

ANU School of Music and The Humanities Research Centre, RSHA presents

'Operatic ensembles in South Africa: Figaro south of Zambezi'

Thursday 15 August 2013 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Professor Michael P. Steinberg, Director, Cogut Center for the Humanities, Brown University, HRC Visiting Fellow

Professor Daniel Herwitz, Professor of Comparative Literature, University of Michigan, HRC Visiting Fellow

Venue: Lecture Theatre 3, Main Building (level 5), ANU School of Music

Since 2010, the work of the Opera School at the University of Cape Town has been central to the scholarly and administrative and careers of both Daniel Herwitz and Michael Steinberg. Throughout their academic careers, Herwitz and Steinberg have integrated opera and opera studies into teaching and research in philosophy and aesthetics (Herwitz) as well as cultural and intellectual history (Steinberg). As directors of humanities centers, both scholars have given special focus to the arts and their capacities for analytical and social engagement as essential components of the work and responsibilities of the humanities.

The extraordinary profile and success of the UCT Opera School opens some of the most fascinating questions in cultural analysis today. These include the relation of universality and cultural specificity in the globalized world of markets and taste; the residues of past regimes including imperialism and apartheid; the symbolic as well as material ownership of cultural life in relation to its producers, consumers, and performers.

By special arrangement, Herwitz and Steinberg's presentation will take the form of a commentary on a new documentary about the UCT Opera School: Julie Cohen's one-hour film called 'Voices from South Africa', premiered at the United Nations, New York, in July 2013.



Michael P. Steinberg



Daniel Herwitz

Presented by
Research School of
Humanities & the Arts

ANU College of
Arts & Social Sciences

Convenors: Dr Aaron Corn, School of Music

RSVP: leena.messina@anu.edu.au by 13 Aug

For more information: E Leena.Messina@anu.edu.au
T 02 612 54357