

PITTSBURGH OPERA

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Antony Walker to debut at The Metropolitan Opera in May 2011

Pittsburgh, PA... [Pittsburgh Opera](#) is very pleased to announce that Music Director [Antony Walker](#) will make his Metropolitan Opera debut conducting [Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*](#), April 29 – May 14, 2011. He will be released from his contract to conduct Pittsburgh Opera's performances of Poulenc's [Dialogues of the Carmelites](#) in April/May 2011, as previously announced.

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"I couldn't be prouder or more supportive of this superb opportunity for Antony Walker," said General Director [Christopher Hahn](#). "A debut at The Metropolitan Opera has to be every performer's dream. Though another of his dreams has always been to conduct *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, I knew he had to accept this wonderful offer. Antony has contributed so magnificently to the excellence of our performances that we fully expected this moment to come. I am sure there will be planeloads of excited opera fans traveling to New York to cheer him on!"

"I am honored and delighted that The Metropolitan Opera has asked me to conduct Mark Morris's beautiful production," said Walker. "David Daniels is an exceptional artist, and it will be a privilege to help bring his masterly *Orfeo* to the stage again. I am very grateful to Christopher Hahn for being so supportive by releasing me from *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, but I still look forward enormously to conducting the other three 2010-11 mainstage productions in Pittsburgh."

Maestro Walker has been the Music Director at Pittsburgh Opera since 2006, and is believed to be the youngest Music Director of a U.S. opera company at age 41. His contract with Pittsburgh Opera has been extended through June 2012.

Walker is also Artistic Director and Conductor at Washington Concert Opera, Co-Artistic Director of Pinchgut Opera and Music Director and Founder of Cantillation, Orchestra of the Antipodes and Sinfonia Australis. He has an active recording and guest-conducting career as well, and recently made his U.K. conducting debut at English National Opera with performances of *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

(more)

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Pittsburgh Opera celebrates its 71st season in 2009-10 with Eugene Onegin, Falstaff, The Rape of Lucretia, Carmen and The Marriage of Figaro. In addition to its mainstage productions, Pittsburgh Opera produces a range of programs to engage and enrich the community with more than 20,000 students, families and educators participating in its educational events annually. The internationally-renowned Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Program is among the country's top training programs for rising opera stars, and the company's newly-designed administrative and rehearsal space, housed in a 139-year-old Air Brake Factory in the city's Strip District, provides space for events ranging from free community Brown Bag concerts to concert and recitals by world-class opera singers.

2009-2010 Season

[Eugene Onegin](#) September 26, 29; October 2, 4, 2009

[Falstaff](#) October 24, 27, 30, November 1, 2009

[The Rape of Lucretia](#) January 30; February 2, 5, 7, 2010

[Carmen](#) March 20, 23, 26, 28, 2010

[The Marriage of Figaro](#) April 24, 27, 30; May 2, 2010

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