



RING NEWS

For Release June 24, 2005

Mary Phillips Joins Seattle Opera's 2005 *Ring* Carolyn Kahl Withdraws

Seattle—Mezzo-soprano Mary Phillips has joined Seattle Opera's 2005 *Ring* cast as Wellgunde. Phillips made her Seattle Opera debut in the 2000 production of *Das Rheingold* and *Die Walküre* as Wellgunde and Rosswisse. The following summer, she returned to sing both roles in the 2001 *Ring*.

In the past few seasons, Phillips has sung the role of Erda in Scottish Opera's *Ring* and Rosswisse in her Metropolitan Opera debut. Other roles for Phillips include Sesto in Handel's *Giulio Cesare*, Dorabella in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, the title role of Bizet's *Carmen*, Amneris in Verdi's *Aida*, and Sister Helen Prejean in Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking*. Phillips has performed at, among others, Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, San Francisco Opera, and Arizona Opera. She returns to the Met in 2006 for Preziosilla in Verdi's *Forza del destino*.

Carolyn Kahl, who had been scheduled to sing Wellgunde, withdrew due to health concerns. Phillips arrived in Seattle on June 18 and began rehearsals on June 19.

Der Ring des Nibelungen, Seattle Opera, Summer 2005

Music and Libretto by Richard Wagner.

In German with English Captions

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall, Seattle, Washington

Ticket Information

Sold Out. Standing room only; SRO tickets go on sale on the first day of each cycle.

OPERA

Das Rheingold (7:00 p.m.)

Die Walküre (6:00 p.m.)

Siegfried (6:00 p.m.)

Götterdämmerung (6:00 p.m.)

CYCLE I

(Sun) August 7

(Mon) August 8

(Wed) August 10

(Fri) August 12

CYCLE II

(Mon) August 15

(Tue) August 16

(Thurs) August 18

(Sat) August 20

CYCLE III

(Tue) August 23

(Wed) August 24

(Fri) August 26

(Sun) August 28

***Ring* Production Team**

Conductor: Robert Spano

Director: Stephen Wadsworth

Set Designer: Thomas Lynch

Costume Designer: Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting Designer: Peter Kaczorowski

Hair and Makeup Designer: Joyce Degenfelder (original designs in 2001 by Denise O'Brien)

Fire Designer and Flight Technical Director: Charles T. Buck

English Captions: Jonathan Dean

***Ring* Performing Artists**

[NOTE TO PRESS:

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Brünnhilde: Jane Eaglen

Wotan/The Wanderer: Greer Grimsley

Siegfried: Alan Woodrow

Alberich: Richard Paul Fink

Sieglinde/Third Norn: Margaret Jane Wray

Siegmund: Richard Berkeley-Steele

Hagen: Gidon Saks

Fricka/Second Norn: Stephanie Blythe

Erda/First Norn: Ewa Podles

Loge: Peter Kazaras

Fasolt/Hunding: Stephen Milling

Froh: Thomas Rolf Truhitte

Donner/Gunther: Gordon Hawkins

Mime: Thomas Harper

Fafner: Gidon Saks

Waltraute (*Götterdämmerung*): Nancy Maultsby

Freia/Ortlinde/Gutrune: Marie Plette

Woglinde/Forest Bird: Wendy Hill

Wellgunde: Mary Phillips

Siegrune: Sarah Heltzel†

Flosshilde/Rossweisse: Jennifer Hines†

Helmwige: Caroline Thomas

Gerhilde: Holly Hall

Waltraute (*Walküre*): Stacey Rishoi†

Grimgerde: Fredrika Brillembourg†

Schwertleite: Luretta Bybee

Bear: Steven Goldstein

† Seattle Opera debut

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Founded in 1963, Seattle Opera has developed into 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 presentation of the works of Richard Wagner.

Seattle Opera gratefully acknowledges the support of the following for the *Ring*: Marion O. McCaw Garrison, Craig and Joan Watjen, Bagley Wright Family Foundation, 4Culture, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington State Arts Commission, John Graham Foundation, Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, City of Seattle, Carol Franc Buck Foundation, Dilettante Chocolates, Town & Country Chrysler/Jeeb

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