University of Florida Performing Arts

presents

Salzburg Marionettes

in

Rodgers & Hammerstein’s

The Sound of Music

Wednesday, November 21, 2007, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, November 23, 2007, 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

THE SALZBURG MARIONETTE THEATER
Founded in 1913 by Professor Anton Aicher
Artistic Director: Professor Gretl Aicher
Managing Director: Barbara Heuberger

The Sound of Music
Based on the Broadway Musical
Music by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse
Suggested by The Story of the Trapp Family Singers by Maria von Trapp
Salzburg Marionette version conceived and directed by Richard Hamburger
Set design by Chris Barreca
Costume and puppet design by Anita Yavich
Sound design by David Budries
Musical direction by David Rosenmeyer
Dramaturgy by Melissa Cooper

The Istropolis Philharmonic Orchestra Conducted by Larry Blank
Orchestrations by Robert Russell Bennett
Dance & Choral Arrangements by Trude Rittmann

Sponsored by

THE Alan and Carol Squitieri PERFORMING ARTS ENDOWMENT
CAST

MARIA RAINER    Christiane Noll
CAPTAIN GEORG von TRAPP    Martin Vidovic

MAX DETWEILER    Bill Youmans
THE MOTHER ABBESS    Jeanne Lehman
SISTER SOPHIA    Jennifer Hope Wills
SISTER MARGARETTA    Crista Moore
SISTER BERTHE    Joy Franz
HERR ZELLER    Bill Youmans
ROLF GRUBER    Jonathan Groff
FRAU SCHMIDT    Joy Franz
FRANZ    Michael McCarty
BARONESS ELSA SCHRAEDER    Crista Moore
LIESL von TRAPP    Jennifer Hope Wills
FRIEDRICH von TRAPP    Jonathan Groff
LOUISA von TRAPP    Jenn Gambatese
KURT von TRAPP    Matthew Gumley
BRIGITTA von TRAPP    Betsy Hogg
MARTA von TRAPP    Kelsey Fowler
GRETL von TRAPP    Kylie Goldstein
BARON ELBERFELD    Michael McCarty
ADMIRAL von SCHREIBER    Michael McCarty

The Singer

The Puppeteer

Eva Wiener
Philippe Brunner
Pierre Droin
Pavel Tikhonov
Heide Hölzl
Vladimir Fediakov
Ursula Winzer
Michaela Obermayr

Puppet Makers: Vladimir Fediakov, Pavel Tikhonov, Ursula Winzer, Michaela Obermayr
Puppet Painters: Elfriede Grill, Matthias Bundschuh
Costumes: Gerda Michel, Brigitte Schiebler, Antl Büki
Hair Sculptor: Andrea Alker

Production Manager and Technical Director: Pierre Droin
Scenic Assistants: Markus Maurer, Korbinian Schmidt, Emanuel Paulus,
Properties Artisan: Harald Alker

There will be one intermission.

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The Salzburg Marionette Theater is represented by Melvin Kaplan, Inc.
115 College Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401
www.melkap.com

Special Thanks to: Ted Chapin, Timothy Crouse, Bert Fink, Bruce Pomahac

To learn more about The Sound of Music and the musicals of Rodgers & Hammerstein,
visit www.rnh.com

Performed by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd., London on behalf of
The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization.
Licensing Agent for Austria: Josef Weinberger Wien Ges. m.b.h.
History of the Salzburg Marionette Theater

A performance of Mozart’s *Bastien und Bastienne* marked the founding of the Salzburg Marionette Theater by sculptor Anton Aicher in 1913. Anton Aicher was so successful with his performances that in the autumn of the same year, he and his marionettes went on their first tour. The early performances in Salzburg were given in the archepiscopal Borromäum (now the Hochschule Mozarteum).

With time, the repertoire was extended and fairy tales featuring Kasperl (Punch) were staged for children. In 1926, Anton Aicher gave his son, Hermann Aicher, the marionette theater as a wedding present. Hermann Aicher used his technical expertise to turn the theater into a real miniature stage, which led to the production, in cooperation with the Mozarteum, of more elaborate operas. Soon Mozart’s “small” operas (including *Apollo and Hyacinth* and *The Impresario*) were on the regular program.

From 1927 to 1934, the theater went on tour to Hamburg, Vienna and Holland, as well as on a major tour through the Balkans and to Istanbul, Sofia and Athens. In 1936, performances were given in Moscow and Leningrad to audiences as large as 2,500.

Between 1940 and 1944, performances were given at the front, until Hermann Aicher was called to the army and the theater was closed. After the end of World War Two, the Marionettes performed in Paris’ renowned Théâtre des Champs Élysées, and with that performance, the ensemble became the first group to stage a performance in German in the city following the war. An intensive period of tours and guest appearances followed, and new productions were staged – in particular Mozart’s five “great” operas.

The current theater, which was designed to suit the particular needs of the company, is situated in the Schwarzstrasse next to the Mozarteum. It opened in 1971 with a performance of Rossini’s *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Not long after his 75th birthday, Hermann Aicher died and his daughter, Gretl Aicher, took over the theater. Tours were undertaken throughout Europe, America, and Asia. The Marionettes were seen and admired in New York, Paris, Italy, Switzerland, Hong Kong and Japan. For the Mozart Year in 1991, Götz Friedrich directed a new production of Mozart’s *Cosi fan Tutte*.

In 1994 and 1995, five Mozart operas were recorded for television and video with Sir Peter Ustinov as the narrator. Between 1992 and 1997, several co-productions were created with the Salzburg Landestheater. In 1996, the Salzburg Marionette Theater participated for the first time in the Salzburg Festival, with a new production of Weber’s *Oberon*, staged in the Kleines Festspielhaus.


On January 27, 2006, the 250th anniversary of the birth of Mozart, the Salzburg Marionette Theater celebrated with a non-stop presentation of scenes from the four Mozart operas in the company’s repertoire. As part of the 2006 Salzburg Festival, the Marionettes participated in a production combining Mozart’s *Bastien und Bastienne* with *The Impresario*, which included a live orchestra and singers. An adaptation of the Rodgers & Hammerstein classic *The Sound of Music* premiers on the theater’s 2007 United States tour.