

New England Conservatory Opera Studies Department  
presents

## *Too Hot to Handel!*

Joshua Major  
Director, Handel arias

Steven Goldstein  
Director, Shakespeare monologues

Joel Ayau and Erica Guo  
accompanists and coaches, Handel arias

George Frideric Handel  
(1685–1759)

William Shakespeare  
(1564–1616)

Tuesday, December 3, 2024  
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 5, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

Tuesday, December 3, 2024  
7:30 p.m.

---

**Prologue** from *Romeo and Juliet*  
Piye Qin

**"Bel piacere"** from *Agrippina*  
*Poppea*: Feier Meng

**"When my cue comes, call me, and I will answer"**  
from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
*Bottom*: Jinyao Zhou

**"Tu sei il cor"** from *Giulio Cesare*  
*Achilla*: Liangyu Chen

**"Vieni o figlio"** from *Ottone*  
*Gismonda*: Spencer Bailen

**"Oh dearest soul, your cause doth strike my heart with pity"**  
from *Cymbeline*  
*Iachimo*: Ricky Owens

**"Del mio sol vezzosi rai"** from *Ariodante*  
*Lurcanio*: Yuan Du

**"Orrida gl'occhi miei"** from *Ariodante*  
*Ginevra*: Juanlin Yang

**"Was the hope drunk wherein you dress'd yourself?"** from *Macbeth*  
*Lady Macbeth*: Brianna Davies

**"Alma mia"** from *Floridante*  
*Floridante*: Qianqian Li

**“Oh then I see Queen Mab hath been with you”** from *Romeo and Juliet*

*Mercutio*: Isaac Hall

**“Pur ritorno a rimirarvi”** from *Agrippina*

*Claudio*: Qinglin Liu

**“Unhappy that I am, I cannot heave my heart into my mouth”** from *King Lear*

*Cordelia*: Feier Meng

**“Cara selve”** from *Atalanta*

*Meleagro*: Jiyeon Chung

**“I am, my lord, as well deriv’d as he”** from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

*Lysander*: Liangyu Chen

**“Ritorno o caro dolce”** from *Rodelinda*

*Rodelinda*: Sohyun Cho

**“Puppet? Ay, that way goes the game”** from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

*Hermia*: Spencer Bailen

**“La mia sorte fortunate”** from *Agrippina*

*Pallante*: Isaac Hall

**“Cieca notte”** from *Ariodante*

*Ariodante*: Brianna Davies

**“Y’have ungently, Brutus, stole from my bed”** from *Julius Caesar*

*Portia*: Qianqian Li, Juanlin Yang, Jiyeon Chung, and Sohyun Cho

**“As When the Dove”** from *Acis and Galatea*

*Galatea*: Isabel Merat

**“I am in my condition a prince, Miranda”** from *The Tempest*

*Ferdinand*: Yuan Du

**“Al sen ti stringo e parto”** from *Ariodante*

*Il Re*: Piye Qin

**"She should have died hereafter"** from *Macbeth*

*Macbeth*: Qinglin Liu

**"Mi lusinga il dolce affetto"** from *Alcina*

*Ruggiero*: Ricky Owens

**"I would not be thy executioner!"** from *As You Like It*

*Phoebe*: Isabel Merat

**"Si tra i ceppi"** from *Berenice*

*Demetrio*: Jingyao Zhou

Thursday, December 5, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

---

**Prologue** from *Romeo and Juliet*  
Xingchi Dong

**“Va godendo”** from *Seerse*  
*Romilda*: Jingmeng Su

**“Basta che sol tu chieda”** from *Rinaldo*  
*Argante*: Jiasen Zhao

**“Sweet Phebe, do not scorn me”** from *As You Like It*  
*Silvius*: Yuhao Zhang

**“I would not be thy executioner!”** from *As You Like It*  
*Phebe*: Kaeul Ahn

**“Ne men con l’ombre d’infedeltà”** from *Seerse*  
*Romilda*: Yue Li

**“You have done that you should be sorry for”** from *Julius Caesar*  
*Brutus*: Yiming Liu

**“Qual nave smarrita”** from *Rodamisto*  
*Rodamisto*: Sara Zerilli

**“O hateful hands, to tear such loving words!”**  
from *Two Gentlemen from Verona*  
*Julia*: Rena Maduro

**“E gelosia quelle tiranna”** from *Seerse*  
*Romilda*: Yoojin Oh

**"Is there no pity sitting in the clouds?"** from *Romeo and Juliet*

*Juliet*: Sua Lee

**"Dove sei amato bene"** from *Rodelinda*

*Bertarido*: Mirah Johnston

**"Neghittosi or voi che fate"** from *Ariodante*

*Dalinda*: Kaeul Ahn

**"O grim-look'd night! O night with hue so black!"**

from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

*Bottom*: Zhanqi Wang

**"Spietati io vi giurai"** from *Rodelinda*

*Rodelinda*: Isis Bermudez Rivera

**"No shame but mine!"** from *The Taming of the Shrew*

*Katherine*: Mirah Johnston

**"Voi mi dite che non l'ami"** from *Serse*

*Atalanta*: Yunxi Ye

**"Puppet? Ay, that way goes the game"** from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

*Hermia*: Jingmeng Su

**"Io gia t'amai"** from *Rodelinda*

*Grimoaldo*: Xiaofeng Hou

**"She should have died hereafter"** from *Macbeth*

*Macbeth*: Jiasen Zhao

**"Non disperar"** from *Giulio Cesare*

*Cleopatra*: Sua Lee

**"Y'have ungently, Brutus, stole from my bed"** from *Julius Caesar*

*Portia*: Sar Zerilli and Yue Li

**"Verdi prati"** from *Alcina*

*Ruggiero*: Yuhao Zhang

**"If by your art, my dearest father"** from *The Tempest*

*Miranda*: Yunxi Ye

**"Ah crudel il pianto mio"** from *Rinaldo*

*Armida*: Rena Maduro

**"What angel wakes me from my flowery bed"**

from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

*Titania*: Yoojin Oh

**"Tu sei il cor"** from *Partenope*

*Ormonte*: Yiming Liu

**"This island's mine, by Sycorax, my mother"** from *The Tempest*

*Caliban*: Xiaofeng Hou

**"O ruddier than the cherry"** from *Acis and Galatea*

*Polyphemus*: Zhanqi Wang

## NEC OPERA STUDIES

Chair of Opera Studies  
Music Director  
Acting Instructor  
Stage Movement Instructor  
Stage Combat  
Administrative and Production Director  
for Opera & Voice  
Vocal Coaching & Musical Preparation

Joshua Major  
Robert Tweten  
Steven Goldstein  
DeAnna Pellecchia  
Sarah Flanagan

Úna Rafferty  
Joel Ayau, Erica Guo, Brett Hodgdon,  
Ji Yung Lee, JJ Penna, Timothy Steele

## NEC VOICE FACULTY

Jane Eaglen  
MaryAnn McCormick  
Lisa Saffer

Carole Haber  
Michael Meraw  
Bradley Williams–Chair

### Support the future of music at NEC!

Your gift to The NEC Fund has a direct and immediate impact on student scholarships, NEC's world-class faculty, and a collaborative and innovative learning environment rooted in the highest level of musical excellence.

Please consider making a gift to support NEC at [necmusic.edu/givenow](https://necmusic.edu/givenow)

Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall,  
and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.  
Assistive listening devices are available for all Jordan Hall concerts;  
contact the head usher or house manager on duty or inquire at the Coat Room.  
Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

Stay connected



[necmusic.edu/tonight](https://necmusic.edu/tonight)