

THE  
SANTA FE  
OPERA



**SANTA FE OPERA GUILD**  
THE GUILDS OF THE SANTA FE OPERA, INC

# OPERAGRAM

September 2021  
Volume 15, Number 12

## A CHANGE OF SEASON



The Ghost Ranch Photo: Catherine Ballanca

Dear Members,

As we transition from summer to autumn, it is good to reflect on the successes and challenges we encountered over the spring and summer months. Despite the unpredictability of a devastating pandemic, the Santa Fe Opera mounted four outstanding operas, one a world-premiere, and hosted the incredible Angel Blue in her debut performance in Santa Fe. Congratulations to the leadership and every employee of the Opera whose monumental efforts brought beauty and music back to our stage, parks... and parking lots! The Opera's genuine concern for the safety of its patrons, staff and performers represents the gold standard for civic responsibility. Kudos to our orchestra and its conductors and every creative professional who traveled to Santa Fe to share their talent with our audiences. The singers were glorious, the staging brilliant thanks to visionary directors, and the professionals who translated their vision through costumes, lighting, and set designs. Finally, best wishes to the talented group of Apprentice Singers and Technical Apprentices whose careers we will watch with pride in the coming years.

The Santa Fe Opera Guild volunteers also worked tirelessly in the months prior to opening night to promote the four operas performed this summer. We examined the operas in-depth via expert-led Zoom events including the Vivace Book Club. Our commitment to our members is to deliver outstanding content as our community continues to navigate the COVID pandemic. Whether virtually or in-person, we will enjoy the beauty of opera-together.

Happy Fall,

Shelly Brock

Board President, Santa Fe Opera Guild

## MEMBER SURVEY: YOU HAVE SPOKEN



To Zoom or Not to Zoom ...that was the question. The Santa Fe Opera Guild sent out a survey to find out whether our members would prefer to keep on Zoomin' or return to in-person events. Over 100 members responded within the first 24 hours and there was strong consensus that it doesn't feel safe enough to resume in-person events at this time. The Delta variant is a major source of concern, and there is great uncertainty about the path that the coronavirus will take in the coming months.

The results of the survey to date show that nearly half of the sample indicated that they "would probably not" or definitely "would not attend" an in-person event. Half of the respondents said that they "would be more likely to attend online than in-person", and an additional one quarter said that they "would be equally likely to attend online as in-person." In other words, only **25%** of our respondents said that they would prefer gathering at the Santa Fe Woman's Club rather than meeting via Zoom.

Please be assured that the Board of Directors and our volunteer committees are eager to resume our pre-pandemic schedule of in-person events when we can do so responsibly. You made it perfectly clear that you agree and will prioritize safety above all other considerations. With luck, we will be able to gather in the spring for popular events such as the Backstage Preview and the Meet the Apprentices Party. Thanks for taking time to share your thoughts.

## NOTABLE OPERA



Opera Southwest presents **La Scala di Seta** (The Silken Ladder) an operatic *farsa comica* in one act by Gioachino Rossini to a libretto by Giuseppe Maria Foppa. It was first performed in Venice, Italy, at the Teatro San Moisè on May 9, 1812. The overture has been frequently recorded and continues to be featured in the modern concert repertoire. Performances of La Scala di Seta will take place **outdoors at the Albuquerque Museum of Art and History Amphitheater**, September 10, 11, and 12 at 7:30PM. Tickets range from **\$15.00 - \$35.00**. For further information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).



CCA presents the first season of its film series, Performance at CCA with two showings of Strauss's opera **Arabella**. A highlight of the 2014 Salzburg Easter Festival, the opera marks the first time Renée Fleming and Thomas Hampson have performed the opera together in its entirety. Strauss's opera captures the fleeting reverie of youth and Vienna's Golden Age through the romantic entanglements of two sisters. As Arabella finds the man of her dreams in Mandryka, this marriage is complicated by a case of mistaken identity and confused lovers. A comedy of errors in the pursuit of true love, *Arabella* is one of Strauss's most charming comedic operas. The premier showing is **September 4, 11AM** and the encore is **September 8, 6:30PM**. To purchase tickets, [click](#) and [scroll down](#) to locate *Arabella*.



