



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 28, 2022

**Maryland Lyric Opera
presents**

Falstaff

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

Friday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m.

and

Sunday, January 22 at 2:00 p.m.

(BETHESDA, MARYLAND)—Maryland Lyric Opera (MDLO) presents [*Falstaff*](#), the third production in its 2022–23 Season of Verdi, a survey of the iconic composer’s most accessible operas, on Friday, January 20 and Sunday, January 22, 2023, at The Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda, Maryland.

Verdi’s final masterpiece, *Falstaff* is more than just the composer’s successful “comic” opera, but it is also a profound meditation on humanity from an artist reflecting back on his life and career. Shakespeare’s iconic characters come to vivid life as Verdi’s sublime music reminds us that “*tutto nel mondo è burla*” — all the world’s a joke!

~more~

Returning to MDLO to conduct the Maryland Lyric Opera Orchestra in his second production of the season is **Joseph Colaneri**, Music Director for The Glimmerglass Festival, who led the musical forces for the season-opening *Macbeth*. Audiences are once again invited into Shakespeares’s colorful world with impactful visuals led by **David Gately**.

The all-star cast of *Falstaff* is led by MDLO favorite **Mark Delavan** in the title role. The iconic women of *Falstaff* are sung by **Mary Femeinar** as Alice Ford, **Rachel Blaustein** as Nannetta, **Allegra De Vita** as Meg Page, and **Catherine Martin** as Mistress Quickly. **Brian Major** co-stars as Ford, with **Yi Li** as Fenton, **Mauricio Miranda** as Dr. Caius, **Joseph Michael Brent** as Bardolfo, and legendary bass **Andrea Silvestrelli** as Pistola.

“We are excited to continue our 2022–23 Season of Verdi with the composer’s final opera, his thrilling *magnum opus* on humanity, all told through the richly drawn characters of Shakespeare,” says MDLO Founder & Artistic Director Brad Clark. “*Falstaff* can be riotously funny, deeply moving, and irresistibly profound. I can’t wait for our audiences to rediscover all the layers of this fascinating masterwork.”

Tickets for *Falstaff* are on sale now at [Strathmore.org](https://www.strathmore.org). Following *Falstaff*, the next installment in MDLO’s 2022-23 Season of Verdi is the composer’s legendary *Otello*, to be presented at Strathmore on March 3 and 5, 2023. Stay tuned for a complete casting announcement and other details.

[Falstaff](#)

Friday, January 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 2:00 p.m..

The Music Center at Strathmore
5301 Tuckerman Lane
North Bethesda, MD 20852

Sir John Falstaff	Mark Delavan
Ford	Brian Major
Alice Ford	Mary Faminear
Nannetta	Rachel Blaustein
Meg Page	Allegra De Vita
Mistress Quickly	Catherine Martin
Fenton	Yi Li
Dr Caius	Mauricio Miranda
Bardolfo	Joseph Michael Brent
Pistola	Andrea Silvestrelli

Conductor	Joseph Colaneri
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*, followed by *Un Ballo in Maschera* in November.

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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