

JULY 20, 2021

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THE DALLAS OPERA ANNOUNCES FALL 2021 LINEUP OF PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

Tickets On Sale Starting July 25

Postponed recital by Benjamin Appl rescheduled for January 30, 2022

DALLAS—The Dallas Opera (TDO) announces its slate of live, in-person performances for the start of the 2021/2022 Season at its home, the Winspear Opera House. Tickets are available starting Sunday, July 25. In addition, The Robert E. and Jean Ann Titus Family Recital by baritone Benjamin Appl that was postponed in 2020 will now take place on January 30, 2022, at 2 p.m. in the Moody Performance Hall at the AT&T Performing Arts Center. Tickets for this recital will go on sale in the fall.

“We are just thrilled to be able to return to live events in 2021,” said Ian Derrer, the Dallas Opera’s The Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO. “We can’t wait to welcome our audiences and artists back to the Winspear in October!”

Opera’s Greatest Hits!

Emmanuel Villaume, The Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director, leads The Dallas Opera Orchestra in three performances of ***Opera’s Greatest Hits!*** on **October 22, 24, and 30**, at the Winspear, featuring iconic music from a selection of operas spanning the centuries, from Mozart’s *The Marriage of Figaro* and *The Magic Flute* and Handel’s *Rodelinda*, to Boito’s *Mefistofele*, Strauss’ *Der Rosenkavalier* and Britten’s *Peter Grimes*, as well as many of Verdi’s numerous works that define Italian opera.

Sopranos Maria Agresta, Kathryn Lewek, Ewa Płonka, and Lauren Snouffer; countertenor Ariyeh Nussbaum Cohen; tenor Gregory Kunde; baritone Gabriele Viviani; and bass-baritones Mark Doss and Michael Sumuel comprise the distinguished cast for all three performances. *Opera's Greatest Hits!* is sponsored by Texas Instruments. Tickets (\$19 - \$150).

The Dallas Opera National Vocal Competition

On **Friday, October 29, at 7:30 p.m.**, The Dallas Opera presents the final round of its 31st Vocal Competition, sponsored by The Dallas Opera Guild at the Winspear Opera House. Finalists in the competition will be accompanied by The Dallas Opera Orchestra and led by Music Director Emmanuel Villaume. Finalists will be selected by a distinguished panel of judges, chaired by The Dallas Opera's Artistic Consultant David Lomeli and including Maestro Villaume; Afton Battle, General Director of Fort Worth Opera; Christina Scheppelmann, General Director of Seattle Opera; Jean Kellogg, Executive Director of the Merola Program; and Brian Zeger, Artistic Director of the Marcus Vocal Arts Department at The Juilliard School.

"One of my favorite parts of participating in this competition is showcasing young and rising talent," said Music Director Emmanuel Villaume, "particularly when an unexpected moment happens and fills us all with a sense of discovery." He continued, "These gifted singers are the artists of tomorrow, and it gives me great pride that they may get their start here at The Dallas Opera as part of this competition."

The competition is open to applicants aged 18-34 from all U.S states and territories, including international students attending American colleges, universities, and music conservatories. Also eligible are active members of any young artist program associated with an American opera company. Winners receive cash prizes, as well as the opportunity to perform with a major orchestra and a world-class conductor. Preliminary and semi-final rounds are held privately. This year's event is co-chaired by Guild members Jana and Mac Irwin to honor the memories of Cecile Bonte and Connie Klemow, who were longtime leaders of The Dallas Opera Guild and enthusiastic supporters of The Dallas Opera's young artist development programs. Tickets: \$10, general admission.

Hart Institute for Women Conductors Showcase Concert

On **Saturday, November 6, at 7:30 p.m.** The Dallas Opera presents the Hart Institute for Women Conductors Showcase Concert, featuring the participants from the virtual Institute in February 2021. The Dallas Opera Orchestra will be led by seven of the opera world's rising young conductors—Yeo Ryeong Ahn (South Korea), Christine Brandes (USA), Michelle Di Russo (Argentina), Barbara Dragan (Poland), Chelsea Gallo (USA), Elinor Rufeizen (Israel), and Susannah Wapshott (UK)—in an evening of opera favorites at the Winspear, sung by some of the area's top young singers.

