Inaugural YOST Symposium: “Indie Opera”
May 14–15, 2019  Yale University
MAY 14

Sudler Hall
W.L. Harkness Hall, Room 201
100 Wall Street

12:45 pm  WELCOME
Gundula Kreuzer

1–3 pm  SCREENING
Dog Days (David T. Little and Royce Vavrek, 2012)
Co-produced by Peak Performances@Montclair State
University and Beth Morrison Projects
Directed by Robert Woodruff
Conducted by Alan Pierson
Featuring Newspeak and James Bobick, Marnie Breckendridge,
Cherry Duke, John Kelly, Michael Marcotte, Peter Tantsits,
and Lauren Worsham
Scenic and projection design by Jim Findlay
Costume design by Vita Tzykun
Lighting design by Chris Kuhl

COFFEE BREAK

3:15–5:15 pm  PANEL DISCUSSION
Creating Opera Today—Dog Days in Perspective
Chair  Gundula Kreuzer
Panelists  David T. Little, Beth Morrison, Royce Vavrek,
Robert Woodruff

BREAK & SNACKS
5:45–7:15 pm  LIGHTNING TALKS & PANEL DISCUSSION 1  
Elements of Contemporary Opera

Chair  Kamala Schelling

Panelists
David Gutkin: “The Harlem Opera Society’s New Thing”
Frances Pollock: “The Challenges of Relevancy: Considering Politics and Opera”
Alexander K. Rothe: “Contemporary Opera, Créolité, and Gesture”
Camilla Tassi: “The Visual Continuo – Beyond a Trend in Opera: Projection Design as a Musical Instrument”

Respondent  Marco Ladd

7:45 pm  DINNER
At Sitar for conference participants and helpers
MAY 15

Stoeckel Hall, Room 106
469 College Street

9–10:30 am  LIGHTNING TALKS & PANEL DISCUSSION II
Whence and Wither “Indie Opera”?

Chair  Gundula Kreuzer

Panelists
Axel Englund: “Suffering Performance: Physical Pain in Opera”
Wayne Heisler: “Once it’s happening, do we even care?: Jukebox-ish Indie Opera”
Ryan Minor: “Queering the Pitch? Opera, Straightness, and Timbre”
W. Anthony Sheppard: “Indie Opera: Out of the Pit and Into the Audience”

Respondent  Alessandra Campana

COFFEE BREAK

11 am–1 pm  WORKSHOP
Opera Studies and “Indie Opera” Today

Discussion of pre-circulated readings and the potential for future YOST workshops, open to anyone who has done the readings. Please pre-register by emailing gundula.kreuzer@yale.edu.

LUNCH
For participants of the workshop
Alessandra Campana  *Tufts University:* Associate Professor

Axel Englund  *Stockholm University:* Wallenberg Academy Fellow in Literature; *Princeton University:* Visiting Scholar, Department of German

David Gutkin  *Johns Hopkins University,* Peabody Institute of Music: Assistant Professor, Musicology

Wayne Heisler  *The College of New Jersey:* Professor of Historical and Cultural Studies in Music

Gundula Kreuzer  *Yale University:* Professor of Music

Marco Ladd  *Yale University:* Finishing PhD Student; Cambridge University: Junior Research Fellow

David T. Little  Composer: davidtlittle.com

Ryan Minor  *Stony Brook University,* SUNY: Associate Professor, Music History and Theory

Beth Morrison  *Opera-Theater Producer; President and Creative Producer of Beth Morrison Projects:* www.bethmorrisonprojects.org; prototypefestival.org

Frances Pollock  Composer; *Yale School of Music student:* www.francespollock.com

Alexander K. Rothe  *Columbia University:* Core Lecturer, Music Humanities

Kamala Schelling  *The Metropolitan Opera:* Educational Content Manager

W. Anthony Sheppard  *Williams College:* Marylin & Arthur Levitt Professor of Music

Camilla Tassi  Music-Centered Projection Designer and Soprano; *Yale School of Drama:* www.camillatassi.com

Royce Vavrek  Librettist: www.roycevavrek.com

Robert Woodruff  Director; *Yale School of Drama:* Lecturer in Directing
Organized by Gundula Kreuzer
Input by Alessandra Campana and Ryan Minor (and many others)
Funded by the Dean’s Office of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Yale University
Photographs by James Matthew Daniel, by kind permission of Beth Morrison (BMP)
Poster design by Chika Ota
Generous behind-the-scenes help by Bethany Hayes, Kristine Kinsella, and Bruce McPherson
Essential on-the-scenes help by Knar Abrahamian, Henry Balme, Andrew J. Chung, and Alexandra Krawetz