

THE BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
Dr. Stephen W. Sachs, Chair

presents

THE MAKER OF ILLUSIONS

By SEYMOUR BARAB

Friday, January 23, 2015 • 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, January 24, 2015 • 9:30 a.m. • 11:30 a.m.
Belhaven University Center for the Arts • Concert Hall

*There will be a reception after the evening program. Please come and greet the performers.
Please refrain from the use of all flash and still photography during the concert.
Please turn off all pagers and cell phones.*

PROGRAM

The Maker of Illusions

Seymour Barab • b. 1921

Produced by G. Schirmer, Inc., Music Publisher.

PROGRAM NOTES

Seymour Barab was born in Chicago, Illinois, on January 9, 1921, residing in New York City in more recent years. He died this year, still actively working until his dying day. He began his musical career on the piano and became the regular organist for a local church by the age of thirteen. Barab took up the cello and eventually played professionally in several major symphony orchestras touring the United States. Barab's comic one-act operas and those for young audiences include *Little Red Riding Hood*, which was the first American opera ever performed in China and *The Toy Shop*, first performed by the New York City Opera at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Over the years *Little Red Riding Hood* has gained distinction as "one of the most performed contemporary children's operas." In 1988, Mr. Barab wrote *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, an opera for Cimarron Circuit Opera that included school children in the production. His experience with interactive opera led to the request by Virginia Opera for two brand new interactive operas for children, *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* and *Cinderella*. *Cinderella* had its world premiere at the Harrison Opera House (Virginia Opera's residency) in Norfolk, Virginia, on February 14, 2000. Seymour Barab was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Opera Association.

OPERA CASTS

Genie	Dr. Christopher Shelt
Queen	Constance Prince
Old Woman	Julie Wolfe, Understudy: Grace Anna Randall
Brother/Boy	Jordan Locke
Sister	Grace Anna Randall, Maddi Jolley
Goblins	Faith Schumacher (Jerry), Kaitlyn Witt (Tiggilith Plizer), Micaela Tardie (Le Fou), Adrienne Joransen (Samson), Missy Samsel (Mortimer), Grace Andrews (Brewster)

OPERA PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director: Dr. Christopher Shelt
Stage Manager: Lydia Jones
Light Designer: Thaddeus Morris
Makeup Designer: Nikki Lee
House Manager: Annie Andrews
Publicity Assistant: Cassandra Acker
Receptionist: Thorburn McGee

Production Director: Rachel Loftus
Assistant Stage Manager: Cierra Lee
Light & Sound Tech: Stephen Craig
Costume Designer: Phelan Harris
Accompanist: Ms. Maggie McLinden
Ushers: Michaela Bowen, Mariah Taylor,
Dorothy Glover, Alesia Sterling, Jessica Charitos,
Brooke Kressin

BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Christopher Shelt is Coordinator of Vocal Arts at Belhaven University. During Dr. Shelt's 16 years at Belhaven he has served as Musical Director for *The Fantasticks*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Oklahoma!*, *Geraniums and Wrens*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *The Gondoliers*. He has been the Artistic Director for Belhaven opera productions aimed at general audiences including Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief* (2011), *The Telephone* (2011), and *A Game of Chance* (2014). Shelt has championed the cause of children's opera education in our community, leading Belhaven forces in performing Seymour Barab's *Little Red Riding Hood* (2012), *The Toy Shop* (2012), *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* (2013), and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (2014). Shelt's vocal students have distinguished themselves in vocal competitions, teaching roles, church music, vocal recordings, and in graduate studies. Dr. Shelt served as Belhaven's Chair of Music from 1999-2004, a time of renewal, growth, and relocation to the present facilities. He is grateful to God for the wonderful casts and crews he has had the privilege to work with through the years. He is especially grateful that a former Managing Director of Belhaven operas, Amanda Hester, has agreed to marry Dr. Shelt's son, Stephen, this year!

