



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **OPERA COLUMBUS ANNOUNCES PROGRESSIVE NEW JULLIARD COLLABORATION FOR 2016-17 SEASON**

***2016-17 subscriptions go on sale today***

Opera Columbus announces an artistic collaboration with The Juilliard School's Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts and its Artist Diploma in Opera Studies (ADOS) program. The ADOS program is an intensive, two-year curriculum of advanced opera studies for highly gifted and experienced singers at the post-master's level, selected through a comprehensive audition process. As part of the new collaboration, Opera Columbus Artistic Director Peggy Kriha Dye, herself a graduate of Juilliard, will observe the artists' development as they work through the ADOS program. Dye and Juilliard's Director of Opera Studies Stephen Wadsworth will determine what roles best suit each artist and what operas best suit upcoming Opera Columbus seasons. Selected ADOS artists will then be contracted by Opera Columbus to perform in an upcoming, main stage production beginning with the 2016-17 season.

"This new collaboration is in keeping with Opera Columbus' mission to develop emerging talent, and as a result, offers Columbus audiences the timely opportunity to experience the best and brightest talent the world has to offer," said Opera Columbus Artistic Director Peggy Kriha Dye.

"The dynamic vision Peggy has for the future of opera makes this agreement a dream scenario for the work we do with ADOS," said Juilliard Director of Opera Studies Stephen Wadsworth.

"Performances of principal roles in Opera Columbus productions will guarantee our singers real-world experience invaluable to their burgeoning professional careers."

"The work Opera Columbus will be doing with Juilliard, America's most prestigious educational institute for training in the arts, will distinguish Columbus as a world-class city," stated Alex Fischer, President and CEO of The Columbus Partnership.

“This collaboration distinguishes Columbus nationally as a catalyst of artistic excellence and innovative leadership,” said Doug Kridler, President and CEO of The Columbus Foundation.

“We’re excited that The Juilliard School has chosen Opera Columbus for this collaboration. Peggy’s leadership on this initiative and the generous support of many in our community through the Arts Innovation Fund were critical in bringing this program together,” stated George Barrett, Chairman and CEO of Cardinal Health.

Opera Columbus today announces its 2016-17 season, including the Juilliard ADOS artists that will be featured:

***TWISTED 2***

**Thursday, September 22, 7:30pm**

**Friday, September 23, 8pm**

**Saturday, September 24, 8pm**

**Sunday, September 25, 2pm**

**Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)**

Rossen Milanov, conductor

Columbus Symphony

Opera Columbus

BalletMet

Columbus’ flagship performing arts organizations will reunite for *Twisted 2*, the highly anticipated sequel to 2014’s smash hit, *Twisted*. For four performances only, BalletMet, the Columbus Symphony, and Opera Columbus will collide and combine to create an experience unlike any other. Masterful choreography, lively classical works, and acclaimed operatic pieces will merge live on stage, showcasing the world-class talent of Columbus’ professional singers, dancers, and musicians.

***Mission: Seraglio*** (Mozart’s *The Abduction from the Seraglio*)

**Featuring Juilliard ADOS artist Miles Mykkanen performing the role of Belmonte**

**Wednesday, January 25, 2017, 1pm (dress rehearsal preview)**

**Friday, January 27, 2017, 7:30pm**

**Sunday, January 29, 2017, 2pm**

**Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)**

Michael Cavanagh, director

Jason Hiester, conductor

Suave and sophisticated secret agent Belmonte accepts a mission of exotic espionage to rescue his true love and fellow agent Constanze from the villainous Pasha Selim. Backed by agents Pedrillo and Blonde, Belmonte battles to outwit the vindictive vizier, win back his sweetheart, and save the world. Will they survive or be left to die another day? Join Opera Columbus for an evening of action as bold as Bond, music as magnificent as Mozart, and wit as

dry as the best martini. Performed with the Columbus Symphony. Sung in German with English dialogue and English surtitles.

**Bizet's *Carmen***

**Featuring Juilliard ADOS artists Avery Amereau performing the role of Carmen and Thesele Kemane performing the role of Escamillo**

**Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 1pm (dress rehearsal preview)**

**Friday, May 5, 2017, 7:30pm**

**Sunday, May 7, 2017, 2pm**

**Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)**

Crystal Manich, director

Kathleen Kelly, conductor

This re-imagined and reduced new production of Bizet's most famous opera features the spoken dialogue of the original script, but is set during an early 20th century era of civil war and unsettling social atmosphere. An all-female creative team breathes new life into the powerfully beguiling gypsy Carmen who has no rules when it comes to seducing the soldier José, but his growing desire to keep her triggers a web of jealousy and murderous rage. Performed with the Columbus Symphony and BalletMet 2. Sung in French with English surtitles.

Subscriptions range from \$64-\$212 per person and go on sale today. A two-show subscription to the dress rehearsal preview performances (*Carmen* and *Mission Seraglio* only) is available from \$20-\$60 per person. They can be purchased at the CAPA Ticket Center (39 E. State St.) or by phone at (614) 469-0939.

[www.OperaColumbus.org](http://www.OperaColumbus.org)

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**About Opera Columbus**

The mission of Opera Columbus is to enrich central Ohio by producing high quality opera, nurturing emerging talent, and cultivating exposure to opera in ways that feed the souls of our residents, bolster the cultural economy, and make central Ohio a great place to live, work, and play. For more information, visit [www.OperaColumbus.org](http://www.OperaColumbus.org).

**About Juilliard's Artist Diploma in Opera Studies**

The Artist Diploma in Opera Studies of the Marcus Institute of Vocal Arts is Juilliard's most advanced opera program, offering focused studies for select young artists in the pre-professional stages of their careers. Centered in intensive acting and audition courses with the Director of Opera Studies, the program consists of a personalized schedule of advanced repertoire and language coaching, weekly voice lessons, movement instruction, high-level career consultation, text and character work, and performing opportunities in Juilliard's main stage productions as well as black-box and concert work.

The Marcus Institute of Vocal Arts is under the artistic direction of Brian Zeger and the Artist Diploma in Opera Studies program is under the direction of Stephen Wadsworth.

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