

# SEATTLE OPERA.

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[Password: "press"]

## **Come trick-or-treat at the Opera!**

**Seattle Opera presents Family Day**

**Oct. 30 performance of *Hansel & Gretel***

SEATTLE – Start Halloween early by joining Seattle Opera for its [Family Day](#) presentation of *Hansel and Gretel*! This Oct. 30 performance of Engelbert Humperdinck’s masterpiece offers students age 18 and under \$15 tickets for almost any seat.\* During intermission, activities will include a costume dress-up station, crafts, interactions with costumed characters, and even trick-or-treating (just in time for Halloween!). **Sunday, Oct. 30 will also offer an audio-described option for visually-impaired patrons (for more information, [click here](#)).**

You can never be too grown-up for the magic of a Brother’s Grimm fairy tale. That’s very clear from Seattle Opera’s *Hansel and Gretel*, which *The Stranger* praised as “innovative and highly recommendable.” From the vivid imagination of French stage director **Laurent Pelly**, this edgy version presents a thrilling quest ending not in a gingerbread house, but in a house of supermarket treats with a checkout lady from hell!

“*Hansel and Gretel* is a remarkable opera, but its well-known storyline is just the tip of the iceberg,” said **Seattle Opera General Director Aidan Lang**. “The whole

work is supported by an orchestral score of Wagnerian sumptuousness that combines the simplicity of folksongs with passages of thrilling splendor. It is a feast for the ears and the eyes.”

In this 21<sup>st</sup> century tale of temptation and excess, Hansel and Gretel live in a giant cardboard box set against a toxic sky, and when they go searching for their family, they get lost in a forest of dead trees and litter. After being captured, they must go head-to-head with a Witch, the one who presides over a free-for-all supermarket packed with high-sugar treats. There’s a happy outcome for all, save for the one intent on fattening up little children!

*Bachtrack* praised *Hansel and Gretel* as a production that “admirably and artfully layers in generous dollops of touching sentiment and outrageous humor.”

**\*Family Day information:** Please note valid student ID or proof of age is required for entry at the student Family-Day rate. At least one full price adult ticket must be purchased with EVERY student ticket order. Limit four \$15 student tickets for each full price adult ticket purchased. Student tickets are not available in the Dress Circle, Orchestra Center Aisle, and \$25 Second Tier seating sections.

*Hansel and Gretel* runs through Sunday, Oct. 30. Tickets are available online at [seattleopera.org](http://seattleopera.org) or by calling 206.389.7676 or 800.426.1619. Tickets may also be purchased at the box office by visiting 1020 John Street (two blocks west of Fairview), Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Ticket prices start at \$25. Groups save at least 20 percent: 206.676.5588 or [groups@seattleopera.org](mailto:groups@seattleopera.org). Seattle Opera Ticket Office: 206.389.7676/800.426.1619. Online orders: [seattleopera.org](http://seattleopera.org).

## **Hansel & Gretel**

Music by Engelbert Humperdinck  
Libretto by Adelheid Wette

In German with English captions

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall

Performances: October 15, 16m, 19, 22, 26, 28, 29, & 30 2016

Approximate Running Time: 2 hours and 15 minutes with 1 intermission

Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., matinee at 2:00 p.m.

Premiere: December 23, 1893 in Weimar, Germany

Previous Seattle Opera Performance: 1994

**Cast:**

Gretel	Ashley Emerson (Oct. 15, 22, 26, & 29) Anya Matanovic† (Oct. 16, 19, 28, & 30)
Hansel	Sasha Cooke† (Oct. 15, 22, 26, & 29) Sarah Larsen† (Oct. 16, 19, 28, & 30)
Witch	John Easterlin (Oct. 15, 22, 26, & 29) Peter Marsh* (Oct. 16, 19, 28, & 30)
Gertrude	Marcy Stonikas†
Peter	Mark Walters
Sandman/Dew Fairy	Amanda Opuszynski†

Conductor	Sebastian Lang-Lessing
Director	Laurent Pelly*
Set Design	Barbara de Limburg*
Costume Design	Laurent Pelly*
Lighting Design	Joël Adam

† Former Seattle Opera Young Artist

\* Company Debut

**Production Sponsor: Microsoft**

**2016/17 Season Sponsor: Seattle Opera Guild In memory of Marian E. Lackovich and Captain Louis J. Lackovich**

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**About Seattle Opera**

Established in 1963, Seattle Opera is committed to serving the people of the Pacific Northwest with performances of the highest caliber and through innovative educational and engagement programs for all. Each year, more than 95,000 people attend Seattle Opera performances, and more than 400,000 people of all ages are served through school performances, radio broadcasts, and more. By drawing our communities together, and by offering opera's unique fusion of music and drama, we create life-enhancing experiences that speak deeply to people's hearts and minds. Connect with Seattle Opera on Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud, and through the [Seattle Opera channel on Classical King FM. 98.1.](#)