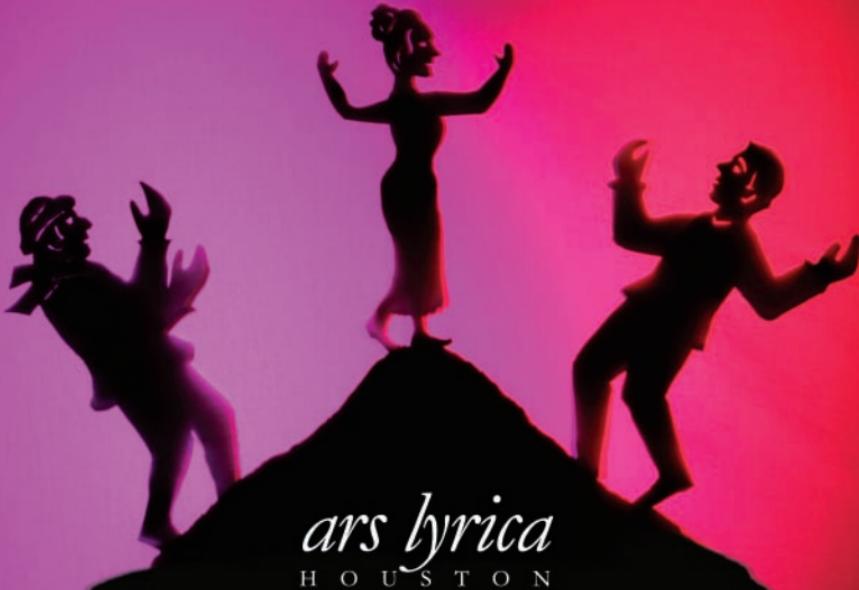




DOMENICO SCARLATTI'S  
**LA DIRINDINA**  
AND  
**PUR NEL SONNO\***



*ars lyrica*  
HOUSTON

BRIAN SHIRCLIFFE

JAMIE BARTON

JOSEPH GAINES

\*CÉLINE RICCI

DOMENICO SCARLATTI'S  
**LA DIRINDINA**

*Don Carissimo*, an old music teacher — Brian Shircliffe, baritone

*Miss Dirindina*, his pupil — Jamie Barton, mezzo-soprano

*Liscione*, a famous castrato — Joseph Gaines, tenor

AND  
**PUR NEL SONNO**<sup>†</sup>

Céline Ricci, soprano

Adam LaMotte (concertmaster), Maria Lin, Yung-Hsiang Wang — Violin I

Alan Austin, Oleg Sulyga, Matthew Detrick — Violin II

Erika Lawson — Viola

Barrett Sills — Cello

Deborah Dunham — Violone

Richard Savino — Theorbo, Baroque guitar, Mandolin

Matthew Dirst — Harpsichord and conductor

La Dirindina - part I

1. Sinfonia: *Minuet* — 1:21
2. Recitative (Don Carissimo, Dirindina): *Signora Dirindina* — 3:25
3. Aria (Dirindina): *Vo' cantar* — 2:48
4. Recitative (Don Carissimo, Dirindina, Liscione): *E questo basta a me* — 3:31
5. Aria (Don Carissimo): *Sola voi?* — 1:20
6. Recitative (Liscione, Don Carissimo, Dirindina): *Sola, signora sì* — 3:11
7. Trio (Don Carissimo, Dirindina, Liscione): *Commar Dirindona* — 1:40

Sonata in G minor, K. 88

8. Grave — 2:09
9. Andante moderato — 2:17
10. Allegro — 1:24
11. Minuetto — 1:32

La Dirindina - part II

12. Recitative (Dirindina, Liscione): *Ma il vostro sentimento* — 0:42
13. Aria (Liscione): *Queste vostre pupillette* — 1:18
14. Recitative (Dirindina, Liscione): *Di voi mi fido* — 3:38
15. Aria (Dirindina): *A un amante* — 1:34
16. Recitative (Liscione, Dirindina, Don Carissimo): *Ma quell che più pilotta* — 6:03
17. Trio (Don Carissimo, Liscione, Dirindina): *Dammi la man, Liscione* — 1:09

Sonata in G Major, K. 91

18. Grave — 1:27
19. Allegro — 3:42
20. Grave — 1:02
21. Allegro — 2:09

Pur nel sonno almen tal'ora

22. Introduzione alla cantata — Allegro — 2:42
23. Introduzione — Minuet — 1:28
24. Aria: *Pur nel sonno almen tal'ora - Andante lento* — 7:15
25. Recitative: *Pria dell'aurora o Fille* — 2:45
26. Aria: *Parti con l'ombra e ver - Allegro Moderato* — 5:07

Total Time — 66:24

A Scarlatti opera usually means a work by Alessandro, the Neapolitan master of both opera and oratorio and father of Domenico. And yet the younger Scarlatti, following in his father's footsteps, composed in his youth some fourteen stage works, only a few of which survive. Once he turned to composition for the keyboard, this Scarlatti never returned to opera—the genre that defined Italian music for generations—despite keen dramatic instincts and a gift for setting poetic texts.

*La Dirindina* is, technically speaking, an intermezzo (or, as its original subtitle announces, a "musical farce") and like all works in this subgenre, it's both comic and compact. Intermezzi typically feature a pretty young girl, a father figure (which could be an uncle, teacher, or guardian), and some kind of love interest. Designed to lighten the mood of a full-length Italian opera, at whose intermissions its two parts were given, the intermezzo gave companies the opportunity to cut loose and poke fun at not only stock character types but the entire edifice of serious opera. Strongly satirical works like *La Dirindina* became more common later in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, after Domenico Scarlatti had abandoned the opera house for more stable employment at the royal courts of Portugal and Spain.

Set to a libretto by Girolamo Gigli, *La Dirindina* was intended to serve as a companion piece to Scarlatti's *Ambleto*, a three-act *opera seria*, at its Roman première in 1715. The censors intervened, however, banning *La Dirindina* from the stage—with the collusion, it seems, of the original cast, who feared ridicule—on account of its racy libretto, whose naughtiness ranges from vulgar sexual innuendo to infanticide. Not to be outmaneuvered, Gigli got his outré little satire published elsewhere, and it quickly became a "must-have" among the cognoscenti.

The story concerns the wily but gifted young singer Dirindina and her teacher Don Carissimo, whose interest in his pupil is more than a little untoward. As the curtain goes up, a singing lesson is underway, and it is clear that neither student nor teacher are very interested in the day's lesson plan. Dirindina's independent spirit and her ability to sing (when she wants to) annoy Don Carissimo, who is further vexed by the appearance of Liscione, a famous castrato who brings some surprising news: the Milan theater wants to engage Dirindina as its *prima donna*. Don Carissimo flies into a rage, stammering his way through a highly amusing and inventive aria, only to see that his pretty pupil is now flirting openly with the castrato. An obligatory ensemble, with Dirindina and Liscione in musical and dramatic opposition to Don Carissimo, brings Part I to a close.



