

Meet Me at the UCA

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
FALL 2008 PERFORMANCES AND EXHIBITIONS



Street Scene by Kurt Weill

Friday, November 7, Saturday, November 8, Friday, November 14
at, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, November 16 at 2:00 p.m.

Griffin Concert Hall, University Center for the Arts

1400 Remington St., Fort Collins, Colorado

\$25, \$10/CSU Students, \$10/Youth (ages 6-17)

Street Scene, a Broadway musical or, more precisely, an American opera about working-class life in New York City in 1946, is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Elmer Rice with music by Kurt Weill and lyrics by Langston Hughes. In 1947 the musical was the recipient of the first Tony Award given for Best Original Score and fuses traditional European opera with Broadway musical theatre, mixing in jazz, blues, spiritual, and 'Rogers and Hammerstein' styles. A story of love, passion, greed and death, *Street Scene* follows the lives of four characters during one evening and the next afternoon when mounting tensions eventually build into a tragedy of epic proportions.

Colorado State University Opera Theatre takes pride in its ability to switch from classic opera to musical theatre style. "Our goal is to train students in many genres, creating marketable talent," says Director of CSU Opera Theatre, and *Street Scene* Music Director, Todd Queen. "*Street Scene* is an excellent cross-over piece because the students have to sing a variety of musical styles as well as deliver dialogue, which is a whole different process for vocalists."

The board of the Kurt Weill Foundation awarded Colorado State Opera Theatre a \$5,000 grant in support of the production of *Street Scene*. "This competitive grant was based on the foundation's recognition of CSOT's artistic ability, past production history, and show concept," says Queen. "We are honored to receive this award."



Student Profile

Meet Lindsey Coleman. Ms. Coleman graduated with her BM in vocal performance from Chapman University and is currently pursuing a masters degree in vocal performance at CSU. Some of her roles include Nella in *Gianni Schicchi*, Suor Genovieffa in *Suor Angelica*, and Rosalinda in *Die Flerdermaus*. At CSU, she will be performing the role of Rose Maurrant in *Street Scene*.

What is Your Favorite Scene? "It would have to be the duet, "Remember That I Care" between the characters Rose and Sam. This scene is one of the more tender moments in

the show and helps the audience see that there is hope and love, even in some of the more desolate environments. Now, perhaps I am biased because I play Rose, but I also feel that this duet has some really beautiful musical moments that the audience will really enjoy."

How does the message of Street Scene translate from the 1940's to today? *Street Scene* shows the power of gossip and how sometimes it can have dire consequences. This is obviously something that still affects people today, and *Street Scene* serves as a commentary on how people need to think before they speak."

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