



THE NEWS WITH OPERAWIRE

New Episodes Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Central Time

TDO Network presents *The News with OperaWire*, hosted by **David and Francisco Salazar**, who bring strong journalism credentials to this weekly roundup. From stories that delve into the latest industry trends to pieces that explore the influential artists and decision-makers who are reshaping opera in the 21st century, *OperaWire* has it covered.

ABOUT THE HOSTS: *OperaWire* Publisher **Francisco Salazar** worked as a reporter for *Latin Post*, where he interviewed many of the world's most important opera stars. He also worked as an entertainment reporter, covering the New York and Tribeca Film Festivals and interviewing many celebrities, including Antonio Banderas, Edgar Ramirez, and Benedict Cumberbatch. Francisco Salazar holds a master's degree in media management from The New School and a bachelor's degree in film production and Italian studies from Hofstra University.

Prior to creating *OperaWire*, Editor-in-Chief **David Salazar** worked as a reporter for *Latin Post*, where he interviewed major opera stars including Anna Netrebko, Diana Damrau, Plácido Domingo, Vittorio Grigolo, and Rolando Villazon, among others. David Salazar also interviewed numerous Oscar nominees, Golden Globe winners, and film-industry giants, including Guillermo del Toro, Oscar Isaac and John Leguizamo. David holds a master's degree in media management from Fordham University. During his time there, he studied abroad at the Jagiellonian University in Poland. He also holds a dual bachelor's degree from Hofstra University in film production and journalism.



IN THE CHAIR

New Episodes Mondays at 1:00 p.m. Central Time

In the Chair is hosted by Dallas Opera wig and make-up artist **Sarah Norton**. This **TDO Network** series shines the spotlight backstage, where Ms. Norton introduces the behind-the-scenes artists who create opera magic.

ABOUT THE HOST: Sarah Norton is a versatile visual artist known for her wig and makeup design, as well as for her work in puppetry and set design. Most recently, she designed wigs and makeup for Des Moines Metro Opera's 2019 production of *Bon Appetit!*, and was invited to return as wig and makeup designer for *Sweeney Todd* and *Fellow Travelers* (2020), which were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to wigs, she works in puppetry construction, and as a puppetry designer for productions including University of Michigan Basement Arts' *Hand to God*, *White Snake*, and *Little Mermaid*. She has created puppets for many productions, including a new stage adaptation of *The Odyssey* in 2018 for the Brighton Center for the Performing Arts in Michigan. Ms. Norton is currently studying online with puppet makers in Prague, is working as a writer and wig builder, and is producing "In the Chair" for TDO Network. She is an alumna of the University of Michigan's design and production program.



LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE WITH DEANNA

New Episodes Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. Central Time

American soprano **Deanna Breiwick** hosts TDO Network's popular program ***Living Your Best Life with Deanna***, which focuses on simple ways to make life healthier, tastier, happier, and decidedly more "chill."

From sharing physical and mental health exercises to dispensing favorite recipes—from learning to play a new musical instrument in a matter of minutes to reflecting on the ups and downs of working as a professional opera artist—Ms. Breiwick does it all as she offers helpful tips and encouragement for dealing with life's many phases and surprises.

ABOUT THE HOST: American soprano **Deanna Breiwick**, hailed by *The New York Times* for her "sweet sound and floating high notes" and for being a "vocal trapeze artist," is enjoying an exciting and diverse career. Ms. Breiwick's 2019/20 season included a return to Opernhaus Zürich in the title role of Mark-Anthony Turnage's *Coraline*. Orchestral engagements included a return to San Antonio Symphony for Mahler's Symphony No. 2, and a debut with the Detroit Symphony as a soloist in Handel's *Messiah*. In the 2018/19 season, Ms. Breiwick returned to the Metropolitan Opera as a Shadow in the North American premiere of Nico Muhly's *Marnie*; debuted with Michigan Opera Theatre as Gretel in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* and Rosasharn in Ricky Ian Gordon's *The Grapes of Wrath*; sang her first Adina in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* with Opera Omaha, debuted the role of Cunegonde in *Candide* for a return to Des Moines Metro Opera, and sang the role of Norina in *Don Pasquale* for a house debut with Berkshire Opera Festival.



