



SEATTLE OPERA
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

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Seattle Opera Announces New \$25 Ticket Price for 2007/08 Season

Single Tickets on Sale June 4, 2007

**Revival of Wagner's *Flying Dutchman* opens August 4
and**

Premiere of Gluck's *Iphigenia in Tauris* opens October 13

Seattle—Seattle Opera has announced a new low ticket price of \$25 for the 2007/08 season. Fifty-two seats for every performance in the Second Tier will be available at this price point. These \$25 tickets will be available the same day that single tickets go on sale to the general public. *Flying Dutchman* and *Iphigenia in Tauris* tickets will go on sale online on June 3, and at the ticket office or by phone on June 4, 2007. *Tosca*, *Pagliacci*, and *I Puritani* tickets will go on sale September 10, 2007.

“I am delighted that we have found a way to sell fifty-two seats for every performance at \$25 each,” said General Director Speight Jenkins. “This will mean that more people who love opera will be able to afford the tickets.”

Seattle Opera has many additional options available to make performances more affordable. Flexible payment plans are available to purchase subscriptions, which offer a discount over single ticket prices. Opera-lovers under the age of 40 may join Seattle Opera's BRAVO! Club, and purchase tickets at a 50% discount. A limited number of 50% off subscriptions are available in the Sunday matinee series for students 21 and under, and students with a valid ID may also purchase \$20 “student rush” tickets for any available seat, starting two hours before every performance. Seniors 65 and over with a valid ID may also purchase “senior rush” seats at 50% off, starting two hours before every performance. In 2008, Seattle Opera will offer \$15 student tickets at a Sunday “Family Day” matinee during *Pagliacci* on January 20 and during *Tosca* on March 9.

Seattle Opera's 2007/08 season opens with *The Flying Dutchman*, featuring American baritone Greer Grimsley as the Dutchman. Grimsley, a regular in Wagnerian roles at Seattle Opera, won the Seattle Opera's Artist of the Year award for his portrayal of Wotan in the 2005 *Ring*. Joining Grimsley in this

dramatic tale of a sea captain doomed to sail for eternity if he cannot find a faithful love are acclaimed Wagnerian soprano Jane Eaglen (two-time Seattle Opera Artist of the Year) as Senta and Jay Hunter Morris as Erik. Making their Seattle Opera debuts are Australian bass Daniel Sumegi as Daland and International Wagner Competition finalist Jason Collins as the Steersman. *The Flying Dutchman*, directed by Stephen Wadsworth with sets by designer Thomas Lynch, costumes by designer Dunya Ramicova, and lighting by designer Joan Arhelger, opens August 4 and runs through August 25, 2007.

On October 13, 2007, Seattle Opera presents the premiere performance of Gluck's *Iphigenia in Tauris*. This exciting new production, which is being co-produced with the Metropolitan Opera, will feature the award-winning creative team of director Stephen Wadsworth, set designer Thomas Lynch, costume designer Martin Pakledinaz, and lighting designer Neil Peter Jampolis. Italian soprano Nuccia Focile, most recently seen at Seattle Opera as Mimì in *La Bohème*, sings the title role of Iphigenia, opposite tenor William Burden as Orestes and baritone Brett Polegato as Pylades. Based on the classic Greek play, Gluck's masterpiece recounts the aftermath of the Trojan War as a brother and sister are reunited in stunning tale of forgiveness and redemption. *Iphigenia in Tauris* opens October 13 and runs through October 27. American soprano Marie Plette sings the title role on October 14, 21, and 26.

Seattle Opera Single Ticket Information

The Flying Dutchman and *Iphigenia in Tauris* on sale June 4

Ticket Price: \$25 to \$162

Seattle Opera Ticket Office: 206.389.7676/800.426.1619

Online Orders: www.seattleopera.org

In addition to the new \$25 tickets, Seattle Opera also offers several ways for people to sample opera as described below:

Under 40? Join BRAVO! Club

Seattle Opera's Bravo! Club continues to grow. The \$60 membership fee allows members (ages 21 to 40) to receive a 50% ticket discount plus invitations to special events, fun lectures, and the special Lounges at performances all season long. More information can be found at www.bravoclub.org.

Student Rush & Student Subscriptions

Two hours before every performance, students with a valid ID can purchase \$20 tickets on any available seat. For students 21 and under, Seattle Opera also offers a 50% off subscriptions for the Sunday matinee series.

\$15 Student Tickets on Family Day

At least once a year, Seattle Opera designates a Sunday "Family Day" matinee. For these specially designated performances, all students in the company of an adult pay only \$15 for most any seat in McCaw Hall. In 2008, Seattle Opera will offer two Family Day matinees: *Pagliacci* on January 20 and *Tosca* on March 9.

