



Connecticut Lyric Opera  
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**CONNECTICUT LYRIC OPERA TO PRESENT THE CONNECTICUT VIRTUOSI CHAMBER  
ORCHESTRA'S PRODUCTION OF *DIDO AND AENEAS***

**New London, CT** – Connecticut Lyric Opera (CLO) and The Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra (CVCO) are pleased to present CVCO's production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* to be performed on February 29<sup>th</sup> in New London at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 8PM.

*Dido and Aeneas*, by the English Baroque composer Henry Purcell, is based on a story from Virgil's *Aeneid* of the legendary Queen of Carthage, Dido, and the Trojan refugee, Aeneas. When Aeneas and his crew are shipwrecked in Carthage while escaping the fall of Troy, he and the queen fall in love. However, Aeneas must soon leave to found Rome, and as Dido cannot live without him, she prepares for death. The production features a fantastic cast of singers and CLO veterans led by mezzo-soprano Meredith Ziegler (Siebel in *Faust*) as Dido, tenor Gregory Zavracky (Don Basilio in *Le Nozze di Figaro*) as Aeneas, the Trojan Prince, and soprano Jonelyn Langenstein (Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute*) will perform Belinda, Dido's sister and hand maiden.

*Dido and Aeneas*, one of the most beloved operas ever written in English, will be staged by renowned Polish director Jaroslaw Strzemien and will be conducted by CLO's General and Artistic Director, Adrian Sylveen Mackiewicz. This fully staged production will be performed in English and feature the Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra chamber ensemble. Dance sequences were choreographed by Patricia Martin, Artistic Director of Children's Dance Theater Connection, and will be performed by members of the company.

**Connecticut Lyric Opera** is a non-profit cultural and educational organization based in New London committed to contributing to the cultural life of Southeastern Connecticut and beyond, encouraging the development of Connecticut based singers and theatrical artisans, and presenting opera to people of all ages in the hopes of fostering a love of opera and other musical performing arts. CLO is grateful for the generous support of The Frank Loomis Palmer Fund, Pfizer, Liberty Bank, Mohegan Sun, the New London Day, the CT Commission on Culture and Tourism and the many individuals who help make this season possible.

This production, which will also be performed a total of four times in New Britain and Middletown prior to this performance, will be staged on Friday, February 15 at 8 PM, at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 19 Jay Street, New London, CT. Tickets are \$20 and \$5 for students and children and are available by calling CLO at (860) 861-1069 or visiting [www.CtLyricOpera.org](http://www.CtLyricOpera.org).