DIVA WHO HUSTLES

New Episodes Tuesdays at 9:00 p.m. Central Time

Soprano **Suzanne Vinnik** combines business, fashion, and entrepreneurship to create ***Diva Who Hustles***, an engaging business-centric program on **TDO Network**. Ms. Vinnik is an opera artist and fashion designer who also specializes in photography and community engagement. As host, she leads lively conversations with other savvy dreamers and doers about the personal journeys behind their business ventures.

ABOUT THE HOST: Praised by the *The New York Times* as a "voice notable for its dramatic nuance" and described by *Opera News* as "Refreshing... (with) beautifully molded, vividly communicative phrasing," Suzanne Vinnik has captivated audiences on many international stages. She has also been recognized beyond music as an interdisciplinary artist and entrepreneur. Ms. Vinnik is an accomplished photographer, successful clothing designer, and an advocate for women in the arts and business. Her diverse operatic engagements have included performances at Florida Grand Opera as Violetta in *La traviata*, Musetta for Nevada Opera Theatre, Opera North, and at the Castleton Festival under the baton of the late Lorin Maazel. She has appeared as Mimì with New Jersey Festival Orchestra in *La bohème*, at Pittsburgh Opera as Leïla in *Les pêcheurs de perles*, and as Gretel in *Hänsel und Gretel*. Audiences at Lyric Opera Virginia and Opera Las Vegas heard her as Micaëla in *Carmen*. This Hart Institute administrator alumna covered the title role in *Manon Lescaut* in The Dallas Opera's 2018/2019 season, stepping in to rehearse under the baton of Maestro Villaume. She has performed extensively overseas, including Norway, where she was featured as a "Star of the Future" in the Kirsten Flagstad Festival. Her voice and original song are recorded on the motion picture soundtrack "Shadow of the Sword" with the Prague Philharmonia, starring Nikolaj Coster-Waldau from *Game of Thrones*.



#AskMaestro

New Episodes Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. Central Time

With A-list guests including **Angela Gheorghiu, Ailyn Pérez, Emmanuel Ceysson, Sonya Yoncheva, Stephen Costello, Matthew Polenzani** and more, ***#AskMaestro*** features Dallas Opera Music Director Emmanuel Villaume in conversation with some of the opera world's most sought-after and celebrated stars.

ABOUT THE HOST: Maestro Emmanuel Villaume is both Music Director and Chief Conductor of the PKF – Prague Philharmonia, and since 2013, Music Director of The Dallas Opera. He guest conducts with the world's major symphony orchestras and opera companies, including the Metropolitan Opera where he has been on the podium for *Tosca, Les pêcheurs de perles, Thaïs, Roméo et Juliette, Madama Butterfly, Samson et Dalila, and Carmen*. At Lyric Opera of Chicago he has led performances of *Faust, Roméo et Juliette, La bohème, The Merry Widow, Manon, and Samson et Dalila*. He has conducted *Madama Butterfly* and *Werther* at the San Francisco Opera, and at Santa Fe Opera has guest conducted *The Golden Cockerel, La fanciulla del West, Les pêcheurs de perles, and The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein*. At The Dallas Opera, Maestro Villaume has conducted highly acclaimed performances of *The Golden Cockerel, The Magic Flute, Don Giovanni, Norma, Samson et Dalila, Eugene Onegin, Moby-Dick, Faust, The Marriage of Figaro, Carmen, and Lolanta*. On the international stage, he has appeared with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu; L'opéra de Montreal; Tokyo Bunka Kaikan; Teatro Colón; and Bastille Opera, in addition to major opera companies in Germany. Other lauded performances in Europe took place at Teatro La Fenice, Teatro Regio di Torino, Teatro Real in Madrid, Opéra de Monte-Carlo, and the Klangbogen Festival in Vienna.



ISA COACHINGS WITH ISABEL LEONARD

New Episodes Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. Central Time

TDO Network presents *Isa Coachings*, led by the world-renowned mezzo-soprano **Isabel Leonard**. The acclaimed artist helps aspiring young opera singers through intensive, one-on-one coachings, as audiences from all over the world have the opportunity to listen in and learn.

ABOUT THE HOST: Multiple Grammy Award-winning **Isabel Leonard** continues to thrill audiences both in the opera house and on the concert stage. In repertoire that spans Vivaldi to Mozart to Nico Muhly, she has graced the stages of the Vienna State Opera, Paris Opera, Salzburg Festival, Bavarian State Opera, Carnegie Hall, Glyndebourne Festival, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Aix-en-Provence Festival, Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, and Los Angeles Opera. She made her Dallas Opera debut in 2014 as Rosina in a delightful, Magritte-inspired production of *The Barber of Seville*.

