



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2022

**Maryland Lyric Opera
presents**

Un ballo in maschera
(A Masked Ball)

**The second production of its
2022–23 Season of Verdi
at Strathmore**

Friday, November 11 at 7:30 p.m.

and

Sunday, November 13 at 2:00 p.m.

(BETHESDA, MARYLAND)—Maryland Lyric Opera (MDLO) presents the next production in its 2022–23 Season of Verdi, a survey of the iconic composer's most dramatic and accessible operas: [*Un ballo in maschera*](#) on Friday, November 11 and Sunday, November 13, 2022, at The Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda, Maryland.

Combining political intrigue, a love triangle, and a fortune teller's mysterious prophecy, *Un ballo in maschera* shows Verdi at the height of his powers. A masterpiece that survived a notorious battle with censors and endless revisions before its premiere, the opera contains radiant choral writing and some of Verdi's most passionately expressive melodies.

~more~

The Maryland Lyric Opera Orchestra is conducted by internationally renowned Verdi specialist **Andrea Licata**, and audiences are invited into the masked ball of the opera's title with immersive visuals led by **David Gately**.

The all-star cast of *Un ballo in maschera* is led by **Indira Mahajan** as Amelia, **Arturo Chacón-Cruz** as Riccardo, and **Aleksey Bogdanov** as Renato—the three jagged edges of the opera’s doomed love triangle. The opera co-stars **Daryl Freedman** as the scene-stealing fortune teller Ulrica and **Aitana Sanz** as Riccardo’s page Oscar. Other key members of the ensemble include **Michael Pitocchi** as Samuel, **Adam Cioffari** as Tom, **Javier Arrey** as Silvano, and **Mauricio Miranda** as the Judge and the Servant.

“We are excited to continue our 2022–23 Season of Verdi with another of the composer’s masterworks not seen in the Washington region in more than a decade,” says MDLO Founder & Artistic Director Brad Clark. “I can’t wait for audiences to rediscover the gorgeous music in this opera and to welcome conductor Andrea Licata back to our region. Many members of our Orchestra and Chorus have fond memories of making music with him in Baltimore, and we all look forward to reconnecting over this majestic score.”

Never has the downfall of a king sounded so exhilarating! Tickets for *Un ballo in maschera* are on sale now at [Strathmore.org](https://www.strathmore.org). Stay tuned for the announcement of more events and performances in MDLO’s 2022-23 Season of Verdi.

[Un ballo in maschera](#)

Friday, November 11, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 13, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
The Music Center at Strathmore
5301 Tuckerman Lane
North Bethesda, MD 20852

Amelia	Indira Mahajan
Riccardo	Arturo Chacón-Cruz
Renato	Aleksey Bogdanov
Ulrica	Daryl Freedman
Oscar	Aitana Sanz

Samuel	Mike Pitocchi
Tom	Adam Cioffari
Silvano	Javier Arrey
Judge / Servant	Mauricio Miranda

Conductor	Andrea Licata
Visual Supervisor	David Gately
Lighting Designer	Stuart Duke
Projection Designer	Sarah Tundermann

Ticket information

Tickets are on sale now at [Strathmore.org](https://www.strathmore.org), or call the Strathmore Ticket Office at 301.581.5100 for more information. Tickets start at \$59; 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. In September 2022, we launched our 2022-23 Season of Verdi with the composer’s *Macbeth*.

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

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