

September 3, 2024

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Pittsburgh Opera presents drama, intrigue, murder and more this fall

[Pittsburgh Opera](#) kicks off its 2024–25 Season with drama, intrigue, murder, and more.

From Puccini's whirlwind thriller *Tosca* and the adulterous double feature *Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci* to free concerts and festive events, Pittsburgh Opera offers world-class operatic entertainment this fall for every taste and price point.

Pittsburgh Opera strives to make opera accessible to all, and its autumn events present plenty of avenues to enjoyment.

Fall 2024 Highlights:

[Resident Artist Welcome Party](#)

Sunday, September 8

Ingram, PA

[Free - Rising Stars Concert](#)

Sunday, September 15

Bitz Opera Factory ([2425 Liberty Avenue](#))

[Free - Concerts at Market Square Farmers Market](#)

Thursday, September 19 and Thursday, September 26

Market Square, downtown Pittsburgh

[Pittsburgh Opera New Guard Summer Salon](#)

Thursday, September 19

Hotel Indigo (Oakland) - Rooftop Terrace

[“An Overture” – the 69th Annual Diamond Horseshoe Celebration](#)

Saturday, September 28

Bitz Opera Factory

[Tosca](#)

Music by Giacomo Puccini; libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa

Benedum Center for the Performing Arts

October 5, 8, 11, 13, 2024

[Free - Song Shop Concerts](#)

Saturday, October 19 and November 23, 12:00 PM
Bitz Opera Factory

[Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci](#)

Music by Pietro Mascagni with a libretto by Guido Menasci and Giovanni Targioni-Tozzetti (Cavalleria); Music and libretto by Ruggero Leoncavallo (Pagliacci)
Benedum Center for the Performing Arts
November 9, 12, 15, 17, 2024

Detailed information about each opera, concert, event, and more can be found on the following pages.

Tosca (1900)

Music by [Giacomo Puccini](#); libretto by [Luigi Illica](#) and [Giuseppe Giacosa](#)
At the [Benedum Center for the Performing Arts](#)
Sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage

- *Last performed by Pittsburgh Opera in [2017](#)*

Performances of Tosca

- Saturday October 5, 2024 * 8:00 PM
- Tuesday, October 8, 2024 * 7:00 PM
- Friday, October 11, 2024 * 7:30 PM
- Sunday, October 13, 2024 * 2:00 PM

Overview of Tosca

She lived for art. Would she die for love?

When painter Cavaradossi—the lover of Rome’s enchanting diva Floria Tosca—decides to harbor a fugitive of the law, he makes himself and his beloved Tosca targets of the corrupt Chief of Police, Baron Scarpia. Now it is up to Tosca to free both her lover and herself from Scarpia’s clutches by making a horrific bargain that will have consequences for them all.

Puccini’s whirlwind political thriller packs high romance, dark motives, love, betrayal, murder, and intrigue all into a plot that unfolds over only 24 hours. See why Tosca is one of the most powerful operas ever written.

These performances are sponsored in part by The Gailliot Fund.

Single tickets start at just \$15. Children and teens ages 6–18 are half-off for all operas. Group discounts, including for students, seniors, members of military, and more, are available.

Cast and Artistic Team: Tosca

Floria Tosca	Ana Maria Martinez ⁺
Mario Cavaradossi	Jonathan Burton
Baron Scarpia	Kyle Albertson
Cesare Angelotti	Erik Nordstrom ^{**}
Sacristan	Brian Kontes
Spoletta	Fran Daniel Laucericca [*]
Sciarrone	Matthew Soibelman ^{**}
Shepherd Boy	Shannon Crowley ^{**}
Jailer	J. Patrick McGill

Conductor	Antony Walker
Stage Director	Tara Faircloth ⁺
Assistant Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Chorus Master	Mark Trawka
Associate Coach/Pianist	James Lesniak
Resident Artist Pianist	Maeve Berry [*]
Wig & Make-up Designer	James Geier
Production Stage Manager	Cindy Knight
Assistant Stage Manager	Bee Anderson, Tess Naval
Assistant Stage Director	Dana Kinney ^{**}
Lighting Director	Todd Nonn

Costumes originally created for New York City Opera and refurbished by Seattle Opera Costume Shop

Original Costume Design by Andrew Marley with additional designs by Heidi Zamora

Scenery and Props for this production constructed by Lyric Opera of Kansas City

+ Pittsburgh Opera debut

* Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist

Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci (1890/1892)

Cavalleria Rusticana: Music by [Pietro Mascagni](#) with a libretto by [Guido Menasci](#) and [Giovanni Targioni-Tozzetti](#)

Pagliacci: Music and libretto by [Ruggero Leoncavallo](#)

At the [Benedum Center for the Performing Arts](#)

Sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage

- *Last performed by Pittsburgh Opera as a double feature in [1996](#)*
- *Production owned by [Lyric Opera of Kansas City](#)*

Performances of *Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci*

- Saturday, November 9, 2024 * 8:00 PM
- Tuesday, November 12, 2024 * 7:00 PM

- Friday, November 15, 2024 * 7:30 PM
- Sunday, November 17, 2024 * 2:00 PM

Overview of *Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci*

An adulterous double feature

Jealousy, two-timing, and revenge unite the back-to-back tragedies of *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*. Possessiveness, machismo, and rage fuel their bloody conclusions.