Television and film appearances include "Sesame Street," and host for The Metropolitan Opera's Live in HD movie theater transmissions. In 2020, she made acclaimed debuts at Royal Opera House Covent Garden as Charlotte in *Werther*, and at Dutch National Opera as Angelina in *La cenerentola*. In concert, she sang *L'enfant et les sortilèges* with the Philadelphia Orchestra and Cincinnati Symphony, and *Shéhérazade* with the New York Philharmonic and Detroit Symphony Orchestra.



TAKING THE STAGE WITH KRISTIAN AND QUO

New Episodes Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. Central Time

The compelling **TDO Network** program, *Taking the Stage with Kristian and Quo*, presents opportunities to dig deep and explore collective solutions through meaningful conversations about topics including inclusion, the arts, education, equity, diversity, opera, and more.

ABOUT THE HOSTS: TDO Director of Education **Kristian Roberts** leads the company's student-based education efforts, overseeing programs designed for grades K-12 and college. Kristian has performed on the mainstage as a member of The Dallas Opera Chorus and is co-host for the company's outdoor simulcasts. She is a member of the Advisory Board and Arts Council for Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, and serves on OPERA America's ALAANA Opera Network steering committee to enrich the art form and industry through increased diversity and equitable practices. Ms. Roberts holds a master's degree in music in vocal performance from Southern Methodist University, with additional studies in music history, and a bachelor's degree in vocal performance from Baylor University.

Education and Company Culture Manager **Quodesia "Quo" Johnson** manages grades K-12 and college educational programs while overseeing TDO's commitment to fostering an inclusive culture. She serves local, national, and international communities as a speaker and consultant to help achieve true equity, healing, and connection in the arts. Additional roles include projects with OPERA America's ALAANA Opera Network steering committee, and Bishop Arts Theatre Center. The Prairie View A&M graduate and 2020 AMEX Women in Music Leadership Academy participant is currently earning her master's degree in arts administration from Goucher College, and is a 2019-2020 Grant Awardee of AAUW Career Development Grant.



THE QUICK

New Episodes Thursdays at 9:00 p.m. Central Time

Now more than ever, audiences need stories that “cut to the quick,” says American baritone **Michael Mayes**. He delivers them through his TDO Network program, ***The Quick***, which focuses on the deeply human connections that can be found in the world of opera. Mayes explores how compelling stories make it to the opera stage with fascinating guests including **Laura Thompson-Weishaupt**—daughter of Colonel Floyd James Thompson, the protagonist portrayed in *Glory Denied*; baritones **Will Liverman** and **Jermaine Woodward, Jr.**, who reveal details of their “primal brotherhood” as mentor and mentee; and baritones **Andy Wilkowske** and **Matt Worth** from the 2016 Atlanta Opera cast of Kevin Puts’ Pulitzer Prize-winning *Silent Night*.

ABOUT THE HOST: Baritone **Michael Mayes** stunned London audiences as Joseph de Rocher in the U.K. premiere of Jake Heggie’s *Dead Man Walking*, in which he starred with Joyce DiDonato at London’s Barbican Center. Mayes made his European debut in the role at Madrid’s Teatro Real. This season, he reprised the role with Atlanta Opera in a critically acclaimed production that also starred Jamie Barton. Michael Mayes is renowned for his outstanding performances in contemporary operas, including the Grammy-nominated world premiere of *Great Scott* at The Dallas Opera and later at San Diego Opera; in Joby Talbot’s *Everest* in TDO’s 2017 revival; and in *Margaret Garner* opposite Denyce Graves with Opera Philadelphia. 2018/2019 performances included his debut at Staatsoper Stuttgart as the title character in *Nixon in China*, Conte di Luna in *Il trovatore* for Seattle Opera, *Moby-Dick*’s Starbuck in Pittsburgh, Col. Floyd James Thompson in *Glory Denied* most recently at Des Moines Metro Opera, and the title role of *Sweeney Todd* for Atlanta Opera, where he also performed his first *Wozzeck*. Mr. Mayes also excels in dramatic baritone roles such as Scarpia/*Tosca*, Jack Rance/*La fanciulla del West*, and the title roles of *Don Giovanni* and *Rigoletto*.



