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Operatic tenor Peter Furlong returns to his hometown of Framingham for Amazing Things performance

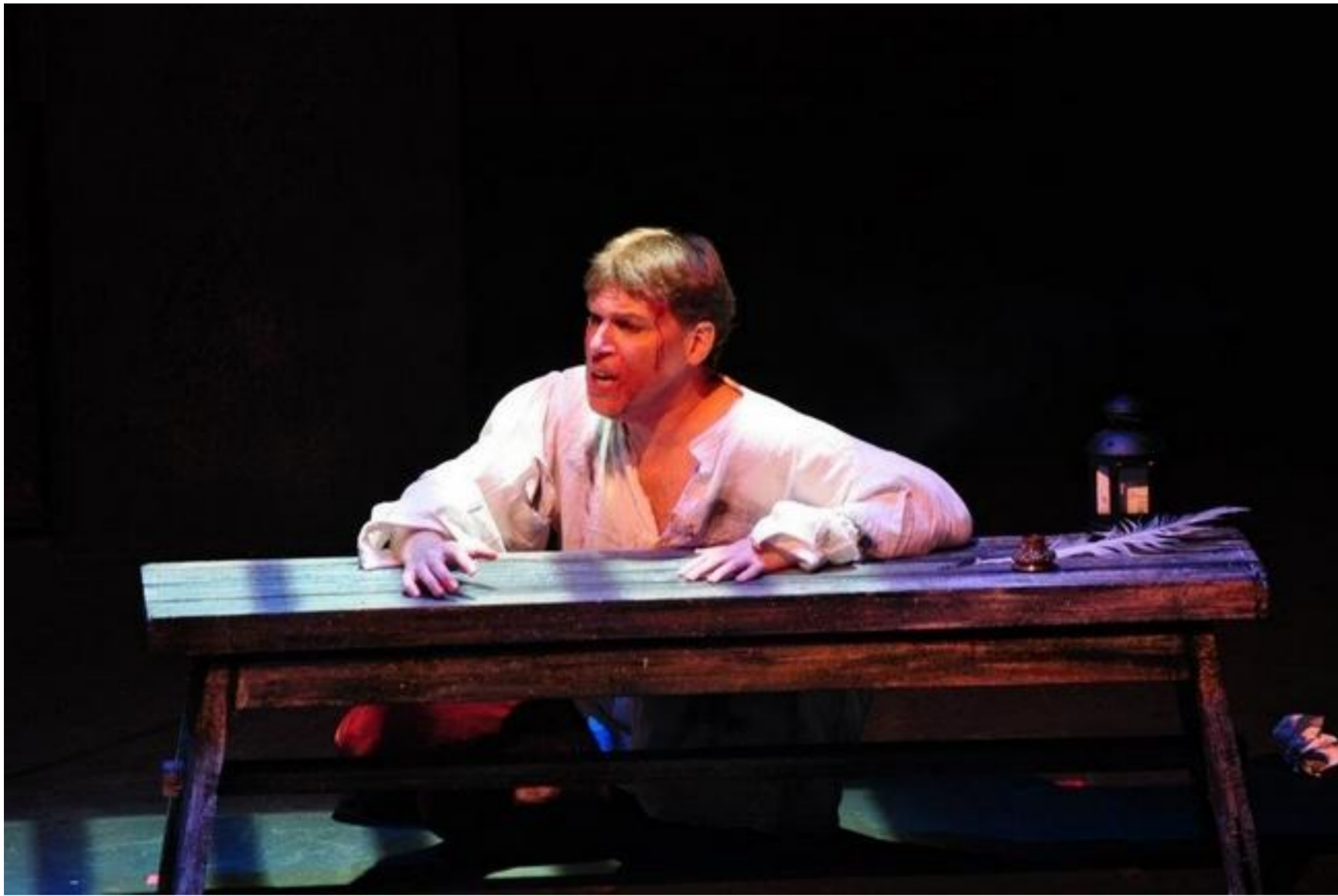








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Operatic tenor Peter Furlong is a Framingham South graduate who now lives in Germany. He'll perform at Amazing Things Aug. 5. Here he performs in "Tosca" with Dicapo Opera in New York. Courtesy Photo



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Operatic tenor Peter Furlong is a Framingham South graduate who now lives in Germany. He'll perform at Amazing Things Aug. 5. Here he performs in "Tosca" with Dicapo Opera in New York. Courtesy Photo



By Keith Powers/Daily News Correspondent

Posted Jul. 25, 2016 at 3:54 PM

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Peter Furlong just hopes that the Doberman doesn't show up when he comes back to town.

The operatic tenor, a Framingham native who now lives in Germany, actually spent some time delivering the MetroWest Daily News - back when it was called the Middlesex News - when he was growing up.

"But I got scared off," he says on the phone from his home in Berlin. "It was December, somewhere around Cushing Hospital, near where I lived, and a Doberman came out when I was delivering. I quit after that."

A journalism career wasn't in the stars anyway. Furlong, who sings in a return visit to the States on Aug. 5 at Amazing Things, trained at UMass Lowell and the Hartt School of Music in Hartford after graduating from Framingham South High. Singing opportunities took him first to Colorado, then to Europe, and after a stay in Italy, he now resides happily in Germany.

"Sad to say, unlike America, you can actually make a living as a singer here in Germany," he says. "When I lived in Boston I did temp work. I had a job at a Greater Boston Food Bank, which I loved, but there's just more work here.

"There's an understanding too, about how an artist can make more in one year than in the next. And although in a lot of countries the cultural budgets are being cut, in Germany

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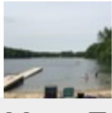
Furlong sings with pianist Sally Morton, and recent Walnut Hill for the Arts graduate Teddy Edgar will open the performance. Furlong says this recital "is a bit of a travelogue. The repertoire in the first half has things I used to sing, but don't anymore."

Furlong has made the transition from lyric tenor, singing lighter roles like Pinkerton in "Madame Butterfly" and Cavaradossi in "Tosca," to heldentenor - entering the world of Wagner.

"It's happened over the last 2 1/2 years," he says. "It's kind of like going from a middle distance runner to a marathon runner. The muscle groups are the same, but the amount of energy is much tougher.

"I was doing auditions, and getting great feedback, but never getting the jobs," he says. "So I contacted a coach I had, back in New York, and she said, 'You're too damn loud. Your voice has grown. You've got to get into the Wagner stuff.' "

So Furlong took a year off, worked into his new range, and says now "my voice loves it. I was never into Wagner so much, but I'm beginning to appreciate him more. It's been a joy and a

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