Cavalleria Rusticana: On Easter Sunday, Alfio discovers his wife Lola has rekindled her old romance with Turiddu.

Pagliacci: Just before a performance of his traveling circus troupe, clown Canio discovers the infidelity of his wife Nedda.

Join us for this back-to-back double feature of love and hate—the first time Pittsburgh Opera has performed these two operas together since 1996!

These performances are sponsored in part by The Gailliot Fund and a generous gift from Robert and Christine Pietrandrea.

Single tickets start at just \$15. Children and teens ages 6–18 are half-off for all operas. Group discounts, including for students, seniors, members of military, and more, are available.

Cast and Artistic Team: *Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci*

Cavalleria Rusticana

Santuzza
Turiddu
Mamma Lucia
Alfio
Lola

[Eve Gigliotti](#)⁺
[Rafael Davila](#)
[Marianne Cornetti](#)^{**}
[Sebastian Catana](#)
[Audrey Welsh](#)^{**}

Pagliacci

Canio
Nedda
Tonio
Beppe
Silvio

[Jonathan Burton](#)
[Caitlin Gotimer](#)^{**}
[Sebastian Catana](#)
[Fran Daniel Lauceric](#)^{*}
[Ricardo Jose Rivera](#)⁺

Conductor
Stage Director
Scenic Designer
Costume Designer
Wig & Make-up Designer
Lighting Designer

[Antony Walker](#)
[Daniel Rigazzi](#)
Steven C. Kemp
Ed Kotanen
James Geier
Cindy Limauro

Stage Manager	Cindy Knight
Assistant Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Chorus Master	Mark Trawka
Associate Coach/Pianist	James Lesniak
Resident Artist Pianist	Maeve Berry *
Assistant Stage Director	Dana Kinney *
Assistant Stage Managers	Bee Anderson, Tess Naval

Costumes provided by Sarasota Opera Association, Inc.

Scenery and Props for this production constructed by Lyric Opera of Kansas City

- + Pittsburgh Opera debut
- * Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist
- ** Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist alumna

Additional Events

[Resident Artist Welcome Party](#)

Sunday, September 8, 2:00PM

Private home in Ingram, PA

Raise a glass with the [FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera](#) (FPO) as they welcome Pittsburgh Opera's 2024-25 class of Resident Artists to Pittsburgh. Mingle and chat over delicious refreshments at the Ingram, PA home of Steve Seibert and Charlie Anderson. [Register online](#).

[Free - Rising Stars Concert](#)

Sunday, September 15, 5:00PM

George R. White Opera Studio, Bitz Opera Factory ([2425 Liberty Avenue](#))

Pittsburgh Opera hosts its annual *Rising Stars* concert on Sunday, September 15, 2024 in the Opera's Strip District headquarters. *Rising Stars* is the community's first opportunity to meet the incoming [Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artists](#). This performance is free and open to everyone.

At *Rising Stars*, each Resident Artist singer first performs a selection of his or her own choosing, followed by one chosen by [General Director Christopher Hahn](#) and [Music Director Antony Walker](#). A final aria to conclude the concert is selected by the audience.

[Free - Market Square Concerts](#)

Thursday, September 19 and Thursday, September 26, 11:30AM–1:30PM

Market Square, Downtown Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh Opera's Resident Artists will entertain Pittsburghers with [free open-air concerts at Market Square](#) during the Farmers Market on Thursday September 19th and 26th. Sample

all that the Market Square Farmers Market has to offer while enjoying world-class singing of opera favorites by Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artists!

A special thank you to The Charity Randall Foundation for supporting Pittsburgh Opera's Market Square concerts.

These Market Square concerts are presented as part of RAD Days' free programming.

[Pittsburgh Opera New Guard Summer Salon](#)

Thursday, September 19, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Hotel Indigo (Oakland) - Rooftop Terrace

The Pittsburgh Opera New Guard is a community for young professionals, ages 21–45, who have a passion for Pittsburgh Opera. Join the New Guard on the Rooftop of Hotel Indigo in Oakland for an evening of cocktails, light bites, and a performance by Pittsburgh Opera's Resident Artists. [Pre-register](#) and get a free drink ticket at the door.

