

August 20, 2026

Chris Cox, Director of Marketing and Communications

Office: (412) 281-0912, ext. 217; ccox@pittsburghopera.org

Pittsburgh Opera delivers love, jealousy, murder, and more this fall

Pittsburgh Opera kicks off its 2026–27 season, the company's 88th, with love, jealousy, murder, and more this fall.

- In Verdi's gripping *Rigoletto*, at the Benedum Center this October for the first time in 14 years, medieval court jester Rigoletto must save his daughter from the clutches of his employer, the lecherous, womanizing Duke.
- Coming to the Byham in November is the Pittsburgh premiere of *Orpheus & Eurydice*. Based on the classic Greek myth, Orpheus plunges into the very depths of the Underworld to bring his beloved Eurydice back from the dead.
- In addition, Pittsburgh Opera has a plethora of free concerts and events at locations throughout Pittsburgh designed to inspire and take you on a journey of love, loss, and redemption.

Pittsburgh Opera strives to make opera accessible to all, and provides world-class entertainment for every taste and budget. Whether you prefer casual concerts or grand spectacles, its autumn events are sure to delight and entertain.

September through November 2026 highlights (listed chronologically) include:

[Resident Artist Welcome Party](#)

Crafton

Sunday, September 13

[Market Square Concert \(free\)](#)

Market Square Farmer's Market

Thursday, September 17

[New Guard Summer Salon \(free\)](#)

Happenstance Cafe

Thursday, September 17

[Rising Stars Concert \(free\)](#)

Bitz Opera Factory

Saturday, September 19

[A Landing Ovation \(free\)](#)

Arts Landing, downtown Pittsburgh

Thursday, September 24

[Rigoletto](#)

Benedum Center for the Performing Arts

October 10, 16, 18

[Outside the Salon – “Sip & Sing”](#)

Bitz Opera Factory
Friday, October 23

[Song Shop Concerts \(free\)](#)

Bitz Opera Factory
Saturday, October 24, and Saturday, November 7

[Orpheus & Eurydice](#)

Byham Theater
November 14, 20, 22

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

The Operas:

Rigoletto (1851)

Music by Giuseppe Verdi, Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave

Based on the play *Le Roi s'Amuse* by Victor Hugo

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

Sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage

- Last performed by Pittsburgh Opera in 2012
- Scenery and Props for this production constructed by Atlanta Opera

Performances

- Saturday, October 10, 2026, 7:00PM
- Friday, October 16, 2026, 7:00PM – [audio commentary available](#)
- Sunday, October 18, 2026, 2:00PM – [free childcare available](#), registration required

Overview

A fool's errand.

Sharp-witted court jester Rigoletto is the philandering Duke's right-hand man, always quick to defend his patron's womanizing and mock his master's victims. But the joke is on him. The tables turn when Rigoletto and the Duke are both cursed for their wretched behavior. While Rigoletto instinctively fears the curse, the callous Duke remains unfazed, turning his rakish intentions toward Rigoletto's daughter, Gilda. Naïve, sheltered, and easily charmed, Gilda falls madly in love with the Duke.

Now, Rigoletto must plot and scheme to save his own daughter from the monster he had championed. Will Rigoletto have the last laugh, or will he be the punchline?

These performances are sponsored in part by The Gailliot Fund.

Cast and Artistic Team

Rigoletto	Sebastian Catana
Duke of Mantua	Daniel O'Hearn **
Gilda	Susanne Burgess ⁺
Maddalena	Maire Therese Carmack **
Sparafucile	Peter Volpe
Monterone	Jason Budd ⁺
Borsa	Logan Wagner [*]
Marullo	Erik Nordstrom [*]
Ceprano	Drew Comer **
Giovanna	Maya Davis **
Countess Ceprano	Ayanna Delk-Lewis ⁺
Page	Léa Nayak **
Conductor	Antony Walker
Production Director	Tomer Zvulun
Revival Associate Stage Director	Elio Bucky ⁺
Original Stage Director / Production	Tomer Zvulun
Assistant Stage Director	Olivia Gacka **
Scenic Designer	John Conklin
Costume Designer	Victoria Tzykun
Costume Director	Jacob Currence
Costume Shop Supervisor	Roberta Jo (BJ) Herr
Costume Shop & Wardrobe Key	Jacqueline Wadowsky
Wig / Makeup Designer	James Geier
Lighting Director	Todd Nonn
Lighting Designer	Robert Wierzel
Associate Coach / Pianist	James Lesniak
Head of Music / Assistant Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Chorus Master / Director of Musical Studies	Mark Trawka
Head Carpenter	Sean West
Props Coordinator	Johnmichael Bohach

+ Pittsburgh Opera debut

* Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist

** Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist Alumnus/Alumna

Orpheus & Eurydice (1762, revised in 1859)

Music by Christoph Willibald Gluck (1762), with instrumentation by Hector Berlioz (1859)

Libretto by Ranieri de' Calzabigi

At the Byham Theater, downtown Pittsburgh

Sung in French with English supertitles projected above the stage

- These are the first performances by Pittsburgh Opera
- Pittsburgh Opera is constructing a new production

Performances

- Saturday, November 14, 2026, 7:00PM
- Friday, November 20, 2026, 7:00PM – [audio commentary available](#)
- Sunday, November 22, 2026, 2:00PM

Overview

To love is to look.

