

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lukas Foss' *Griffelkin* opens January 10

Project Opera, Minnesota Opera's youth ensemble, presents this dark fairy tale based on works by the Brothers Grimm at The Lab Theater

- What:** Lukas Foss' *Griffelkin*
Sung in English with English captions projected above the stage.
- Where:** The Lab Theater, 700 North First Street, Minneapolis, MN 55401
- When:** Friday, January 10, 7pm
Saturday, January 11, 1pm and 4pm
Sunday, January 12, 1pm
- Tickets:** \$15/Adult and \$5/Children under 18.
Recommended for ages 8 and above.
Call the Minnesota Opera Ticket Office at 612.333.6669, Monday–Friday, 9am–6pm.
- Media/**
Bloggers: On Thursday, January 9, Minnesota Opera will host an official press night, including a meet-and-greet reception at 6pm and Project Opera's final dress rehearsal at 7pm.
Contact Communications Manager, Daniel Zillmann, to R.S.V.P. for press tickets or to inquire of interview, photo and video opportunities.

Minneapolis—Project Opera, Minnesota Opera's co-educational youth opera training program, will perform the children's opera *Griffelkin* January 10–12, 2014, at The Lab Theater in Minneapolis.

Griffelkin is the story of a little devil who travels to Earth to perform one bad deed for his tenth birthday. While wreaking havoc, he meets a brother and sister grieving over the loss of their mother. After using his magic to bring her back to life, Griffelkin is found guilty of treason against Hell. He's exiled to Earth and, just when he is feeling most alone, he learns the meaning of family.

“Declared by Lukas Foss to be his favorite composition, *Griffelkin* celebrates the childlike curiosity in all of us,” said **STAGE DIRECTOR DANIEL ELLIS**. “Originally told as a story to Foss when he was eight

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years old by his mother and loosely based on works by the Brothers Grimm, it is a dark fairy tale that explores the joy and pain of being mortal. From bringing stone lions to life and enchanting toy soldiers to making mailboxes talk, *Griffelkin* guarantees to be one little devil who will tug on your heartstrings as he discovers the meaning of the words beauty, death and the greatest of all – love.”

“The performances of *Griffelkin* are remarkable in terms of showcasing the talents of dedicated young singers and their passion to the art form of opera,” said **PROJECT OPERA MUSIC DIRECTOR DALE KRUSE**. “It’s incredible to see so many kids, some who drive two hours one way, participate in this very unique training program,” added **MINNESOTA OPERA COMMUNITY EDUCATION DIRECTOR JAMIE ANDREWS**.

About Project Opera and Education at Minnesota Opera

Project Opera is Minnesota Opera’s vocal training program for students in grades 4–12. Led by Music Director Dale Kruse, participants come from around the Metro area. Project Opera encourages young people in the discovery of their individual voices in a healthy and supportive environment through high quality choral programs and stage experiences and with unique access to America’s most exciting opera company. Over the course of the year, students in Ragazzi (grades 4–8) and Giovani (grades 9–12) learn healthy vocal technique and fundamentals of acting and perform repertoire in the major operatic languages.

For more information, contact Community Education Director Jamie Andrews at 612.342.9573 or visit mnopera.org/learn.

Minnesota Opera’s education programs are supported through generous contributions from the following sponsors: 3M Foundation, Ameriprise Financial, Inc., Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation, Best Buy Children’s Foundation, Cleveland Foundation, Comcast, Enterprise Holdings Foundation, Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts, Anna M. Heilmaier Charitable Foundation, The Medtronic Foundation, The Michelson Family Foundation, The Pentair Foundation, RBC Wealth Management, Sewell Family Foundation, Target, Twin Cities Opera Guild, Travelers, United Health Foundation, Xcel Energy and the Hearst Foundations.

The Minnesota Opera’s mission is to produce opera and opera education programs
at the highest artistic level that inspire and entertain our audiences
and enrich the cultural life of our community.

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