**Verdi's Requiem: The Met Remembers 9/11** airs Saturday September 11 at 7:45PM (EDT) In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of 9/11, Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin leads a special performance of Verdi's stirring *Requiem*, featuring the incomparable Met Orchestra and Chorus and four of today's most compelling artists—soprano Ailyn Pérez, mezzo-soprano Elīna Garanča, tenor Matthew Polenzani, and bass-baritone Eric Owens. Tickets are \$25 and go on sale to the public on August 27 at 12PM ET. The concert will also be broadcast live on PBS, hosted by Misty Copeland. For more information, click [here](#).

**Please Note:** Tickets for **The Met: Live in HD 2021-2022** season will become available to the public on **September 8** in the United States and varying dates internationally.

# VIRTUAL VIVACE WITH MICHAEL GALLAWAY

## VIRTUAL VIVACE BOOK CLUB

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 6:00PM-7:30PM MDT

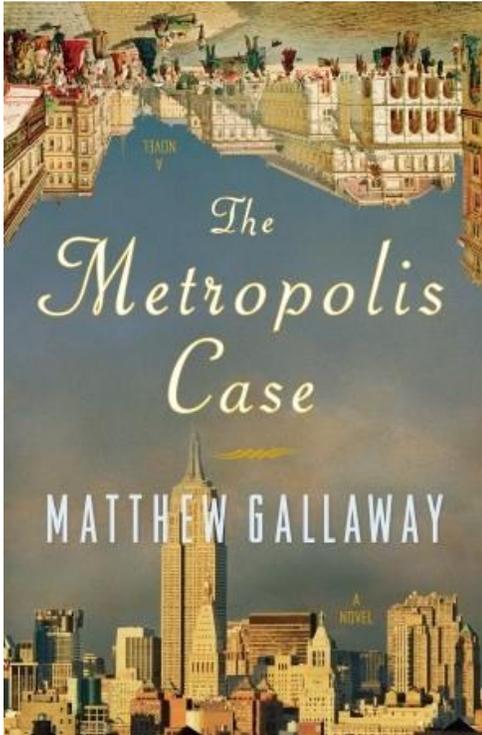
VIRTUAL CHECK-IN, 5:50PM MDT

SPECIAL GUEST, AUTHOR MATTHEW GALLAWAY

MODERATOR, STEVEN KERCHOFF

ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING FORMAT

COMPLIMENTARY



Virtual Vivace's next book is an opera-oriented novel, *The Metropolis Case*, written by Matthew Gallaway. We are fortunate to have Mr. Gallaway join us for the book club meeting to provide insight into his novel and answer questions from participants. A native of Pittsburgh, PA, he earned a law degree at NYU and currently lives in New York City. He is also the author of another novel, *#gods*.

Steven Kerchhoff, a veteran Vivace facilitator, will be the moderator for the session. He is a member of the Santa Fe Opera Guild Board of Directors and Chair of the Technology Committee. Steve earned advanced degrees in Library Science and the Humanities and had an impressive career in technology at the Library of Congress and in the Foreign Service. He is also an accomplished bass-baritone.

The title of the novel references Leoš Janáček's opera, *The Makropoulos Case*, while the themes channel Richard Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*, which is scheduled for the Santa Fe Opera stage in 2022. The drama of opera's themes of love, sacrifice, and regret provide the inspiration for a riveting tale that spans centuries and continents. The book had rave reviews upon publication in 2011:

"It's to the credit of Matthew Gallaway's enchanting, often funny first novel, that it doesn't require a corresponding degree of obsession from readers but may leave them similarly transported: the book is so well written — there's hardly a lazy sentence here — and filled with such memorable lead and supporting players that it quickly absorbs you into its worlds."—*The New York Times*

"Author Matthew Gallaway has taken a great risk with his first novel by creating an intricate, multilayered tale that slides from past to present, from Europe to New York, from opera to pop. But despite the complexity, *The Metropolis Case* engages the reader emotionally on every page."—*The Washington Post*

Copies of *The Metropolis Case* are available at Collected Works Bookstore, which has re-opened post-pandemic, or online at [collectedworksbookstore.com](http://collectedworksbookstore.com). Collected Works is located at the corner of Galisteo and Water Streets.

We hope you will join the Santa Fe Opera Guild on Monday, September 13 at 6:00PM MDT for Virtual Vivace. To register for this event, click [here](#). **Capacity is limited.** We will email a link for the Zoom discussion the morning of September 13. If you have questions, please email [educationvp@santafeoperaguild.org](mailto:educationvp@santafeoperaguild.org).

