Proving Up

Riders to the Sea

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Missy Mazzoli

Peabody Opera Theatre

Peabody Symphony Orchestra

Thursday, November 16

Friday, November 17

Saturday, November 18

at 7:30 pm

Sunday, November 19

at 3:00 pm

Miriam A. Friedberg Concert Hall

Mary Duncan Steidl

Director

Joseph Young

Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg

Artistic Director of Ensembles

Conductor

Johns Hopkins Peabody Conservatory
Riders to the Sea

Composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams
(based on the play by J.M. Synge)

Proving Up

Composed by Missy Mazzoli
(libretto by Royce Vavrek based on a story by Karen Russell)

Laurie Rogers, music director of opera
Erin Steibel, set designer
Lynly Saunders, costume designer
Colin K. Bills, lighting designer

Alana Hill, hair and makeup designer
Ben Walsh, stage manager

Peabody Opera Theatre gratefully recognizes Claire and Allan Jensen for their extraordinary support of opera at Peabody.

Cast

Riders to the Sea

Maurya ................. . McKey Monroe *
Marjorie Sheiman ‡

Cathleen .................... Jacqueline Botz *
Grace Herron ‡

Nora ...................... Francesca Coverini *
Clara Kelly ‡

Bartley .................... Rahzé Cheatham *
Jake Elfner ‡

A Woman .................... Ruya Ozveren
Ensemble .................... Louanna Colón
Cynthia Hu
Siyung Chen
Valarie Miles
Grace Brega
Abigail DeYoung
Kaiti Walton

Proving Up

Mr. Johannes “Pa” Zegner ............. John Arlievsky *
Joseph Richwine ‡

Mrs. Johannes “Ma” Zegner ............ Cassie Dixon *
Sophie Low ‡

Miles Zegner ............... Jason Gonzalez *
David Helmer ‡

Littler Sister .................... Maya Watson *
Andrianna Ayala ‡

Taller Sister ............... Leisha Casimiro *
Suzi Rozga ‡

Peter Zegner ............... Patrick O’Farrell *
Ryan Alexander ‡

Sodbuster .................... Jacob Heacock

* Thursday, Saturday cast
‡ Friday, Sunday cast
DIRECTOR’S NOTE

The pairing of *Proving Up* and *Riders to the Sea* highlights the poignant struggle of two families trying to survive in the face of obstacles, both natural and supernatural. Both works examine what happens when young people set out against impossible odds to care for their families and to carve their place in a harsh and unforgiving world. Both works look at the nature of choice and fate.

Evocative orchestral depictions of the environment are at the heart of each of these operas. Vaughan Williams surrounds us with the raging sea off the Irish coast, and Mazzoli creates the dry expanse of the American prairie after the Homestead Act of 1862. *Proving Up* asks “who owns the land?” as settlers pursue their westward dream to “prove up” and earn the deed to the claim they have staked.

— Mary Duncan Steidl

ARTISTIC TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

**Joseph Young**, conductor, Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Artistic Director of Ensembles

Praised for his suavely adventurous programing, Joseph Young is increasingly recognized as “one of the most gifted conductors of his generation.” Young is Music Director of the Berkeley Symphony, Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Artistic Director of Ensembles at the Peabody Conservatory, and Resident Conductor of the National Youth Orchestra–USA at Carnegie Hall. In recent years, he has made appearances with the Saint Louis Symphony, Buffalo Philharmonic, Colorado Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, Bamberger Symphoniker, New World Symphony Orchestra, Spoleto Festival Orchestra, Orquestra Sinfónica do Porto Casa da Música, and the Orquesta Sinfonica y Coro de RTVE (Madrid); among others in the U.S. and Europe.

In his most recent role, Young served as the Assistant Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony where he conducted more than 50 concerts per season. Young also served as the Music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, where he was the driving force behind the ensemble’s artistic growth. Previous appointments have included Resident Conductor of the Phoenix Symphony, and the League of American Orchestras Conducting Fellow with Buffalo Philharmonic and Baltimore Symphony.

Young is a recipient of the 2015 Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award for young conductors, an award he also won in 2008 and 2014. In 2013, Young was a semi-finalist in the Gustav Mahler International Conducting Competition (Bamberg, Germany). In 2011, he was one out of six conductors featured in the League of American Orchestras’ prestigious Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview.

Young completed graduate studies with Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar at the Peabody Conservatory in 2009, earning an Artist’s Diploma in conducting. He has been mentored by many world-renowned conductors including Jorma Panula, Robert Spano, and Marin Alsop, with whom he continues to maintain a close relationship.

