

WINTER GALA SUNDAY CONCERT

**Musical Artists: soprano - Jennifer Moore; mezzo-soprano - Junyue Gong;
tenors - Oswaldo Iraheta and Paolo Buffagni; baritone - Handong Fu;
accompanied by Catherine Miller, pianist**

(Jennifer) "Jewel Song" *Faust* Gounod
Marguerite finds a small treasure box of jewels left outside of her door. After a neighbor tells her she must have an admirer, Marguerite excitedly takes the box inside. She has never seen such fanciful jewels and exclaims in delight as she adorns herself with the jewels.

(Oswaldo) "Recondita Armonia" *Tosca* Puccini
Cavaradossi is painting a madonna in the Attavanti chapel. He reflects on how art can combine such diverse elements. The madonna's hair is blonde like that of an unknown woman often seen praying in church. Her eyes are black like Tosca's; she is his only thought.

(Junyue) "Habanera" *Carmen* Bizet
Love is a wild bird that no one can control. It can fascinate and tease. Its whims are a thousandfold. It arrives, lingers, then slips through your fingers. A heart in love is quickly burned. If I love you and you spurn me, you are playing with fire. Wait for love and you wait forever. Don't wait at all, it comes to you. Try to grasp it, but it flies away, then it returns. If you spurn me, you are playing with fire.

(Jennifer & Oswaldo) "O soave fanciulla" *La Bohème* Puccini
In a Parisian garret, Rodolfo has told his new-found love, Mimi, of his hopes and dreams, and she has told him of her life as a seamstress. Although his friends are calling for him, Rodolfo, stares at Mimi in rapture, and kisses her. On her suggestion, he agrees to join his friends and take her with him. The couple go off singing of their new love.

(Paolo) "Core n'grato" Cardillo
This Neapolitan song speaks of the pain, suffering and ungrateful heart of a lost love, Catari. The young man sings that his girlfriend has mistreated him. However, he still loves her.

(Handong) "Era eguale la voce?" *Gianni Schicchi* Puccini
The wealthy Buoso Donati has died, leaving everything to the Church. Gianni Schicchi has a plan to alter the will. When the doctor arrives to see how Buoso is doing, Schicchi copies Buoso's voice. He explains: tell the notary Buoso is dying and wants to make his will. When the notary arrives, the in the dark room, in the bed, instead of Buoso, it will be Schicchi, impersonating Buoso, and re-making the will. A great deception!

This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council. Regina Opera's programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. Major support is provided by New York City Council Members Alexa Avilés and Justin Brannan, Donald C. Brace Foundation, Investors Foundation, Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, and New York City Tourism Foundation.

(Jennifer & Junyue) "*Barcarolle*" **Les Contes d'Hoffmann** Offenbach
Giulietta and Nicklausse sing of love. "Night of love, smile upon our caresses. Night is sweeter than day, o beautiful night of love. Time flees and, without returning, takes away our passions. Breezes, return the kisses and caresses to us. O beautiful night of love."

(Junyue) "*Air de la griserie*" **La Périchole** Offenbach
Ah! What a dinner I've just had And what extraordinary wine! I drank so much of it that I think I'm a little tipsy, But shh!... We mustn't say anything. If my speech is slurred, If I zigzag as I walk, if my eyes are, don't be surprised, I'm a little tipsy, Shh!...

(Handong) "*Per me giunto...lo morrò*" **Don Carlo** Verdi
Rodrigo has incriminated himself to save Don Carlo. The dying Rodrigo bids farewell to Don Carlo. "Oh, my Carlo My last day has arrived – no, we shall never see each other again. May God unite us in Heaven, He who rewards His faithful. Why are you weeping? No, take heart – the last breath is a joy to one who dies for you! Ah, save Flanders! Carlo, farewell! Oh Carlo, listen... Your mother... will await you at St. Just tomorrow... She knows all. I shall die, but happy that, in doing so, I could preserve a savior for Spain! Ah, do not forget me! You had to reign, and I had to die for you.....Ah, save Flanders! Carlo, farewell!"

