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Winthrop University

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Opera Theatre Presents Special Production of The Pirates of Penzance

ROCK HILL, S.C. — The Winthrop University Opera Theatre proudly presents a special production: Gilbert and Sullivan’s “The Pirates of Penzance; or, the Slave of Duty” on April 5 and 6.

The comedic opera tells the story of Frederic, a pirate apprentice who is released from his apprenticeship on his 21st birthday—which just happens to be Leap Day. Frederic meets and falls in love with the daughter of a general. However, when he realizes his contract states he must remain an apprentice until his 21st birthday, he is bound by duty to serve the pirates for another 63 years.

The opera, part of the city of Rock Hill’s Come-See-Me Festival events, stars tenor Daniel C. Stein as Frederic; Joshua Wall (Rock Hill) as Major-General Stanley; Joshua Wald (Anderson, S.C.) as the Pirate King; and Brittani Copeland (Chesapeake, Va.) as Mabel, the general’s daughter and Frederic’s love.

Stein has recently performed in shows with the Winston-Salem Symphony; the Portland Symphony; Opera Carolina; and the Charlotte Symphony. His debut was as a soloist for “Elijah” at Carnegie Hall. In addition to his faculty duties, Stein is the resident artist at Opera Carolina.

Assistant Professor of Music Jeffrey McEvoy steps into the director’s chair. As a frequent performer, McEvoy, a baritone, has held positions at universities in Kansas, Connecticut and Boston. During his career, he’s completed engagements with the Kansas City Lyric Opera, the Des Moines Metro Opera and contracts with operas in Boston, Sarasota and Connecticut.

“Pirates” show times are 8 p.m. April 5 and 2 p.m. April 6. Tickets are $10 general admission and $5 for students. It is an approved cultural event.

For more information contact the Department of Music at 803/323-2255.