

Malcolm Fraser

J. Ralph Corbett Distinguished Chair of Opera at CCM

CCM faculty expert in opera stage direction, unconventional performance venues, the castrato in opera and the influence of the commedia del-arte on opera.

A member of the faculty from 1986 through August of 2003, director Malcolm Fraser was professor and J. Ralph Corbett Distinguished Chair of Opera at CCM. During his tenure, CCM Opera won 26 National Opera Association Production Competition awards, 15 of which were directed by Fraser. Of the remaining 11, seven were directed by MFA opera stage directors. Fraser instituted the policy of performing all operas in the original language, commencing with *La bohème* in 1991. In 1996, Fraser established UC's Opera Theatre of Lucca in conjunction with former CCM faculty member Lorenzo Malfatti. Singers, instrumentalists, coaches, designers and production staff recruited by an international faculty joined CCM students in this comprehensive summer opera program in Italy.

Fraser was internationally known as the founder and artistic director of the Buxton International Festival. He was named a Churchill Fellow in opera and was honored with the Wedgewood Award, Prague International Television Award, the Prix d'Italia, the Kodaly Medal, the *Manchester Evening News* Award and the *Sunday Times* (London) Award for best opera production (Cherubini's *Medea*). He spent eight years as resident director with the Welsh National Opera and directed for the Welsh Drama Company, BBC-TV, NOS-TV Holland, Portland Opera and for opera companies in Seattle, Los Angeles, Indianapolis, Virginia, Milwaukee, Edmonton and Calgary, Canada.

He was senior lecturer in opera studies for eight years at the Royal Northern College of Music and is permanent guest director for Arkansas Opera. In the fall of 1999 he received a Post-Corbett Award and in June 1999 he was honored with the University of Cincinnati Award of Excellence.