Washington National Opera presents
Two modern American operas in repertory as part of the John F. Kennedy centennial

Dead Man Walking
Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally’s searing drama about the death penalty and spiritual redemption makes company premiere
February 25–March 11, 2017

and

Champion
East Coast premiere of Terence Blanchard and Michael Cristofer’s “opera in jazz” tells a true story of homophobia in the boxing ring
March 4–18, 2017

Plus a special event
Justice at the Opera with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Thursday, March 9, 2017

(WASHINGTON)—Washington National Opera (WNO) continues its 2016–2017 season with the company premieres of two modern American masterworks of opera: Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally’s Dead Man Walking, February 25–March 11, 2017 in the Opera House, and Terence Blanchard and Michael Cristofer’s Champion, March 4–18, 2017 in the Opera House. Both operas explore the theme of social justice which is
often associated with John F. Kennedy and are presented as part of JFKC, the Kennedy Center’s season-long celebration of President Kennedy’s centennial. Using many of the same designers and scenic elements, the directors of each opera have worked collaboratively to create two distinct worlds in each new production to showcase the issues of Justice, Courage, and Freedom at the heart of these two compelling stories. An additional special event will continue the exploration of these themes: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg will headline Justice at the Opera on Thursday, March 9, 2017 in the Opera House.

“At WNO, we strive to produce works that address important current issues and showcase the talents of our own American composers and librettists, and I am thrilled that these two thought-provoking masterworks—with their themes of love, redemption, spirituality, forgiveness, homophobia, and racism—are part of our season,” said WNO Artistic Director Francesca Zambello. “As the national opera company, we seek to balance the classics with new works, and demonstrate that opera has been and will always be a powerful medium to explore the most pressing issues of the day.”

**Dead Man Walking**

*Dead Man Walking*, February 25–March 11, 2017 in the Opera House, is based on Sister Helen Prejean’s acclaimed 1993 memoir, which tells of her time working with death row inmates at Louisiana State Penitentiary and of a particular relationship she developed with one of the inmates. The opera explores the human conflicts posed by society’s demands for vengeance and the Christian imperative for forgiveness and love. The lyrical score by composer Jake Heggie (WNO’s *Moby-Dick*, 2014) is widely regarded as a modern classic, while Terrence McNally’s balanced libretto has been called one of the most perfect librettos of an American opera ever written.

*Dead Man Walking* is one of the most performed of new American operas. Since its world premiere at San Francisco Opera in 2000, it has been staged internationally in more than 40 productions on five continents; it has also received two live recordings. Sister Helen’s memoir was also the basis of the Oscar®–winning 1995 film starring Susan Sarandon and Sean Penn.
The extraordinary young mezzo-soprano Kate Lindsey, who has been seen in many productions at the Metropolitan Opera and is known to Washington audiences for her thrilling work in Washington Concert Opera’s *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* and the recent *La favorite*, makes her WNO and role debut as Sister Helen. Baritone Michael Mayes, a favorite of composer Jake Heggie, makes his WNO debut in his signature role of death row inmate Joseph De Rocher. Susan Graham, the superstar mezzo-soprano who originated the lead role of Sister Helen in the opera’s world premiere, returns to WNO for her role debut as Joseph’s mother, Mrs. De Rocher. Tenor Clay Hilley makes his WNO debut as Father Grenville, and baritone Wayne Tigges is Owen Hart.

The cast also includes several alumni and current members of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program. Returning to WNO are soprano Jacqueline Echols as Sister Rose and soprano Kerriann Otaño as Kitty Hart. Current Young Artists in the cast include bass Timothy J. Bruno as George Benton, mezzo-soprano Daryl Freedman as Jade Boucher, baritone Michael Adams as Motorcycle Cop and Prison Guard 1, and bass-baritone Andrew Bogard as Prison Guard 2.

