UNCG OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS
3 One-Act Operas

Find out the answers to life’s burning questions:

Will Alison’s family let her sing?

Will Ben pop the question to Lucy?

Did Salieri REALLY poison Mozart?

November 10–13, 2021
7:30 pm
UNCG Auditorium
Alison’s Voice

Original Story: Kayden Tubb
(Winner of Greensboro Opera’s 2020 Barbara Ann Peters “Write Your Own Opera” contest)
Libretto: David Holley
Music: Alejandro Rutty

Casts

Alison........................................................................................................Tessa Larson *
........................................................................................................Danielle Dorsett +

Mom ..............................................................................................Eleni Nicholas *
..............................................................................................Rebecca Germany +

Dad .................................................................................................Collin McCrea

Sally, Alison’s older sister ............................................ Bronwyn Weikert *
..............................................................................................Peyton Wheeler +

Joe, Alison’s younger brother ............................................ Douglas Grimm

Mrs. Noble, Alison’s teacher............................................ Kaitlin Case

The Bluebird.................................................................Sophie Caplin

Cast members of the school musical
Esther Garcia Moreno Cortara McCurdy
Emma Greenwood Sofia Pandolfo
Rebecca Korzelius Amanda Scholz

Pianist: Emily Russ

* performs November 10 and 12
+ performs November 11 and 13

Alison’s Voice Synopsis

Alison loves to sing, but her family believes she should devote her time to other pursuits, such as science or math. Her teacher, Mrs. Noble, overhears her singing and invites her to participate in the school musical. After a bluebird appears outside her window and reaffirms Alison’s beautiful singing voice, she decides to join the musical. When the family comes to see the show, they are amazed at her talent and change their mind about the value of music and singing in our lives.
The Telephone
Libretto and Music: Gian Carlo Menotti

By arrangement with G. Schirmer, publisher and copyright owner

Casts

Lucy.................................................................................. Alexia Della Valle *
............................................................................................ Claire Griffin +

Ben......................................................................................... Douglas Grimm

Pianist: Rebecca Oden

* performs November 10 and 12
+ performs November 11 and 13

The Telephone Synopsis

All Ben wants to do is propose to his girlfriend, Lucy, before he leaves on a train trip. When he goes to her apartment and tries to propose, however, he finds himself interrupted by a constant stream of phone calls. As Lucy gossips with her various friends and acquaintances, Ben becomes more and more impatient, and at long last leaves the apartment and calls Lucy himself from his cell phone. Finally, he is able to propose, and she accepts. Before he leaves for his train, she sweetly reminds him to remember her telephone number. ~ Courtesy Stageagent.com

Emergency Exit Information

Patrons are encouraged to take note of exits located on all levels of the auditorium. In an emergency, please use the nearest exit, which may be behind you or different from the one through which you entered.
Mozart and Salieri
Libretto: A. S. Pushkin
Music: Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
English translation by Thaddeus Moytka and Harlow Robison

Casts

Antonio Salieri................................................................. Reginald Powell

W. A. Mozart........................................................................ Zachary Taylor *
William Edwards +

Beggar Violinist ........................................................................ Rachael Keplin

Mozart Requiem chorus:

Sophie Caplin
Kaitlin Case
Alexia Della Valle
Danielle Dorsett
William Edwards
Esther Garcia
Rebecca Germany
Emma Greenwood
Claire Griffin
Douglas Grimm
Rebecca Korzelius
Tessa Larson
Collin McCrea
Cortara McCurdy
Eleni Nicholas
Sofia Pandolfo
Amanda Scholz
Zachary Taylor
Bronwyn Weikert
Peyton Wheeler

Pianist: Lee Arron Klosterman

* performs November 10 and 12
+ performs November 11 and 13

Mozart and Salieri Synopsis

Antonio Salieri was the director of the Italian opera in the Habsburg court from 1774 until 1792, dominating Italian-language opera in the city of Vienna. The music that W. A. Mozart composed far surpassed that of Salieri, and he was jealous of Mozart’s music and its success. Rumor has it that they were bitter rivals and that Mozart was poisoned by Salieri…
Meet the Artists

**Sophie Caplin** (Bluebird, *Alison’s Voice*), soprano, is a native of Charlottesville, VA. She was most recently seen as Oberto in *Alcina* with Chicago Summer Opera. Previous roles with UNCG Opera Theatre include Jenny Slade (*Roman Fever*), Dr. Blind (*Die Fledermaus*), Le Cercatrice (*Suor Angelica*) and La Ciesca (*Gianni Schicchi*). An avid chamber musician, Sophie has studied at CCM Baroque Collective, Oberlin Baroque Performance Institute, as well as Haymarket Opera Company. She won the Canadian Sinfonietta Young Artist Competition in Spring 2019 and was a finalist in the inaugural Camille Coloratura Awards in Fall of 2019. Sophie is currently pursuing an MM in Vocal Performance at UNCG, where she studies with Dr. Robert Wells.