["An Overture" – the 69th Annual Diamond Horseshoe Celebration](#)

Saturday, September 28

Bitz Opera Factory

Kick-off Pittsburgh Opera's 2024–25 season with ["An Overture!"](#) Get a taste of what is to come at Pittsburgh Opera during this special fundraising event celebrating the beginning of our 86th season.

[Free - Song Shop Concerts](#)

Saturday, October 19 and November 23, 12:00 PM

Bitz Opera Factory

Pittsburgh Opera's free, informal [Song Shop concerts](#) feature the [Resident Artists of Pittsburgh Opera](#). Beginning at 12:00 PM on selected Saturdays of each month, October 2024–April 2025, these one-hour performances are free, fun, and open to everyone. Guests are encouraged to bring a friend and bring a lunch. [FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera](#) provide a reception after each Song Shop concert.

FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera Presents Speakers Series: "Mischievous and Mayhem on the Opera Stage"

Sunday, October 27, 2:00PM

Created to enlighten, engage, and inform FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera members and their guests, the speaker series presents various topics related to the 2024–25 Opera Season. Join opera legends Marianne Cornetti and Danielle Pastin as they spill the tea about "Mischievous and Mayhem on the Opera Stage." These two star opera singers will delight and entertain you with opera insights and stories from their decorated careers. For further information, contact Victoria Touscany at 412-281-0912 ext. 231

[Free - Pre-Opera Talks](#)

Ticketholders are invited to attend a [Pre-Opera Talk](#) one hour before each performance's curtain at all Pittsburgh Opera performances at the Benedum Center and Pittsburgh CAPA School Theater. Learn about the composer, the story, and some juicy details about the opera! These talks are free to all ticketholders.

[Free - Meet the Artists events](#)

Ticketholders for each Tuesday opera performance are invited to join [General Director Christopher Hahn](#) immediately following the performance to enjoy lively repartee, as Mr. Hahn interviews the stars of the production. This event is free, and is held in the Lower Lobby for Benedum performances

[WQED Broadcasts/Preview Shows](#)

Pittsburgh Opera 2023–24 Season Performances on WQED-FM 89.3 and wqed.org/fm
Pittsburgh Opera, in collaboration with Classical WQED-FM 89.3, will broadcast the 2023–24 season productions, giving listeners an opportunity to enjoy the operas all over again. The broadcasts are at 1:00 PM, unless otherwise noted, on consecutive Saturdays through October 5th.

- *The Flying Dutchman* – Saturday, September 7
- *Iphigénie en Tauride* – Saturday, September 14
- *Proving Up* – Saturday, September 21
- *La Traviata* – Saturday, September 28
- *The Passion of Mary Cardwell Dawson* – Saturday October 5

Pittsburgh Opera 2024–25 Previews on WQED-FM 89.3 and wqed.org/fm

Hosted by WQED's Anna Singer, these half-hour previews of each upcoming opera are broadcast twice before each production opens, giving listeners an in-depth introduction to the opera's singers, music, and production. Unless otherwise noted, the Saturday broadcasts are at 12:30PM, and the Friday night broadcasts are at 7:00PM.

- *Tosca* – Saturday, September 28 & Friday, October 4, 2024
- *Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci* – Saturday, November 2 & Friday, November 8, 2024

Sponsorships

Pittsburgh Opera's season is made possible, onstage and off, by support from all corners of the community.

- [PNC](#) is Pittsburgh Opera's 2024–25 Season Sponsor.
- [WQED-FM](#) is Pittsburgh Opera's Media Sponsor.

- [Ambridge Regional Distribution and Manufacturing Center](#) is the Tuesday performance and 'Meet the Artists' post-show event sponsor.
- [Natural Awakenings Magazine](#) is the Song Shop Concerts sponsor.

Pittsburgh Opera offers a range of flexible gift options and potential tax benefits for individuals, local businesses, and corporations. Sponsorship opportunities include:

- **Production Sponsorships** – *Help bring a production to life while pulling back the curtain and entertaining clients or friends. Gifts begin at \$25,000.*
- **Resident Artist Sponsorships** – *Support future opera stars while building personal relationships with artists. Gifts begin at \$10,000.*
- **Family Day & Community Programs** – *Underwrite free or low-cost concerts, because everyone deserves access to opera. Gifts begin at \$5,000.*
- **Parties & Events** – *Sponsor Galas, networking events, parties, and happy hours. Gifts begin at \$1,000.*

To learn more about becoming a sponsor, contact Pittsburgh Opera at 412-281-0912 x226 or development@pittsburghopera.org.

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