



**Premiere at Janiec Opera  
Brevard Music Center  
July 25-27, 2013**

- ⤴ Panic Attack
- ⤴ Combat Photographer (Liar)
- ⤴ Hostage (Liar)
- ⤴ I'm feeling pretty awkward/  
My lover died three years ago
- ⤴ Famous Family
- ⤴ Checklist
- ⤴ Campaign Consultant
- ⤴ Ex-Icy Duet

Drawing on years of experience as performers and producers, composer/lyricist **Michael Ching** and director **Dean Anthony** have created a one act opera that is perfect for apprentice programs, college and university opera workshops, fundraising events, and second stage productions.

*Speed Dating Tonight* imagines a speed dating session at a bar in contemporary America. With traditional opening and closing numbers, the middle section of the opera is a group of one-to-two-minute “dater arias” which can be put together according to the number of singers available. The order, key, and, in many cases even the gender, of the daters is flexible. There are varied types. Titles include:

- ⤴ Getting Married
- ⤴ Lives at Home
- ⤴ Origamist
- ⤴ Dancer
- ⤴ I've been lurking
- ⤴ Triathlon Dan/Anne
- ⤴ Pat the Bassonist
- ⤴ Love me, Love my cats
- ⤴ Talkative Girl
- ⤴ Car Man
- ⤴ I've always liked this bar

Some are moving, some are funny. Some are caricatures, some are sincere. There are twenty-five dater arias and duets from which every producer will choose the ones they want to include.

Set in a bar, **SPEED DATING TONIGHT!** has minimal scenic and costume requirements. Running time, depending on the number of dates used, is 50-75+ minutes. Accompaniment is piano with some a cappella singing. There is also an orchestration: clarinet (fl)/drum set (vibraphone)/piano/bass

The piano vocal score to **SPEED DATING TONIGHT!** Comes as a printable pdf file that is meant to be reordered according to the desire of the producer. No two productions are the same. Producers fill out a checklist and the piano vocal score is tailored according to the cast you have available—one person’s dater #2 will be a soprano, at another company it will be a bass.

Cast:	Bartender	Baritone
	Waitress	Mezzo
	Dating Coordinator	Mezzo or Soprano
	Daters	8-20 varied voices

The musical style of the opera is a tonal mix of opera and music theatre.

## Sample texts:

### Origamist

*I'm Carey/Carrie. I'm kind of shy. I'm kind of shy. I work a lot. Don't get up much. Don't get OUT much! Up... out... You know what I mean. I don't talk much either. I can go for days without talking, seems like... There's nothing wrong with me or anything. Non-smoker! I don't snore! Or at least I don't think so. Non-smoker. Non-snorer. That's pretty good right? Do you snore? I don't think I could live with a snorer! Snorer. Is that a word? I think I'm snoring you. BORING you! I'm an origami designer. (Hands over a beautiful origami.) My card's in there. You can look me up. Please look me up.*

### Pat the Bassoonist

*I play the bassoon in the symphony. Do you know what a bassoon is? That's it! The tall one that Looks like a tube. I'd like to date someone who's not in music. But that can be tricky. I play in concerts ev'ry weekend with the symphony. It can interfere with dating. Maybe you'd like to come to a concert? Then we could go out afterwards. You don't have to like classical music. But you have to like beer! Do you like beer? Then let's get together. I'm Pat Number seven. Pat the bassoonist. Number seven.*

### Regular

*I've always liked this bar. It's such a friendly place. It's a nice mix of regulars and strangers. There's a TV in the corner to catch up on all the scores, And some private little tables if who your with matters more. Some friends of mine met here, And they're married now. So I think: "try this out and you might get lucky!" So tell me your story, then I'll tell you mine. And let me order you another glass of wine.*

### Productions July-December 2013

Janiec Opera Company of Brevard Music Festival, Amarillo Opera, Southern Utah University, Ithaca College, University of Central Florida

### Productions scheduled so far in 2014-15

Microscopic Opera Company (Pittsburgh), Poor Richard's Opera (Philadelphia), Texas State

University—San Marcos, University of Memphis, Winter Opera St. Louis

### Bios

The composer/librettist of **BUOSO'S GHOST**, one of the most successful operatic comedies of the last two decades, with this project, **Michael Ching**, has gone back to the roots of his comic success. Companies having performed **BUOSO'S GHOST** include Opera Memphis, Indianapolis Opera, Saratoga Opera, Opera New Jersey, Chicago Opera Theater, and most recently Amarillo Opera. Michael is Music Director at Nickel City Opera in Buffalo and President of the Douglas Moore Fund.

**Dean Anthony** is the Director of Opera of the Janiec Opera at Brevard Music Center. After a long career as a tenor, he is now a Stage Director. This season, his assignments include Fort Worth Opera, Florentine Opera, and Shreveport Opera.

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Video of Brevard premiere:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QrU-eM\\_phUU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QrU-eM_phUU)

Ithaca College recital hall performance:

[http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/2013\\_2014/20131121\\_opshop/](http://www.ithaca.edu/music/live/2013_2014/20131121_opshop/)

Show you tube channel—search Speed Dating Tonight!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSYdGE8ImHdz1TfZLNkVjOQ>