



Friday, September 14, 2001

MTD season opens with faculty recital

By **Jeff Samoray**, *OU Web Writer*

The **Department of Music, Theatre and Dance** is opening its **2001-2002 season** with a faculty recital by Barbara Bland on Saturday, September 15, at 8 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall.

Bland, an applied voice instructor and lecturer, received her Master's degree in vocal performance from OU. In addition to her work at OU, she gives private voice lessons and sings regularly with the Michigan Opera Theatre in such productions as "Carmen," "The Magic Flute," "La Traviata," "Rigoletto," "Aida" and "Madame Butterfly."

The recital is divided into three sections. The first includes five pieces by various composers based on texts from Shakespeare's plays - "As You Like It," "Measure for Measure," "Othello" and "Twelfth Night." The second section includes works by Debussy, Mozart and Brahms. In the final section, Bland's mezzo-soprano voice will take on some of the best classic Broadway show tunes.

Bland said she chose an eclectic program for entertainment and educational reasons.

"There really isn't a common thread among the selections, but I chose them deliberately. I thought there should be a little something for everyone," she said. "To me, the program is also somewhat of an outreach to students. Hopefully, I can model an inspiration for their vocal development. I want the students to see that just because I sing opera, it doesn't mean I can't do musical theatre. You can sing Mozart as well as Brahms."

Accompanying Bland is James Wells, who joined the OU faculty last year as director of musical theatre. He received his graduate education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and has performed extensively. He has been heard on national and international National Public Radio affiliates as well as on the Canadian Broadcast Corporation.

Tickets for the recital are \$12 for the general public, \$10 for seniors and OU employees and \$6 for students. You can purchase tickets by calling the Varner Hall Box Office at (248) 370-3013, visiting the **Ticketmaster** Web site or at the door one hour before the performance.

SUMMARY

Department of Music, Theatre and Dance is opening its 2001-2002 season with a faculty recital by Barbara Bland on Saturday, September 15, at 8 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall.

Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Friday, September 14, 2001
Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Friday, September 14, 2001
Article Start Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2003