Theodora
Georg Friedrich Händel
Libretto by Thomas Morell

BYU Baroque Ensemble
Alexander Woods, conductor
BYU Opera
Joshua Lindsay, director
BYU Opera Chorus
Dalan Guthrie, chorus master

This production is dedicated to the memory of Nephi Draper.

7:30 p.m.
19-20, 26-27 October 2018
de Jong Concert Hall
Harris Fine Arts Center
## BYU Chamber Orchestra

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<th>Violin I</th>
<th>Cello</th>
<th>Bassoon</th>
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<td>Max Olivier</td>
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<td>Ethan Sherman</td>
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## Opera Chorus

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PRODUCTION STAFF

CONDUCTOR
Alexander Woods

DIRECTOR
Joshua Lindsay

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Jennifer Reed

SCENIC DESIGNER
Travis Coyne

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Travis Coyne

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Michael Handley

COSTUME DESIGNER
La Beene

HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGNER
Denyce Hawk

MUSICAL PREPARATION/
VOCAL COACHES
Barbara Allen, Nicolas Giusti,
Susanne Sheston

CHORUS MASTER
Dalan Guthrie

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
Christina Porter

REHEARSAL STAGE MANAGER
Christina Porter

REHEARSAL ACCOMPANISTS
CJ Madsen, Hyrum Arnesen, David Kime,
Debbie Robertson

MASTER ELECTRICIAN
Stephen Warren

PROPERTIES DESIGNER
Jake Fulmer

AUDIO ENGINEER
Zachary Griffin

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
Amanda Morris

DESIGN SUPERVISORS
Michael Kraczek

COSTUME WARDROBE SUPERVISOR
Jessica Cowden

PROPERTIES CREW
Jake Fullmer, Taylor Robinson, Mariah Eames

DECK CREW
Rebecca Wing, Ariella Makela

LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR
Stephen Warren

SOUND BOARD OPERATOR
Zachary Griffin

HAIR & MAKEUP CREW
Denyce Hawk, Heidi Wilding, Katelyn Hall,
Carly Masters

FOLLOW SPOT OPERATORS
Jared Cleveland, Tyler Christensen, Susan Kupferer

PROJECTION OPERATOR
Zachary Griffin

DRESSERS
Katelyn Hall, Carly Masters, and Taylor Robinson

SUPERTITLES
Savannah Porter and Camilla Mikat

POSTER DESIGN
David Tanner & Caylee Riding

PROGRAM DESIGN
Maren Hansen
BYU ARTS PRODUCTION

Director
Russell Richins

Scheduling/Production
Office Supervisor
Naomi Escobedo

Scheduling/Production
Office Assistant Supervisor
Silvia Harwood

Associate Director/
Production Manager for Dance
Benjamin Sanders

Production Assistant
Olivia Jefferies

Dance Production Assistant
Stage Manager
Emma Frost

Dance Production Digital Media Assistants
Taylor Zerilli
Drew Dahlberg
Ashley Johnson

Production Assistant
Olivia Jefferies

Dance Production Digital Media Assistants
Taylor Zerilli
Drew Dahlberg
Ashley Johnson

Production Manager for Theatre & Media Arts
Jennifer Reed

Production Assistant
Christina Hernandez

Production Stage Managers
Taylor Ballard
Daniel Barton
Emma Pankratz
Melissa Longhurst
Christina Hernandez
Susan Kupferer
Jordan Peterson
Cameron Cox

Properties Master
Sarah Anne Broyles

Properties Artisans
Mariah Eames
Jake Fullmer
Taylor Robinson

Production Manager for School of Music
Troy Streeter

Production Manager for BRAVO! Series
Jared Patching

Technical Operations Manager/
Technical Director
Travis Coyne

Technical Director
Mark Ohran

Asst. Technical Director
Ward Wright

Draftsman/Expeditor
Elisabeth Goulding

Scene Shop Carpenters
Paul Hintz
Devon Howard
Makenna Johnston
Rider Markwalter
John Marshall Passey
Alex Swindler

Scene Shop Carpenters/
Painters
Sarah Billeter
Leah Brandt

Scene Shop Painters
Desiree King
Denyce Hawk

Lighting Operations Manager
Michael G. Handley

Lighting Operations Assistant Manager
Marianne Ohran

Resident Master Electrician
Mckenzie Ottley

Lighting Crew
Jacob Anderson
Michael Ballif
Daniel Barton
Tyler Christensen
Alexandra Cuthbert
Susan Kupferer
Melissa Longhurst
Esther Pielstick

Christina Porter
Grant Porter
Lauren Rogers
Stephen Warren
Dylan Wright
Matthew Wyman

