Nathan Gunn and Friends: A Stroll Down Broadway



Welcome to the MAC! Our entire staff is thrilled to have you here and we are grateful that you have chosen to invest your time in live entertainment and world-class culture in our community. We want to offer you a space to unwind and enjoy an evening filled with laughter, music, dance, or theatre. Our aim is to provide you with unique and inspiring opportunities to engage more deeply with the arts. Join us for a complimentary pre-show MAC Chat or Q&A following specific performances. Our arts center, located in a community college, offers over 60 student productions supported by professional lighting, sound, and costumes. These can be enjoyed at affordable costs, or you can attend our FREE programs like Music Friday at Noon and our free International Global Film series, Global Flicks in February. We hope to exceed your expectations with excellent service and special pre and post-show engagement opportunities. These will help you connect with the artists and art forms more deeply. While you are here, don't forget to visit the Cleve Carney Museum of Art in the lobby to experience cutting-edge contemporary art. You can also enjoy our full-service concession area and gift shop.

After your visit, please stay connected with us by joining us on Facebook (AtTheMAC) or subscribing to our e-newsletter to find out about added shows, events, and special offers (<u>www.AtTheMAC.org</u>). We challenge you to try something new at the MAC and expand your cultural palate. Come see the New Philharmonic Orchestra or a Buffalo Theater Ensemble Play. Or join us this summer for the Lakeside Summer Series. We are grateful for your presence here and we want to ensure that your visit is enjoyable. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to ask any of the staff and we will do our best to accommodate you.

We hope you have a wonderful time and look forward to entertaining you.

Enjoy the show!

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Diana Martinez Director, McAninch Arts Center

McAninch Arts Center at College of DuPage presents

Nathan Gunn and Friends: A Stroll Down Broadway

featuring:

Nathan Gunn, baritone Lisa Buhelos, soprano Julie Jordan Gunn, piano

Media support provided by



The McAninch Arts Center acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023, 3 p.m. Belushi Performance Hall

PROGRAM

Peter Pan Leonard Bernstein "Captain Hook's Soliloquy"
<i>Street Scene</i> Kurt Weill "Wouldn't You Like to Be on Broadway" "What Good Would The Moon Be?"
She Loves MeHarnick and Bock "She Loves Me"
<i>Kiss Me Kate</i> Cole Porter "So in Love" "From This Moment On"
CarouselRodgers and Hammerstein "Soliloquy"
Sweeny ToddStephen Sondheim "Johanna" "Green Finch and Linnet Bird" "Epiphany"
My Fair LadyLerner and Loewe "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face" "I Could Have Danced All Night"
<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i> Gilbert and Sullivan "The Pirate King" "Poor Wandering One!"
<i>The Addams Family</i> Andrew Lippa "Happy/Sad" "Pulled"

PROGRAM

Love Life "This Is the Life"	Kurt Weill
Fun Home "Telephone Wire" "Edges of the World"	Jeanine Tesori
<i>Candide</i> "Glitter and Be Gay"	Leonard Bernstein
Spamalot "I'm All Alone"	DuPrez and Idle



PROFILES



Nathan Gunn (baritone) is widely acclaimed for his diverse performing career bridging the genres of opera, musical theatre, and recital. Gunn grew up in South Bend, Indiana doing what most Midwestern boys do: playing sports, working hard at school, and spending time with his family. His interest in music became a passion during his junior year of high school when he was introduced to Mozart's

opera, *Die Zauberflöte*. Consumed by a desire to learn more, Nathan attended the University of Illinois (the third generation in his family to attend the school) to study music.

As a performer, Nathan is respected as an artist, musician, and singing actor. He has performed many of opera and musical theater's greatest roles on the world's most prestigious stages. Nathan has also been seen and heard on television, radio, video, and live simulcast performances, including the first ever Met in HD broadcast (*The Magic Flute*), in which he sang Papageno, one of his signature roles. In addition to Papageno, Nathan has reinterpreted classic roles such as Billy Budd, Figaro, and Don Giovanni, garnering many awards, including the Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording (Billy Budd) and the Metropolitan Opera's first ever Beverly Sills Award. Additionally, Nathan has been widely acclaimed for his ability to crossover into musical theater, including performances with the New York Philharmonic in *Carousel* and *Camelot*, as well as a televised celebration of Stephen Sondheim's 80th birthday. Nathan has frequently collaborated with many stars of musical theater, including Mandy Patinkin, Kelli O'Hara, Audra McDonald, and Kristin Chenoweth.

Nathan believes that music is a living art form and must be nurtured to remain relevant. He has championed dozens of new songs, operas, and sung theater in a multitude of venues. He recently debuted his one-man autobiographical show produced and written by Hershey Felder, entitled Flying Solo, which has been lauded as a "riveting autobiographical musical [that] is a stunner both with its touching, relatable, family-centric narrative and Gunn's entertaining, charismatic performing style (Broadway World review)." Nathan and Julie Gunn created their production company, Shot in the Dark, to produce and perform cabaret shows which entertain the public, and give young artists and hometown celebrities a platform to showcase their talents. Nathan and Julie are also often seen in recital and cabaret settings where they enjoy creating programs uniquely tailored to the special event. This season, Nathan will perform new roles with Pittsburgh Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Beth Morrison Projects and PROTOTYPE Festival, and will debut Drytown: A Living Room Vaudeville with Julie Gunn.

