be the legendary and incomparable mezzo-soprano **Stephanie Blythe**! *See our spotlight on Stephanie below.*

BOF Fifth Anniversary Gala Concert

August 13, 2020, 7:30pm

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, Great Barrington, MA

To learn more about this exciting evening and to purchase tickets, click on the button below, or contact the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center's box office at (413) 528-0100.

[Learn More and Buy Tickets](#)

The Festivities Don't End There...

Post-Show Celebration and Fundraiser

The Great Hall at St. James Place, Great Barrington, MA

Gala Concert attendees are also encouraged to keep the festivities going and support BOF by purchasing tickets to the **Post-Show Celebration and Fundraiser!** This event will be held at St. James Place (a brief walk from The Mahaiwe) immediately following the Gala Concert. Guests will enjoy an intimate evening celebrating BOF's Fifth Anniversary and growing success with members of the BOF company, the star-studded roster of Gala Concert performers, as well as fellow opera-lovers and BOF supporters.



Tickets for the **Gala Post-Show Celebration** (reception) are available for \$250 (regular reception ticket) or \$750 (premium reception ticket) and can be purchased as an add-on when purchasing BOF Gala Concert tickets. Information on the Post-Show Celebration, benefits associated with reception tickets, as well as various opportunities to support the Gala through Stewardship or Corporate Sponsorship, can be found on our website (click the button below), or by calling the Berkshire Opera Festival office at 413-213-6622.

[Learn More and Buy Tickets](#)

BOF Spotlight: Gala Host Stephanie Blythe

Berkshire Opera Festival is delighted to bring mezzo-soprano **Stephanie Blythe**, winner of the 2019 Maria Callas Award, to host our Fifth Anniversary Gala Concert.



Ms. Blythe is one of the most highly respected and critically acclaimed artists of her generation. She has performed in many of the renowned opera houses in the US and Europe including the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Seattle Opera, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, and Opéra National de Paris.

Her many roles include the title roles in *Carmen*, *Samson et Dalila*, *Orfeo ed Euridice*, *La Grande Duchesse*, *Tancredi*, *Mignon*, and *Giulio Cesare*; Frugola, Principessa, and Zita in *Il Trittico*, Fricka in both *Das Rheingold* and *Die Walküre*, Waltraute in *Götterdämmerung*, Azucena in *Il Trovatore*, Ulrica in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, Baba the Turk in *The Rake's Progress*, Ježibaba in *Rusalka*, Jocasta in *Oedipus Rex*, Mère Marie in *Dialogues des Carmélites*; Mistress Quickly in *Falstaff*, and Ino/Juno in *Semele*.

Ms. Blythe also created the role of Gertrude Stein in Ricky Ian Gordon's *27* at the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis and sang performances of Ms. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd* at the San Francisco Opera and Nettie Fowler in *Carousel* at the Houston Grand Opera and with the New York Philharmonic. She was named Musical America's Vocalist of the Year for 2009 and received the 2007 Opera News Award and the 1999 Richard Tucker Award.

Locally, Ms. Blythe uses her talents to promote young artists. She is the Artistic Director of the Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar at the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, NY, and in 2019 she was appointed as the Director of the Bard College Conservatory of Music Graduate Vocal Arts Program in Red Hook, NY.

BOF is thrilled to have her support at our Gala Concert this August. You can learn more about her incredible career by visiting stephanieblythemezzo.com

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