



SEATTLE OPERA
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Seattle Opera's Star-Spangled *Ring* Cast

***Ring* Artists Sing National Anthem at Upcoming Mariners Games**

**Mother and Daughter Luretta Bybee and Emma Grimsley
Sing August 28**

Soprano Sally Wolf joins "Girls Night Out" on August 29

Seattle—Seattle sports fans got a taste of the talented singers in Seattle Opera's *Ring des Nibelungen* throughout the summer. Several performers in Seattle Opera's signature production lent their voices to the pre-game festivities at Mariners and Seahawks games while they were in town rehearsing and performing at Seattle Opera. Baritone Gordon Hawkins (Donner/Gunther) sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" at the Mariners game on June 5, and tenor Jason Collins (Froh) sang on August 15. Collins also sang the national anthem for the Seahawks' August 22 pre-season game.

This weekend, mezzo-soprano Luretta Bybee and her daughter Emma Grimsley, a young lyric soprano, will sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" on Friday, August 28, for the 7:10 p.m. game against the Kansas City Royals. Ms. Grimsley, a supernumerary in *Götterdämmerung*, is following in the family tradition: both parents are Seattle Opera favorites. Greer Grimsley, currently performing as Wotan in Seattle's *Ring* cycle, was voted Artist of the Year for his performance in that role in 2005. Bybee, who is singing Waltraute (*Die Walküre*) and the First Norn

this summer, has performed several roles with the company, including the title role in Bizet's *Carmen* and Klytämnestra in Richard Strauss's *Elektra*, and will next be seen here in May for the world premiere of Daron Aric Hagen's *Amelia*.

Soprano Sally Wolf, who is singing the role of the Valkyrie Helmwig in the *Ring*, will join the girls at the Mariners' "Girls Night Out" game on Saturday, August 29. Wolf, who has been performing at Seattle Opera since 1987, will next be seen with the company as Alice Ford in Verdi's *Falstaff* in February and March.

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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 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 operagoers from four continents and fifty states.