

# INDIANAPOLIS OPERA



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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Nancy Mahany  
Phone: 317-283-3531 x1005  
414-737-2454(c)  
Email: mahany@indyopera.org  
Date: March 22, 2017

Contact: David C Starkey, General Director  
Phone: 317-283-3531 x1001  
Email: starkey@indyopera.org  
Date: March 22, 2017

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### **Indianapolis Opera's final show of '16 - '17 Season: "Man of La Mancha" THIS WEEKEND!**

Indianapolis, IN – "MAN OF LA MANCHA", is a play within a play, based on the 17th century novel, Don Quixote, by Miquel de Cervantes. Indianapolis Opera's rendition is the same as the Broadway show that debuted in 1965 and won 5 Tony awards. The story is about a prisoner who is a playwright and awaits his audience with the terrifying Spanish Inquisition. He performs his own play for his fellow prisoners. The main character, Don Quixote, believes he's the knight-errant and embarks on a chivalrous journey with his "squire", Sancho, at his side. The seemingly deranged Quixote transforms the world around him into something fantastic: windmills become giants to slay, an old inn is a castle (in his mind), and a prostitute is his lovely lady, 'Dulcinea'. As he rises from his deathbed, he sings the heartrending song, "The Impossible Dream".

The highly recognizable song, "The Impossible Dream" is complemented by such beloved songs as the beautiful, heart-wrenching "Dulcinea" and the light, melodic song, "Little Bird." Indianapolis Opera has gathered a troupe of seasoned, as well as emerging, professional opera singers with many from Indiana.

Conductor, John Clanton, is a conductor, music director, and pianist with extensive experience leading orchestral works as well as musical theatre performances. David Craig Starkey, new General Director of Indianapolis Opera and founder and former General Director of the Asheville Lyric Opera, directs the show. David Malis, the first American to win the *Cardiff Singer of the World* Competition and spent twelve seasons as leading baritone at the Metropolitan Opera, is Don Quixote. Tenor Scott Michael who has appeared on stages throughout the United States plays Sancho. Soprano Karin Mushegain's repertoire spans from Rossini to Philip Glass as she has graced many acclaimed stages throughout the world. She plays 'Aldonza', the prostitute, who Quixote converts into 'Dulcinea', his beautiful lady. The production includes 13 additional performers/singers. **<Expanded biographies are available upon request>**

Opening Night is Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 8pm, followed by performances on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm and on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm. All performances are at the Schrott Center on the Butler University Campus. Tickets can only be ordered by calling the Indianapolis Opera Center at

317-283-3531 or ordering online at [www.indyopera.org](http://www.indyopera.org). Any unsold tickets will be available at the door. Prices range from \$25 - \$75; students can go for \$20; and groups of 10 or more receive a 10% discount. Ticket sales have been vigorous but there are still good seats left.

Media, including reviewers, should call Indy Opera at 317-283-3531 or Nancy Mahany to request to be put on the media comp list. Dress Rehearsal at the Schrott is set for 7pm Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Schrott.

For interviews with David Craig Starkey or cast members please coordinate with Nancy Mahany, Indianapolis Opera's Marketing and Development Advisor. She can be reached at 414-737-2454 [mahany@indyopera.org](mailto:mahany@indyopera.org). Please do not hesitate to contact her for further information. Thanks!

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Indianapolis Opera Basile Opera Center 4011 N Pennsylvania St Indianapolis, IN 46205