

windows of inspiration

a view of performing and visual arts from around the world

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



Opera: Falstaff by Verdi

February 29, March 1, March 7, 7:30 p.m., March 9, 2:00 p.m.

Griffin Concert Hall, University Center for the Arts

1400 Remington Street, Fort Collins, Colorado

\$25, \$10/CSU Students, \$12/College & University Students

\$10/Youth ages 6-17; Reserved Seating

CSU Opera Theatre's production of Falstaff will delight audiences with its memorable characters, comedy, and melodies. Based on William Shakespeare's play *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Falstaff tells the story of the incorrigible yet irresistible rogue Falstaff, a braggart, con man and habitual liar who attempts to woo two married noblewomen at the same time, in hopes of procuring their fortunes. His scheme is quickly discovered, and the women get hilarious revenge.

Sung in Italian with English supertitles, the title role of Falstaff is played by special guest Bradley Thompson. Thompson is the winner of the Gold Award Scammon International Voice Competition in 2004, regional finalist in the 2002 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and grand prizewinner in the 2001 Denver Lyric Opera Guild Voice Competition.

Thompson is perhaps best known to audiences for his operatic performances. Carol Rasmussen of the *Boulder Daily Camera* calls his "a strong, attractive voice with agility and range." His repertoire displays a great deal of versatility in a wide range of both comic and dramatic roles. He has made appearances with Opera Colorado where his portrayal of Fiorello was called "expertly delivered" by the *Rocky Mountain News*.

Talented vocalist and CSU graduate student Tracy Kaufman performs the role of feisty Meg Page in the March 1 and March 7 performances. Kaufman graduated magna cum laude from Boston University, where she attended on a vocal performance scholarship, with a Bachelor of Music degree in Voice Performance and Music Education, and is a first year Master of Music student at Colorado State. [READ MORE](#)

"Verdi's last opera perfectly captures his indomitable spirit, combining characteristic Verdi melodies with harmonic influence from Wagner, and ending with a grand Classical fugue," says Todd Queen, Associate Professor of Voice and Director of Opera at CSU. "This opera will enchant people of all ages and any musical background with terrific characters, great tunes, and a lot of laughs!"

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