

Opera Theatre of the Rockies

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NEWS RELEASE

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Mozart's Magic: Announcing the special events
leading up to Opera Theatre's Feb. 27 and 28
Pikes Peak Center performances of *The Magic Flute*
Series kicks off Jan. 17 with *Stars of Magic Flute* Concert



Leave it to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart to make certain that his final operatic masterpiece receives the “royal treatment” here in the Pikes Peak region. **Opera Theatre of the Rockies’** production of *The Magic Flute* will be bolstered by six *Mozart’s Magic* special presentations exploring a multitude of aspects surrounding its Feb. 27 and 28 Pikes Peak Center performances. Even the great composer himself will chime in on the festivities.

“We had to remind ourselves that as fine of a cast as we have put together for our *Magic Flute*, it’s the solitary genius behind the opera’s brilliance that first leaps into the mind of the public,” said David Skolnik, Opera Theatre’s Marketing Consultant. “So we felt it quite natural to bring Mozart himself into the 6-week celebration leading to our *Magic Flute* performances. He’s going to be showing up quite a bit in the near future.”

To make this Mozart “miracle” happen, Opera Theatre has called upon local musician, actor and music history buff Malcolm Hammerton to don tights and wig. “Malcolm was a happy choice to bring flesh and blood to one of the great innovators of the operatic art form,” said Opera Theatre Founder/Artistic Director/ Producer Martile Rowland. “He has the look, character and knowledge to fully-convince the public that the great Amadeus has indeed come back to the planet after 219 years of heavenly habitation. It’s going to be a ton of fun to have him back!”

Mozart’s Magic kicks off on Sun. Jan 17 at 3 pm in **Colorado College’s Packard Hall** with a *Stars of Magic Flute* concert. The principal performers for the upcoming opera will share their voices and artistic bearing in a recital of arias and ensembles from the entire operatic repertory. Opera Theatre Music Director and Pianist Daniel S. Brink will accompany a program coordinated by Rowland. “It’s always so gratifying to watch and hear the audience response to the superb talent we assemble for our operas. Those who see our artists in action become incredibly excited about the ensuing opera performance.”

Stars of Magic Flute is the only one presentation of *Mozart’s Magic* that requires a separate admission cost. All other events, including Malcolm Hammerton’s *An Evening with Mozart* are free and open to the public.

Opera Theatre wishes to acknowledge the *Colorado College Department of Music* for hosting three of these events as well as the Sound Shop Audio/Video where two events take advantage of their home theatres and hi-end audio systems.

Mozart’s Magic!

Leading to the Feb. 27 and 28 Pikes Peak Center performances of **The Magic Flute**

1) Sun. Jan. 17, 3:00 pm – Packard Performance Hall, 5 W. Cache La Poudre Ave. on the Colorado College campus

Stars of Magic Flute

A concert featuring solo and ensemble selections from Opera and Musical Theatre featuring the principal performers from the upcoming Pikes Peak Center performances of *Magic Flute*.

Tickets: \$15

2) Thurs. Jan 28 at 7:00 pm – The Sound Shop Audio/Video, 7 East Cimarron St.

Flute on Film

An evening featuring cinematic and live performance video of *Magic Flute* performances including Ingmar Bergman’s 1975 film and Julie Taymor’s 2004 Metropolitan Opera production.

Free, but reservations required.

3) Thurs. Feb. 4 at 7:00 pm – The Flex Room in the Cornerstone Arts Center, 824 N.Cacade Ave. on the Colorado College Campus

An Evening with Mozart

Local actor and music lover Malcolm Hammerton dons wig and tights to bring the Magic Flute creator to life. Includes musical recordings.

Free, but reservations required.

4) Thurs. Feb. 11 at 7:00 pm – The Sound Shop Audio/Video, 7 East Cimarron St.

The Magic Flute on Record

A survey of the great recordings of this masterpiece through recorded history compiled and presented by Opera Theatre Marketing consultant David Sckolnik

Free, but reservations required.

5) Sun. Feb. 14, 3:00 pm – Packard Performance Hall, 5 W. Cache La Poudre Ave. on the Colorado College campus

The Magic Flute preview

A detailed walk through the work featuring members of the cast and Opera Theatre's Music Director and Pianist Daniel S. Brink

Free and open to the public

6) Sat. Feb. 27, 6:30 pm and Sun. Feb. 28, 2 pm in the Pikes Peak Center Mezzanine Lobby

Pre-Performance Presentations

Presentation led by Magic Flute Stage Director Carl Gerbrandt and Conductor Thomas Cockrell

Free for Magic Flute ticket holders only

For information on group sales discounts for the Pikes Peak Center performances of *The Magic Flute* or to make reservations or purchase tickets for any of the *Mozart's Magic* presentations call (719) 633-9373 or David@operarockies.org . Tickets for the Pikes Peak Center performances of *The Magic Flute* are currently on sale at all TicketsWest outlets including Pikes Peak Center Box Office (no fees), by calling 520-SHOW or (866) 464-2626 or online at www.ticketwest.com. More information is available at www.operatheatreoftherockies.com.