

GARNETT BRUCE | DIRECTOR

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BIOGRAPHY

Garnett Bruce continues to stage productions for leading national and international houses. The 2008-09 season includes his first production of *Otello* for Kentucky Opera, *Madama Butterfly* for returns to San Diego Opera and Utah Symphony and Opera, revivals of his production of *La Cenerentola* for Austin Lyric Opera and Orlando Opera; and *La bohème*, his first production as the newly named Artistic Adviser and Principal Stage Director for Opera Omaha. Mr. Bruce also serves on the directing faculties of the Aspen Music Festival and Peabody Conservatory.

Highlights from his past seasons include *Turandot*, *La Traviata* and collaborating with Peter Sellars for *Doctor Atomic* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago; *Tosca* (Opera Pacific, Houston, Denver, Cleveland); *Turandot* (San Francisco, Dallas, Cleveland, Louisville); *Aida* and Samuel Barber's *Vanessa* for San Diego Opera; new productions of *La Cenerentola* and *Die Zauberflöte* for Lyric Opera of Kansas City; new productions of *La Clemenza di Tito* and *La Cenerentola* for Wolf Trap Opera; *Carmen* for Palm Beach Opera; *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for Utah Symphony and Opera; *Orfeo ed Euridice* for Chattanooga Symphony and Opera; and Francesca Zambello's productions of *Madama Butterfly* (Houston, Opera Pacific, Pittsburgh) and *Jenufa* (Dallas, San Francisco) and made his European debut staging the David Hockney production of *Turandot* for Teatro di San Carlo in Naples, Italy.

Mr. Bruce began his musical training as a choirboy at the Washington National Cathedral and later earned his Bachelor of Arts in English and Drama from Tufts University. Internships followed with Harold Prince for his 1990 production of *Faust* at the Metropolitan Opera, and with Leonard Bernstein for his legendary performances and final recording of *Candide*. These early experiences led to his work on the directing staffs of the San Francisco, Houston Grand, Santa Fe, Dallas, Washington National, and San Diego Operas - working under celebrated directors such as Francesca Zambello, Bruce Beresford, John Copley, Lotfi Mansouri, John Cox, Stephen Lawless and Nathaniel Merrill.

Garnett Bruce also currently serves on the Board of Directors for FBN Productions (Opera for Kids).

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PRODUCTIONS | DIRECTOR

Tosca	Lyric Opera of Chicago	September 2009
Madama Butterfly	San Diego Opera	May 2009
La bohème	Opera Omaha	April 2009
La Traviata	Peabody Opera	March 2009
La Cenerentola	Orlando Opera	February 2009
La Cenerentola	Austin Lyric Opera	November 2008
Madama Butterfly	Utah Opera	October 2008
Otello	Kentucky Opera	September 2008
Aida	San Diego Opera	April 2008
Die Zauberflöte	Lyric Opera of Kansas City	March 2008
The Yellow Wallpaper*	Peabody Opera	February 2008
The Turn of the Screw*	Peabody Opera	November 2007
Tosca	Cleveland Opera	October 2007
Turandot	Kentucky Opera	September 2007
Les contes d'Hoffmann	Peabody Opera	March 2007
Rigoletto	Chattanooga Symphony & Opera	January 2007
Macbeth	Vancouver Opera	November 2006
Pagliacci	Pittsburgh Opera	October 2006
Turandot	Lyric Opera of Chicago	September 2006
Il Barbiere di Siviglia	Utah Opera	May 2006
Turandot	Cleveland Opera	March 2006
Tosca	Opera Pacific	November 2005
Orfeo ed Euridice*	Chattanooga Symphony & Opera	September 2005
La Cenerentola	Wolf Trap Opera	August 2005
Vanessa	San Diego Opera	April 2005
The Alien Corn*	Peabody Opera (<i>world premiere</i>)	March 2005
Susannah	Opera Columbus	February 2005
La Cenerentola*	Lyric Opera of Kansas City	September 2004
Der fliegende Holländer	Austin Lyric Opera	March 2004
Abduction from the Seraglio	Peabody Opera	February 2004
Carmen	Palm Beach Opera	January 2004
La bohème	Dallas Opera	December 2003
Madama Butterfly	Opera Pacific	November 2003

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PRODUCTIONS | DIRECTOR (CONTINUED)

Tosca	Houston Grand Opera	October 2003
Fidelio	Chattanooga Symphony & Opera	September 2003
La Clemenza di Tito*	Wolf Trap Opera	June 2003
Madama Butterfly	San Diego Opera	May 2003
Rigoletto	Opera Grand Rapids	February 2003
Cold Sassy Tree	Opera Carolina	February 2003
Turandot (L. Berio ending)	Dallas Opera	January 2003
La Traviata	Austin Lyric Opera	November 2002
La bohème	Lyric Opera of Kansas City	September 2002
Street Scene	Wolf Trap Opera	August 2002
La Tragédie de Carmen	Yale Opera	April 2002
Tosca	Opera Colorado	February 2002
Turandot	Teatro di San Carlo, Napoli	January 2002
Gianni Schicchi/Pagliacci	Knoxville Opera	September 2001
Madama Butterfly	Cincinnati Opera	June 2001
The Pirates of Penzance	Chattanooga Symphony & Opera	April 2001
Cold Sassy Tree	Austin Lyric Opera	January 2001
L'Elisir d'Amore	Houston Grand Opera	January 2000
Aida	Eugene Opera	December 1999
Carmen	Tulsa Opera	October 1999
Turandot	San Francisco Opera	September 1998
Carmen	Eugene Opera	January 1996

