



SEATTLE OPERA
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

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**Seattle Opera's BRAVO! Club
Opens the 2007/08 Season
At SAM's Olympic Sculpture Park**

Seattle—Seattle Opera's BRAVO! Club launches a new season of fun and opera with a party at SAM's Sculpture Park on July 18, 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. After enjoying the art and the stunning views of Seattle's waterfront, partygoers will be treated to an outdoor performance (weather permitting!) by Seattle Opera Young Artists Marcus Shelton, Julia Benzinger, and David Lara.

"For years, we have wanted to have our summer event at an outdoor venue. The PACCAR Pavilion at the Sculpture Garden, with its sweeping view of the Puget Sound, is the perfect spot to get together with other opera lovers," said Aimee Mell, the president of BRAVO! Club.

The Kick-Off party at the Sculpture Park will be the largest BRAVO! event of the year, with more than 350 attendees expected.

The festivities include food, drink, and dancing under the stars at the PACCAR Pavilion in the Olympic Sculpture Park, 2901 Western Avenue. Admission is free for BRAVO! Club members and \$10 for others, and anyone who signs up for a BRAVO! Membership (\$60) will have the

entrance fee refunded. Reservations are required and must be made by July 11: 206-676-5553 or bravo@seattleopera.org.

“If you love opera and are looking for a vibrant community of young operagoers, then BRAVO! is for you!” said Mell.

Since its founding in 1996, Seattle Opera’s BRAVO! Club has grown to the area’s premiere arts organization for young people. More than 500 members, ages 21 to 40, attend a variety of social and educational events as well as Seattle Opera performances.

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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 and Tom McQuiad.