Giuseppe Domenico Scarlatti  
(1685-1757)

Part II opens with the unctuous Liscione plying Dirindina with a little minuet, which manages simultaneously to flatter the young singer's ego while sending up the fashionable but sentimental manners of the aristocracy. Dirindina responds with perhaps the oddest aria in the work, full of syncopations and serpentine melodies that cheekily invoke various bodily fluids, with which she promises to seduce the Milanese public. The ensuing "play within a play," a mock enactment of the tragic Dido's rejection of the feckless Aeneas, is witnessed by Don Carissimo, who fails to get the joke and thinks that his ward is not only with child but ready to commit suicide. As with all good comedies, the joke's on him: the finale is both outrageous and touching, as the capon and the hen are joined in hand by a thoroughly confused old man.

During his long tenure in the Portuguese and Spanish courts, where he served as music master to Maria Barbara, Scarlatti composed more than 500 keyboard sonatas. Nine of these include indications for a figured bass, suggesting origins as sonatas for melody instrument with continuo accompaniment. The practice of transcribing these works began in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, as the Scarlatti craze took hold in England especially, where publishers created concerto arrangements of various movements from the sonatas. The Scarlatti continuo sonatas were well suited to this kind of treatment, since all but one comprise multiple movements, on the model of the older Baroque church sonata. Both K. 88 and K. 91 work well in various guises, including as sonatas for mandolin and harpsichord, and make for tuneful interludes to the two parts of Scarlatti's intermezzo.

Like his father and virtually all his Italian contemporaries, Domenico Scarlatti composed dozens of Italian cantatas for the delectation of aristocratic and royal patrons. Though the genre's heyday had passed, Scarlatti retained a keen interest in the cantata across a long and productive career. The attraction appears to have been both practical and aesthetic: a genre eminently suited to the intimate cultural pleasures of the Portuguese and Spanish courts, the cantata also offered the opportunity for formal experimentation and great subtlety in expression.

Metastasio's libretto for *Pur nel sonno* suggests a date of composition sometime during Scarlatti's service to Philip V and Maria Barbara in Madrid. This great poet, the leading opera librettist of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, had begun his literary career in Rome's Arcadian Academy, from whose pastoral verse he borrowed stock characters for this cantata. Its story is delivered from the unlucky suitor's point of view, and from the outset the mood is dark: an *Introduzione* in two parts—something one expects at the head of a full-length opera or oratorio, but rarely in a cantata—is by turns aggressive and pensive. The sinewy first aria introduces a world-weary lover, one rejected by the unattainable Phyllis but unable to forget her, even in sleep; his passion remains sadly one-sided. A highly dramatic recitative follows, as the protagonist's dream veers from lovely visions to fear and shame. The realization that he'll never be free again is given full vent in a tour-de-force concluding aria with abundant vocal fireworks.

# LA DIRINDINA

## INTERMEZZO PRIMO

### 2. RECITATIVO

#### DON CARISSIMO

Signora Dirindina,  
così sempre infingardo  
al cembalo venite ogni mattina?

#### DIRINDINA

Or via, che più si tarda?  
Cominciamo!

#### DON CARISSIMO

A voi tocca:  
aprite ben la bocca,  
ma spurgatevi prima.

#### DIRINDINA

Ach, sputo!

#### DON CARISSIMO

O buono:  
badate bene al tono!

#### DIRINDINA

Do, re, mi, fa, mi, do.

#### DON CARISSIMO

Va più basso quel do!

#### DIRINDINA

Do, mi, fa, re.

#### DON CARISSIMO

Più basso, dico!

#### DIRINDINA

Do...

## FIRST INTERMEZZO

### 2. RECITATIVE

#### DON CARISSIMO

Signora Dirindina,  
are you always so lazy  
about getting to the harpsichord every morning?

#### DIRINDINA

Fine then, if we're so late,  
Let's start!

#### DON CARISSIMO

Then we'll start playing:  
open your mouth wide  
but first clear your throat.

#### DIRINDINA

Ew, phlegm!

#### DON CARISSIMO

Alright, good:  
be very careful with your pitch!

#### DIRINDINA

Do, re, mi, fa, mi, do.

#### DON CARISSIMO

Lower with that do!

#### DIRINDINA

Do, mi, fa, re.

#### DON CARISSIMO

I said, lower!

#### DIRINDINA

Do...

#### DON CARISSIMO

Più basso, e tre!

#### DIRINDINA

Io, da due giorni in qua,  
son tutta incattarata!

#### DON CARISSIMO

Il catarro è la scusa  
di chi cantar non sa!

#### DIRINDINA

Sentite, o Don Carissimo  
come la gola ho chiusa!

#### DON CARISSIMO

È catarro certissimo;  
forse dal troppo stare a quel balcone  
ad aspettar Liscione.

#### DIRINDINA

È la solita vostra gelosia  
che di Liscione avete!

#### DON CARISSIMO

So ben figliola mia  
quanto ben gli volete.

#### DIRINDINA

Quel ben ch'a ogni altro musico si vuole!

#### DON CARISSIMO

Ma più d'ogn'altro amar si del maestro:  
io son quel che v'addestro al canto!

#### DIRINDINA

Egli a l'azione m'addestra ancor,  
che tanto ben passeggià  
la scena, ed ogni gesto il mondo incanta.

#### DON CARISSIMO

Egli però non canta  
con molta grazia e non ha ben sicure

#### DON CARISSIMO

For the third time, lower!

#### DIRINDINA

For the last two days  
my head's been completely stopped up!

#### DON CARISSIMO

So... congestion is your excuse  
for not knowing how to sing!

#### DIRINDINA

Listen, Don Carissimo  
to how closed up my throat is!

#### DON CARISSIMO

It's certainly stopped up;  
maybe from staying out too long on a balcony  
waiting for Liscione.

#### DIRINDINA

That's just the jealousy  
you have for Liscione!

#### DON CARISSIMO

I know quite well, my girl,  
how much you want him.

#### DIRINDINA

The same way everyone loves a castrato!

#### DON CARISSIMO

But you should love your teacher more:  
I'm the one who teaches you how to sing!

#### DIRINDINA

But his acting also teaches me,  
for he crosses the stage so gracefully,  
and his every gesture enchants the entire audience.

#### DON CARISSIMO

But he doesn't sing  
with much grace at all, and he's not at all secure

le note tutte tutte:  
non va al gisolreutte...  
Gli puzzan di castrato  
le mani, il viso, il fiato; e non so come  
ve 'l raggrigare intorno  
sera e mattina e giorno  
con tanta confidenza  
che ancor in mia presenza,  
quand'è quel caldo grande,  
con voi resta in mutande ed in berretto.  
Ed io tanto rispetto  
mostro per voi che appena  
il ferraiol mi slaccio!

