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Press images: <https://seattleopera.smugmug.com/2021-Season/Tosca/>

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Seattle Opera unveils first outdoor recital series—and more

Upcoming events include:

['The View from the Pit'](#) online panel discussion, June 3

[Songs of Summer LIVE](#) outdoor recitals, June 11 & 13

[Tosca](#), streaming online June 25–27

[Seattle Opera Mornings on KING FM](#), every Saturday in June

SEATTLE—From a new streaming production of *Tosca* filmed at a historic Seattle cathedral, to live outdoor recitals at Seattle Center, and a conductor dialogue on race and gender, there's plenty of ways to engage with music through Seattle Opera's June offerings.

Prior to the company's season finale—a new streaming production of *Tosca*—Seattle Opera is unveiling its first-ever outdoor recital series, **Songs of Summer LIVE**. (Tickets are \$25 per pod, which can hold up to two chairs; viewers must bring their own chairs). Located on the south side of The Opera Center, Songs of Summer LIVE brings a much-anticipated return to in-person performance, following the success of online recitals during the pandemic. Featured artists include: **John Marzano** (5 p.m., June 11), **Margaret Gawrysiak** (2 p.m., June 13), and **The Drunken Tenor**

a.k.a. **Robert McPherson** (8 p.m., June 11 and 5 p.m., June 13). For tickets and more information, go to seattleopera.org/summersongs. To learn more about COVID-19 health and safety measures for these events, go to seattleopera.org/safety.

Available online June 25–27 for \$35 is a new production of Giacomo Puccini's ***Tosca***, which brings down the curtain on Seattle Opera's groundbreaking year: Seattle Opera was the only American opera company to deliver titles promised in its 2020/21 season by quickly pivoting to streaming content. Following the international acclaim of *Flight*, filmed at The Museum of Flight this past spring, Seattle Opera's next production has been shot on-location at the 114-year-old St. James Cathedral in the First Hill neighborhood.

"St. James Cathedral has a long history of fostering arts and culture. It is a delight to join forces with Seattle Opera, one of the premier arts organizations in the Pacific Northwest, on this innovative *Tosca*," said **Father Michael G. Ryan, Pastor of St James Cathedral**. "During this time of pandemic, we see this collaboration as a creative way to bring beauty and hope to lovers of music and the arts in Seattle and beyond."

Envisioned by director and cinephile **Dan Wallace Miller**, *Tosca* shows off grand opera, in addition to bringing in shadow-play and pops of color inspired by Italian *giallo* films of the 1960s. The fiery diva Floria Tosca will be performed by **Alexandra LoBianco** (*Aida*, *Aida* '18), whose "large, dark voice has an exciting edge in the upper reaches," (*South Florida Classical Review*). Sought-after baritone **Michael Chioldi**, praised for his "warm, rich tone" (*Opera News*) makes his debut as Scarpia, and **Dominick Chenes** (Pinkerton in *Madame Butterfly* '17) known for his "remarkable stamina, vocal range, and dramatic capabilities" (*Bachtrack*) returns as Cavaradossi.

The production features **Adam Lau** (Angelotti), **Matthew Burns** (Sacristan), **Andrew Stenson** (Spoletta), **José Rubio** (Sciarrone), **Ryan Bede** (Jailer), and

Ellaina Lewis (Shepherd Boy). For full cast, creative team, and ticket information, go to seattleopera.org/tosca.

In addition to online and outdoor performances, Seattle Opera is hosting a June 3 panel discussion: "[The View from the Pit: Maestros on Race and Gender in Opera.](#)" Speakers include **Kazem Abdullah** who makes his debut leading the orchestra for *Tosca*, **Alondra de la Parra**, former Music Director of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, **Viswa Subbaraman** (*Flight* '21 and *Blue* '22), and **Judith Yan** (*An American Dream* '15 and '17). **Alejandra Valarino Boyer**, Seattle Opera's Director of Programs and Partnerships, will moderate. Panelists will reflect on their unique experiences in the art form, and what it means to be both a storyteller and an agent of change in a centuries-old tradition of western opera. To learn more, go to seattleopera.org/communityconversations.

Finally, all are welcome to enjoy **Seattle Opera Mornings on KING FM** by tuning in to Classical KING FM 98.1 or king.org every Saturday at 10 a.m. Free radio broadcasts will include *The Elixir of Love* on June 5, *Of Mice and Men* on June 12, *Charlie Parker's Yardbird* on June 19, and *La fanciulla del West* on June 26. For more information, go to seattleopera.org/kingfm.

About Seattle Opera

Established in 1963, Seattle Opera is committed to serving the people of the Pacific Northwest through music, storytelling, and programs for people of all ages. Each year, more than 80,000 people attend the company's performances, and more than 100,000 people are served through school performances, radio broadcasts, and more. The organization brings opera to life in a number of different ways, offering artistic excellence through national and international collaborations. Seattle Opera strives to create an environment where artists, staff, behind-the-scenes workers, and members of the community feel a strong connection to the company, and to the art of opera. Follow Seattle Opera on Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud, and on 98.1 Classical KING FM.