

# SEATTLE OPERA.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Sept. 1, 2017  
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**DOWNLOADABLE PRESS IMAGES:** <https://seattleopera.smugmug.com/1718season/The-Barber-of-Seville/>  
[Password: "press"]

## **Figaro! Figaro! Figaro!** **Seattle Opera's *Barber of Seville* packs a punch with iconic music, big laughs**

**Marc Kenison (a.k.a. Waxie Moon) makes company acting debut  
Oct. 14-28, 2017**

SEATTLE – Before trick-or-treating begins, start the fun this October with Seattle Opera's "riotously funny" (*The Australian*) [\*The Barber of Seville\*](#). Following *The Wicked Adventures of County Ory* ('16), stage director **Lindy Hume** and **Maestro Giacomo Sagripanti** return to create yet another colorful, eye-catching production with toe-tapping melodies—including one of the most iconic overtures of all time. The performance also includes an appearance by Juilliard-trained burlesque sensation, **Marc Kenison**, who performs in Seattle and beyond as Waxie Moon. Kenison will bring his comedic and dance stylings to the highly physical role of Ambrogio.

"Whether it's a Bugs Bunny cartoon or the opening scene of *Mrs. Doubtfire*, chances are, most everyone has enjoyed the irresistible charm of *Barber* at one point or another," said **General Director Aidan Lang**. "To experience this opera is to

understand why its music is often a first choice for Hollywood, and why it's beloved all over the world."

Twenty-three-year-old Gioachino Rossini created this bold, youthful prequel to Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* in just a whirlwind 13 days. This is the story of Count Almaviva, who arrives in Seville to search for the mysterious woman—Rosina—whom he met in Madrid. When he learns that she is soon to be married to her tyrannical guardian Bartolo, he enlists the help of the cunning barber Figaro to win her hand. Almaviva and Rosina fall in love, and Rosina turns her mind to duping Bartolo. Told through a parade of hysterical schemes, the opera concludes with an "all is forgiven" finale bubbling over with joy.

Making company debuts are Spanish soprano **Sabina Puértolas** and Russian soprano **Sofia Fomina** who alternate as the fair Rosina; plus **Matthew Grills**, who shares the part of Count Almaviva with fellow American tenor **Andrew Owens** (Leicester, *Mary Stuart*, '16). Returning to McCaw Hall are the two Figaros, **John Moore** (Papageno, *The Magic Flute*, '17) and **Will Liverman** (Raimbaud, *Count Ory*, '16); plus **Kevin Glavin** as Dr. Bartolo, **Daniel Sumegi** as Don Basilio, **Margaret Gawrysiak** as Berta, **Ryan Bede** as Fiorello, and **Kwangsuk Ku** as the officer.

Known for his signature mustache, bald head, and gender-bending glamour when performing as Waxie Moon in *Homo for the Holidays* at Century Ballroom or *Camptacular* at The Triple Door, **Marc Kenison** makes his company debut in the non-singing role of Ambrogio.

*The Barber of Seville* opens Saturday, Oct. 14, and runs through Saturday, Oct. 28. Tickets are available online at [seattleopera.org](http://seattleopera.org), by calling 206-389-7676, or in-person at the box office located at 1020 John Street (two blocks west of Fairview). Box office hours are Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Groups save at least 20 percent: 206.676.5588 or [groups@seattleopera.org](mailto:groups@seattleopera.org).

## Family Day

Sunday, October 22 at 2:00 p.m.  
McCaw Hall

Sunday, October 22 is Family Day at *The Barber of Seville*! For this specially designated performance, students age 18 and under pay only \$15 for almost any seat. Details at [seattleopera.org/familyday](http://seattleopera.org/familyday). Family Days also feature special student-oriented activities during intermission. Suitable for ages 8 and up.

## The Barber of Seville

Music by Gioachino Rossini  
Libretto by Cesare Sterbini  
In Italian with English captions

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall

Performances: October 14, 15m, 18, 20, 21, 22m, 25, 28, 2017

Approximate Running Time: 2 hours and 50 minutes with one intermission

Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Premiere: Feb. 20, 1816, at Teatro Argentina, Rome, Italy

Previous Seattle Opera Performances: 1966, 1974, 1983, 1992, 2000, 2011

### Cast:

Rosina	Sabina Puértolas* (Oct. 14, 20, 22, & 25) Sofia Fomina* (Oct. 15, 18, 21, & 28)
Almaviva	Matthew Grills* (Oct. 14, 20, 22, & 25) Andrew Owens (Oct. 15, 18, 21, & 28)
Figaro	John Moore (Oct. 14, 20, 22, & 25) Will Liverman (Oct. 15, 18, 21, & 28)
Dr. Bartolo	Kevin Glavin (All dates)
Don Basilio	Daniel Sumegi (All dates)
Berta	Margaret Gawrysiak (All dates)
Fiorello	Ryan Bede (All dates)
Officer	Kwangsuk Ku (All dates)
Ambrogio	Marc Kenison* (All dates)

Director	Lindy Hume
Conductor	Giacomo Sagripanti
Assistant Director & Choreographer	Daniel Pelzig
Production Design	Tracy Grant Lord*
Lighting Design	Matthew Marshall*

\* Company Debut

**Production Sponsor: Kreielsheimer Endowment Fund**  
**Family Day Sponsor: Classical KING FM 98.1**

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**About Seattle Opera**

Seattle Opera is a leading opera company, recognized both in the United States and around the world. The company is committed to advancing the cultural life in the Pacific Northwest with performances of the highest caliber, and through innovative education and community programs that take opera far beyond the McCaw Hall stage. Each year, more than 95,000 people attend Seattle Opera performances and the company's programs serve more than 400,000 people of all ages (including school performances, radio broadcasts and community engagement initiatives). Seattle Opera is especially known for its acclaimed works in the Richard Wagner canon, and has created an "international attraction" in its presentation of Wagner's epic *Ring*, according to *The New York Times*. Connect with Seattle Opera on Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud and through the [Seattle Opera channel on Classical King FM. 98.1.](#)