Launched in 2015, TDO's Hart Institute is one of the only programs of its kind in the world. Now in its sixth year, more than 37 women conductors from 40 nations have been trained, advised, and supported by this extraordinary initiative. This concert is the grand finale of an intensive two-week residency, which, while partially virtual this year, included working with some of today's most renowned conductors, artistic advisers, and opera leadership. 2021 program naming support generously funded by Linda and Mitch Hart with additional annual support provided by Martha McCarty Wells, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Betty and Steve Suellentrop, Texas Women's Foundation, and Jenifer and Peter Flynn. Tickets: \$15-\$50.

Tickets go on sale to the general public on July 25 for all Fall events at dallasopera.org or via phone at 214.443.1000. Subscribers receive a 15% discount off the single ticket price for *Opera's Greatest Hits!* Anyone purchasing before August 2 will have the \$10 per-order service fee waived. Visit dallasopera.org for more information.

The Winspear Opera House will operate at full capacity in the Fall of 2021. Masks are recommended for unvaccinated patrons unless they are dining. Protocols may change; ticket purchase acknowledges consent to the AT&T Performing Arts Center's Code of Conduct and safety policies for masking and social distancing. Patrons should check attpac.org/your-visit/ for the latest information.

Funding Credits

Opera's Greatest Hits! is sponsored by Texas Instruments.

The Dallas Opera National Vocal Competition is sponsored by The Dallas Opera Guild in memory of Cecile Bonte and Connie Klemow.

The Dallas Opera Hart Institute for Women Conductors is sponsored by Linda and Mitch Hart, Martha McCarty Wells, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Betty and Steve Suellentrop, Texas Women's Foundation, and Jenifer and Peter Flynn.

January 30 performance by Benjamin Appl made possible by Robert E. and Jean Ann Titus.

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#### **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**

**Mary Anne Cree, in Memory of Rosine Smith Sammons**

The Dallas Opera is supported, in part, by funds from:  
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.

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The Dallas Opera is a proud member of **OPERA America**.

#### **CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:**

**Friday, October 22, at 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, October 24, at 2:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, October 30, at 7:30 p.m.**

Winspear Opera House

The Dallas Opera Orchestra

Emmanuel Villaume, conductor

Maria Agresta, Kathryn Lewek, Ewa Płonka, and Lauren Snouffer, sopranos

Ariyeh Nussbaum Cohen, countertenor

Gregory Kunde, tenor  
Gabriele Viviani, baritone  
Mark Doss and Michael Sumuel, bass-baritones

***Opera's Greatest Hits!***

Program to include selections from:

|          |                                                               |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| MOZART   | <i>The Marriage of Figaro, The Magic Flute, Don Giovanni</i>  |
| VERDI    | <i>Aida, Rigoletto, Macbeth, Un ballo in Maschera, Otello</i> |
| BOITO    | <i>Mefistofele</i>                                            |
| STRAUSS  | <i>Der Rosenkavalier</i>                                      |
| HANDEL   | <i>Agrippina, Rodelinda</i>                                   |
| BRITTEN  | <i>Peter Grimes</i>                                           |
| GIORDANO | <i>Andrea Chénier</i>                                         |
| PUCCINI  | <i>Turandot</i>                                               |

Tickets: \$15-\$150. Reserved seating.

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**Friday, October 29, at 7:30 p.m.**

Winspear Opera House  
The Dallas Opera Orchestra  
Emmanuel Villaume, conductor  
The Dallas Opera National Vocal Competition, Final Round

Participants to be announced.

Tickets: \$10. General Admission seating.

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**Saturday, November 6 at 7:30 p.m.**

Hart Institute for Women Conductors Showcase Concert  
The Dallas Opera Orchestra  
Conductors:  
Yeo Ryeong Ahn (South Korea)  
Christine Brandes (USA)  
Michelle Di Russo (Argentina)  
Barbara Dragan (Poland)  
Chelsea Gallo (USA)  
Elinor Rufeizen (Israel)  
Susannah Wapshott (UK)

Program TBA

Tickets: \$15-\$50. Reserved seating.

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Tickets go on sale to the general public on July 25 at [dallasopera.org](http://dallasopera.org) or via phone at 214.443.1000.

Subscribers receive a 15% discount off the single ticket price for *Opera's Greatest Hits!* only. Anyone purchasing before August 2 will have the \$10 per-order service fee waived. Visit [dallasopera.org](https://dallasopera.org) for more information.

Programs and artists subject to change.

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**#DallasOpera**

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