



IN WITH 2009!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ☛ *Die Fledermaus*
- ☛ Opera Soiree
- ☛ 2008 in Review
- ☛ New to OperaNJ
- ☛ Upcoming Events

For More Information:

Contact Carrie Houtz,
Development Coordinator
CHoutz@Opera-NJ.org
(609) 799-7700 x106

Or Visit:

www.Opera-NJ.org

Die Fledermaus Comes to Opera New Jersey!

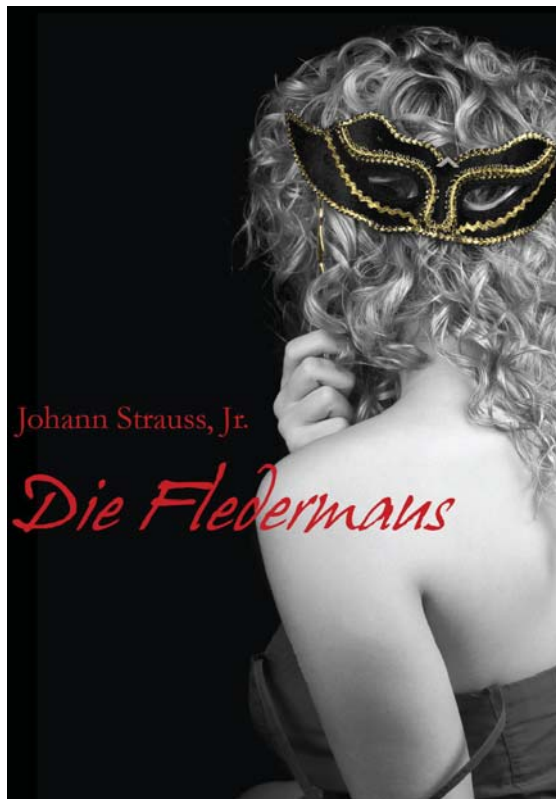
Opera New Jersey kicks off its 2009 season with a spectacular production of Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* starring internationally renowned soprano Ruth Ann Swenson that's sure to banish those winter blues! Opening this year at McCarter Theatre on Friday, February 13, at 7:30 p.m., the production will also run at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, February 20, at Morristown's Community Theatre at the Mayo Center for the Performing Arts, and close with a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday, February 22 at State Theatre in New Brunswick.

Last year's performance of *Rigoletto* created much excitement throughout the state among audiences and reviewers alike. Now, we're set to raise the bar yet again by bringing incredible opera to our state. The production will also include OperaNJ perennial favorite, tenor Allan Glassman as Eisenstein, Rachele Gilmore as Adele, Keith Phares as Dr. Falke, Anthony Laciura as both Dr. Blind and Frosch, and David Ward as Frank. Conducted and directed by Opera New Jersey veterans Mark Flint and Ira Siff, this concert-staged version of Strauss' festive production will have you waltzing all the way home!

"I'm happy to be back with Opera New Jersey, and to be doing *Fledermaus* - such a fun, sexy show!" says returning Stage Director Siff.

Combine a little bubbling champagne with

waltzes, mistaken identities, a practical joke, and masquerades and you get a performance overflowing with the delightful melodies of Johann Strauss, Jr., the Waltz King of Vienna!



Tickets are NOW on sale, through the ticket offices of McCarter Theatre, State Theatre, and Community Theatre.

McCarter Theatre
609.258.2787
www.mccarter.org

Community Theatre
973-539-8008
www.mayoarts.org

State Theatre
732-246-SHOW
www.statetheatrenj.org

More information is available at www.Opera-NJ.org or by calling 609.799.7700.

Special Event!

Be one of the few able to meet world-renowned soprano, Ruth Ann Swenson, the star of OperaNJ's production of *Die Fledermaus*, in the intimate setting of a private home. This exclusive musical event is scheduled for Friday, January 30. Seating is **EXTREMELY** limited - just the first 100 guests. Tickets are \$250 per person or \$500 per couple. For more information or to reserve your spot today, please contact Carrie at 609.799.7700 x106.



2008 Noteworthy News



Opera New Jersey is thrilled to announce that it is the recipient of a prestigious National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Challenge America grant. This stamp of approval by the NEA

is a significant milestone for Opera New Jersey, and marks another tremendous first for the company. Other stamps of approval have included funding from The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and New Jersey State Council on

the Arts (NJSCA)'s support for general operating, which has been coupled for three consecutive years with their highest honor, The Citation of Excellence. Opera New Jersey is proud of its accomplishments and is so very thankful for the partnerships it has formed both among other granting organizations and you, our patrons. We have great opportunity before us, and it is only by working together that we can continue to achieve these remarkable results.

Best holiday wishes this season,

New Faces to OperaNJ

As Opera New Jersey enters into its seventh season and reaches new heights each year, the company's Board of Directors is expanding as well. Opera New Jersey is pleased to announce the following additions to its Board of Directors:

Kim Pimley is co-founder of the consulting firm Pimley & Pimley Inc., and president of P&P Training Resources, Inc. Having earned her BA and MA at Emory University and completed coursework for the Ph.D. at University of Chicago, Kim is very active in the Princeton community. Just a few of her affiliations include past President of The Jewish Center of Princeton; former Board member for Foundation of Princeton Healthcare System Foundation; former Board member of Opera Festival of New Jersey; current Board Member of ACLU-NJ; and Democratic Committeeperson for District 8. Kim and her husband of 19 years, Michael, and 15-year-old son, Oliver, have lived in Princeton since 1996.

John S. Salapatas holds a doctorate in American history. Before retiring in 2003, he served as Executive Associate for Academic Affairs and Budget at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. He has also taught history at Douglass College and University College, and he worked to earn his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is an active member of the New Brunswick Rotary Club and is currently serving on the board of the club. John met his wife Rachel while earning his BA from Oberlin College and have been married since 1964. They now enjoy time

with their two children, Mark and Elizabeth, and one grandchild.

Jay Vawter, Managing Director of Atlantic Trust, brings 51 years in the investment counseling profession to OperaNJ. Having earned his MBA from the University of Michigan, Jay currently serves as the Governance Committee Chair at Princeton Theological Seminary, the Finance Committee Chair for Warren Wilson College, and President of the Constitution Hill Community Board. Jay and his wife Harriet have been opera lovers and season ticket holders at the Metropolitan Opera for over 20 years and enjoy spending time with their two daughters and two grandchildren.

Judith Zecher has been a volunteer in numerous departments at the Metropolitan Opera House for the past 18 years. Born in Romania, she has lived in Austria, Israel, and Germany before immigrating to the US in 1969. Having earned her BA in computer science from Queens College, Judy has served on various nonprofit boards including the Bel Canto Institute, Israeli Vocal Arts Institute, and the Jewish Center of Princeton. For the past 10 years, Judy has served as a member of the Patron Committee for the Metropolitan Opera and has experience in dealing with corporate and private patrons. Her previous responsibilities have included: backstage tours for patrons, cultivation of new audiences, and representing the MET in various fundraising activities.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 23
Bach Concert
Richardson Auditorium
6:00 pm

January 30
Soiree with Ruth Ann Swenson
Private Home in Pennington
7:00 pm

February 13
Die Fledermaus
McCarter Theatre
Princeton
7:30 pm

February 20
Die Fledermaus
Community Theatre
Morristown
8:00 pm

February 22
Die Fledermaus
State Theatre
New Brunswick
3:00 pm

Opera New Jersey
PO Box 3151
Princeton, NJ 08543
www.Opera-NJ.org
609.799.7700

See you at the opera!

Editor: Carrie Houtz