



NEWS RELEASE

March 12, 2019

ANGELA MEADE IN RECITAL: PRESENTED BY THE MCCAMMON VOICE COMPETITION AND FORT WORTH OPERA

Internationally renowned soprano to perform concert during the 2019 Fort Worth Opera Festival.

Fort Worth, TX – The McCammon Voice Competition in collaboration with Fort Worth Opera is pleased to present Angela Meade in recital on Monday, May 6 at 7:00 pm at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Auditorium. This intimate concert marks the eagerly-anticipated return of this world-renowned soprano to Fort Worth after winning first prize in the 2008 McCammon Voice Competition. Ms. Meade will be accompanied on piano by Fort Worth Opera Artistic Director and Conductor, Joe Illick. The evening's diverse program will consist of celebrated arias and art songs by Bellini, Meyerbeer, Korngold, and Strauss.

General admission tickets are \$45 and are available online at <https://www.fwopera.org/angela-meade> or by calling the Fort Worth Opera Box Office at 817-731-0726.

PROGRAM REPERTOIRE

Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835)

"Casta Diva"

from *Norma*

Vaga luna

Ma rendi pur contento

Giacomo Meyerbeer (1791-1864)

"Robert, toi que j'aime"

from *Robert le diable*

Le vœu pendant l'orage

La fille de l'air

Ma barque légère

Sicilienne

Erich Korngold (1897-1957)

"Marietta's Lied"

from *Die tote Stadt*

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

Ständchen

Befreit

Allerseelen

Zueignung

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Angela Meade has risen to soaring heights since she made her professional operatic debut on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera in 2008 in the role of Elvira in Verdi's *Ernani*. Since then she has fast become recognized as one of today's outstanding vocalists, excelling in the most demanding heroines of the 19th-century *bel canto* repertoire as well as operas of Verdi and Mozart.

During the 2018-2019 season she has performed on major opera stages in the United States including the role of Margherita in the Metropolitan Opera production of Boito's *Mefistofele*, Leonora in Verdi's *Il Trovatore* with the Seattle Opera, and Alice Ford in the Dallas Opera production of Verdi's *Falstaff*. Ms. Meade's European schedule includes performance of the title role in *Semiramide* for Bilbaina de Amigos de la Ópera and a revival of her portrayal of Leonora in *Il Trovatore* at the Teatro de la Maestranza de Sevilla. She will end the season with a gala concert with her debut at the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Italy. Other concert appearances include a recital in Vancouver and Dublin.

The New York Times writes about Ms. Meade: "Her plush voice had enormous yet utterly unforced power. Her top notes could soar over a combined orchestra and chorus; yet her pianissimo high tones were even more impressive."

Joe Illick, Artistic Director for Fort Worth Opera, has been associated with the company for sixteen seasons as Music Director and Associate Conductor as well as serving for seven years as artistic Director of Performance Santa Fe. He has conducted for many other opera companies around the United States and abroad including Opera Theater of Saint Louis, San Francisco Opera, and Pittsburgh Opera Theater. His European engagements include Stadttheater Aachen, Vienna Chamber Opera, and the Covent Garden Ensemble.

Illick has also been engaged as a symphonic conductor, performed as piano soloist, and in chamber music concerts both in the United States and Europe. As a composer, he is the recipient of the Van Someren Award for composition of a song cycle, and has composed the monodrama *Emma*, the one-act comedy *Gunpoint*, and *Feel the Tango*, which was presented during the 2018 Fort Worth Opera Festival as part of a trio of pocket operas called *Brief Encounters*.