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This release, artist biographies, and images may also be found at operacolorado.org/pressroom

Opera Colorado Presents Mozart's *Don Giovanni*

Denver, CO—Mozart's setting of literature's great ladies man, Don Juan, closes Opera Colorado's 2013 season at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House at the Denver Performing Arts Complex. One of Mozart's most famous operas, *Don Giovanni* follows the exploits of the suave and promiscuous title character as he seduces and outwits all those he encounters before his past comes back to haunt him. This production of *Don Giovanni*, reset in 1950s Italy, features a complete cast making its Opera Colorado debut: Christopher Magiera as antihero Don Giovanni, Ellie Dehn as Donna Anna, Melody Moore as Donna Elvira, Matthew Treviño as Leporello, Maria Lindsey as Zerlina, Jonathan Boyd as Don Ottavio, Christian Bowers as Masetto, and Richard Wiegold as the Commendatore, as well as conductor Ari Pelto. Kevin Newbury, director, returns to Opera Colorado after directing the 2006 production of *The Magic Flute*.

Brad Trexell, Opera Colorado's Director of Artistic Operations, said "We are very fortunate to have assembled an outstanding cast of both experienced and up-and-coming Mozartians for *Don Giovanni*, and it is just a coincidence that none of them have appeared with Opera Colorado previously. We are looking forward to the magic they will create when they come together in Denver."

Don Giovanni will be presented in four public performances: **7:30 p.m. performances on Saturday, March 30th; Tuesday, April 2nd; and Friday, April 5th; and a 2:00 p.m. matinee performance on Sunday, April 7th**. The opera is sung in Italian with English and Spanish subtitles at every seat. Tickets



(\$160, \$110, \$75, \$50, \$20) are available online at OperaColorado.org and by calling Opera Colorado Ticket Services at 303.468.2030.

Pre- and post performance lectures are offered for each presentation of *Don Giovanni*. One hour prior to each performance, music historian Betsy Schwarm will speak about the opera. Immediately following each performance, General Director Greg Carpenter and Director of Artistic Operations Brad Trexell will host a talk back, taking questions from the audience. Both events take place in the front center section of the orchestra and are free for ticket holders.

Ancillary Events Surrounding *Don Giovanni*

Opera Colorado has partnered once again with the Denver Museum of Nature and Science for ***Simply Irresistible: The Science of Love*** in the Phipps IMAX Theater. Was Don Giovanni a player or a pawn? We are love's slave, but is our response ruled by our heart, head, or pituitary? On **Wednesday, February 27th at 7:00 p.m.**, DMNS's Curator of Human Health and Vice President of Strategic Partnerships Bridget Coughlin will explore the science and biochemistry of love and the Opera Colorado Young Artists will perform selections from *Don Giovanni*, in homage to one of opera's most famous heartbreakers. Tickets are \$15 (\$12 DMNS members and Opera Colorado season ticket holders) and are available by calling 303.370.6000 or online at www.dmns.org.

The public is invited to **Meet the Artists of *Don Giovanni*** at a free discussion about the opera on **Wednesday, March 20th at 12:00 p.m.** at the lower downtown outpost of The Tattered Cover, 1628 16th Street at Wynkoop Street. General Director Greg Carpenter will moderate the talk featuring the director, conductor, and members of the cast.

Celebrate opening night in style by joining other Opera Colorado supporters at the ***Don Giovanni* Opening Night Dinner on Saturday, March 30th at 5:00 p.m.** at the Four Seasons Hotel Denver. Tickets are \$125 per person (not including opera tickets) and include cocktails

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and four-course dinner at the Four Seasons and access to the exclusive VIP after party with the cast of *Don Giovanni* after the performance in the Chambers Grant Salon. To RSVP, contact Meghan Benedetto at 303.778.7086 or mbenedetto@operacolorado.org.

Colorado Public Radio will broadcast *Don Giovanni* live from the Ellie Caulkins Opera House on **Saturday, March 30th beginning at 7:30 p.m.** Tune in at KVOD 88.1 FM or www.cpr.org.

Following the final performance of *Don Giovanni* on **Sunday, April 7th**, join us at “Don Giovanni’s banquet table” for an Italian feast at the University Club, 1673 Sherman Street. Tickets are \$125 per person (not including opera tickets). For more information, email events@operacolorado.org.

Don Giovanni is sponsored by Hilja K. Herfurth, Patrick Spieles and Carol McMurry, and Sage Hospitality Hotel Partners, The Curtis and Embassy Suites Denver Downtown.

Opera Colorado’s 2013 season is sponsored by the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) and media sponsors The Denver Post, 5280 Magazine, and Yellow Scene Magazine.

About Opera Colorado

A cornerstone of Denver’s cultural community, Opera Colorado presents operas annually at its downtown Denver home, the Ellie Caulkins Opera House. The Company presents new works alongside standard repertoire, and reaches more than 35,000 students and community members throughout the Rocky Mountain region through a variety of education and outreach programming. Opera Colorado Young Artists, a seven-month residency for singers at the beginning stages of their careers, provides training for the next generation of American opera performers. Founded in 1983, the Company celebrates its 30th anniversary season in 2013 with a new production of Charles Gounod’s *Romeo and Juliet* (February 9-17) and Mozart’s *Don Giovanni* (March 30-April 7). The professional premiere of Lori Laitman’s *The Scarlet Letter*, scheduled for May 2013, has been postponed to the 2015 season. www.operacolorado.org.

Opera Colorado has launched a fundraising campaign, ***STORIES THAT SING: Be the Voice of Opera Colorado***, to raise \$1.2 million by March 30, 2013. For more information on the campaign and Opera Colorado’s reorganization, visit www.operacolorado.org/support.

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