THE MIDDLECLASS ARTIST

New Episodes Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Central Time

Through a series of short, self-contained episodes, **Zach Finkelstein**, tenor and arts writer, tackles the most common dilemmas facing today's emerging artists and freelancers as he offers sensible advice on how to build a successful and sustainable career in his program ***The Middleclass Artist***.

ABOUT THE HOST: Zach Finkelstein is, according to *The Collaborative Piano Blog*, "one of the strongest advocates for the artist in society and their never-ending challenge to make an honest living." He is the founder, editor, and lead writer of the website, ***The Middleclass Artist*** (middleclassartist.com), an independent journalism site for artists and arts advocacy that has been praised by Alex Ross of *The New Yorker* for its "assiduously well-informed" and "keen reporting." Mr. Finkelstein has performed as a concert and opera soloist for the past nine years, from New York's Lincoln Center to London's Sadler's Wells. Lauded by Anthony Tommasini of *The New York Times* as a "compelling tenor," his stage credits include the New York City Opera, Opera Grand Rapids, and the Pacific Northwest Ballet (tenor soloist in *Carmina Burana*). Over the past five years, Mr. Finkelstein has sung 32 performances of Handel's *Messiah* with 14 different orchestras. Recently, he toured with the Spanish new music opera, *Comala*, with the Zohn Collective, performing in centers from Guadalajara, Mexico to Chicago. He released his first album, *Britten and Pears: the Canticles*, in 2017 and is releasing his second album this summer. In his dual career, Mr. Finkelstein also works as a research manager for Innovative Research Group, a Canadian public affairs and corporate communication firm. He holds an Artist Diploma (Voice) from the Royal Conservatory of Music's Glenn Gould School in Toronto and a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in political science from McGill University in Montreal.



NICK @ 9

Fridays at 9:00 p.m. Central Time

Singer, successful podcaster, and host of one of TDO's inaugural shows, "Hook Push and Pray," **Nicholas Brownlee** presents what may be opera's first online variety show, **Nick @ 9**. The program incorporates live performance, a "March Madness"-style competition to crown the greatest opera singer of all time, and even modern-day parlor games, including a contest to find out what married opera couples *really* know about each other.

Brownlee's many special guests include his wife, mezzo-soprano **Jennifer Feinstein**, likened by the *Los Angeles Times* to "a young Horne, so rich is her mezzo and so full of spark was she on stage."

ABOUT THE HOST: Bass-baritone **Nicholas Brownlee** has been described as "charismatic and charming" (*The New York Times*) with a "commanding presence" and "rich tone" (*Musical America*). He is a first-prize winner of the Hans Gabor Belvedere Singing Competition, winner of the zarzuela prize at Operalia, and Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions grand-prize winner. In the 2018/19 season, as a member of the ensemble at Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe, Brownlee sang in new productions of *Der freischutz* (Kaspar) and *The Tales of Hoffmann* (Villains), as well as in the revivals of *Anna Bolena* (Enrico VIII). A former Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist at Los Angeles Opera, he has been seen as Nourabad in *The Pearl Fishers*, Sprecher in *The Magic Flute*, the Bonze in *Madama Butterfly* and Captain Gardiner in *Moby-Dick*, all conducted by James Conlon. He also sang Colline in *La bohème* conducted by Gustavo Dudamel at LA Opera, and debuted at The Dallas Opera and Atlanta Opera in the same role. The 2017 Richard Tucker Career Grant recipient debuted at Teatro de São Carlos in Lisbon as Escamillo in Calixto Bieto's production of *Carmen*.



CONDUCTORS' COLLECTIVE

New Episodes Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. Central Time

Explore the concept of leadership, and learn how to recognize and encourage the qualities that make an effective leader, either on the podium or in the administrative suite: these are the focal points of **Conductors' Collective** on TDO Network.

ABOUT THE HOSTS: Conductor **Lina Gonzalez-Granados** has been praised for her “attention to orchestral colors” (*OperaWire*) and her ability to create “lightning changes in tempo, meter and effect” (*Boston Musical Intelligencer*). This talented young conductor of opera, classical, and contemporary music was appointed a conducting fellow of both the Philadelphia Orchestra and Seattle Symphony, beginning in the 2019-2020 season. She recently concluded her work as a Taki Concordia Conducting Fellow (2017-2019), a prestigious position created by Maestro Marin Alsop for female conductors. Ms. Gonzalez-Granados has upcoming engagements scheduled with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Oxford Symphony, and Radio Television Española, among others. As winner of the 2019 Chicago Symphony Orchestra Sir Georg Solti International Conducting Competition and Apprenticeship, she will be mentored by Riccardo Muti through the 2020-2021 season. Previous mentors include Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Bramwell Tovey, Marin Alsop, and Bernard Haitink.