WNO Artistic Director Francesca Zambello directs this new production, and conductor Michael Christie, the sought-after music director of the Minnesota Opera, leads the WNO Orchestra in his WNO debut. Zambello and Christie will team again for *Don Giovanni in Concert* with the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artists on Friday, March 17, 2017. The creative team for *Dead Man Walking* includes set designer Allen Moyer, costume designer Jessica Jahn, lighting designer Christopher Akerlind, projection designer Greg Emetaz, hair and makeup designer Anne Ford-Coates, and fight master Joe Isenberg.

Sister Helen Prejean will be in Washington throughout the rehearsal and performance period. See page 8 for more information about her appearances at the National Museum of Women in the Arts and Washington National Cathedral. Sister Helen will be in conversation with director Francesca Zambello in the pre-performance Opera Insight at 6 p.m. on opening night, Saturday, February 25, 2017; she will also participate in the post-performance Q&A immediately following this performance.
*Dead Man Walking* opens on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Kennedy Center Opera House and runs for six performances, including February 27 and March 3, 5, 8, and 11. The opera’s running time is approximately two hours and 45 minutes, including one intermission. Talkbacks with members of the cast and creative are scheduled immediately following each performance. Visit WNO’s [website](#) for complete production details and casting information. See page 8 for a listing of events related to *Dead Man Walking*.

**Champion**

In *Champion*, March 4–18, 2017 in the Opera House, five-time Grammy Award®–winning composer Terence Blanchard uses jazz as the basis for a cinematic and groundbreaking operatic score filled with bluesy harmonies and Afro-Caribbean beats; Pulitzer Prize winner Michael Cristofer’s libretto ably tells the true story of Emile Griffith, a professional boxer from the U.S. Virgin Islands who threw a fatal punch in the boxing ring in 1962 after being taunted for his sexuality by his rival. “I kill a man and the world forgives me. I love a man and the world wants to kill me.” Through flashback, an aging Emile reflects on his tumultuous life, from his Caribbean upbringing and conflicted sexuality to his meteoric rise in the ring and ensuing decline in health. Battling years of guilt, regret, and denial, he faces his greatest fight: to come to terms with his true self. Using a diverse soundscape along with powerful multimedia elements, *Champion* explores issues of race, sexuality, and self-discovery. The opera had its world premiere at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis in 2013, and WNO’s production is the work’s East Coast premiere.

Distinguished worldwide for his searing portrayals of some of opera’s most complex characters, the towering bass Arthur Woodley originated the lead role of boxing legend Emile Griffith at *Champion*’s premiere and reprises it for WNO. Also repeating his role from the premiere is rising bass-baritone Aubrey Allicock, who plays Young Emile in his WNO debut. Singing the role of Emile’s mother, Emelda Griffith, is renowned mezzo-soprano and WNO favorite Denyce Graves, an alumna of D.C.’s Duke Ellington School of the Arts. Tenor Victor Ryan Robertson is Emile’s rival, Benny “The Kid” Paret, in his WNO debut, while baritone Wayne Tigges is Howie Albert and in-demand contralto Meredith Arwady makes her WNO debut as Kathy Hagan. Two Domingo-Cafritz Young
Artists take on featured roles: soprano Leah Hawkins sings Cousin Blanche and Sadie Griffith, while tenor Frederick Ballentine is Luis Griffith. Local performer Samuel Grace, a student at Benjamin D. Foulois Creative and Performing Arts Academy in Suitland, Maryland and a member of the WNO Children’s Chorus, sings the role of Little Emile Griffith. The opera also features the talents of principal dancer Joe Orrach.

In a first for Washington National Opera, a quartet of jazz musicians will join the WNO Orchestra for performances of *Champion*. The quartet includes local guitarist Dan Hovey and WNO Orchestra bassist Nathaniel West, as well as two special guest musicians: pianist and regular Terence Blanchard collaborator Fabian Almazan and renowned drummer Jeff “Tain” Watts.

The production is led by director James Robinson, artistic director of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, and conducted by George Manahan, music director of Portland Opera, both of whom were involved in *Champion*’s world premiere production. The creative team also includes set designer Allen Moyer, costume designer James Schuette, lighting designer Christopher Akerlind, projection designer Greg Emetaz, hair and makeup designer Tom Watson, choreographer Seán Curran, and fight master Joe Isenberg.