After the death of his beloved Eurydice, Orfeo vows to plunge into the very depths of the Underworld itself to bring her back. Moved by Orfeo's passion, Amore (Cupid) appears and agrees to aid him in the rescue of his wife so long as he does not look at her until they return to the land of the living again.

With the help of the spirits of the Underworld, Orfeo finds Eurydice in Elysium. But as he guides her to the surface, he knows he cannot look back. Eurydice believes this means he does not love her, and she refuses to take another step until he looks her way. So he does...but this classic tale may not end the way you've seen before!

Based on the same Greek myth that inspired the Broadway hit *Hadestown*, Christoph Willibald Gluck's original 1774 score is enhanced by Hector Berlioz's 1859 re-arrangement, making this a story that has only been enriched over the centuries.

These performances are sponsored in part by The Gailliot Fund.

Cast and Artistic Team

Orpheus	Stephanie Doche
Eurydice	Lauren Snouffer ⁺
Amore	Léa Nayak [*]
Conductor	Antony Walker
Stage Director	José Maria Condemi
Assistant Stage Director	Olivia Gacka [*]
Scenic Designer	Steven Kemp
Costume Designer	Robert Perdziola
Costume Director	Jacob Currence
Costume Shop Supervisor	Roberta Jo (BJ) Herr
Costume Shop & Wardrobe Key	Jacqueline Wadowsky
Wig / Makeup Designer	James Geier
Lighting Director	Todd Nonn
Lighting Designer	Mary Ellen Stebbins
Associate Coach / Pianist	James Lesniak
Head of Music / Assistant Conductor	Glenn Lewis
Chorus Master / Director of Musical Studies	Mark Trawka
Head Carpenter	Sean West
Props Coordinator	Johnmichael Bohach

- + Pittsburgh Opera debut
- * Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artist

Concerts, Parties, and Other Events:

Resident Artist Welcome Party

Crafton

Sunday, September 13, 4:00 – 7:00PM

Be one of the first to welcome our new and returning Resident Artists to Pittsburgh at this casual afternoon event, generously hosted by Steve Seibert in his home in Crafton. Enjoy light refreshments, the good company of our [FRIENDS of Pittsburgh Opera](#), as well as performances by Pittsburgh Opera guest artists - the perfect end to Summer! [RSVP online](#)

Market Square Concert (free)

Market Square Farmer's Market, downtown

Thursday, September 17, 11:30AM - 1:30PM

Pittsburgh Opera's 2026-27 Resident Artists will entertain Pittsburghers with a free open-air concert at Market Square during the Farmers Market on Thursday, September 17th. Sample all that the Market Square Farmers Market has to offer while enjoying world-class singing of opera favorites by Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artists!

These Market Square concerts are generously supported by The Charity Randall Foundation in honor of Charity Randall, and by the [Allegheny Regional Asset District](#).

New Guard Summer Salon (free)

Happenstance Café, Lawrenceville

Thursday, September 17, 5:30PM

Join the Pittsburgh Opera New Guard on for an unforgettable evening as we kick off the new opera season! Enjoy complimentary appetizers, a live performance by our talented Resident Artists, and a vibrant night of music, conversation, and celebration. Pre-register to receive a complimentary drink ticket at the door. [Register now.](#)

Rising Stars Concert (free)

Bitz Opera Factory, Strip District

Saturday, September 19, 5:00PM

Rising Stars is the community's first opportunity to see and hear the incoming Pittsburgh Opera Resident Artists at Pittsburgh Opera's headquarters. This performance is free and open to everyone. Each [Resident Artists](#) singer first performs a selection of his or her own choosing, followed by one chosen by General Director Bill Powers and [Music Director Antony Walker](#). A final aria to conclude the concert is selected by the audience. [RSVP here.](#)

[A Landing Ovation \(free\)](#)

Arts Landing, downtown Pittsburgh
Thursday, September 24, 6:00-7:30PM

Three Pittsburgh arts organizations are joining together to provide a free 90-minute season preview performance for the Pittsburgh community. The free concert event, titled *A Landing Ovation*, will take place on Thursday, September 24 at 6:00 p.m. The evening will feature performances from [Pittsburgh Opera](#), [Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre](#), and the [newly merged Pittsburgh CLO and Pittsburgh Public Theater](#), in partnership with [the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust](#).

