

PREMIERE PERFORMANCES:
Saturday, September 25, 2010 at 8 PM
Sunday, September 26, 2010 at 3 PM

The Life and Love of Joe Coogan

ADAPTED FROM THE DICK VAN DYKE SHOW EPISODE
“THE LIFE AND LOVE OF JOE COOGAN,” BY CARL REINER
MUSIC BY PAUL SALERNI • LIBRETTO BY KATE LIGHT
DIRECTED BY LAURA JOHNSON



Nancy Allen Lundy
as Laura Petrie



James Bobick
as Rob Petrie



Branch Fields
as Joe Coogan



Cherry Duke
as Sally Rogers



Jacquelyn Familant
as Millie Helper



Jan Opalach
as Mel Cooley



David Gordon
as Buddy Sorrell

Zoellner Arts Center
Lehigh University
420 E. Packer Avenue • Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
For tickets, call (610) 758-2787 or visit

<http://www.zoellnerartscenter.org/2010/06/29/1011-the-life-and-love-of-joe-coogan/>
\$18 (Student and senior discounts available)

FEATURING THE MONOCACY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTED BY PAUL SALERNI
EUGENE ALBULESCU AND THE IANNIS STRING QUARTET
OPEN THE EVENT WITH THE BRAHMS PIANO QUINTET

Composer Paul Salerni's music pulses "...with life, witty musical ideas and instrumental color" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*). His song cycles and chamber music have been widely performed in Europe, China, the USA, and Canada, and orchestral commissions have included the San Diego Chamber Orchestra, New Haven Symphony, Cape Cod Symphony, and Lehigh Valley Chamber Orchestra. Professor of Music at Lehigh University, he holds the NEH Distinguished Chair in the Humanities, and has been recipient of grants and fellowships from the Charles Ives Festival, Sheldon Foundation, PA Council for the Arts, Meet the Composer, and NEA. Salerni's one-act opera *Tony Caruso's Final Broadcast*, libretto by Dana Gioia, won the 2007 National Opera Association's Chamber Opera Competition and premiered in LA in 2008, with the release of a Naxos recording following in 2010. An expert on the music of his former teacher Earl Kim, he has appeared as lecturer, conductor, and pianist at the Kennedy Center, Aspen Music Festival, Great Mountains Music Festival, and on Korean television and radio.

Librettist Kate Light has authored three volumes of poetry, *Gravity's Dream*, *Open Slowly*, and *The Laws of Falling Bodies*, the texts and poems of *Oceanophony*, *Einstein's Mozart*, and the forthcoming *The World Beneath the Waves*, for narrator and chamber ensemble. She is currently working on a musical based on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Kate's poetry has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Washington Post Book World*, *Feminist Studies*, *New York Sun*, and anthologies *Western Wind*, *Penguin Book of the Sonnet*, and Garrison Keillor's *Good Poems for Hard Times*. Her pieces have been performed, often with Kate as narrator, by the Louisville Orchestra, LA Chamber Orchestra, Colorado Chamber Players, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and at the American Museum of Natural History. Her poetry has been featured four times on Garrison Keillor's *The Writer's Almanac*, and she has been visiting professor at Cornell University and at Musashino Art University in Tokyo. Also a violinist, she is a member of the orchestra of the New York City Opera.

Director Laura Johnson has directed for the Great Mountains Festival in Korea, Teatro del Giglio in Lucca, Italy, and regional theatre. Her productions garnered awards for Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music and Temple University Opera Theater. She has worked at Manhattan School of Music, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Opera Company of Boston. Ms. Johnson is the first director to have staged Earl Kim's music/theater works *Footfalls* (Cincinnati) and *Eh Joe* (the Williamstown Theatre Festival), and worked closely with the composer on the world premiere of *Narratives* with Irene Worth. She also directed the East Coast premiere of the Paul Salerni/Dana Gioia one-act opera *Tony Caruso's Final Broadcast*.

