



## The Dallas Opera Announces 2023 Maria Callas Award Winner, New Board Chair, and the Annual General Director's Award

Countertenor Kangmin Justin Kim Honored for  
Debut Role in *Hansel and Gretel*

Local Businessman Quincy Roberts Elected as Board Chair

TDO Guild President Susan Geyer Receives Annual Award for  
Outstanding Leadership

**DALLAS**—(6/15/2023) The Dallas Opera named countertenor **Kangmin Justin Kim** as the 2023 "**Maria Callas Debut Artist of the Year**" for his captivating Opera debut as Hansel in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*.

The annual award, selected exclusively by Dallas Opera subscribers, is given to a single performer each season in recognition of a particularly memorable and outstanding company debut. *OnstageNTX* called his performance "marvelous," delivered with "a strikingly sonorous and strong mezzo-timbered voice, excellent acting chops, boundless energy, and a touch of modern-day punk."

Born in South Korea and raised in Chicago, Mr. Kim studied voice, opera, and musical theater at Northwestern University and the Royal Academy of Music, London. In the summer of 2022, he created the role of Song Liling in the world premiere of *M. Butterfly* at Santa Fe Opera, receiving rave reviews for his "alluring, ringing tone" and his "sensitivity as an actor" (*The New York Times*).

Audiences can watch Kangmin Justin Kim's award-winning performance in *Hansel and Gretel* on [thedallasopera.tv](https://www.thedallasopera.tv) now through July 31 for free.

**Quincy Roberts**, CEO of Dallas-based Roberts Trucking, Inc., was elected today to serve a two-year term as Board Chair. Holding a bachelor's degree in music, voice, and opera from Indiana University Bloomington, Quincy experienced his first Dallas Opera performance at the age of 10. In the last 30 years, he has served as a patron, usher, chorister, Trustee, and on the Board of Directors, as well as numerous committees. During the pandemic, he brought The Dallas Opera's OperaTruck to life, an 18-foot flatbed truck that continues to make significant impact by bringing opera to communities outside the Dallas Arts District. Mr. Roberts is the first African American Board Chair in the history of The Dallas Opera.

"The Dallas Opera had a significant impact on my life since childhood and planted a seed that continues to blossom today. Being elected as Board Chair is a true honor and I look forward to working together with our CEO, board members, staff, patrons, and community partners as we continue to redefine TDO as a world class leader in opera on and off the stage," said Roberts. The Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO, Ian Derrer added "We are so fortunate to have both Quincy's deeply rooted passion for opera and business acumen and at the helm of our Board of Directors. There couldn't be a better match for the role, and we're excited to see what the future holds."

**Susan Geyer** received the 2022/2023 General Director's Award for her exemplary leadership and volunteer contributions to The Dallas Opera. Having attended TDO performances since 1982, Susan became a Trustee in the 2010/2011 Season and Secretary of the Board of Directors in July 2020. A champion of arts education, Susan has volunteered for TDO's Education Committee since 2010 and has served as Co-Chair and Chair since 2014. Susan was also part of the initial 2015 founding Committee for the Hart Institute for Women Conductors. A long-time member of The Dallas Opera Guild, she is now completing her term as Guild President along with her husband, Mark. Most recently, her tireless advocacy for developing younger audiences helped inspire the transition of The Dallas Opera Guild to Bravo—a new program designed to attract new devotees and volunteers.

**For media inquiries, please email**  
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**2022/2023 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**.

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**Photos:** Lynn Lane, Kyle Flubacker

## **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, free and low-cost digital streaming, 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 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.

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