

Pittsburgh Opera NEWS RELEASE

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Vivica Genaux leads master class for Pittsburgh Opera

WHAT: Master class by mezzo-soprano Vivica Genaux 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, May 7 at 7:00 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 (April 22, 2008) . . . Pittsburgh Opera presents a public master class led by international opera star and EPCASO alumna **Vivica Genaux** on Wednesday, May 7 at 7:00 PM in Studio A of the Benedum Center. Ms. Genaux, a charismatic mezzo-soprano who is consistently hailed as one of today's foremost interpreters of the music of the Baroque and *bel canto* eras, is in Pittsburgh to sing the role of Romeo in Pittsburgh Opera's production of Bellini's *The Capulets & the Montagues*. She will coach four Resident Artists of the Pittsburgh Opera Center as they perform an aria from their audition list. The singers are soprano Deborah Selig, tenors Carlos Feliciano and Dean Kokanos, and baritone Jonathan Beyer, accompanied by James Lesniak, Associate Coach/Pianist for Pittsburgh Opera.

Admission to the master class is free, but seating is limited to the first 100 callers. Reservations are required; call 412-281-0912 x209. Guests should enter the Benedum stage door at 719 Liberty Avenue.

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. KDKA is the season media sponsor.

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