Constance Prince is a Senior and this will be her first opera production at Belhaven University. She has also appeared as Ms. Todd in the production of *Old Maid and the Thief*, and she was also part of the chorus for the production of *Ragtime* at Mississippi College.

Julie Wolfe is a junior vocal performance major. *The Maker of Illusions* will be the third opera of her college career at Belhaven, the first and second being *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. She is excited to be playing a character different than any other she has done. She would like to thank the entire cast and especially the crew for all their hard work and dedication to this production. "Praise God, we did it!"

Jordan Locke is a freshman Vocal Performance major. He thanks God for this opportunity to perform, and would like to thank his friends and family for supporting and loving him! You guys are absolutely wonderful! "Without music life would be a mistake".

Grace Anna Randall is a Senior Music major with an emphasis in Voice Performance from the Atlanta area. This is her third opera performance at Belhaven University, but her first time to play a "good" character. Grace Anna would like to thank Dr. Shelt for his patient, consistent teaching throughout the years, and to God for giving her voice to begin with. Soli Deo Gloria!

Maddi Jolley is an eighteen year old from Paris, Texas. She had the privilege of beginning her first semester at Belhaven last fall and is currently a Music Major. Watching the opera evolve has been a pleasure and she feels so blessed to be a part of the process. Maddi has found Opera to have proven itself to be a difficult craft; however, she has learned so much and hopes that this will be the first of many operas in her musical career!

Faith Schumacher is a freshman from Essex Junction, Vermont. She is a Music Education major, currently studying both voice and piano. She enjoys skiing, hiking, writing songs with her ukulele, spending time with friends, and acting. In high school, she played roles such as Ursula in *The Little Mermaid*, and Ado Annie in *Oklahoma!*

Kaitlyn Witt is from a small town in the wild west of Arizona where she loves to go rock climbing, swimming and snowboarding. Kaitlyn has been a dancer for over 15 years and in high school was a part of a traveling Performing Arts Company where they won many awards. She had many opportunities to act in her community's theatre productions as well as Missoula children's theatre. Kaitlyn is a freshman

at Belhaven University and is majoring in International Studies. Her favorite activity outside of theatre is sailing the sea and going on exploring adventures with her friends.

Micaela Tardie is a currently a freshman in the Belhaven Dance Department and a member of DME and DOXA. She was a pre-professional company member of Georgia Dance Theater for eight years where she performed numerous feature roles in many well-known ballets like: *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Giselle*, and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She also performed as a Shark in the originally written ballet version of *West Side Story*. Micaela has had the privilege of performing with the Legacy Theatre in Georgia in the ensembles for *The Wizard of Oz*, *Annie*, and *The Music Man* and the role of Miss Dorothy in *Thoroughly Modern Millie Jr.* Other roles that Micaela has performed are Thumbellina in *Tiny Thumbellina*, the Talent Scout in *Dear Edwina*, and various lead roles in original plays written for New City Church in Georgia. Micaela hopes to continue excelling in her passions for dance and musical theatre.

Adrienne Joransen will graduate Belhaven with a BA in dance May 2014. She is a dancer who loves storytelling and playing with multiple mediums of art.

Missy Samsel is a junior English major from Clinton MS. She has been involved in productions of several plays including *Peter Pan*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Much Ado about Nothing*, but this is her first opera. She has greatly enjoyed working on this show and getting to know the cast. She thanks God for her ability and her passion for singing and acting; she also thanks her family-especially her dad and mom, Mark and Beth, and little sister, Whitney- for encouraging her and supporting her. She looks forward to participating in more productions at Belhaven in the future.

Grace Andrews is in her third year at Belhaven, studying English with a minor in Music. This is her second year to be part of the children's opera, and she is so excited about this year's production. She has particularly enjoyed getting to know the other cast members and has been amazed at how united the team of goblins has felt. Grace finds the opera to be a wonderful way to meld singing, dancing, acting, and just being crazy with friends, which happen to be some of her top interests. As always, she is thankful for God's faithfulness and grace that shines through Dr. Shelt and the opera team.

