

# Lyric

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LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO  
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**“Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park” Free Concert**  
**Sir Andrew Davis conducts the Lyric Opera Orchestra and Chorus**  
**A Lyric Unlimited event**  
**Performance begins 7:30pm on Friday, September 9**  
**Broadcast live on 98.7WFMT and [wfmt.com](http://wfmt.com)**  
**Live translations via mobile devices at [lyricoperalive.org](http://lyricoperalive.org)**

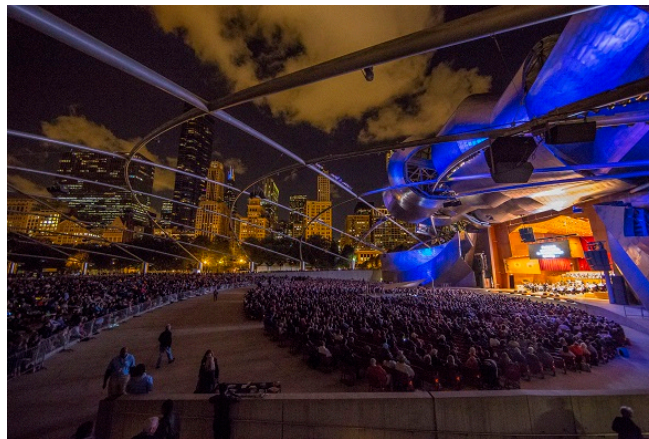


PHOTO: Todd Rosenberg

CHICAGO - **Lyric Opera of Chicago** launches its new season with the 16th annual **[Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park](#)** concert at the **Jay Pritzker Pavilion** on Friday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. The free outdoor performance, presented in cooperation with the Chicago Department of

Cultural Affairs and Special Events, annually attracts capacity crowds to the pavilion, great lawn, and surrounding areas of the park.

**Sir Andrew Davis**, Lyric's music director, will lead the **Lyric Opera Orchestra and Chorus** and an array of outstanding soloists including soprano **Ana María Martínez**; mezzo-soprano **Tanja Ariane Baumgartner**; baritone **Quinn Kelsey**; bass-baritones **Eric Owens** and **Samuel Youn**; and basses **Tobias Kehrer** and **Wilhelm Schwinghammer**. Also performing will be current members of **The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center**.

The **Lyric Opera Chorus** will be prepared by chorus master **Michael Black**.

The program will include excerpts from the upcoming season's repertoire of ***Carmen***, ***The Magic Flute***, ***Eugene Onegin***, and ***Lucia di Lammermoor***, as well as selections from other operas by Gounod, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Verdi, and Wagner. (Program subject to change.)

The **Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park** free concert will be aired live on **98.7WFMT** and [wfmt.com](http://wfmt.com). 98.7WFMT program host **Lisa Flynn** and **Roger Pines**, Lyric's dramaturg, will co-anchor the **Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park** concert broadcast beginning at 7:15pm, in their debut collaboration of the season.

"I'm delighted that our exceptional soloists, orchestra, and chorus—conducted by Sir Andrew—will be heard by an enormous and appreciative audience, both in the beautiful Jay Pritzker Pavilion and Millennium Park grounds and on the radio broadcast," said **Anthony Freud**, Lyric's general director. "What a wonderful way to start Lyric's 62<sup>nd</sup> season, and also to celebrate the 16<sup>th</sup> Stars of Lyric Opera concert."

During the performance at Millennium Park, audience members in the Seating Bowl will enjoy projected English translations. Those seated on the lawn or listening to the broadcast on [wfmt.com](http://wfmt.com) around the world will have access to line-by-line translations in real time on mobile devices at [lyricoperalive.org](http://lyricoperalive.org).

Members of the **United States Air Force Band of Mid-America** are scheduled to perform a pre-concert set between 6:45 and 7:10 pm.

Lyric will post live updates via social media throughout the evening. Join the conversation by tagging your posts with **#LyricStars** on **Facebook** at [facebook.com/lyricopera](https://facebook.com/lyricopera) and on **Twitter** and **Instagram** at [@LyricOpera](https://@LyricOpera).

