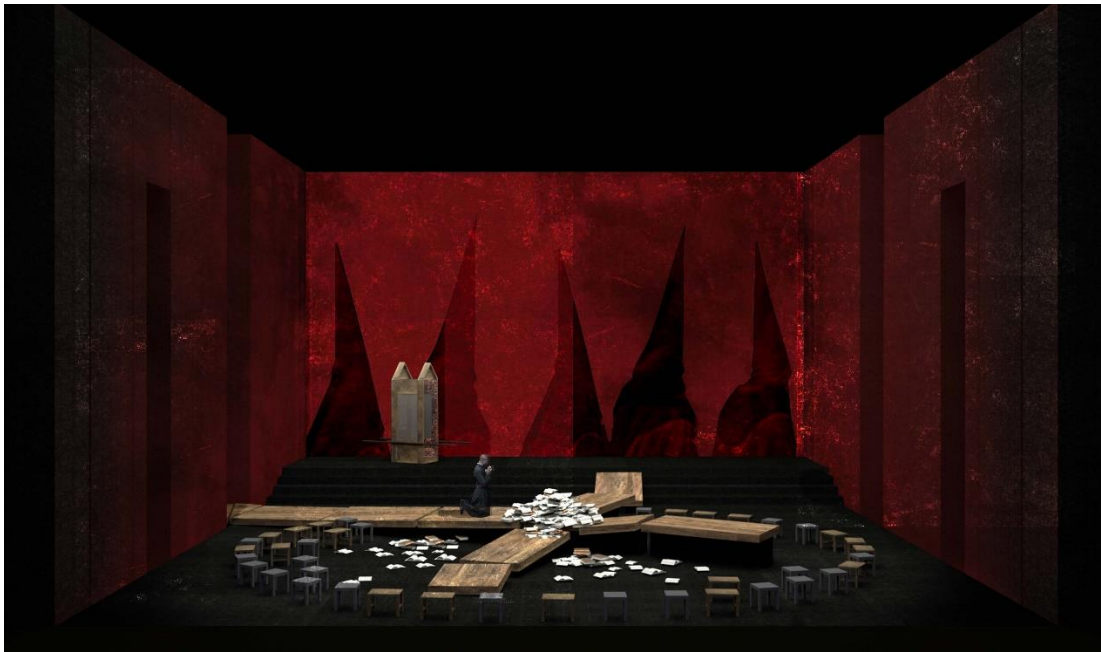


The Dallas Opera Concludes Its 2025/2026 Mainstage Season with Verdi's DON CARLO



February 27 – March 7, 2026, at the Winspear Opera House

(DALLAS, January 29, 2026)—The Dallas Opera (TDO) is proud to close its 2025/2026 Season with a brand-new production of one of opera's greatest masterworks, Giuseppe Verdi's [DON CARLO](#), at the Winspear Opera House, in Dallas Texas, beginning February 27.

TDO first presented *Don Carlo* in 1988. A semi-staged production was planned for March 2020 but was unfortunately cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The company took this time and reimagined this in-demand production. Leading this new, fully realized production is French opera director and designer **Louis Désiré**. Cinematic and poetic, this abstract production focuses on the political intrigue of Renaissance Spain and the characters' inner mental turmoil rather than the opera's infamous love triangle.

"It may seem strange, but *Don Carlo* is not a love story," Désiré says. "Even the impossible longing between the prince and his stepmother is only the trembling surface of a deeper drama."

Leading the powerhouse cast as Don Carlo is American tenor and 2009 Richard Tucker Award recipient **Stephen Costello**. Australian soprano **Nicole Car** returns as Elizabeth of Valois. Car's husband, Canadian baritone **Etienne Dupuis**, known for his Verdian roles, makes his TDO debut as Rodrigo. Celebrated for his villainous portrayals of opera's greatest anti-heroes, American bass-baritone **Christian Van Horn** returns as King Philip II. Legendary bass **Morris Robinson** sings the Grand Inquisitor, and French mezzo-soprano **Clémentine Margaine** is Princess Eboli.

Mrs. Eugene McDermott Music Director **Emmanuel Villaume** leads more than 140 members of The Dallas Opera Orchestra and Chorus in the 1884 four-act Italian score. English titles will be displayed above the stage. Désiré's creative partner **Diego Méndez-Casariago** designed the sets and costumes, and Patrick Méeüs created the lighting design. Projections are by **Driscoll Otto**, who also created the projections of TDO's 2025 *Orpheus and Eurydice* production.

"It's been a long road, however, to present this production of Don Carlo at the Winspear," TDO Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO Ian Derrer says. "Both spartan and grand, this expansive and intimate *Don Carlo* will be unlike anything you've ever seen."

Watch the plot synopsis [here](#).

Production Dates:

- Friday, February 27, 2026, at 7:30 PM
- Sunday, March 1, 2026, at 2 PM
- Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 7:30 PM
- Saturday, March 7, 2026, 7:30 PM

Location: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St., Dallas, TX 75201

The run time is approximately 3 hours with one intermission. Tickets begin at \$33 and are available on TDO's [website](#) or by calling 214-443-1000.

Full Cast and Creative Team:

| <u>Cast:</u> | | <u>Creative Team:</u> | |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| DON CARLO | Stephen Costello | CONDUCTOR | Emmanuel Villaume |
| ELIZABETH OF VALOIS | Nicole Car | DIRECTOR | Louis Désiré* |
| RODRIGO | Etienne Dupuis* | SET & COSTUME DESIGNER | Diego Méndez Casariago* |
| PRINCESS EBOLI | Clémentine Margaine | LIGHTING DESIGNER | Patrick Méeüs* |
| PHILIP II | Christian Van Horn | PROJECTION DESIGNER | Driscoll Otto |
| GRAND INQUISITOR | Morris Robinson | WIG & MAKEUP DESIGNER | David Zimmerman |
| CELESTIAL VOICE | Meghan Kasanders | | |
| FRIAR | Raymond Aceto | | |

TEBALDO Gretchen Krupp
COUNT David Bogaev
LERMA/HERALD

Sponsors:

- **Presenting Sponsors:** Erika and Richard Schulze; Martha McCarty Wells; Holly and Tom Mayer; Katherine and Michael E. Phillips; Carole Pines Silverman
- **Producing Sponsors:** Anonymous; Theodore and Beulah Beasley Foundation
- **Supporting Sponsor:** Joan S. Reisch
- The March 7 performance is dedicated to James and Betty Muns

Ancillary Events:

Pre-Opera and Post-Opera Talks: The Dallas Opera hosts 25-minute informative lectures before each opera performance. Hosted by Emmanuel Villaume, this Joy and Ronald Mankoff Pre-Opera Talk, which is free with your opera ticket, begins an hour before the performance in the Margaret McDermott Performance Hall. Following the Sunday, Mar. 1, matinee, a member of TDO staff hosts a casual Q&A with the cast during the Post-Opera Talkback.

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 and appearances 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 Linda and Mitch Hart Institute for Women Conductors, free and low-cost digital streaming, public simulcasts, acclaimed art song recitals featuring poetry set to music, the National Vocal Competition, special concerts, and outstanding family and award-winning education programs. TDO's home is the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera 3 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 VanSickle Family Foundation in memory of Edith and Elmer VanSickle

The Dallas Opera is supported, in part, by funds from: the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

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*Denotes an artist's Dallas Opera debut

Above image: a rendering of the Act II auto-da-fé. c. Louis Désiré

Programs and artists subject to change.