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The Flying Dutchman



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The Flying Dutchman

Music and libretto by Richard Wagner

CAST (in order of vocal appearance):

Daland	Peter Volpe
Steuermann (Steersman)	Daniel O'Hearn**
Dutchman	Kyle Albertson ⁺
Mary	Leah Heater**
Senta	Marjorie Owens ⁺
Erik	Bryan Register ⁺

THE ARTISTIC TEAM:

Conductor	Antony Walker
Stage Director	Sam Helfrich
Set Designer	Steven C. Kemp
Projection Designer	Ian Wallace ⁺
Costume Designer	Nancy Leary ⁺
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Wig & Make-up Designer	James Geier
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Assistant Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Chorus Master	Mark Trawka
Associate Coach/Pianist	James Lesniak
Assistant Stage Director	Haley Stamats*
Lighting Director	Todd Nonn
Assistant Stage Manager	Laura Weston ⁺
Assistant Stage Manager	Claire Young

Pittsburgh Opera presents **The Flying Dutchman**, first performed at the Königliches Hoftheater Dresden on January 2, 1843.

These performances mark the 6th production of **The Flying Dutchman** at Pittsburgh Opera, the most recent in 2003.

Opera in three acts.

Sung in German with English texts projected above the stage.

Estimated performance time: 2 hrs 47 mins, which includes one intermission.

Pittsburgh Opera offers an Audio Commentary service for patrons with visual impairments during Tuesday performances. To pick up an Assistive Listening Device, simply present an ID at the Guest Services Center. Braille and Large-Print programs are also available at each performance.

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⁺ Pittsburgh Opera debut
^{*} Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist
^{**} Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist alumni
Cast subject to change without notice.

Production originally designed and created by
Opera San José

SYNOPSIS

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN

ACT I (approx. 52 minutes)

The Norwegian coast, 19th century. A storm has driven Daland's ship several miles from his home. Sending his crew off to rest, he leaves the watch in charge of a young steersman, who falls asleep as he sings about his girl. A ghostly schooner drops anchor next to Daland's ship. Its captain steps ashore and, with increasing despair, reflects on his fate: once every seven years he may leave his ship to find a wife. If she is faithful, she will redeem him from his deathless wandering. If not, he is condemned to sail the ocean until Judgment Day. Daland discovers the phantom ship, and the stranger, who introduces himself as "a Dutchman," tells him of his plight. The Dutchman offers gold and jewels for a night's lodging, and when he learns that Daland has a daughter, asks for her hand in marriage. Happy to have found a rich son-in-law, Daland agrees and sets sail for home.

25-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II (approx. 59 minutes)

Daland's daughter, Senta, is captivated by the portrait of a pale man in black—the Flying Dutchman. Her friends, working under the watchful eye of Mary, Senta's nurse, tease Senta about her suitor, Erik, who is a hunter, not a sailor. When the superstitious Mary refuses to sing a ballad about the Dutchman, Senta sings it herself. The song reveals that the Dutchman's curse was put on him for a blasphemous oath. To everyone's horror, Senta suddenly declares that she will be the woman to save him. Erik enters with news of the sailors' return. Alone with Senta, he reminds her of her father's wish to find her a husband and asks her to plead his cause, but she remains distant. Realizing how much the Dutchman's picture means to her, he tells her of a frightening dream in which he saw her embrace the Dutchman and sail away on his ship. Senta declares that this is what she must do, and Erik rushes off in despair. A moment later, the Dutchman enters. Senta stands transfixed. Daland follows and asks his daughter to welcome the stranger, whom he has brought to be her husband. Daland leaves, and the Dutchman, who is equally moved by the meeting, asks Senta if she will accept him. Unaware that she realizes who he is, he warns her of making a rash decision, but she vows to be faithful to him unto death. Daland is overjoyed to learn that his daughter has accepted the suitor.

ACT III (approx. 24 minutes)

At the harbor, the villagers celebrate the sailors' return. Baffled by the strange silence aboard the Dutchman's ship, they call out to the crew, inviting them to join the festivities. Suddenly the ghostly sailors appear, mocking their captain's quest in hollow chanting. The villagers flee in terror. Quiet returns and Senta appears, followed by the distressed Erik. He pleads with her not to marry the Dutchman since she has already pledged her love to him. The Dutchman, who has overheard them, lets go of all hope and boards his ship. When Senta tries to stop him, he explains she will escape damnation—the fate of those who betray him—only because she has not yet proclaimed her vows before God. He reveals his identity and Senta ecstatically replies that she knows who he is. As his ship pulls away, she throws herself into the sea, faithful unto death.

- Adapted from *The Metropolitan Opera*

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this production, and more!



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To ensure the quality of our productions, latecomers will be taken to the best possible seat until intermission. Refunds or exchanges are NOT issued to latecomers.

CHECK ROOMS

Attended check rooms located on the Gallery level are open during the winter months.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

This theater is equipped with an Automated External Defibrillator.

ELEVATOR

Located off the Grand Lobby, serving various levels of the Benedum.

FIRE EXITS

Located at all levels and clearly marked. Use ONLY in case of emergency.

LOST AND FOUND

Call Benedum Center Lost and Found at 412-456-2610.

REFRESHMENTS

Bars are located on the Gallery, Grand Lobby, and Promenade levels. Drinks may be purchased prior to performances and during intermissions. Beverages are permitted in Trust cups.

STAGE AREA

Limited to performers, staff, and authorized personnel.

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Lounges for ladies and gentlemen are located on the Gallery, Promenade, and Mezzanine levels.

All gender accessible restrooms are located on the Grand Lobby level and Promenade levels.

