

SEATTLE OPERA

SEATTLE OPERA ANNUAL FUND **IMPACT REPORT 2014/15**



Dear Friends,

Why do you love *Don Giovanni*?
Are you swept in by his charm?
Or do you delight in his
punishment? He's an enigma:
both captivating and repellant.

That's why I love this opera,
and why I'm so grateful for your
help bringing it to our stage.

Don Giovanni is important
because it challenges our
assumptions. It excites our
greatest fears and desires.

I know you're going to love
our production of Mozart's
masterpiece. And I thank you
for your generous commitment
to Seattle Opera.

See you at McCaw Hall soon!

Sincerely,

Aidan Lang
General Director



Front Cover. *Don Giovanni*. Seattle Opera © 2007 Rozariffi Lynch. Left: © Brandon Patoc 2013



A *Don Giovanni* Shopping List

Your gift makes a difference—we'll prove it! Here's a short list of essential props and costumes that will bring *Don Giovanni* to life this fall, thanks to your generosity.

And this list is just the start. Add lighting, scenery, wigs, artists, a full orchestra ... It's plain to see: gifts of all sizes help bring opera masterpieces like *Don Giovanni* to the stage.



Speight Celebration Concert, Seattle Opera. © 2014 Jonathan Vanderweit.

Speight Celebration Breaks Records and Warms Hearts

You should be proud.

Thanks to donors like you, the Speight Celebration was a success from start to finish. Your generosity brought 18 of opera's brightest stars together for an unforgettable concert honoring Speight Jenkins.

That night, **you helped raise a record-breaking \$1 million** for Seattle Opera. And—just as important—you and the whole Seattle Opera family welcomed Speight into retirement with a night full of love.

And Your Winner Is ... Issachah Savage



International Wagner Competition, Seattle Opera. © 2014 Elise Bakketun.

Get to know the man who swept the Orchestra, Audience, and Top Prizes at our 2014 International Wagner Competition. He'll be one to watch!

HOMETOWN: Philadelphia, PA

FIRST BIG GIG: Singing in his church at age 5

SPECIALTIES: Verdi and Wagner

RECENTLY: Radames, *Aida*, Houston Grand Opera
Lohengrin, *Lohengrin*, Merola Program at San Francisco Opera

UP NEXT: Siegmund (cover), *Die Walküre*, Canadian Opera Company
Don Riccardo, *Ernani*, The Metropolitan Opera

Larry Brownlee Comes Full Circle, Thanks to You

Why His Don Ottavio May Cause Déjà Vu

Bel canto tenor Larry Brownlee has a special connection with Seattle Opera. In 2000, with the help of donors like you, he began his professional career by spending two formative years in our Young Artists Program. When he returned to Seattle to sing Arturo in our 2008 *I Puritani*, you voted him Artist of the Year.

Your generosity will bring Larry, **now the most in demand American bel canto tenor in the world**, back to Seattle again this fall to sing Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*.

It's an especially newsworthy return for two reasons:

1. Don Ottavio is not a bel canto role. You'll be among the first to hear Larry as he applies his lyrical voice to Mozart.
2. And here's the déjà vu—this isn't technically the first time Larry's sung Don Ottavio at Seattle Opera. In fact, he sang the role in the 2000/01 Young Artists' touring production. Were you there? Don't miss round two, now with Larry in his prime, this October!

Your support brings the biggest stars of opera to McCaw Hall.



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SAVE THE DATE: OPERA BALL
JANUARY 10, 2015

SPEND A GLAMOROUS NIGHT AT THE OPERA
Join us after the curtain closes on the opening night of *Tosca* this January for a festive reception and dinner backstage with artists. Proceeds support Seattle Opera's Learning and Engagement Programs.



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Treat yourself to a gala evening and meet the opera stars you love. Pictured here: Jester's Ball guests with Nadine Sierra, Gilda in our 2013/14 *Rigoletto* (second from left).

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