



CARLTON FORD

American baritone **Carlton Ford** recently made his international debut at Paris' Théâtre du Châtelet singing the principal role in John Adams' *I Was Looking At The Ceiling And Then I Saw The Sky*, as well as with the Crested Butte Music Festival in the title role of Victor Ullmann's *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*. In the 2011-12 season, Mr. Ford made his Houston Grand Opera debut as Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and sang John in the company's world premiere of John Glover's *New Arrivals*. Other highlights include his Carnegie Hall debut during the 2008 opening night gala, "A Celebration of Leonard Bernstein," under the baton of Michael Tilson Thomas alongside Yo-Yo Ma, Dawn Upshaw, and Thomas Hampson, which was filmed for PBS and released on DVD. Mr. Ford can also be seen and heard on the "Live from Lincoln Center" broadcast of *Carousel* with the New York Philharmonic, and in the HBO series *Masterclass* with Plácido Domingo.



RAEHANN BRYCE-DAVIS

Mezzo soprano **Raehann Bryce-Davis'** numerous opera credits include the Owl in the American Premier of Unsuk Chin's *Alice in Wonderland* with Opera Theatre Saint Louis, Zita in *Gianni Schicchi* at Aspen Opera Theatre Center, the Nurse in *Decoration* by Mikael Karlsson with the Manhattan School of Music and American Opera Projects, the Countess in Tchaikovsky's *Pique Dame* with the Russian Opera Workshop at the Academy of Vocal Arts, and Marcellina in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Opera on the Avalon. Also a frequent recitalist, Ms. Bryce-Davis has studied at the Franz Schubert Institute, and

worked with Elly Ameling, Roger Vignoles, Julius Drake, Marilyn Horne, Deborah Polaski, Kenneth Merrill, Rudolf Piernay, Barbara Bonney, Robert Holl, and Rudolf Jansen.



SCOTT PARRY

Baritone Thomas Lehman recently received his Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music, where he sang leading roles in *Assassins*, *Il matrimonio segreto*, *Manon*, and *The Bartered Bride*. A student of Carol Webber, he has worked with coaches and conductors including Benton Hess, Margo Garrett, Martina Arroyo, Graham Johnson, Russell Miller, Jean Barr, Brad Hougham, Enza Ferrari and Brian DeMaris. Mr. Lehman won first place and the Lynne Clarke Vocal Prize at the 2010 Friends of Eastman Opera Competition, and first place in the Jessie Kneisel Lieder Competition.

This past summer, he made his debut at Chautauqua Opera as a studio artist, won an encouragement award at the 2013 MONC Auditions, and received the Grand Prize at the Orpheus Competition in Nashville, TN. He made his professional debut in 2010 as Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte* with the Delaware Valley Opera. Mr. Lehman earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Ithaca College.



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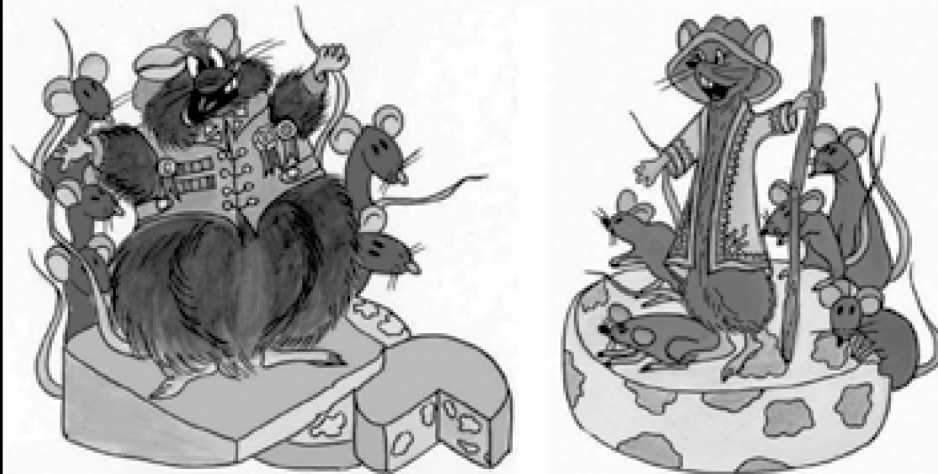


presents

In collaboration with the **FLORIDA GRAND OPERA**

Why do we eat yellow cheese?
Find out in

THE MICE WAR



an absurdist opera for kids by

DAVID QUESKY



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**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2014
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PRESENTS

THE MICE WAR

Sunday, February 8, 2014 • 4:00pm



Conductor- Brian Onderdonk Stage Manager- Katie Ellison
Director- A. Scott Parry Costume Designer/Props- Sam Transleau

Starring:

Carlton Ford as General Kan
Raehann Bryce-Davis as Albert
Thomas Lehman as Narrator/King Tashi

Musicians:

