THE RALPH OPERA PROGRAM PRESENTS

Stage Director: John Carlo Pierce
Musical Director: Wes Kenney

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by Hugh Wheeler

A concert production conducted by the graduating class of the Summer Conducting Program:
Aron Bohnert, Kathy Edgel, Brad Lambrecht, Andrew Malovance,
Andrea Peterson, Angela Peugnet, Melissa Shank, Neal Springer, Nathan Wubbena

Starring Wes Kenney as Sweeney Todd and Patty Goble as Mrs. Lovett

Saturday, July 21, 2018 / 7:30PM

Colorado State University
School of Music, Theatre and Dance
Classes are designed to engage current Middle School and High School Choir, Band, and orchestra Directors who seek to further their personal knowledge and skills while earning a Masters Degree in Music education with Conducting emphasis. These intensive courses allow you to complete your degree in just three summers! Participants have daily conducting opportunities with a workshop orchestra, band and choir, providing further hands-on training.

For further information on this program, please contact the director, Leslie Stewart, at Leslie2.Stewart@colostate.edu

FACULTY AND STAFF FOR 2018

Jeremy Cuebas, Program Assistant
Katie Glassman, Guest Lecturer in Jazz Pedagogy
Wes Kenney, Professor in Orchestral Conducting
James Kim, Professor in Choral Conducting
Amy Murphy, Guest Lecturer in Jazz Pedagogy
Rebecca Phillips, Professor in Band Conducting
Peter Sommer, Lead Professor in Jazz Pedagogy
Leslie Stewart, Program Director
Shilo Stroman, Lecturer in Jazz Pedagogy
Wil Swindler, Lecturer in Jazz Pedagogy
Adam Torres, Program Coordinator

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Your gift to the School of Music, Theatre and Dance provides crucial scholarship support, enables the evolution of our programs and performances, and gives our students the opportunity to obtain their education in the one of the region’s most distinctive facilities for arts students.

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London, 1846. In the early morning, Sweeney Todd and the sailor Anthony Hope arrive at the London docks. Anthony strolls around the area, bright-eyed, but Sweeney broods at his return to the cursed city. A Beggar Woman seems to recognize Sweeney Todd, but he shoos her away and the two men part ways. He tells Anthony that can always find his companion on Fleet Street, where Sweeney heads next. Arriving at a destitute pie shop, the owner Mrs. Lovett offers him the worst pies in London and shares her troubles. Sweeney asks why she doesn’t rent out the empty room above the shop. “No one will go near it,” she says. “People think it’s haunted.” She tells her guest about Benjamin Barker, a barber who was fifteen years earlier falsely charged and sent far away. Lucy, Barker’s wife, was raped by the same judge that framed her husband, Judge Turpin, who then adopted Barker’s daughter Johanna after Lucy poisoned herself. At this, Sweeney cries out and Mrs. Lovett realizes that Benjamin Barker stands before her, returned and ready for revenge. Mrs. Lovett presents him with his own razors, finely crafted of silver, which she has kept for those fifteen years.

While exploring the streets of London, Anthony happens upon a house with a beautiful girl singing in the window. The Beggar Woman appears and tells him that it is the house of Judge Turpin and the girl, Johanna, his ward. She warns him to stay away, but he purchases a bird from the nearby bird-seller and beckons her down. The Judge and his assistant, the Beadle, find them together and drive Anthony away. The Beadle takes the gift bird and wrings its neck, threatening to do the same to Anthony if he’s caught again.

Sweeney, eager to rebuild his business, travels with Mrs. Lovett to the marketplace to challenge the arrogant barber Pirelli. Pirelli’s young assistant, Tobias, is selling a miracle elixir to cure baldness, but Todd and Lovett mock it and the crowd demands for Pirelli to appear. Sweeney challenges him to a shaving contest, asking the nearby Beadle to officiate. Sweeney easily defeats Pirelli and the officer declares him the winner. Impressed, the Beadle promises that he will visit for a shave within the week.