## MEET THE ARTIST REBROADCAST

In case you missed *Meet the Artist* with Anthony Roth Costanzo and David Lomelí, the interview will be available from August 31 to September 15. **Free for members, \$10 for non-members.** For a link to the secured recording of this fascinating interview, click [here](#) to register. (If you registered for the live event, you will have already received a link.)

## HELP WANTED: DYNAMIC VIVACE COORDINATOR

We are looking for someone who has a talent for program coordination. A person who enjoys bringing people together to have lively discussions on thought-provoking topics. The Vivace book club needs a volunteer to coordinate its virtual meetings by sourcing reading materials, finding facilitators, and sharing information with the Guild's public relations vehicles including the *Operagram*, *Facebook*, and *Instagram*.

Vivace meets virtually every other month on the second Monday of the month, beginning at 6pm. The sessions typically run from 60 to 90 minutes. The coordinator will recommend reading material and recruit discussion leaders. There is an honorarium to compensate experts to facilitate book discussions aligned with their areas of expertise. Dr. Claudia Hauer, a Greek scholar from St. John's College, led the session about Euripides' *The Bacchae*. Author Matthew Gallaway will join the discussion of his novel, *The Metropolis Case*, at the September 13 Vivace meeting.

If you are interested in becoming an integral part of the Santa Fe Opera Guild's education programs, please contact Martha Baker at [educationvp@santafeoperaguild.org](mailto:educationvp@santafeoperaguild.org).

## SANTA FE OPERA GUILD ANNUAL MEETING

### ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 12:30 PM – 2:00PM MDT

GUEST SPEAKER: TRACY ARMAGOST

ZOOM MEETING FORMAT



Tracy Armagost

The Santa Fe Opera Guild's annual meeting will be held via Zoom this year. President Shelly Brock will host the meeting and introduce the officers and board members for fiscal year 2021-2022. Treasurer, David Harrington, will present a report on the finances of the guild and there will be a discussion about plans for future programming.

Our guest speaker is Tracy Armagost, Production & Recruiting Coordinator for the Santa Fe Opera. Tracy will provide a lively retrospective of the amazing 2021 Opera Festival Season. Tracy's participation in last year's Salon was a huge hit and we are looking forward to hearing her share details about the monumental team effort that was required to bring opera to the Santa Fe Opera stage after an almost two-year hiatus. To register for the Annual Meeting, please click [here](#). **Please note: this event is solely for Santa Fe Opera Guild Members.**

## NEWS FROM THE SANTA FE OPERA

### Explore the Santa Fe Opera

The Santa Fe Opera's virtual tour experience "Explore the Santa Fe Opera" is available online. The first segment, *Discovering our Home in the Land of Enchantment*, is narrated by Robert Redford; and the second segment *Bringing the Magic to our Stage*, hosted by David Lomeli, the Santa Fe Opera's Chief Artistic Officer, is available on YouTube. Additional releases will be published in the coming months. To enjoy both virtual tours, click on the titles below.

[Discovering our Home in the Land of Enchantment](#)

[Bringing the Magic to the Our Stage](#)

# MARK TIARKS: OPERA IN CINEMA

## *THE SILVER SCREAM*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 6:00PM – 7:30PM MDT

CHECK-IN 5:50PM MDT

ZOOM WEBINAR FORMAT

COMPLIMENTARY FOR GUILD MEMBERS

\$10 PER DEVICE FOR NON-MEMBERS



*The Silver Scream – Portrayals of Opera in Cinema*, is an entertaining discussion of opera favorites that became part of mainstream movies. We know from past presentations, that Mark will deliver an informative and humorous talk in his engaging style.

Hear Frank Sinatra sing the “Seduction Duet” from *Don Giovanni*! See Beverly Sills’ only cinema appearance! Watch Judy Garland and Betty Jaynes warble toe-to-toe in “Opera versus Swing” from *Babes in Arms*!

This talk explores the creative ways that filmmakers have used opera to advance a story, create a unique atmosphere, or comment on the action, from “The Ride of the Valkyries” in *Apocalypse Now* to *Madame Butterfly*’s “Un bel di” in *Fatal Attraction*, to a *Marriage of Figaro* duet in *The Shawshank Redemption*. The grand finale is “Everybody Wants to Be Figaro,”

in which performers ranging from Robin Williams to a singing whale have a crack at the famous aria “Largo al factotum” from *The Barber of Seville*.

