

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2022

Maryland Lyric Opera announces

Macbeth

The first production of its 2022–23 Season of Verdi at Strathmore

Friday, September 23 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, September 25 at 2:00 p.m.

(BETHESDA, MARYLAND)—Maryland Lyric Opera (MDLO) announces the first production of its 2022–23 Season of Verdi, a survey of the iconic composer's most dramatic and accessible operas: *Macbeth* on Friday, September 23 and Sunday, September 25, 2022, at The Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda, Maryland.

The first genuine masterpiece of Verdi's career, and the first of his three Shakespearean operas, *Macbeth* is a political potboiler full of witches, ghosts, murders, mayhem, and madness. Verdi has created a stunning musical portrait of opera's most power-hungry

couple that bristles with doom and crackles with an unforgettable score. The production stars the legendary baritone Lester Lynch as Macbeth and Jill Gardner (MDLO's stunning Minnie in *La Fanciulla del West* at Strathmore) as the fiendish Lady Macbeth. The all-star supporting cast includes MDLO favorites Andrea Silvestrelli as Banco and Yi Li as Macduff. The MDLO Orchestra is conducted by Joseph Colaneri. who conducted an acclaimed *Macbeth* at The Glimmerglass Festival in 2015.

MDLO's presentation at Strathmore puts the MDLO Orchestra & Chorus center stage, while dramatic lighting, captivating projections, and enhanced visual supervision by David Gately takes the audience to Macbeth's castle for an unforgettable performance.

"Our 2022–23 Season of Verdi allows us to bring some of the world's leading singers to Maryland; to highlight the strengths of our magnificent Orchestra; to provide a variety of big roles for our professional Chorus, who will portray witches, courtiers, and everything in between; and above all, to entertain our audiences with a headlong dive into the work of one of opera's true masters," says MDLO Founder & Artistic Director Brad Clark.

"While we're not quite as ambitious as Lady Macbeth, we do want to establish MDLO as an ever-growing and artistically exciting presence on the region's arts scene, and as a new Affiliate Partner with Strathmore, one of the finest concert halls in the country. I can't wait for audiences to discover this thrilling production of *Macbeth* and our season-long master class on the operas of Verdi."

Tickets for *Macbeth* are on sale now at <u>Strathmore.org</u>. Additional titles and casting for the 2022-23 Season of Verdi will be announced soon.

Macbeth

Friday, September 23 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. The Music Center at Strathmore

Macbeth Lester Lynch Lady Macbeth Jill Gardner

Banco Andrea Silvestrelli

Macduff Yi Li

Lady-in-Waiting Manli Deng

Malcolm Mauricio Miranda

Conductor Joseph Colaneri Visual Supervisor David Gately Lighting Designer Stuart Duke

Ticket information

<u>Tickets are on sale now at Strathmore.org</u>, or call the Strathmore Ticket Office at 301.581.5100 for more information. Tickets start at \$25; all tickets for students are \$10 with student ID.

Health, safety, and security

For the most current information about Strathmore's health, safety, and security policies, please visit https://www.strathmore.org/your-visit/health-safety-security/.

About Maryland Lyric Opera

Maryland Lyric Opera is a regional opera company created "for musicians, by musicians." Founded by accomplished pianist and local philanthropist Brad Clark, MDLO combines a diverse performance schedule of fully staged grand opera, concert opera with the MDLO Orchestra center stage, and intimate recitals featuring acclaimed soloists with a rigorous training program that fosters the careers of the next generation of opera stars.

MDLO employs a full orchestra and a full chorus for its productions. Since our reorganization and relaunch in 2018, we have produced three fully staged operas at The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center in College Park: Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Massenet's *Thaïs*, and Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*. At The Music Center at Strathmore, we have presented concert performances of Puccini's rarely performed *La Fanciulla del West* and his final opera *Turandot*, Verdi's epic *Don Carlo*, as well as double bills of one-act operas.

Recent concerts have included individual programs celebrating Mozart, Puccini, and Verdi, as well as a memorable performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 12, K. 414 by the legendary pianist and pedagogue Leon Fleisher in his final stage performance, as well as a special memorial concert that celebrated Fleisher's enduring legacy.

MDLO's growing family of supporters is metropolitan Washington DC's vibrant, diverse, and international community. While we live in a modern and dynamic world, our aim is for our audiences to pause and experience harmony and beauty through classic operas.

We are committed to bringing young audiences to the world of opera—thanks to the generosity of our donors and patrons, students may purchase any seat in the house for \$10 with a student ID. Looking towards the future, we are planning to expand our repertoire, to initiate and grow outreach programs that embrace our community, and to bring music to underserved youth and adults.

Discover MDLO on social media:







#MDLOVerdi

Press Contact

Matthew Woorman General Manager (240) 899–1466 mwoorman@marylandlyricopera.org