

Pittsburgh Opera NEWS RELEASE

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Stephanie Blythe leads master class for Pittsburgh Opera

WHAT: Master class by mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe with the Resident Artists of Pittsburgh Opera

WHERE: Benedum Center for the Performing Arts, Studio A. Enter at the Benedum Center stage door at the corner of Liberty Avenue and Tito Way

WHEN: Wednesday, April 2 from 7:00-9:00 PM

TICKETS: Free admission but reservation is required. Seating is limited; available on first-come, first-served basis. Call 412-281-0912 x 209.

Pittsburgh, PA . . . Pittsburgh Opera presents a public master class led by Metropolitan Opera star Stephanie Blythe on Wednesday, April 2 at 7:00 PM in Studio A of the Benedum Center. Ms. Blythe, widely considered among the top mezzo-sopranos in the world, is in Pittsburgh to sing the role of Amneris in Pittsburgh Opera's production of Verdi's *Aida*. She will coach four resident artists of the Pittsburgh Opera Center as they perform an aria from their audition list. The master class will be accompanied by James Lesniak, Associate Coach/Pianist for Pittsburgh Opera.

Repertoire

Soprano Deborah Selig: "O quante volte" from *The Capulets and the Montagues* by Bellini

Mezzo- soprano Katherine Drago: "Parto, parto" from *La clemenza di Tito* by Mozart

Baritone Jonathan Beyer: "Ah, per sempre io ti perdei" from *I puritani* by Bellini

Bass Liam Moran: "Il lacerato spirito" from *Simon Boccanegra* by Verdi

Tenor Dean Kokanos (alternate): "Una furtiva lagrima" from *The Elixir of Love* by Donizetti

Admission to the master class is free, but seating is limited to the first 100 callers. Reservations are required. Call 412-281-0912 x209.

Pittsburgh Opera, celebrating 69 years of opera in southwestern Pennsylvania, is a member of OPERA America, the national organization for opera companies, and the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council. Pittsburgh Opera's performances are supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, and Allegheny Regional Asset District. The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and KDKA are season media sponsors.

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