

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Minnesota Opera's production of Pulitzer Prize-winning *Silent Night* to air on Twin Cities Public Television

Minneapolis—Minnesota Opera's high-definition recording of the world premiere of *Silent Night* will air on Twin Cities Public Television (*tpt*) on Friday, December 21 at 8pm with rebroadcasts on Saturday, December 22 at 2am (on *tpt*) and Sunday, December 23 at 3pm (on *tpt* LIFE). For broadcast details, trailers, the *Silent Night* digital program, cast list and other multimedia materials, please visit [mnoopera.org/silent-night](http://mnoopera.org/silent-night).

Minnesota Opera presented the world premiere of *Silent Night*, composed by KEVIN PUTS with libretto by MARK CAMPBELL, in November of 2011 at Ordway in St. Paul, Minnesota. The opera earned its composer the 2012 Pulitzer Prize in Music.

*Silent Night* was conducted by Minnesota Opera's Music Director MICHAEL CHRISTIE and staged by Academy Award-winning director ERIC SIMONSON. Cast members included tenor WILLIAM BURDEN, soprano KARIN WOLVERTON, baritones LIAM BONNER, ANDREW WILKOWSKE and TROY COOK, bass-baritone CRAIG IRVIN, and bass BEN WAGER. The design team included FRANCIS O'CONNOR (sets), KÄRIN KOPISCHKE, (costumes), MARCUS DILLIARD (lighting) and ANDRZEJ GOULDING (projections).

*Silent Night* was part of MINNESOTA OPERA'S NEW WORKS INITIATIVE, a landmark program designed to invigorate the operatic repertoire with an infusion of contemporary works. Since fundraising began in March 2008, Minnesota Opera has raised more than \$6.68 million to support the New Works Initiative, which has also produced the American premiere of Jonathan Dove's *The Adventures of Pinocchio* and revivals of Dominick Argento's *Casanova's Homecoming* and Bernard Herrmann's *Wuthering Heights*. *Doubt*, composed by Douglas J. Cuomo with libretto by John Patrick Shanley, makes its world premiere in January 2013, *The Dream of Valentino*, newly revised by Dominick Argento, is slated for March 2014, and *The Manchurian Candidate*, composed by Kevin Puts with libretto by Mark Campbell, will make its world premiere in the 2014–2015 season.

### About *tpt*

The mission of *tpt* is to “enrich lives and strengthen our community through the power of media.”

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As one of the nation's leading public media organizations, *tpt* uses television, interactive media and community engagement to advance education, culture and citizenship. Over its 50 plus year history, *tpt* has been recognized for its innovation and creativity with numerous awards, including Peabody awards and national and regional Emmys.

Based in St. Paul, Minnesota, *tpt* is one of the highest rated PBS affiliates in the nation, reaching more than 1.3 million people each month through multiple broadcast and online channels. The organization's particular areas of focus include: the educational readiness of children; serving the needs and unleashing the potential of America's aging population; engaging a new generation in the power of public media; and being the preferred media partner for organizations that align with their mission to enrich lives and strengthen community.

For more information about *tpt*, please visit their website at [tpt.org](http://tpt.org) or join them on Facebook and Twitter.

Minnesota Opera combines a culture of creativity and fiscal responsibility to produce opera and opera education programs that expand the art form, nurture artists, enrich audiences and contribute to the vitality of the community.

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