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Anna Bolena, 2012 © Michal Daniel.

2017–2018

57th anniversary season

Minnesota OPERA

OH, THE **DRAMA.**

/tempo

THE 2017–2018 SEASON

Don Pasquale

Oct. 7–15, 2017

The Marriage of Figaro

Nov. 11–19, 2017

DEAD MAN WALKING

Jan. 27–Feb. 3, 2018

RIGOLETTO

Mar. 17–31, 2018

THAÏS

May 12–20, 2018

JOIN TEMPO FOR OUR 55TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Enjoy savings and benefits with Tempo—a membership program for both new and seasoned operagoers ages 21–39. Your $50 Tempo membership includes exciting benefits to help you get acquainted with Minnesota Opera.

POWERFUL. EMOTIONAL. UNFORGETTABLE.

Attending live opera is a unique experience that combines music, theatricality, movement, and vocal virtuosity. It invites joy and wonder into your life. Your membership not only secures the best discount Minnesota Opera offers, but also gives you access to unique events and experiences.

The Marriage of Figaro, 2016 © Dana Sohm for Lyric Opera of Kansas City

Join Tempo for these **BIG BENEFITS**

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✓ Savings of up to 76% off of opening night 3-, 4-, or 5-opera subscriptions.

- **NEW!** Tempo subscribers get free exchanges (subject to availability).
- Subscribe to all 5 operas for the deepest discount and ensure you won't miss a minute of our exhilarating 55th anniversary season.

✓ Savings of up to 70% off of individual tickets on select performance dates.

TEMPO NIGHTS OUT

✓ Opera Insights—free, fun, and informative sessions held one hour before every show.
✓ Admission to the members-only Tempo Intermission Lounge on opening nights.
✓ Exclusive invitations to After Parties and happy hours prior to select performances.

BEHIND THE CURTAIN PREVIEWS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

✓ Behind the Curtain tickets for just $15 each.
✓ Opportunities to meet the singers and creative team behind each production.
✓ Experience opera in unexpected ways at entertaining events.

© CJ Standish 2016.

GAETANO DONIZETTI

Don Pasquale

A Toast to Tinseltown

HOLLYWOODLAND

October 7–15, 2017

SAT	TUE	THUR	SAT	SUN
7	10	12	14	15
8PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	2PM

This production of Donizetti's bubbly farce presents the miserly aristocrat Don Pasquale as a silent movie star facing the end of his career in 1950s Hollywood. Locked in a battle of wits and wills with his lovesick nephew Ernesto and the crafty widow Norina, Pasquale grapples with the new problems and possibilities of the modern technicolor world. It takes the clever scheming of the family doctor to teach the old curmudgeon a lesson—but not before a series of amusing catastrophes threatens to shatter his ego for good.

Sung in Italian with English translations projected above the stage.

☆ = Tempo Night

DON PASQUALE | CRAIG COLCLOUGH

"... exquisite comic timing and ... a wide range of dynamic and luminous bronzed vocal tones."
—Opera Today

DR. MALATESTA | ANDREW WILKOWSKE*

"Wilkowske's ease with rapid-fire patter was only the beginning of his vocal charm. He made the singing sound easy ..."
—Third Coast Digest

ERNESTO | DAVID WALTON*

"Walton ... offered the requisite clean, clear voice of the hero as he affably endured his character's trials and tribulations."
—Duluth News Tribune

NORINA | SUSANNAH BILLER

"... incandescent, exquisitely supple soprano ..."
—Dallas Morning News

**Minnesota Opera Resident Artist Program Alumnus*

WHO SHOULD SEE IT?

Great for people who like to laugh. Fans of *I Love Lucy*, *La La Land*, and *The Elixir of Love*.

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

The Marriage of Figaro

Love is a Battlefield

November 11–19, 2017

☆ SAT 11 7:30PM	SUN 12 2PM	☆ TUE 14 7:30PM	THUR 16 7:30PM	SAT 18 7:30PM	☆ SUN 19 2PM

All is fair in love and war in this new staging of Mozart's timeless comedy of errors, widely considered the perfect opera. Mozart's infectious score brings humor, drama, and humanity to this story of class conflict. It should be the happiest day of their lives, but the wily servant Figaro and his charming fiancée Susanna must fend off the philandering, arrogant Count Almaviva before he ruins everything. On a day filled with chaos and confusion in which disguised identities are revealed and shenanigans ensue, will the young lovers finally make it to the altar?

Sung in Italian with English translations projected above the stage.