PROFILES

Nathan is a professor and Swandlund Chair at the University of Illinois where he is co-director of Lyric Theatre @ Illinois, a comprehensive program embracing a broad continuum of opera and musical theatre, as well as the development of new works. At the Lyric Theatre @ Illinois, Nathan developed and founded the first ever Bachelor of Musical Arts in Lyric Theatre curriculum in the nation. The program is part of the School of Music at the University of Illinois and housed in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

In addition to life as a performer, educator, and arts advocate, Nathan is an avid patron of the arts. Nathan and Julie Gunn consistently support precollege music education and sponsor local cultural events in order to secure the future of the art form. Nathan and his family reside in Champaign, Illinois.



Lisa Buhelos (soprano) is a crossover singer, performing in both the opera and musical theatre genres. Buhelos has been praised for being a versatile singer, singing both coloratura soprano repertoire and belt musical theatre. She has performed roles in operas and musicals such as *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Sharp Ears, the Vixen) to *Ordinary Days* (Deb) - productions that featured her "high

pitched virtuosity" (News-Gazette) and strong comedic timing.

In her recent debut as Musetta in *La bohème* with Fargo-Moorhead Opera Company, she was described as "vivacious" and "irresistible" *(Inform)*. Also as a Gate City Bank Young Artist with Fargo-Moorhead Opera Company, she premiered the role of Trish in *Everything Comes to a Head*. After, Lisa returned to Opera Saratoga as a Festival Artist where she performed in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Woman, 3 Phoebe D'Ysquith cover). Previously, she was a Festival Artist at Opera Saratoga in 2021 in *Man of La Mancha* (Aldonza cover) and *Don Quixote at Camacho's Wedding* (Quiteria).

A Chicago native, Buhelos recently graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she received her Masters of Music in Vocal Performance and Literature. While completing her studies, she trained in both opera and musical theatre studying with Yvonne Gonzalez-Redman and Sarah Wigley. Buhelos was also fortunate to coach with Dr. Julie Gunn and Dr. Casey Robards.

PROFILES



Julie Gunn (piano) - Music has always been a part of Julie Gunn's life, and yet it is her devotion to it that has brought her accolades from around the world as a performer, producer, teacher and advocate. Her work often supports and promotes emerging creative or performing artists. Trained as a pianist, she has performed on most of the world's most prestigious recital

series with distinguished colleagues, but most importantly with her husband and artistic partner Nathan Gunn.

Co-Director of Lyric Theatre @ Illinois, Dr. Gunn produces numerous operas or musical theatre works each year at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and other regional venues. She enjoys producing larger celebrations—*Lyric Under the Stars* at Allerton Park and Retreat Center and *Carnaval!* at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts-combining spectacular performances with festive hospitality. The Gunns' production company, Shot in the Dark Productions Inc, specializes in customized musical and theatrical events.

She has given masterclasses at universities and young artists' programs all over the United States and Canada and has served as a coach or conductor at many distinguished opera houses. She has conducted several chamber operas and musical theatre works for Lyric Theatre and is the author of many arrangements of songs for chamber groups and orchestras.

She is an advocate for initiatives benefiting the arts and children's lives. She served as the Interim Director of the Glimmerglass Festival Young Artists' Program in 2022. She was appointed Rector of the Arts and Performing Arts of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois by Governor JB Pritzker. She served as the President of the Countryside School Board of Directors and is a Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children.

She attended Dartmouth College, majoring in Economics, and received her Masters and Doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois, where she has been awarded the Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award. She lives in Champaign, Illinois with her husband Nathan, where they raised their five children.

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House Manager/Volunteer Coordinator	Rob Nardini

MAC Resident Professional Ensembles

Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Artistic Director	Connie Canaday Howard
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Associate Artistic Director	Amelia Barrett
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Business Manager	Bryan Burke
New Philharmonic, Music Director and Conductor	Kirk Muspratt
New Philharmonic, Associate Conductor and Librarian	Benjamin Nadel
New Philharmonic General Manager	Paula Cebula
New Philharmonic Personnel Manager	Karen Dickelman

MAC Design and Technical Staff

Technical Production/Lighting/Sound Coordinator	Richard Arnold, Jr.
Technical Theater Assistant Coordinator	Sabrina Zeidler
Costume and Make-up Design Coordinator	Kimberly G. Morris
Assistant Costume Coordinator and Stitcher	Gretchen Woodley
Production Manager	Joe Hopper
Sound and Lighting Specialist	Ben Johnson
Lighting Production Specialist	Elias Morales
Audio Production Specialist	Fisher Parsons
Events Production Specialist/Tech. Director – BTE	Caitlyn Woods
Stage Hands	Bobby Bryan, Zak Zubka





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