

Lyric

FOR THE *Love of Lyric*

FAMILY STREAMING GUIDE

Thank you for joining us for this special virtual concert, *For the Love of Lyric*. In this streaming guide, you'll learn about music and performance, and will find some fun activities the whole family can enjoy while watching!

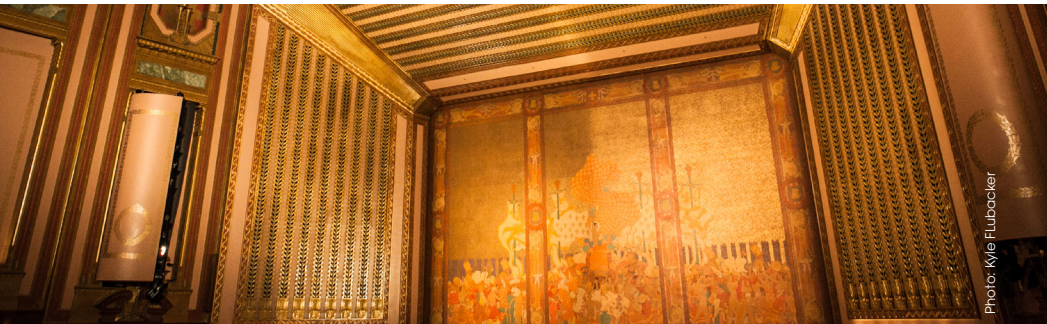


Opera and Musical Theater

During the concert, you will hear music selections from the worlds of opera, Broadway, popular music, and some surprising sources!

What is the difference between operas and musicals?

Operas and musicals are both large-scale performances that take place on a stage. They use music and instruments to tell a story. Both operas and musicals have singing, dancing, and acting. However, the style of singing and dancing are often very different.



Operas use **recitatives** and **arias** to help tell the story. A recitative is sung dialogue, and helps move the story along; they are the conversations in opera. Arias are sung by one person, usually about the emotions a character is feeling; arias are the songs in opera. The written words of an opera are called a **libretto**.

Musicals use dialogue and songs to help tell the story. Unlike opera, the dialogue is usually spoken instead of sung, and sometimes there are scenes that don't use music at all. Musicals also use many different styles of music including jazz, rap, and pop. The written words of a musical are called a **script**.

Do you know any operas?

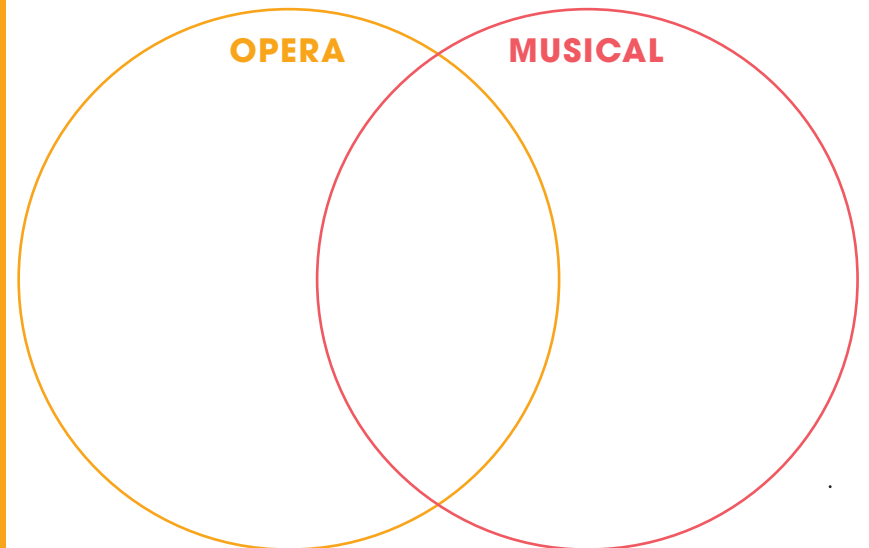
Do you know any musicals?



Venn diagram:

Use the diagram below to organize these words under "Opera," "Musical" or both!

aria	uses instruments
recitative	happen on a stage
libretto	spoken dialogue
popular styles of music	script
large scale	



The Music

In this concert, the words are sung by performers called **singers**.

The singers have different **voices**, too. Some sing very high notes, some sing in the middle, and others sing very low notes.

The person who writes the music is called a **composer**. The composer's music tells the singers what to sing and the instruments what to play.

Composers use different voice types to bring the characters of their stories to life. For example, mezzo-sopranos can play a wide range of characters such as sisters, teenage boys, or even emperors!

If you were a composer, and you were writing an opera or musical about your life, which vocal type would you be? Why?

The four most common kinds of singers you hear in opera are:

Soprano (soh-PRAH-no)

The highest voice in opera, usually female.

Mezzo-soprano

(MET-soh soh-PRAH-no)

The middle high voice, usually female.

Tenor (TEH-ner)

Usually the highest male voice.

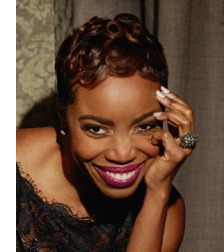
Bass (BASE)

The lowest, deepest voice, usually male.

The Performers



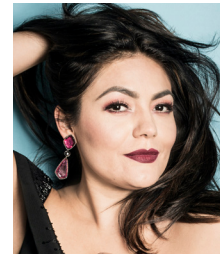
Renée Fleming
Soprano



Heather Headley
Vocalist



Soloman Howard
Bass



Ailyn Pérez
Soprano



J'Nai Bridges
Mezzo-Soprano



Julia Bullock
Soprano



Doug Peck
Music Director

Photos: Dario Acosta, Jon Adjahoe, Andrew Eccles, Allison Michael Orenstein

Sometimes songs are not part of an opera or musical, but a piece of music that tells a story on it's own.

In *For Love of Lyric*, Ailyn Pérez sings “Estrellita” by Manuel M. Ponce.

Ponce was a Mexican composer who lived from 1882-1948. He was known for composing classical music and using elements of Mexican folklore to create his masterpieces. His song “Estrellita” has been made into many different versions by many different artists.



Manuel M. Ponce



Your turn!

Did you know that estrellita means “little star” in Spanish?

Try saying it: es-treh-YEE-ta



What other songs do you know that use the phrase, “little star?”

Music has the power to create emotion, even if you do not understand the language.

Manuel Ponce said this song was like “**nostalgia viva**” which means “live nostalgia.” Nostalgia means “a desire to return to a time in the past.”

Knowing that, what do you think the song “Estrellita” is about? Do you think it is a happy song or sad song? Can it be both?



For the Love of Lyric Crossword

ACROSS:

- Means "little star" in Spanish, and is a song by Manuel M. Ponce
- The written words of an opera
- A type of performance that uses popular styles of music
- The highest voice type
- The highest male voice
- The lowest, deepest voice

DOWN:

- The songs in opera
- Spoken conversations between two or more people
- The conversations in opera
- ____ - soprano, the middle high voice
- Writes the music for an opera or musical