☆ = Tempo Night

FIGARO | RICHARD OLLARSABA*

"[Ollarsaba] showed the poise and communicative power of a seasoned artist, singing with commanding stentorian tone . . . "

—Chicago Classical Review

SUSANNA | ANGELA MORTELLARO*

"Mortellaro was beautiful to watch onstage. She is a graceful young woman and a natural actor . . . "

—Classical Voice of New England

COUNT ALMAVIVA | JACQUES IMBRAILO

"Imbrailo's is a lyric baritone of considerable elegance . . . [he] sang everything with authentic lyrical intensity."

—Classical Source

COUNTESS ALMAVIVA | JOHANNI VAN OOSTRUM

"[Oostrum's] effortlessly blossoming, gleaming, precisely pitched soprano is the vocal highlight of the evening . . . "

—Kronen Zeitung

**Minnesota Opera Resident Artist Program Alumnus*

WHO SHOULD SEE IT?

Perfect for date night and first-time operagoers. Fans of *Downton Abbey*, *Amadeus*, and *Così fan tutte*.

JAKE HEGGIE

DEAD MAN WALKING

DIVINE INTERVENTION

January 27–February 3, 2018

SAT	SUN	TUE	THUR	SAT
27	28	30	1	3
7:30PM	2PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	8PM

The most performed new opera of the 21st century, this heartbreaking story of grief, grace, and redemption is a modern classic. Based on Sister Helen Prejean's memoir that inspired the Oscar-winning movie of the same name, it recounts her courageous struggle to provide spiritual guidance to a condemned Louisiana murderer in the months leading up to his execution. With a powerful libretto by four-time Tony Award®-winner Terrence McNally and lyrical music by Jake Heggie—praised as one of the great living opera composers—*Dead Man Walking* has moved audiences worldwide since its premiere.

Sung in English with English captions projected above the stage.

☆ = Tempo Night

SISTER HELEN | CATHERINE MARTIN

"As Sister Helen, Catherine Martin's remarkable vocal powers brought her character, and the opera to life."

—The Oakwood Register

JOSEPH DE ROCHER | SETH CARICO

"... powerful in both voice and bearing ..."

—Opera News

MRS. DE ROCHER | DENYCE GRAVES

"... operatic superstar of the 21st Century ..."

—USA Today

SISTER ROSE | KAREN SLACK

"Karen Slack sang with poise and radiant sound. [Her] amply blooming high notes were especially brilliant."

—Opera Today

WHO SHOULD SEE IT?

Great for those who like something new. Fans of *Oz*, *Breaking Bad*, and Minnesota Opera's *The Shining*.

March 17–31, 2018

☆ SAT 17 7:30PM | THUR 22 7:30PM | SAT 24 7:30PM | SUN 25 2PM | ☆ TUE 27 7:30PM

☆ THUR 29 7:30PM | ☆ SAT 31 7:30PM

Verdi's time-honored tale of seduction and bitter revenge is boldly imagined in this new production. The disfigured jester Rigoletto must do everything in his power to protect his innocent daughter from the lecherous Duke of Mantua before she falls into his clutches. Brimming with rich melodies and featuring the famous aria "La donna è mobile," *Rigoletto* tragically unravels as it races toward its devastating conclusion.

Sung in Italian with English translations projected above the stage.

☆ = Tempo Night

RIGOLETTO | OLAFUR SIGURDARSON

"... the powerfulness and expressiveness of [Sigurdarson's] kingly baritone timbre sculpt the character ..."

—Opernnetz

GILDA | MARIE-EVE MUNGER

"[Munger] was all sweetness and light, with a voice that soared with golden tones."

—The Daily News

DUKE OF MANTUA | JOSHUA DENNIS

"The genuine acting from Dennis ... set the tone for the production, allowing for a welcome intimacy ..."

—Opera News

SPARAFUCILE | MATT BOEHLER*

"... Boehler deserves kudos for his scene-stealing turns as the murderer with a code of honor, Sparafucile."

—Pioneer Press

**Minnesota Opera Resident Artist Program Alumnus*

WHO SHOULD SEE IT?

Great for those who like grand opera. Fans of *Taken*, *The Sopranos*, and *La Traviata*.

JULES MASSENET

THAÏS

GIVE IN TO TEMPTATION

May 12–20, 2018

SAT	TUE	THUR	SAT	SUN
12	15	17	19	20
7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	2PM

A devout monk seeks to convert Thaïs, a ravishingly beautiful courtesan, but realizes too late that his pious obsession is rooted in lust, not religion. Minnesota Opera produces Massenet's sensual and melodic creation for the first time. Set in the deserts and oases of 4th-century Egypt, this searing drama explores the conflict between the passion of the flesh and the salvation of the soul.

