

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Minnesota Opera Brings Acclaimed Production of *The Magic Flute* to Duluth

**One Performance Only – Saturday, October 31, 2:00 p.m.
Tickets Start at \$15**

MINNEAPOLIS (September 17, 2015) – Minnesota Opera hits the road, bringing Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* to the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) for one spectacular Halloween matinee, Saturday, October 31, 2015. This internationally-acclaimed production, created in Berlin, can only be seen in three American cities – Los Angeles, Saint Paul, and Duluth.

Named “Favorite Theater Production” by the Pioneer Press, Minnesota Opera’s 2014 production of *The Magic Flute* garnered praise from critics and became one of the company’s most popular shows. “Yes, Mozart’s final masterpiece was an opera (albeit one with a fair amount of dialogue), but none of the 48 theater productions I attended this year made a more astounding impression than this imaginative combination of animation and live performance,” said Rob Hubbard in the Pioneer Press.

Created by Komische Oper Berlin and the British theater group 1927, *The Magic Flute* is an engaging combination of live opera performance and whimsical film animation. *The New York Times* hailed, “... this production stays miraculously fresh, sustaining surprise and delight in its two-and-a-half hours.” Mozart’s fantastical comedy is transformed by opera singers interacting with large-scale cartoon projections including skeletons, spiders and a black cat. Videos of the production can be watched on Minnesota Opera’s *The Magic Flute* playlist on [YouTube](#).

“We are thrilled to be able to perform *The Magic Flute* at the DECC,” said Minnesota Opera General Director Nina Archabal. “It is an honor to perform for Duluth area audiences who enjoy a rich cultural life with such outstanding performing arts organizations as the Lyric Opera of the North, the Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra and the Duluth Playhouse. This is Minnesota Opera’s first performance in Duluth thanks to a generous touring grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.”

Siena Forest stars as Pamina opposite tenor David Walton as Tamino. Andrew Lovato, named for his “... winning baritone ...” by *Opera News*, performs the endearing role of Papageno. The Queen of the Night, Jeni Houser, “... sang sweetly, her top notes securely placed,” praised the *Chicago Tribune* for her

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Lyric Opera debut. Tenor John Robert Lindsey returns to the stage with his celebrated role as Monostatos and bass Benjamin Sieverding sings the role of Sarastro.

1927 is a London-based performance company that specializes in combining performance and live music with animation and film to create avant-garde theater. Audiences around the world have been thrilled with their humor, creativity and original works.

- What:** [The Magic Flute](#) by composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.
Presented in co-production with LA Opera.
Sung in German with English translations projected above the stage.
- Where:** DECC's Symphony Hall
350 Harbor Drive, Duluth, MN 55802
- When:** Saturday, October 31, 2:00 p.m.
- Tickets:** \$15 – \$30 (\$10, under 18 or students with valid ID). Facility and service fees may apply. Call 800-745-3000 or visit ticketmaster.com. Purchase in person at the DECC Ticket Office: Monday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
- Media:** An online press room (available at mnop.co/dropbox) includes artist headshots and production photography. Check back for updated resources and information.
- Preview:** Contact Sr. Director of Marketing & Communications Kyle Clausen to take advantage of interview, photo and video opportunities, including attending *The Magic Flute* final dress rehearsal at the DECC on **Friday, October 30, 2:00 p.m.**

The Creative Team

Conductor Michael Christie
Production..... Suzanne Andrade and Barrie Kosky for Komische Oper Berlin
Animation Designer..... Paul Barritt
Concept 1927 (Suzanne Andrade and Paul Barritt) and Barrie Kosky
Set and Costume Designer Esther Bialas
Associate Director Tobias Ribitzki

The Cast

Tamino, *a prince*..... David Walton
Pamina, *daughter of the Queen* Siena Forest
Papageno, *a birdcatcher*..... Andrew Lovato
Sarastro, *High Priest of the Sun*..... Benjamin Sieverding
The Queen of the Night Jeni Houser
Monostatos, *overseer at the temple*..... John Robert Lindsey

The Magic Flute will also enjoy encore performances in the Music Theater at the Ordway (St. Paul) November 14–22, 2015. Tickets available now at mnopera.org.

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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.

Minnesota OPERA

mnopera.org

Minnesota Opera Education Department in Duluth, MN

Date	Time	Event	Location	Description
Tuesday 10/20/2015	10:30-11:30AM	Read and Sing Opera	Superior Library 1530 Tower Avenue Superior, WI 54880	Family event. Story hour reading and performance
Tuesday 10/20/2015	4:15-5:15PM	Master class	The College of St. Scholastica 1200 Kenwood Avenue Duluth, MN 55811	Master class with choral students
Wednesday 10/21/2015 (This event is pending)	12:30-1:45PM	Student Magic Flute cast coachings	University of Minnesota Duluth 1201 Ordean Court Duluth, Minnesota 55812	
Thursday 10/22/2015	12:00-2:00PM	masterclass/ business of opera	University of Minnesota Duluth 1201 Ordean Court Duluth, Minnesota 55812	12:00-1:00 business of opera 1:00-2:00 masterclass
Friday 10/23/2015	11:00-2:00PM	Workshop	University of Wisconsin Superior	Business of music class
Sunday 10/25/2015	5:00-8:00PM	Workshop	Lake Superior Youth Chorus	Workshop music the choir is working on
Monday-Friday 10/26-10/30/2015	8:00AM-3:00PM Daily	Residency	Hermantown Public Schools	Classes and performance with Elementary, Middle and High school students
Wednesday 10/28/2015	1:00-3:00PM	Master class/coaching	University of Minnesota Duluth 1201 Ordean Court Duluth, Minnesota 55812	Work with instrumental and conducting students