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## Timothy Myers named Austin Opera's Sarah and Ernest Butler Music Director

(Austin, TX—June 12, 2023) Austin Opera General Director & CEO Annie BurrIDGE announced today that Sarah and Ernest Butler Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor Timothy Myers has extended his role with the company and will serve as the **Sarah and Ernest Butler Music Director beginning in the 2023-2024 Season**. Myers has served as the company's Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor since 2020 and served as Artistic Advisor from 2018-2020.

"I'm thrilled that Timothy's role at Austin Opera continues to grow," said BurrIDGE. "He has been an invaluable partner over the past five years in our work to continuously build the quality and scope of our artistic offerings, and his ingenuity has been such an asset to the Austin Opera team as we chart an exciting future for opera in Austin."

In his role as Music Director, Myers will continue to lead the Austin Opera Orchestra, with whom he has worked since his conducting debut with the company in 2019 (*Silent Night*). Since then, Myers has conducted nine works with the company, including *An All-Star Concert* with Isabel Leonard and Ryan Speedo Green which has aired 118 times nationwide on PBS; Puccini's *Tosca* at the Circuit of the Americas; *Bella Noche de Música* at the Moody Amphitheater; and the company debuts of Bates/Campbell's *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*, Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, and Bizet's *The Pearl Fishers* at the Long Center for the Performing Arts. He will also continue to serve as a key member of the company's artistic planning team which includes General Director & CEO Annie BurrIDGE, Chief Producing Officer Nathan DePoint, and Curator for Hispanic & Latinx Programming Claudia Chapa.

"It has been tremendously rewarding to work alongside Annie, Nate, Claudia, and the entire Austin Opera staff and board over the past five years as we challenge ourselves to curate seasons that celebrate the classics, share stories that are reflective of the community, and innovate the future of our art form," says Myers. "I am thrilled to continue that work in this expanded role and to also deepen my relationship with the talented musicians of the Austin Opera Orchestra and Chorus. I believe greatly in the future of Austin Opera and look forward to advancing the company's place amongst the rich arts and cultural offerings in the growing city of Austin and continuing to support our blossoming as a company with international impact. My wife Christina and I recently purchased a second home in Austin and look forward to spending even more time there with our family."

Austin Philanthropists Sarah and Ernest Butler have endowed Timothy Myers' position as Music Director and have underwritten several of his conducting engagements with the company. "We have enjoyed witnessing Austin Opera's exciting artistic trajectory in recent seasons with Annie and Timothy at the helm. Timothy's contributions have made a notable mark on the company, including the rising excellence of the Austin Opera Orchestra. We're proud to see this recognition in his new title and look forward to seeing him on the podium for all three productions next season."

A protégé of Lorin Maazel, Myers's operatic engagements have included the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Santa Fe Opera, Washington National Opera, Houston Grand Opera, The Atlanta Opera, Spoleto Festival USA, and the Wexford Festival. As a symphonic conductor he has conducted orchestras across the globe including the American, Beijing NCPA, Chautauqua, Jerusalem, Milwaukee, North Carolina, Portland, Toledo, Tulsa, and Winston-Salem Symphony orchestras as well as the Brooklyn, Johannesburg, and Malaysian Philharmonic orchestras. Myers is also the host of the Listening on Purpose podcast, an exploration of listening and connection through the lenses of notable guests such as Seth Godin and Chip Conley, and in 2022 he completed the Program for Leadership Development (Executive MBA) at Harvard Business School.

Timothy Myers will lead all three of Austin Opera's productions at the Long Center during the 2023-2024 Season:

### **PAGLIACCI**

Saturday, November 4, 2023 – 7:30 pm

Sunday, November 5, 2023 – 2:00 pm

Music and Libretto by Ruggero Leoncavallo

Conductor	Timothy Myers
Director	Tara Faircloth
Designer	Laura Fine Hawkes
Lighting Designer	Kathryn Eader

### **Cast**

Canio	Jonathan Burton
Tonio	Anthony Clark Evans*
Nedda	Hailey Clark+
Silvio	Ben Taylor*
Beppe	Rodell Rosel*+

