



CASTING NOTICE

1 South Asian Adult Actor

Minnesota Opera is seeking to cast one South Asian Actor to perform the role of Death in the world premiere of *The Many Deaths of Laila Starr* to be performed at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts. Engagement length spans September 28th, 2026, through November 8th, 2026. Auditions will take place March 7th & 8th, 2026.

As a part of the 2026-2027 season, *The Many Deaths of Laila Starr* will be the next installment of our New Works Initiative. The opera is written by composer Kamala Sankaram and librettist Minita Gandhi. Based on the celebrated graphic novel by Ram V. (Ramnarayan Venkatesan), the opera is set in Mumbai and will explore the fine line between living and dying through the lens of magical realism and eastern philosophy.

Role Description

DEATH, South Asian female, Between 45-60 years of age. This role will be featured in the first part of the opera. The Goddess of Death is irreverent and begrudgingly leads her department of sassy deities. Unexpectedly, she is told immortality will be created, her department is being dissolved and she is fired. Death will be sent down to Earth to live a mortal life. Enraged, she schemes to find the boy who will invent immortality.

Production Schedule

Please click the following link to view the preliminary Rehearsal & Performance Schedule for The Many Deaths of Laila Starr: <https://callboard.mnopera.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/LAILA-Death-Schedule-V2.pdf>

Measurements & costume fittings will be scheduled prior to the start of rehearsal. Rehearsals begin September 28th 2026. Performers **must** be available for all calls listed from October 17 through November 8. There is limited flexibility in the rehearsal schedule prior to October 17, and the performer in this role may be called to rehearse on different but mutually agreeable dates and times.

Compensation: \$850 /week

Compensation is based on the time commitment for the role in this production.

Audition:

A MNOP team member will respond to your application with further instructions to schedule an audition

- **Video Submission / Prescreening:** For the initial application, performers are required to upload a link to a video performing a 60-90 second monologue of their choice.
- **In-Person:** By appointment Friday, March 6th, 5:30p-8:30p, Saturday March 7th and Sunday March 8th, 10:30a-5:30p followed by callback. Auditions will take place at the Minnesota Opera Center (620 N 1st Street, Minneapolis, 55401.) Auditionees are to perform a 90 second monologue of their choice.
- Applicants will be asked if they would like to be considered for the role of a supernumerary or “super”, a non-singing actor. Responsibilities may include interacting with the principal artists, chorus, or dancers, moving props or furniture around the stage, and possibly playing characters that help move the action along. Supers are an integral part of an opera production!

To Apply

Please apply on MNOP's website at [Laila Starr- Audition Application for Death – MN OPERA Callboard](https://callboard.mnopera.org/laila-starr-audition-application-for-death-mn-opera-callboard)

Deadline to submit all materials: 5:00pm CDT on Monday, March 2nd.

Questions may be directed to Luci Burdick, Production Stage Manager, lburdick@mnopera.org or (612) 342-0233.