

Media Release

MAY 11, 2021

Media Contacts: Suzanne Calvin, 817.995.1687 Rachelle Roe, 312.618.6655

THE DALLAS OPERA PRESENTS FREE POPS CONCERT IN ANNETTE STRAUSS SQUARE

FRIDAY, MAY 21 AT 7:30 PM

DALLAS—The Dallas Opera (TDO) Orchestra, conducted by Emmanuel Villaume, The Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director, performs a free outdoor OperaPops! concert on **Friday**, **May 21**, **at 7:30 p.m.** in Annette Strauss Square. Soprano <u>Deanna Breiwick</u> and Grammy®-winning singers mezzo-soprano <u>Sasha Cooke</u> and baritone <u>Lucas Meachem</u> join TDO Orchestra in a program of favorites from both the opera and Broadway stages. TDO's OperaPops! concert features songs and music from *My Fair Lady, South Pacific, The Sound of Music, Carousel, Candide*, and more.

Ian Derrer, TDO's Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO, said, "This OperaPops! program is pure fun with something for all ages. Everyone will recognize these tunes which are perfectly suited for an open-air concert in our beautiful Strauss Square."

American soprano Deanna Breiwick, was hailed by *The New York Times* for her "sweet sound and floating high notes" and for being a "vocal trapeze artist." Sasha Cooke has been called a "luminous standout" (*New York Times*) and "equal parts poise, radiance, and elegant directness" (*Opera News*). Lucas Meachem, a "commanding presence," (*San Francisco Chronicle*) has also been dubbed "A rock star of opera" (*Opera Pulse*). All three will return to a future TDO season for the premiere of Joby Talbot and Gene Scheer's *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*.

Emmanuel Villaume, The Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director, added, "Audiences are in for a real treat with this concert! These soloists are outstanding and it will be a joy to work with and to hear them with our Orchestra."

The concert is free, but advance registration is required due to capacity guidelines. Register at <u>dallasopera.org/pops</u>. Seating at Strauss Square is first come, first served. Distancing protocols are in effect, and masks are required.

A rain date is set for Saturday, May 22, at 7:30 p.m.; visit dallasopera.org for more information.

ABOUT THE DALLAS OPERA

One of the leading opera companies in the country, The Dallas Opera has an extraordinary legacy of world-class productions and thrilling premieres featuring the greatest operatic artists of our time. Inaugurated in 1957 with a concert featuring the incomparable Maria Callas, TDO is known for the notable U.S. debuts of a host of legendary artists including Plácido Domingo, Dame Joan Sutherland, Jon Vickers, Franco Zeffirelli, and Sir David McVicar. The company has long been an industry leader and innovator through groundbreaking initiatives including the Hart Institute for Women Conductors, TDO Network, free public simulcasts, acclaimed art song recitals, the national vocal competition, special concerts, and outstanding family and award-winning education programs. TDO's home is the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House, a jewel in the Dallas Arts District. As one of the largest performing arts employers in North Texas, TDO is proudly committed to diversity, both onstage and off, and is a major contributor to the economic vitality and international cultural reputation of this region.

SEASON SPONSOR

The Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger Family

The Dallas Opera is supported, in part, by funds from: Elsa von Seggern Foundation; Texas Instruments; the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture; the Texas Commission on the Arts; and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

American Airlines is the official airline of The Dallas Opera. **Lexus** is the official vehicle of The Dallas Opera. Advertising support from The Dallas Morning News. **NorthPark Center**, the official shopping center of The Dallas Opera. The Dallas Opera is a proud member of **OPERA America**.

###

#DallasOpera

Follow us on social media:







