

JUNE 17, 2021

Media Contacts:

[Rachelle Roe](#), 312.618.6655

**THE DALLAS OPERA EXTENDS GENERAL DIRECTOR  
AND CEO IAN DERRER’S AND MUSIC DIRECTOR  
EMMANUEL VILLAUME’S CONTRACTS FOR FIVE YEARS**

**COMPANY APPOINTS LOCAL BUSINESS LEADER  
QUINCY ROBERTS TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT  
ANNUAL MEETING**

DALLAS—At its annual meeting of the Board of Directors on June 10, 2021, The Dallas Opera’s (TDO) leadership announced the extension of The Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO Ian Derrer’s and The Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director Emmanuel Villaume’s contracts for five years, through the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 seasons, respectively. Also announced were the appointment of two new members of its Board of Directors, as well as new membership to the Executive Committee.

Ann Stuart, Ph.D., Board Chair, presided over the meeting, during which she announced Derrer’s and Villaume’s contract extensions and welcomed Quincy Roberts, CEO of Roberts Trucking as a new Director. Augustine “Tino” Jalomo, of the Dallas Arts and Culture Advisory Commission, also joins the Board as an ex-officio member. Roberts is a trained opera singer, TDO Trustee, TDO Chorus member, and CEO of Roberts Trucking, the largest African American-owned construction hauler in Dallas. Jalomo is a graduate of SMU’s Temerlin Advertising Institute and Meadows School of the Arts, started the music enrichment program for the Cristo Rey Dallas College Prep as director of the music ensemble, and has become an active member of the Dallas Area Cultural Advocacy Coalition and Texans for the Arts.

Board Chair Ann Stuart praised Derrer’s leadership, “Ian Derrer is a visionary and transformative leader, and has brought the Dallas Opera to new creative heights and broader audiences throughout the Dallas region during his tenure so far. It gives me great pleasure to, on behalf of the entire Board, extend his contract for five years.”

“I’m delighted to announce Maestro Villaume’s contract extension,” said Ian Derrer, TDO’s Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO. “Over the past nine seasons, he has brought his musicality, sensitivity, and passion for our artform to Dallas, and we are simply thrilled that he will be with us for five more years. As for myself, it’s a joy to lead this Company, and I am grateful to the Board for their continued faith in our partnership for the next five years.”

Regarding TDO’s new Board appointments, Derrer continued, “We are also grateful to Quincy and Tino for their ongoing support of The Dallas Opera, and are so pleased that they have agreed to join our Board of Directors.”

Stuart added, “We are thrilled to add these talented individuals to our Board, and look forward to working with them. Both of them bring deep connection to and love for this art form, as well as a commitment to artistic excellence, community engagement and education, and DEI work. We heartily welcome them.”

In addition, Alice Bass, Davis Hamlin, Geraldine “Tincy” Miller, and James R. Seitz, Jr. were named Honorary Directors, in recognition of their exhibited longstanding support of and service to the Company.

Derrer then presented TDO’s annual General Director’s Award to Dr. Robert Haley, Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the Division of Epidemiology in the Internal Medicine Department at UT Southwestern Medical Center, in recognition of his outstanding efforts advising TDO on testing and safety protocols during the pandemic.

The Executive Committee welcomes three new members—Cynthia Floyd, Linda VanSickle Smith, and Martha Wells—and now comprises 19 individuals with staggered term dates.

~~~~~

## 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.

## 2020/2021 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:**

