

ACIS, GALATEA & POLYPHEMUS

George Frideric Handel



Dear Friends,

I'm delighted to welcome you to this OrpheusPDX performance—thank you for being here! This is only our third season of professional opera, and we're particularly proud of what we've accomplished artistically, the excellent press we received, and the very positive response from our audience.

We are also very pleased to continue the Pathways Program, a mentor-based program that pairs a student or young professional with an established professional artist engaged by OrpheusPDX for the season.

We invite you to explore our website and sign up for our mailing list. Of course, we would love for you to join us as a subscriber. But mostly, we want to connect with you, our community! Please feel free to contact me directly at: chris@orpheuspdx.org.

Welcome to OrpheusPDX—“where opera gets intimate.”

Yours,
Christopher Mattaliano
General and Artistic Director



Acis, Galatea & Polyphemus

August 3 and 4 / Lincoln Performance Hall
Music by George Frideric Handel
Libretto by Nicola Giuvo based on
the myth from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*
Sung in Italian with English captions

90 minutes, no intermission

Cast

Acis: Katherine Whyte
Galatea: Hannah Penn
Polyphemus: Douglas Williams

Production

Conductor & Harpsichord:
George Manahan
Director & Set Design:
Chas Rader-Shieber
Associate Set Designer:
Alyssa Jewell
Costume Design:
Sydney Dufka
Lighting Design:
Solomon Weisbard
Stage Manager:
Cristine Anne Reynolds
Assistant Stage Manager:
Marjorie Anderson

Orchestra

Oboe I: Karen Wagner
Oboe II: Ben Price
Trumpet I: Charles Butler
Trumpet II: Joseph Klause
Violin I: Lucia Atkinson
Violin II: Shin-young Kwon
Viola: Pamela Burovac
Cello: Dylan Rieck
Bass: David Parmeter
Theorbo: John Lenti
Organ: Claire Forstman

Supernumeraries

Shaun Keylock
Kendall Carr



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The Composer

George Frideric Handel

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759) was a German-British Baroque composer well known for his operas, oratorios, anthems, concerti grossi, and organ concertos. Handel received his training in Halle and worked as a composer in Hamburg and Italy before settling in London in 1712, where he spent the bulk of his career and became a British subject in 1727. He was strongly influenced both by the middle-German polyphonic choral tradition and by composers of the Italian Baroque. In turn, Handel's music forms one of the peaks of the "high baroque" style, bringing Italian opera to its highest development, creating the genres of English oratorio and organ concerti, and introducing a new style into English church music. He is consistently recognized as one of the greatest composers of his age.

Handel's compositions include 42 operas, 25 oratorios, more than 120 cantatas, trios and duets, numerous arias, odes and serenatas, solo and trio sonatas, 18 concerti grossi, and 12 organ concerti. His most famous work, the oratorio *Messiah* with its "Hallelujah" chorus, is among the most popular works in choral music.

The musicologist Winton Dean wrote that "Handel was not only a great composer; he was a dramatic genius of the first order." There has been a huge resurgence in performances of Handel operas during the past 40 years—operas such as *Giulio Cesare*, *Rinaldo*, *Semele*, *Rodelinda*, *Alcina*, *Agrippina*, *Tamerlano*, *Acis and Galatea*, *Partenope*, *Ariodante*, *Orlando*, and *Xerxes* are now produced regularly by major opera companies throughout the world. Almost all his operas have been commercially recorded (some several times over) and are available on DVD.

Join Us Next Season!

Keep up-to-date on our 2025 season announcement.
Visit orpheuspx.org and sign up for our mailing list!



ACIS, GALATEA & POLYPHEMUS

"Unnervingly powerful with music
of exquisite beauty."

– The San Francisco Chronicle

Learn More!



About this
Production



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*Imago Theatre, Oregon Ballet Theatre, BodyVox,
and Portland Center Stage*



MARK SPENCER
HOTEL