(Paolo) "*Vesti la giubba*" **I Pagliacci** Leoncavallo
To recite! While delirious, I no longer know what I say, or do! Yet it is necessary, force yourself! Bah! Can't you be a man? You are "Pagliaccio" Put on the costume, and powder your face. The customers pay and laugh. If Harlequin invites Colombina, laugh, Pagliaccio, and everyone will applaud! Change pain into laughs, the tears into a grimace. Ah! Laugh, Pagliaccio, for your love is broken! Laugh from the pain that poisons your heart!

-----INTERMISSION-----

(Junyue) "*Seguidilla*" **Carmen** Bizet
Seguidilla - Army officer Don José has arrested Carmen for fighting. Flirting with him hoping he will free her, she sings of a tavern outside of Seville, run by Lillias Pastia, where she goes to dance and sing. She'll meet her lover there, one of the many who admire her.

(Handong) "*E sogno? o realtà*" **Falstaff** Verdi
Ford is deadly serious at this juncture in the opera. He is convinced that his wife is about to make a cuckold of him.

(Oswaldo) "*No puede ser*" **La taberna del puerto** Sorozábal
This young man has heard negative comments about the woman he loves. He does not believe them. "It is not possible that this woman is not good. I saw her pray. I saw her cry. I saw her good deeds. I love her. It is not possible that she would give me poison"

(Junyue) "*Cruda sorte!*" **L'Italiana in Algeri** Rossini
Isabella arrives on the Algerian shore after a shipwreck. She initially sings of her cruel fate and tyrannical love, believing she has lost her beloved, Lindoro. Her mood shifts quickly from despair to confidence. She declares her experience in handling men. She decides to take control of the situation and manipulate the Bey Mustafà and his men to free herself and Lindoro. Isabella is a clever, independent woman rather than a helpless victim.

(Paolo & Handong) “O Mimi, tu più non torni” **La Bohème** Puccini
O Mimi tu più non torni - Marcello and Rodolfo, trying to hide their feelings from one another, sing of their continuing love for Musetta and Mimi, their former lovers.

(Oswaldo) “New York Lights” **A View from the Bridge** Bolcom

(Jennifer & Paolo) “Parle-moi de ma mère” **Carmen** Bizet
In the smugglers’ mountain hiding place, Don José is shocked to see Micaela, a young lady from his home village. She explains that she has come to find him for his mother’s sake and begs him to return home. Micaela continues to plead with him as the gypsies warn José that staying may cost him his life. He stands firm until Micaela reveals that his mother is dying.

(Handong) “Ah! per sempre io ti perdo” **Il Puritani** Bellini
Riccardo sings: “The pain in my heart will end only as I sleep in my grave. Ah! I have lost you forever, flower of love, my hope. My life will be full of pain..
Fior d'amore, or my hope; For years, guided by fortune, I fought against trouble and misfortune, hoping to gain your love.

(Paolo) “Nessun dorma” **Turandot** Puccini
After solving three riddles, the Unknown Prince has in his turn challenged Turandot: if she manages to find his name out before dawn, he shall be executed. "No one shall sleep ", Turandot has ordered, but the confident Prince already looks forward to victory.

DON'T MISS:

TICKETED OPERA: SUOR ANGELICA + CONCERT:

A “Double Bill” of Puccini’s one-act tragic opera + an Orchestral Concert

Saturday February 28; Sunday March 1; Saturday March 7; and Sunday March 8, 2026 at 3PM

Tickets are \$25 for Adults; \$20 for Senior Citizens/ College Students under 25; \$5 for teens.

Children: free

Tickets are available at the door, or online through our website: www.reginaopera.org

FREE EVENTS:

FREE OPERATIC CONCERT:

Sunday Feb 22, 2016 at 12 Noon

Don't hate winter, embrace it! As part of the Bay Ridge Arts and Cultural Alliance's Embrace Winter Festival, our great artists will perform a free concert of opera favorites at Vesuvio Restaurant. Buy a delicious lunch and enjoy the music while you eat!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED - call (718) 745-0222.

FREE OPEN DRESS REHEARSALS

Suor Angelica + Concert - Feb. 21, 2026, at 3 PM (with piano),
and Feb. 26, 2026, at 7 PM (with orchestra)

No tickets required - just walk in and enjoy a fully staged performance with English captions!