

# Lyric

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Lyric Opera of Chicago

## Lyric Opera of Chicago's 2016/17 Season

launches new *Ring* cycle with *Das Rheingold* and continues with *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Les Troyens*, *Don Quichotte*, *The Magic Flute*, *Norma*, *Carmen*, and *Eugene Onegin*, plus *My Fair Lady* and *Charlie Parker's Yardbird*, and special concert performances by **Plácido Domingo**, **Renée Fleming**, **Lawrence Brownlee & Eric Owens**, and **Itzhak Perlman**  
**Subscriptions on sale Monday, February 1**

CHICAGO – Lyric Opera of Chicago's general director **Anthony Freud** and music director **Sir Andrew Davis** announced today the repertoire and casting for the company's 2016/17 season – the second season that they have fully planned together.

"Musical glory and magnificent storytelling – that's what the operas in Lyric's 2016/17 season have in common, and it's what makes this a truly monumental season," said Freud. "Whether French, German, Italian, or Russian, the masterworks you'll enjoy were conceived by composers whose gifts for creating compelling drama through the singing voice are beyond compare. Our first production of the season, *Das Rheingold*, begins the *Ring* cycle series and serves as a starting point for a season full of really terrific music."

Lyric's 62nd season is full of stellar international artists who opera lovers will instantly recognize. "Eric Owens, Albina Shagimuratova, Piotr Beczala, Quinn Kelsey, Christine Goerke, Sophie Koch, Brandon Jovanovich, Ferruccio Furlanetto, Christiane Karg, Adam Plachetka, Sondra Radvanovsky, Joseph Calleja, Mariusz Kwiecién, Ana María Martínez, and Charles Castronovo, plus Plácido Domingo, Renée Fleming, and Lawrence Brownlee are just a few of the big names starring in our opera productions and special performances next season," Freud said.

"We also have many artists making their Lyric debuts," the general director noted. "We are thrilled to welcome Samuel Youn, Tanja Ariane Baumgartner, Okka von der Damerau, Wilhelm Schwinghammer, Tobias Kehrer, Adrian Sâmpetean, Nicola Alaimo, Clementine Margaine,

**Kathryn Lewek, Andrew Staples, Christof Fischesser, Anita Rachvelishvili, Eleonora Buratto, and Alisa Kolosova.”**

Lyric’s music director **Sir Andrew Davis** will conduct three operas next season, beginning with ***Das Rheingold***. He will return to lead ***Les Troyens*** (Lyric premiere) and ***Don Quichotte***. Conductors making their Lyric debuts include **Enrique Mazzola (*Lucia di Lammermoor*)**, **Ricardo Frizza (*Norma*)**, **Ainars Rubikis (*Carmen*, Mar. 16 – 25)**, and **Alejo Perez (*Eugene Onegin*)**. Returning conductors are **Rory Macdonald (*The Magic Flute*)** and **Harry Bicket (*Carmen*, Feb. 11 – Mar. 6)**.

The season’s operas will be staged by internationally acclaimed and award-winning directors including **David Pountney (*Das Rheingold*/new coproduction)**, **Graham Vick (*Lucia di Lammermoor*/new-to-Chicago production)**, **Tim Albery (*Les Troyens* /new production)**, **Matthew Ozawa (*Don Quichotte*)**, **Neil Armfield (*The Magic Flute*/new production)**, **Kevin Newbury (*Norma*/new coproduction)**, **Rob Ashford (*Carmen*/new coproduction)**, and **Robert Carsen (*Eugene Onegin*)**.

Lyric will present ***My Fair Lady*** (in the **Robert Carsen** production from Théâtre du Chatelet) as the fifth installment in Lyric’s American Musical Initiative April 28 - May 21, 2017, featuring an all-star cast, along with the Lyric Opera Orchestra and Chorus. ***South Pacific***, which was previously announced for next season, will be presented in the spring of 2018.

Lyric will celebrate the legendary **Plácido Domingo** Mar. 9 and 13, 2017, with special performances showcasing his acclaimed artistry. Tenor **Lawrence Brownlee** and bass-baritone **Eric Owens** will perform a Subscriber Appreciation Concert on April 9, 2017. Violinist **Itzhak Perlman** will give a recital at Lyric on April 23, 2017.

**Lyric Unlimited** will host the **Chicago Voices Gala Concert**, a musical celebration featuring **Renée Fleming** and guest artists on Sat. Feb. 4, 2017, and will also present the Chicago premiere of ***Charlie Parker’s Yardbird*** in partnership with the Harris Theater on March 24 and 26, 2017.

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### **Additional Information**

**[Click here to download the full 2016-17 season announcement release \(PDF\) >>](#)**

*Contains comprehensive season details: descriptions of all operas and special presentations, subscription information, and complete cast lists.*

### **About Lyric Opera of Chicago**

Lyric Opera of Chicago’s mission is to express and promote the life-changing, transformational, revelatory power of great opera. Lyric exists to provide a broad, deep, and relevant cultural service to Chicago and the nation, and to advance the development of the art form.

Founded in 1954, Lyric is dedicated to producing and performing consistently thrilling, entertaining, and thought-provoking opera with a balanced repertoire of core classics, lesser-known masterpieces, and new works; to creating an innovative and wide-ranging program of

community engagement and educational activities; and to developing exceptional emerging operatic talent.

Under the leadership of general director Anthony Freud, music director Sir Andrew Davis, and creative consultant Renée Fleming, Lyric strives to become The Great North American Opera Company for the 21st century: a globally significant arts organization embodying the core values of excellence, relevance, and fiscal responsibility.

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