



For Immediate Release: May 1, 2017

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## 2017-2018 Season Chorus Auditions

**Denver, CO (May 1, 2017)** Opera Colorado announced today that it will hold chorus auditions for its 2017-2018 season productions of Puccini's *La Bohème*, Verdi's *Falstaff* and the company's second world premiere opera, *Steal A Pencil For Me* by Gerald Cohen and Deborah Brevoort. Chorus auditions will take place on Friday, May 19, 2017 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at The Studio Loft in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House located in the Denver Performing Arts Complex.

Opera Colorado will audition male and female voice types with preference given to sopranos, tenors and basses. Singers should prepare two selections from art song, opera or musical theatre repertoire to perform at the audition. Preferably, one selection should be in a foreign language. Repertoire should be memorized.

Singers selected for the 2017-2018 Season Chorus will need to be available for weekday evening and weekend rehearsals as indicated below:

***La Bohème*** | September 23 – November 15, 2017

***Steal a Pencil for Me*** | December 4, 2017 – January 30, 2018

***Falstaff*** | March 24 – May 13, 2018

### CHORUS AUDITION DETAILS

**Date:** Friday, May 19, 2017

**Time:** 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

**Location:** The Studio Loft in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House: 1385 Curtis Street, Denver, CO 80204

**HOW TO APPLY:** For more information or to schedule an audition, please email [auditions@operacolorado.org](mailto:auditions@operacolorado.org). Requests for auditions are on a first-come, first-served basis, and are based on the musical requirements for Opera Colorado's 2017-2018 repertoire and productions.



## TENTATIVE CHORUS MUSIC REHEARSAL SCHEDULES

### LA BOHÈME

Saturday, September 23, 2017	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday, September 25, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 27, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday, September 29, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 30, 2017	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday, October 2, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 4, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday, October 6, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 7, 2017	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday October 9, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Staging rehearsals begin on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 [schedule TBD]

Performances November 4, 7, 10, 12\*, 15, 2017 \*matinee

### STEAL A PENCIL FOR ME

Monday, December 4, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 5, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday, December 8, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 9, 2017	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday, December 11, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 12, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday, December 15, 2017	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 16, 2017	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 2, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 3, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Staging rehearsals begin on Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 [schedule TBD]

Performances January 25, 27, 28\*, 30, 2018 \*matinee



## FALSTAFF

Saturday, March 24, 2018	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday, March 26, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 27, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 31, 2018	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday, April 2, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 4, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday, April 6, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 7, 2018	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday, April 9, 2018	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Staging rehearsals begin on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 [schedule TBD]  
Performances May 5, 8, 11, 13\*, 2018 \*matinee

### **About Greg Carpenter, General Director**

The fourth General Director in Opera Colorado's 35-year history, Greg Carpenter guides both the artistic and administrative operations of the company. His role as General Director began in 2007, prior to which he served as Opera Colorado's Director of Development from 2004 – 2007, overseeing all fundraising and Board of Directors activities. Prior to joining Opera Colorado, he worked for four years for the National Symphony Orchestra at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. His work there included Special Projects Manager for the President of the National Symphony Orchestra from 2000 – 2001 and Manager of Development from 2001 – 2004. Carpenter's extensive experience working in the arts also includes two years as the Artist and Event Services Manager for the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland, and Special Projects Coordinator for the University of Maryland School of Music. From 1986 – 1998, Carpenter performed as a professional opera singer. His work as an opera singer included both lead and supporting roles at Glimmerglass Opera, Central City Opera, Sarasota Opera, Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia, Cleveland Opera, and Lyric Opera Cleveland. Carpenter has served on the Board of Directors for OPERA America, the national service organization for the opera industry. For the 2008 National Performing Arts Convention held in Denver, he served as Chairman of the Fundraising Committee. In 2009 Carpenter received a Livingston Fellowship Award in Leadership from the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation. He also regularly serves as a judge for the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and has served as a judge for the Fritz and Lavinia Jensen Foundation Competition. Greg Carpenter received a Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance from Wittenberg University, a Master of Music degree in vocal performance from Michigan State University, and he completed postgraduate studies at the University of Maryland School of Music.



### **About Ari Pelto, Music Director and Conductor**

Ari Pelto, Music Director of Opera Colorado, is widely known for performances that have been called poetic, earthy, vigorous, and highly individual. He is in demand in opera houses and with symphony orchestras throughout the United States. At the age of 24, Pelto was appointed Assistant Conductor at the Spoleto Festival and has gone on to conduct on stages worldwide. His international appearances include symphonic performances with the Bochumer Philharmoniker, productions of *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Falstaff* at New National Theatre of Tokyo, and *Faust* at the Teatro Nacional Sucre in Quito, Ecuador. In 2004 he made his highly praised debut with New York City Opera conducting *La Traviata*, after which he became a regular guest conductor, returning for productions of *Madama Butterfly*, *La Boheme*, and *Carmen*. In 2015, Pelto was named Opera Colorado's first-ever Music Director, where he has conducted acclaimed performances of *Don Giovanni*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Aida*, and the recent world premiere of Lori Laitman's long-awaited work, *The Scarlet Letter*, a recording of which will be released in fall 2017 on the Naxos label. This season at Opera Colorado, Pelto lead a production of *La Fanciulla del West* and will lead *Lucia di Lammermoor*. For the 2017–18 season, Pelto will lead productions of *La Bohème*, *Steal a Pencil for Me*, and *Falstaff*. Highlights of his 2015–16 season included *Aida* at Utah Symphony and Opera, for which the *Salt Lake Tribune* raved "Whether in the grandeur of the triumphal scene or the exquisite beauty of the Nile scene, one couldn't have asked for a more inspiring performance of Verdi's score"; a double-bill of *La Voix Humaine* starring Patricia Racette and *Gianni Schicchi* at Chicago Opera Theater; and return appearances at Atlanta Ballet and at Opera Memphis. He conducted a variety of symphonic programs with orchestras in the U.S., including Omaha Symphony and the NYU Symphony. After earning his Bachelor of Music in violin performance at Oberlin Conservatory, he studied conducting at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Rubin Academy in Jerusalem, and with Imre Pallo at Indiana University.

### **About Opera Colorado**

Great cities need great art, and for more than three decades, Opera Colorado has brought world-class performing arts to Colorado audiences. Today Opera Colorado serves as a cornerstone of Denver's cultural community, bringing grand opera to the Ellie Caulkins Opera House, its Denver home since its opening in 2005. Alongside standard repertoire in the grand opera tradition Opera Colorado presents new works or rarely performed productions each season. The company reaches more than 37,000 students and adults through its many education and community engagement programs throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Opera Colorado's Young Artists, singers at the beginning stages of their careers, perform during their eight-month residency with the company in schools and community centers across the state— including an annual tour on the Western Slope. Recognized nationally for its excellence, the Young Artists program provides training for the next generation of American opera singers. The 2016 – 2017 season productions at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House featured Puccini's *La Fanciulla de West* in November 2016 and *As One* by Laura Kaminsky, Mark Campbell, and



Kimberly Reed, at the Performing Arts Complex at PCS in March 2017. Closing the season will be performances of Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* in May 2017. [www.operacolorado.org](http://www.operacolorado.org)

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