



Thursday, January 28, 2015
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For Immediate Release

INDIANAPOLIS OPERA ANNOUNCES CAST for AMERICAN PREMIERE OF MANSFIELD PARK

- Composer Jonathan Dove Reimagines Jane Austen's Classical Tale -

Indianapolis – Indianapolis Opera today announced the cast and director for its professional American premiere of the Jonathan Dove *Mansfield Park* opera.

Mansfield Park tells the story of Fanny Price, a young girl with a strong moral compass who is sent by her impoverished parents to live at the home of her wealthy uncle Sir Thomas Bertram and his family. Unable to relate to her superficial female cousins and treated as an outsider in many ways by her adopted family, Fanny forms a strong attachment to Edmund, the youngest Bertram son. Her love for him is threatened by the arrival of brother and sister Henry and Mary Crawford, glamorous visitors to the neighborhood with romantic intentions of their own.

Karen Carpenter is Artistic Director of the William Inge Center for the Arts and Producer of the nationally renowned William Inge Theater Festival, celebrating its 35th Anniversary in 2016. Karen directed the world premiere of Delia and Nora Ephron's *Love Loss and What I Wore*, which won the Drama Desk Award for "Best Theatrical Experience" and has since played around the world. Deemed a "provocateur" and "impresario" in the press for her concert stagings of Indianapolis Symphony's Your Concert Your Way series: *Riot of Spring* featuring Roger Rees, and *Hear Art, See Music Live*, featuring artists André Miripolsky and Michael Arthur; tickets were in such demand for these concerts that they sold in record numbers.

The Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra's Music Director, Matthew Kraemer, will conduct the opera.

Scheduled to appear are:

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| Fanny Price - Kate Tombaugh | Lady Bertram - Barbara LeMay |
| Sir Thomas Bertram - Scott Hogsed | Maria Bertram - Samantha Lax * |
| Julia Bertram - Stephanie Feigenbaum * | Mr. Rushworth - Ganson Salmon * |
| Edmund Bertram - Gregory Gerbrandt | Aunt Norris - Donata Cucinotta |
| Mary Crawford - Leah Bobbey | Henry Crawford - Brett Sprague |

* Denotes Resident Artist.

Mansfield Park will have its American premiere at the Schrott Center for the Arts on the campus of Butler University, 46th Street and Sunset Avenue, Indianapolis. Performances are scheduled for Friday, March 18 at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 20 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are available for the performance by calling 317-283-3531 or visiting IndyOpera.com.

About Indianapolis Opera

Since 1975, Indianapolis Opera has delivered the passion, excitement and art of opera throughout Indiana with compelling educational, cultural and community activities. The Indianapolis Opera Resident Artist program reaches 30,000 children and adults statewide each year, with additional performances in Michigan, Illinois and Kentucky. In 2014, the company embraced an intensive organizational assessment process to examine its business operations gather audience feedback, and understand community needs in a changing environment. One of several outcomes includes the hiring of Kevin Patterson in February 2015 as Indianapolis Opera's General Director. www.IndyOpera.org