Kensho Watanabe is fast becoming one of the most exciting and versatile young American conductors to emerge on the international stage. The recipient of a Career Assistance Award from the Solti Foundation U.S., he served as assistant conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra from 2016 to 2019, making his critically acclaimed subscription-season debut with the orchestra and pianist Daniil Trifonov. Mr. Watanabe debuted this season with the London Philharmonic, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, the Tokyo Philharmonic, and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. Equally at home in the symphonic and operatic repertoire, he has led numerous opera performances for the Curtis Opera Theatre, including Puccini's *La bohème* and *La rondine*, as well as Tchaikovsky's rarely performed *Iolanta*. Mr. Watanabe will make his Metropolitan Opera debut in 2021 when he takes the podium for Jake Heggie's masterpiece, *Dead Man Walking*.



CREATIVE CONVERSATIONS

New Episodes Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. Central Time

“Do it. Live it. Own it—Now’s the time!” That is the underlying message of **TDO Network’s *Creative Conversations***, an interactive digital chatroom and livestream, hosted by **David Lomeli**, Dallas Opera director of artistic administration and executive producer of TDO Network.

Responding to the evolving challenges confronting artists around the world, Mr. Lomeli urges viewers to explore new methods and platforms, embrace collaboration, and find the courage and imagination to create their own opportunities for artistic expression and advancement.

ABOUT THE HOST: **David Lomeli** joined The Dallas Opera in 2014 as artistic coordinator, and was named director of artistic administration in 2018. He was also recently named casting director for Bavarian State Opera, effective in 2021. As the first manager of Dallas Opera’s Hart Institute for Women Conductors, Mr. Lomeli recruited over 400 conductors from more than 30 countries to apply, as well as 50 US women administrators. Before joining TDO, Mr. Lomeli performed as a tenor with many of the world’s leading companies including the Berlin Philharmonic, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Glyndebourne Festival, Santa Fe Opera, Los Angeles Opera, and San Francisco Opera. He earned an undergraduate degree in computer science engineering at the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Mexico, and a graduate degree in international marketing from la Universidad Politecnica de Catalunya in Barcelona, Spain. He is a recipient of the National Youth Prize in the Arts, presented by the Mexican government, and won first prize in the categories of opera and zarzuela in Plácido Domingo’s 2006 *Operalia*. Mr. Lomeli is an alumnus of some of the most prestigious training programs for opera artists: the Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist Program at LA Opera, the Merola Opera Program and Adler Fellowship at the San Francisco Opera, and the International Society of Mexican Art and Values in Mexico City.



LIVE FROM THE PIT

New LIVE Episodes Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Central Time

Harpist **Grace Browning** and friends invite viewers to join them for live performances and conversations of consequence. Opera singers, conductors, composers, and musicians “from the pit” share personal insights into the joys and challenges of performing onstage today. ***Live from the Pit*** is centered on a mutual love of opera, life-changing performances, and the extraordinary people who bring the music to life.

ABOUT THE HOST: Grace Browning is principal harp for both the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Santa Fe Opera. She was previously principal harp for The Dallas Opera Orchestra. In recent seasons, Ms. Browning made guest appearances with the Houston Symphony Orchestra, including performing with the orchestra on its 2018 European tour. She also appeared regularly as second harp with the Philadelphia Orchestra and with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. She has been invited to perform at prestigious music festivals around the world, including the Tanglewood Music Center, Spoleto Festival USA, Aspen Music Festival, and the Pacific Music Festival. Her solo engagements include concertos with the Pacific Symphony, New World Symphony, and Colorado’s National Repertory Orchestra. In 2015, she was a winner of the Young Texas Artists Competition and the Aspen Music Festival Harp Concerto Competition. An accomplished chamber musician, she is a founding member of the Dallas Harp Quartet, which features four of the country’s premiere harpists, and for whom she enjoys arranging new works. Originally from New Jersey, Ms. Browning began studying the harp at age nine. After spending two years at the Eastman School of Music, she finished her undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan in 2009 before earning a master’s degree at The Juilliard School in 2011.