### DIRINDINA

Non vo' che tanto impacco  
del fatto mio prendiate.  
Se un castrato mi piaccia, od un vitello,  
se ad un brutto o ad un bello  
abbia donato il core. In pochi detti,  
udite i sensi miei: io vo' da voi  
documenti di note e non d'affetti!

### 3. ARIA

#### DIRINDINA

Vo' cantar come a voi piace  
voglio amar chi piace a me!  
Inghiotte in buona parte questa pillola un po' amara:  
altro amor che di scolara nel mio cor per voi non è.

### 4. RECITATIVO

#### DON CARISSIMO

E questo basta a me: ma l'altre mie  
più amorose di voi,  
e forse quanto voi belle scolare,  
la Garbina, la Tolla e la Fringuella  
Prizia dal Faballà, la Pimpinella  
e la Pimpa comare,  
mi vengono a incontrar sino alla soglia.  
Chi di lor mostra doglia  
se talor comparisco un po' basito,  
e chiede se ho dormito  
la notte trapassata;

on all of his notes:  
he doesn't even have a high G....  
His hands, his face, his breath  
all reek of a gelding, and I don't know how  
you can sneak around with him  
morning, noon and night  
with so much confidence,  
when, even in my presence,  
when the heat is so great,  
he hangs around you in a cap and pants.  
And I show so much respect  
for you that I don't even  
unfasten my cloak!

### DIRINDINA

I don't want you to keep poking  
your nose into my affairs.  
Who cares whether I prefer a gelding or a stallion,  
or whether I give my heart  
to a hideous man or a handsome one. Let me sum up  
my feelings in a few words: I want you  
to write me music, not love poems!

### 3. ARIA

#### DIRINDINA

I want to sing as you like  
I want to love as I like!  
Just choke down this slightly bitter pill:  
other than the love of a student, there is nothing  
in my heart for you.

### 4. RECITATIVE

#### DON CARISSIMO

That's fine by me: my other students,  
all more affectionate than you  
and perhaps just as pretty,  
Miss Priestly, Miss Cheeky and Miss Peacock,  
Frilly Narcissa, Miss Pimpinella,  
and her mother Madam Pimpa,  
all come right up to my doorstep to find me.  
One shows such sorrow  
if I look a little faint,  
and asks if I've slept well  
the night before;

chi a confortar lo stomaco mi porta  
o zuppa o cioccolata  
o caffè o pollachina;  
chi, s'ho 'l collar pigiato,  
la bocca vi avicina,  
la bocca sua vermiglia,  
e me 'l bagna col fiato e me 'l distende.  
Chi a spazzolar mi prende cappello e ferraiolo;  
chi giunchiglia dal sen si cava  
o un limoncel gentile,  
per dar al mio brasile concia più grata;  
e chi tra guanti fini  
mi ripone il salario al fin del mese  
in tanti bei grossini.

### DIRINDINA

A tempo e luogo anch'io  
tutto, come vedrete, oprar mi vanto,  
Don Carissimo mio:  
Ma a solfeggiar intanto,  
per un poco torniamo.

### DON CARISSIMO

A solfeggiar... si bene; e questo bramo.

### DIRINDINA

Do, re, mi, fa, sol, mi.

### LISCIONE

Miei signori, buon dì!

### DIRINDINA

Buon dì, signor Liscione!

### DON CARISSIMO

Gli occhi qui alla lezione!  
Sol, mi, fa, re, mi, fa.

### DIRINDINA

C'è qualche novità?

### LISCIONE

Col corrier di Milano  
un foglio è giunto a me,

Another brings me things to soothe my stomach:  
soup or chocolate  
or coffee or Polish brandy;  
one, if my collar is wrinkled  
brings her mouth close;  
her vermillion lips  
wash it with her breath and smooth it out.  
Another takes my hat and coat for brushing;  
another one plucks from her corsage  
a daffodil or a sweet lime blossom  
to give my tobacco a sweeter scent;  
and another who, with her fine gloves,  
puts away my salary at the end of the month  
as so many beautiful coins.

### DIRINDINA

At the right time and place, I too,  
as you'll see, know what I should do.  
But, my dear Don Carissimo:  
Let's return to the singing exercises  
if only for a moment.

### DON CARISSIMO

Singing exercises...fine; that's right.

### DIRINDINA

Do, re, mi, fa, sol, mi.

### LISCIONE

Good day, ladies and gentlemen!

### DIRINDINA

Good day, Signor Liscione!

### DON CARISSIMO

Eyes on your lesson!  
Sol, mi, fa, re, mi, fa.

### DIRINDINA

So what's new?

### LISCIONE

The post from Milan  
brought me a letter

che per cantar colà nel Coriolano  
vi richiede, o signora.

### DON CARISSIMO

La, sol, fa, mi, fa, re:  
badate qui in malora!

### DIRINDINA

Quant'è il regalo?

### LISCIONE

Seicento filippi.

### DON CARISSIMO

Un corno che vi strappi!  
Badate a queste note!

### DIRINDINA

È moneta che basta a far la date.

### LISCIONE

E poi sì generosa  
è quella nobiltà...

### DON CARISSIMO

Non occor altro:  
così presuntuosa  
non è la giovinetta  
che in un palco si metta  
senza la mia assistenza!

### LISCIONE

Ma il maestro di cappella  
è colà provveduto.

### DON CARISSIMO

Tant'è, senza il mio aiuto  
non verrà la zitella!

### LISCIONE

Dunque...

### DON CARISSIMO

In una parola,  
cercate un'altra!

that to sing in their production of *Coriolanus*  
they want you, my lady.

### DON CARISSIMO

La, sol, fa, mi, fa, re:  
pay attention here, dammit!

### DIRINDINA

What's the pay?

### LISCIONE

Six-hundred silver coins.

### DON CARISSIMO

Devil take you!  
Watch these notes!

### DIRINDINA

That's enough money for a dowry.

### LISCIONE

And then the nobility in Milan  
is quite generous...

### DON CARISSIMO

Not another word:  
I hope the young lady  
is not so presumptuous  
as to appear on stage  
without my assistance!

### LISCIONE

But they already provide  
a musical director there.

### DON CARISSIMO

Actually, without my help,  
he'll never see this brat!

### LISCIONE

So...

### DON CARISSIMO

In a word,  
find another girl.

### LISCIONE

E un'altra cercherò!

### DIRINDINA

Non la cercate, no,  
ch'io vo' andare a Milano,  
e v'andrò sola!

### 5. ARIA

#### DON CARISSIMO

Sola voi? Mi meraviglio!  
Se vi sento  
dir mai più quella parola  
d'andar sola,  
e d'esporvi a un tal cimento;  
Se vi sento, Ignorantella!  
Non avete la favella  
sciolta ancor, né asciutto il ciglio.  
Sola voi? Mi meraviglio!