*Champion* opens on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Kennedy Center Opera House and runs for six performances, including March 6, 10, 12, 15, and 18. The opera’s running time is approximately two hours and 30 minutes, including one intermission. Visit WNO’s website for complete production details and casting information. See page 10 for a listing of events related to *Champion*.

*Justice at the Opera with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg*
Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg—a longtime WNO fan and patron—will be joined by WNO Artistic Director and host Francesca Zambello for a special one-night-only event: *Justice at the Opera*, Thursday, March 9, 2017 in the Opera House. The program features a lively balance of performance and commentary, with members of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program enacting selected opera scenes and arias that deal with law and justice, followed by Justice Ginsburg’s engaging insights. This
unique event is a perfect companion to WNO’s productions of *Dead Man Walking* and *Champion*. Visit WNO’s [website](#) for complete details on the evening.

Washington National Opera’s 2016–2017 season continues with *Don Giovanni in Concert* featuring the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artists on Friday, March 19, 2017 in the Opera House, and Puccini’s beloved *Madame Butterfly* in a dazzling production designed by visual artist Jun Kaneko, May 6–21, 2017 in the Opera House. WNO’s 2017–2018 season includes new productions of Verdi’s epic drama *Aida*, the company premiere of Handel’s magical baroque opera *Alcina*, and Verdi’s towering masterpiece *Don Carlo*, plus Rossini’s delightful comedy *The Barber of Seville* and Bernstein’s biting satire *Candide*. The season also features a festival weekend of four world premieres as part of the American Opera Initiative, the return of the holiday family opera *The Little Prince*, two special Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist performances, and other exciting vocal events. [Subscription packages](#) and [single tickets](#) are available now.

**Dead Man Walking Performance and Ticket Information**

Saturday, February 25 at 7 p.m. • Monday, February 27 at 7 p.m.
Friday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. • Sunday, March 5 at 2 p.m.
Wednesday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. • Saturday, March 11 at 7 p.m.

Tickets start at $45 and are available [online](#), in person at the Kennedy Center Box Office, and by calling (202) 467-4600 or (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

**Champion Performance and Ticket Information**

Saturday, March 4 at 7 p.m. • Monday, March 6 at 7 p.m.
Friday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m. • Sunday, March 12 at 2 p.m.
Wednesday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. • Saturday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

Tickets start at $45 and are available [online](#), in person at the Kennedy Center Box Office, and by calling (202) 467-4600 or (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

**Justice at the Opera Performance and Ticket Information**

Thursday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets start at $69 and are available [online](#), in person at the Kennedy Center Box Office, and by calling (202) 467-4600 or (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.
**Dead Man Walking Production Information**

Music by Jake Heggie • Libretto by Terrence McNally

New Production • Performed in English with Projected English Titles

February 25, 27, March 3, 5m, 8, and 11, 2017

**Cast and Creative Team**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sister Helen Prejean</td>
<td>Kate Lindsey *</td>
<td>Conductor</td>
<td>Michael Christie *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph De Rocher</td>
<td>Michael Mayes *</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Francesca Zambello</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. De Rocher</td>
<td>Susan Graham</td>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>E. Loren Meeker</td>
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<td>Sister Rose</td>
<td>Jacqueline Echols ±</td>
<td>Set Designer</td>
<td>Allen Moyer</td>
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<td>George Benton</td>
<td>Timothy J. Bruno ‡</td>
<td>Costume Designer</td>
<td>Jessica Jahn *</td>
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<td>Father Grenville</td>
<td>Clay Hilley *</td>
<td>Lighting Designer</td>
<td>Christopher Akerlind</td>
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<td>Owen Hart</td>
<td>Wayne Tigges *</td>
<td>Projection Designer</td>
<td>Greg Emetaz *</td>
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<td>Kitty Hart</td>
<td>Kerriann Otaño ±</td>
<td>Sound Design</td>
<td>Roger Gans *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howard Boucher</td>
<td>Robert Baker</td>
<td>Sound Consultation</td>
<td>Acme Sound Partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jade Boucher</td>
<td>Daryl Freedman ‡</td>
<td>Hair and Makeup Designer</td>
<td>Anne Ford-Coates for Elsen Associates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motorcycle Cop/Prison Guard 1</td>
<td>Michael Adams ‡</td>
<td>Fight Master</td>
<td>Joe Isenberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prison Guard 2</td>
<td>Andrew Bogard ‡</td>
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<tr>
<td>Older Brother</td>
<td>Matthew Hill *</td>
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<td>Younger Brother</td>
<td>Simon Diesenhaus</td>
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<td>Teenage Girl</td>
<td>Rebecca Brinkley *</td>
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<td>Teenage Boy</td>
<td>Dylan Jackson *</td>
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<td>Anthony De Rocher/Paralegal</td>
<td>Joe Isenberg</td>
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* Washington National Opera Debut
± Alumnus of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program
‡ Current member of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program
**Dead Man Walking Related Programs and Events**