\$5 Teen Tix

Seattle Opera is a proud participant in Seattle Center's Teen Tix (<http://www.seattlecenter.com/teentix/> program). Enrolled teens get opera tickets for \$5 on the day of the opera (limited to 12 seats per performance).

Senior Rush

Starting two hours before every performance, seniors 65 and over with valid ID get 50% off any seats available (this discount does not include Dress Circle seats).

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN

(Der fliegende Holländer)

Music by Richard Wagner
In German with English captions

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall

8 Performances: August 4, 8, 11, 14, 17, 19m, 22, and 25, 2007

Single Tickets Go On Sale June 4

Tickets: \$25 to \$162

Seattle Opera Ticket Office: 206.389.7676/800.426.1619

Online Orders: www.seattleopera.org

Approximate Running Time: 3 hours and 25 minutes including two intermissions
Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m.; matinee begins at 2:00 p.m.

Premiere: Dresden, Königliches Sächsisches Hoftheater, January 2, 1843

Previous Seattle Opera Presentations: January 1972 and January 1989

Artists

The Dutchman: Greer Grimsley

Senta: Jane Eaglen

Daland: Daniel Sumegi†

Erik: Jay Hunter Morris

Mary: Luretta Bybee

The Steersman: Jason Collins†*

Conductor: Asher Fisch

Stage Director: Stephen Wadsworth

Set Designer: Thomas Lynch

Costume Designer: Dunya Ramicova

Lighting Designer: Joan Arhelger

Chorusmaster: Beth Kirchhoff

English Captions: Jonathan Dean

Sets and Costumes: Seattle Opera

One cast only

†Company debut

*Jason Collins was a finalist in the 2006 International Wagner Competition.

Jane Eaglen's performances are made possible by generous financial support from the James and Sherry Raisbeck Lead Singers Fund.

IPHIGENIA IN TAURIS
(Iphigénie en Tauride)

Seattle Opera Premiere
New Co-Production with the Metropolitan Opera

Music by Christoph Willibald Gluck
Libretto by Nicolas-François Guillard
In French with English Captions

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall
8 Performances: October 13, 14m, 17, 20, 21m, 24, 26, and 27, 2007
Single tickets go on sale June 4

Tickets: \$25 to \$162
Seattle Opera Ticket Office: 206.389.7676/800.426.1619
Online Orders: www.seattleopera.org

Approximate Running Time: 2 hours and 30 minutes including one intermission
Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Premiere: Paris, Académie Royale de Musique (Opéra), May 18, 1779

Artists

Iphigenia: Nuccia Focile/Marie Plette*
Orestes: Brett Polegato
Pylades: William Burden
Thoas: Phillip Joll
Diana: Michele Losier†
Scythian/Minister: David Adam Moore
Priestess #1: Ani Maldjian†
Priestess #2: Leena Chopra†

Conductor: Gary Thor Wedow
Stage Director: Stephen Wadsworth
Set Designer: Thomas Lynch
Costume Designer: Martin Pakledinaz
Lighting Designer: Neil Peter Jampolis
Choreographer: Daniel Pelzig
Fire Designer and Flight Technician: Charles T. Buck
Hair & Makeup Designer: Joyce Degenfelder
English Captions: Jonathan Dean

Sets and Costumes: Seattle Opera

*On October 14, 21, and 26, 2007, only †Company debut

Nuccia Focile's performances are made possible by generous financial support from the James and Sherry Raisbeck Lead Singers Fund.

David Adam Moore and Ani Maldjian are former Seattle Opera Young Artists; Leena Chopra is a 2007/08 Seattle Opera Young Artist.

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About Seattle Opera

Founded in 1963, Seattle Opera is one of the leading opera companies in the United States. The company is recognized internationally for its theatrically compelling and musically accomplished performances, especially the Opera's interpretations of the works of Richard Wagner. Seattle Opera's Wagner tradition began under the leadership of the company's founding general director, Glynn Ross, and has continued since 1983 under General Director Speight Jenkins. Since 1975, Seattle Opera has presented 35 cycles of the *Ring* (three different productions), in addition to acclaimed productions of all the other major operas in the Wagner canon. Seattle Opera has achieved the highest per capita attendance of any major opera company in the United States, and draws opera-goers from four continents, nineteen countries, and forty-nine states.

Season Sponsors: The Boeing Company and Microsoft Corporation. *The Flying Dutchman* Sponsors: Kreielsheimer Endowment Fund and PONCHO. *Iphigenia in Tauris* Sponsor: Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences