

SEATTLE OPERA.

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Bringing music to all: Seattle Opera gala funds vital community programs

Greer Grimsley lends voice to a glamorous evening

7 p.m., April 16, 2016, at the Museum of History & Industry

Seattle—Join Seattle Opera this April for a black-tie [gala featuring Greer Grimsley](#), star of Seattle Opera's famous *Ring* cycle and title character in the company's upcoming *Flying Dutchman*. Gala attendees can share their experience on social media using the hashtag **#SOCelebrate**.

"Expect an elegant evening and lots of fun," said **Moya Vazquez, gala committee co-chair and Seattle Opera board member**. "Most importantly, the festivities will support programs that create more equitable and accessible arts opportunities for everyone in our community."

Seattle Opera continues to increase access to the arts by providing admission-free and subsidized programs throughout Washington State, sharing the power of music, theater, and storytelling. Over the past five years, the number of people Seattle Opera has served through its engagement programs has increased threefold. Funding from the gala will help the company continue on this path.

“Seattle Opera should reflect our region; it should be the proverbial fire around which we share our stories,” said **Director of Education & Community Engagement Barbara Lynne Jamison**. “We must also be able to serve those in need, because we know that many people don’t have opportunities to make and experience art.”

Last season, with the help of incredible donors, the company served 74,689 students, adults and seniors with educational arts programming, up from 63,116 Washingtonians in the 2013/14 season. Just one of many examples includes “Artful Aging” programs designed for retirement and community centers, as well as residencies in schools where children can create their own operas. Last year, Seattle Opera served 15,352 students. More than a third of these students attend federally identified low-income schools. Due to generous donations and events like the Gala featuring Greer Grimsley, the company is able to provide performances, residencies, and other fun offerings to these underserved schools free of charge.

“We are so grateful for the support we receive at events such as the Gala, and from the generosity of donors all year long,” said **Linda Kitchen, gala committee co-chair and wife of General Director Aidan Lang**. “We hope the curious and generous minds of Seattle will join us on April 16, and help share this special art form that we love.”

Attendees will enjoy live music by the **Dudley Manlove Quartet**, in addition to Greer Grimsley and other special guests. **Richard Hartlage** of **Land Morphology** will create stunning towers of greenery, which will complement floral décor by **Loves Me Flowers**. A delicious feast provided by **Kaspars Special Events & Catering** will include a salad course, with three entrée options, and a warm banana cake with chocolate truffle and caramel sauce for dessert. Wine is generously donated by **For a Song**.

The live and silent auctions will feature exciting travel and exclusive experiences, including a \$5,000 gift certificate to Seattle’s premier jeweler **Turgeon Raine**, as

well as the chance to enjoy an opera from the wings while observing our stage manager in action. Fine dining experiences include a tour of six **Tom Douglas Restaurants** where delicious bites and drinks will be served at each stop. Attendees can also bid on exquisite wines, including a rare 2005 Imperial (6L) Château Suduiraut Sauternes (perfect for a 150-200 person wedding); a “The Lafite Spirit,” based on a rich tradition rooted in the Bordeaux soil; a 1982 Jeroboam of Château Lafite Rothschild, which has received a rating of 100 from Robert Parker, Jr; as well as a six-bottle vertical of Cabernet Sauvignon (2002-2007) from Quilceda Creek Vintners—representing some of the best wine that Washington has to offer. **Michael Davis** of Chicago-based **Hart Davis Hart Wine Co.** will serve as auctioneer. The silent auction will be available online to the general public on March 30. Anyone can bid, not just guests of the Gala! Visit seattleopera.org/gala for details.

***GALA FEATURING GREER GRIMSLEY
“MANY VOICES, ONE SONG”***

Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI)
7 p.m., April 16, 2016

Individual tickets for \$750, \$1,500, and \$3,000
Tables for \$7,500, \$15,000, and \$30,000

MENU

Kaspars Special Events and Catering

Salad Course

Rustic Potato Focaccia, Avocado and Blue Cheese Mousse Parfait with Arugula, Organic Greens and Avocado Elderberry Vinaigrette

Entrées

Braised Short Ribs with Merlot Dried Cherry Sauce, Potato-Celery Root Purée, with Zucchini Strings

or

Petrале Sole Filet with Citrus Sauce, Roasted Potatoes, Carrots, Parsnips, Baby Bok Choy with Parsley Garnish

or

Pan Seared Ten Spiced Seed and Panko Crusted Tofu on Spring Vegetables, Brown Rice, Green Curry Sauce with Pickled Carrots, Green Papaya Slaw

Dessert

Warm Banana Cake with Roasted Bananas, Raisins and Rum Chantilly Crème, Chocolate Truffle, Caramel Sauce

Wines

"The Score" Red Blend, For A Song 2012

Caliche Lake Vineyard Riesling, For A Song 2014

Michelle Brut, Chateau Ste Michelle

AUCTION INFORMATION

Fine wines, gourmet food, exclusive travel, and one-of-a-kind experiences! We look forward to showcasing a variety of premium live and silent auction lots with you.

To learn more about the Gala and to RSVP, visit our [Gala Facebook event page](#) or seattleopera.org/gala. You can also call Donor Services at 206.389.7669.

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About Seattle Opera

Seattle Opera is a leading opera company, recognized both in the United States and around the world. The company is committed to advancing the cultural life in the Pacific Northwest with performances of the highest caliber, and through innovative education and community programs that take opera far beyond the McCaw Hall stage. Each year, more than 95,000 people attend Seattle Opera performances and the company's programs serve more than 400,000 people of all ages (including school performances, radio broadcasts and community engagement initiatives). Seattle Opera is especially known for its acclaimed works in the Richard Wagner canon, and has created an "international attraction" in its presentation of Wagner's epic *Ring*, according to *The New York Times*. Connect with Seattle Opera on Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud and through the [Seattle Opera channel on Classical King FM. 98.1](#).