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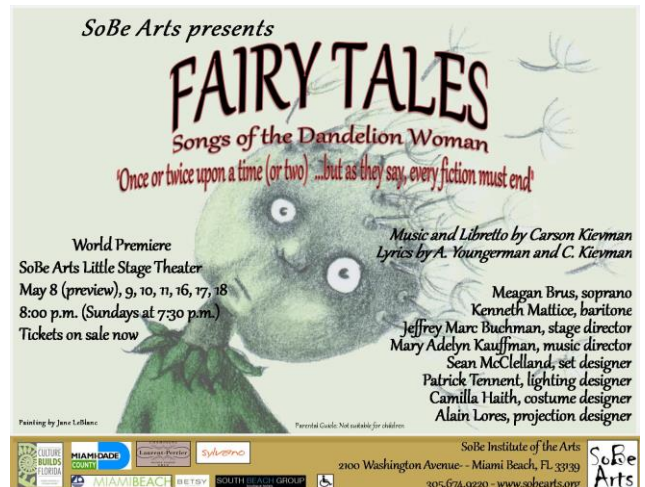
SOBE ARTS PRESENTS “FAIRY TALES, Songs of the Dandelion Woman”

MIAMI BEACH, FL - April 15, 2014 – From May 8 through May 18, the Little Stage Theater at SoBe Institute of the Arts becomes the portal to *Fairy Tales, Songs of the Dandelion Woman*, a 70-minute trip “down the rabbit hole.” With a score and libretto created by Carson Kievman, this contemporary music-theater journey hurtles through a kaleidoscopically shifting mental landscape, past the borderline between hilarity and madness, into a surrealistic dislocation. This parallel world, very much like our own as seen through a magnifying glass, is created as the Bank Examiner (Ken Mattice, baritone) and The Dandelion Woman (Meagan Brus, soprano) become aware of each other: an authority figure who is charged with determining her competence, and a misfit who moves with angular grace through her own private world, and is charismatic enough to dismantle the system simply by living as she pleases.

Is this an Orphean rescue with a mythic subtext or a modern urban fairy tale? The hauntingly provocative music reveals “*truth beyond fantasy and truth beyond nerve,*” and leaves the audience to discern whether or not the characters are “*trapped in their endless universe, between cause and effect*”, or if they live happily ever after... “*for, as they say, every fiction must end.*”

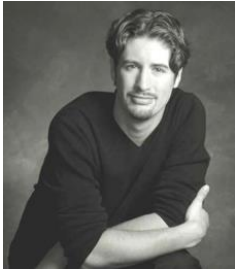
With stage direction by Jeffrey Marc Buchman, music direction by Mary Adelyn Kauffman, award winning design team Sean McClelland (sets), Patrick Tennent (lighting), Camilla Haith (costumes) Alain Lores (projections), as well as a top-flight ensemble of instrumentalists, *Fairy Tales, Songs of the Dandelion*

Woman will take place in the Little Stage Theater @ SoBe Arts previewing on Thursday, May 8 (\$20/\$10) and Fridays and Saturdays May 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 8pm, and Sundays May 11 and 18 at 7:30 pm. The Opening Gala performance and champagne reception will take place on Friday May 9 (\$50/\$25). Tickets for all other performances are \$25 and student/senior tickets are \$15, in accord with SoBe Arts mission to provide live theater at accessible prices. Parking is free. The Little Stage Theater @ SoBe Arts is an intimate black box-style space that accommodates a limited number of patrons. For tickets, call 305-674-9220 or visit <http://sobearts.org/FAIRYTALES2b.html>



About Megan Brus (The Dandelion Woman)

Megan Brus’ rising career has included many operatic roles and concerts, both in the United States and abroad. She returns to SoBe Arts as The Dandelion Woman after critical acclaim for creating the role of Ophelia in 2012 for the World Premiere performance of Carson Kievman’s opera *Hamlet*. Her interpretation of this work caused Lawrence Budman of the *South Florida Classical Review* to write, “Megan Brus nearly stole the show as Ophelia with her flawless coloratura and compelling portrait of emotional disintegration.” <http://sobearts.org/MEAGANBRUS.html>



About Kenneth Mattice (Bank Examiner)

Award-winning lyric baritone Kenneth Mattice is also known to SoBe Arts audiences from his arresting performance in the 2012 World Premiere of Carson Kievman's opera *Hamlet*. The *Miami Herald* praised Kenneth Mattice as "a charismatic Hamlet; his fine lyric baritone spinning the often unaccompanied solos effortlessly." These accolades have been echoed by *Opera News* ("handsome baritone [voice] displaying a glistening edge") and by Vienna's *Der Neue Merker* ("exquisite"). Besides performing throughout the United States, this Wisconsin native has also recently made several important international debuts in Belgium, Italy, Germany and China. <http://sobearts.org/KENNETHMATTICE.html>

