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## The Dallas Opera's 2023/2024 Mainstage Season Begins Friday, October 13, with Puccini's Classic, *Tosca*

Additional Performances on October 15, 18, and 21



(DALLAS, September 26, 2023) The Linda and Mitch Hart Season Opening Performance at [The Dallas Opera](https://www.dallasopera.org/), takes place **Friday, October 13** with the first mainstage production of the 2023/2024 season—Puccini's classic drama, *Tosca*. Three additional performances take place on October 15(mat), 18, and 21, at the Winspear Opera House. The opening night performance begins at 8pm.

This new-to-Dallas production of *Tosca* stars the “honey-tone tenor” (*The New York Times*) **Joseph Calleja** in his highly anticipated Dallas Opera debut, alongside dramatic soprano **Ewa Płonka**—who was last heard on The Dallas Opera stage in 2021—in the title role. Korean **Gihoon Kim**, “a velvet baritone” (*The Guardian*), makes his Dallas Opera debut as the evil Scarpia.

The Dallas Opera's production from Cincinnati Opera, originally directed by Jose Maria Condemni, is directed by Andrew Nienaber, in his company debut, with set and costume design by Robert Perdziola. The Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director Emmanuel Villaume conducts The Dallas Opera Orchestra and Chorus.

All attendees are invited to join in the lobby following the opening night performance on October 13 for celebratory live entertainment, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and beverages.

### **Synopsis**

Set in Rome in 1800 and taking place within 24 hours, *Tosca* is a thriller following Italy's famous diva Floria Tosca, her lover Mario Cavaradossi (a painter), and the corrupt Chief of Police, Baron Scarpia. Scarpia has wanted Tosca for himself, and when he has Cavaradossi arrested for assisting an escaped prisoner, Scarpia tries to manipulate Tosca into revealing both the prisoner's hiding place and Cavaradossi's involvement by seducing her. But Tosca is stronger than Scarpia thinks...

The Dallas Opera continues to offer FREE pre- and post-opera discussions:

- Joy and Ronald Mankoff Pre-Opera Talk: Hosted by Music Director Emmanuel Villaume, this interactive 30-minute lecture begins one hour before the start of each opera in the Margaret McDermott Performance Hall. Admission is free with your ticket to a Dallas Opera performance. *Note: There is no Pre-Opera Talk on Opening Night, October 13, 2023.*
- Sunday Post-Opera Talkback: Immediately following the Sunday matinee performance from the stage, this brief and casual Q&A session with members of the cast gives audience members an opportunity to ask questions about the performance. Hosted by Ian Derrer, The Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO at The Dallas Opera.

### **Performance Details**

#### *Tosca*

**Friday, October 13 at 8pm (note late start time)**

**Sunday, October 15 at 2pm**

**Wednesday, October 18 at 7:30pm**

**Saturday, October 21 at 7:30pm**

Winspear Opera House

Approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes with two intermissions

Sung in Italian with English Titles

Tickets start at \$19 and can be purchased online at [dallasopera.org](http://dallasopera.org) or by calling 214.443.1000 (Mon–Fri, 10am–5pm)

[About the Cast and Creative Team](#)

## **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.

For more details, visit [dallasopera.org](http://dallasopera.org)

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The Eleanor Ford Penrose Mainstage Production

The Caroline Rose Hunt Mainstage Production

Linda and Mitch Hart Season Opening Night Performance: October 13, 2023

Opening Night Celebration Chairs: Jill and Malcolm Winspear

**2023/2024 Season Sponsor:** Mary Anne Cree, in memory of Rosine Smith Sammons

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