**Kaitlin Case** (Mrs. Noble, *Alison’s Voice*) is a mezzo-soprano from Hillsborough, North Carolina. She is excited to return to the role of Mrs. Noble in *Alison’s Voice* after having filmed the role in Spring 2021. Other past productions with the UNCG Opera Theatre include her ensemble roles in *Be Yourself!* and *Suor Angelica*; the latter was sadly canceled due to COVID-19. She is a junior Vocal Performance major at UNCG studying under Dr. Carla LeFevre.

**Alexia Della Valle** (Lucy, *The Telephone*), soprano, is a first-year graduate student pursuing her MM in Vocal Performance at UNCG. Originally from Florida, Alexia graduated from Rollins College in 2019 with an Honors degree in Music. She previously performed roles in *Some Enchanted Evening*, *Crazy for You*, *Into the Woods*, and *Once Upon a Mattress*, and scenes from *The Old Maid and the Thief* and *La Traviata*. She has also performed as a soloist in several concert works, including Mozart’s *Krönungsmesse*. Alexia has a private online studio, where she teaches voice and piano to people of all ages. Alexia is a student of Dr. Robert Bracey and is very excited to make her UNCG Opera Theatre debut!
Meet the Artists (Continued)

Danielle Dorsett (Alison, Alison’s Voice), soprano, was born and raised in New Providence, Bahamas. Currently, she is a junior at UNCG pursuing a BM in Vocal Performance. Danielle has spearheaded four successful musical productions where proceeds defray school tuition costs. This experience has allowed her to function as producer, creative director and musical director. She has an extensive repertoire that ranges from classical to contemporary music. In 2019, Danielle made her opera performance debut as Mom in the Greensboro Opera children’s opera, Be Yourself!, and then as Sister Dolcina in Suor Angelica with the UNCG Opera Theatre the following year. In the Spring of 2022, she will perform in the ensemble of Greensboro Opera’s production of Porgy and Bess. Danielle is a student of Dr. Donald Hartmann.

William Edwards (Mozart, Mozart and Salieri), tenor, is from Kernersville, NC and is pursuing his MM in Vocal Performance at UNCG. Will’s apprenticeship roles have included opportunities with Opera in the Ozarks and the Des Moines Choral Festival. Recently seen on the operatic stage as a baritone, Will’s stage experience includes Fredrik in Sondheim’s A Little Night Music, Don Giovanni in Mozart’s Don Giovanni, and Strephon in Gilbert & Sullivan’s Iolanthe. Will is also currently a Coordinator of Contemporary Worship and a Choral Scholar at Sedge Garden United Methodist Church in Kernersville, NC.

Rebecca Germany (Mom, Alison’s Voice), soprano, is a native of Arlington Texas. This is Rebecca’s first staged performance with the UNCG Opera Theater, but she previously performed Alison’s Voice virtually last spring for Greensboro Opera’s Opera at the Carolina. She also performed with the University of Texas at Arlington’s Opera Company in Suor Angelica. Rebecca is currently pursuing her MM in Vocal Performance at UNCG, where she is studying with Dr. Teri Bickham.
Claire Griffin (Lucy, *The Telephone*) is a senior soprano pursuing a BM in Vocal Performance at UNCG. Her operatic credits include Eurydice (*Orpheus in the Underworld*) and Deanna Durbin/Judy Garland understudy (*Chasing Rainbows: A New Musical*) at the Goodspeed Opera House. Her UNCG Opera Theatre appearances include Adele (*Die Fledermaus*), Sister Genevieve (*Suor Angelica*), Jenny Slade (*Roman Fever*), and the role of Studio (*Talk Opera*). For Greensboro Opera’s *Opera at the Carolina*, Ms. Griffin sang Lauretta (*Gianni Schicchi*) and Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*). She was a finalist in the Opera Grand Rapids Collegiate Vocal Competition in the spring of 2021 and was awarded First Place (Lower Collegiate Women) in the National NATS competition in 2020. Claire is a student of Dr. Carla LeFevre and sends her family unending love.

Douglas Grimm (Joe, *Alison’s Voice*; Ben, *The Telephone*) is a senior baritone graduating with a dual degree in Vocal Performance and Arts Administration. Douglas has worked in both theatrical and operatic stage productions for almost 15 years, most recently playing Il Dottore/Il Notaro in *Gianni Schicchi* and premiering a number of smaller one-act opera roles with Greensboro Opera’s outreach, *Opera at the Carolina*. When not on stage, Douglas can be found outside hiking, kayaking, or sailing anywhere in the great outdoors. Douglas is a student of Dr. Robert Bracey and will graduate in the Spring of 2022. He is lovingly supported by an amazing family, a wonderful girlfriend, dear friends, and many past teachers, conductors, and coaches. He is Greensboro Opera’s UNCG Arts Administration Intern this semester.