QUIET ROOM

Located in the North Lounge on Promenade level. The Quiet Room is for patrons of all ages and has fidgets, games, coloring pages, comfort toys, as well as a quiet place to sit.

LACTATION ROOM

Located on Promenade level in the Clark Extension.

TICKET SERVICES AND BOX OFFICE HOURS

Tickets to all performances may be purchased at the Box Office at Theater Square, Penn Avenue, between Sixth and Seventh Streets. Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon - 4 p.m. In conjunction, the Benedum Center and Byham Theater box offices will be open on performance days, two hours before curtain time, through intermission. Call 412-456-6666 for tickets or Benedum Center show information. All sales are final.

OBSTRUCTED VISION

Supertitles, the English texts projected above the stage, will be fully visible to most Benedum patrons. However, supertitles will not be visible to anyone seated in or behind row W on the Main Floor. By necessary placement of the screen, the architecture of the Benedum precludes visibility in these areas.

AUDIO COMMENTARY

Pittsburgh Opera offers an Audio Commentary service for patrons with visual impairments during Tuesday performances at the Benedum Center. Through Channel 2 on the Assistive Listening Devices, patrons can hear the supertitles read simultaneously with their appearances on the screen, as well as descriptions of the set, characters, and costumes. Pittsburgh Opera also offers Braille and large-print programs. Inquire at the Education table and Guest Services Center.

NOTIFICATION TO PATRONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

- Wheelchairs are available for transition from entrance to seat location.
- Wheelchair locations are available on the Main Floor only.
- Restroom facilities for patrons with physical disabilities are located near the Grand Lobby.
- Dog guides accommodated. Please inquire at the Box Office when buying tickets.
- Water cups are available in restrooms or at any bar location.
- Elevator in Grand Lobby serves all levels of the Benedum Center.
- Door personnel and ushers are available for assistance.
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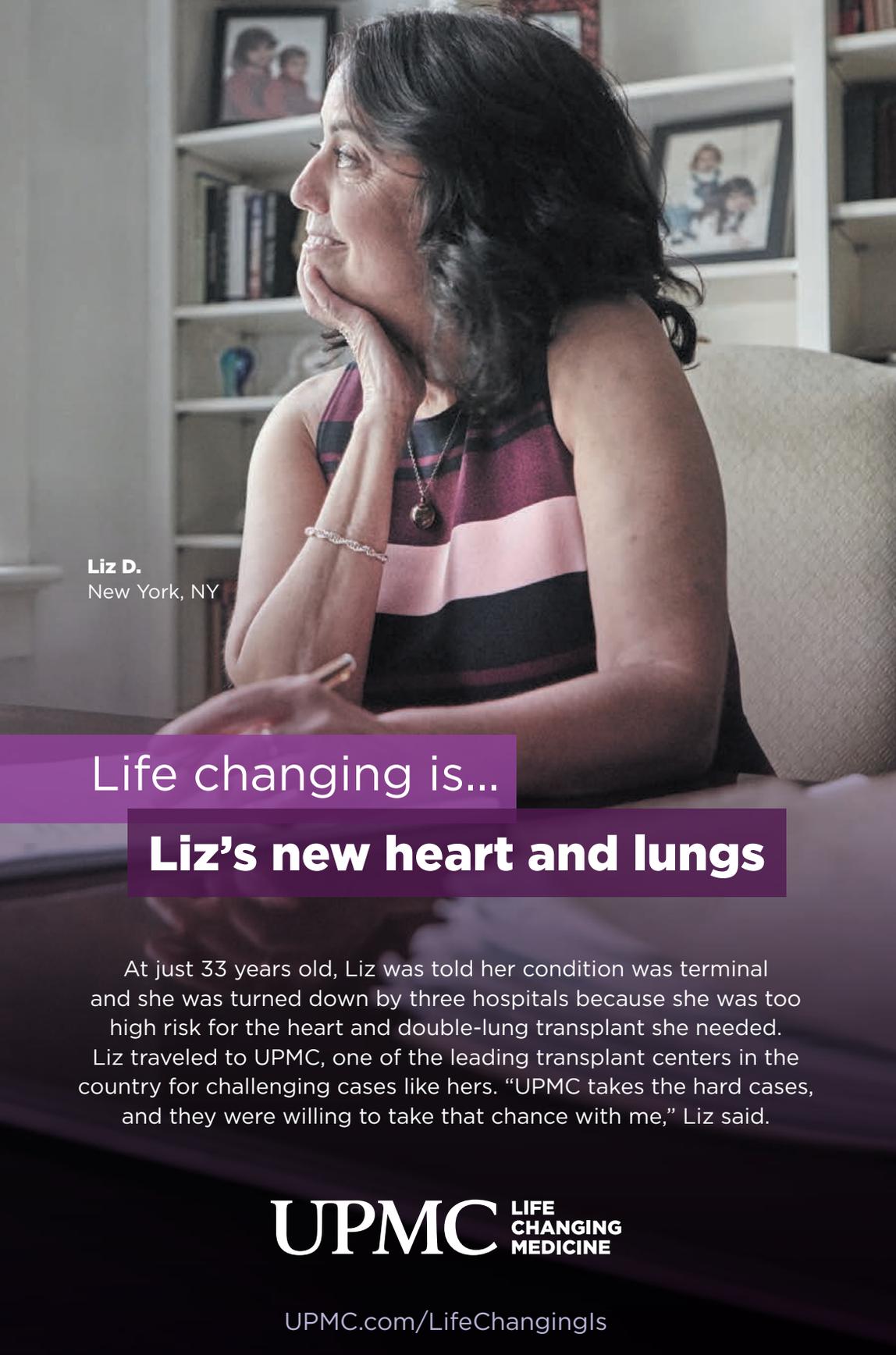
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