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Gala 2013: An Evening in Black & White

Opera Colorado's Gala 2013 Supports Education & Community Engagement Programs

Denver, CO — (November 1, 2013) Opera Colorado's 2013 Gala: An Evening in Black & White will take place on Friday, November 22 at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House. All proceeds from this year's Gala will support Opera Colorado's Education & Community Engagement Programs, which enrich Colorado communities with interactive opera experiences. These experiences include the Young Artist program that provides five young opera singers the opportunity to develop their careers, Backstage Workshops and Student Dress Rehearsals at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House, Opera On Tour in which abridged opera performances are taken into schools throughout the state, Generation OC which exposes students to careers in the arts, and much more. Students are more excited about the arts because of their experience with Opera Colorado and teachers look forward to the Education & Community Engagement Programs each year.

An Evening in Black & White will include cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, and an intimate performance by internationally acclaimed soprano Elizabeth Futral on the Ellie Caulkins Opera House stage with guests seated around the piano. Elizabeth Futral will return to Opera Colorado in the 2015-2016 Season to sing the role of Hester Prynne in Opera Colorado's Professional Premiere of *The Scarlet Letter*. Gala 2013 will also feature a Kevin Taylor dinner in the Chambers Grant Salon and dancing in the lobby.

The theme this year, An Evening in Black & White, brings into play several witty angles. Gala Chair Suzanne Bucy shares a few elements.

"An evening in black and white it will be - from our signature cocktail of black rum and ginger beer to represent this season's dark and stormy operas, *Rigoletto* and *Carmen*, an exquisite dinner craftily conceived in black and white, to a chance to fill your dance card in your own 'Little Black Book' and close the evening with very special black gift bags. This carefully conceived evening by the gala committee will be absolutely delightful!"

695 S. Colorado Blvd., Suite 20 | Denver, Colorado 80246 | 303.778.1500 | OperaColorado.org



An Evening in Black & White starts at 6 pm with cocktails in the lobby of the Ellie Caulkins Opera house, followed by Elizabeth Futral's performance on the Ellie Caulkins Opera House stage at 7:15 pm and dinner at 8:00 pm. The evening will conclude with dancing in the lobby of the Opera House and special gift bags, sponsored by Cherry Creek Shopping Center, given to guests at the end of the evening – several of which will contain deluxe gifts donated by high-end retailers and specialty brands.

Opportunities for support, including this year's new single ticket price of \$250, are as follows:

Impresario Table (table of ten) - \$15,000

Overture Table (table of ten) - \$10,000

Maestro Table (table of eight) - \$5,000

Duet (couples package) - \$2,500

Aria (single ticket) \$250

Benefits for table supporters and duet package purchasers include an invitation(s) to the Gala 2013 Patron Party on Wednesday, November 20th at The Martin Museum Residence at the Denver Art Museum. Other benefits include advertisements in the Gala Program book, recognition in the Gala Program Book and complimentary parking.

For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Glenda Masters at 303.468.2029 or gmasters@operacolorado.org, or visit OperaColorado.org/Gala2013.

Opera Colorado would like to thank Gala 2013 sponsors including Cherry Creek Shopping Center and Grand Vin. Opera Colorado's 2014 season is sponsored by the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), Magnolia Hotels, The Edge Restaurant & Bar and The Four Seasons Hotel, and media sponsors *The Denver Post*, *5280 Magazine*, *Yellow Scene Magazine* and *Luxe 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 community engagement programs. Opera Colorado Young Artists, a five-month residency for singers at the beginning stages of their careers, provides training for the next generation of American opera performers. The 2014 Season features performances of Verdi's *Rigoletto* (March 15-23) and Bizet's *Carmen* (May 3-11).

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