

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE

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CONTACT: **Jillian Zylinski**
(313) 237-3403
jzylinski@motopera.org

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE OPENS 45th OPERA SEASON WITH *La Bohème*

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MOT's 2015-16 Season Celebrates the Detroit Opera House's 20th Anniversary

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Oct. 17 -25 at the Detroit Opera House

DETROIT (September 24, 2015) - Michigan Opera Theatre's 45th fall opera season, sponsored by Ford Motor Company, opens with the Giacomo Puccini's beloved classic, *La Bohème*, for **four performances from Oct. 17-25**. Dr. David DiChiera, MOT founder and artistic director, opened the Detroit Opera House with a production of *La Bohème* in 1996. This season's *La Bohème* marks the company's ninth production of the opera. The production will be sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage.

Everyone, at some point in life, will endure the same trials: love and loss and bliss and heartbreak. That's especially true in Puccini's story of Mimì and Rodolfo, a poor young couple seeking a lovers' paradise among their resilient, struggling friends in the Latin Quarter of Paris. Scintillating and easily accessible, *La Bohème* is a romantic adventure for lovers of any age, and the perfect opera for first-time opera patrons.

Soprano **Nicole Cabell (Oct. 17, 21, 24)** will alternate in the role of Mimì with soprano **Lina Tetrici (Oct. 25)**, who is making her debut with the company. Cabell received great acclaim for her performance as Violetta in MOT's 2013 production of *La Traviata*. Tenor **Sean Panikkar (Oct. 17, 21, 24)**, an alumnus of the University of Michigan, will make his MOT debut as Rodolfo. Panikkar recently made his Metropolitan Opera debut and is member of Forte - an operatic tenor group created in 2013 and seen by millions of television viewers in national broadcasts of NBC's "America's Got Talent." Tenor **Eric Margiore (Oct. 25)**, who debuted with MOT in 2013's *A View from the Bridge*, will alternate in the role of Rodolfo. For complete casting information, please visit michiganopera.org.

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The opera is directed by MOT favorite **Mario Corradi**, and conducted by **Leonardo Vordoni**, who returns following his company debut as conductor of MOT's *La Traviata* in 2013.

The opening night performance, Oct. 17, will be broadcast live on **WRCJ 90.9 FM**, with commentary beginning at 7 p.m. with host Dave Wagner.

Access tickets for students and young professionals, ages 18-40, are available for the performance on **Wednesday, Oct. 21**, at a reduced price, with a special reception following the performance. Please visit MichiganOpera.org/Access for more information.

A **free opera talk** begins one hour prior to each performance.

Ticket prices range from \$29 to \$149. Tickets may be purchased online at www.MichiganOpera.org by calling (313) 237-SING [7464], or in person at the Detroit Opera House (1526 Broadway, Detroit). Tickets may also be purchased at Ticketmaster.com, at any Ticketmaster outlet, or by calling (800) 745-3000.

La Bohème

Music by Giacomo Puccini

Saturday, Oct. 17	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 21	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 24	7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 25	2:30 p.m.

At the Detroit Opera House

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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.