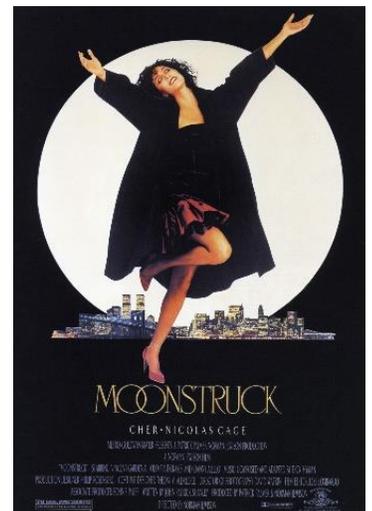


Mark Tiarks

Mark Tiarks served as the Director of Planning and Marketing of the Santa Fe Opera for 11 years. His earlier professional positions include General Director of Chicago Opera Theater, Producing Director of Court Theatre, and Artistic Administrator of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. He is on the board of directors of RENESAN where he is also a lecturer and member of the Curriculum committee. His lectures for the Fall 2021 semester are entitled *Mikado Madness* and *Sondheim’s First Ten Musicals*. Mark is currently the *Santa Fe New Mexican’s* classical music critic.

Click [here](#) to register for *The Silver Scream* on October 14. You will receive confirmation of your

registration by email and a link will be sent the day of the webinar.



## SEPTEMBER MEMBERS: ITS TIME TO RENEW

When your renewal comes due, you will receive an email alert. Renew by clicking **RENEW NOW!** We accept four major credit cards and PayPal, or mail a check to The Santa Fe Opera Guild, Membership, P.O. Box 2371, Santa Fe, NM, 87504 -2371. Send membership questions via email to Leslie Veditz at [VPMembership@santafeoperaguild.org](mailto:VPMembership@santafeoperaguild.org), or telephone her at (888)666-3430 ext. 502. The Membership Committee will send your membership tax receipts and membership cards to you by email.

Those of you without email will continue to receive these communications by US mail. If you do not have a printer at home or if you still prefer a hardcopy tax letter and membership card, please let us know and we will mail them to you.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

With the greatest pleasure, we welcome Mary & Doug Albert, Donna Wolff, and Janet & Tom Yuster to the Santa Fe Opera Guild. We look forward to meeting you at our programs and events when social distancing restrictions are lifted. Thank you so much for joining us.

## DIVERSIONS

As local venues transition from virtual to in-person events, please be sure to check their websites frequently for the most current information and to stay informed about each venue's COVID safety protocols. **Please Note: Face masks and proof of vaccination-or proof of recent negative Covid test-are required by The Lensic for all events.** For further information, click [here](#) to read the Lensic's Covid policy.

**Russian/Eastern European Opera:** Operas on film from Russia and Eastern Europe resume on Wednesday, September 15, at 1 pm at the Santa Fe Woman's Club with a showing of Igor Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* (sung in English with English subtitles). This film is the classic production filmed at Glyndebourne in 1975 and stars Felicity Lott, Samuel Ramey, Leo Goeke, conducted by Bernard Haitink. A contribution of \$5.00 per person is suggested. While reservations are not required, an email sent to [wwdcroat@aol.com](mailto:wwdcroat@aol.com) indicating that you plan to attend is greatly appreciated. Masks will be required if still mandated by the State in mid-September.

**Santa Fe Pro Musica:** For the 2021-22 season, Pro Musica is offering a variety of subscription packages, featuring three distinct concert series, in three historic Santa Fe venues—the 1873 Gothic-style Loretto Chapel, the 1917 Pueblo Revival-style St. Francis Auditorium, and the 1930s Moorish-inspired Lensic Performing Arts Center. Click [here](#) for dates, venue seating charts, and subscription options. For subscriptions and single tickets contact the **Pro Musica Box Office at 505.988.4640 x 1000.**

**The Santa Fe Symphony** kicks off its exciting return to live performances at The Lensic on September 12 at 4 pm with a powerful program featuring brilliant works by Anthony Barfield, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, Steve Reich and Astor Piazzolla. Recipient of a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award and an Avery Fisher Career Grant, violinist Alexi Kenney was named “a talent to watch” by *The New York Times*. He has earned widespread acclaim across the globe and returns to Santa Fe this fall to join The Symphony's Maestro Guillermo Figueroa on violin for Reich's masterful Duet for Two Violins and String Orchestra and *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, an exquisite symphonic tango by Piazzolla. Click [here](#) for tickets.

