

# Opera Performances Planned November 21-22 at SWOSU

11.09.2015

Two performances of opera are planned by the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Department of Music.

SWOSU students and faculty will present Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Old Maid and The Thief* with scenes from Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Mikado* on Saturday and Sunday, November 21-22, in the Ed and Winnie Ola Berrong Recital Hall on the Weatherford campus. Performances are at 7 p.m. on Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday.

Admission is free, and the public is invited.

The all-English operatic production will be accompanied by the SWOSU Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Alex Lee.

According to Assistant Professor Dr. Kristin Griffeath, the singers have worked on the challenging rhythmic and melodic material since August. First conceived as a radio-opera, the production will utilize original radio announcements.

Menotti's opera is set in small-town America in 1939 and explores high drama and mistaken identity in a Weatherford-like locale. Miss Todd and her maid, Laetitia, welcome a strange man into their home and hearts—but are shocked when Miss Pinkerton, the town gossip, reveals that an escaped thief from the county jail was spotted nearby.

For more information, contact the Department of Music at 580.774.3708.