

LYRIC OPERA

KANSAS CITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ellen McDonald
(816) 444-0052
Or (816) 213-4355 (c)
publicity@kcopera.org

For Tickets: kcopera.org or 816.471.7344

Lyric Opera of Kansas City
Announces Concluding Performance of
Exploration Series
Art Songs Series: American Voices
March 19 at the Michael and Ginger Frost Production Arts Building

Kansas City, MO (March 6, 2017) – General Director and CEO Deborah Sandler today announced the final performance in Lyric Opera’s ***Explorations*** Series. The company will close the first season of this new and innovative series with ***Art Songs Series: American Voices***. Continuing the theme of featuring eclectic performances in intimate spaces, this recital will feature Lyric Opera’s Resident Artists performing art songs written by prominent American composers.

Sandler stated, “This programming diversity allows us to touch audiences in new ways, while expanding the range of our offerings. We believe the intimacy of our *Explorations* performances will create a new kind of experience for audiences. This new series will also showcase the extremely talented performers in our Resident Artist Program, along with other guest artists.”

The recital will act as a final showcase for Lyric Opera’s Resident Artists, soprano **April Martin**, mezzo-soprano **Samantha Gossard**, tenor **Casey Candebat**, baritone **John Viscardi** and pianist **Kyle Naig**. The Resident Artists have spent the season performing in Lyric Opera’s *Explorations* Series as well as various mainstage performances.

Lyric Opera’s Resident Artists will perform some of their favorite song cycles by American composers, with selections from among the compositions of Jake Heggie (composer of the opera *Dead Man Walking*, a Lyric Opera 2016-17 season production), Lori Laitman, Dominick Argento, Ben Moore and others.

Explorations Series underwritten by Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, Spencer Fane LLP, Thomas and Sally Wood Family Foundation and Jim Zakoura.

Art Songs Series: American Voices

Lyric Opera Michael and Ginger Frost Production Arts Building (712 E. 18th Street, Kansas City, MO 64108)

Sunday, March 19, 2 p.m.

Reception following concert

LYRIC OPERA

KANSAS CITY

Tickets are \$20, \$15 for Lyric Opera Subscribers. Ticket holders can enjoy a complimentary reception following the performance. In-event hospitality provided by Young Friends of the Lyric.

Reservations are required for all *Explorations* performances. To purchase tickets, visit kcopera.org or call Ticketing & Patron Services (816) 471-7344. For more information, please visit www.kcopera.org.

Upcoming 2016-2017 Season Production:

The Pirates of Penzance

Gilbert & Sullivan 1879

Sung in English with English subtitles

Saturday, April 22, 2017	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 26, 2017	7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 28, 2017	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 29, 2017	2:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 30, 2017	2:00 p.m.

Director: James Alexander

Conductor: Hal France

Mabel: Anya Matanovič

Frederic: Jonathan Johnson

The Pirate King: Kevin Burdette

Major-General Stanley: Robert Gibby Brand

Ruth: Margaret Gawrysiak

Sergeant of Police: Ben Wager

Edith: April Martin

Kate: Samantha Gossard

Samuel: Rhys Lloyd Talbot

Isabel: Laurel Weir

About Lyric Opera of Kansas City

The Lyric Opera of Kansas City was founded in 1958; it is one of the nation's premier regional opera companies and brings high quality live operatic performances to the people of the Kansas City area and a five-state region. Repertoire choices encompass original language performances of standard repertory as well as contemporary and American operas. The Company mounts productions that enrich the community it serves, as well as reflect the highest artistic standards of the profession. The Lyric Opera offers innovative and award-winning programs designed to further music and arts education both in schools and in the community and serves more than 18,000 students and educators each year.

Opera lovers can be fans of the Lyric Opera of Kansas City on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at @kcopera.

The Lyric Opera of Kansas City is a member of OPERA America and this season is made possible with funding from Richard J. Stern Foundation for the Arts, and the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation.

###

LYRIC OPERA

KANSAS CITY

Please direct all media inquiries to Ellen McDonald, 816.444.0052 or 816.213.4355.

For Tickets: kcopera.org or 816.471.7344