



THE DALLAS OPERA

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR THE 17TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

THE DALLAS OPERA GUILD VOCAL COMPETITION

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2005, AT GOOCH AUDITORIUM
UT SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER, FINALS AT 7:30 PM**

HONORING MARILYN AND WARD HALLA

DALLAS, FEBRUARY 12, 2005 — The Dallas Opera Guild is proud to present one of the most rewarding vocal events of the year: **The 2005 Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition** to be held **Saturday, March 5, 2005**, at 7:30 pm in **Gooch Auditorium at UT Southwestern Medical Center, located at 5323 Harry Hines Boulevard**.

Nineteen semi-finalists will compete for thousands of dollars in prize monies. The competitors were selected by a panel of experienced singers: Mezzo-soprano **Virginia Dupuy** of Southern Methodist University, soprano **Angela Turner Wilson**, and soprano **Camille King**.

“The competitors this year are superb,” reports **Jane McGinnis, Chair of the 2005 Vocal Competition**, “some of the most beautiful young voices I’ve heard in all the years of this event.”

“It’s clear,” she adds, “that both the judges and audience members are going to be thrilled by what they hear.”

The Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition is free of charge and the public is welcome to attend. In addition to First, Second, Third and Encouragement Awards (determined by the panel of judges), audience members will be allowed to decide “**The People’s Choice Award**,” a popular facet of the competition first introduced in 1998.

The semi-final round begins at noon, with the final competitive round beginning at 7:30 that evening. Audience members will have the opportunity to talk and mingle

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with the competitors (while the judges are casting their ballots) at the traditional dessert reception following the final performances.

Cash awards are funded entirely by The Dallas Opera Guild through private donations. A minimum award of \$5,000 will go to this year's First Place winner.

Jonathan Pell, Director of Artistic Administration for The Dallas Opera and one of the judges for the finals explains, "The prize money and prestige are important to young singers hoping to build a rewarding life in opera. However, the experience itself is invaluable. It tells developing singers a great deal about where they stand in comparison with their peers. Doing well in competition also gives artists a tremendous boost in confidence which can carry them to the next level of their careers."

Other judges for this year's vocal competition include **Ann Owens**, The Producing Director of Houston Grand Opera; **Darren Keith Woods**, General Director of Fort Worth Opera; **Christina Scheppelmann**, Artistic Administrator of The Washington National Opera; and **Brad Trexell**, Artistic Administrator of The San Francisco Opera.

The honorees of the 2005 Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition are **Marilyn and Ward Halla**, who have demonstrated an unfailing commitment to the mission of The Dallas Opera Guild, in addition to their loyal support of The Dallas Opera.

The competition was instituted to identify promising young vocalists, provide needed financial support, and encourage the self-confidence needed to ascend to the next level of their studies or careers. All competitors must be legal Texas residents (between the ages of 18 and 30) or persons who have resided in Texas while obtaining an education. However, all competitors must aspire to operatic singing careers.

Previous winners have gone on to make appearances with The Dallas Opera, The San Francisco Opera, New York's Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Washington Opera, Vienna State Opera, and at Teatro alla Scala in Milan. Previous winners have also been awarded the coveted Grand Prize of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, as well as top prizes in the Richard Tucker Competition and the McCammon Voice Competition in Fort Worth. And more than a dozen past winners have sung principal roles with The Dallas Opera.

This free, Spring musical event has become a favorite among opera aficionados and vocal music lovers across North Texas. For more information, contact **The Dallas Opera Guild at 214-443-1040**.

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**Secure the seats you want for the fantastic 2005-2006 Dallas Opera Season!  
Season subscriptions begin at just \$80! Act now!**

### **THE DALLAS OPERA 2005-2006 SEASON INFORMATION**

The Dallas Opera celebrates its 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary season with 20 performances of five productions. All performances listed below take place at The Music Hall at Fair Park.

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Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and matinees begin at 2 p.m. EASY-TO-READ ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS ARE PROJECTED ABOVE THE STAGE AT EVERY PERFORMANCE.

The Dallas Opera's 2005-2006 Season includes:

**--Cavalleria rusticana/Pagliacci by Pietro Mascagni and Ruggiero Leoncavallo**

**November 11, 13(m), 16 and 19, 2005** (New Dallas Opera production)

Text by Guido Menasci & Giovanni Targioni-Tozzetti based on a play and short story by Giovanni Verga (*Cav*); Text by the composer (*Pag*)

Sung in Italian with English translation projected above the stage

**--Cavalleria rusticana** (premiered in Rome, Italy, May 1890)

**Place:** a village in Sicily

**Starring:** Carol Vaness (*Santuzza*); Brandon Jovanovich \* (*Turiddu*); Jeffrey Kneebone \* (*Alfio*); Marianna Kulikova \* (*Lola*); Susan Nicely (*Mamma Lucia*)

**--Pagliacci** (premiered in Milan, Italy, May 1892)

**Place:** near Montalto, a village in Calabria in Southern Italy

**Starring:** Antonello Palombi \* (*Canio*); Maria Kanyova \* (*Nedda*); Jeffrey Kneebone (*Tonio*); Joseph Hu (*Beppe*); Michael Todd Simpson \* (*Silvio*)

