



Fall 11-7-2005

## IWU School of Music to Perform Baroque Opera Semele

Rebecca Welzenbach  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news>

---

### Recommended Citation

Welzenbach, Rebecca, "IWU School of Music to Perform Baroque Opera Semele" (2005).  
*News and Events*. 5087.  
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/5087>

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@iwu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@iwu.edu).

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

November 7, 2005

**Contact:** Rebecca Welzenbach, (309) 556-3181

## **IWU School of Music to Perform Baroque Opera *Semele***

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The Illinois Wesleyan School of Music will perform the opera *Semele*, by George Frederick Handel, on Thursday, Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall (1210 Park St., Bloomington). The performance is free and open to the public.

Director of Opera Linda Farquharson, professor of voice at IWU, is both musical and stage director for the production, which will be performed in its original English and feature approximately 40 Illinois Wesleyan student performers and instrumentalists.

*Semele* is the story of the Greek mythological character of the same name. One of Jupiter's (also known as Jove or Zeus) many romantic conquests, Semele, a princess, becomes pregnant as a result of their affair, inciting the jealous wrath of Juno, Jupiter's wife. Juno, seeking revenge for her husband's infidelity, schemes against Semele. Ultimately, Semele's desire to be like the gods brings about her downfall.

Composed in 1743, *Semele* was adapted by Handel from the opera libretto by Congreve and is considered by some critics to be the greatest work of English language musical theatre.

For more information, contact Linda Farquharson or the IWU School of Music at (309) 556-3025.

**Cast Members:** Joan Teitelman (*Semele*, Nov. 10), Ariana Strahl (*Semele*, Nov. 12), Jeremy A. Fisher (Jove/Jupiter), David Mainer jr. (King Cadmus), James Hornor (Prince Athamas), Kate Tombaugh (Princess Ino), Suzanne Rovani (Juno), Erin Crawley (Juno understudy, Zephyr), Marcelino Rivera (Somnus), Teresa Knapik (Iris), Lauren Eigenbrode

(Cupid), Dennis Gotkowski (Apollo, Priest), Stuart Seale (Priest), Sheerya Shivers (Zephyr), Mandy Compton (Zephyr), Beth Lanza (Zephyr), Melissa McMahan (Zephyr), Erin Moll (Zephyr), Daniel Cox (Priest), Kathryn Lachey (Priestess), Sara Longtin (Priestess), Emily Meade (Priestess), Jeremy Pease (Priestess), Glenn Radebaugh (Priest), Erin Swanson (Priestess), Christine White (Priestess).

**Orchestral Ensemble:** Linda Farquharson (Conductor), Phyllis Fitch (Accompanist/Harpsichord/Synthesizer), Dennis Gotkowski (Rehearsal Conductor/Assistant Accompanist), William West (Assistant Accompanist), Lisa Boland (Violin I), Jenny Stevens (Violin II), Molly I. Price (Viola), Evan Lowry (Cello), So-Youn Chang (Flute I), Mandy Bunworth (Flute II), Bridget Wall (Horn I), Liesl Miller (Horn II), Amy Plazek (Bassoon).

**Staff:** Linda Farquharson (Director of Opera/Musical Director/Stage Director), Teresa Knapik (Assistant Stage Director), Ariana Strahl (Assistant to Dr. Farquharson), Sheerya Shivers (Assistant to Dr. Farquharson), Dennis Gotkowski (Assistant Musical Director), RC Martin (Set, Pillars), Jim Johnson (Set, Pillars), Elizabeth Tuazon (Lighting Design), Stuart Seale (Spots), Sara Longtin (Spots), James Ball (Spots), Kate Jones (Spots), Sara Bicknell (Makeup Assistant), Elizabeth Critcher (Makeup Assistant), Liesl Miller (Makeup Assistant), Lauren Eigenbrode (Costumer), Kathryn Lachey (Costumer), Erin Crawley (Costumer), Kate Tombaugh (Costumer), Mandy Compton (Costumer), Phyllis Fitch (Costumer).