Sung in French with English translations projected above the stage.

☆ = Tempo Night

THAÏS | KELLY KADUCE

"[Kaduce's] dark focused sound was lusty and lyric one moment, tender and floating the next."

—Opera News

ATHANAËL | LUCAS MEACHEM

"The sweet quality of [Meachem's] deep voice comes with a blast furnace of dramatic power . . ."

—Seattle Times

NICIAS | JOHN ROBERT LINDSEY*

"With his flexible yet full instrument rising to the role's high dramatic tasks, Lindsey is a young tenor to watch."

—Opera Today

**Minnesota Opera Resident Artist Program Alumnus*

WHO SHOULD SEE IT?

Ideal date night. Best for fans of *Wuthering Heights*, *Gone with the Wind*, and *Aida*.

2017–2018 TEMPO EVENTS

AFTER PARTIES

Come to the exclusive Tempo Lounge during intermission and After Party immediately following all opening night performances. Mingle with the cast, creative team, and other Tempo members in an entertaining and relaxed atmosphere.

DON PASQUALE Saturday, October 7
THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO Saturday, November 11
DEAD MAN WALKING Saturday, January 27
RIGOLETTO Saturday, March 17
THAÏS Saturday, May 12

BEHIND THE CURTAIN AND PREVIEW EVENTS

Get the inside scoop as members of the cast and creative team lead discussions exploring the music, history, and design of each opera. Behind the Curtain events are ideal for first-time operagoers and long-term fans alike. Events begin at 7pm.

DON PASQUALE Wednesday, September 27
THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO Wednesday, November 1
DEAD MAN WALKING Wednesday, January 17
RIGOLETTO Wednesday, March 7
THAÏS Wednesday, April 25

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SPECIAL EVENTS

Join us for a year of celebration! Tempo enters its 15th year of building the next generation of operagoers through intimate, memorable, and affordable experiences. Beginning this summer and continuing throughout the season, we'll be announcing exciting celebration activities and events. Special pricing is often available for Tempo members.

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to SAVE UP TO 76% on tickets.

Opening night performances sell out quickly—guarantee your seats today!

Tempo memberships are just $50 and can be purchased anytime throughout the season. The membership pays for itself after purchasing just one pair of tickets to a Minnesota Opera production. The more opera you see, the more you save!

Individual tickets go on sale August 2017.
Subscription tickets will be mailed beginning August 2017.
Programs, artists, and schedules are subject to change.

TEMPO PRICING

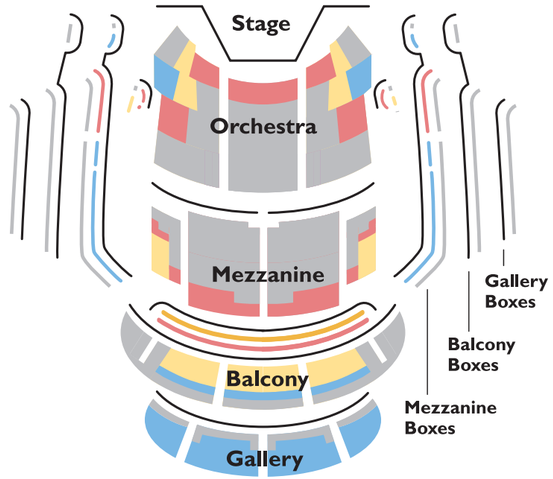
PACKAGE	REGULAR PRICES	TEMPO PRICE	YOUR SAVINGS
See All 5 Operas	~~$265–$515~~	$120	UP TO 76% OFF
Choose 4 Operas	~~$212–$412~~	$100	
Choose 3 Operas	~~$159–$309~~	$80	
Individual Tickets	~~$53–$103~~	$30	UP TO 70% OFF

TEMPO PROGRAM DETAILS

- Tempo subscriptions are only available on opening nights, though Tempo subscribers may make exchanges into other dates.
- Individual Tempo tickets are available on opening nights and other select performance dates as noted.
- Additional Tempo performance dates may be added throughout the season.
- A $50 membership is required to receive the Tempo discounted pricing.
- Tempo members will be seated in the best applicable locations subject to availability.
- Tempo members are eligible for two subscriptions per season or two individual tickets per show.
- Each patron may purchase up to two Tempo memberships.

mnopera.org 612-333-6669
Ticket Office: M–F, 10am–5pm

TEMPO SEATING CHART

Tempo tickets are available in the C, D, and E seating sections, as indicated below.

A+	A	B	C	D	E	F