Feydyn Jones (Wigmaster/Make-up consultant) is majoring in Consumer, Apparel and Retail Studies and was formerly in the Design and Technical Theatre program with a focus in Costume Design. Feydyn’s wig and costume credits at UNCG including *The Witches*, *As You Like It*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse*. A member of Phi Theta Kappa and Beta Gamma Sigma, she studied abroad in Japan and has done continuous independent study in Japanese Beauty and Theatre History. Outside of UNCG, Feydyn is a professional hairstylist, fashion stylist, and multimedia artist.
Meet the Artists (Continued)

Rachael Keplin (Beggar Violinist, Mozart and Salieri) is a viola artist and educator based in Greensboro, North Carolina. Rachael recently moved from Columbus, Ohio to begin her Doctoral studies under Dr. Scott Rawls at UNCG. She serves as the assistant director and viola artist for Chamber Brews and enjoys performing with local arts organizations in both Columbus and North Carolina. Rachael also performs as a studio recording artist and has recorded in studios in Atlanta and Columbus. She has fostered a private viola and viola studio since 2013. Her passion for youth outreach has led her to serve as an orchestral coach for Georgia and Columbus Youth Symphonies and local Columbus schools. Rachael serves as a graduate teaching assistant at UNCG.

LeeArron Klosterman (Musical Director and Pianist, Mozart and Salieri) is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Collaborative Piano at UNCG. Mr. Klosterman holds an assistantship at UNCG, and his duties include playing for graduate voice and instrumental students as well as for the UNCG Opera Theatre. The musical director, coach, and pianist for Rimsky-Korsakov’s Mozart and Salieri, Mr. Klosterman’s recent productions include Mozart’s Der Schauspieldirektor and Salieri’s Prima la musica e poi le parole at the University of Mobile in Alabama. Mr. Klosterman studies with Dr. James Douglass and looks forward to working on many more projects in the future with the UNCG Opera Theatre.

Tessa Larson (Alison, Alison’s Voice) is a soprano from Minnesota seeking her MM in Vocal Performance at UNCG, having received her BM from Concordia College in 2020. Ms. Larson has performed principal roles at the Fargo Moorhead Opera, such as Isabel in The Pirates of Penzance and the Dew Fairy in Hänsel und Gretel, as well as multiple ensemble roles. She has also performed the roles of Ida in Die Fledermaus, Lady Blemly in Tobermory, and Rosina in a pastiche called Rosina Remembered at Concordia College. She prepared the role of Alison in Alison’s Voice last spring and is excited to perform it live. She enjoys singing in both choral and opera ensembles and is looking forward to her first season with Bel Canto this year.
Collin McCrea (Dad, Alison's Voice), tenor, is studying with Dr. Robert Wells and pursuing an MM in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy at UNCG. His staged roles include Monostatos in Die Zauberflöte with Utah Vocal Arts Academy, Harry in My Fair Lady with the Western New York Chamber Orchestra and the cover of Don Ottavio in Don Giovanni with the Hillman Opera. Opera scene credits include Frederic in The Pirates of Penzance with UVAA, as well as Nika Magadoff in The Consul and Tom Rakewell in The Rake's Progress with SUNY Fredonia’s Student Opera Theater Association. As a native to Buffalo, NY, Collin has also been seen with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and Buffalo Opera Unlimited.

Eleni Nicholas (Mom, Alison's Voice) is a 19-year-old soprano from Durham, North Carolina. She is a sophomore Vocal Performance major, and she studies with Dr. Carla LeFevre. This is her second performance with UNCG Opera Theatre after singing in the ensemble of last spring’s virtual version of Alison’s Voice. Eleni’s past stage credits include roles such as Josephine March (Little Women), Grand Duchess (You Can’t Take It With You), and Louella Soames (Our Town). After completing her undergraduate degree, Ms. Nicholas will pursue graduate work in performance so that she may pursue opera full time as her career.

