

September 23, 2022 Chris Cox, Director of Marketing and Communications 412-281-0912 ext. 217 ccox@pittsburghopera.org

Pittsburgh Opera and Point Park University Present 'Animated Arias' Special Live Concert on October 14

<u>Pittsburgh Opera</u> will perform an enthralling concert combining live singing and music with contemporary video animation at <u>Point Park University</u>'s Pittsburgh Playhouse on Friday, October 14 at 7:30 PM.

'Animated Arias' is a result of a unique collaboration between Pittsburgh Opera and the <u>Cinema Arts</u> <u>Department</u> of Point Park's <u>Conservatory of Performing Arts</u>.

Point Park Students worked with Pittsburgh Opera to select arias and other portions of well-known operas. They then designed, created, and refined six animated video shorts to bring the beautiful world of opera to life in new, exciting ways.

The videos feature music by Mozart, Verdi, Dvořák, and more, from operas such as *The Marriage of Figaro, Il Trovatore*, and *Rusalka*. They will be unveiled publicly together for the first time – and will be accompanied by live performances of the opera music by singers from Pittsburgh Opera's acclaimed Resident Artist program – at the free 'Animated Arias' concert.



Image from the animation for the Anvil Chorus from II Trovatore

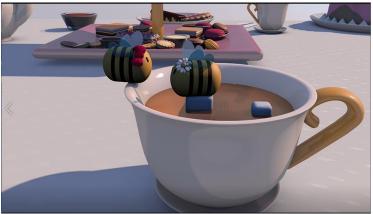


Image from the animation for "Canzonetta sull'aria" from The Marriage of Figaro

Rebekah Diaz, Pittsburgh Opera's Director of Community Engagement and IDEA Initiatives, explains that the videos "can introduce opera to new audiences who might otherwise feel opera is 'not for them' while simultaneously inviting opera aficionados to look at opera in a new lens, explore the magic of animation, and inspire joy at viewing these well-loved pieces in a new context."

Garfield Lemonius, Dean of the Conservatory of Performing Arts and Artistic Director of the Pittsburgh Playhouse, adds "We are committed to showcasing the work of our talented students and proud of the work our students did through this partnership. I encourage everyone to see this incredible work, which highlights how these two art forms intersect."

As part of the event, the students who created the animated videos will discuss their inspiration and the creative process.

Pittsburgh Playhouse is at 350 Forbes Avenue in downtown





Image from the animation for "Tacea la notte placida" from Il Trovatore

Pittsburgh.

Admission is free, but registration is required. Patrons can <u>register</u> online.

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About Pittsburgh Opera:

Pittsburgh Opera celebrates its 84th season in 2022-23. Established by five intrepid women in 1939, Pittsburgh Opera is viewed as one of the most vibrant opera organizations in the U.S., with a rich artistic tradition, outstanding educational programs, an acclaimed artist training program, and a progressive outlook toward the future. Its green initiative culminated in LEED® Silver certification for its Strip District headquarters, and its capacity as a true community partner has increased significantly under General Director Christopher Hahn's leadership.

About Point Park University:

Point Park University, immersed in the heart of Downtown Pittsburgh, focuses on student success through innovative experiential learning opportunities. Point Park enrolls nearly 4,000 students in over 100 undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs offered through its Conservatory of Performing Arts, Rowland School of Business, and schools of Arts and Sciences, Communication, and Education. The University's alumni and students represent all 50 states and 34 countries around the world. Visit PointPark.edu to learn more.