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ASHEVILLE, NC | January 15th, 2024 –**The Blue Ridge Orchestra presents *Music Ménage***
Opera a la carte with musicians from the BRO and UNC Greensboro's Opera Theatre

The Blue Ridge Orchestra's intimate musical salon returns in early March with evening performances at 6:00 pm on Thursday, March 7, at the Governor's Western Residence, and at 7:00 pm on Friday, March 8, in the Upper School Auditorium at Carolina Day School. *Music Ménage* features a chamber ensemble of select orchestra musicians and the return of multi-talented vocalists from the Opera Theatre at UNC Greensboro.

BRO Music Director Milton Crotts and Opera Theatre Director David Holley promise an evening of elegant opera music including selections from Mozart's comedic masterpiece *The Impresario*, "Chi il bel sogno" from Puccini's *La Rondine*, and "Morro, ma prima in grazia" from Giuseppe Verdi's opera about the assassination of Swedish King Gustav III. The program features iconic songs sung by the title characters of three beloved French operas: Bizet's *Carmen* sings the defiant and challenging "Habanera"; Massenet's *Manon* performs her celebratory "Gavotte"; Lakme and her servant girl Mallika sing the hauntingly beautiful "Flower Duet" by Leo Delibes. The emotional tenor aria "La Serenata", the "Intermezzo" from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and the "Meditation" from *Thais* are among the many other highlights of these intimate concerts.

The Thursday evening salon in the Governor's graceful mountain retreat will be accompanied by wine and delectables. Fortunate attendees will have an opportunity to mingle with the gifted performers on both evenings. The Orchestra is delighted to extend its collaboration with the UNC Greensboro Opera Theatre as part of its ongoing mission to promote connections that enhance the musical experiences of WNC audiences. UNC Greensboro is renowned for its Opera Theatre program – UNCG productions have earned seven first-place awards in the National Opera Association's annual competition and its graduates perform with celebrated opera companies across the country. Our exclusive performances help make these musical partnerships possible.

Details: Blue Ridge Orchestra's *Musique Ménage*

Thursday, March 7th, 2024, 7:00 pm
Governor's Western Residence
45 Patton Mountain Rd.
Asheville, NC. 28804
General Admission Tickets: **\$80, Includes wine, and savory hors d'oeuvres**

Friday, March 8th, 2024, 6:00 pm
Carolina Day School, Upper School Auditorium
1345 Hendersonville Road
Asheville, NC 28803.
General Admission Tickets: **\$30**

Info: <https://blueridgeorchestra.org/musique-menage-march-24>, Facebook, Instagram, or call 828-782-3354.

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