* Denotes an original production

PRODUCTIONS | ASSOCIATE/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Porgy and Bess	(Zambello)	San Francisco Opera	June 2009
Doctor Atomic	(Sellars)	Lyric Opera of Chicago	December 2007
La Traviata	(Corsaro)	Lyric Opera of Chicago	September 2007
Carmen	(Rudolfsson)	Teater Hedeland	August 2007
Der Rosenkavalier	(Mansouri)	San Francisco Opera	June 2007
Porgy and Bess	(Zambello)	Los Angeles Opera	May 2007
Carmen	(Rudolfsson)	Santa Fe Opera	July 2006
Jenůfa	(Zambello)	Dallas Opera	November 2004

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PRODUCTIONS | ASSOCIATE/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONTINUED)

Madama Butterfly	(Zambello)	Houston Grand Opera	October 2004
La Traviata	(Corsaro)	Houston Grand Opera	April 2003
Ariodante	(D. Alden)	Houston Grand Opera	November 2002
Carmen	(Pettersson)	Washington National Opera	May 2002
Jenůfa	(Zambello)	San Francisco Opera	November 2001
Resurrection	(B. Murray)	Houston Grand Opera	April 1999
Die Zauberflöte	(J. Rudel)	Opera Colorado	February 1999
The Crucible	(Beresford)	Washington National Opera	January 1999
Les Contes d'Hoffman	(Judge)	Houston Grand Opera	November 1998
Lulu	(Mansouri)	San Francisco Opera	May 1998
Madama Butterfly	(Zambello)	San Diego Opera	March 1998
Porgy and Bess	(Hutchison)	La Fenice, Venezia	November 1997
La bohème	(H. Ross)	Houston Grand Opera	January 1996
La Cenerentola	(Simone)	Houston Grand Opera	October 1995

INTERNSHIPS & EDUCATION

Leonard Bernstein	Amberson, Inc.	1989-1990
Harold Prince	Metropolitan Opera (<i>Faust</i>)	1989-1990
Tufts University	Bachelor of Arts, <i>cum laude</i>	1989

FACULTY & STAFF POSITIONS

Opera Omaha	2008-present
Peabody Conservatory	2004-present
Aspen Music Festival & School	1993-present
Houston Grand Opera	1995-2000
Opera Colorado	1991-1996
The Dallas Opera	1991-1995

PRESS

Turandot, Lyric Opera of Chicago

"Stage director Garnett Bruce and assistant Leslie Halla's reanimation of Hockney's complex and ingenious concepts work marvelously well with the proper orchestral pacing, colors and details."

- **Andrew Patner, Chicago Sun-Times**, January 15, 2007

Susannah, Opera Columbus

"...Garnett Bruce's dramatic direction peopled the stage with action while consistently providing focus and clarity. Acting here could easily go over the top. Bruce guided the cast to a convincing realization at just the right temperature."

- **Barbara Zuck, The Columbus Dispatch**, February 5, 2005

La Cenerentola, Lyric Opera of Kansas City

"...this *Cinderella* succeeds through the enormous creativity of director Garnett Bruce and his team, and through a world-class performance by Prairie Village native Joyce DiDonato in the title role..."

- **Paul Horsley, The Kansas City Star**, September 20, 2004

Tosca, Houston Grand Opera

"...American director Garnett Bruce creates mythic staging, particularly in Act I, as a high mass makes for a jarring background for the principal's actions."

- **Marene Gustin, Houston Press**, October 30, 2003

La bohème, Lyric Opera of Kansas City

"...Under Garnett Bruce's direction, the hyper-energized cast moved with animation when necessary, as in the deftly timed Latin Quarter scene of Act 2, which ticked along like well-oiled machinery...And they stood still at the right moments, as in the intimate third act, where we really just need to focus on the characters' anguish."

- **Paul Horsley, The Kansas City Star**, September 22, 2002

Street Scene, Wolf Trap Opera

"...Weill's compassionate score puts flesh on these cardboard character sketches, and director Garnett Bruce wisely founded his production on the plain-spoken eloquence of poet Langston Hughes's lyrics. Bruce established, as well, a tone of heightened naturalism that accommodated the varied acting strengths in a cast of opera singers, actors and musical theater dancers, creating a detailed and believable world."

- **Joe Banno, The Washington Post**, August 19, 2002