**Opera Southwest:** Performances of Rossini's **La Scala di Seta will take place outdoors at the Albuquerque Museum of Art and History Amphitheater**, September 10, 11 and 12 at 7:30PM. Tickets range from **\$15.00 - \$35.00**. For further information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

**CCA** offers its first season of “**Performance at CCA.**” This will be an ongoing series running every other Saturday, give or take. For more information, click [here](#).

**Moab Music Festival:** Every September, the award-winning Moab Music Festival brings world-class musicians to stunning red rock venues around Moab, Utah for a feast of chamber music, jazz, and traditional music concerts. *Music in concert with the landscape*® celebrates old and new chamber music, jazz with a Latin flavor, and traditional music from around the globe. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Los Alamos Concert Association** will host Cuarteto Latinoamericano with Thomas Gallant on Sunday, September 19 at 4:00 PM. Cuarteto Latinoamericano is one of the world's most renowned classical music ensembles, for more than thirty years the leading proponent of Latin American music for string quartet. Founded in Mexico in 1982, the Cuarteto has toured extensively throughout Europe, North and South America, Israel, China, Japan and New Zealand. They have premiered more than a hundred works written for them and they continue to introduce new and neglected composers to the genre. For ticket information, click [here](#).

**Verdi's Requiem: The Met Remembers 9/11** airs Saturday September 11 at 7:45PM (EDT) In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of 9/11, Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin leads a special performance of Verdi's stirring *Requiem*, featuring the incomparable Met Orchestra and Chorus and four of today's most compelling artists—soprano Ailyn Pérez, mezzo-soprano Elīna Garanča, tenor Matthew Polenzani, and bass-baritone Eric Owens. Tickets are \$25 and go on sale to the public on August 27 at 12PM ET. The concert will also be broadcast live on PBS, hosted by Misty Copeland. For more information, click [here](#).

**The Met:** The company has announced its 2021-2022 season, when opera will return live to the stage. To read a list of the operas, click [here](#).

**#meetopera Online:** Opera companies across North America invite you to experience the art form virtually with live-streaming and on-demand performances. Click [here](#).

**The Met Podcasts:** While you are browsing the Met's website, check out their podcast, *Aria Code*, a collaboration with WQXR and WNYC studios. The series features opera notables discussing interesting aspects of music and opera productions. Click [here](#) to listen to Aria Code podcasts on The Met's website. Click [here](#) to listen to the series at AriaCode.org.

**Opera Wire** offers a list of opera houses around the world streaming free performances. Click [here](#).

**Latina Women in Opera's** Monthly Concert Series continue each month on their Facebook Page [here](#). Suggested donation is \$5.

**Canadian Opera Company:** Connecting artists and audiences through a COC first: free digital streaming, from coast to coast to coast. Captured at the magnificent Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, enjoy new releases of purpose-produced concerts and performances every month with extraordinary Canadian and international artists. Sign up [here](#) for free.

**Opera NexGen:** Join them for their 2021-2022 season online. Click [here](#) to access their calendar of events.

**Dallas Black Dance Theatre: Encore! *DANCING BEYOND BORDERS*** on September 25, 2021. Fort Worth W.E Scott Theatre. [In-Person & Virtual](#). More info coming soon. Click [here](#) to learn more.

## LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

The *Operagram* would not be possible without the dedicated members who contribute articles each month. We are grateful for their support. This month's list of contributors are as follows:

Bernadette Snider: *Operagram* Editor

Martha Baker: *Virtual Vivace, Member Survey, Vivace Classified*

Shelly Brock: *A Change of Season*

Alice Jennings: *Diversions*

Rebecca Jensen: *News from the Santa Fe Opera*

Lucinda Surber: Web support, Guilds, Inc.

Mark Tiarks: *The Silver Scream*

Leslie Veditz: All membership-related articles (recurring features)

Michael Motley: Graphic support

Jackie M, Martha Baker: Publicity

## THE GUILDS OF THE SANTA FE OPERA, INC.

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