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The Drunken Tenor returns for a tipsy new telling of A Very Drunken Christmas Carol

December 11–22, 2024 Tagney Jones Hall, the Opera Center

Plus, the Black Artists Market is back to meet your holiday shopping needs

SEATTLE—Back by popular demand, Seattle's beloved Drunken Tenor, **Robert McPherson**, has brewed up a fresh batch of holiday fun in an all-new edition of *A Very Drunken Christmas Carol*.

The Opera Center plays host to this tipsy retelling of Charles Dickens' time-honored classic, offering a heady cocktail of opera, comedy, and holiday favorites ideal for getting into the spirit of the season. While preparing for a holiday concert, the Drunken Tenor is hit in the head and knocked out, then wakes up in an alternate reality. Faced with unfamiliar surroundings, he embarks on a journey to understand the consequences of his choices and how he became the person he is. Along the way, he is visited by duet partners from the past, present, and future who join together to produce an unforgettable evening of laughter, libations, and lyricism.

Audiences who have seen the show before can expect some unexpected turns to shake up the usual formula. "We're bringing a fresh new energy to the show that keeps it unpredictable and exciting," said McPherson, who has been performing as the Drunken Tenor for over ten years. "You'll get the same blend of top-notch vocals and humor, but with new surprises that make every moment feel like a discovery. It's an immersive, anything-goes evening where opera meets comedy in the most unexpected ways."

With six performances, this will be the longest run of *A Very Drunken Christmas Carol* ever at Seattle Opera. Additionally, the show on Wednesday, December 11, is a <u>relaxed performance</u>. Perfect for first-time audiences, those looking for a more casual experience, and individuals with sensitivity concerns or disabilities, Seattle Opera's relaxed performances feature several adaptations to the audience experience to make them more accessible. The performance itself will have no changes, and all patrons are welcome.

Black Artists Market

For the second year in a row, Seattle Opera will host its popular <u>Black Artists Market</u>, the perfect opportunity for a holiday shopping spree and a day out at Seattle Center. From **12:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Saturday, December 14**, the Opera Center will be filled with an array of crafts, gifts, and treats from over two dozen Black artists, artisans, and Black-owned small businesses, in addition to performances from local ensembles like <u>Lifted! Youth Gospel Choir</u>. With over 1,000 visitors to last year's market, the Black Artists Market has quickly become a can't-miss holiday event.

"As we at Seattle Opera reflect on the tremendous success of *Jubilee* and the impacts the Fisk Jubilee Singers had on the fabric of American music, we want to ensure that we're taking the time to uplift the work that Black artists and artisans across our region are doing each and every day," said **Dennis Robinson Jr., Director of Programs and Partnerships.** "One way to do that is to make the Opera Center a hub for community and togetherness—a space where creators from our own communities can make connections and find new audiences of their own. Last year's Black Artists Market was such a success, and I can't wait to see the Opera Center filled with holiday cheer again this year."

The Black Artists Market is part of a full slate of events at Seattle Center on December 14, including the <u>Seattle Christmas Market</u> and performances of <u>The Nutcracker</u> at Pacific Northwest Ballet; <u>Blithe</u> <u>Spirit</u> and <u>The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly Sweater</u> at Seattle Rep; and <u>The Snow Queen</u> at Seattle Children's Theatre.

The collection of vendors will be thoughtfully curated in partnership with <u>Intentionalist</u>, <u>ARTE NOIR</u>, and <u>Wa Na Wari</u>. Artists interested in participating can submit an application via the event page at <u>seattleopera.org/market</u> beginning on Thursday, November 21.

Performance Information: A Very Drunken Christmas Carol

Performed in English

• Run time: 2 hours including one intermission

• Tickets: \$60, or \$55 for subscribers

Tagney Jones Hall (363 Mercer Street, Seattle, WA 98109)

Wednesday, December 11, at 7:30 PM (relaxed performance) Friday, December 13, at 7:30 PM Sunday, December 15, at 4:00 PM Wednesday, December 18, at 7:30 PM Friday, December 20, at 7:30 PM Sunday, December 22, at 4:00 PM

The Tenor:
Robert McPherson
The Pianist:
David McDade
Jennifer Bromagen
The Mezzo:
Sarah Mattox
The Baritone:
John B. Cooper
Holly McPherson
A Tenor:
Brendan Tuohy†

†=Seattle Opera debut

Tickets and information at <u>seattleopera.org/drunkentenor</u>.

About Seattle Opera

Established in 1963, Seattle Opera is committed to serving the people of the Pacific Northwest through music, storytelling, and programs for people of all ages. Each year, more than 50,000 people attend the company's performances, and more than 100,000 people are served through school performances, radio broadcasts, and more. The organization brings opera to life in a number of different ways, offering artistic excellence through national and international collaborations. Seattle Opera strives to create an environment where artists, staff, behind-the-scenes workers, and members of the community feel a strong connection to the company, and to the art of opera. Follow Seattle Opera on Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud, and on Classical KING.