

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

This just in...



La Camerata Newsletter

April 2011

Opera Lyra Ottawa - 2011-2012 Season Unveiled!

Artistic Director, [Tyrone Paterson](#), unveiled [Opera Lyra Ottawa's 2011-2012 season](#). Hold on to your seats, it's going to be an adventurous ride!

Up first in September is [Cavalleria rusticana & Pagliacci](#). The violent passions and raw emotions of these two works, changed the direction of Italian opera forever. And, for the first time in its 27 year history, the Company takes on the excitement of a Richard Wagner opera. In February 2012, join us on the high seas for the romantic tale of [The Flying Dutchman](#). Rounding out the season in March is Puccini's [Tosca](#), a passionate tale of seduction and betrayal brought to life by **Mary Elizabeth Williams** and **Richard Margison**.



All of us at Opera Lyra Ottawa would like to **thank all of you** who have renewed or bought a new subscription for this exciting season.

For those of you who would like to subscribe, we're at your service.
Call Justine at 613-233-9200 or jgratton@operalyra.ca



Opera Studio Competition - 2011

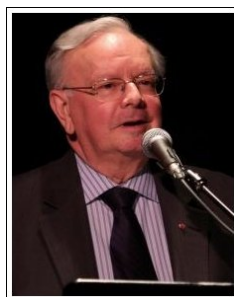
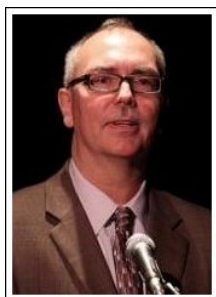
The event...



The 4th Stage at the NAC was set...four talented singers, two celebrity judges, and five bursaries to be awarded.

Opera Lyra Ottawa's [Opera Studio](#) program for emerging Canadian talent ends each year with its annual competition. This year, it was held on March 31.

The house was full and the evening's competition was hosted by Artistic Director **Tyrone Paterson** and the Master of Ceremonies was the very charming **Claude Laverdure**, an Opera Lyra board member and former career diplomat. Accompanying the singers was Opera Studio Manager and Principal Repetiteur, **Judith Ginsburg**.



Tyrone Paterson

Judith Ginsburg

Claude Laverdure

Click on the link below for biographies, awards & song selections:

[Opera Studio Competition House Program](#)

An evening of arias...

Our distinguished judges for the evening were cast members from *Lucia di Lammermoor*: **Gregory Dahl** who performed the role of Lucia's brother, Enrico and **Wendy Hatala Foley** who was Lucia's confidant, Alisa. They generously agreed to judge this event on their night off between performances.

Each of the four singers introduced their selections and performed two arias. On every table were ballots for **The Audience Favourite Award**. Everybody had a vote to cast.



From left to right:

Mark Ellis Gough, baritone
Sarah Christina Steinert, mezzo soprano
Wendy Hatala Foley, judge
Marie-Claire Fafard-Blais, coloratura soprano
Gregory Dahl, judge
Bethany Hörst, soprano



And the winners are...

As the judges deliberated back stage, the audience voted for their favourite performer of the evening. Many enjoyed the cocktail named in honour of *Lucia di Lammermoor* called "Bloody Madness". Ballots were quickly counted and the awards were presented promptly.



The Cavaliere/Chevalier Pasqualina Pat Adamo Award of \$500 was presented by Ms. Adamo to **Sarah Christina Steinert**. Ms. Steinert's multiple projects will make good use of her prize money to help finance a performance in England, lessons and coachings and a new demo CD.

The Spotlight Award was presented by **Tyrone Paterson**, who created the award in honour of his mother who was a music lover and his sister who was a music teacher.

Both succumbed to breast cancer and both were big supporters of music and education. **Mark Ellis Gough** was the winner of this \$1,500 award and plans to use the money to present a more polished image by establishing a website, high quality recordings and new head shots.



The Opera Lyra Ottawa Opera Studio Award of \$2,000 was presented to **Marie-Claire Fafard-Blais**. Ms. Fafard-Blais has been offered the role of the Queen of the Night (The Magic Flute) with the Austrian-American Mozart Academy in Salzburg, Austria. Her prize money will help finance her travel, accommodation and coaching costs.



The final prize, **The Joy MacLaren New Sun Award**, was presented by Claude Laverdure to **Bethany Hörst**. She plans to use the \$3,000 prize towards other opera workshops to expand her repertoire

through coachings, lessons and language classes.

And finally, **The Audience Favourite Award** of \$200 was presented to... **Marie-Claire Fafard-Blais!**

Congratulations to all!

Did you know...?

Pagliacci the iconic clown and the music from the opera can be found throughout pop culture. Here are a just a few examples.

On an episode of **Seinfeld** entitled "The Opera," Jerry and Elaine attend a performance of **Pagliacci** where their stalker 'Crazy' Joe Davola disguises himself as the clown to seek his revenge on them. It is the ninth episode of the fourth season. It aired on November 4, 1992. Take a look! at a few of the scenes from [The Opera](#).

Brian DePalma's 1987 film, **The Untouchables**, features Al Capone (Robert De Niro) weeping at a performance of **Pagliacci**. And, as the character played by Sean Connery lays dying, the scene is accompanied by the famous aria "*Vesti la giubba*".

Here's a YouTube segment with [Pavarotti singing Vesti la giubba](#). The video is fuzzy but the audio is great. Who can resist a little Pavarotti in their day? Enjoy.

Opera Lyra Ottawa #110, 2 avenue Daly Ave.,
Ottawa, ON K1N 6E2



www.operalyra.ca