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THE NATIONAL OPERA CENTER  
AMERICA

*conversations*  
**RYAN SPEEDO GREEN**

Wednesday, October 17, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.

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Praised by Anthony Tommasini of *The New York Times* for his “robust voice” and by Anne Midgette of *The Washington Post* as “fully ready for a big career,” bass-baritone **RYAN SPEEDO GREEN** is quickly establishing himself as an in-demand artist at the world’s leading opera houses. The 2018–2019 season sees Green return to the Metropolitan Opera to sing the King in *Aida*, conducted by Nicola Luisotti, which will be broadcast to theaters around the world as part of the Met’s *Live in HD* series. He also returns to the Wiener Staatsoper as a member of the ensemble, with roles including Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte*, Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Der Einarmige in *Die Frau ohne Schatten* and Lodovico in *Otello*, among others.

Orchestral engagements for the 2018–2019 season include Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 conducted by Marin Alsop at the Ravinia Festival; a debut with the Mostly Mozart Festival singing Mozart’s *Requiem* with Louis Langrée for the closing night of the festival; and a debut with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center for Haydn’s *Seven Last Words* with the Orion String Quartet. Green will be presented in recital at the Terrace Theater at the Kennedy Center as winner of Washington National Opera’s 2018 Marian Anderson Vocal Award, and he also appears in recital with Dayton Opera at the Schuster Performing Arts Center.

In fall 2016, Little, Brown and Company published *Sing for Your Life* by *New York Times* journalist Daniel Bergner. The book tells the story of Green’s personal and artistic journey: from a trailer park in southeastern Virginia and from time spent in Virginia’s juvenile facility of last resort to the Met stage. *The New York Times Book Review* called it “one of the most inspiring stories I’ve come across in a long time,” and *The Washington Post* called it a “vital, compelling, and highly recommended book.” *Sing for Your Life* has been recognized as a *New York Times* bestseller and editor’s choice, a *Washington Post* notable book, and a *Publishers Weekly* book of the year.

Green was a Grand Finals winner of the 2011 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions; recipient of a 2014 George London Foundation Award and a 2014 Annenberg grant; First Prize winner of the Gerda Lissner Foundation International Vocal Competition; recipient of both the Richard Tucker and Sara Tucker Grants from the Richard Tucker Foundation; and finalist in the Palm Beach Opera Vocal Competition.

A native of Suffolk, Virginia, Green received a Master of Music from Florida State University and a Bachelor of Music from the Hartt School of Music, and he was a member of the Metropolitan Opera Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.

*Ryan Speedo Green appears courtesy of the Metropolitan Opera.*

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**MARC A. SCORCA** joined OPERA America in 1990 as president and CEO. Under his leadership, the OPERA America membership has grown from 120 opera companies to nearly 2,500 organizations and individuals. The organization has also administered two landmark funding initiatives in support of North American operas and opera audiences, and in 2000 it launched an endowment effort to create a permanent fund dedicated to supporting new works and related audience development activities. In 2005, Scorca spearheaded OPERA America's relocation from Washington, D.C. to New York City and the subsequent construction of the National Opera Center, which opened in 2012. The Opera Center's recital hall was dedicated as Marc A. Scorca Hall in 2015 in honor of Scorca's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the organization.

Scorca has led strategic planning retreats for opera companies and other cultural institutions internationally, and he has participated on panels for federal, state and local funding agencies, as well as for numerous private organizations. He also played an instrumental role in the founding of Opera.ca and Opera Europa, OPERA America's sister organizations. A strong advocate of collaboration, Scorca has led several cross-disciplinary projects, including the Performing Arts Research Coalition and the National Performing Arts Convention (2004 and 2008). He has served as a member of the U.S. delegation to UNESCO and currently serves as an officer of the Performing Arts Alliance, as a member of the Board of Overseers of the Curtis Institute of Music and on the Music Advisory Board of Hunter College (CUNY). Due in large part to Scorca's contributions to the organization, OPERA America was inducted into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame in 2013. Scorca attended Amherst College, where he graduated with high honors in both history and music.

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# JOIN US FOR THESE FUTURE EVENTS AT THE NATIONAL OPERA CENTER:

## **EMERGING ARTIST RECITALS: WOLF TRAP OPERA**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018, 7:00 P.M.

This recital features the resident artists of Wolf Trap Opera, which offers emerging professional singers one of the best career-development and performing experiences in the nation. Through a rigorous annual audition tour, the company selects its artists from among the best classical vocalists in the country.

## **EMERGING ARTIST RECITALS: FLORIDA GRAND OPERA STUDIO**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2018, 7:00 P.M.

This recital features the artists of Florida Grand Opera Studio, who act as the face of opera in Miami and Fort Lauderdale. These emerging singers spend the full season performing principal and comprimario roles alongside FGO's roster of acclaimed directors, conductors and musicians.

## **CREATORS IN CONCERT: GREGORY SPEARS**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019, 7:00 P.M.

Gregory Spears, the New York-based composer whose work has been called "astonishingly beautiful" (*The New York Times*) and "some of the most beautifully unsettling music to appear in recent memory" (*The Boston Globe*), will describe his creative process and present live excerpts of his recent vocal works.

REGISTER FOR FUTURE EVENTS AT [OPERAAMERICA.ORG/ONSTAGE](http://OPERAAMERICA.ORG/ONSTAGE).

Speak to an OPERA America staff member if you have questions about any of our events or if you are interested in becoming a member.

**Be a part of the conversation. #OAONSTAGE**

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