### 6. RECITATIVO

#### LISCIONE

Sola, signora sì, sola benissimo!  
E sa pur Don Carissimo  
quant'abbia di virtute  
il vostro viso bello  
per regalar battute,  
se tante ne fa far al suo martello!

#### DON CARISSIMO

Oh, che gran ribaldone!

#### DIRINDINA

Sedete qui, Liscione.  
Sentite, discorriamola.

#### DON CARISSIMO

Dirindina, finiamola!

#### DIRINDINA

La lezione appresa  
replicar mi conviene e farne prova.  
Badate s'io fo bene.  
Caro Liscione, avete voi tabacco?

### LISCIONE

Then I'll find someone else!

### DIRINDINA

No, don't find anyone else,  
because I want to go to Milan  
and I want to go alone!

### 5. ARIA

#### DON CARISSIMO

You, alone? I'm shocked!  
If I ever hear you  
say one more word  
about going alone,  
and exposing yourself to such an ordeal;  
if I ever hear you, dimwit!  
You still can't get your tongue around speech  
or keep your eyes dry.  
You, alone? I'm shocked!

### 6. RECITATIVE

#### LISCIONE

Alone, yes signora, fabulously alone!  
And even Don Carissimo knows  
how much power  
your beautiful face  
has over musical beats  
from the jealousy that alters the rhythm of his heart!

#### DON CARISSIMO

Oh, what a terrible scoundrel!

#### DIRINDINA

Sit here, Liscione.  
Listen; let's discuss it.

#### DON CARISSIMO

Dirindina, enough!

#### DIRINDINA

I feel like reviewing the lesson I learned  
and seeing how well I remember it.  
Do watch to see if I do it well.  
Dear Liscione, do you have tobacco?

**LISCIONE**

Del miglior di Bologna,  
ma l'odore è un po' stracco.

**DIRINDINA**

Questi di Catalogna  
freschi fiori odorosi  
che in seno mi riposi,  
daranno al morto odor concia più fina.

**DON CARISSIMO**

Finiamola, Dirindina!

**DIRINDINA**

Dal pallore del volto  
mi par che poco sonno abbiate preso stanotte.

**LISCIONE**

Inver non ho dormito molto.

**DIRINDINA**

Giacché il fornello è acceso,  
volete voi qualche bevanda calda  
di rosoli condita, o pollachina?

**DON CARISSIMO**

Finiamola, Dirindina!

**LISCIONE**

Prendiam ciò che v'aggrada,  
tanto più ch'io son lasso  
per certa lunga strada  
e fioco per gran polvere raccolta.

**DIRINDINA**

Scotiamola una volta dal giustacuor!

**LISCIONE**

Sì, cara mia, scotiamola!

**DON CARISSIMO**

Dirindina, finiamola,  
finiamola, in malora, o Dirindina;  
quest'è troppo trascendere

**LISCIONE**

The best from Bologna  
but the aroma is a bit weak.

**DIRINDINA**

These fresh, fragrant  
jasmine flowers  
that I wear on my breast  
will give life to that dead aroma.

**DON CARISSIMO**

Enough, Dirindina!

**DIRINDINA**

From the pallor of your face  
it seems to me that you had little sleep last night.

**LISCIONE**

In truth, I didn't sleep much.

**DIRINDINA**

The oven is already lit,  
would you like some sort of warm drink  
perhaps a spiced Rosoli cordial, or Polish brandy?

**DON CARISSIMO**

Enough, Dirindina!

**LISCIONE**

Let's just have whatever sounds good to you,  
since I'm so exhausted  
from my long journey  
and weak from all the dust.

**DIRINDINA**

Well then, let's give your jacket a shake!

**LISCIONE**

Yes, my darling, shake it out!

**DON CARISSIMO**

Dirindina, enough,  
enough, dammit, oh Dirindina;  
this is past the bounds of

la creanza, il rispetto  
al maestro, alla scuola, al vostro onore!  
Non la volete intendere?  
Chiamerò vostra madre Dirindona  
se questo ribaldon di qui no sfratta.

**DIRINDINA**

Gli vo' pria la cravatta  
per carità distendere...

**DON CARISSIMO**

Non la volete intendere?

**DIRINDINA**

Come fa la Fringuella e la Garbina.

**DON CARISSIMO**

Finiamola, Dirindina!

**7. A TRE****DON CARISSIMO**

Comar Dirindona,  
la vostra figliola  
non vuole obbedire  
e lascia la scuola  
per fare il bordello.

**DIRINDINA e LISCIONE**

Lasciatevi dire:  
son savia e son buona / è savia ed è buona  
è tutto martello.

**DON CARISSIMO**

Comar Dirindona,  
La vostra figliola  
di me si trastulla  
e va con l'amico.

**DIRINDINA, LISCIONE**

L'amor è pudico,  
ch'è amor di Platone.  
L'amor è pudico,  
m'insegna l'azione.

**LISCIONE**

manners and respect  
to your teacher, your school, to your honor!  
Don't you understand?  
I will call your mother Dirindona  
if this scoundrel doesn't leave us.

**DIRINDINA**

First I'll do him the courtesy  
of smoothing out his cravat...

**DON CARISSIMO**

Don't you understand?

**DIRINDINA**

Just like Miss Peacock and Miss Priestly do.

**DON CARISSIMO**

Enough, Dirindina!

**7. TRIO****DON CARISSIMO**

Mother Dirindona,  
your daughter  
doesn't want to obey  
and is leaving the school  
for a bordello.

**DIRINDINA and LISCIONE**

Say to yourself:  
I'm sensible and good/she's sensible and good.  
It's all just his jealousy.

**DON CARISSIMO**

Mother Dirindona,  
your daughter  
is mocking me  
and goes with her boyfriend.

**DIRINDINA and LISCIONE**

Love is chaste  
when it is Platonic.  
Love is chaste  
when he's teaching me acting.

**DON CARISSIMO**

È amor di briccone  
insegna il malanno!  
Me 'n vo e più non torno.

**DIRINDINA, LISCIONE**

Andate, buon giorno,  
andate, buon anno!

**DON CARISSIMO**

Comar Dirindona,  
voi siete pur buona  
venite a spartire  
con qualche randello!

**DIRINDINA e LISCIONE**

Lasciatelo dire,  
ch'è tutto martello!

**INTERMEZZO SECONDO****12. RECITATIVO****DIRINDINA**

Ma il vostro sentimento  
è ch'io vada a Milan?

**LISCIONE**

Sì che v'andiate.

**DIRINDINA**

Senz'aver fondamento  
di musica neppur quanto conviene,  
salirò sulle scene?

**LISCIONE**

Il capitale avete voi  
di grazia e di sembiante:  
siete bella ed accorta e tanto vale.

**13. ARIA****LISCIONE**

Quelle vostre pupillette,  
tanto vive e tanto nere,  
son due note armoniose  
fatte al metro d'ogni cor.