A Landing Ovation is generously presented by the [Richard King Mellon Foundation](#) with special funding from The Charity Randall Foundation in honor of Charity Randall. The presenting partners are supported in part by the taxpayers of Allegheny County through a public grant from the [Allegheny Regional Asset District](#) (RAD). We thank them for their support. [Register here.](#)

[Outside the Salon – “Sip & Sing”](#)

Bitz Opera Factory, Strip District
Friday, October 23, 6:00-9:00PM

[Outside the Salon](#) is a new event series that brings the power and intimacy of opera out of traditional venues and into unexpected spaces across Pittsburgh. Each performance takes place in a different neighborhood, offering audiences a close-up, immersive experience with extraordinary voices in settings where culture and community intersect.

Like wine, opera is a language of region and craft, carried across borders by voice and body alike. “Sip & Sing” celebrates where the two meet. Join Pittsburgh Opera’s Resident Artists for an evening of live performances, wine pairings, plus a rare backstage look at Pittsburgh Opera’s creation of our production of *Orpheus & Eurydice*! Watch our set take shape, create a costume piece, make a community art piece, and go behind the curtain like never before. Your ticket includes wine tasting, light bites, live entertainment, and behind-the-scenes activities.

“Sip & Sing” will be hosted at the Bitz Opera Factory Hahn Rehearsal Hall and Costume Shop - areas not usually open to the public! Tickets are available [online](#).

[Song Shop Concerts \(free\)](#)

Bitz Opera Factory, Strip District
Saturday, October 24, and Saturday, November 7, 12:00PM

Pittsburgh Opera’s free, informal Song Shop concerts feature the [Resident Artists of Pittsburgh Opera](#). Beginning at 12:00 PM on selected Saturdays, 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. Themes vary from concert to concert.

WQED BROADCASTS / PREVIEWS

[Pittsburgh Opera](#) 2025–26 Season Performances on WQED-FM 89.3 and wqed.org/fm

Classical WQED-FM 89.3, will broadcast Pittsburgh Opera's 2025–26 season productions, giving listeners an opportunity to enjoy the operas all over again. The broadcasts are at 1:00PM on five consecutive Saturdays from September 12th through October 10th.

- *La Bohème* – Saturday, September 12
- *Fellow Travelers* – Saturday, September 19
- *Curlew River* – Saturday, September 26
- *Time to Act* – Saturday, October 3
- *Falstaff* – Saturday, October 10

Pittsburgh Opera 2026–27 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 weeknight broadcasts are at 7:00PM.

- *Rigoletto* – Saturday, October 3 & Friday, October 9, 2026
- *Orpheus & Eurydice* – Saturday, November 7 & Friday, November 13, 2026

TICKETS

Opus Pass

Pittsburgh Opera's [Opus Pass](#) lets patrons see as many live opera performances as they want all season. For one low monthly price, passholders get a year's worth of unlimited admission to every performance of every opera, subject to availability.

Subscriptions

Subscription packages range from \$36-\$595.

Subscribers enjoy the benefits of:

- The best seats at the best prices
- Easy, flexible, free ticket exchanges
- Split-Pay Plan for Early Birds: multiple months to pay for your subscription
- Discounted reserved parking at Theater Square Garage
- 15% discount on additional single tickets to all operas
- Money-Back Guarantee – if subscribers are not satisfied with their first opera, Pittsburgh Opera will refund the balance of the subscription

Group Tickets

Pittsburgh Opera makes opera accessible to all groups in the Pittsburgh area by providing great discounts and special services to group ticketholders. A group at Pittsburgh Opera can be as few as 6 people! In addition, college and university students, faculty, and staff are eligible for our [Cheap Seats program](#) – see pittsburghopera.org/CheapSeats for details.

For more information about [group ticket services and discounts](#), contact Álvaro Muñoz at (412) 281-0912, ext. 213 or groups@pittsburghopera.org.

Single Tickets

[Single ticket](#) sales begin August 31st. “Early Bird Pricing” will be in effect through Monday, September 7th. Tickets for kids and teens ages 6–18 are half price. Subscribers save 15% on single ticket purchases beyond what’s in their subscription package. For tickets, call (412) 456-6666 or visit www.pittsburghopera.org.

‘NOTEWORTHY’, PITTSBURGH OPERA’S MONTHLY GIVING SOCIETY

Pittsburgh Opera’s monthly giving society, called [Noteworthy](#), helps sustain opera in Pittsburgh year-round.

With Noteworthy, every gift can make a big difference. Members receive special perks, unique opera experiences, and surprises worth celebrating. Plus, the effortless ‘set it and forget it’ program ensures reliable support for Pittsburgh Opera. Join us at pittsburghopera.org/noteworthy.

SPONSORSHIPS

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

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 \$16,250.*
- **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.