While Sweeney is waiting for the Beadle, Anthony arrives and tells Sweeney about Johanna, not knowing it is Todd’s daughter, and his plans to rescue her. Todd sends him off, eager for both his revenge and his daughter to be delivered to him. Just as Anthony leaves, Pirelli and Tobias arrive. Mrs. Lovett takes Tobias to the pie shop while Pirelli goes to talk with Todd. The defeated barber drops his false accent and blackmails Todd, knowing that he is Benjamin Barker. The two fight and Sweeney murders Pirelli. Tobias realizes that they are late for an appointment and scrambles up the stairs, but Todd has hidden the body. They tell the boy that his master stepped out and that he should stay with them for a while.

At the end of a day at court, Judge Turpin reveals to the Beadle that he’s decided to marry Johanna. Beadle, just having met a wonderful barber, suggests a shave before he returns to his bride-to-be, directing him to Todd’s. Simultaneously, Anthony and Johanna are together in his house, making plans to elope.

The Judge arrives at the Barbershop and Sweeney seats him, preparing to deliver a very close shave. But he hesitates, deciding instead to savor the anticipation of his revenge. Just then, Anthony bursts into the room and announces his plans to rescue Johanna. The Judge leaves, stating that he will lock up Johanna and never return to Todd’s establishment. With Anthony and the Judge gone, Sweeney and Mrs. Lovett debate what
to do with Pirelli’s body, still hidden in the barbershop. Since times are tough and meat is expensive, they decide to use him to fill in the shop’s meat pies.

**ACT 2**

Thanks to their newest ingredient, Mrs. Lovett’s meat pies, and her business, have boomed. She and Tobias serve customers while Sweeney waits for his new chair to be delivered. Once installed, the chair sends his victims down a chute to the bakery below the building. Sweeney continues to murder patrons while he and Anthony both long to be reunited with Johanna. Meanwhile, the Beggar Woman becomes more and more suspicious of the activities in Mrs. Lovett’s Bakery.

While wandering the city, Anthony hears Johanna’s song and discovers that she is being held in Fogg’s Asylum. He heads heads to Sweeney for help, arriving in a flurry and announcing that he’s found Johanna. The two devise a plan to rescue her by pretending to buy her hair for a wig. As Anthony leaves, Sweeney begins to write a letter to the Judge. He warns that the young sailor has abducted Johanna, but that he’s convinced Anthony to keep her at the barbershop, where the Judge should retrieve her before the two can escape.

Tobias and Mrs. Lovett close the pie shop and he tells her that he does not trust Mr. Todd. She dissuades him, but his suspicions are proved when he recognizes her coin purse, gifted by Todd, as Pirelli’s. To calm him, she brings him down to the bakery and shows him how to make the pies, and then locks him in the basement. When Mrs. Lovett returns upstairs, the Beadle is waiting for her, explaining that he is investigating a strange smell reported by the neighbors. As Todd returns, he offers the Beadle a free shave and promptly murders him in the barber’s chair, sending him down to the bakery. Tobias, finally discovering of the pies’ secret ingredient, screams when the Beadle’s body falls down the chute. Because the boy knows their secret, Sweeney and Mrs. Lovett decide that Tobias must be taken care of. As they search for Tobias, the Beggar Woman calls for the Beadle, who should have left the pie-shop by now.

Anthony has now saved Johanna and the two arrive at the barbershop, the latter disguised as a sailor. She hides in a chest while Anthony goes to secure their escape. Still searching, the Beggar Woman enters. She seems to remember the room and stands at the window, cradling an imaginary child.

As the Judge approaches the shop, Sweeney enters and finds the Beggar Woman. He slits her throat and sends her down the chute. When the Judge arrives, Sweeney convinces him to have a shave before being reunited with Johanna. Just before murdering the Judge, he finally reveals that he is Benjamin Barker. As he leaves, Johanna tries to sneak out, but Sweeney corners her, not recognizing his daughter. The screams of Mrs. Lovett from below distract him and Johanna runs out of the shop.

