



For Immediate Release

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Michigan Opera Theatre to Present "Little Women" Opera Based on Classic Novel

Performance to feature artists from Michigan Opera Theatre Studio Residency Program

March 11-12 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts

Detroit, Feb. 28, 2017 - Michigan Opera Theatre will present "Little Women," an opera composed by Mark Adamo based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. The performances take place March 11-12 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts in Clinton Township and feature artists from the Michigan Opera Theatre Studio residency program. The classic coming-of-age story follows the lives of four sisters coping with adolescence and change during the American Civil War.

"Little Women' is a beautiful story exploring themes of family, humanity and growing up during a difficult period of American history," said MOT Artistic Director David DiChiera. "It is an intimate work beautifully portrayed by the exceptional, emerging talent of our Studio Artists."

The Michigan Opera Theatre Studio Program, now in its second year, provides advanced training and performance opportunities as part of MOT's mission to support the next generation of opera singers. The 2016-17 cohort, all of whom will be featured in "Little Women," include Briana Elyse Hunter as "Jo," Joseph Michael Brent as "Laurie," Angela Theis as "Beth," Jeff Byrnes as "John Brooke" and Brent Michael Smith as "Friedrich Bhaer."

"Little Women" is MOT's third full-length opera to be performed in the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts following "The Tender Land" in 2016 and "Frida" in 2015.

"As Michigan's premier opera company, partnerships with organizations throughout the region and the state are a core part of our mission to serve our extended community," said MOT President and CEO Wayne S. Brown. "We are delighted to once again partner with the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts for multiple performances of Mark Adamo's 'Little Women' in Macomb's wonderful theater featuring members of the MOT Studio."

William Wood, director of cultural affairs and community engagement at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, said he is pleased to, once again, bring MOT to their stage.

"We are always excited to have a world-class opera performed at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts," he said. "The performances by Michigan Opera Theatre are incredible and work so well in our venue. We can't wait!"

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE

MOT will host an opera talk one hour prior to the March 11 performance with Adamo and Director Lawrence Edelson to discuss the work. A post-opera talk will happen following the March 11 performance with a panel including DiChiera and performers from "Little Women."

The performance is made possible by the **William Davidson Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.**

Tickets for the performance are \$55 and may be purchased online at www.MichiganOpera.org, by calling (313) 237-7464 or in person at the Detroit Opera House (1526 Broadway, Detroit). Tickets may also be purchased through the Macomb Center for the Performing arts at www.MacombCenter.com or by calling (586) 286-2222.

For more information visit <http://www.michiganopera.org/opera/little-women/>.

"Little Women"

Music by Mark Adamo, based on novel by Louisa May Alcott

Performed at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Rd, Clinton Township

Saturday, March 11 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 12 2:30 p.m.

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About Michigan Opera Theatre

Michigan Opera Theatre (Wayne S. Brown, President and CEO; Dr. David DiChiera, Founder and Artistic Director), one of the nation's most vibrant nonprofit arts organizations, is committed to presenting opera and dance of the highest artistic caliber. Founded in 1971, the company's mission is to serve as a major cultural resource to the state of Michigan and the city of Detroit. Visit the website at www.michiganopera.org.