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Pittsburgh Opera brings 'the original Underworld love story' to the Byham in November

Pittsburgh Opera continues its 2026–27 season with [Orpheus & Eurydice](#) – ‘the original Underworld love story’ – at the Byham Theater November 14, 20, and 22.

Based on the classic Greek myth, Orpheus plunges into the very depths of the Underworld to bring his beloved Eurydice back from the dead.

These will be Pittsburgh Opera’s first-ever performances of *Orpheus & Eurydice*.

***Orpheus & Eurydice* Synopsis**

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.

Performance Schedule

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

Additional Information

- Pronunciation: OR-fee-us and yoo-RID-ih-see
- Music by Christoph Willibald Gluck (1762), with instrumentation by Hector Berlioz (1859). Libretto by Ranieri de' Calzabigi
- 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
- Estimated Run time – 2 hours, 8 minutes including one intermission
- 33 musicians in the orchestra
- 14 choristers, including seven men and seven women
- This production features original choreography and four dancers by Attack Theatre

Fun Facts about the myth

- The myth has had multiple variations over the centuries, which differ in elements such as what led to the snakebite that killed Eurydice
- Both Plato and Euripides refer or allude to the myth in their works
- The Roman writers Virgil and Ovid each wrote full versions of the story in the 1st century BCE
- Composer Christoph Willibald Gluck's first version of the opera premiered in 1762, in Italian. He followed with a French version in 1774; it was later reorchestrated by Hector Berlioz in 1859, which is the version Pittsburgh Opera is producing.
- More recently, the story has been retold as in movies, plays, and the 2019 Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *Hadestown*

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 *
Stage Manager	Tess Naval
Assistant Stage Managers	Annabelle Lamb, Maria Scheller
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

Related Events

***Orpheus & Eurydice* Preview Show**

Saturday, November 7, 12:30PM & Friday, November 13, 7:00PM, on WQED-FM 89.3 and wqed.org/fm

Hosted by WQED's Anna Singer, this half-hour preview of ***Orpheus & Eurydice*** is broadcast twice, giving listeners an in-depth introduction to the opera's singers, music, and production.

Pre-Opera Talk

1 hour before each performance, Byham Theater

Ticketholders are invited to attend a Pre-Opera Talk one hour before each performance in the theater. Learn about the composer, the story, and some juicy details about the opera! These talks are free to all ticketholders.

Meet the Artists

Friday, November 20, ~9:00PM, Byham Theater

Patrons are invited to join General Director Bill Powers immediately following the Friday performance to enjoy lively repartee, as Mr. Powers interviews the stars of the production. This event is free.

Tickets

Single Tickets

[Single tickets](#) start at just \$20. 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.

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.

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.

‘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

Orpheus & Eurydice is sponsored in part by The Gailliot Fund. The Season Sponsor is PNC; the Friday Night Sponsor is Ambridge Regional Distribution & Manufacturing Center.

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.