

# LYRIC OPERA

KANSAS CITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Lyric Opera of Kansas City Welcomes Renowned Soprano Carol Vaness For Master Class FREE and Open to the Public Oct. 5, 4 p.m. at Michael and Ginger Frost Production Arts Building

**Kansas City, MO (Sept. 26, 2019)** – Lyric Opera of Kansas City today announced a rare opportunity to see a master at work when world-renowned soprano Carol Vaness teaches a Master Class with the Lyric Opera Resident and Apprentice Artists on Sat., Oct. 5 at 4 p.m. in Lyric Opera’s Michael and Ginger Frost Production Arts Building (712 E. 18<sup>th</sup> St., Kansas City, MO 64108). Currently a vocal instructor at Indiana University and Aspen Music Festival, Vaness will lead each singer through a selected aria, stopping and correcting as needed, to help hone the singer’s vocal technique and dramatic interpretation. A brief reception will follow the vocal work session.

The master class is open to everyone; admission is free, although registration is required. RSVP [here](#). High res headshot can be found [here](#).

Born in San Diego, CA, Carol Vaness launched her professional singing career at the New York City Opera, where she appeared regularly from 1979 to 1983. Since then, she has sung on the world’s biggest stages and at premier music festivals, collaborated with today’s foremost conductors in operatic and symphonic repertoires, appeared on numerous television broadcasts throughout North America and Europe, and compiled a distinguished catalog of recordings.

Her interpretations of Mozart’s dramatic heroines, including Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, Donna Anna and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Elettra in *Idomeneo*, and Vitellia in *La clemenza di Tito*, have been hailed as definitive, and she has become especially identifiable with the role of Floria Tosca. She performed the title role of Puccini’s *Tosca* at the Metropolitan Opera in 2004 opposite Pavarotti in the legendary tenor’s final operatic performance.

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Vaness made her professional debut as Vitellia for the San Francisco Spring Opera and has been acknowledged as the world's leading interpreter of this role. She has appeared as Vitellia at the Met Opera, Paris Opera, Royal Opera, Covent Garden, Chicago Lyric Opera and Gran Teatro del Liceo and at the Salzburg Festival and other leading theaters.

Among her many celebrated television appearances, she has been featured on the "Pavarotti Plus" and "Pavarotti and Friends" telecasts from Lincoln Center, as well as the Richard Tucker Gala and In Performance at the White House with members of the New York City Opera. Currently, she is teaching at Aspen Music Festival and School and Indiana University.

### 2019-2020 Season at a Glance:

#### ***NEW-TO-KANSAS CITY PRODUCTION***

##### ***The Abduction from the Seraglio***

Wolfgang Mozart, 1782

Sung in German with English subtitles, and English dialogue

**Saturday, September 21, 2019 7:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday September 25, 2019 7:30 p.m.**

**Friday, September 27, 2019 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, September 29, 2019 2:00 p.m.**

Conductor: Michael Christie \*

Director: Alison Moritz

Belmonte: Ben Bliss \*

Konstanze: Kathryn Lewek

Blonde: Rachele Gilmore

Pedrillo: Joseph Leppek +

Osmin: Matthew Boehler \*

Pasha Selim: Matthew J. Williamson \*

##### ***La bohème***

Giacomo Puccini, 1896

Sung in Italian with English subtitles

**Saturday, November 9, 2019 7:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019 7:30 p.m.**

**Friday, November 15, 2019 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, November 17, 2019 2:00 p.m.**

Conductor: David Charles Abell

Director: Kathleen Smith Belcher

Mimi: Raquel González

Rodolfo : Georgy Vasiliev

Musetta: Sylvia D'Eramo \*

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Marcello: Timothy Renner \*  
Colline: Christian Zarembo  
Schaunard: Hadleigh Adams\*

## ***NEW-TO-KANSAS CITY PRODUCTION***

### ***Lucia di Lammermoor***

Gaetano Donizetti, 1835  
Sung in Italian with English subtitles

**Saturday, March 7, 2020** 7:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2020** 7:30 p.m.  
**Friday, March 13, 2020** 7:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, March 15, 2020** 2:00 p.m.

Conductor: Carlo Montanaro \*  
Director: Shawna Lucey \*  
Lucia: Sarah Coburn  
Edgardo: Evan LeRoy Johnson \*  
Enrico: Troy Cook  
Raimondo: Adam Lau  
Arturo: Joseph Leppek +  
Alisa: Kelly Birch @

## ***KANSAS CITY PREMIERE***

### ***The Shining***

Music by Paul Moravec  
Libretto by Mark Campbell  
Based on the novel by Stephen King  
Sung in English with English subtitles

**Saturday, April 25, 2020** 7:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 29, 2020** 7:30 p.m.  
**Friday, May 1, 2020** 7:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, May 3, 2020** 2:00 p.m.

Conductor: Gerard Schwarz \*  
Director: Eric Simonson  
Jack Torrance: Edward Parks  
Wendy Torrance : Kelly Kaduce  
Dick Hallorann: Aubrey Allicock\*  
Mark Torrance: Malcolm MacKenzie\*  
Delbert Grady: Joseph Leppek +  
Lloyd the Bartender: Roger Honeywell\*  
Mrs. Massey: Kelly Birch@  
Mrs. Grady: Morgan Balfour +  
Horace Derwent: Schyler Vargas  
The Senator: Seungyun Kim +

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\* Lyric Opera of Kansas City debut

+ Lyric Opera of Kansas City Resident Artist

@ Former Lyric Opera of Kansas City Resident Artist

## **About Lyric Opera of Kansas City**

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.

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

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.

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**Please direct all media inquiries to Ellen McDonald, 816.213.4355 or [publicist@kcopera.org](mailto:publicist@kcopera.org).**

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