

Media Contact:
[Rachel Roe](mailto:Rachel.Roe@thedallasopera.org), 312.618.6655

The Dallas Opera's 2023/2024 Season Continues with Strauss' Epic *Elektra*

Starring Marjorie Owens in her Dallas Opera debut



February 9, 11, 14, and 17

(DALLAS, January 12, 2024) The 2023/2024 season continues at [The Dallas Opera](https://www.thedallasopera.org/) (TDO), on **Friday, February 9** with Richard Strauss' retelling of the classic Greek tragedy, ***Elektra***. Three additional performances take place on February 11 (matinee), 14, and 17, at the Winspear Opera House. The February 17 performance will also be livestreamed.

This new-to-Dallas production of *Elektra* stars soprano Marjorie Owens, who—having attended Baylor University and won the 2002 Dallas Opera National Vocal Competition—makes her TDO debut in the iconic title role; soprano Angela Meade as her sister, Chrysothemis; baritone Alfred

Walker as their brother, Orest, also in his Dallas Opera debut; and mezzo-soprano Jill Grove as their murderous mother Klytämnestra.

The Dallas Opera's production from Lyric Opera of Chicago, originally directed by Sir David McVicar, is directed by Nick Sandys, in his company debut, with set and costume design by John Macfarlane and lighting design by Jennifer Tipton. The Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director Emmanuel Villaume conducts The Dallas Opera Orchestra and Chorus.

Synopsis

Outside the royal palace, five maids discuss the erratic behavior of Elektra, who has been condemned to a menial existence after the murder of her father, Agamemnon. Obsessing with vengeance, Elektra swears that she and her siblings—Orest and Chrysothemis—will exact revenge on their mother, Klytämnestra and her lover, Aegisth, who are, in turn, plotting against her.

Elektra reveals to Chrysothemis that she has kept the axe that was used to murder their father, and intends to give it to Orest to murder Klytämnestra and Aegisth. Chrysothemis flees, wanting no part in her sister's plan. After Orest commits the double murder, Elektra performs a triumphal dance in mad ecstasy, falling to the ground dead.

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

- Joy and Ronald Mankoff Pre-Opera Talk: Hosted by Hank Hammett, Director of Opera at Meadows School of the Arts (SMU), 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.
- 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 you 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

Friday, February 9, 2024, at 7:30pm

Sunday, February 11, 2024, at 2:00pm

Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 7:30pm

Saturday, February 17, 2024, at 7:30pm^

Emmanuel Villaume, conductor

The Dallas Opera Orchestra and Chorus

Elektra composed by Richard Strauss

Marjorie Owens, soprano*

Jill Grove, mezzo-soprano

Angela Meade, soprano

Elektra

Klytämnestra

Chrysothemis

Alfred Walker, baritone*	Orest
Clifton Forbis, tenor	Aegisth
Alexandra Loutsion, soprano*	Overseer
Kyle Albertson, bass*	Tutor of Orest
Gretchen Krupp, contralto*	First Maidservant
Kristen Choi, mezzo-soprano	Second Maidservant
Lindsay Kate Brown, mezzo-soprano	Third Maidservant
Laura Wilde, soprano	Fourth Maidservant
Meghan Kasanders, soprano*	Fifth Maidservant
Jocelyn Hansen, soprano	Confidant
Carelle Flores, soprano*	Trainbearer
Jordan Hammons, tenor*	Young Servant
Travis Wiley McGuire*	Old Servant
Sir David McVicar	Original Director
Nick Sandys*	Revival Director
John Macfarlane*	Set & Costume Designer
Jennifer Tipton*	Lighting Designer

* The Dallas Opera debut
 ^ livestreamed

Approximately 90 minutes, with no intermission
 Sung in German with English Titles

Production from Lyric Opera of Chicago
 Scenery constructed by Bay Productions Limited, Cardiff, Wales, U.K.
 Costumes constructed by the San Francisco Opera Association

[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

Photo: Robert Kusel/Lyric Opera of Chicago

Presenting Sponsors: Martha McCarty Wells; Holly and Tom Mayer; Dr. Lisa Genecov, in Memory of Dr. David Genecov

Supporting Sponsor: Susan and Mark Geyer

The James R. Seitz, Jr. Legacy Production

2023/2024 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**.

Lexus is the official vehicle of The Dallas Opera.
Advertising support from ***The Dallas Morning News***.

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

Follow Us
@DallasOpera



###

The Dallas Opera, Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75201, United States