**DON CARISSIMO**

It is a knavish love;  
he teaches perdition!  
I'm going and I'll not return again.

**DIRINDINA and LISCIONE**

Go on, have a nice day,  
go on, have a nice year!

**DON CARISSIMO**

Mother Dirindona,  
you're a good one, though  
you should come and whack them  
with some sort of blunt object!

**DIRINDINA and LISCIONE**

Let him talk,  
it's all just his jealousy!

**SECOND INTERMEZZO****12. RECITATIVE****DIRINDINA**

But do you think  
that I should go to Milan?

**LISCIONE**

Yes, you should go.

**DIRINDINA**

Without having the fundamentals  
of music, not even the most basic things,  
shall I go on stage?

**LISCIONE**

You have the currency  
of your grace and pretty face:  
you're beautiful and shrewd, and that's enough.

**13. ARIA****LISCIONE**

Those little eyes of yours,  
so lively and so black,  
are two harmonious notes  
timed to the beat of every heart.

Son due nuove minuette  
della danza delle sfere;  
son due chiavi luminose  
pe' l concerto d'ogni amor.

**14. RECITATIVO****DIRINDINA**

Di voi mi fido.

**LISCIONE**

Io vi starò da lato  
a suggerir la parte; e 'l cembalaro  
terro ben regolato,  
che accordi gl'istrumenti  
al vostro ton.

**DIRINDINA**

Ma sto provista poco  
di gioie e vestimenti...

**LISCIONE**

Terremo in casa il gioco  
quando sarem colà;  
farem far delle riffe  
a quella nobiltà  
d'orologi, d'anelli e di merletti,  
di vezzi, di scarlatti e orrecchini  
a que' bei marchesini  
a que' conti cadetti,  
che verran tra le scene a darvi il braccio;  
e che d'amore al laccio  
voi farete cascari quali merlotti,  
adocchiando dal palco o questo, o quello,  
ora il ricco, ora il bravo ed ora il bello,  
drizzando verso lor sguardi e sospiri,  
benché dica la parte  
che 'l musico si miri.

**DIRINDINA**

Tutto farò! Talor cascare ad arte  
farò qualche lucerna della scena  
sopra i guarnelli, e 'l mostrerò macchiato,  
perché un nuovo broccato  
mi porti 'l giorno poi qualcun de' miei  
più fidi cicisbei.

They are two new minuets  
in the dance of the spheres;  
they are two luminous clefs  
for the concert of every love.

**14. RECITATIVE****DIRINDINA**

I trust you.

**LISCIONE**

I will stand by your side,  
giving you your lines; and I'll  
see that the harpsichord tuner gets gifts  
until he tunes the intrument  
to your pitch.

**DIRINDINA**

But I'm barely supplied  
with jewels and costumes...

**LISCIONE**

We'll open our house for gaming  
when we get there;  
we'll host raffles  
for the local nobility  
of watches, rings, and lace,  
of necklaces, scarlet silks, and earrings.  
Those handsome little marquises,  
those younger brothers of counts,  
will come backstage to give you their arms;  
and, ensnared by love,  
they will fall to you like so many blackbirds,  
since from the stage you are eyeing this one, or that one  
now the rich one, now the nice one, now the handsome one,  
directing glances and sighs at them,  
even should the role require you  
to look at the singer.

**DIRINDINA**

I'll do all of that! I could artfully contrive  
to have a stage light fall  
onto my petticoat, and show it to be stained,  
so that the very next day  
one of my faithful lovers will bring me  
a new brocade.



**LISCIONE**

Voi siete lesta  
quanto bisogna, e fina  
da imparare anche questa  
che a Pavia seppe far la Calandrina.

**DIRINDINA**

Dite. Dite.

**LISCIONE**

Venne la sedia  
per condurla una sera  
alla commedia,  
dove raccolta s'era  
gran paesana e forestiera gente;  
quand'ella fece dire  
che per un funestissimo accidente  
non potea comparire  
all'opera quel giorno;  
e poi che furie intorno  
l'impresario confuso e cento amanti,  
ella disse piangendo  
che nel cavarsi i guanti  
erale il di cascata una maniglia;  
e la madre di lei, non meno astuta,  
d'esser fingea svenuta  
al caso della figlia.

**DIRINDINA**

Oh, che gran furberia! Già intendo il resto.

**LISCIONE**

Gli amanti presto presto,  
e l'impresario ancora,  
perché andasse alla scena, a lei portaro  
cento fili di perle in men d'un'ora.

**DIRINDINA**

Questa sì che l'imparo!

**15. ARIA****DIRINDINA**

A un amante, quand'è cotto,  
il pillotto anch'io darò.

**LISCIONE**

You're sharp enough  
for the job and subtle enough  
to learn the trick  
that Calandrina played at Pavia.

**DIRINDINA**

Tell, tell.

**LISCIONE**

The sedan chair came  
to take her one evening  
to the opera house,  
where were gathered  
both great countrymen and foreign gentry,  
when she gave word that  
because of a most unfortunate accident  
she could not appear  
at the opera that day.  
And as she had raging about  
a confused impresario and a hundred lovers,  
she said, weeping,  
that while removing her gloves  
earlier in the day, she had dropped a bracelet;  
and her mother, no less astute than her daughter,  
pretended to faint  
at her daughter's news.

**DIRINDINA**

Oh, what great cunning! I already know what's coming.

**LISCIONE**

Her lovers, faster than a blink,  
and also the impresario  
brought her a hundred ropes of pearls in less than an hour  
to bring her back to the stage.

**DIRINDINA**

This is definitely something I'll learn!

**15. ARIA****DIRINDINA**

I'll even baste a lover while he's burning  
with drippings that I give him.

Colerò dalle pupille  
quattro stille tutte fuoco  
le vesicche io gli farò.

**16. RECITATIVO****LISCIONE**

Ma quel che più pillotta e che più cuoce  
i cuori innamorati,  
è una donneca voce  
a grazioso gesto in scena unita.  
Ditemi: in vostra vita  
rappresentaste mai...

**DIRINDINA**

Il personaggio di Didone regina,  
quando fuggì da lei 'l troiano ingrato,  
che dolente e tapina  
col ferro sfoderato...

**LISCIONE**

O bene, o bene!  
Dite se vi sovviene  
di qualche forte scena alcuna cosa.

**DIRINDINA**

Aspettate... ma in prosa  
era quell'operetta.  
Aspettate ch'io vada  
pe' l pugnal che bisogna a far l'azione...

**LISCIONE**

Prendete la mia spada e dite.

**DIRINDINA**

Sì, aspettate:  
diceva... Ah, memoriaccia maledetta!  
Diceva... lo dirò se al cielo piace.  
«Enea, crudo e mendace»...

**LISCIONE**

Mettetevi in più fiera positura!

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Il congresso ancor dura!)