**Cultural Capital: Dead Man Walking**

**Sunday, February 5 at 4 p.m., National Museum of Women in the Arts**

Get a behind-the-scenes look at WNO’s production of *Dead Man Walking* with special guest Sister Helen Prejean in conversation with WNO’s Artistic Director Francesca Zambello. [Free tickets](#) and more information can be found [here](#).

**Dead Man Walking: Religious Leaders Dialogue on the Death Penalty**

**Monday, February 6 at 7 p.m., Washington National Cathedral**

Join Washington National Cathedral, Catholic Mobilizing Network, and Washington National Opera for a powerful evening of music and reflection from today’s diverse faith leaders. Moderated by Sister Helen Prejean and EJ Dionne, Jr., political columnist for the *Washington Post*, this event brings six of the nation’s religious leaders together to discuss their perspectives on the death penalty in the only western democracy to use it. The program will include arias from *Dead Man Walking*. Panelists include Bishop Frank Dewane, Imam Yahya Hendi, Dr. Uma Mysorekar, Bishop Mariann Budde, Rev. Gabriel Salguero, and Rabbi Hannah Goldstein. [Free tickets](#) and more information can be found [here](#).

**The Making of Dead Man Walking and Champion**

**Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., Terrace Gallery**

Join Washington National Opera Artistic Director Francesca Zambello along with other members of the creative teams of *Dead Man Walking* and *Champion* for a discussion about bringing these two new WNO productions to the stage. Ticket holders to this event are also invited to observe the evening’s piano rehearsal of *Dead Man Walking* for an inside look at the process. The rehearsal begins at 7 p.m. and patrons must present the ticket stub from “The Making of *Dead Man Walking* and *Champion*.” [Tickets](#) are $10.

**Opera Insights before every performance, Opera House**

WNO presents a free pre-performance education event prior to every performance of *Dead Man Walking*. These events will begin one hour prior to curtain in the Opera House and last approximately 20–25 minutes. (The *O-Zone* lecture with musicologist Saul Lilienstein on Wednesday, March 8 begins at 6:15 p.m. and lasts approximately 45 minutes.) A complete list of discussion leaders will be posted to WNO’s [website](#).

**Artist Q&As: Dead Man Walking**

**Immediately following every performance, Opera House**

Join WNO artistic staff for a wide-ranging discussion with the artists of the production. These events are free to patrons presenting a ticket from any performance of *Dead Man Walking*. 
Champion Production Information