**Mary Duncan**, director

Mary Duncan recently directed the premieres of *Time and Chance* by Tony Award winning playwright Mark Medoff, and a new interpretation of *The Soldier’s Tale* by Wordsmith with the BSO and directed *Don Giovanni* in Prague with Prague Summer Nights. She has directed over 50 operas at venues across the country. At the Kennedy Center, with the National Symphony Orchestra, she directed *Der Schauspieldirektor, Bastien und Bastienne*, and *La Clemenza di Tito*.

Duncan was associate artistic director of the Berkshire Opera Company for nine seasons, where she directed 15 operas. Highlights include the world premiere of Stephen Paulus’ *Summer; The Rake’s Progress; Turn of the Screw; Susannah;* and *The Consul* released by Newport Classic. Other notable collaborations include *The Rape of Lucretia* with iconic designer Massimo Vignelli at BAM, and *The Magic Flute* with designs by acclaimed illustrator Eric Carle.

During a long association with The Aspen Music Festival, she directed and choreographed numerous operas including *Proving Up* by Missy Mazzoli, the American premiere of Luke Bedford’s *Seven Angels, Victory Over the Sun, Comedy on the Bridge, Renard, The Marriage of Figaro, Seven Deadly Sins, and Trouble in Tahiti*. She is a graduate of The Juilliard School and studied at A.R.T. at Harvard assisting Robert Brustein.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Director ........................................ Mary Duncan Steidl
Music Director of Opera .................. Laurie Rogers
Conductor ..................................... Joseph Young
Set Designer ................................. Erin Steibel
Costume Designer ....................... Lynly Saunders
Lighting Designer .......................... Colin K. Bills
Hair and Makeup Designer .......... Alana Hill
Production Manager ...................... Natalie Colony
Stage Manager ............................. Ben Walsh
Prop Designer ............................ Isaac De Marchi
Assistant Director/ ......................... Tina O’Malley
Assistant Stage Manager ............ Valarie Miles
Assistant Hair .............................. Elizabeth Lentz
and Makeup Designer
Assistant Costume ......................... Nysio Poulakos
Designer/Wardrobe
Production Services Assistant/ ...... Adam Scalici
Audio and Visual Coordination
Stage Coordinators ...................... Rachel Hurtt
Spot Operators ........................... Josh Cookson
Light Board Operator ..................... Tian Hu
Assistant Stage Managers ........... Christina O’Malley
Assistant Conductors ................. Michael Djabarov
Supertitles Operator ................. Josiah Sysmsa
Musical Preparation ................... Laurie Rogers
Program Design .......................... Amelia Stinnette
Cover Design/Art ......................... Ben Johnson
Opera Office Coordinator .......... Jacob Heacock

PEABODY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Joseph Young, conductor, Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Artistic Director of Ensembles

RIDERS TO THE SEA

Violin
Amir Kadamani Gonzalez †
Ji Soo Lee
Kuan Hao Yen
Elias Fredericks ‡
Yu-Chu Teng
Shih-Han Wu

Viola
Yu-Ting Huang †
Daria Dodonova

Cello
Gloria Lee †
Marcus Gee
Mira Hu

Bass
Alyssa Trebat †
Sunwoo Kim

Flute
Matthew Ober

Clarinet/Bass Clarinet
Olivia Harrison

Bassoon/Contrabassoon
Soumii Mukherjee

Horn
Michael Rising

Trumpet
Nathan Lyle

Percussion
Jacob Kline

Harp
Megan Apostol

Keyboards
Xin Wu

PROVING UP

Violin
Amir Kadamani Gonzalez †
isabel Rushall
Sixuan Zhu
Lindsey Lee
Yin-Chi Lee
Dayoung Hyun
Nina Youn
Elias Fredericks ‡
Kailai Zhang
Sophia Freed
He Wu
Nya Angel

Viola
Yu-Ting Huang †
Justin Williams
Wendurima Yun

Cello
Gloria Cheng †
Jiayi Cheng

Double Bass
Alyssa Trebat †
Sunwoo Kim

Flute
Jiyoung Yoon †
Matthew Ober

Oboe
Esther Loring
Santo Villatoro

Clarinet/Bass Clarinet
Sophia Bracken

Bassoon
Sean Webster

Horn
Bryan Bennett
Maria Scotto di Uccio

Trumpet
Samantha Obara

Timpani
Hyunwoo Kim

Percussion
Jacob Kline

† Concertmaster
‡ Principal