

Kansas City
LYRIC OPERA
GUILD

*Join the Lyric Opera
Guild on a trip to the
Wexford Festival in
Ireland!*

The enchanting island of Ireland is known for its history, its scenic beauty and...its opera! Yes, Ireland is the home of the **Wexford Festival**, one of the leading opera festivals in Europe, now celebrating its 70th season. The first "Festival of Music and the Arts" took place in Wexford in October 1951, and since then the Wexford Festival Opera has attained international fame. In 2017 the Wexford Festival Opera won Best Festival at the International Opera Awards.

The Wexford Festival is known for its fine performances of unusual works.

Don't you think it's about time the Lyric Opera Guild explored Ireland and the Wexford Festival? We thought so too, so please join **Dianne Schemm** of the Lyric Opera Guild on a trip this coming October.

This trip features no fewer than **five opera performances** plus a trip to **Dublin** and an evening of Irish entertainment as well. All of the operas are unusual and rarely performed...we are willing to bet that every one of them will be new to you!



Here is our plan:

Thursday, October 20. We leave Kansas City and fly to Dublin, arriving on Friday morning.

Friday, October 21. After our arrival in Dublin we will shuttle to Wexford (about two hours) and check into our Wexford hotel. You are free to have dinner on your own. At 8:00 p.m. that evening we will attend *La Tempesta* at the O'Reilly Theatre National Opera House. The opera is by the French composer Fromental Halevy (1850). This opera is based upon Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

Saturday, October 22. We will enjoy breakfast in the hotel and will have free time to



Interior of National Opera House in Wexford

explore the town of Wexford until a 3:00 p.m. matinee performance of the world premiere of *The Master*, a one-act opera by Alberto Caruso. The opera is based upon a novel by Irish author Colm Tóibín and tells the story of American novelist Henry James and his writing of a

ghost tale about dead friends during a visit to Ireland.

Following the opera, we will enjoy a group dinner. That evening we will attend a two-act comedy called *Lalla-Roukh* by Felicien David, a once-famous French composer (1862). The opera is based upon a poem by the Irish writer Thomas Moore. Set in an exotic India, the opera tells of the princess Lalla-Roukh, who has been promised in marriage to the King of Bukhara. However, en route to her wedding, she falls in love instead with his minstrel Nourreddin.



Johnstown Castle and Gardens

Sunday, October 23. After breakfast at the hotel we travel to **Johnstown Castle** for a tour of the castle and museum. This 12th century Gothic property was built by a Norman family. Oliver Cromwell once spent a night there. After a group dinner back in Wexford, we will attend *Armida*, an opera by Dvorak (1904), best known as the composer of *Rusalka*. This opera is based upon a medieval work by Tasso and is a mythified account of the Crusades in which the Saracen sorceress Armida loves the Christian warrior Rinaldo. This same story was set to music by Rossini and other composers.

Monday, October 24. Following breakfast at the hotel we will walk to the nearby ruins of **Selskar Abbey** for a self-guided tour. This abbey was founded in 1190 and there is a long-



Selskar Abbey

standing tradition that Henry II spent Lent of 1172 here doing penance for the murder of Thomas á Becket. In the afternoon we will attend a matinee performance of *The Spectre Knight*, a “fanciful operetta” by the popular 19th century composer Alfred Cellier (1878). The story involves the secluded daughter of a Duke who is wooed by a mysterious ghost, who turns out to be...well, somebody else is disguise. After the opera we will enjoy a group dinner at a local restaurant.

Tuesday, October 25. Today we leave Wexford and return to **Dublin** where we check into a Dublin hotel. You can explore the sights of Dublin via a hop-on hop-off bus which will take you to the major tourist sights. At the end of the day the group will enjoy an Irish dinner and Irish entertainment.

Wednesday, October 26. Today we will have a guided tour of Dublin and the surrounding areas.

Thursday, October 27. On this day we will travel back to Kansas City, arriving in the evening.

