



Media Contact:

Valerie Cisneros

marketing@enzian.org

407-629-1088 x302

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ENZIAN PARTNERS WITH OPERA ORLANDO AND ORLANDO BALLET
FOR ANNUAL SUMMER OPERA & BALLET SERIES**

Orlando, FL (June 1, 2017) – Enzian’s annual Opera and Ballet on the Big Screen Summer Series runs Saturday, June 17th – Saturday, September 16th, featuring an extraordinary lineup of performances filmed in high definition and showcased in spectacular digital cinema, in partnership with Opera Orlando and Orlando Ballet.

Enzian Theater’s Executive Director, David Schillhammer said, “Central Florida is proud to boast a vibrant and diverse cultural community, offering something for everyone. Enzian is proud to work and partner with two cornerstone cultural organizations, Orlando Ballet and Opera Orlando, in bringing world-class high definition opera and ballet productions to our intimate art house theater. Please come and share in this unique experience, but don’t forget to attend and support our professional opera and ballet companies.”

“People ask why we encourage attending opera on film when we are a presenter of fully-staged live performances,” said Gabriel Preisser, Executive and Artistic Director of Opera Orlando. “The truth is anything that feeds the ‘opera bug’ is great for us and the community. We’d be just fine if Enzian’s season was all opera, all the time.”

Orlando Ballet Artistic Director, Robert Hill said, “Orlando Ballet is proud to partner with the cultural jewel that is Enzian Theater, to bring ballet to the big screen this summer. My vision for the upcoming season has been to minimize the mystique about ballet by presenting creative programs that balance classical choreography with non-traditional dance that captures everyone’s attention, a season that is truly classic, modern, and bold. After you’ve enjoyed these beautiful performances from around the world from the comfort of your seat at Enzian, be sure to join YOUR local ballet company at the Dr. Phillips Center for the live experience.”

Opera and ballet fans can purchase a [Season Pass](#) to all four performances and receive discounted admission, as well as a complimentary glass of house wine at each show. All performances can also be purchased individually.

WHAT: **Opera on the Big Screen:
In Partnership with [Opera Orlando](#)**

[LA TRAVIATA](#)

Saturday, June 17th at 11AM

Star tenor and director Rolando Villazón has staged probably Verdi's best known masterpiece in colourful, lively and emotion-packed form at the Festspielhaus in Baden Baden, so he made for "an enthusiastic reception for the premiere" (Stuttgarter Zeitung)! Villazón's signature, both as singer and director, is unmistakable. He made his international breakthrough as Alfredo Germont and now, 10 years later, the Mexican-born singer has produced a Traviata full of energy, attention to detail and even a hint of melancholy. Villazón chooses an unusual approach by relocating the action of the great and tragic love affair between Alfredo and the courtesan Violetta to the colourful and noisy world of the circus. Olga Peretyatko as Violetta delivers "a fantastic portrait of the title role wavering between adolescent joie de vivre, mature insight and anguish" (Stuttgarter Zeitung). Her partner is the young Brazilian tenor Atalla Ayan as the jealous Alfredo, who delivers a "beguiling interpretation with a dark, warm timbre and rich top notes" (Stuttgarter Zeitung). Simone Piazzolla as Alfredo's strict father Giorgio Germont adds fine vocal lines to provide a strong sense of "Italianità" on stage (Neue Zürcher Zeitung). Directing the Balthasar Neumann Ensemble is the young Spanish conductor Pablo Heras-Casado.

2015, 140 minutes

[CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA/PAGLIACCI](#)

Saturday, August 19th at 11AM

Described by *Salzburger Nachrichten* as "Opera as Great Romantic Cinema", the two short operas, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* brought record attendances to the Salzburg Easter Festival. No wonder, for Jonas Kaufmann, in his debut performances as both Turiddu and Canio, was "stellar" (*Daily Telegraph*) and sang "both parts so lyrically, with such Italianità, mellow with impeccable highs... a pure delight" (*Kurier*). Equally impressive are Thielemann – "the uber-conductor" (*Telegraph*) – and the Dresdeners, who "take time for sensitive, melodious soul portraits, while delivering consummate drama at just the right moment. What we hear from the pit is sensational in its nuances" (*Kurier*).

The scene is set by film and opera director Philipp Stölzl, a director whose fascinating vision brings these popular operas to new heights. Stölzl divides the stage into several levels, staging crowd scenes below, private feelings above – the latter projected with filmic close-ups – doubling and tripling the action. This production, insists *Kurier*, "simply must be described as world-class". "Thrilling" concludes the *Telegraph*.

2015, 161 minutes

Ballet on the Big Screen:

In Partnership with [Orlando Ballet](#)

[A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM](#)

Saturday, July 15th at 11AM

Numerous choreographers have delved into Shakespeare to find dramatic material for their ballets, beginning with Jean-Georges Noverre, an ardent defender of the "action ballet" and Marius Petipa, who was the first to use Mendelssohn's stage music. George Balanchine, who also loved the score, would prove no exception. In 1962 he created his

version of Shakespeare's comedy for New York City Ballet. Faithful to the Bard's vocabulary whilst adding a subtle touch of pantomime, he portrays a complex love story in two acts and six scenes. Theseus, Duke of Athens, and Hippolyta, queen of the Amazons, become caught up in a domestic quarrel between the king of the elves and the queen of the fairies which results in the intervention of the mischievous Puck and his magic potion along with a troupe of amateur actors. The denouement is celebrated in the form of a grand virtuoso entertainment. One of George Balanchine's rare narrative ballets, A Midsummer Night's Dream is entering the Paris Opera Ballet's repertoire. The sets and costumes for this production have been designed by another magician of the stage, Christian Lacroix.

2017, 100 minutes

LE CORSAIRE

Saturday, September 16th at 11AM

Since its very first performance 1856 at the Paris Opera, *Le Corsaire* has been regarded as one of the most impressive narrative ballets of the 19th century. The Director of the Wiener Staatsballett has choreographed a new version, basing his interpretation mainly on the rich French and Russian performance traditions. Action, music, choreography, scenery and costumes are carefully combined into a new overall picture which focuses on the high points of the colourful events surrounding the leading couple of Conrad and Medora.

2016, 120 minutes

WHERE: **Enzian Theater**, 1300 South Orlando Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751

TICKETS: Complete Season Pass (all 4 Opera and Ballet performances and includes one free glass of house wine at each show) – **\$66**

Enzian Member Single Performance – **\$17.50**

General Admission Single Performance – **\$20**

Enzian Members that are Contributor level or above and Season Passholders are able to make a table reservation for this series. Reservations can only be made after a ticket or Season Pass has been purchased and are limited. Please make sure to have your confirmation number ready to provide to the box officer at time of your reservation.

INFO: Enzian is Central Florida's only full-time, not-for-profit cinema for first-run independent and international film, classic revivals, documentary features, and select family entertainment. Enzian, a member-supported organization serving the community for more than 32 years, is home to the Florida Film Festival and Eden Bar. For additional information, visit Enzian.org, call general information at (407) 629-1088, or visit us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/EnzianTheater) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/EnzianTheater).

###