

Lyric

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO



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PHOTO: Kyle Flubacker

There's more to enjoy this fall with
Lyric Opera of Chicago!
Free and low-cost special events to celebrate the launch
of another wonderful season of music!

CHICAGO (9/27/16) – There are now more ways than ever to connect with **Lyric Opera** this fall! In addition to eight grand operas, a contemporary chamber opera, and one classic American musical, Lyric and **Lyric Unlimited** are excited to engage audiences across the city through free or low-cost special events and programming!

Join us for these upcoming events this fall:

- **Season Preview Concert** presents a musical preview of Lyric's upcoming 62nd season, **Sep. 27**
- **Lyric from the Inside** offers a free, behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of Lyric, **Sep. 28**
- **Open House Chicago** welcomes attendees to view the beautiful and dramatic

Civic Opera House, **Oct. 15**

- **Operathon** broadcast on WFMT showcases interviews, conversations, and beautiful music, **Oct. 15**

- **Love and Fate in Virgil's *Aeneid* and Berlioz's *The Trojans*** features presentations surrounding Berlioz's epic masterpiece and its connection to Virgil's heroic tale, **Oct. 15**

- **Backstage Tours** launch new dates beginning **Oct. 17** with availability through **April 10, 2017**

- **An Afternoon of Chamber Music** featuring members of the Lyric Opera Orchestra, **Nov. 12**

- **Opera Insider Series** gives music lovers the chance to dive deeper into opera and Lyric's 16/17 season, starting **January 17, 2017**

SEASON PREVIEW CONCERT

Tuesday, September 27

6:30 p.m.

Lyric's Civic Opera House

Free event to donors and subscribers; a limited number of free tickets available to the public

With Lyric's 2016/17 season kicking off October 1, join us for a night of music and conversation highlighting the thrill and excitement that awaits. Enjoy a first taste of our season in an evening that will feature both a musical preview of the upcoming 62nd season performed by members of **The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center**, and a season overview by **Roger Pines**, Lyric's dramaturg. To access tickets, click on the balcony level "non applicable" seating, or call 312-827-5600.

LYRIC FROM THE INSIDE

Wednesday, September 28

5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Lyric's Civic Opera House

Free admission, no tickets required

To celebrate the start of Lyric's new season, we invite you to explore the inner workings of our world-renowned opera company with behind-the-scenes access, an

array of demonstrations and hands-on activities, and a short musical performance. Enter via the Civic Opera House loading dock on Wacker Drive and walk on stage through the set of the new production of Wagner's *[Das Rheingold](#)*. Take a tour of the orchestra pit, try on costumes, and experience informative technical and stagecraft demonstrations. Visitors will also enjoy a short live performance by tenor **Jonathan Johnson**, a third-year member of [The Ryan Opera Center](#). News crews are welcome.

OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO

Saturday, October 15

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Lyric's Civic Opera House

Free admission, no tickets required

Open House Chicago, presented by the Chicago Architecture Foundation, is the city's annual architecture festival. For one weekend in October, explore Chicago's most iconic and unique architectural treasures. Lyric's Civic Opera Building, home to the second largest opera house in North America and the largest stage in downtown Chicago, is opening its doors to welcome visitors! Explore the dramatic Rice Grand Foyer and the elegant Ardis Krainik Theatre, plus examine Art Deco and Art Nouveau styling and ornamentation, along with musical motifs and an impressive arcade that runs the length of the east façade.

OPERATHON

Saturday, October 15

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Heard locally on 98.7WFMT and streamed online at WFMT.com

If you love opera and love learning about Lyric, join us for our annual **Operathon** broadcast where you'll hear interviews, fascinating conversations, and sublimely beautiful music as we join together in support of the important work Lyric Unlimited does in the Chicago community. At the conclusion of Operathon, stay tuned for the opening night broadcast of *[Lucia di Lammermoor](#)*, co-anchored by Lyric's dramaturg **Roger Pines** and WFMT's midday program host, **Lisa Flynn**. Listeners will have access to line-by-line translations in real time online at [lyricoperalive.org](#).

LECTURE: LOVE AND FATE IN VIRGIL'S AENEID AND BERLIOZ'S THE TROJANS

Saturday, October 15

2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Fullerton Hall, Art Institute of Chicago

Free presentation with museum admission

This exciting program examines Berlioz's monumental opera ***Les Troyens*** and its source, *The Aeneid*, Virgil's epic poem detailing the epic adventure of the Trojan hero Aeneas and the founding of Rome. Presenters include Virgil scholar **Vassiliki Panoussi**, College of William and Mary, and **Roger Pines**, Lyric's dramaturg. Attendees will come away with a renewed appreciation of two of the greatest masterpieces of western music and literature and the art they have inspired—works that thrill with their grandeur and move us with their humanity.

BACKSTAGE TOURS

October 17, November 21 & 28, December 12 & 14, January 5

February 9 & 27, March 1 & 16, April 3 & 10

10 a.m.

Lyric's Civic Opera House

\$15

Visiting tourists, architecture buffs and music fans alike are now able to experience a compelling behind-the-scenes look at the storied 1929 Civic Opera House during a one-hour interactive tour. Tour patrons begin their experience in the elegant "front-of-house" Rice Grand Foyer. From there, they are led by a Lyric docent who provides an up-close-and-personal view of theater highlights such as the orchestra pit where the acclaimed Lyric Orchestra plays, and a series of unique backstage destinations where skilled professionals bring operatic stagecraft to life.

Tour tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at

lyricopera.org/backstagetours or at the Civic Opera House's Box Office at

9:30am on tour dates. Group tours may be arranged on these or additional dates

by contacting our group sales department at 312-827-5927 or

groupsales@lyricopera.org.

AN AFTERNOON OF CHAMBER MUSIC

Saturday, November 12

2 p.m.

St. James Cathedral, 66 E. Huron Street, Chicago

General admission seating \$25

Members of the renowned **Lyric Opera Orchestra** will perform intimate works inspired by Lyric's 2016/17 mainstage season. The program will include selections

from [*The Magic Flute*](#) for wind octet arranged by **Joseph Heidenreich** and **Clarinet Quintet in A major, K. 581** by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

OPERA INSIDER SERIES

Winter session begins January 17, 2017

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Lyric's Civic Opera Building Conference Center

\$180 for four-class series

For each opera of Lyric's upcoming season, music historian and opera expert **David Buch** hosts a session illuminating the work's creation, its composer, its musical and dramatic highlights, and its particular magic. Each session will also welcome a special guest from Lyric's Technical Department to share the inner workings of each production, including set and costume design insights, interpretation, stagecraft, and construction. Tickets for the winter series, which features sessions on [*Norma*](#), [*Carmen*](#), [*Eugene Onegin*](#), and [*Charlie Parker's Yardbird*](#), are available [now](#).

On Friday, September 9, Lyric welcomed over 10,000 attendees to its annual ***Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park*** free concert. Thanks to all who joined and sang along with us, joining your voices to the many who have already taken part in our [Chicago Voices](#) initiative! [Click here](#) for a look back on the event.

Cayenne Harris, director of Lyric Unlimited (Lyric's department devoted to education, community engagement and new artistic initiatives) says, "It's a thrill to be able to offer so many exciting, participatory events this fall. Lyric's thrilling opera season and the beautiful Civic Opera House have never been more accessible thanks to these fun, affordable activities."

About Lyric

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. Visit www.lyricopera.org for more information.

About Lyric Unlimited

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

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



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