Rachel Loftus is a junior Arts Administration from Del Rio, Texas. She has performed in various musicals, concerts, and other shows since elementary school and has been involved with the children's operas at Belhaven for the last three years. She would like to extend a huge thank-you to the entire cast and crew for all of their hard work, help, and patience to make this production come together!

Lydia Jones is a senior Music major from DeRidder, Louisiana. She worked behind the scenes for Belhaven's musical *Into the Woods* in 2012 and was Assistant Stage Manager for *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, and was the Stage Manager for last year's productions, *A Game of Chance* and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. She has thoroughly enjoyed being more and more involved in the Belhaven opera productions. Lydia would like to thank Kristin Boes for all of her help!

Cierra Lee is a senior Music Major from Grove City, Ohio. She is involved all across the campus and is excited to see where God leads her following graduation in May.

Thaddeus Morris from San Antonio, Texas, is a senior majoring in Theatre at Belhaven University. Thaddeus revels in all aspect of theater from set construction to lighting design to acting. Previous lighting designs at Belhaven include *Johanne d'Arc*, *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, *Game of Chance*, and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. Other works include *Hot Rod*, *Ug*, *Flapper* and *Give My Regards to Broadway* all designed for San Antonio Performing Arts. Thaddeus would like to thank Dr. Christopher Shelt for the opportunity to showcase his lighting designs for *The Maker of Illusions*.

Stephen Craig is a junior at Belhaven and is studying Worship Arts and how that can be a tool for ministry. This is his second time working with lights and sound for the operas. He is honored to take part in these performances.

Nikki Lee, a junior at Belhaven, loves to do makeup and was involved in last year's production. She is excited to be in charge of the makeup for *The Maker of Illusions*.

Phelan Harris is a junior Fine Art major who is currently studying sculpture and printmaking. She has performed in Cinderella, in Beauty and the Beast as Babette the Feather Duster, and as Carlotta Guidicelli in The Phantom of the Opera at her former high school. She has "played dress-up" and sewn all her life and is grateful to have had the opportunity to work with and assist such wonderful characters, both on and off the stage.

Annie Andrews is a junior Biblical Studies major from Seneth, Missouri. Annie was drawn to Belhaven because of its dance program and sold when she discovered the reality of their purported emphasis on Christ. Annie has been involved in theatre, dance, and musical productions for most of her life. She would like to thank the incredible production team, cast, and crew for being so great to work with, and would like to thank God for "bringing word of His unfailing love every morning" (Ps. 143:8).

Ms. Maggie McLinden, Belhaven University alum, graduated in 2013 with a degree in Piano Performance. This past year she spent a semester teaching music in Africa and spending time with her family in Colorado. She is enjoying being back at Belhaven as the staff accompanist.

Cassandra Acker is a Senior Communications major, Public Relations emphasis, from Pearlinton, MS. Out of her four years attending Belhaven, this is her first children's opera. She has actively been a part of Belhaven University's Concert Choir all four years and has a passion for music. Working alongside the Belhaven Music Department to prepare for the children's opera has been an awesome experience for her and excited for more productions in the future!

THANK YOU

Special thanks to the following people: Dr. Stephen Sachs, Music Department Chair; Ms. Grace Anna Randall, Music Administrative Assistant; Mrs. Rebekah Bert for props assistance; Ms. Becky Freeman for costume assistance; Mr. Frank Dolansky, CFTA House Manager, for equipment; Sarah Ziglar for photography; Mrs. Cynthia Newland, Chair of the Dance Department; Mr. Steve Farmer, Director of Security, and the Belhaven Security.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC MISSION STATEMENT

The Music Department seeks to produce transformational leaders in the musical arts who will have profound influence in homes, churches, private studios, educational institutions, and on the concert stage. While developing the God-bestowed musical talents of music majors, minors, and elective students, we seek to provide an integrative understanding of the musical arts from a Christian world and life view in order to equip students to influence the world of ideas. The music major degree program is designed to prepare students for graduate study while equipping them for vocational roles in performance, church music, and education. The Belhaven University Music Department exists to multiply Christian leaders who demonstrate unquestionable excellence in the musical arts and apply timeless truths in every aspect of their artistic discipline.