Rebecca Oden (Musical Director and Pianist, The Telephone) is a first-year master’s student in Collaborative Piano, studying with Dr. James Douglass. She graduated from UNCG in 2017 with a BM in Piano Performance, and in her junior year was awarded the Presser Undergraduate Scholar Award and a Student Excellence Award. Since graduating, Rebecca has worked as a staff accompanist at Elon University and in UNCG’s Musical Theatre program. She is the pianist at Alamance Presbyterian Church and has worked as a freelance accompanist throughout the Triad area. Additionally, she played on UNCG’s masterclass with Renée Fleming in February 2020. In her spare time, Rebecca enjoys making and selling floral wreaths in her Etsy shop.
Meet the Artists (Continued)

Reginald Powell (Salieri, Mozart and Salieri), bass-baritone, is a 25 year old native of Wilson, NC. He earned his BM in Vocal Performance from UNCG in May 2020. Reginald has performed with the UNCG Opera Theater as Sarastro in Die Zauberflöte, Pistola in Falstaff and Simone in Gianni Schicchi (unfortunately canceled due to the pandemic). He made his debut with Greensboro Opera in December 2019 as King Balthazar in Amahl and the Night Visitors. He will return to the Greensboro Opera stage this January as Jim in Porgy and Bess. He is currently a master’s student studying with Dr. Robert Wells and sends special thanks to his unwavering support system.

Emily Russ (Pianist, Alison’s Voice) is an active freelance pianist in the area. She works as an accompanist at local universities as well as for many music teachers, children’s choirs, and competitions. She enjoys accompanying opera and for several years played for UNCG’s Touring Opera and Opera at the Carolina. In Fall 2018, Ms. Russ was the rehearsal pianist for Greensboro Opera’s production of Madama Butterfly and was both rehearsal and performance pianist for Hansel and Gretel in Spring 2019 and for Amahl and the Night Visitors in December 2019. She is currently the chorus rehearsal pianist for Porgy and Bess. Emily holds a BM in Piano Performance from UNC-CH (2013) and a MM in Piano Performance from UNCG (2015).

Zachary Taylor (Mozart, Mozart and Salieri) is a tenor from New Jersey and is pursuing his MM in Voice Performance at UNC Greensboro, where he studies with Dr. Robert Bracey. He earned his BM from Towson University in Fall 2020, where he studied with Dr. Min Jin. Zach is ecstatic to be making his UNCG Opera Theatre debut as Mozart. Past roles include Frederic in The Pirates of Penzance, Basilio in Le Nozze di Figaro, and roles in several children’s operas. He also has played a number of musical theatre roles, including William Barfée in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and Robert Martin in The Drowsy Chaperone and served as the music director for a production of Carrie the Musical.
Bronwyn Weikert (Sally, *Alison’s Voice*) is a second-year Vocal Performance major from Silver Spring, Maryland. Her previous roles at UNCG include the ensemble in last spring’s virtual production of *Alison’s Voice*. She has also performed several roles with Blake Stage Company, including Amy (*Company*), Ann Collier (*The 1940’s Radio Hour*), Ariel (*The Little Mermaid*), and the Baker’s Wife (*Into the Woods*). She is a student of Dr. Theresa Bickham. She would like to thank Dr. Bickham, Mr. Holley, and her family and friends for their support.

Peyton Wheeler (Sally, *Alison’s Voice*), 19, is a junior mezzo-soprano currently pursuing a BM in Performance and a minor in German at UNCG. She is originally from Morganton, NC. Previous roles include Babs in *Roman Fever* (UNCG Opera Theatre), Mom in UNCG’s production of *Be Yourself!* (*Opera at the Carolina*), and Sesto in *Quarantäne* at Middlebury College in Vermont, where she spent seven weeks during the summer of 2021 studying German and opera. In May of this year, Peyton was one of the winners of the Euterpe Music Scholarship in Greensboro and was a 2021 NATS quarterfinalist. She studies under Dr. Carla LeFevre and is grateful for this wonderful opportunity.
Production Staff

Producer/Stage Director ..............................................David Holley
Production Manager .....................................................James Goins
Technical Director/Lighting Designer ..................R. Scott Garrison
Wigmaster/Make-up consultant .........................Feydyn Jones
Alison’s Voice pianist .................................................. Emily Russ
Alison’s Voice rehearsal pianist .................................Maria Menendez
The Telephone musical director/pianist .............. Rebecca Oden
Mozart and Salieri musical director/pianist......LeeArron Klosterman
Greensboro Opera Intern .........................................Douglas Grimm
Crew Chief ..............................................................Hanna Atkinson
Light Board Operator .....................................................Torey Allen
Stagehand .................................................................. Makala Whitehead
Fly Rail Operator ..........................................................Austin Kendrick
Mozart and Salieri costumes .................................... Eastern Costume
Wigs ........................................................................UNCG School of Theatre
Supertitle creation .................................................... Zachary Taylor
Supertitle operators ...................................................... LeeArron Klosterman
                                                                                   Rebecca Oden

Special thanks to Greensboro Opera for partnering on the 2021-2022 UNCG Opera Theatre Season!!