Music by Terence Blanchard • Libretto by Michael Cristofer

New WNO Production Adapted from Opera Theatre of Saint Louis

Performed in English with Projected English Titles

March 4, 6, 10, 12m, 15, and 18, 2017

Cast and Creative Team

Emile Griffith  Arthur Woodley  Conductor  George Manahan *
Young Emile Griffith  Aubrey Allicock *  Director  James Robinson
Emelda Griffith  Denyce Graves  Set Designer  Allen Moyer
Benny Paret  Victor Ryan Robertson *  Costume Designer  James Schuette
Howie Albert  Wayne Tigges  Lighting Designer  Christopher Akerlind
Luis Griffith  Frederick Ballentine ‡  Projection Designer  Greg Emetaz
Cousin Blanche/ Sadie Griffith  Leah Hawkins ‡  Sound Design  Acme Sound Partners and Rusty Wandall *
Kathy Hagan  Meredith Arwady *  Hair and Makeup Designer  Tom Watson *
Ring Announcer  David Blalock *  Choreographer  Seán Curran *
Little Emile Griffith  Samuel Grace *  Fight Master  Joe Isenberg
Man in the Bar  Andrew McLaughlin
Principal Dancer  Joe Orrach *
Jazz Quartet: Guitar  Dan Hovey *
Bass  Nathaniel West
Piano  Fabian Almazan *
Drums:  Jeff “Tain” Watts *

* Washington National Opera Debut
‡ Current member of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program
Champion Related Programs and Events

Exhibition and Photography Series: Fearless Project by Jeff Sheng
February 7–March 19, 2017, Hall of Nations
American artist Jeff Sheng brings his series of photographs titled Fearless Project to the Hall of Nations in a six-week exhibition. Sheng’s work over the last decade has focused on the 21st century LGBT rights movement and Fearless Project features portraits of more than 200 LGBT student athletes in the United States and Canada, as well as some of their stories. Many of his photographs on this topic have been featured in the New York Times Magazine, Time Magazine, Newsweek, the Advocate, and the New Yorker, among others. A special free event with the artist Jeff Sheng to mark the opening of the exhibition will be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the Israeli Lounge in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall.

Guggenheim Works & Process: Champion
Sunday, February 12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m., Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, 1071 Fifth Avenue, New York City.
Mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves and members of the Champion cast perform highlights from Terence Blanchard’s haunting and visually stunning “opera in jazz.” WNO Artistic Director Francesca Zambello moderates a discussion with Blanchard, Graves, and other members of the cast. Tickets are $40, $35 for members and Friends of Works & Process.

Musical Preview: Champion
Monday, February 13 at 6 p.m., Kennedy Center Millennium Stage
Enjoy a free preview of musical highlights from Champion, featuring members of WNO’s Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program and other artists from the production.

In the Smoke of the Sting
Join WNO artist Jarrod Lee and pianist Dara Kristina-Joi Morgan for this free program that tells the stories of three boxers—Joe Louis, Emile Griffith, and Muhammad Ali—and how they each addressed the issue of racism and discrimination in their own way. Brought together through poems, music from the period, and arias from operas written about these men, In the Smoke of the Sting is layered with reflections in the boxers’ own words of humor, courage, and determination, as each endured the truth that being titled “Champion” did little to stop the public's disquiet at such prominent “otherness.”

The program will be presented at the following venues:
Tuesday, February 14 at 10:30 a.m. at Anacostia Library
Wednesday, February 15 at 12 noon at National Postal Museum
Saturday, February 18 at 2 p.m. at Takoma Park Library
Wednesday, February 22 at 10:30 a.m. at Francis Gregory Library
Friday, February 24 at 6 p.m. at The Sitar Arts Center
Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m. at Shaw Library
Wednesday, March 1 at 7 p.m. at Petworth Library
Thursday, March 2 at 2 p.m. at Bellevue Library
Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at Woodridge Library
Thursday, March 9 at 7 p.m. at Mount Pleasant Library
Thursday, March 16 at 7 p.m. at The Hill Center
The Making of *Dead Man Walking* and *Champion*
Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., Terrace Gallery
Join Washington National Opera Artistic Director Francesca Zambello along with other members of the creative teams of *Dead Man Walking* and *Champion* for a discussion about bringing these two new WNO productions to the stage. Ticket holders to this event are also invited to observe the evening’s piano rehearsal of *Dead Man Walking* for an inside look at the process. The rehearsal begins at 7 p.m. and patrons must present the ticket stub from “The Making of *Dead Man Walking* and *Champion*.” Tickets are $10.

