

April 12, 2018

**\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\***

**SOPRANO EMILY POGORELC MAKES DEBUT WITH WASHINGTON  
NATIONAL OPERA IN *CANDIDE***

**Pogorelc Replaces Kathryn Lewek in  
Leonard Bernstein's piercing satire  
May 5–26, 2018 in the Kennedy Center Opera House**

(WASHINGTON)— American soprano Emily Pogorelc makes her Washington National Opera (WNO) debut as *Candide*'s forlorn love interest, Cunegonde, in Leonard Bernstein's effervescent social critique that blurs the lines between opera and musical theater. *Candide* runs from [May 5–26, 2018](#) at the Kennedy Center Opera House.

"We are thrilled Kathryn Lewek will remain among a list of stars performing the WNO Gala on May 20 despite withdrawing from our production of *Candide*," says WNO Artistic Director and *Candide* director Francesca Zambello. "We eagerly look forward to having her return to Washington National Opera in future seasons, and congratulate Kathryn and her husband who are expecting their first child."

Praised for her "lively, incisive soprano" by the *New York Times*, Emily Pogorelc is currently a member of the Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago. In the 2018–2019 season, she will appear in Massenet's *Cendrillon* and Strauss's *Elektra* with the company and will cover roles in Mozart's *Idomeneo*, Handel's *Ariodante* and Wagner's *Siegfried*. Read more about [Emily Pogorelc](#).

[Candide](#) concludes WNO's 2017–2018 season and is directed by WNO Artistic Director Francesca Zambello with conductor Nicole Paiement, tenor Alek Shrader as *Candide*, and Denyce Graves as the Old Lady. Visit WNO's [website](#) for complete production details and casting information.

**PRESS CONTACT**

**TICKETS & INFORMATION**

###

Sabrina Skacan  
(202) 416-8453  
[smskacan@kennedy-center.org](mailto:smskacan@kennedy-center.org)

(202) 467-4600; (800) 444-1324  
[www.kennedy-center.org/wno](http://www.kennedy-center.org/wno)