



SEATTLE OPERA
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

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Seattle Opera Participates in National Opera Week November 13-22

**Young Artists perform *Così fan tutte* November 13, 15, 20, and 22
Seattle University Lecture Series Begins November 17**

Seattle—Seattle Opera will participate in the first ever National Opera Week, November 13 to 22, 2009. Organized by OPERA America with the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, National Opera Week is a coast-to-coast celebration of this time-tested art form.

Seattle Opera is offering a free, public lecture on November 17 at Seattle University as part of National Opera Week. Jonathan Dean and Seneca Garber, members of Seattle Opera's Education Department, will host a lecture entitled "Verdi vs. Wagner: Bohemian vs. Bourgeois." Dean and Garber will discuss each composer—their music, their characters, their lives, and their politics—and try to discover who reigns supreme in this Battle of the (musical) Titans. This event is part of a continuing series of free, public adult education lectures presented by Seattle Opera's Education Department at Seattle University. To view a trailer for the upcoming event, visit seattleopera.blogspot.com.

Also participating in National Opera Week, Seattle Opera's Young Artists are presenting Mozart's delightful romantic comedy *Così fan tutte*. The fall tour, which brings an opera production to several Washington communities every year, was launched on November 11 with a sold-out performance in Walla Walla. The remaining performances are at Western Washington University in Bellingham on November 13, at Kirkland Performance Center on November 15, and at the Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall at Seattle's Benaroya Hall on November 20. On November 22, they will give the final performance of the 2009 fall tour at the Chapel Theater at the Sleeping Lady Mountain Resort in Leavenworth. Ticket information is below.

More than 90 opera companies from 32 states and the District of Columbia are taking part in National Opera Week. Participating companies will offer a range of programs for the public during the week that are intended to offer newcomers an accessible entry into the world of opera as well as provide exciting new opportunities for opera lovers to connect with local companies. National Opera Week officially kicks off on November 14 with the presentation of the 2009 NEA Opera Honors in Washington, D.C.

Seattle Opera's National Opera Week Events:

Seattle University Lecture Series—Verdi vs. Wagner: Bohemian vs. Bourgeois

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Seattle University, Wyckoff Auditorium

FREE

More information: www.seattleopera.org/calendar/event.aspx?eventDateID=2023

Seattle Opera's Young Artists Present: *Così fan tutte*

Western Washington University Performing Arts Center

516 High Street

Bellingham, WA

Friday, November 13, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

Ticket information: 360.650.6146

Kirkland Performance Center

350 Kirkland Ave

Kirkland, WA

Sunday, November 15, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

Ticket information: 425.893.9900

Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall at Benaroya Hall

200 University Street

Seattle, WA

Friday, November 20, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

Ticket information: 206.389.7676 or www.seattleopera.org/yap

The Chapel Theater at Sleeping Lady Mountain Resort*

7375 Icicle Road

Leavenworth, WA

Sunday, November 22, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Ticket information: 509.548.6347

*Presented by the Icicle Creek Music Center

For more information, visit www.seattleopera.org.

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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. Since 1975, Seattle Opera has presented 38 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 operagoers from four continents and fifty states.