Included in the tour cost:

- ♣ Round trip air fare to and from Kansas City to Dublin. This includes seat choice, one bag and one carry-on.
- ♣ Hotel for four nights in Wexford.
- ♣ Hotel for two nights in Dublin.
- ♣ Tickets to five operas in Wexford.
- ♣ Breakfast at the hotel each morning and four group dinners.
- ♣ Tickets to a dinner/entertainment venue in Dublin.
- ♣ Admission tickets to the Johnstown Castle and Selskar Abbey.
- ♣ Tickets for the hop-on hop-off bus tour of Dublin.
- ♣ Guided bus tour of Dublin and surrounding areas.
- ♣ All ground transportation to and from the airport and from Dublin to Wexford and back.
- ♣ Portage and baggage tips, except for any baggage charges the airline may impose.
- ♣ A contribution to the Kansas City Lyric Opera Guild to support the Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

Cost of the trip:

Round trip air fare between Kansas City and Dublin.....	\$1,400
All ground arrangements in Ireland including tickets.....	\$4,600

Total	\$6,000
Single supplement if you want a single room at the hotels....	\$1,000

Details:

♣ All activities on this tour are optional, so if you desire not to attend a performance which is part of our schedule please advise us at the time of your reservation. All sight-seeing and touring is also optional (you can just inform us at the time). The hotel cost assumes double occupancy, so if you wish a single room at the hotel there will be an extra charge of \$1,000.

♣ If you desire to make your own air arrangements that is no problem. You will only be charged the basic tour price without air fare. If we book your air fare, the tour cost does not include fees for any extra baggage which you may bring.

♣ The personnel and repertory for the operas are beyond our control, of course, so these are subject to any changes the Wexford Festival may make.

♣ All participants must be fully vaccinated by one of the CDC-approved Covid-19 vaccines and you will need to send us a copy of your vaccination card. You will also need to comply with any health or travel regulations which Ireland may have in place at the time. We will coach you on how to comply with any such requirements when the time comes.

♣ We will require a copy of your passport (which must expire not earlier than six months after the completion of our trip) and your signature on a liability waiver form in favor of the Kansas City Lyric Opera Guild and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

♣ Your deposit, once made, constitutes a contract for you to join this trip since we will be undertaking significant prepaid expenses on your behalf. Not only is your deposit nonrefundable but you will be bound to make the final payment on the trip minus any savings that we are able to realize (this is often beyond our control). Therefore, we recommend trip cancellation insurance, which is available through a number of vendors which can be found online or through your own insurance agent. We do not arrange for trip cancellation insurance.

♣ Questions? Please contact Dianne Schemm, our trip leader, at (913) 220-1414 or by e-mail at dmschemm@gmail.com.

To reserve your spot on this trip please print this page and fill out the coupon below and mail it with your deposit check as instructed below. Also please include a copy of your passport and your Covid-19 vaccination card. We must receive these by no later than **April 10, 2022**. We will reserve spots on this trip on a **first-come first-served basis**, so please act as soon as possible. ***This trip is limited to a maximum of 10 people including our tour leader.*** Your final payment will be due on **May 1, 2022**.

See reservation form on next page

Reservation Form

Lyric Opera Guild Trip to Ireland - October 2022

Name(s) as on passport: _____

Address: _____

Phone number(s): _____

E-mail address: _____

Rooming with: _____, or

I prefer a single room (extra charge is \$1,000).

Do you have any dietary restrictions? _____

Birth date(s) (required by the airline): _____

Are you making your own airline arrangements? No Yes

Reserve your spot on this trip by sending a **deposit of \$1,000 per person**. Please send a check made payable to “Kansas City Lyric Opera Guild Trips” for our receipt no later than April 10, 2022. Also include in your envelope a copy of your passport and a copy of your Covid-19 vaccination card. Mail these items to: Dianne Schemm, 14410 South Alden Court, Olathe, KS 66062-6557. We will bill you for your final payment, which will be due on May 1, 2022. *Thank you!*