**Champion: An Evening of Music and Insight**
Monday, February 27 at 7 p.m., Washington National Cathedral
Washington National Opera and Washington National Cathedral partner to explore the themes of *Champion*. Moderated by Rev. Kelly Brown Douglas, this event brings together Terence Blanchard, composer of *Champion*; Hudson Taylor, Executive Director of Athlete Ally; and members of the cast to discuss their perspectives on the opera and the story of Emile Griffith. The program will include arias from *Champion*. Free tickets and more information can be found here.

**Opera Insights before every performance, Opera House**
WNO presents a free pre-performance education event prior to every performance of *Champion*. These events will begin one hour prior to curtain in the Opera House and last approximately 20–25 minutes. (The O-Zone lecture with musicologist Saul Lilienstein on Wednesday, March 15 begins at 6:15 p.m. and lasts approximately 45 minutes.) A complete list of discussion leaders will be posted to WNO’s website.

**Artist Q&As: Champion**
Immediately following every performance, Opera House
Join WNO artistic staff for a wide-ranging discussion with the artists of the production. These events are free to patrons presenting a ticket from any performance of *Champion*

ABOUT JFKC: A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

In the year leading up to the centennial of John F. Kennedy’s birth on May 29, 2017, the Kennedy Center is revitalizing the very mission of the institution created to honor him. Inspired by a handful of enduring ideals he championed—Courage, Freedom, Justice, Service, and Gratitude—the Center is reenvisioning itself as a “living memorial”: a place that explores, challenges, and reflects the contemporary spirit of America. Guided by JFK’s legacy of idealism, hope, and empowerment, the Kennedy Center will launch new initiatives, serving as a catalyst and a meeting place, and invite members of the public to engage with artists and ideas, and to participate in the civic and cultural life of their country.

ABOUT WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA

Washington National Opera (WNO) is one of the leading opera companies in the United States. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Francesca Zambello, the company presents a diverse season of grand opera—including both classics from the repertory and more contemporary pieces—plus several newly commissioned American works and a variety of special concerts and events. The WNO Orchestra is led by Music Director Philippe Auguin. Founded in 1956 and an affiliate of the Kennedy Center since 2011, WNO has a storied legacy of world premieres,
new productions, international tours, live recordings and radio broadcasts, and innovative education and community-engagement programs. Throughout its history, WNO has been led by titans in the opera field, including the legendary Plácido Domingo, who headed the company from 1996 to 2011.

WNO contributes to the future of opera through two signature artist-development programs. The Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program, now in its 15th season, has become one of the nation’s most competitive and comprehensive professional training programs for young singers and collaborative pianists. Alumni of the program have won major competitions and gone on to successful careers at major opera houses in the U.S. and abroad. The WNO Opera Institute nurtures the ambitions of high-school-age singers from across the nation during an intensive three-week summer program held at American University in Washington.

Among the company’s most successful recent programs is the 2012 launch of the American Opera Initiative, a comprehensive commissioning program that works to expand the American operatic repertory, to give WNO’s young artists the chance to collaborate with living composers and librettists on new works, and to make American opera more relevant to 21st-century audiences. The most popular of WNO’s community-engagement programs is M&M’S® Opera in the Outfield, during which an opera is broadcast live from the Kennedy Center Opera House stage to the high-definition scoreboard at Nationals Park. The company’s other education programs include the Kids Create Opera program at local elementary schools, Look-In performances for students in grades 4–8, and the Student Dress Rehearsal Program for middle and high school students. The company also offers free Opera Insights programs before every performance in the Opera House.

To celebrate the company’s 60th anniversary last season, Washington National Opera presented three complete cycles of Wagner’s Ring in spring 2016. These performances, featuring an acclaimed production by Artistic Director Francesca Zambello and conducted by Music Director Philippe Auguin, marked the first time the company presented The Ring in complete cycles in its history.

Discover Washington National Opera on social media:

#DeadManWalkingDC  #ChampionDC  #OperawithRBG

FUNDING CREDITS

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and The Robert N. Alfandre Family.

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