I'll collect from my eyes  
four drops filled with fire  
and blister his heart with them.

**16. RECITATIVE****LISCIONE**

But what bastes and cooks  
lovers' hearts even more,  
is a feminine voice  
united with a gracious gesture.  
Tell me: in your life  
have you ever portrayed...

**DIRINDINA**

The role of Queen Dido  
when the ungrateful Trojan had fled,  
who, suffering and wretched,  
unsheathed her sword...

**LISCIONE**

Oh yes, yes!  
Recite, if you remember,  
some powerful scene from that.

**DIRINDINA**

Hold on, but that work  
was in prose.  
Wait a minute while I go get  
the dagger that I need for the staging...

**LISCIONE**

Take my sword, and speak.

**DIRINDINA**

Yes wait:  
She said... Oh cursed memory!  
She said... Heaven willing, I'll say it.  
"Aneas, cruel and deceitful..."

**LISCIONE**

Give me a prouder posture.

**DON CARISSIMO**

(So, they're still at their tryst!)

**DIRINDINA**

«Vattene, infido, va!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

Che diavolo sarà?  
Vuole ammazzarlo! Via, tiragli lì.  
Mi nascondo un po' qui.

**DIRINDINA**

«Va', che 'l cielo, se è giusto,  
ti fulmini, fellone!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Sta ancor fermo il barone.)

**DIRINDINA**

«E vendichi gli oltraggi  
che facesti, speriuro alla mia fede»...

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Il baron ride e siede!)

**DIRINDINA**

«Al mio zelo, al mio onore,  
perfido traditore,  
al mio letto macchiato»...

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Ah, porcon disgraziato!)

**LISCIONE**

Quelle parole del «macchiato letto»  
voi non avete detto  
così forte che il popolo le intenda.

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Sfacciataggine orrenda!  
Voler ch'anche si pubblichi tal fatto!  
Gran furfante e gran matto!)

**DIRINDINA**

«Così le sante leggi  
del ciel calpesti, e così me dileggi  
e rompi i sacri nodi maritali?»

**DIRINDINA**

«Go hence, traitor, go!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

What the hell could this be?  
She wants to kill him! Go, have at him.  
I'll hide here for a bit.

**DIRINDINA**

«Go, for if Heaven is just,  
may lightning strike you down, villain!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(He's still there, the rogue.)

**DIRINDINA**

«And avenge the offenses  
with which you falsely repaid my trust...»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(That scum is just laughing and standing there!)

**DIRINDINA**

«My zeal, my honor,  
perfidious traitor,  
my stained bed...»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Ah, disgusting pig!)

**LISCIONE**

Those words about the "stained bed,"  
You didn't say them loud enough  
for people to hear them.

**DON CARISSIMO**

(What horrendous gall!  
To want to make such things public knowledge!  
What a lowlife and what a lunatic!)

**DIRINDINA**

«Thus, you trample upon the holy laws of Heaven,  
thus, you mock  
and break the holy vows of marriage?»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Con Liscione sponsali?)

**DIRINDINA**

«Così da questo seno,  
empio, disorditi puoi, mentre fecondo  
di te lo lasci e pieno?»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Vo' veder questa, e poi la fin del mondo!)

**DIRINDINA**

«Ah, spietato destino!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(O sbagliò la natura, o il suo norcino.)

**DIRINDINA**

«Ma paghi or' o la pena  
di troppo amor l'infesta madre, e 'l figlio  
ch'è concepito appena»...

**LISCIONE**

Su via, coraggio, via.

**DIRINDINA**

«Abbia per questa piaga il suo natale!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

Sta ferma, anima mia:  
lo manderem piuttosto all'ospedale!

**LISCIONE**

L'accidente é pur bello!

**DON CARISSIMO**

Piuttosto nel cervello  
ficcagli uno spillone allor che nasce,  
se d'allattarlo hai tedio!

**DIRINDINA**

É caso da intermedio.

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Married to Liscione?)

**DIRINDINA**

«So easily can you leave this breast,  
wicked man, while you  
leave me fecund and replete by you?»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(I'll see this first, and then watch pigs fly!)

**DIRINDINA**

«Ah, pitiless fate!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

(Either nature screwed up or the castrator did.)

**DIRINDINA**

«But now let her pay the penalty  
for too much love, the poor mother, and her son  
who is barely conceived...»

**LISCIONE**

Come on, courage, come on.

**DIRINDINA**

«Have this wound for his birth!»

**DON CARISSIMO**

Stop there, by God:  
let's just send him to an orphanage!

**LISCIONE**

This is too funny!

**DON CARISSIMO**

Just stick a pin in his brain  
when he's born  
if you find nursing him tedious!

**DIRINDINA**

This is like something out of a comic intermezzo.

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Oppure, in su le fasce,  
fa un notte affogar dalla nutrice  
il muletto infelice,  
perché per esser figlio di Liscione,  
ragliar saprà di maggio,  
con trillo e con passaggio!

### **LISCIONE**

Semplice di tal guisa chi vide mai?  
lo crepo dalle risa!

### **DIRINDINA**

Anch'io ne crepo, ohimè;  
ah, poveretta me, mi duol la panza!

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Cattiva gravidanza!  
Il peccato, il peccato!  
Il caso è scandaloso,  
figlioli miei, ma quel ch'è stato è stato;  
perché resti nascosto  
al popolo il negozio,  
eccetera, il negozio,  
che non va detto forte,  
ma va detto pian piano;  
e pur che di consorte  
Liscion porge la mano a Dirindina,  
onde (giacché costui non è impotente)  
resti col matrimonio susseguente...

### **DIRINDINA, LISCIONE**

Non ne faremo niente.

### **17. A TRE**

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Dammi la man, Liscione.  
Dammela, Dirindina,  
che la creaturina  
legittima sarà.

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Or, while he's still in diapers,  
one night, get the wet-nurse to smother  
the sad little mule,  
since, being Liscione's son,  
he'll bray away in May  
with trills and embellishments!

### **LISCIONE**

Who ever saw such a simpleton in their lives?  
My sides are splitting with laughter!

### **DIRINDINA**

My sides are splitting too, ow;  
oh, poor little me, my belly hurts!

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Wicked pregnancy!  
The sin, the sin!  
The affair is scandalous,  
my children, but what's done is done;  
If we can just keep this business hidden  
from the public,  
this business, et cetera,  
which is not spoken aloud  
but only whispered oh-so-softly,  
and if Liscione just gives his hand  
in marriage to Dirindina,  
to whom (since he's not impotent)  
he will stay married.

### **DIRINDINA, LISCIONE**

We're going to do no such thing.

### **17. TRIO**

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Give me your hand, Liscione.  
Give me yours, Dirindina,  
so that the little creature  
will be born legitimate.

### **DIRINDINA**

Ferma, ch'io son pollastrina,  
ma tal coppia non combina,  
e l'uovo mai non fa.

