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## THE DALLAS OPERA PARTNERS WITH WRR 101.1FM FOR ANNUAL BROADCAST SERIES OF 2023/2024 SEASON

**First Broadcast on July 22 is *Tosca***

[DALLAS, June 4, 2024]—[The Dallas Opera](#) (TDO) and WRR 101.1FM partner again this year to broadcast the four mainstage productions from TDO’s 2023/2024 Season on the [Concert Hall](#) program.

The series begins with *Tosca* on July 22, and continues monthly with *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* on August 12, *Elektra* on September 9, and concludes with *Romeo and Juliet* on October 7.

### **July 22—Puccini’s *TOSCA* (recorded in October 2023)**

This grand production of power, desperation, and betrayal stars internationally celebrated singers in their Dallas Opera debuts: Ewa Płonka as the lovelorn Tosca, Jonathan Burton as Cavaradossi, and Gihoon Kim as the evil Scarpia.

A co-production of Cincinnati Opera, Detroit Opera, and l’Opera de Montreal, the opera was directed by Andrew Nienaber, with original stage direction by Jose Maria Condemi. Emmanuel Villaume led The Dallas Opera Orchestra and Chorus, prepared by George Gregory Hobbs.

### **August 12—*THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY* (recorded in November 2023)**

The world premiere of this Dallas Opera-commissioned work took place in the fall of 2023 to great critical and audience acclaim. Based on the eponymous autobiographical memoir by Jean-Dominique Bauby, the opera tells the story of the indomitable spirit of the French writer and editor of *Elle* Magazine. After a stroke left Bauby with Locked-In syndrome, he found a way to “write” a book about his extraordinary life by blinking with the only muscle he could still control, his left eye.

Starring Lucas Meachem as Jean-Dominique Bauby, Sasha Cooke as Sylvie, Richard Croft as Abbé Faria, Deanna Breiwick as Claude, Kevin Burdette as Papinou, Andriana Chuchman, as Sandrine/Mercédès, Andrew Bidlack as Doctor, Jocelyn Hansen as Lea, Ava Jafari as Céleste, and Austin Howarth as Théo. Composed by Joby Talbot to a libretto by Gene Scheer

Directed by Leonard Foglia  
Emmanuel Villaume led The Dallas Opera Orchestra.

**September 9—R. Strauss’ ELEKTRA (recorded in February 2024)**

Richard Strauss’ one-act retelling of the classic Greek tragedy starred Marjorie Owens as Elektra, Jill Grove as Klytämnestra, Angela Meade as Chrysothemis, Alfred Walker as Orest, Clifton Forbis as Aegisth, Alexandra Loutsion as Overseer, and Kyle Albertson as Tutor of Orest.

The Dallas Opera’s production from Lyric Opera of Chicago was originally directed by Sir David McVicar and was revived by Nick Sandys.

Emmanuel Villaume led The Dallas Opera Orchestra and Chorus, prepared by George Gregory Hobbs.

**October 7—Gounod’s ROMEO & JULIET (recorded in March 2024)**

Charles Gounod’s setting of Shakespeare’s greatest love story stars Long Long as Romeo and Golda Schultz as Juliet, both in their TDO debuts.

This co-production of The Dallas Opera, Houston Grand Opera, and The Atlanta Opera was directed by Romain Gilbert.

Nicole Paiement led The Dallas Opera Orchestra and Chorus, prepared by George Gregory Hobbs.

**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](https://dallasopera.org).

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