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**SEX, CIGARETTES, AND SERIAL KILLERS HIGHLIGHT
A NIGHT OF LAUGHS AT "OPERA GROWS IN BROOKLYN" -
SUNDAY DECEMBER 5, 7 PM**

**SONGS, SCENES, AND A ONE-ACT OPERA PACK A NIGHT OF COMEDY
FROM COMPOSERS MARKS, CUMMINGS, HILLIARD, AND MORE**

Two Brooklyn opera companies, **AMERICAN OPERA PROJECTS (AOP)** and **OPERA ON TAP (OOT)**, will present *Opera Grows in Brooklyn: Sex, Cigarettes and Psychopaths (a Night of Laughs)* as the latest installment of their **Opera Grows in Brooklyn** series. The evening will feature an NYC couple struggling with Bloomberg's smoking ban in Hilliard and Boreasi's intermezzo *The Filthy Habit*; scenes from Matt Marks' darkly-humorous serial killer song-cycle *The Adventures of Albert Fish*; and *La BoneMe*, seven silly sex songs from AOP composers. The show will be held on **Sunday, December 5th at 7pm** at **Galapagos Art Space** in Brooklyn's DUMBO neighborhood. Tickets are \$15 in advance at www.galapagosartspace.com and \$20 at the door.

Opera Grows in Brooklyn is an ongoing collaboration between American Opera Projects, "known for bringing cutting-edge vocal production to the masses," (*New York*), and Opera on Tap, "...raucous and sublime...un-elitist, imperfect, and fun..." (*NY Sun*), that presents 90 minutes of songs and scenes from contemporary composers in a hip, cabaret-style atmosphere. Audiences have a chance to meet the artists and composers after the performance.

American Opera Projects rips the bodice off the evening with *La BoneMe*, seven silly sexy songs from AOP composers including "Annus Mirabilis" from **Daniel Felsenfeld**, "The Other Laughing Song" by **Becca Anderson** and **Paul Castles**, and selections from "Positions 1956," a 1950s sex manual reconceived by composer **Conrad Cummings** (*The Golden Gate*) and librettist **Michael Korie** (*Grey Gardens*) as a hilarious Baroque song cycle. Featuring New York City Opera baritone **Michael Zegarski**.

Opera on Tap will present the one-act opera *The Filthy Habit*, libretto by **Matt Boreasi**, music by **Peter Hilliard** in its entirety. A comic intermezzo in the spirit of Pergolesi's *La Serva Padrona*, *The Filthy Habit* updates the story of Wolf-Ferarri's *Il Segreto di Susanna* for modern times. Set in Manhattan in the summer of 2003, *Habit* tells the story of a newlywed couple's struggle with Mayor Bloomberg's new smoking ban. *The Filthy Habit* was first created as a companion to *Trouble in Tahiti* (1951) by Leonard Bernstein.

Composer **Matt Marks** presents selections from *The Adventures of Albert Fish*, a series of "brilliantly simultaneously creepy and funny" (*Sequenza21.com*) power ballads about the infamous serial killer. Active around New York City in the 1920-30s, Albert Fish was a horrifically prolific murderer, mainly of children, whose eventual capture was spurred by another one of his passions: he was a compulsive writer of letters. The texts of these songs are taken from Fish's own writings and exhibit his cunning, manipulative, sadistic, unstable, inconsistent, and charismatic personality. Performed by baritone **Jeffrey Gavett**.

"You never really know if you'll be there for the premiere of the next great masterwork by the next great composer, and if you aren't, well, the beer is still cold," the opera blog *Parterrebox* declared about *Opera Grows in Brooklyn*. The inaugural performance of the series at Galapagos in April 2009 was called "an exciting new level of work for these young companies. Brooklyn and the rest of the city will benefit from future collaborations like these." (*The Curator*)

Visit www.operaprojects.org/operagrowsinbrooklyn for press photos and profiles on this event's featured artists.

CALENDAR LISTING INFORMATION

American Opera Projects and Opera on Tap
present

**OPERA GROWS IN BROOKLYN: SEX, CIGARETTES
AND PSYCHOPATHS (A NIGHT OF LAUGHS)**

featuring

La BoneMe

American Opera Projects presents opera songs for the sexy-time

“Annus Mirabilis” by **Daniel Felsenfeld**

“The Other Laughing Song” by librettist **Becca Anderson** and composer **Paul Castles**

Selections from “Positions 1956” by librettist **Michael Korie** and composer **Conrad Cummings**

Featuring baritone **Michael Zegarski**

Matt Gray, stage director; Mila Henry, musical director/piano

The Filthy Habit

Opera on Tap presents the full one-act opera

Libretto by **Matt Boresi**, Music by **Peter Hilliard**

Performances by **Krista Wozniak**, **David Schmidt**, **Delea Shand**, **Evan McCormack**,
Nathan Wentworth

David Gordon, stage director; Christopher Berg, musical director/piano

The Adventures of Albert Fish

Matt Marks presents selections from his
new opera

Music by **Matt Marks**

Performed by **Jeffrey Gavett**

Matt Marks, musical director/piano

Sunday, December 5, 7:00pm

Location: Galapagos Art Space 16 Main
Street at Water Street, DUMBO, Brooklyn,
NY. Subway – F train to York Street; A/C
train to High Street.

Directions: www.galapagosartspace.com

Tickets: Advance: \$15; Door: \$20.

For tickets, please visit: www.smarttix.com

Info: www.operaprojects.org/operagrowsinbrooklyn and www.operaontap.com/newyork

For more information, please visit: www.galapagosartspace.com