### **LISCIONE**

Ferma, ch'io son cappone,  
ma tal coppia non combina,  
e l'uovo mai non fa.

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Dammi la man, Liscione.  
Dammela, Dirindina,  
che la creaturina  
legittima sarà.

### **DIRINDINA**

Stop, for though I'm a hen,  
a couple like that does not go together  
and never makes an egg.

### **LISCIONE**

Stop, for though I'm a capon  
a couple like that does not go together  
and never makes an egg.

### **DON CARISSIMO**

Give me your hand, Liscione.  
Give me yours, Dirindina,  
so that the little creature  
will be born legitimate.



# PUR NEL SONNO ALMEN TAL'ORA

## 24. ARIA

Pur nel sonno almen tal'ora vien colei che m'innamora le mie pene a consolar.  
Rendi, rendi amor, se giusto sei, più veraci i sogni miei, o non farmi risvegliar.

## 25. RECITATIVO

Pria dell'aurora o Fille, io sognando ti vidi;  
E così fido ti dispense il pensiero che il segno allor non invidiava il vero;  
Solo nel rimirasti pietosa qual non ti vidi mai di vaneggiar sognando io dubbitai.  
Oh! Che amorosi accenti, oh!  
Che teneri sguardi intesi, e vidi;  
Se tu mirar potessi quanto son mai più belle vestite di pietà le tue pupille mai più,  
mai più crudel non mi saresti o Fille.  
Io non so dir che disse, so che sul vivo della tenera mano, un baccio impressi.  
Tu d'un dolce rosor t'ingesti il volto.  
Quando improvviso ascolto d'un cespuglio vicin mover le frondi, mi volgo,  
e mezzo ascoso veggo il rival Fileno, che d'invido veleno livido in viso i furti miei rimira.  
Timor, vergogna, et ira, m'assalir, mi destaro in un momento,  
e fu breve anche in sogno, il mio contento

## 26. ARIA

Parti con l'ombra e ver, l'inganno et il piacer, ma la mia fiammo o Dio,  
Idolo del cor, mio con l'ombra non parti.  
Se mai per un momento sognando io son felice,  
poi cresce il mio tormento quando ritorna il di.

## 24. ARIA

At least in sleep my beloved comes to comfort my pains.  
Love, if you are just, make my dreams come true, or don't let me wake at all.

## 25. RECITATIVE

Before dawn, oh Phyllis, dreaming, I saw you;  
And my thoughts painted you so faithfully that the truth did not envy the image;  
Only seeing you be merciful, as I had never seen you in life, did I doubt that I was but madly dreaming.  
Oh! What amorous accents, oh!  
What tender, understanding glances, and I saw;  
If you could see how much more beautiful your eyes are when clothed in pity, never more,  
Never more would you be so cruel to me, oh Phyllis.  
I don't know how to tell you what I said; I know that I pressed a kiss onto your tender hand.  
Your face takes on a sweet blush.  
When suddenly I hear the branches of a nearby bush move, I turn  
and I see half-hidden my rival, Fileno, whose face was livid and poisonous upon gazing at my thefts.  
Fear, shame, and anger assail me; I awaken in a moment,  
And my dream, like my happiness, was brief.

## 26. ARIA

Deceit and pleasure fade with the shadows leaving only my ardor, oh God,  
The Idol of my heart, does not fade with the shadows.  
If, for a moment, I am happy dreaming,  
Then my torment only grows when the day returns.

# ars lyrica HOUSTON

Founded in 1998 by harpsichordist and conductor Matthew Dirst, *Ars Lyrica Houston* performs music from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries on period instruments. This GRAMMY®-nominated ensemble's distinctive programming favors little-known Baroque dramatic and chamber works that merit revival, and it "sets the agenda for imaginative period-instrument programming in Houston," according to the *Houston Chronicle*. Its numerous premières include the first American performance of Handel's *Il Trionfo del Tempo e della Verità* and Houston premières of Jacopo Peri's *Euridice*, John Blow's *Venus and Adonis*, Handel's *Flavio*, and Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*, among other works. Ars Lyrica's previous CD on the Sono Luminus label features rising opera stars Jamie Barton and Ava Pine in the world première recording of Johann Adolf Hasse's *Marc'Antonio e Cleopatra* (DSL-92115). This 2-disc set, hailed by *Early Music America* as "a thrilling performance that glows in its quieter moments and sparkles with vitality," was nominated for a GRAMMY® Award for Best Opera 2011. Ars Lyrica's CD of Alessandro Scarlatti's *Euridice dall'Inferno* and *La Congettione e della Beata Vergine* received similar critical acclaim, including a Grammophone recommendation for its "impassioned performance of strongly characterized and eloquent music." More information on Ars Lyrica Houston can be found at [www.arslyricahouston.org](http://www.arslyricahouston.org).

## MATTHEW DIRST

Artistic Director Matthew Dirst is widely admired for his stylish playing and conducting of Baroque music: the *Dallas Morning News* recently praised his "crisp but expressive direction" of the Monteverdi 1610 *Vespers*, which "yielded impressive precision, but also rhythmic buoyancy and rhetorical freedom," while naming this performance "Best Classical Performance of 2010." *Early Music America* described his most recent solo CD of harpsichord works by François and Armand-Louis Couperin, as a "stylish, tasteful, and technically commanding performance...expressive and brilliant playing." His recordings of music by Scarlatti and Hasse with Ars Lyrica have earned a GRAMMY® nomination and widespread critical acclaim. Dirst also serves as Associate Professor of Music at the University of Houston's Moores School of Music and as organist at St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Houston. His degrees include a PhD in musicology from Stanford University and the *prix de virtuosité* in both organ and harpsichord from the Conservatoire National de Reuil-Malmaison, France, where he spent two years as a Fulbright scholar. His scholarly work includes *Engaging Bach: The Keyboard Legacy from Marpurg to Mendelssohn* (Cambridge University Press, 2012).



Photo by Darren Sabino

## JAMIE BARTON

A winner of the 2007 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, mezzo-soprano Jamie Barton has been described by *Opera News* as "a rising star" with a "sumptuous voice." A recent graduate of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, she has already appeared on a number of the world's great stages, including those of the Metropolitan Opera, the Kennedy Center, the Chicago Lyric Opera, the Aspen Music Festival, the Bayerische Staatsoper, Santa Fe Opera, Atlanta Opera, Wolf Trap, the Opera Theater of St Louis, and the Canadian Opera Company. Her roles include Penelope in Monteverdi's *Ulisse*, Suzuki in *Madame Butterfly*, Emilia in *Otello*, the Second Lady in *The Magic Flute*, Annina in *La Traviata*, the Witch in *Hansel and Gretel*, the Nurse in *Boris Gudonov*, and Dryad in *Ariadne Auf Naxos*, among others. Jamie is featured on another Sono Luminus CD with Ars Lyrica Houston: Johann Adolf Hasse's *Marc'Antonio e Cleopatra* (DSL-92115), which was nominated for a GRAMMY® Award for Best Opera 2011.