The Music Department would like to thank our many community partners for their support of Christian Arts Education at Belhaven University through their advertising in "Arts Ablaze 2014-2015." It is through these and other wonderful relationships in the greater Jackson community that makes many of our

concerts possible at Belhaven. We praise God for our friends and are truly thankful for their generosity. Please mention The Arts at Belhaven University when you visit our community partners.

For a complete listing of Music Department scheduled spring semester programs, please visit our website at <http://www.belhaven.edu/music/recitals.htm>. A complete listing of major Belhaven University arts events may be found at <http://www.belhaven.edu/arts/schedule.htm>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, January 30, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Julie Wolfe Jr. Voice Recital
Tuesday, February 10, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Evening of Diamonds II: Messiaen Quartet
Tuesday, February 24, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Best of Belhaven II
Saturday, February 28, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Sauerwein Faculty Composition Recital
Wednesday, March, 7:30pm, Concert Hall	Shellie Brown Alumni Violin Recital

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Stephen Sachs, pianist, chair • Dr. Paxton Girtmon, director of bands, woodwind specialist • Dr. Andrew Sauerwein, composer, theorist • Dr. Christopher Shelt, coordinator of vocal activities, director of choral ensembles and Singing Christmas Tree • Song Xie, violinist, director of string ensembles • Nancy Bateman, cello adjunct • Dennis Bonds, jazz guitar adjunct • Richard Brown, string bass adjunct • Sybil Cheesman, flute adjunct • Dr. Dennis Cranford, music theory adjunct • Carol Durham, organ adjunct • Sarah Elias, piano and music theory adjunct • Doug Eltzroth, worship arts adjunct • Gena Everitt, vocal adjunct • Dr. Rebecca Geihlsler, vocal and music history adjunct • Kenneth Graves, clarinet adjunct • Christina Hrivnak, vocal adjunct • Andrew Lewis, jazz and music theory adjunct • Amanda Mangrum, harp adjunct • Randy Mapes, double reed adjunct • Dr. Marlynn Martin, music ed adjunct • Maggie McLinden, staff accompanist • Dr. Tanja Miric, classical guitar adjunct • Christopher Phillips, vocal and choral adjunct • Dr. Owen Rockwell, percussion adjunct, director of percussion ensembles • Carolyn Sachs, piano adjunct • Margaret Sprow, music ministries adjunct • Dr. Carla Stovall, low brass adjunct • Lloyd Turner, trumpet adjunct • Grace Anna Randall, administrative assistant

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, MUSIC MAJORS

Lauren Barger • Daniel Bravo • Gabriella Castro • Jessica Charitos • Clay Coward • Stephen Craig • Roland Dixon • Sidney Durham • Trailand Eltzroth • John Farrar • Levi Scott Foreman • Rachel Gari • Dorothy Claire Glover • Byron Hammond • Hillary Hardin • Eric Hartzog • Anne Hilleke • Andrew Horton • Madeline Jolley • Lydia Jones • Zakary Joyner • Joy Kenyon • Brooke Kressin • Miranda Kunk • Cierra Lee • Jordan Locke • Rachael McCartney • Thorburn McGee • William Murphy • Justin Nipper • Billy Overton • Victor Piantanida • Constance Prince • Grace Anna Randall • Brandon Randle • Katherine Ray • Charity Ross • Alexandra Sahli • Jessica Schmidt • Faith Schumacher • Taylor Scrivner • Michael Shofner • Susan Smallwood • Brandon Smith • Cory Smith • Alesia Sterling • Tripp Stewart • Mariah Taylor • Alexia Valente • Elizabeth Walczak • Rachel Walczak • Hannah Wilson • Ellen Wise • Julie Wolfe • Jessica Ziegelbauer