

INDIANAPOLIS OPERA



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Indianapolis Opera to kick off 2017 with “Man of La Mancha”

“Man of La Mancha” featuring musical talents David Malis, Scott Wichaël and Karin Mushegain

Indianapolis, IN -The Indianapolis Opera (IO) presents their first classic musical theatre piece, “Man of La Mancha” based off of Miguel de Cervantes novel “Don Quixote” on March 24 at 8pm, 25 at 7:30pm and 26 at 2:30pm in The Schrott Center for the Arts.

“Man of La Mancha,” written by Dale Wasserman, takes place during the Spanish Inquisition where Cervantes is a prisoner awaiting trial. In this play-within-a-play, Cervantes casts his fellow cell-mates as characters from his manuscript in an attempt to prove his merit. Together, they tell the story of Alonso Quijana, who believes he is the knight errant Don Quixote. Quixote and his companion set out on a journey of chivalry and transformation.

Performing as Don Quixote and making his Indianapolis Opera debut is the internationally acclaimed baritone, David Malis. Mr. Malis’ lengthy and accomplished career has allowed him to age into one of the great baritone roles of all time. Having shared the stage with Luciano Pavarotti at the Metropolitan Opera, Mr. Malis brings his vast experience to this production for such a modern audience.

“It is an honor to work with one of the best American baritone's from the Metropolitan Opera who had an international career of fine Italian repertory like ‘Falstaff’ ‘Barber of Seville,’” said David Craig Starkey, Indianapolis Opera’s new General Director.

Joining Mr. Malis on stage is his comic sidekick, Sancho, played by tenor Scott Wichaël. Mr. Wichaël has appeared on stages throughout the United States with a repertoire ranging from Mozart to Floyd. In addition to his role as Sancho in, Mr. Wichaël has recently performed as

Pong in "Turandot" with Rimrock Opera and Spoletta in "Tosca" with The Lyric Opera of Kansas City where he also has performed Dr. Blind in "Die Fledermaus" and Pang in "Turandot."

Also joining the cast, known for her infectious theatricality, Karin Mushegain will play Aldonza. After her signature role as the title character in Rossini's "La Cenerentola," Ms. Mushegain has traveled across the US and abroad gracing the stages of Seattle Opera, Opera San Luis, and Florida Grand Opera.

"To me there is nothing more genuinely moving than the fact that Don Quixote refers to Aldonza as Dulcinea, which translates to 'sweetness'" said Ms. Mushegain about Quixote and Aldonza's relationship.

Tickets start at \$25 and can be purchased online at www.indyopera.org or by calling the Box Office at 317-283-3531.