**Conducted by:** Donato Renzetti

**Stage Direction:** Stephen Lawless

**Production Design:** Ashley Martin-Davis \*

**Lighting Design:** Wolfgang Goebbel \*

**Choreographer:** Lynne Hockney \*

**Chorus Master:** Alexander Rom

**--The Tales of Hoffmann by Jacques Offenbach**

**December 2, 4(m), 7 & 10, 2005** (New production)

Premiered in Paris, February 1881

Text by Jules Barbier based on his play (with Michel Carré), based upon stories by E.T.A. Hoffmann

Sung in French with English translation projected above the stage

**Place:** Nuremberg, Paris, Venice, Munich

**Starring:** Marcus Haddock (*Hoffmann*); Mary Dunleavy \* (*Olympia/Antonia/Giulietta/Stella*); Dean Peterson (*Lindorf/Coppélius/Dr. Miracle/Dapertutto*); Jonathan Green (*Andrès/Spalanzani/Frantz and Pittichinaccio*); Paula Rasmussen (*Nicklausse/Muse*); Daniel Okulitch \* (*Hermann/Schlémil*); Donald Sherrill (*Luther/Crespel*); Joseph Hu (*Nathanaël/Cochenille*); Elizabeth Batton \* (*Antonia's Mother*)

**Conducted by:** Graeme Jenkins

**Directed by:** Chris Alexander \*

**Scenic Design:** Robert Dahlstrom \*

**Costume Design:** Marie Therese Cramer \*

**Lighting Design:** TBA

**Chorus Master:** Alexander Rom

\* *Dallas Opera debut*

(season schedule continued:)

**–Ariadne auf Naxos by Richard Strauss**

**January 6, 8(m), 11 & 14, 2006** (New production)

Text by Hugo von Hoffmannsthal

Premiered in Stuttgart, October 1912

Sung in German with English translation projected above the stage

**Place:** Vienna, in the home of a wealthy gentleman

**Starring:** Turid Karlsen \* (*Ariadne*); Lyubov Petrova \* (*Zerbinetta*); Elizabeth Byrne \* (*The Composer*); Jay Hunter Morris (*Bacchus*); Louis Otey (*Music Master*); Peter Blanchet (*The Dancing Master*); Keith Phares \* (*Harlequin*); Brian Anderson \* (*Scaramuccio*); Mark McCrory \* (*Truffaldino*); Joseph Hu (*Brighella*); Jennifer Chung (*Naiad*); Elizabeth Batton (*Dryad*); Amanda Pabyan \* (*Echo*)

**Conducted by:** Graeme Jenkins

**Directed by:** John Lloyd Davies \*

**Production Design:** John Lloyd Davies \*

**Lighting Design:** TBA

**Chorus Master:** Alexander Rom

**–Rodelinda by G. F. Handel**

**January 27, 29(m), February 1 & 4, 2006** (New Production)

Text by Nicola Francesco Haym adapted from Antonio Salvi's "Rodelinda, Queen of the Lombards" and Pierre Corneille's play "Pertharite, King of the Lombards"

Premiered in London, February 1725

Sung in Italian with English translation projected above the stage

**Place:** Milan

**Starring:** Ruth Ann Swenson (*Rodelinda*); Ewa Podleś (*Bertarido*); Richard Croft (*Grimoaldo*); Mary Phillips (*Eduige*); Christophe Dumaux \* (*Unulfo*); Philip Cutlip (*Garibaldo*)

**Conducted by:** Graeme Jenkins

**Directed by:** John Copley

**Scenery Design:** John Conklin

**Costume Design:** Peter J. Hall

**Lighting Design:** TBA

**Chorus Master:** Alexander Rom

**–The Magic Flute by W.A. Mozart**

**February 17, 19, 22 & 25, 2006** (New production from San Diego Opera)

Text by Emanuel Schikaneder

Premiered in Vienna, September 1791

Sung in German with English translation projected above the stage

**Time:** Legendary **Place:** Ancient Egypt

**Starring:** Roberto Sacca \* (*Tamino*); Jane Jennings (*Pamina*); Wolfgang Holzmaier \* (*Papageno*); Yan-Guang Cui (*The Queen of the Night*); Peter Blanchet (*Monostatos*); Kevin Langan (*Sarastro*); Arthur Woodley (*The Speaker*); Amanda Pabyan (*Papagena*); Joseph Hu (*Second Priest and 1<sup>st</sup> Man*); Dana Beth Miller, Elizabeth Batton and Laura Vlasak \* (*Three Ladies in Attendance*); Mark McCrory (*Second Man in Armor*)

**Conducted by:** Graeme Jenkins

**Directed by:** Michael Hampe

**Scenic Design:** Michael Hampe

**Costume Design:** Zandra Rhodes \*

**Lighting Designer:** Marie Barrett

**Chorus Master:** Alexander Rom

\* Dallas Opera debut

**Ticket Information for the 2005-2006 Dallas Opera Season**

Subscriptions to The Dallas Opera's 2005-06 Season are currently on sale. Subscription ticket prices range from \$80 to \$970. Single tickets become available October 1, priced at \$19 to \$265. For more information or to order tickets, contact **The Dallas Opera Ticket Services Office at (214) 443-1000** or visit **TDO's web site at [dallasopera.org](http://dallasopera.org)**.

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