Featuring the Austin Opera Orchestra  
Production and costumes owned by Utah Symphony and Opera  
In Italian with projected English titles  
Approximately 75 minutes

### **CRUZAR LA CARA DE LA LUNA**

Thursday, February 1, 2024 – 7:30 pm

Saturday, February 3, 2024 – 7:30 pm

Sunday, February 4, 2024 – 2:00 pm

Music by José 'Pepe' Martínez  
Libretto by Leonard Foglia and José 'Pepe' Martínez  
Book by Leonard Foglia

Conductor Timothy Myers  
Director David Ramadés Toro  
Scenic & Costume Designer Arnulfo Maldonado  
Orchestration David Hanlon

**Cast**

Laurentino Daniel Noyola\*+  
Lupita Claudia Chapa+  
Renata Cassandra Zoé Velasco\*+  
Mark Efraín Solís\*  
Diana Lily Guerrero\*+

Featuring Trío Chapultepec\*: Vincent Pequeño, Israel Alcala, William Carlton Galvez, and the Austin Opera Orchestra

New co-production with Minnesota Opera  
New orchestration by Austin Opera, Houston Grand Opera, and Minnesota Opera  
In Spanish and English with projected English titles  
Approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes in length

**CARMEN**

Thursday, May 2, 2024 – 7:30 pm  
Saturday, May 4, 2024 – 7:30 pm  
Sunday, May 5, 2024 – 2:00 pm

Music by Georges Bizet  
Libretto by Henri Meilac and Ludovic Halévy

Conductor Timothy Myers  
Director Rebecca Herman

**Cast**

Carmen Virginie Verrez \*  
Don Jose Richard Trey Smagur\*  
Escamillo Seth Carico \*+  
Micaëla Raquel González\*

Featuring the Austin Opera Orchestra  
Scenery owned by Lyric Opera of Kansas City  
Costumes owned by Utah Symphony and Opera  
In French with projected English titles  
Approximately 3 hours and 5 minutes in length, including one 20-minute intermission

Long Center Season Debut \*  
Role Debut +

## About Austin Opera

Serving Central Texas since 1986, Austin Opera inspires audiences with its trademark blend of innovation and artistic excellence. With the leadership of General Director & CEO Annie Burr ridge and the Sarah and Ernest Butler Music Director Timothy Myers, Austin Opera presents a curated season of grand opera productions at the Long Center, the crown jewel of Austin performing arts venues. Combining the finest American and international stars with the outstanding local talent of our Orchestra and Chorus, Austin Opera’s productions include accessible takes on classic operas as well as challenging new works that reinforce the continuing relevance of opera.

Opera ATX, powered by Austin Opera, brings groundbreaking new works, emerging artists, exciting composers, and dynamic directors to Austin. By tapping into the city’s live music DNA, Opera ATX reflects the spirit of the city and the pioneering image it is known for. The Company creates the conditions for operatic experiences completely new to Austin—and perhaps completely new to the art form—by exploring alternative venues and unique local partnerships. Driven by Austin Opera’s love of opera, love of audiences, and love of Austin, Opera ATX shows how Austin is shaping its opera company and inspiring innovative experiences.

*Live from Indy Terrace*, Austin Opera’s digital channel is the home of original content free to patrons and includes recitals, interviews, fan-favorite programs like Conductor Cues and Opera Overtures, and broadcasts of the company’s series *Concerts at the Consulate*. *Concerts at the Consulate*, programmed in partnership with the Consulate General of Mexico in Austin, spotlight Latinx composers and performers and celebrate Hispanic culture.

Austin Opera is also a force in hundreds of classrooms across Central Texas, nurturing the next generation of opera audiences through its award-winning education programs. Austin Opera works directly with educators, community leaders, students, and parents to make opera relevant, educational, and entertaining for students of all ages.

In 2020, Austin Opera was voted “Opera Company of the Year”—and Timothy Myers was named “Conductor of the Year”—in the [BroadwayWorld Opera Awards](#).

To learn more about Austin Opera, visit [austinopera.org](http://austinopera.org) or follow along on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), or [Twitter](#) at @austinopera.

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