Invite your friends to attend this free event and let others know you are attending with our **Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park** Facebook event at [bit.ly/starsoflyric](http://bit.ly/starsoflyric)

“Like” Lyric Opera on Facebook for information about upcoming events, music-related content, behind-the-scenes features, deals, contests and more.

**Lyric Opera of Chicago opens its 62<sup>nd</sup> season on Saturday, October 1.** The opera season continues through March 25, 2017, with 61 performances of eight operas: Wagner’s *Das Rheingold* (Oct. 1-22), Donizetti’s *Lucia di Lammermoor* (Oct. 15-Nov. 6), Berlioz’s *The Trojans* (Nov. 13-Dec. 3), Massenet’s *Don Quichotte* (Nov. 19-Dec. 7), Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* (Dec. 10-Jan. 27), Bellini’s *Norma* (Jan. 28-Feb. 24), Bizet’s *Carmen* (Feb. 11-Mar. 25), and Tchaikovsky’s *Eugene Onegin* (Feb. 26-Mar.20).

Lyric’s 2016/17 season will also include Lerner & Loewe’s *My Fair Lady* (April 28-May 21), and several limited-engagement special events, including **Chicago Voices Gala Concert** (Feb. 4), **Celebrating Plácido** (Mar. 9), **Charlie Parker’s Yardbird** (Mar. 24 & 26 at the Harris Theater), **Lawrence Brownlee & Eric Owens in Recital** (April 9), and **Itzhak Perlman in Recital** (April 23).

All of Lyric’s regular-season performances take place at the Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Drive at Madison Street, in Chicago. There are projected English texts for every opera. Subscriptions are still available, as are tickets for individual performances. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. For information on specific performance dates and ticket availability, please call (312) 827-5600 or go to [lyricopera.org](http://lyricopera.org).

**Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park** is a **Lyric Unlimited** event. For more information, visit [lyricopera.org/lyricunlimited](http://lyricopera.org/lyricunlimited).

**Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park** is supported by Lead Sponsor **closerlook, inc.** and cosponsors **Rhoda L. and Henry S. Frank, An Anonymous Donor, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, Crain-Maling Foundation, Greg and Annie Jones/The Edgewater Funds, Lois B. Siegel, Sipi Metals Corp.,** and the **Music Performance Trust Fund and Film Funds.** Presented in cooperation with **The City of Chicago** and **Millennium Park.**

Lyric Unlimited was launched with major catalyst funding from **The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** and receives major support from the **Caerus Foundation, Inc.**

**About Lyric and Lyric Unlimited**

**Lyric Opera of Chicago**'s mission is to express and promote the life-changing, transformational, revelatory power of great opera. Lyric exists to provide a broad, deep, and relevant cultural service to Chicago and the nation, and to advance the development of the art form.

Founded in 1954, Lyric is dedicated to producing and performing consistently thrilling, entertaining, and thought-provoking opera with a balanced repertoire of core classics, lesser-known masterpieces, and new works; to creating an innovative and wide-ranging program of community engagement and educational activities; and to developing exceptional emerging operatic talent.

Under the leadership of general director Anthony Freud, music director Sir Andrew Davis, and creative consultant Renée Fleming, Lyric strives to become The Great North American Opera Company for the 21st century: a globally significant arts organization embodying the core values of excellence, relevance, and fiscal responsibility.

**Lyric Unlimited**, a division of Lyric Opera of Chicago, offers a multifaceted program of education, community engagement and artistic initiatives. The purpose of Lyric Unlimited is to provide a relevant cultural service to communities throughout the Chicago area, including communities for whom opera and opera companies have been largely irrelevant; to explore a wide range of ways in which Lyric can collaborate with cultural and community organizations throughout the area; and to advance the development of opera, exploring ways in which opera as an art form can resonate more powerfully, and in a range of different ways, with people of multiple backgrounds, ethnicities, and interests. In the 2015/16 season, 94,386 individuals participated in Lyric Unlimited programs. For more information about Lyric Unlimited program offerings, visit [lyricopera.org/lyricunlimited](http://lyricopera.org/lyricunlimited).

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