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PHOTO: Todd Rosenberg

**Lyric Opera of Chicago's first installment of Wagner's *Ring* cycle
DAS RHEINGOLD
draws rave reviews from audience and critics!
Performances through Oct. 22**

CHICAGO (10/4/16) – Rave reviews are rolling in for the opening performance of ***Das Rheingold***, which launched **Lyric Opera of Chicago's** 62nd season on Saturday, October 1. Considered one of the greatest musical achievements in Western culture, this masterwork by Richard Wagner is the first of four operas in the legendary ***Ring*** cycle.

Sources from Chicago and all over the country are weighing in! Here's what the critics are saying:

"Pure gold. 4/4 stars." –Chicago Tribune

"A strong cast." –New York Times

"Everything feels larger-than-life. Eye-poppingly beautiful." – Chicago Sun-Times

“Dazzling from the start. Full of powerhouse vocalists.” –*Daily Herald*

“An experience beyond imagining. Magnificent.” – *Stage and Cinema*

“There could not have been a more auspicious launch of the first installment of Lyric’s *Ring* cycle.” – *New City*

“A grand, exciting and dramatic interpretation. Highly recommended.” – *Chicago Theater and the Arts*

“Clever, witty, colorful, wonderfully designed production. The *Ring* is off to an impressive start.” –*Parterre*

Conducted by Lyric’s celebrated music director **Sir Andrew Davis**, *Das Rheingold* is the beginning of a journey that every opera lover will want to experience. The all-star cast features **Eric Owens/Wotan**, **Samuel Youn/Alberich**, **Štefan Margita/Loge**, **Tanja Ariane Baumgartner/Fricka**, and **Okka von der Damerau/Erda**.

David Pountney is the renowned director for the new production designed by the late **Johan Engels** and **Robert Innes Hopkins** (sets), **Marie-Jeanne Lecca** (costumes), and **Fabrice Kebour** (lighting). **Denni Sayers** is choreographer.

Tickets for all performances of *Das Rheingold* start at \$20 for children and \$34 for adults. For reservations and information call (312) 827-5600 or go to lyricopera.org/rheingold.

About Lyric Opera of Chicago

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.

To learn more about Lyric’s new season, go to lyricopera.org. You can also join the conversation with @LyricOpera on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. #Lyric1617 #LongLivePassion

The *Ring* cycle is a coproduction by Lyric Opera of Chicago and Teatro Real, Madrid. Lead sponsor: **Anonymous Donor**.

Production sponsors:

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