

UCM OPERA PRESENTS

HANSEL AND GRETEL

CLASSIC HUMPERDINCK SCORE;
CHILLING NEW SETTING



SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND - 7:00PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH - 2:30PM

HART RECITAL HALL
FREE



Hansel and Gretel

a Fairy Opera

Sung in English

Music by Engelbert Humperdinck

Libretto by Adelheid Wette after the story by the Brothers Grimm

Translated and adapted into English by Constance Bache

Characters in Order of Vocal Appearance

Gretel	Emily Turner
Hänsel	CJ Miller
Mother (Gertrude)	Katie Brunkhorst
Father (Peter)	Alex Hanshaw-Bhaskar
Sandmen (the sleep fairies)	Tijhana Hines-Bronson & Alannah Trigg
Dewman (the dawn fairy)	Bailey Shaver
The Witch who eats children	Nik Baumert
Gingerbread Children	Tijhana Hines-Bronson, Bailey Shaver, Caleb Starr, and Alannah Trigg
Directed by	Jackson Thomas & assisted by Stella Roden
Pianist	Cynthia Groff
Supertitles	Caleb Starr

Synopsis

SETTING | A post-apocalyptic forest near Ilsenstein, a sinister rock said to be the home of witches.

ACT I (In the broom maker's tent dwelling)

Hansel complains that he is hungry. Gretel shows him some milk a neighbor gave for the family's supper. They dance until their mother, Gertrude, returns. She scolds them for not doing their work. She accidentally spills the milk and sends the children into the woods to catch cockroaches. Their father, Peter, returns home drunk. He shows Gertrude the food he has bought and then asks where the children have gone. Gertrude tells him that she has sent Hansel and Gretel into the woods. He tells her about the Witch and that the children are in danger. They go out into the woods to look for them.

ACT II to ACT III

(In the woods)

Hansel and Gretel hear a cuckoo singing and eat the cockroaches Hansel has caught. Soon they have eaten all of their food. In the sudden silence of the wood, Hansel admits to Gretel that he has lost the way. The children grow frightened. The Sandmen come to put them to sleep, injecting them with a sleeping potion. The children say their evening prayer. In a dream, they see many angels.

(The gingerbread house)

The Dewman comes to wake the children. Gretel wakes Hansel, and they see the gingerbread house. Mesmerized by the gingerbread house, they don't notice the Witch who casts a paralyzing spell on them. She intends to fatten Hansel up and cook him. Gretel breaks the Witch's spell and sets Hansel free. When the Witch asks her to look in the oven, Gretel pretends she doesn't know how—the Witch must show her. When the Witch peers into the oven, Gretel shoves her inside. The gingerbread children come back to life. The mother and father find the children and all express gratitude for their salvation.