Photo by Jonathan Timmes

## JOSEPH GAINES

Tenor Joseph Gaines has been a featured soloist with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony, the Mendocino Music Festival, and with a number of modern and period-instrument chamber ensembles, including Apollo's Fire and Ars Lyrica Houston. A Rotary scholar and former apprentice artist at Glimmerglass Opera, Sarasota Opera, and Central City Opera and 2007 winner of the prestigious Sullivan Foundation Awards, his operatic engagements have included roles at Pittsburgh Opera, Opera Company of Philadelphia, and the Indianapolis Opera. Gaines made his Lincoln Center debut in 2010 with New York's Teatro Grattacielo at the Rose Theater at Jazz at Lincoln Center. His commercial recordings include Ars Lyrica's debut CD, featuring Alessandro Scarlatti's *La Congettione e della Beata Vergine*, and a recording of *Messiah/The Mozart Orchestrations* by the famed Men and Boys Choir of St Thomas Church Fifth Avenue.



Photo by Claire McAdams

## BRIAN SHIRCLIFFE

Lyric baritone Brian Shircliffe has sung with Dayton Opera, Lake George Opera, Utah Festival Opera, Opera in the Heights, Houston Grand Opera, and Opera Vista. Leading roles include Count Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Don Alvaro in *Il Viaggio a Reims*, Masetto in *Don Giovanni*, the Magistrate in *Buoso's Ghost*, Tom in *Face on the Barroom Floor*, Guglielmo and Don Alfonso in *Così fan Tutte*, Melchior in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Marcello and Schaunard in *La Bohème*, and Sid in *Albert Herring*. Winner of the Audience Choice Award from the Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition in 2007, he recently sang the part of the Celebrant in Leonard Bernstein's Mass in multiple performances in Houston. Shircliffe can be heard on the recording of Dominick Argento's Casanova's *Homecoming*, in the role of Lorenzo da Ponte.



Photo by David Schmoll

## CÉLINE RICCI

Soprano Céline Ricci was named one of opera's promising new talents in 2005 by *Opernwelt*. A graduate of William Christie's elite vocal academy *Les Jardin des Voix*, she has made numerous appearances with *Les Arts Florissants*. Her large discography includes two solo CDs of French songs on the Sono Luminus label: *Cirque* (DSL-92125) and *Le Bestiaire* (DSL-92149). *Opernwelt* recently praised one of her recorded performances as a "tour de force" with "faultless breath control, total security and perfect round tone." Recent operatic roles include Angelica in Handel's *Orlando* (Sacramento Opera), Clitia in Handel's *Teseo* (Göttingen-Handel Festival), Handel's *Athalia* (Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra), Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* (numerous companies) and many others. Collaborating conductors include Nicolas McGegan, Hugo Reyne, Enrique Mazzola, Jean-Christophe Spinosi, Martin Haselböck, Martin Gester, and others. Ricci has also worked with choreographer Sasha Waltz and director Deborah Warner on a number of projects; her touring has taken her to Berlin, London, Brussels, Israel, and Barcelona, Paris, Vienna, Amsterdam, Moscow, and St. Petersburg.



Photo by NorbertPhotography.com

## ADAM LAMOTTE

GRAMMY®-nominated violinist Adam LaMotte has appeared as soloist, concertmaster, and conductor of numerous orchestras throughout the country, including the Northwest Sinfonietta in Seattle, String Orchestra of the Rockies, Astoria Festival Orchestra, Portland Baroque Orchestra, and the Maggini String Orchestra in Houston. As Artistic Director of the Montana Baroque Festival, he brings first-class period instrument performances to the rural Montana community. He has co-founded two critically-acclaimed ensembles, in Portland and in Houston, and continues to produce many chamber music and chamber orchestra performances. In collaboration with ensembles such as American Bach Soloists, Portland Baroque Orchestra, and Chanticleer, he performs on period instruments, using a fine Italian instrument made in 1730 by Bernardo Calcagni, for which he is indebted to generous patrons.



## RICHARD SAVINO

Richard Savino has made numerous recordings that demonstrate an extraordinary breadth of repertoire and command of plucked instruments. In addition to receiving a *Diapason d'Or* from *Compact* (Paris) and a *10 du Répertoire* (Paris), the latter publication also placed his Boccherini recordings in their "Great Discoveries" category. Savino directs the period-instrument ensemble El Mundo, with whom he has recorded the music of Giovanni Legrenzi (*Venice Before Vivaldi*), a collection Latin American Baroque music (*Villancicos y Cantadas*) and several new releases on Sono Luminus, including the GRAMMY®-nominated *Kingdoms of Castille* (DSL-92131) and Sebastián Dürön's *Salir el Amor del Mundo* (DSL-92107). As a continuo player and accompanist he has worked with some of the world's most respected performers and is a principal performer with the San Francisco Opera, San Diego Opera, Opera Colorado, Central City Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Portland Baroque Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, and Glimmerglass Opera. He currently serves on the San Francisco Conservatory of Music faculty and is a Professor of Music at California State University at Sacramento.



Photo by Nate S. Rhodes



*ars lyrica*  
HOUSTON

## DSL-92159 – Domenico Scarlatti's *La Dirindina* and *Pur nel sonno* – Ars Lyrica

*La Dirindina* and *Pur nel sonno*: Recorded at Zilkha Hall, Hobby Center in Houston, TX - September 6th and 7th, 2011  
*Sonata in G Major K. 91* and *Sonata in G minor K. 88*: Recorded at Sono Luminus, Boyce VA - June 15, 2012

**Producer:** Dan Merceruio

**Recording Engineer (*La Dirindina*, *Pur nel sonno*):** Daniel Shores

**Recording Engineer (*Sonata in G Major K. 91*, *Sonata in G minor K. 88*):** Dan Merceruio

**Editing Engineer:** Dan Merceruio, Daniel Shores

**Mixing Engineer:** Daniel Shores

**Mastering Engineer:** Daniel Shores

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**Photo of Ars Lyrica with Céline Ricci (p. 22):** Nenaji Media Photography

**Photo of Ars Lyrica (p. 29):** Anthony Rathbun

**Liner Booklet Notes:** Matthew Dirst

**Translations:** Jenna Wallis

**Graphic Design:** Brandon Bloodworth

Thanks to the Moores School of Music, University of Houston, for use of its John Phillips Florentine harpsichord.  
(*La Dirindina* and *Pur nel sonno*)

Single-manual German harpsichord (after Vater, 1738) by Thomas and Barbara Wolf, 1995.  
(*Sonata in G Major K. 91* and *Sonata in G minor K. 88*)

This recording of *La Dirindina* made possible by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes.

† *Pur nel sonno* published by Cantata Editions

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