About Carson Kievman (Composer)

For nearly 40 years, Carson Kievman has been creating music and theater works in performing arts centers and festivals around the world. Kievman has written nine full-length operas, five symphonies, numerous other music-theater pieces, orchestral works and a variety of chamber ensembles and multimedia compositions. His works have been performed in over 36 countries around the world. "As a builder of music-theater constructions, Kievman is a wizard!" - *The Village Voice*
<http://sobearts.org/CARSONKIEVMAN.html>

About Jeffrey Marc Buchman (Stage Director)

Mr. Buchman began his work in opera as an acclaimed singer noted for his ability to merge acting and singing. He has directed numerous enormously success performances both in the U.S. and abroad, and recently here in Miami for the Florida Grand Opera. The *South Florida Classical Review* has stated "Director Jeffrey Marc Buchman has mastered an art beyond the powers of many directors" and *Opera News* has called him "a formidable talent." <http://sobearts.org/JEFFREYBUCHMAN.html>

About Mary Adelyn Kauffman (Music Director)

Dr. Mary Adelyn Kauffman, pianist, vocal coach and conductor, was a former member of the Young Artist Program at the Greater Miami Opera before moving to Europe in 1993, after having completed her D.M.A at the University of Miami. Dr. Kauffman enjoyed a free-lance career in Germany, Italy and Spain before accepting positions within the German state-supported opera system. With *Fairy Tales*, Mary returns to SoBe Arts where she was on the music team for the world premiere of *Hamlet Soundtheater*. Currently Dr. Kauffman is a member of the faculty at FIU. <http://sobearts.org/MARYKAUFFMAN.html>

About our Design Team

Sean McClelland (set), Carbonell award winner, has received critical acclaim for his work on many productions including, *August: Osage County* and *Les Misérables* at the Actors Playhouse, *The Seafarer* at the Mosaic Theatre, and has also designed for the Santa Fe Opera, GableStage and the SoBe Arts original production of *Tales of Power*. <http://www.sobearts.org/DESIGNTEAM.html>

Patrick Tennent (lighting) served as Resident Lighting Designer for Actors' Playhouse from 2003-2013 before relocating to New York in the summer of 2013. He has received multiple Carbonell Award nominations for his work, and was honored to receive the award in 2011 for his design of *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol*. <http://www.sobearts.org/DESIGNTEAM.html>

Camilla Haith (costumes) is the Costume Director for Florida Grand Opera. She has been with the company for seven seasons, and was the costume designer for this season's critically acclaimed production of *Mourning Becomes Electra*. Previous opera designs include *Maria de Buenos Aires*, *The Magic Flute* (FGO 2012-13), *La Rondine*, *Rigoletto* (FGO 2011-12). <http://www.sobearts.org/DESIGNTEAM.html>

Alain Lores (projections) is the director, motion graphics artist, and creative ninja behind LoresFX, an animation boutique studio based in Miami, FL. He was the Associate Producer and Motion graphics artist for

the award winning movie *Far out isn't far enough*. The movie was nominated for a 2014 Outstanding Achievement in Graphic Design & Animation by Cinema Eye Honor and is also one of only five films that is a Documentary Motion Picture Nominee at the 2014 Producers Guild Awards.

FREE PARKING: Enter the parking area via Washington Avenue between the Convention Center and the 21st Street Recreation Center, then walk through the northeast gate to SoBe Arts

The mission of **SoBe Institute of the Arts**, a nonprofit organization, is to promote excellence, creativity, and accessibility of the arts through performance events and arts instruction of the highest quality, in music and related artistic disciplines. Since its founding eight years ago, SoBe Arts has established a unique arts complex in the historic Carl Fisher Clubhouse and adjoining Little Stage Theater, located in a park-like setting between the Miami Beach Botanical Gardens and the Miami City Ballet. <http://sobearts.org> - events@sobearts.org

SoBe Arts 2013/14 Season is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, the Miami Beach Cultural Arts Council and the City of Miami Beach, the Horowitz Family Foundation, the Audrey Love Charitable Foundation, The Firestone Family Foundation, Sylvano Restaurant, Laurent-Perrier, South Beach Group Boutique Hotels, The Betsy South Beach, Neil and Carolina Rodin and individual donors and volunteers.

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