Luis Gonzalez, Violin	T. Geoffrey Hale, Bassoon
Magdalena Luciani, Bass	Peter Francis, Trumpet
Elissa Lakofsky, Flute	Wan Kamnirdratana, Harp
Christopher Graham, Clarinet	Daniel Sell, Percussion

Welcome to Orchestra Miami's production of *The Mice War*! *The Mice War* is an incredible piece, composed by one this country's most innovative and creative composers- Miami's own David Chesky. I want to thank David for composing such a brilliant and thought-provoking work and for allowing Orchestra Miami to perform it. This little piece presents a big opportunity to start a conversation with your children about violence, bullying and how to solve problems without resorting to violence. Orchestra Miami, along with the three Young Artists from Florida Grand Opera, have toured this piece to nine elementary schools in Miami-Dade County. If you would like to receive the materials prepared for these schools so that you may start a conversation with your children, please send an email to inof@orchestramiami.org, and we will send you the information.

Don't miss Orchestra Miami's next big event, our Free Outdoor Concert- Sunday, March 16 @ 8 PM here at Pinecrest Gardens. This is a great opportunity to bring your whole family to listen to quality classical music in an informal and relaxed atmosphere. If you enjoyed today's concert, we'd love to hear from you! Please send your comments and questions to info@orchestramiami.org. Thanks for your support and enjoy the performance!

Elaine Rinaldi

Special thanks to:

David Chesky; Susan Danis, Julie Maykowski- Florida Grand Opera; Grays Charry, Box Office; Nathalie Avila; Alana Perez, Jerry Kinsey- Pinecrest Gardens



This performance is supported in part With the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.



DAVID CHESKY

Three-time Grammy nominee and Miami native **David Chesky** has earned great respect for his fresh and unique approach to musical compositions, which span the jazz and classical genres. Captivating audiences around the world, The New York Times raves, "Chesky combines a gritty sophistication with street-level energy and currents of exotic folkishness." As a composer of orchestral works, operas and ballets, an author of children's books, a jazz pianist and a world-renowned innovator of audio technologies, Chesky redefines the role of a modern-day renaissance man. Critics describe his music as "highly individualistic," "memorable," "dynamic" and "exotic." Best known for his thrilling and driving "Urban Orchestral" music, a term which he himself coined, Chesky has developed his own unique style of composition, merging classical techniques with sounds emanating from the streets of New York. Chesky is committed to fostering music education in young children, fully aware that our audiences tomorrow depend on introducing classical music to today's youth.



BRIAN ONDERDONK

Conductor and Los Angeles native **Brian Onderdonk** has become well known for his versatility on the podium, and his large repertoire of over 40 opera productions, including three operatic world premieres and a wide range of symphonic guest conducting opportunities in the Southern California area. For the past eight seasons he has served as Music Director and Principal Conductor for Center Stage Opera, leading the company in numerous highly acclaimed staged productions as well as several orchestral and choral concerts with the company's resident orchestra. He completed his doctoral coursework at Indiana University, where he has served as Assistant Conductor and Associate Instructor for the IU Opera Theatre, assisting and studying with world-renowned conductors David Efron and Atlanta Opera Music Director Arthur Fagen. Beginning in 2013, Mr. Onderdonk joined The Atlanta Opera as Associate Conductor for their October production of *Tosca*, for which he conducted the student outreach performances of the production at the Cobb Energy Center. He also had the privilege of performing with the internationally acclaimed Italian tenor trio *Il Volo* during their 2013 North American Tour, conducting symphony orchestras on such famous stages as the Gibson Amphitheatre, the Detroit Fox Theatre, and Radio City Music Hall.



SCOTT PARRY

A. Scott Parry's direction has been hailed by Opera News as "marvelous," "lively," "imaginative," and "spot-on," in productions spanning an enormous range of repertoire from *West Side Story* to *Madama Butterfly* and from *Carmen* to *South Pacific*. Latest seasons highlights include *L'elisir d'amore* for New York City Opera, Philip Glass' *Galileo Galilei* for Madison Opera, and *Tosca* for Pensacola Opera. Upcoming, he directs *Le nozze di Figaro* for the Jacksonville Symphony, *La traviata* for the Pacific Symphony, and Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* for The Ohio State University. As a librettist, Scott created an English language adaptation of Beaumarchais' third Figaro play *La mère coupable* which is currently being set to music, and as a composer, he recently presented the New York première of his Theatre Song-Cycle based on the poems of Dorothy Parker, Oscar Wilde, and Edna St. Vincent Millay.

KATIE ELLISON (Production Stage Manager/Assistant Director) is making her debut with Orchestra Miami. Recently she was the Assistant Stage Manager for *Cloud 9* at The Jerry Herman Ring Theater at University of Miami. She was also the Stage Manager for productions at Miami Dade College including *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, and *How I Learned to Drive*. She currently attends The University of Miami working towards her BFA in Stage Management.

SAM TRANSLEAU is a local scenographer. She received a BFA in scenic design from Florida International University and then went on to graduate school at the University of Iowa. This is her first production with Orchestra Miami.