Soprano **Nancy Allen Lundy** (Laura Petrie) has graced the stages of New York City Opera and the opera companies of Houston, Washington DC, Toronto, Cincinnati, Hawaii, Minnesota, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Portland, Spoleto, Santiago, and Bregenz, in numerous roles including Rosina, Sophie, Curley's Wife (*Of Mice and Men*), Gilda, Musetta, Ann Trulove, Cunegonde, Nanetta, Violetta, Zerlina, Susanna, Despina and Hero. Oscar-winning composer Tan Dun created roles for her in *Tea and The Gate*, which she has performed worldwide. Concert engagements have included the Montreal Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Munich Philharmonic, and Royal Philharmonic, Stockholm. This season she debuts with English National Opera as Zina in Alexander Raskatov's *A Dog's Heart* (a role she created in the world premiere with Netherlands Opera) and returns to Hawaii Opera to sing the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

Praised for the quality of both his singing and his acting, baritone **James Bobick** (Rob Petrie) has sung more than twenty roles at New York City Opera, including in the Emmy-winning broadcast of *La Bohème*. His operatic credits include Seattle Opera, Opera Colorado, Portland Opera, Opera Pacific, Opera Omaha, Baltimore Opera, and the Bard Festival. On the concert

stage, his appearances throughout the United States and in Europe include the Prague Symphony, the San José Symphony in Costa Rica, Orchestre Padeloup in Paris, and New York City's Carnegie, Avery Fisher, and Alice Tully Halls.

Branch Fields (Joe Coogan), described by Opera America as "a bass of resonant richness," recently made his Broadway debut understudying the role of Emile de Becque in Lincoln Center's South Pacific. Since debuting at New York City Opera in 2005, he has appeared there in *Tosca*, *Vanessa*, *Carmen*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Turandot*, *Lysistrata*, *Capriccio*, and *Esther*. An audience favorite, he has performed with Asheville Lyric Opera, Opera Company of North Carolina, Opera on the James, Santa Fe Opera, Opera Carolina, Boston Lyric Opera, OK Mozart Festival, Dicapò Opera Theatre, and Utah Festival Opera, among others. Concert appearances include Santa Fe Symphony, Colorado Springs Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra, solo recitals for Art Song of Williamsburg (VA), and *Candide* with the Munich Philharmonic (upcoming).

Mezzo-soprano **Cherry Duke** (Sally Rogers) has sung principal roles with New York City Opera and with many of America's regional opera companies, in addition to frequent appearances as a soloist in major oratorio works at Carnegie and Avery Fisher Halls. Ms. Duke regularly performs principal roles in NYCO's "VOX" new opera concerts and in modern music theater pieces in the New York area. She recently performed the role of Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* with Helena Symphony Orchestra and the title role in *Carmen* with St. Petersburg Opera. Upcoming engagements include a return to New York City Opera for *Intermezzo*, and *Messiah* in Orlando, Florida.

Soprano **Jacquelyn Familant** (Millie Helper) enjoys a career spanning the genres of opera, chamber music and oratorio. She began her career as a principal artist with the Staatsoper Stuttgart, where she performed lead and supporting roles for three seasons, and since has performed with such distinguished organizations as American Modern Ensemble, American Music Festival, Summer Stars of Ocean Grove, Borderless Song of Ontario, Sapphire Ensemble, Forecast New Music, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Brooklyn Opera, Modus Opera, Festival Lyrique-en-Mer, Vermont Festival of the Arts, Chautauqua Institution, and Chamber Music Society of Philadelphia. Ms. Familant holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the Curtis Institute of Music, and was most recently named a winner of the Classical Singer Convention 2010.

Jan Opalach (Mel Cooley) has appeared with the Metropolitan, Seattle, Santa Fe, St. Louis, Canadian, English National, Netherlands, and Drottningholm (Sweden) Opera companies. Since 1980, Mr. Opalach has appeared at New York City Opera in principal roles in *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, *Cunning Little Vixen*, *Die Soldaten*, *L'elisir d'amore*, and as the title role in *Falstaff*. Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, Naumburg Vocal Competition, and a recipient of a NEA Soloist Recital Grant, he has been heard with the ensembles Speculum Musicae, Continuum, and American Composers Orchestra, and with the orchestras of New York, Minnesota, Pittsburgh, and San Francisco. He has recorded on Bridge, Decca, Delos, EMI, L'Oiseau-Lyre, and Nonesuch, and is Professor of Voice at the Eastman School of Music.

Tenor **David Gordon** (Buddy Sorrell) made his New York City Opera debut in 2005 in Rossini's *Il viaggio a reims*. He has appeared with Concert Opera Philadelphia, dell'arte Opera Ensemble, One World Symphony, Center City Opera of Philadelphia, Ensemble du Monde Opera Company, Camerata New York, Cornell Chamber Orchestra, Kalistos Orchestra of Boston, Mozart Society of Harvard College, American Opera Projects, Center for Contemporary Opera, Fort Worth Opera, Opera on Tap, Cirque Boom (as Hoffmann in an aerial adaptation of Tales of Hoffmann), LITE Company/ChekhovNOW!, and Beckett Below.