



DENNIS HANTHORN - Zurich General Director

IO-II NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: *BON APPÉTIT!* BY LEE HOIBY AT THE COOK'S WAREHOUSE

Performance to Benefit The Atlanta Opera

Join The Atlanta Opera on **Thursday, May 5 at 7:30pm** at [The Cook's Warehouse](#) – Decatur for an encore performance of *Bon Appétit!* - a 30-minute opera monologue based on Julia Child's popular television show. The audience will be transported to Julia Child's famous 1960's kitchen-studio, and will watch mezzo-soprano Susan Nicely whip up some giggles and comedic-fromage. Following the performance, guests will sample treats courtesy of [Sherlock's Wine Merchant](#) and [Lenox Cupcakes](#), and will have the opportunity to shop in the store and sign up for future cooking classes. 10% of all sales will go to The Atlanta Opera. There also will be giveaways from The Atlanta Opera and The Cook's Warehouse. Admission is a **tax-deductible \$25 donation** to The Atlanta Opera. This event is open to the public. This performance will be dedicated to composer Lee Hoiby, who recently passed away.

To purchase tickets, contact Amanda Wilborn at 404.591.2928 or amandaw@atlantaopera.org. For more information, please visit atlantaopera.org.

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Bon Appétit! By Lee Hoiby

Date: Thursday, May 5, 2011

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: The Cook's Warehouse – Decatur
180 West Ponce de Leon Avenue

Admission: \$25. All donations are tax-deductible. Open to the public.

To purchase tickets, contact Amanda Wilborn at 404.591.2928 or amandaw@atlantaopera.org.

Cast

Susan Nicely, mezzo-soprano
Stuart Schleuse, Stage Manager
Brian Cray, Accompanist

Description

A 30-minute opera monologue based on Julia Child's popular television show! Singer Susan Nicely will whip up some giggles and comedic-fromage and will even "bake" a cake in the demonstration kitchen! Following the performance, guests will delight in treats from Lenox Cupcakes. Guests also will have the opportunity to shop in the store and sign up for future cooking classes. All of this fun for only \$25!

There will be giveaways and private shopping time. 10% of all purchases made that evening will go to The Atlanta Opera.

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About Bon Appétit!

Bon Appétit!, by composer Lee Hoiby, was written for comedienne Jean Stapleton as music draped over the words and gestures of Julia Child, the mother-of-all foodies. The libretto, by Mark Shulgasser, is based on a seminal early work by playwright Lanford Wilson, first produced in 1965. The two acts also are based on two episodes of Julia Child's second WGBH-TV season: "the race between the whisk" and "the electric beater comes out of a different cake." Hoiby's music deftly veers around Broadway chansons, early television, and underlines Julia Child's compelling domestic uplift.

About Susan Nicely

Mezzo-Soprano Susan Nicely is known for her rich voice and vivid characterizations. Her highly acclaimed "lively comic presence" in roles such as Dame Marthe in *Faust*, Old Lady in *Candide*, and Marcellina in *Le nozze di Figaro*, as well as dramatic portrayals in *Cavalleria rusticana* as Mamma Lucia and *The Ballad of Baby Doe* as Mama McCourt make the character mezzo an "audience darling," says the *Austin American-Statesman*. Her roles have included Gertrude in *Roméo et Juliette* with the New Orleans Opera, Housekeeper in *Man of La Mancha* at the Shreveport Opera, Berta in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* in concert with the Helena Symphony, the Nurse in *Boris Godunov* at the Dallas Opera, and

Bon Appétit!

Katasha in *The Mikado* with the Indianapolis Opera. She performed the role of Thelma Predmore in The Atlanta Opera's 2008 production of *Cold Sassy Tree* and will perform the role of Alisa in *Lucia di Lammermoor* in November 2011.

About The Atlanta Opera

Founded in 1979, The Atlanta Opera is one of the finest regional opera companies in the nation, drawing audiences from the entire metropolitan Atlanta area as well as from the Southeast region. Led by Zurich General Director Dennis Hanthorn, The Atlanta Opera strives to expand the experience of its patrons with memorable and exciting opera performances reflecting the highest musical and theatrical standards, while supporting community and educational programs. The company also works to attract the finest international, national, and regional singers, conductors, stage directors and designers. For the 2011-2012 season, The Atlanta Opera presents three productions with four performances each at the Cobb Energy Centre.

About The Cook's Warehouse

The Cook's Warehouse is greater Atlanta's premier gourmet cookware store and cooking school with three locations in Midtown, Decatur and Brookhaven. It offers more than 15,000 products for the kitchen and operates the largest avocational cooking school in the Southeast, conducting more than 600 classes yearly, often taught by local chefs, and has a large web-based delivery-by-post site. Owned and operated by founder Mary S. Moore, The Cook's Warehouse also retails high-end appliances; conducts private cooking classes for unique celebrations and corporate events, and is a pro bono partner with virtually every major cooking event and gourmet association in Atlanta. The Cook's Warehouse is truly "Every Excuse to Cook."

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Bon Appétit!