

DOENOTES, Vol.6

Memorial Day, May 2008

The DoeHEAD website has seen more than 12,000 home page visits since our Doenotes, Vol. 5 in November of 2007.

*Recall, though, that that only represents visits to the home page.
Most visits to the site come through search engines like
Google and go directly to internal pages instead of to the home page.
So there are likely many many more that are not counted via our current method.*

PERFORMANCE INFO

This has been an excellent DOEyear so far, with five *Baby Doe* productions since January, including two different ones (both this month) in New York City alone: by Brooklyn College Opera Theatre at Brooklyn College Hillel and by the Chelsea Opera at St. Peter's Church in Manhattan. The others were at Western Washington State in Bellingham in March, at Oklahoma City University in February (http://gallery.mutzphotography.com/gallery2/main.php?g2_itemId=21531) and at the Jubilee Auditorium in Calgary by Calgary Opera. More about that below.

As far as we know, there are no other *Ballad of Baby Doe* performances scheduled for 2008, except for the popular Labor Day "chamber-sized" performance on the stage of the Tabor Opera House in Leadville, Colorado on August 22nd, and *Baby Doe* "highlights" to take place at the Glenwood Springs (Colo.) Center for the Arts the following evening on August 23rd. Please let us know of any that we might have missed.

OTHER STAGE EVENTS

On June 28th relatives of Baby Doe's sister Claudia will present their "Opulent and Tragic Baby Doe Tabor" dramatization in another Tabor Opera House performance in Leadville. The performance is being done as a fundraiser to purchase a new furnace for the historic building.
<http://65.124.153.18/merchant.ihtml?id=276&step=2>

DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD WORK IN CANADA, EH?

Speaking of Calgary, enough can't be said about the warm reception *Baby Doe* received in the cold cold (-31C) Alberta winter. In January and February Calgary Opera presented three performances in the massive (2500 seats) Jubilee Auditorium of the first fully-staged *Baby Doe* production in Canada. DoeHEADS Susan Perry and Gareth Rosenau made the trek from Washington, D.C., as did 1956 Central City *Baby Doe* Leyna Gabriele, who was loudly cheered by the sold-out opening night audience after being acknowledged from the stage by Calgary Opera general director Bob McPhee prior to that evening's performance. Earlier in the day, she was the featured panelist during a symposium about the opera and the historical story that also included CBC 2 *Saturday Afternoon at the Opera* host Bill Richardson and yours truly.

Suffice it to say that *Baby Doe* took Calgary by storm. You can see pictures, read four *Calgary Herald* articles, including the "Don't miss it" review that followed opening night, and hear the CBC "DoeHEAD" interview at <http://www.babydoe.org/calgary.htm>. What's more, the thrilling Calgary Opera performance was recorded by the CBC, and became the first CBC Radio Two Saturday afternoon

presentation following the conclusion of the Met broadcasts in early May. Read more about it on the CBC Radio Two Blog at http://www.cbc.ca/radio2/blog/2008/05/10/love_power_scandal_f_1.html

SUMMER READING

In case you haven't picked up Judy Nolte Temple brilliant book *Baby Doe Tabor: The Madwoman in the Cabin* (Univ. of Oklahoma Press), you're missing a real treat. As mentioned in *Doenotes*, Vol. 5, Ms Nolte has given us a formidable and provocative new take on the entire Baby Doe story. Three cheers for Dr. Temple!

LOOKING FOR THAT UNIQUE GETAWAY?

Moore family member Jeff Miller recently wrote to announce that he has inherited Douglas Moore's home Salt Meadow from the estate of the late Brad and Mary (Moore) Kelleher (both of whom sadly passed away over the winter). The two-storied water-side homestead sits in pine-shaded seclusion at the end of Moore's Lane, in Cutchogue, one of the Long Island North Fork's oldest and most charming villages and site of the annual (always around Moore's birthday of August 10th) Douglas Moore Memorial Concert on the historic village green. Salt Meadow was the setting for countless summer outings and impromptu theatrical performances (there's even a stage near the grand piano in the living room) by Moore and colleagues such as composers John Kander and Jack Beeson. At one point librettist John Latouche was even refused further cocktails and locked in an upstairs bedroom until he could prove that he'd written some more *Baby Doe* lyrics. Jeff is thinking about renting it as a summer or winter (it has a furnace) vacation destination, and thought to offer it first to any DoeHEADS who might be interested. If you're so inclined, let me know and I'll pass your interest along so Jeff can get in touch directly.

IN OTHER NEWS

DoeHEAD Lisa Lundgren barely missed having her house flattened by the tornado that swept through her hometown of Windsor, Colorado last Thursday. She, her house and her pets all are okay. Sadly, not so for some of her neighbors, though.

As for weather here on the "North Coast," the pile of snow next to the parking garage at work is but a mere three weeks gone. And today doesn't quite feel yet like summer. Here's hoping you'll have a good one, though, whenever it arrives.

Dave Kanzeg
Cleveland
dkanzeg@aol.com

Home Page Hits:

January 2004: 15,000
September 2004: 20,000
February 2006: 35,000
October 2006: 46,000
November 2007: 53,000
May 2008: 65,000