Mrs. Lovett finishes off the Judge, who was not yet dead when sent down the chute, and discovers the body of the Beggar Woman. She tries to dispose of it before Sweeney can arrive but fails, and he sees that she is trying to hide something from him. He finally sees the woman’s face and realizes what Mrs. Lovett has been hiding from him. He throws her into the open oven and sinks back to the floor, cradling the Beggar Woman. Tobias discovers Sweeney and his razor, steps behind him, and slits his throat. Anthony, Johanna, and the police arrive to find Tobias grinding the meat, bodies surrounding him.
CAST (in order of appearance)

Anthony Hope
Sweeney Todd
Beggar Woman
Mrs. Lovett
Judge Turpin
The Beadle
Johanna
Tobias Ragg
Pirelli
Jonas Fogg

FEATURED CHORUS SOLOS

Jacob Aychman
Maria Gesicki
Kyle Griffin
Dru Kepner
Angela Lamar
Nicole Mattfeld
Susanne Norwood
Eugene Seese
Dylan Van Dijk

ORCHESTRA *CSU Faculty

Violin
Ji Hye Chung, Concertmaster
Jean Denney
Ryan Foley

Cello
Heidi Mausbach
Beth Wells

Bass
Erik Deines

Clarinet
Jacob Beeman

Bassoon
Thomas Bittinger

Horn
Ayo Derbyshire

Trumpet
John King

Percussion
Leo T. Canale

Piano
Adam Torres*
CHORUS  (All members of the Chorus are Level 1 and 2 Conducting Students with the exception of the section leaders)

Soprano  
Maria Gesicki,  
section leader  
Dru Kepner  
Nicole Mattfeld  
Jessica Scherer  
Lisa Schrock

Alto  
Angela Lamar,  
section leader  
Christine Arroyo  
Meredith Melven  
Susanne Norwood  
Hannah Smith  
Stephanie Zhang

Tenor  
Kyle Griffin  
section leader  
Robert Cody  
Eugene Seese  
Lucas Shogren  
Eva Szakal  
Dylan Van Dijk

Bass  
Jacob Aychman,  
section leader  
Gregory Gates  
Taylor Hutchins  
Christopher Leonard  
Lee Pophal  
Cody Smith  
Jonathan Ward

STAFF

Musical Director  
Wes Kenney

Stage Director  
John Carlo Pierce

Chorus Master  
Adam Torres

Rehearsal Pianist  
Adam Torres

Production/Stage Manager  
Jeremy Cuebas

Vocal Contractor  
Tiffany Blake

Orchestra Contractor  
Jean Denney

Lighting Designer  
Lindsay Morris

Sound Engineer  
Jim Doser

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UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Virtuoso UCA 10th Anniversary Celebration
September 23, 1–3 p.m.  UCA
Virtuoso Series Concert / John McGuire, Horn
August 27, 7:30 p.m.  ORH
Guest Artist Concert / Michael Grill, Organ / FREE
September 4, 7:30 p.m.  ORH
Guest Artist Concert / Bernhard Scully, Horn / FREE
September 17, 7:30 p.m.  ORH
Music in the Museum Concert Series / FREE
September 18, noon, 6 p.m.  GAMA
University Symphony Orchestra Concert
September 20, 21, 7:30 p.m.  GCH
Guest Artist Concert / Adriana Contino, Cello / FREE
September 26, 7:30 p.m.  ORH
Jazz Ensembles Concert
September 27, 7:30 p.m.  GCH
Guest Artist Concert / Red Shoe Piano Trio / FREE
September 29, 7:30 p.m.  ORH

RALPH OPERA PROGRAM PERFORMANCES

Myth of Orfeus (Orfeo ed Euridice) by Christoph Willibald Gluck
October 25, 26, 27, 7:30 p.m.  GCH
Myth of Orfeus (Orfeo ed Euridice) by Christoph Willibald Gluck
October 28, 2 p.m.  GCH

DANCE PERFORMANCES

Fall Dance Concert
November 9, 10, 7:30 p.m.  UDT
Fall Dance Concert
November 10, 2 p.m.  UDT
Fall Dance Capstone Concert
December 7, 8, 7:30 p.m.  UDT
Fall Dance Capstone Concert
December 8, 2 p.m.  UDT

THEATRE PERFORMANCES

The Laramie Project by Moisés Kaufman
Sept. 28, 29, Oct. 4, 5, 6, 7:30 p.m.  UT
The Laramie Project by Moisés Kaufman
Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 2 p.m.  UT
Big Love by Charles Mee
November 9, 10, 15, 16, 7:30 p.m.  ST
Big Love by Charles Mee
November 11, 17, 2 p.m.  ST
Freshman Theatre Project / FREE
November 30, 7:30 p.m.  ST

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