Stage Operations Manager
Jared Patching

Stage and Front of House Operations
Amanda Morris
Elise Lacanienta
Glenn Stapley
Jason Murdoch
Natalie Thomas
Kaal Glazier
Paige Whitaker
Kaylee Tanner
Kirsten Busse
Emily Bennett
Marcus Weatherred
Grace McKay
Mitch McCarty
Monica Wood
Statler Smith
Tommy Kindall
Lela Hill

Venues Night Manager
Sandra Gierisch

Production Assistants
Rebecca Hesson
Monica Wood

Costume Operations Manager
Jessica Cowden

Costume Operations Assistant Manager/Cutter/Draper
Deanne E. DeWitt

Cutter/Draper
Rebekah Silver Jackson

Costume Shop Office Assistant
Alexis Winn

Wardrobe Supervisors
Hannah Liberatore
Ashley Peterson

Stitchers
Elizabeth Banks
Allie Stanley
Kelen Wright
Ren Cottam

Costume Crafts
CoCo Olson-Paul

Hair & Makeup Supervisors
Colleen Ackerman
Paige Francis

Student Productions
Wardrobe Supervisor
Heather Everett

Young Ambassadors
Costumer
MaryLynn Schaerrer

A/V Operations Manager
Troy Streeter

Sound Recording Manager
Jeff Carter

Sound Recording Engineer
Caleb Hill

A/V Engineer
Doug Olsen

A/V Technicians
Gabriella Warnick
Grant Porter
Holly Schellenberg
Jeffrey Owens
Karina Orton
Matthew Kupferer
Zach Griffins

Tour Operations Manager
John Ward Shurtleff

Young Ambassadors Stage Manager
Mercedes Schaerrer

Business Manager
Brian Olson

Assistant Business Manager
Kathy Heckel

Student Accountant
Agnese Kligule

Photography
HandleyCraft
Photography
University Communications
DIRECTOR’S NOTE

Welcome to tonight’s performance of Theodora by George Friderick Handel. This is a very rare moment for the BYU School of Music, as it is the first time a Handel opera has been performed at BYU. When Theodora was first performed at the Covent Garden Theatre in London, it was performed as an oratorio with no set or costumes. Yet, it has all of the traits of an opera: a story that is set to music with recitatives, arias, duets and choruses. Since the revival of Handel’s music in the last several decades, Theodora has been successfully staged as an opera. Religious persecution is at the heart of this work and Theodora’s inspiring dedication to her God despite the threat of torture and death is quite inspiring and touching. You are in for a real treat to listen to this rare treasure and to experience Handel’s masterpiece as an opera.

—Joshua Lindsay

And blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake;
For ye shall have great joy and be exceedingly glad, for great shall be your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets who were before you.
3 Nephi 12:11-12

CAST LIST / CHARACTERS

Cast for October 19th, 27th
Theodora: Mary Hoskins
Valens: Isaac Carlin
Didymus: Luke Elmer
Septimius: Sam Utley
Irene: Sydney Frodsham
Messenger: Jacob Stucki

Cast for October 20th, 26th
Theodora: Joanna Armstrong
Valens: Fernando Rodrigues
Didymus: Parker Hasler
Septimius: Jonah Hoskins
Irene: Tatiana Carlos
Messenger: Jacob Stucki

This musical event is the 17th performance sponsored by the BYU School of Music for the 2018–2019 season.
SYNOPSIS

Act 1

Valens, a Roman governor, issues a decree that all citizens shall offer a sacrifice to Venus, and charges Septimius to enforce this decree under penalty of death. The soldier Didymus requests that an exception from death be granted for those whose beliefs prevent them from sacrificing to idols, but Valens will not allow it. Septimius promises to be loyal to the charge given him but wishes that he could extend mercy, especially since he suspects his comrade Didymus of secretly converting to Christianity.

Theodora, a Roman noble woman, worships with her friend Irene and other Christians when Septimius comes to arrest her. Valens wants to make an example of Theodora and is told that she has been sentenced to serve as a prostitute in the temple of Venus rather than dying with her friends. Didymus goes to the temple to either rescue Theodora or die trying.

Theodora refuses to partake in the revelry at the temple of Venus and Valens sends Septimius to inform her that she has to make sacrifice or else he will send in his guards to rape her. Though she is frightened, her belief in God buoys her spirit.

Act II

Didymus confesses to Septimius that he has converted to Christianity and pleads with him to be allowed to visit Theodora in prison. Septimius grants his request. Theodora begs Didymus to kill her, but he refuses and convinces her to switch places so she can escape. She changes into his uniform and flees as he takes her place.

Though Theodora returns to her Christian friends, she feels guilty that she endangered Didymus' life in order to save her own. A messenger arrives, informing them that Didymus has been captured and that Valens has changed Theodora's punishment to death. As Valens sentences Didymus to be executed, Theodora enters demanding that she die and Didymus be saved. Septimius is moved by this, and pleads for clemency. Valens, however, condemns both Didymus and Theodora to death.